

Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force

January 10, 2022

PARTICIPANTS PRESENT:

Behzad Sedighi, Caltrans	Rebekah Guill, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Scott Sewell, CDFW	Richard Boon, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Stefan Awender, CDFW	Abigail Suter, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Steven Wolosoff, CDM Smith	Jayne Joy, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Kris Hanson, City of Canyon Lake/Wildomar	Pamela Ybarra, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Carlos Norvani, City of Lake Elsinore	Patrick Lewis, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Nicole Dailey, City of Lake Elsinore	SueAnn Neal, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Rae Beimer, City of Moreno Valley	James Klang, TBL Consultants
Cynthia Gabaldon, City of Menifee, Perris, and March JPA	Michael Anderson, UCR
Mike Roberts, City of Riverside	Chris Stransky, Wood Environmental
Stormy Osifeso, City of Riverside	Nicholas Jernack, Wood Environmental
Lynn Merrill, City of San Jacinto	Pat Boldt, WRCAC
Mike Ali, EVMWD	Bruce Whitaker, SAWPA
Richard Meyerhoff, GEI Consultants	T. Milford Harrison, SAWPA
Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP	Mark Norton, SAWPA
Rachael Johnson, Riverside County Farm Bureau	Rick Whetsel, SAWPA
Amy McNeill, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD	Zyanya Ramirez, SAWPA

Call to Order & Introductions

The Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force (Task Force) meeting commenced at 1:03 p.m. in a virtual Zoom meeting, in response to, and in compliance with, COVID-19 regulations.

Approval of November 3, 2021 Meeting Notes

The November 3, 2021 meeting notes were approved as posted.

Status: Regional Board Update (Regional Board)

FHAB Monitoring Program

Pamela Ybarra, of the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board), gave an oral status update on the FHAB Monitoring Program. Regional Board performed site visits twice in November and December. Water Quality monitoring results from the first visit in November showed dangerous levels of microcystin; the results from the second visit lowered the warning to a caution level. The December monitoring resulted in the warning level being reduced to normal. The monitoring will be completed at the end of 2022. Reports on the FHAB Monitoring Program will be expected in 2023.

Administrative Draft MS4 Permit & Incorporation of TMDLs (Regional Board/Tess Dunham/KSC)

Lynn Merrill, representing the City of San Jacinto, shared that the Regional Board had distributed a draft MS4 permit to permittees for their review and comments. At that time, the draft had not been shared with the public.

Tess Dunham, of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP, recommended that this topic be brought back to the Task Force for discussion when the draft is available to everyone.

Review: Draft Key Principles for Technical TMDL Revisions (Tess Dunham/KSC)

The Task Force had agreed to consider revising the 2018 TMDL Revisions in an incremental manner. The incremental steps would include the development of key principles to guide ongoing efforts, and to look at potential revisions in a phased approach by first addressing potential revisions to the Implementation Plan. It was important to all stakeholders including Regional Board staff and the permitting stakeholders that there be an agreement to these key principles.

Tess Dunham provided an overview of the draft agreement titled *Draft Key Principles for Potential Revision of the TMDL Technical Report: Revision to the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake Nutrient TMDLs (December 1, 2018) - Agreement Among the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force Members and Executive Officer for the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board.*

Task Force members provided the preliminary comments/feedback on the draft agreement:

- Item 2. – In some permits meeting targets can be an alternative demonstration of compliance language. This will be clarified.
- Add within these key principles that we continue to agree that the discussion for expression of targets and the ways the allocations is based upon how we have it in the 2018 TMDL based on the cumulative distribution and the 10-year running average.
- Clarification to the term Compliance Schedule – It is being used in this document to a program of the implementation schedule as contained within the Basin Plan.
- Add language that the report has been fully peer-reviewed in its current existence.

Jayne Joy stated that the Regional Board is struggling with staffing levels and have other commitments, but they will do what they can to attend to this matter.

Comments to the draft agreement is requested from stakeholders and due to Ms. Dunham at tdunham@kscsacramento.com via email by end of day Friday, February 4, 2022.

Update: Fall Canyon Lake Alum Application (LESJWA Staff)

Aquatechnex, LLC performed their last semi-annual alum application to Canyon Lake in October 2021 finalizing their contract with LESJWA.

A request for proposals (RFP) was issued in October 2021 for the Canyon Lake Alum Application, which would award a three-year agreement with an option to continue for two additional years. Two proposals were received: AquaTechnex, LLC and HAB Aquatic Solutions. Staff will be conducting interviews with each consultant on January 17, 2022. The vendor selected by the interview panel will be recommended for approval at the February 17, 2022 LESJWA Board of Directors meeting.

One of the two recent storm events triggered the need for monitoring of Canyon Lake overflow. There will be further discussion by the Task Force to determine if the results of the monitoring will require an urgent need to conduct a Spring alum application.

Task Force Administration (LESJWA Staff)

Discuss FY 2022-23 Budget Assumptions

Rick Whetsel presented an initial draft FY 2022-23 Budget: Lake Elsinore & Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force. Discussion ensued for a need of a formal draft budget that includes:

- Land use amounts from Western Riverside County Agriculture Coalition
- The costs of implementing the key principles used to revise the 2018 TMDL and identify what steps will be paid for in the current fiscal year and what will be included in 2022-23 budget

Other Business

Grant Funding Opportunities

LESJWA, LEAMS operators, and the City of Lake Elsinore will be submitting two separate grant applications for two projects for the opportunity to receive grant funding from the 2021 Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Program administered by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). These two projects would benefit Lake Elsinore:

- Lake Elsinore Critical Drought Response Algae Harvesting Project
- Lake Elsinore Critical Drought Response Oxygenation Project

Another opportunity is available through the next grant funding round from Proposition 1 Integrated Regional Water Management.

Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage (LEAPS) Project

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission cancelled the LEAPS project after Nevada Hydro Corporation failed to provide requested documents.

Schedule Next Meeting

The next LE/CL TMDL Task Force meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 14, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.

Table Summary of Agreements and Actions

Date of Action/Agreement	Action/Agreement	Responsible Entities Reaching Agreement
September 28, 2021	Approve funding in the amount of up to \$30,000 to CDM Smith to assist Task Force technical issues, including but not limited to, initial discussions regarding content and scope of TMDL Implementation Plan revisions should the Task Force decide to provide resources for further revising the 2018 draft TMDL.	Voting Task Force members.
November 3, 2021	Approve moving forward with the proposed step-wise approach to updating the TMDL Technical Report and its timeline.	Voting Task Force members
January 10, 2022		