

# Delta RMP Steering Committee Meeting Summary

May 3, 2017 9:30 am - 4:00 pm

Regional Board offices, 11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova CA

## 1. Attendance

Attended	Name	Affiliation	Position	Representing
present	Adam Laputz	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Primary	Regulatory-State
	Brandon Nakagawa	County of San Joaquin	Alternate	Stormwater, Phase II 1
	Brendan Ferry	El Dorado County	Primary	Stormwater Phase II 2
present	Brock Bernstein		Moderator	
present	Bruce Houdesheldt	Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition	Alternate	Agriculture 1
	Casey Wichert	City of Brentwood	Alternate	POTW
present	Dalia Fadl	City of Sacramento	Alternate	Stormwater, Phase I
present	Dave Tamayo	County of Sacramento	Primary	Stormwater, Phase I
present	David Cory	Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition	Primary	Agriculture 2
	Debbie Webster	CVCWA	Alternate	POTW
present	Deedee Antypas	City of Stockton Regional Wastewater Control Facility	Primary	POTW 3
	Erwin Van Nieuwenhuyse	Interagency Ecological Program/Reclamation	Alternate	Coordinated Monitoring
present	Greg Gearheart	State Water Board	Primary	Regulatory-State
present	Gregg Erickson	Interagency Ecological Program/DFW	Primary	Coordinated Monitoring
	Jeff Stuart	NOAA-National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)	Alternate	Resource Agencies
	Jenny Skrel	Ironhouse Sanitary District	Alternate	POTW
present	Joseph Domagalski	USGS	Ex Officio	Technical Advisory Committee
Afternoon only	Josie Tellers	City of Davis	Primary	POTW 2
	Karen Gehrts	Interagency Ecological Program/DWR	Alternate	Coordinated Monitoring
	Laura Valoppi	SFCWA	Alternate	Water Supply
present	Linda Dorn	Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Regional San)	Primary	POTW 1
	Lynda Smith	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (Met)	Alternate	Water Supply
present	Melanie Okoro	NMFS	Primary	Resource Agencies
Present	Matthew Heberger	San Francisco Estuary Institute - Aquatic Science Center (SFEI-ASC)	Staff	

Attended	Name	Affiliation	Position	Representing
present	Mike Wackman	San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition	Primary	Agriculture 1
	Nader Shareghi	Mountain House CSD	Alternate	POTW
	Pamela Creedon	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Alternate	Regulatory-State
	Parry Klassen	East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition	Alternate	Agriculture 2
present	Patrick Morris	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Staff	
present	Phil Trowbridge	San Francisco Estuary Institute - Aquatic Science Center (SFEI-ASC)	Staff	
present	Samsor Safis	Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Regional San)	Alternate	POTW
present	Selina Cole	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	Staff	
	Stephanie Fong	State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA)	Alternate	Water Supply
present	Stephanie Hiestand	City of Tracy	Primary	Stormwater, Phase II 1
present	Stephen McCord	McCord Environmental, Inc.	Ex Officio	TAC Co-Chair
present	Terry Fleming	U.S. EPA Region 9 Water Division	Primary	Regulatory-Federal
	Thomas Jabusch	San Francisco Estuary Institute - Aquatic Science Center (SFEI-ASC)	Staff	
present	Tom Grovhoug	Larry Walker and Associates (LWA)	Alternate	POTW
	Tony Pirondini	City of Vacaville	Alternate	POTW
present	Val Connor	GEI Consultants	Primary	Water Supply
	Valentina Cabrera-Stagno	U.S. EPA Region 9 Water Division	Alternate	Regulatory-Federal
present	Vyomini Upadhyay	Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (Regional San)	Alternate	POTW

#### Other attendees:

- Janis Cooke (Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, afternoon)
- Christine Joab (Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board, afternoon)
- Sarah Lesmeister (Department of Water Resources)
- Janis Cooke (Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board)
- Christine Joab (Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board)
- Yumiko Henneberry (Delta Science Program)
- Marisa Van Dyke (State Water Resources Control Board)
- Ali Dunn (State Water Resources Control Board)
- Mike Johnson, MLJ LLC.
- Jim Orlando, U.S. Geological Survey
- Paul Bedore, Robertson-Bryan Inc. (RBI)
- Brian Laurenson, Larry Walker and Associates (LWA)
- Cam Irvine, CH2M

## 2. Approve Meeting Summary from January 26, 2017

### Decision:

Meeting Summary approved (consensus).

## 3. Financial Update &

## 4. Financial Subcommittee Report

Matt Heberger from the Aquatic Science Center (ASC) presented the financial memo and reviewed key points. Dalia Fadl, chair of the Finance Subcommittee, gave an update on the recent April 25, 2017 meeting of the Financial Subcommittee. There was discussion about the following items:

- **SFCWA contributions.** The State and Federal Contractors Water Agency (SFCWA) has contributed regularly to the Delta RMP over the life of the program. They have contributed \$100,000 per year, in each of the RMP's first 3 years, for a total contribution of \$300,000. Before the program was officially launched in FY14/15, SFWCA contributed \$40,000 for facilitation and fact sheets. The SFWCA board has allocated \$100,000 for the Delta RMP in its FY18 budget, but the funding is contingent on the RMP's successful resolution of the External Review.
- **Discovery Bay late payment for FY16/17.** Selina Cole, Central Valley Water Board, has been following up. The city manager has changed, and they were operating with an interim manager for several months. Discovery Bay did not have any monitoring requirements to exchange for participating in the Delta RMP, therefore their contribution is based on the formula used by Delta POTWs.
- **Subcommittee Meetings:** The Finance Committee noted that it is hard to track where staff time is being spent on subcommittee meetings. They expressed the need for more detailed reporting in this area. They supported ASC's proposal to create a separate subtask to track time and expenses for subcommittee work in FY17/18.

