

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

**September 22, 2020**

**PARTICIPANTS**

**VIA-CONFERENCE CALL**

Garth Engelhorn  
Scott Sewell  
Richard Kim  
Shanna Delgado  
Kris Hanson  
Dan Cortese  
Carlos Norvani  
Nicole Dailey  
Rae Beimer  
Lynn Merrill  
Cynthia Gabaldon  
Cynthia Gabaldon  
Stormy Osifeso  
Johnathan Skinner  
Steven Wolosoff  
Paula Kulis  
Al Javier  
Sudhir Mohleji  
Lenai Hunter  
Richard Meyerhoff  
Tess Dunham  
Lauren Sotelo  
Ankita Vyas  
Adam Fischer  
Lauma Willis  
Barbara Barry  
Pamela Ybarra  
Yiping Cao  
Gracie Torres  
Richard Boon  
Rebekah Guill  
Abigail Suter  
Amy McNeil  
Andrea Macias  
Greg Kahlen  
Chris Stransky  
John Rudolph  
Rolf Schottle  
Pat Boldt  
Mark Norton  
Rick Whetsel  
T. Milford Harrison

**REPRESENTATIVE**

Alta Environmental  
CA Department of Fish & Wildlife  
CA Department of Fish & Wildlife  
CASC Engineering  
City of Canyon Lake/Wildomar  
City of Hemet  
City of Lake Elsinore  
City of Lake Elsinore  
City of Moreno Valley  
City of San Jacinto  
City of Menifee  
City of Perris  
City of Riverside  
City of Lake Elsinore  
CDM Smith  
CDM Smith  
Eastern Municipal Water District  
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District  
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District  
GEI Consultants  
Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP  
March JPA  
Michael Baker/Caltrans  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
The Kahlen Group  
Wood Environmental  
Wood Environmental  
Wood Environmental  
WRCAC  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

**Call to Order & Introductions**

The Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force meeting was called to order at 1:33 p.m. by Mark Norton with all participants participating remotely, due to COVID-19 related social distancing restrictions.

**Meeting Notes**

Mark Norton /LESJWA asked for any comments on the August 17, 2020 LE&CL TMDL meeting notes. There were no comments, and the meeting notes were deemed acceptable.

**Status: TMDL Update (Regional Board)**

Barbara Berry /Regional Board informed the Task Force that staff has prepared draft offset language, this will be distributed to stakeholders following the meeting for review and comment, with the goal of discussing at our next Task Force meeting. This revised language is intended to address comments provided by the Task Force in June 2019.

Barbara next informed the Task Force that she and Yiping Cao /Regional Board have been on several calls with the consultant team to address Staff's questions regarding the Task Force response to the Peer Review comments, as well as to help her and Yiping to better understand the background assumptions that went into revising the TMDLs.

Yiping stated that it is the staff's goal to 1) have a full understanding and a complete administrative record of the models used to update the TMDLs and 2) address critical peer reviewer comments.

Staff is currently waiting on this response from the consultant team led by Tess Dunham/KSC. Once these questions are addressed the Regional Board staff will work to schedule bringing the revised LE&CL TMDLs before the Regional Board. Barbara noted that this is a high priority for her and Yiping.

Tess Dunham informed the Task Force that she and her team will have addressed all of staff's questions in the next few weeks.

**Presentation: Lake Elsinore Fishery Management Program (Wood Env./GEI)**

Chris Stransky /Wood Environmental provided a brief overview of the Lake Elsinore Fishery Management Program and its objectives. He then introduced Mr. John Rudolph /Wood Environmental to present study design, and observations from the fish, zooplankton and phytoplankton surveys. Mr. Richard Meyerhoff/ GEI followed with a presentation on the results of the fish tissue analysis.

A copy of the combined Wood Environmental/GEI Consultants Lake Elsinore Fisheries Management Report 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>

**Discussion: 2020 TMDL Compliance Report (Tess Dunham/KSC)**

Tess Dunham /Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP provided to the Task Force a handout summarizing where each of the permit holders are in terms with compliance with the 2004 TMDL load allocations. This included a preliminary analysis of 10-year running average of loads discharged to each Canyon Lake and lake Elsinore from upstream sources (for the period of January 1, 2011 – June 30, 2020) and a determination of compliance for each TMDL.

