

From: [Samantha Adams](#)
To: [Mark Norton](#)
Subject: RE: Ballpark cost estimate - BMP TF
Date: Friday, January 8, 2021 10:14:12 AM

Hi Mark,

Sorry for the additional delay, I had some unplanned things pop up the last two days that kept me from completing my response.

If I understand correctly in FY 2021/22, you want to (1) develop a plan to come into compliance with the 2018 Recycled Water Policy time certain, (2) design a new surface water monitoring program approach, (3) develop a scope of work to characterize/quantify the TDS exceedances. I think (2) and (3) are related such that (2) may be designed to help support future work related to (3), but it is separate since it may also need to address other questions about surface water quality, such as compliance assessments.

I recommend the following conservative estimates:

1. **2018 Recycled Water Policy Compliance.** \$125,000 I still believe in the approach I developed in 2019 to do this (with some improvements based on a better understanding of the policy). This rounded estimate is based on the cost estimate I prepared and submitted to SAWPA. It would involve, key planning information gathering, mapping planning information relevant to SNMP development, development of decision support process, definition of technical methodologies, and developing a plan and schedule to do the work and update the Basin Plan.
2. **Surface water monitoring program workplan.** In my best professional opinion, this should involve information gathering of existing monitoring (reasonably simple because of SAR report work), definition of all questions we have about surface water quality, developing some graphics to characterize the state of knowledge, definition of the gaps in knowledge, and definition of how to fill the gaps, develop plan, schedule and budget to implement. \$50,000-\$125,000 depending on the scale of the monitoring program (the higher end is if we are talking about the entire Upper Watershed, the lower if we are just looking from Narrows to Prado). I'd be willing to add that if this work is planned to be done for the entire upper Watershed, if done right, could be leveraged to simplify the completion of the SAR Annual Report.
3. **TDS Exceedances Scoping.** This work needs to define the sources/mechanisms for salt loading to the River, characterizing the various methods that could be employed for quantifying the loading, assessing the available data for this quantification, assessing the gaps in our knowledge, selecting a method to quantify the loading, develop, plan, schedule and budget to implement. This is very similar approach to (2), and may be best lumped together as one effort. Add \$35,000 to do this together with (2).

These estimates don't include meetings. So, I would add another \$30-\$50k for meetings (higher if technical sub group meetings are needed). It might be more if you have multiple consultants performing different efforts.

I know this may sound like a lot of money for planning future work, but these efforts are going to set the stage for compliance in the decades to come. It needs to be planned very detailed and carefully to meet Regional Board expectations and provide certainty to the parties. I very strongly believe that the Task Force can convince the Regional Board to forego the next triennial ambient water quality if we come up with a way to have the Basin Plan Amendment done time certain with a new plan for how that work would be done in the future. Doing that work again in 22/2023 is not the best use of the stakeholders' money.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to advise in this matter. I hope my ideas and thoughts are helpful to you.

Wishing you all the best in the new year!

Samantha Adams

Business Sector Leader

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From: Samantha Adams

Sent: Tuesday, January 5, 2021 12:41 PM

To: Mark Norton <mnorton@sawpa.org>

Subject: RE: Ballpark cost estimate - BMP TF

Hi Mark – I just wanted to let you know I am thinking about this and will respond by tomorrow. I'm sorry for not confirming sooner, it's been a very busy couple of months. I hope you had an enjoyable holiday season.

Happy New Year!

Samantha Adams

Business Sector Leader

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From: Mark Norton <mnorton@sawpa.org>

Sent: Tuesday, December 15, 2020 1:42 PM

To: Samantha Adams <sadams@westyost.com>

Subject: Ballpark cost estimate - BMP TF

[This message has originated from outside of West Yost]

Samantha,

As you are aware from Tess Dunham, the Basin Monitoring Program Task Force will be setting a consultant workshop to obtain consultant input for the following tasks:

Investigate potential approaches for groundwater and surface water monitoring program update reflecting 2019 Recycled Water Policy review and investigate approach to identify and quantify cause(s) of TDS exceedances during Santa Ana River baseflow conditions at Prado Dam (e.g., rising groundwater).

We plan on undertaking development of the new triennial ambient water quality update approach and surface water quality monitoring approach in FY 21-22. Possibly the TDS exceedances study as well. However, our challenge is that we have been asked to prepare budgets for the SAWPA Task Force for next fiscal year by Jan. 15th.

Any sense of how much this would cost for each task as a rough and conservative estimate? This is not to actually conduct the triennial ambient water quality update report or the surface water quality monitoring report or TDS exceedance study but rather a study report to describe the revised approach/methodology in light of the 2019 Recycled Water Policy requirements.

If I could get this from you sometime the first week of January, that would help immensely.

*Mark R. Norton PE, LEED AP, ENV SP
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