

**MEETING NOTES
OF THE
LAKE ELSINORE/CANYON LAKE TMDL TASK FORCE
November 14, 2018**

PARTICIPANTS

Garth Engelhorn
David Jensen
John McNamara
Rae Beimer
Rae Beimer
Cynthia Gabaldon
Stormy Osifeso
Hisam Baqai
Lenai Hunter
Sudhir Mohleji
John Rudolph
Greg Kahlen
Tim Moore
Ken Theisen
Andrea Gonzalez
Rebekah Guill
Bruce Whitaker
Rick Whetsel
Mark Norton

REPRESENTATIVE

Alta Environmental
CDM Smith
CR&R
City of Canyon Lake
City of Moreno Valley
City of Perris
City of Riverside
City of San Jacinto
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Wood Environmental
The Kahlen Group
Risk Sciences
Regional Water Quality Control Board
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

VIA-CONFERENCE CALL

Nicole Dailey
Lauren Sotelo
Steve Wolosoff

City of Lake Elsinore
March JPA
CDM Smith

Call to Order & Introductions

The Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force meeting was called to order at 1:01 p.m. by Mark Norton at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Riverside, California.

Meeting Notes

The October 30, 2018 Task Force Meeting Notes were accepted with the following revision; the motion to approve the Change Order to the Contract with CDM Smith was not seconded by Cynthia Gabaldon representing the City of Perris. At this time it is not clear who seconded the motion, staff will follow-up to determine who seconded the motion.

Discussion: Update and Revise TMDLs (CDM Smith & Risk Sciences)

Steve Wolosoff /CDM Smith presented a handout to stakeholders highlighting the final revisions to be addressed to the TMDL Technical Report.

Mr. Wolosoff requested comments to the items highlighted in the handout by November 19th. Additionally, Mr. Wolosoff will send out an updated version of Appendix B, which includes two new tables for allowable loads within the watershed if one were to try and monitor downstream of the entire jurisdictional area. Comments to Appendix B are also due November 19.

This was followed by discussion of the tracking of nutrient off-set credits for individual stakeholders. Nutrient off-set credits generated through the LEAMS are tracked by LESJWA staff through the annual LEAMS accounting report. It is envisioned for the future Task Force funded alum and fishery management projects will be tracked by LESJWA staff as well, once a model is in place to equate alum applied and fish removed to nutrient off-set credits. With respect to nutrient off-set credits generated by individual stakeholders through the implementation of on-site BMP, prior to the TMDL update these credits were tracked through a spreadsheet tool developed and managed by CDM Smith and presented to LESJWA staff as a part of the budget process. CDM

Smith is currently working to update this spreadsheet tool to track future on-site nutrient off-set credits. The process to incorporate these credits into the budget process for future budgets is in process.

The plan moving forward is for the team led by CDM Smith to complete revisions to the TMDL Technical Report by the end of November and submit the document to the Regional Board to proceed with the Basin Plan approval process the beginning of December.

Discussion: Proposed Revision to TMDL Monitoring Program (Risk Sciences)

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences presented to the stakeholders on recent discussions between Regional Board and EVMWD regarding the effectiveness of LEAMS. The outcome of which is that the Regional Board requested that EVMWD report annually on the nutrient offsets produced by LEAMS to validate the effectiveness of LEAMS and to quantify the nutrient off-set credits.

Mr. Moore then recommended, to facilitate this reporting process, as well as to eliminate redundancy between the monitoring conducted by the District and the LE&CL Nutrient TMDL Task Force for the Task Force to incorporate the additional monitoring of Lake Elsinore required by Dr. Alex Horne to assess LEAMS into the existing TMDL compliance monitoring program.

Currently, through the TMDL compliance monitoring program, water quality sampling for Lake Elsinore is conducted monthly during the summer period (June through September) and every-other month (bi-monthly) during the remainder of the annual cycle (October through May).

The additional monitoring required to address the water quality data needs by Dr. Alex Horne includes monitoring for the balance of the months not currently monitored to provide a complete year of monthly monitoring. The estimated annual cost to incorporate this monitoring into the current monitoring program is \$26,100. The monitoring results would then be shared with EVMWD, who would then contract with Dr. Alex Horne to conduct the modeling analysis.

To meet the immediate need of monthly monitoring beginning in January 2019, Mr. Moore requested the Task Force consider supplementing the current year monitoring program to cover the first half of 2019 (January through June). The cost to complete this additional monitoring would be \$13,038 for three additional months of Lake Elsinore monitoring.

A decision on this request for a Change Order for Wood Environment & Infrastructure, Inc. for this additional monitoring will be addressed as part of the upcoming budget discussion.

Next, the Task Force wrapped up discussion on the collection of post-fire monitoring data at the Cranston Guard monitoring station. Mr. Moore noted that as it was determined that we missed the first flush rain event it would be difficult to characterize the post-fire loads. Additionally, we learned that there are a number of other agencies already conducting post fire monitoring in other parts of the watershed, and that our monitoring would not add much value. It is not recommended that the Task Force take on any special post-fire monitoring at this time.

Mr. Moore pointed out that with the recent fires above the Cranston Guard monitoring station, we will no longer be able to use it as a reference watershed. Therefore, going forward we will need to identify another reference watershed as part of the updates to the compliance monitoring program that will be implemented with the approval of the Revised LE&CL TMDLs.

