

Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS)
Technical Advisory/Socio Economic Committees
MEETING NOTES
November 18, 2008

Participants:

Linda Dorn - Sacramento Regional
John Suen – CSU- Fresno
David Cory – SJRDA
Rob Neenan – California League of Food Processors
John Jordan – U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Lisa Holm – U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Gene Lee – U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Charlie Kratzer – USGS
Steven Phillips – USGS
Karl Longley – Central Valley Regional Board
Dan Odenweller - Central Valley Regional Board
Jim Martin – Central Valley Regional Board
Rudy Schnagl - Central Valley Regional Board
Gail Cismowski - Central Valley Regional Board
Daniel Cozad – Integrated Planning & Management
Rosa Lau-Staggs - City of Fresno
Tom Reyes - City of Vacaville
Travis Peterson - City of Vacaville
Mark Felton – Culligan Water
David Loveday - Pacific Water Quality Association
Mike Mecca - Pacific Water Quality Association
Pete Conaty - Pacific Water Quality Association
Joe LeClaire – Wildermuth Environmental, Inc.
Benjamin Hall – Musso Family Olive, Co.
Joel Miller – Consultant
Joe DeGeorgio – ECO-LOGIC

Teleconference

Britton Schwartz – Community Water Center
Jose Faria - DWR

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- Meeting started at 1:00 PM with introductions. This was a joint committee meeting of the Technical Advisory and Socio Economic Committees. The meeting was chaired by Linda Dorn.
 - Reviewed meeting purpose and agenda:
 - One agenda item was added: Gail Cismowski handed out proposed language to add to the Salinity Management Plan for the 5-year California Water Plan:
“Investigate the feasibility of constructing a California Brine Line along the same alignment as the proposed high-speed rail transportation corridor to convey salt from the interior basins of the State to existing discharge points in Southern California.”

The participants agreed that the line should be incorporated to the Salinity Management Plan for the proposed policy. *(Follow-up note: After the meeting, committee member Lisa Holm discovered that the EIR for the HSR project has been completed. The passage has been adjusted to say: “roughly the same north-south alignment” - gpc)*

- Rudy Schnagl did a presentation on the different aspects of and activities in preparing a Basin Plan amendment for the Board to consider.
 - He discussed what the Board looks into when doing a Basin Plan amendment: i.e.; problem definition; establishing project protocols; research, data and monitoring. The typical elements of a basin amendment are defining beneficial uses, establishing water quality objectives, and developing an implementation plan.
 - Salt Management Plans provide the data and implementation strategies needed to develop Basin Plan amendments.
 - Best available data is needed as well as funding.
 - A very comprehensive work plan will be needed to request funding.
 - Need to set up process so that work is conducted between meetings. It is important to establish a Program Management Team to achieve goals and get the committee moving in track.

- Rudy presented Pamela Creedon’s “Demonstration of Stakeholder Progress”
 - It consisted of the progress requirements specifying timelines for various activities expected for the next 12 months
 - He discussed the Central Valley Salinity Coalition and how it fits into the process. The Coalition has “start up funds” to kick start process. The group can use the Coalition to pursue/manage funding.
 - A 5-year timeline is anticipated
 - Linda Dorn brought example of a work plan used to develop Drinking Water Policy. She proposed to use it as a starting point for developing a work plan for the basin plan amendment project
 - Water users need to be added to the list
 - It is important to ensure that nitrates are included in the process.
 - A committee focused specifically on procuring grant funding may be necessary
 - Rudy will take feedback to Pamela.

Suggestion: Contract out the development of the work plan

- Dr. Suen did a presentation on the summary of limitations, gaps and recommendation for data for Salinity Management.
 - Metadata: not a comprehensive monitoring for salts.
 - Spatial gaps are noted.
 - QA/QC inconsistent.
 - Spatial resolution is needed.
 - More monitoring is needed.
 - Develop data model based on GIS and spatial analytical techniques
 - Hydrogeological model is needed for the entire valley

Suggestion: Make it a more dynamic, automated real-time database.

- Other comments:
 - On the progress requirements: May not be able to meet the deadlines. If date does not move, the product may change.
 - The question was raised about who should make the work plan, the committee or the contractor, but the question was not answered.

- Report to the Executive Committee
 - Identify Chair for the TAC, especially if a work plan is needed.
 - Clarify process for selecting Chairs and Co-Chairs
 - 11/25/08 meeting/teleconference for Salt Sources Subcommittee.