



# Steering Committee Meeting Summary

July 28, 2017  
 10:00 AM – 4:00 PM  
 Central Valley Regional Board  
 Rancho Cordova, CA

## Attendees

Name	Representing	Affiliation	Position	Attendance
<b>Steering Committee Members</b>				
Wackman, Mike	Agriculture 1	San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition	Primary	Y
Houdesheldt, Bruce	Agriculture 1	Sacramento Valley WQ Coalition	Alternate	N
Cory, David	Agriculture 2	Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition	Primary	Y
Klassen, Parry	Agriculture 2	East San Joaquin WQ Coalition	Alternate	N
Erickson, Gregg	Coordinated Monitoring	Interagency Ecological Program (IEP)/Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW)	Primary	Y
Gehrts, Karen	Coordinated Monitoring	IEP/Department of Water Resources (DWR)	Alternate	No
Van Nieuwenhuysse, Erwin	Coordinated Monitoring	IEP/US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)	Alternate	No
Dorn, Linda	POTW 1	Regional San	Primary, Co-Chair	Y
Tellers, Josie	POTW 2	City of Davis	Primary	Y
Antypas, Deedee	POTW 3	City of Stockton	Primary	By phone
Wichert, Casey	POTW	City of Brentwood	Alternate	N
Webster, Debbie	POTW	Central Valley Clean Water Association	Alternate	N
Shareghi, Nader	POTW	Mountain House Community Services District (CSD)	Alternate	N

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Upadhyay, Vyomini	POTW	Regional San	Alternate	Y
Safis, Samsor	POTW	Regional San	Alternate	Y
Skrel, Jenny	POTW	Ironhouse Sanitary District	Alternate	N
Pirondini, Tony	POTW	City of Vacaville	Alternate	By phone
Grovhoug, Tom	POTW	Larry Walker and Associates (LWA)	Alternate	Y
Fleming, Terry	Regulatory-Federal	U.S. EPA Region 9 Water Division	Primary	Y
Cabrera-Stagno, Valentina	Regulatory-Federal	U.S. EPA Region 9 Water Division	Alternate	N
Laputz, Adam	Regulatory-State	Central Valley Regional Water Board	Primary, Co-Chair	Y
Creedon, Pamela	Regulatory-State	Central Valley Regional Water Board	Alternate	N
Gearheart, Greg	Regulatory-State	State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Information Management and Analysis (OIMA)	Primary	Y
Vacant	Regulatory-State		Alternate	
Tamayo, Dave	Stormwater, Phase I	Sacramento County	Primary	Y
Fadl, Dalia	Stormwater, Phase I	City of Sacramento	Alternate	Y
Hiestand, Stephanie	Stormwater, Phase II 1	City of Tracy	Primary	Y
Nakagawa, Brandon	Stormwater, Phase II 1	County of San Joaquin	Alternate	N
Ferry, Brendan	Stormwater Phase II 2	El Dorado County	Primary	N
Vacant	Stormwater Phase II 2		Alternate	
Smith, Lynda	Water Supply	Metropolitan Water District of Southern California	Alternate	N
Fong, Stephanie	Water Supply	State and Federal Contractors Water Authority (SFCWA)	Alternate	Y
Laura Valoppi	Water Supply	SFCWA	Primary	Y
Okoro, Melanie	Resource Agencies	National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS)	Primary	N
Stuart, Jeff	Resource Agencies	NMFS	Alternate	N
<b>Ex Officio &amp; Staff</b>				
Domagalski, Joseph	TAC Co-Chair	U.S. Geological Survey	Ex Officio	Y
McCord, Stephen	TAC Co-Chair	MEI	Ex Officio	N
Bernstein, Brock			Moderator	y

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Morris, Patrick		Central Valley Regional Water Board	Staff	Y
Cole, Selina		Central Valley Regional Water Board	Staff	Y
Heberger, Matthew		Aquatic Science Center	Staff	Y
<b>Other</b>				
Ellen Preece		RBI consultants, representing the Port of Stockton		By phone
Melissa Turner		MLJ-LLC	TAC member	Y
Michael Johnson		MLJ-LLC	TAC alternate	Y
Jim Orlando		USGS	Presenter	Y
Stephen Louie		CA Department of Fish and Wildlife		Y

## 1. Introductions and Review Agenda

A quorum was established. There were representatives for 12 of 14 seats in attendance.

## 2. Decision: Approve prior Steering Committee Meeting Summary and Confirm Meeting Dates

### Decisions:

The January 26, 2017 Meeting Summary was approved by consensus.

The date for upcoming meetings were set or confirmed:

#### **Fall joint SC/TAC meeting, October 24, 2017**

Park Tower Building, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room,  
980 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Sacramento, CA

Winter SC meeting, Tuesday, January 23, 2018  
Regional San, 10060 Goethe Road Sacramento, CA

Laura Valoppi announced that Val Connor had officially retired and she will now be the Primary SFCWA representative.

