

Basin Monitoring Program Task Force

February 9, 2016

ATTENDEES:

Andy Campbell, IEUA
Andy Malone, WEI representing CBWM
Anthony Budicin, SBMWD
Bob Tincher, SBVMWD
Cindy Li, Regional Board
Ed Filadelfia, City of Riverside RWQCP
Fakhri Manghi, WMWD
Greg Herzog, City of Riverside PU
Lyndy Lewis, IRWD
Jayne Joy, EMWD
Jennifer Shepardon, SBMWD

Jennifer Torres, City of Corona
Keith Person, Regional Board
Lynn Merrill, City of Rialto
Marsha Westropp, OCWD
Marissa Flores-Acosta, SBMWD
Robert Eland, City of Riverside RWQCP
Tim Moore, Risk Sciences
Greg Woodside, OCWD (Phone)
Mark Norton, SAWPA
Zyanya Blancas, SAWPA

Call to Order/Introductions

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force (Task Force) meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) office located at 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California. Brief introductions were made.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Approval of December 1, 2015 Meeting Summary

Meeting notes were approved as with minor edits.

MOVED, to approve December 1, 2015 meeting summary.

Result: **Adopted (Unanimously)**

Motion/Second: Nelson/Cambell

Status of BMP Task Force Agreement Amendment approval - SAWPA

Brief updates on the status of the Task Force agreement amendment approvals were given. The City of Riverside has signed the amendment. Yucaipa Valley Water District and Inland Empire Utilities Agency will follow up with their staff. City of Rialto stated that they will deliver the signed amendment by end of March. Agreement amendments should be addressed to Dawna Munson at SAWPA.

Draft FY 2016-2017 Basin Monitoring Program Task Force Budget - SAWPA

Mr. Norton provided a verbal review of the draft FY 2016-17 and will be brought up for approval at a future meeting. Invoices will be distributed at the end of July.

Regional Board Triennial Review List, Drought Response Policy, Outline of Suggested Actions – Risk Sciences

Tim Moore, Risk Sciences, is working on the Principles to Govern Development of a Drought Policy in the Santa Ana River Watershed. This document was an original request from the Southern California Salinity Coalition and will now be used to assist Central Valley and the Task Force whom have similar issues. It is being presented to the Task Force for discussion and comments. Mr. Moore provided a detailed overview of the document.

Cindy Li asked if State Board was working on setting up a drought policy. Mr. Moore responded that State Board agrees there should be a policy set in place but is looking for regions to develop them. Jayne Joy suggested that if two Regional Boards were to approve the region's drought policy, perhaps State Board will set one up.

Next step is to allow Regional Board to review the Policy outline and perhaps they can give us a sense of priorities for the recommendations. Members of the Task Force will reach out to

Basin Plan Amendment for SAR Wasteload Allocation Status- Risk Sciences

The Chino Basin Desalter Authority (CDA) submitted their comments to the Petition to Revise Water Quality Objective for Nitrate-Nitrate. CDA recommended that the Task Force and the Regional Board explore the following options instead of pursuing a revised Basin Plan objective:

- Use the long-term 63-year average of the Wasteload Allocation Model results rather than the 10- year average, to evaluate compliance with the nitrate-nitrogen objective in the Chino-South GMZ. The Chino Basin is relatively large, and can buffer the shorter-term increases in nitrate concentrations in streambed recharge that are related to drought. The long-term 63-year average nitrate-nitrogen concentration in SAR recharge is predicted to be about 4.1 mg/L, which is less than the objective of 4.2 mg/L. The CDA considers the predicated nitrate-nitrogen concentration in SAR recharge as essentially compliant with the Basin Plan, again provided that the nitrogen losses that occur in streambed recharge occur as assumed in the Wasteload Allocation.
- Perform a new science-based investigation to determine nitrogen losses thorough streambed recharge into the CHINO-South GMZ. This should be done as a condition of increasing the nitrate-nitrogen objective. CDA recommends that the Regional Board defer increasing the nitrate-nitrogen objective until this investigation is completed and allow the dischargers to discharge at current nitrogen levels provided that the investigation is completed time certain. It is CDA's understanding that this is the same concept used by the predecessor of the Basin Monitoring Program Task Force when the TDS and nitrogen plan was originally developed and subsequently included in the Basin Plan in 2004.

Tim Moore then provided a summary handout of the regulatory alternative considered by the Task Force. Discussion ensued on the options provided by CDA and Tim Moore. Cindy Li, Regional Board, said that the second option from the CDA proposal is preferred, but if need be, the Task Force could still raise the Chino South Groundwater Management Zone objective through a Basin Plan Amendment.

Due to the number of questions in regards to the data used for determining CDA's options, it was determined that the data be brought back for review.

Scheduled Future Meeting

The next Task Force meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, February 9, 2016 at 9:30 am.

Adjournment

10:57 am