One of the questions that has arisen with respect to the December 31, 2020 TMDL compliance deadline is if any of the permittees would need a Time Schedule Order (TSO) with respect to compliance with 2004 TMDL provisions as they are incorporated into permits. A preliminary analysis of the available data showed that based upon the first 9 ½ years of data provided, the permittees are expected to be in compliance.

Tess stated individual permittees should determine if they need a TSO. With that, the Regional Board would need to know sooner rather than later if permittees would like the Regional Board to consider adoption of a TSO prior to the end of December.

**Discussion: 2024 Integrated Report Listing for Impaired Water Bodies (Tess Dunham/KSC)**

Tess Dunham /Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP followed up the presentation on the results of the fish tissue analysis by GEI by presenting to the Task Force a draft of the letter she has prepared to Regional Board recommending the delisting of Lake Elsinore for Total DDT and Total PCBs. This recommendation is based on the findings of the fish tissue analysis. It was suggested the final Lake Elsinore Fishery Management Program report accompany the letter.

Tess requested comments on the letter be submitted by close of business on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Additionally, Tess informed the Task Force that Regional Board staff is starting work on the 2024 Integrated Report and the deadline for submitting data into CEDEN to be considered for that report is noon on October 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Discussion: In-Lake Modeling (Steve Wolosoff/CDM Smith)**

Barbara Berry /Regional Board raised a concern of staff regarding the models used by the Task Force for the TMDL revision in that the CAEDYM model will no longer be supported by the developer.

Steve Wolosoff /CDM Smith presented to the Task Force and Regional Board staff a proposal to update the models used in the TMDL revision in light of the sunseting of the CAEDYM model. CDM Smith has been tasked this fiscal year to update the modeling to extend the simulation period for the TMDL revision scenarios through 2020. In doing that, there is an opportunity to address the issue with the CAEDYM model by performing the model update using the new model platform. With that it will also expand the opportunities of the Task Force, in that the updated linkage analysis models can then be used to assist the Task Force in demonstrating compliance for the TMDLs. Additionally, the models would support ongoing BPA adoption process, future regulatory changes, address Task Force science questions, and support future evaluations of in-lake water quality controls. Lastly, there is the need to do this soon as Dr. Michael Anderson is planning to retire in the near future and the CAEDYM model used by Dr. Anderson is being sunsetted by its developers. Wolosoff then introduced Ms. Paula Kulis an expert in these models to provide additional detail on the transition from the current CAEDYM model to the new model platform.

A copy of the CDM Smith Lake Elsinore In-Lake Modeling 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>

**Discussion: Canyon Lake Alum (LESJWA Staff)**

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA informed the Task Force that the fall Canyon Lake alum application is scheduled for the week of October 12<sup>th</sup>. Due to the interest of the Task Force to maximize the offset credits accrued by the application in 2020, Steve Wolosoff is planning to maximize the amount of alum that may be applied in Canyon Lake.

**Update: LEAMS (LESJWA Staff)**

Adam Fischer /Regional Board raised a concern regarding the status of the Final Compliance Assessment deliverable identified in the MS4 permittees Comprehensive Nutrient reduction Plan (CNRP). This deliverable was to be submitted to Regional Board the 4<sup>th</sup> Qtr 2019. However, Regional Board staff cannot locate this deliverable.

Richard Boon /RCFC&WCD informed Adam that he would follow-up with him later in the week regarding the Final Compliance Assessment.

**Task Force Administration (LESJWA Staff)**

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA reported that staff will plan to present a draft FY 2021-22 budget at the next meeting.

There were no questions/comments from stakeholders.

**Other Business**

Mark Norton presented a letter received from CA Department of Fish and Wildlife (F&W), which raised the questions including if F&W are still considered a responsible party and if F&W still needs to participate in the Task Force as they believe they have met their compliance requirements.

LESJWA staff will prepare a formal response to this letter with the help of Tess Dunham.

**Schedule Next Meeting**

The next LE/CL TMDL Task Force meeting is scheduled for October 19, 2020 at 1:30 pm. as a virtual conference call meeting.

**Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 4:06 p.m.