

**LAKE ELSINORE/CANYON LAKE TMDL TASK FORCE  
MEETING NOTES**

**September 25, 2019**

PARTICIPANTS

Garth Engelhorn  
Cameron Adams  
Rita Thompson  
Cynthia Gabaldon  
Maria Arreguin  
Mike Roberts  
Stormy Osifeso  
Roger Turner  
Mike Loving  
Sudhir Mohleji  
Richard Meyerhoff  
Ankita Vyas  
Dave Woelfel  
Abigail Suter  
Rebekah Guill  
Tim Moore  
Tess Dunham  
Greg Kahlen  
Chris Stransky  
John Rudolph  
Mark Norton  
Karen Breucop  
Rick Whetsel  
T. Milford Harrison

REPRESENTATIVE

Alta Environmental  
City of Lake Elsinore  
City of Lake Elsinore  
City of Perris  
City of Perris  
City of Riverside  
City of Riverside  
City of San Jacinto  
City of Wildomar  
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District  
GEI Consultants  
Michael Baker/Caltrans  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Risk Sciences  
Somach Simmons & Dunn  
The Kahlen Group  
Wood Environmental  
Wood Environmental  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

VIA-CONFERENCE CALL

Pat Boldt  
Steven Wolosoff  
Kasey Castillo  
Loren Sotelo  
Rachael Johnson

WRCAC  
CDM Smith  
City of Canyon Lake  
March JPA  
Riverside County Farm Bureau

**Call to Order & Introductions**

The Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force meeting was called to order at 9:04 a.m. by Rick Whetsel at the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA), located at 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside, California.

**Meeting Notes**

Approval of the Meeting Notes from the August 14, 2019 Task Force meeting were deemed acceptable.

**Status of BPA to Revise the TMDL (Regional Board)**

Status of Peer Review Reports

David Woelfel / Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board provided an update on the Regional Board activities related to the LE&CL TMDL update. Regional Board has received comments from all six peer reviewers and is currently working to summarize the responses into a single document. It has not been currently established when these comments will be available to stakeholders. Mr. Woelfel noted the Regional Board is currently planning to take these comments to their Board in December, but that date is not confirmed.

Tim Moore /Risk Sciences informed Regional Board staff that it is critical to the Task Force stakeholders that Regional Board responds to our comment regarding how nutrient offsets will be accounted in the revised TMDL. This is a significant issue/concern of stakeholders as it impacts how and if the Canyon Lake Alum Application project will proceed. David will review this issue/concern with Regional Board management.

## **Update: Wood Environment Infrastructure**

### Report on Annual TMDL Water Quality Report

Chris Stransky / Wood Environmental presented the finding of the FY 2018-19 in-lake monitoring to stakeholders and then introduced Garth Engelhorn /Alta Environmental to present the findings of the watershed-wide storm-water monitoring program.

Tim Moore /Risk Sciences requested Wood/Alta to include the historic nutrient loading graphs into the annual report. This included going back to January 2011 to cover the entire 10-year compliance period for the TMDL.

### Update on Fishery Management

John Rudolph / Wood Environmental presented an update on the on-going Lake Elsinore Fishery Management activities. A copy of the Wood Environmental presentation is available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials: <https://sawpa.org/task-forces/lake-elsinore-and-canyon-lake-tmdl-task-force/#stakeholder-effort>

## **Updated: Canyon Lake Alum**

### Update on Proposed October Application (week of October 21-25)

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA informed stakeholders that we are planning to conduct a Canyon Lake application this fall. For this fall we are reconsidering our approach to apply alum in mid-September, where the expectation is that we will remove the TP from the water column before the lake turns over. Instead we are planning to push back the application to the week of October 21-25<sup>th</sup> in an attempt to improve the effectiveness of the alum applied, based on the following assumptions:

- Lake Elsinore has been turning over later in the year, more often toward the end of October.
- Lake level will be lowered, and with less water we will need less alum product to treat the TP in the water column.
- pH will be lower and alum is more effective in removing TP from the water column and is not being wasted in buffering the water.

### RFP for Future Alum Applications

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA informed stakeholders that our current agreement with Aquatechnex expires in December 2019 with the application planned for October.

As we have already extended this agreement two additional years for a total of five years, the expectation is that we will issue an RFP to continue the Canyon Lake Alum Application program. The plan moving forward is to work with our regulatory strategists and bring an RFP back to stakeholders by our next meeting.

## **Task Force Administration (LESJWA Staff)**

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA informed stakeholders that a draft FY 2020-21 budget will be available in November.

## **Other Business**

Rita Thompson /City of Lake Elsinore informed stakeholders on the following:

- The City is continuing to work on their Prop 1 grant proposal on a pilot project to remove algal biomass from the Lake.
- The SWRCB sampled the Lake for cyanotoxins on August 19<sup>th</sup>, microcystin levels were high (but lower than previous years) and the City has re-posted the Lake.
- The City has committed a motion to intervene on the LEAPS project.
- The City is holding a State of the City event on October 10<sup>th</sup>, all are welcome and additional information is available on the City's website.

## **Schedule Next Meeting**

The next LE&CL TMDL Task Force meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 23, 2019 at 9:00 a.m. at SAWPA.

## **Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.