### Action Items:

- Finalize the 1/26/17 Meeting Summary and post to the website (Matt Heberger, by 8/31/2017).
- Determine the location for the 1/23/18 meeting and send an invitation to the SC (Matt Heberger, by 8/31/2017)

## 3. Information: Financial Update

Program manager Matthew Heberger presented the most recent financial memo, which covered up to May 31, 2017.

FY 16/17 – On track to earn over a million dollars in revenue. To avoid confusion a revised printed version of the Financial Memo, included in the agenda package, was provided. Revisions requested by the Financial Subcommittee were made after the agenda was distributed.

Matt showed in detail how actual revenue for the year differed from the revenue forecast in the FY16/17 Workplan. Actual revenue exceeded forecast by \$60,174.

It was noted that expenses for the Governance task are tracking higher than budgeted due to a higher than planned number of subcommittee meetings. A total of 10 meetings were held, lasting about 30 hours. To avoid this problem in the future, for the he FY17/18 Workplan, a separate budget line was created with a budget of \$20,000. This ensures that subcommittee activities are funded and allows us to track these expenditures more accurately.

FY 14/15 – All invoices have now been paid, allowing us to close the books on this fiscal year. We ended with a net balance of \$725 that can now be rolled over to the Reserve Fund.

Expect to complete FY 16/17 on budget overall with a surplus of \$55,697.

FY 17/18 – Anticipated revenue is now higher than the workplan forecast, as 12 new MS4 Phase 2 participants have agreed to participate in the Delta RMP.

**Decisions:**

- The SC agreed by consensus to transfer the remaining \$725 from the FY14/15 budget to the Reserve Fund.

## 4. Information: Financial Subcommittee Report

Dalia Fadl from the Financial Subcommittee (FS) reported out on their recommendations for changes to financial management of the Program. These included:

The Finance Subcommittee is seeking an additional member.

The Finance Committee asked for approval on a proposed process to require a check-in from ASC to move amounts \$5,000 or greater between budget line items, or subtasks. Amounts between \$5,000 and \$25,000 are to be approved by the Finance Subcommittee. Amounts over \$25,000 would require vote and approval by the Steering Committee.

The approved process is to begin immediately, with updated language to be added to the charter in the annual update in September.

The SC voted to approve the check-in process recommended by the Finance Subcommittee.

SWFCA contributions: The Finance Subcommittee requested an update from SWFCA on their contribution by the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Adam Laputz indicated the committee needs to have a discussion regarding in kind projects and how they fit into the workplan and TAC/Steering Committee approval process. Linda Dorn suggested this topic be added to the next Steering Committee meeting agenda.

The Finance Subcommittee has requested ASC provide Steering Committee agenda materials seven (7) business days in advance to allow more time to review the associated reports.

**Decisions:**

SC voted unanimously to approve the check-in process recommended by the Finance Subcommittee.

**Action Items:**

- Stephanie Hiestand to recruit additional Finance Subcommittee member(s).
- SWFCA to provide an update on their contribution for the current fiscal year by October SC meeting.
- Matt Heberger to add discussion of in kind projects and how they fit into the workplan and TAC/Steering Committee approval process to next SC agenda.

## 5. Discussion : TAC Update

Joe Domagalski (USGS) gave an update on recent activity by the TAC and the monitoring programs.

**Mercury**

Monitoring is ongoing, sampling is working out really well.

**Nutrients**

The U.S. Geological Survey High Frequency Reports have been published and are now available. This work was funded by the Delta RMP and is an important part of the program's nutrient synthesis work:

Kraus, T.E.C., Bergamaschi, B.A., and Downing, B.D., 2017, An introduction to high-frequency nutrient and biogeochemical monitoring for the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta, northern California: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2017–5071, 41 p., <https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20175071>.

Downing, B.D., Bergamaschi, B.A., and Kraus, T.E.C., 2017, Synthesis of data from high-frequency nutrient and associated biogeochemical monitoring for the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta, northern California: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2017–5066, 28 p., <https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20175066>.

Bergamaschi, B.A., Downing, B.D., Kraus, T.E.C., and Pellerin, B.A., 2017, Designing a high-frequency nutrient and biogeochemical monitoring network for the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta, northern California: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2017–5058, 40 p., <https://doi.org/10.3133/sir20175058>.

ASC draft reports have been distributed to and will be among the subjects discussed at the Nutrient Subcommittee meeting on 8/30:

**Task 1 Deliverable:** *Assessment of Nutrient Status and Trends in the Delta in 2001–2016: Effects of drought on ambient concentrations and trends.* 119 pages.

**Task 2 Deliverable:** *Delta RMP FY 2016–17 Nutrients Synthesis: Modeling to Assist Identification of Temporal and Spatial Data Gaps for Nutrient Monitoring.* 88 pages

A paper was recently published which should be of great interest to Delta water managers. It describes a new modeling effort led by the USGS and Dutch scientists. The new hydrodynamic model captures tidal and seasonal

scales of water level, flow, and salinity dynamics, and supports linkage to sediment, water-quality, biochemistry and ecology models.