Ken Theisen/Regional Board agreed that this issue would be addressed as part of the revised TMDL. Ms. Rebekah Guill/RCFC&WCD provided a brief update on the post-fire monitoring effort by the District. She informed stakeholders of a rain event on October 12th, which was not forecasted, and the District was not able to mobilize to collect water samples, but was able to record observations. That first event was not intense enough to cause significant debris flow.

Mr. Moore, asked about the fire retardant, Phos Chek and if it was possible to differentiate between natural background and the amount of phosphorus added from the use of fire retardants. It was noted that due to the proprietary issues with the chemical formulas, it would be difficult to determine its impacts.

Discussion: Stakeholder TMDL Nutrient Load and Budget Allocations (LESJWA Staff)

a. Status Update: FY 2018-19 Invoices

Rick Whetsel/SAWPA informed stakeholders of the remaining outstanding FY 2018-19 invoices. These include: CA Department of Fish & Wildlife and Cities of Menifee and Murrieta.

b. Discussion: FY 2018-19 Budget Shortfall

Rick Whetsel/SAWPA presented to the stakeholders a spreadsheet detailing the FY 2018-19 Task Force Budget. This included the following highlights to explain the budget shortfall, as well as the proposed modifications (consultant Change Orders) to the FY 2018-19 budget.

Projected budget shortfall.

- Task force is expected to be short \$54,079 due to the currently uncollectable allocations to CR&R (Composting Project) and Nevada Hydro (LEAPS Project), as well as the reduced amount collected from San Jacinto Agricultural Operators (WRCAC), due to a number of WRCAC members not being up to date on their dues.

Consultant Change Order Requests.

- CDM Smith (TMDL Revision) for \$75,700
- Risk Sciences (regulatory compliance expert) for \$19,890
- Wood Environmental (3 months Lake Elsinore monitoring) for \$13,038
- The additional funding required to address these Change Orders totals only an additional \$38,747, as there was some capacity within the appropriate consultant budget line items for additional work to be funded.

Overall, combining the budget shortfall with the consultant Change Orders result in an estimated FY 2018-19 deficit of \$92,826.

To address this deficit, LESJWA staff reviewed the FY 2018-19 budget to identify opportunities to move existing funds. The following were identified as opportunities that are expected not to impact the efforts of the Task Force in FY 2018-19:

- Reallocate \$87,826 from Lake Elsinore Fishery Management – review of the proposal schedule showed that key elements of the program (notably the survey of the aquatic fishery for \$73,150 and fish tissue sampling and analysis for \$7,850) are not scheduled to begin until August 2019. Therefore, the need for funding in FY 2018-19 is much lower than budgeted and sufficient project funding remains in the budget to initiate the project.
- Reallocate \$5,000 from LESJWA Project Administration – Staff believes that additional saving can be achieved through efficiencies in the management of the Canyon lake Alum Application project.

Additionally, Mark Norton/LESJWA informed the Task Force that the policy for accepting outside contributions to the Task Force is being brought back for discussion at the December 10th LESJWA Board meeting. He invited the Task Force agencies to attend to voice their support for approval of the policy to accept outside contributions to the Task Force. It was noted, if the LESJWA Board approves the policy, this could allow for the Task Force to invoice Nevada Hydro and CR&R for \$114,914 in funds to support the Task Force.

Following discussion a motion was put forward by Rae Beimer representing the Cities of Canyon Lake and Moreno Valley and seconded by Stormy Osifeso representing the City of Riverside to reallocate most of the FY 2018-19 Lake Elsinore Fishery Management program funds and unspent funds in LESJWA Project Administration to cover our budget deficit and utilize these funds for the proposed consultant change orders, with the caveat that if the LESJWA Board approves the policy to accept outside contributions, we can then collect contributions from Nevada Hydro and CR&R. Those funds

would then be reallocated to the Lake Elsinore Fishery Management program. The motion was approved with a single no vote from the City of Lake Elsinore.

c. Action Item Review: CDM Smith Change Order

Due to previous action to reallocate FY 2018-19 funds this item was not necessary.

d. Discussion: FY 2019-20 Budget Model Template

Item tabled.

Action Item: Lake Elsinore Fishery Management Proposal (LESJWA Staff)

Rick Whetsel/SAWPA informed stakeholders that only one proposal was received with regard to the RFP issued in September looking for firms to implement the Lake Elsinore Fishery Management Program. Following a brief discussion, it was agreed that the single proposal received was sufficient to proceed. Mr. Whetsel will distribute this proposal to stakeholders for review with the intent that the task force will take action to recommend this proposal to the LESJWA Board at the January 9th LE&CL TMDL Task Force meeting.

Lake Updates

Lake Elsinore

Nicole Dailey/City of Lake Elsinore informed stakeholders that the lake level is currently 1234.35 feet above sea level. She also informed stakeholders of a recent effort by the City to stock approximately 900 of each redear and bluegill sunfish.

Canyon Lake

No update.

Task Force Administration (LESJWA Staff)

Status Update: Amendment No. 1 to Task Force Agreement

Rick Whetsel/SAWPA informed stakeholders of the remaining outstanding signature pages for Amendment No. 1 to the Task Force Agreement (City of Murrieta).

Other Business

No other business was discussed.

Schedule Next Meeting

The next LE&CL TMDL Task Force meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 9th from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at SAWPA.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m.