

Joint Regional Water Quality Monitoring/MSAR TMDL Task Force Meeting Notes

October 19, 2021

PARTICIPANTS

Nisha Wells, City of Chino Hills
Cordell Chavez, City of Corona
Abigail Gomez, City of Fontana
Thomas Crowley, City of Rialto
Melanie Sotelo, City of Rialto
Mike Roberts, City of Riverside
Stormy Osifeso, City of Riverside
Bobby Gustafson, City of Riverside RWQCP
Kimberly Colbert, Colbert Group
Menu Leddy, EEES
Pat Boldt, Milk Producer's Council
Ana Montoya-Horn, OCPW
Chris Crompton, OCPW
Michael Mori, OCPW
Kevin O'Toole, OCWD
Abigail Suter, RCFC & WCD
Andrea Macias, RCFC & WCD
Amy McNeill, RCFC & WCD
Rebekah Guill, RCFC & WCD

Richard Boon, RCFC & WCD
Arlene Chun, San Bernardino Areawide Program
Cynthia Gabaldon, San Bernardino County
Amanda Grey, UC Riverside
Gary Bosgraff, UC Riverside
Kaitlin Diaz, RWQCB
Pamela Ybarra, RWQCB
Patrick Lewis, RWQCB
SueAnn Neal, RWQCB
Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
Paul Caswell, CDM Smith
Steven Wolosoff, CDM Smith
Ryan Kearns, CWE
Richard Meyerhoff, GEI Consultants
Mark Norton, SAWPA
Rick Whetsel, SAWPA
T. Milford Harrison, SAWPA
Zyanya Ramirez, SAWPA

1. Call to Order & Introductions

The MSAR TMDL Task Force Meeting was called to order at 1:32 p.m. by Rick Whetsel at SAWPA with all participants participating remotely, due to COVID-19 related social distancing restrictions.

2. Approval of the September 21, 2021 MSAR Task Force Meeting Notes

Meeting notes were approved as posted.

3. Update: Santa Ana River Watershed Bacteria Monitoring Program (Steve Wolosoff/CDM Smith)

CDM Smith provided a PowerPoint presentation updating the Task Force on the 2021 Sampling Seasons, Cucamonga Creek, and the Monitoring Plan/QAPP.

a) *2021 Sampling Season by Priorities*

Sampling was originally scheduled for June 24th and was delayed until June 28th due to wet weather.

CDM Smith will be collecting 10-week study in Cucamonga Creek from 2016-2021 from San Bernardino County Flood Control District. Sampling in this location has exceeded anti-degradation targets.

b) *Modifications to Monitoring Plan and QAPP*

There are new analytical methods proposed to use in the MSAR task force special studies to look at parsing controllable and uncontrollable sources that weren't incorporated into the Monitoring Plan or QAPP.

CDM Smith will be following up with the Task Force stakeholders to identify signatory members to finalize the QAPP. There is a required certification page that will certify the QAPP data to be used in decision-making for 303D listings. This will involve the appointment of a Regional Water Quality Monitoring Program PM and QA personnel. The Task Force agreed to appoint a representative from each county and communicate with CDM Smith after the meeting.

4. Action Item: Water Quality Monitoring Dashboard (Steve Wolosoff/CDM Smith)

Rick Whetsel asked if the dashboard was going to be accessible to the public. It was agreed that because the data can be retrieved from other data sources, there is no need to password protect it as long as there is a provisional status on the data.

5. Update: Santa Ana River Homelessness Water Quality Monitoring Program (Richard Meyerhoff/GEI Consultants)

Richard Meyerhoff, GEI Consultants, provided a verbal update on the Santa Ana River Homelessness Water Quality Monitoring Program.

The first quarter of the monitoring program is complete. The team went out to reaches 3 and 4 of the Santa Ana River in July to verify homeless encampment sites. Three of the proposed sites were adjusted. Aerial imagery, provided by SAWPA, was used to find exact locations of these encampments. CWE is in the process of preparing a memorandum summarizing their findings of the last two field visits (July and August 2021). The first of four dry weather water quality monitoring took place September 21.

GEI, CWE, and CDM Smith continue to coordinate efforts with the City Riverside and Counties of Riverside and San Bernardino. The next sampling is scheduled for November 21 and in December 2021. At this point, the program is in sampling mode.

6. RWQM Task Force Administration (SAWPA Staff)

a) Draft FY 2022-23 Task Force Budget

An updated draft fiscal year 2022-23 Task Force budget will be reviewed by the stakeholders and approved via email by the end of October.

Mr. Whetsel noted that CDM Smith submitted an updated budget for the Regional Bacteria monitoring Program 2022-23 Sample Year. Billing increased by 3%. This will be updated in the Draft FY 2022-23 Task Force budget.

7. Discussion: Revise MSAR TMDLs (Tess Dunham/KSC)

The Task Force has had several discussions regarding new activities or studies for the Task Force to consider funding to support anticipated data needs to facilitate revisions to the TMDL or existing dry weather condition Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plans (CBRPs) or support development of a wet weather condition CBRPs. Based on the discussions that occurred at the August and September Task Force meetings, there was general interest among Task Force members to consider three of the five studies:

- Study No. 1 – Characterize Channel Hydraulics to Determine Flowrate that Causes Unsafe Swimming Conditions in Impaired Waters, which Triggers the HFS.
- Study No. 2 (formally known as Study No. 3) – Collect Wet Weather Data to Quantify non-MS4 Bacteria Loads from Homeless Encampments to Potentially Provide Basis for an Offset Program
- Study No. 3 (formally known as Study No. 4) – Characterization of Bacteria Human Marker Loads at MS4 Outfalls during Wet Weather, with Emphasis on Smaller Storms that Do Not Trigger HFS.

Richard Meyerhoff and Steven Wolosoff, provided detailed description, backgrounds, tasks, and cost estimates to each study. The consultant team requested stakeholders to review and provide feedback on the three Studies via email to support the next steps for the Task force in updating the MSAR TMDLs.

8. TMDL Task Force Administration (SAWPA Staff)

a) Draft FY 2022-23 Task Force Budget

An updated draft fiscal year 2022-23 Task Force budget will be reviewed by the stakeholders and approved via email by the end of October.

9. Update: Bacteria Reduction Implementation Activities

- a) ***RCFC&WCD***
Postponed for next meeting.
- b) ***SBCFCD***
Arlene Chun stated that the ducks have moved out of the Chris Basin. This will allow for the District to implement modification to Chris Basin.
- c) ***Orange County***
Postponed for next meeting.
- d) ***Pomona & Claremont***
Postponed for next meeting.
- e) ***Agricultural Operators***
Postponed for next meeting.

10. Other Business

No further business to discuss.

11. Schedule Next Meeting

SAWPA staff will communicate with the Task Force via email to receive feedback regarding the three studies and based on interest there may be a meeting in December, otherwise a January meeting will be scheduled via email at a later time.