

Meeting Notes

Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force Technical Advisory Committee

October 7, 2014 at 1:30 p.m.
Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watersheds Authority
11615 Sterling Avenue
Riverside, CA 92503
Prepared by Rick Whetsel

Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Committee Members Present

Nancy Horton, City of Canyon Lake
Jason Uhley, RCFC&WCD
Pat Boldt, WRCAC
Mark Norton, SAWPA

Others Present

Linda Nixon, City of Hemet; Rita Thompson, City of Lake Elsinore; Vince Damasse, City of Lake Elsinore; Danis Bechter, City of Menifee; Kent Wegelin, City of Moreno Valley; Cynthia Gabaldon, City of Perris; Mike Roberts, City of Riverside; Kevin Street, City of Riverside; Lynn Merrill, City of San Jacinto; Matt Bennett, City of Wildomar; Brian Dickinson, EVMWD; Ganesh Krishnamurthy, EVMWD; Sudhir Mohleji, EVMWD; Nem Ochoa, EVMWD; Steve Pastor, RCFB; Robert Vasquez, RCFC & WCD; Nancy Gardiner, Haley & Aldrich; Mark Smythe, RWQCB; Ken Theisen, RWQCB; Laura Larsen, RBF/Caltrans; Tim Moore, Risk Sciences; Michael Anderson, UCR; Rick Whetsel, SAWPA

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Jason Uhley called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m.

2. UPDATE: LAKE ELSINORE MODELING (DR. MICHAEL ANDERSON)

Dr. Michael Anderson presented to stakeholders a preliminary look at the internal phosphorus recycling rates in Canyon Lake bottom sediments. Dr. Anderson first noted that one year of alum treatment data is not enough to make any conclusions on the effectiveness of the program on Canyon Lake water quality; however, looking at historical data he was able to provide an estimate of the concentration of alum required to bind the internal phosphorus load estimated at 140 g Al/ m² for each gram of phosphorus. He then estimated that through the first year of alum treatment we have added 16 g Al/ m² in the main body of Canyon Lake and 2 g Al/ m² in the East Bay.

Mr. Tim Moore reminded stakeholders that the goal of the alum treatment pilot study was not to sequester the existing internal sediment load of phosphorus, but to neutralize the phosphorus in the water column and any external loading coming into the lake. After this pilot study is completed we hope to know the amount needed to offset new loads, and this process will take a period of 10 to 20 years to completely sequester the phosphorus in the lake bottom sediments.

Mr. Tim Moore went on to explain that what this analysis by Dr. Anderson provides is an explanation of why we are not seeing the results that we want.

Mr. Jason Uhley added that we were conservative in our dosing of alum to the Lake to not put the public or environment at risk, while we are studying the effectiveness of alum in treating Canyon Lake.

Lastly, Mr. Tim Moore noted that we have currently sequestered around 10% and at the completion of the five alum applications we could be on track to have sequestered 25% of the phosphorus load in Canyon Lake.

3. DISCUSSION: PRIORITIZATION OF PROPOSED TMDL REVISIONS AND UPDATES (TIM MOORE/RISK SCIENCES)

Mr. Tim Moore provided a handout to stakeholders listing recommendations for various technical work to be completed by the Task Force to support revisions to the TMDLs. He then went through and described each task in detail identifying how the work will be used to document progress on the TMDLs and who will conduct the work, noting that he sees this as a three to four year process.

Mr. Tim Moore also noted that a number of tasks outlined in his handout will be addressed through the work currently being conducted by Dr. Anderson.

4. DISCUSSION: NEXT ROUND OF LAKE ELSINORE PROJECT ALTERNATIVES (TIM MOORE/RISK SCIENCES)

Mr. Tim Moore provided a handout to the stakeholders listing recommendations for the next round of project alternatives for Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake. He then went through and described each, noting the benefits as well as hurdles with employing each in Canyon Lake or Lake Elsinore.

Mr. Tim Moore then requested that stakeholders review the list of project alternatives and to provide him with comments and/or suggestions for additional project alternatives.

5. UPDATE: PHASE 2 TMDL COMPLIANCE MONITORING PLAN FRAMEWORK (NANCY GARDINER/HALEY ALDRICH)

Ms. Nancy Gardiner requested from stakeholders direction in moving forward in preparation of a monitoring program both in terms in meeting water quality targets and evaluating trends.

It was suggested that for the lakes she look at the requirements of EVMWD's permit requirements and for the watershed it was the general consensus that we continue to focus our efforts on monitoring the major inputs and output from Canyon Lake.

6. UPDATE: CANYON LAKE HYBRID TREATMENT PROJECT (RICK WHETSEL)

Mr. Rick Whetsel notified the Task Force that the September alum application was successful and we will provide additional updates on the effectiveness monitoring at a later date.

7. OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Pat Boldt informed the Task Force that WRCAC was recently awarded a Conservation Innovation Grant for \$400,000 for pollutant trading between non-point sources as well as point to non-point source trading.

8. SCHEDULE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is a Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake Nutrient TMDL TAC and it is scheduled for Tuesday, November 18, 2014, at 1:30 p.m. at SAWPA.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.