Martyr-Koller, R. C., H. W. J. Kernkamp, A. van Dam, M. van der Wegen, L. V. Lucas, N. Knowles, B. Jaffe, and T. A. Fregoso. "Application of an Unstructured 3D Finite Volume Numerical Model to Flows and Salinity Dynamics in the San Francisco Bay-Delta." *Estuarine, Coastal and Shelf Science* 192 (June 5, 2017): 86–107. doi:10.1016/j.ecss.2017.04.024. <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0272771416307120>

## **Pesticides/Toxicity**

Comments have been received on Year 1 Report. Anyone with additional comments should forward to ASC by August 31.

The committee discussed options for presentation of data, and it was decided to look at interactive web-based tools at a future Steering Committee meeting.

## **Discussion of a proposed "decision grid" or a scorecard for evaluating proposed monitoring programs/projects.**

Karen Ashby presented the proposed decision grid. The grid will be revised incorporating committee recommendations. Some of the recommendations from the committee were:

- Articulate in as much detail as possible
  - How the project idea links to the management questions
  - Does the plan produce something actionable?
- Divide content/purpose material from technical material
- Remain neutral on scoring, scoring not useful in all cases
- Include a mechanism for TAC chairs to identify level of consensus, minority/majority views
- Identify a couple of test cases for a test drive by volunteer workgroup, then have the Steering Committee complete the revised template and forward to the TAC
- Form a workgroup to speed up the revision process
- Workgroup members to include: Dave Tamayo, Stephanie Hiestand, Sam Safi, Tom Grovhoug, Mike Johnson, Brian Laurensen, Cameron Irvine

## **Action Items:**

- Send any remaining comments on the Year 1 Pesticides Data Report to ASC (SC members, by August 31, 2017).
- Convene a meeting of the volunteer workgroup to finalize and trial the decision grid (Tom Grovhaug, by August 31, 2017).

## **6. Information: Year 1 Current Use Pesticides Data Report**

The latest version of the data report incorporates additional comments from a number of reviewers. The report was planned as a part of the Delta RMP's Communication Plan and was intended as a milestone after a full year of data collection and a timely way of reporting program data. However, it is not clear that it is necessary. The report intentionally contains little or no analysis or interpretation, and the data is available to interested parties via web portals CEDEN and CD3. In order to provide some context to the data, the authors included water quality benchmarks where they exist. However, this proved to be contentious. It was suggested that a simple web-based visualization could take the place of this printed report, and potentially be more useful. Greg

Gearhardt offered to have his staff at the Water Board's Office of Information Management and Analysis produce such a visualization.

**Decision:**

- The SC agreed by unanimous consent that the year two data report is not strictly necessary. Unused funds that were allocated to the Year 2 data report in the FY16/17 budget should be re-allocated to the Interpretive Report.

**Action Items:**

- Send any last comments on the Pesticides Data Report to ASC (SC members, by 8/31/2017).
- Staff of the Stater Water Board's Office of Information Management and Assessment will create an online visualization tool for the Delta RMP's pesticide data (Greg Gearhart, by 10/15/2017).

## 7. Discussion: The Delta RMP's approach to CECs

The committee discussed whether they should consider the development of a CEC component within the Delta RMP; and if so how to expedite the process for developing a proposal and identify what could potentially be funded through SEP.

**Action Item:**

- Workgroup developing the decision grid is to use this as a test case to develop a conceptual proposal for including this in the Delta RMP (working group led by Tom Grovhoug, by 9/1/2017).
- Develop a couple of SEP project descriptions to take advantage of any near-term funding opportunities (ASC and technical subcommittees, by 10/15/2017).
- Include the status of this item on the October agenda.

## 8. Discussion: Process and timeline for setting Delta RMP fees

**Action Item:**

- Linda Dorn was asked to draft a proposed structure and bring to next meeting as a discussion item.

## 9. Decision: Current Use Pesticide Interpretive Report Revised Scope

Matt Heberger presented the Revised scope and budget. The Steering Committee discussed the revised scope and whether the project should go out for bid.

**Decisions:**

- After discussion, the committee voted to put the project out for bid, direct ASC to do Task 1, and to oversee the RFP process as Program Managers.

**Action Items:**

- ASC is to do Task 1 and prepare the RFP (Matt Heberger, timeline to be set in collaboration with the Coordinating Committee).

## 10. Information: Status of RMP Deliverables and Action Items

**Decisions:**

- SC voted unanimously to approve the Delta RMP factsheet with no changes.

## 11. Discussion: Plan Agenda Items for Next Meeting

### **Action Items:**

SC members proposed the following as agenda items for 10/24:

- Decision matrix applied to pesticides and CEC monitoring proposals
- Process for setting fees, particularly for MS4 Phase 2 participants
- Funding for Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CEC) projects
- Visualization of Delta RMP pesticide data with Tableau software, led by Greg Gearhardt