### Action Items:

Update the Financial Memo with minor edits (Matthew Heberger, by May 11, 2017)

## 5. Delta RMP Fact Sheet

The Steering Committee reaffirmed the usefulness of having a short, readable, colorful factsheet for a variety of audiences, especially those who may have never heard of the Delta RMP.

Steering Committee members made several specific comments and suggestions.

It was also suggested that a second, slightly different brochure or fact sheet is needed for potential collaborators (scientists, agency management), who are a more technical audience or focused on management decisions.

Another suggestion was that a second fact sheet could cover more details about the organization, governance, and finances. The purpose of this factsheet would be to highlight the high level of oversight and transparency for the program.

### Action Items:

Send out revised draft to the SC to review with deadline for comments (Matthew Heberger, by May 11, 2017).

## 6. FY17/18 Workplan and Budget

ASC presented the proposed workplan and budget for FY17/18.

### Revenue

The Steering Committee requested that a separate section and table be added to the Workplan to show “leveraged resources,” or in-kind contributions. This would draw attention to the fact that the Delta RMP creates value for its participants by leveraging contributions from a number of cooperating agencies. Future in-kind contributions should be referred to as “estimated” as they are difficult to quantify in advance. However, it was agreed that we should not include staff time for meetings under in-kind contributions, per the Adequate Participation section of the Charter.

Further, it was agreed to clarify the language in the workplan regarding SFCWA’s participation to reflect that funding is “in discussion.” SFCWA would like to participate in the Delta RMP in some way but its board gave staff instructions that financial participation was pending the satisfactory resolution of the External Review.

### Pesticide Proposals

A large part of the discussion of the FY17/18 workplan centered on proposed monitoring for Current Use Pesticides (CUP). In brief, participants had many questions about the proposed monitoring design, and some participants were not comfortable with the introduction of newer methods and new monitoring sites. Here are some of the main points raised during the discussion, roughly grouped by topic:

- Does the proposed work overlap with other monitoring?
- Are research methods appropriate for the Delta RMP?
- Is the proposed design sufficiently focused on the Delta RMP’s management and assessment questions?

Regarding the scope of Current Use Pesticides (CUP) Year 1-2 Interpretive Report, a publication planned for FY17/18, the group decided the synthesis should include non DRMP data. There is obvious benefit to including all available data, but it adds to the project’s cost and complexity. ASC will propose a new cost estimate for producing an Interpretive Report that includes additional pesticides/toxicity data collected by other agencies.

## Mercury Proposals

The TAC's proposed monitoring workplan for mercury was approved by the Steering Committee.

## Nutrient Proposals

The TAC's proposed monitoring workplan for Nutrients was approved by the Steering Committee.

## Core Functions

A motion was made to approve the entire workplan and budget minus pesticides monitoring proposals and to reconsider the pesticide monitoring proposals at the next meeting after input from the TAC and possibly the Independent Review Panel. This was approved by a vote of 11 to 1. It was also decided that the State Water Board seat is allowed to vote on financial matters.

## Action Items:

- Finalize nutrient and mercury monitoring portions of the FY17/18 Workplan that require changes in response to input received at the meeting and the decision of the Steering Committee (Matthew Heberger, by May 15).
- Present the SC with information from the TAC related to the pesticides proposals: TAC meeting summary, pros/cons of the two approaches, slides showing how data from the proposed approaches would be interpreted to answer management questions, and how the costs of the Delta RMP might change with external funding for certain aspects of the projects (Matthew Heberger, by July 21).
- Prepare a revised scope and budget for the CUP/Toxicity Year 1-2 Interpretative Report that includes synthesis of readily available information in CEDEN, not just Delta RMP data (Matthew Heberger, by July 21).
- Regarding the Chlorophyll-a Intercalibration Study for FY17/18, provide Gregg Gearheart with the specifics about how partner agencies can participate in the study (Thomas Jabusch, by May 31).

## 7. Harmful Algal Blooms (HABs) Presentations and Discussion

The purpose of this agenda item was to learn about what is currently being done in the Delta related the HABs, and discuss a potential niche of the Delta RMP.

### How might the Delta RMP contribute information about HABs?

- The Steering Committee decided that the Delta RMP would coordinate with ongoing efforts using Central Valley Water Board staff that are currently working on HABs

### Next steps

- Greg Gearheart will serve as liaison to the State. ASC will link to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS). Christine Joab and Janis Cooke will provide the Delta RMP

Steering Committee with periodic updates on the Central Valley Water Board's Delta Nutrient Research Plan (NRP).

- Wait for HAB Research Framework document in 18 months before engaging on any monitoring design work.

## 8. External Review “Charge”

There was a very short discussion of this item. It was essential for the group to approve the revised “charge,” or set of instructions to the Independent Review Panel as they conduct Phase 2 of the review. The Review Panel's contract expires at the end of August 2017, and the SC would like to have the review finalized by that time as funding by water supply representatives is conditioned upon an acceptable resolve to the Independent Review.

### Decision:

Authorize the co-chairs to represent the entire SC at the Planning Subcommittee call on 5/4/17 (consensus).

9 to 12. All remaining items on the agenda were deferred to a future meeting.