

Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force

March 2, 2022

PARTICIPANTS PRESENT:

Abigail Suter, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Albert Acevedo, CDM Smith
Aldo Licitra, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Amy McNeill, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Andy Komor, PACE
Chris Stransky, Wood Environmental
Carlos Norvani, City of Lake Elsinore
Cynthia Gabaldon, City of Menifee, Perris, and March JPA
Dale Welty, City of Canyon Lake
Dan Cortese, City of Hemet
Eric Lindberg, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Garth Engelhorn, NV5
James Klang, TBL Consultants
Joe Bellomo, City of Canyon Lake
John Rudolph, Wood Environmental
Jase Warner, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Kris Hanson, City of Canyon Lake/Wildomar
Lenai Hunter, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Lynn Merrill, City of San Jacinto
Maria Arreguin, City of Perris

Mike Roberts, City of Riverside
Nicole Dailey, City of Lake Elsinore
Pamela Ybarra, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Pat Boldt, WRCAC
Patrick Lewis, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Rachael Johnson, Riverside County Farm Bureau
Rae Beimer, City of Moreno Valley
Rebekah Guill, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Richard Boon, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Richard Meyerhoff, GEI Consultants
Steven Wolosoff, CDM Smith
Stormy Osifeso, City of Riverside
SueAnn Neal, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
Bruce Whitaker, SAWPA
T. Milford Harrison, SAWPA
Mark Norton, SAWPA
Rick Whetsel, SAWPA
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 Meeting Notes from January 10, 2022 Task Force Meeting

The January 10, 2022 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) provided a verbal status update on the FHAB Monitoring Program. Since the last Task Force meeting, the Regional Board performed site visits twice in January and February. Due to levels of microcystin, they've recommended a lake-wide caution advisory for the lake. Golden algae (last seen in June of 2021) was identified from the results of the February 9th site visit. Regional Board will continue to monitor the golden algae.

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

Tess Dunham, of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP, provided highlights of the submitted comments and revisions. Ms. Dunham reviewed each key principle with the Task Force.

It was suggested to have the Draft Key Principles for Technical TMDL Revisions go through a final review by the Task Force, with comments due by March 23, 2022, so that the final draft can be approved by the next Task Force meeting. It was also suggested that the letter be signed by Mark Norton, the Task Force Administrator on behalf of the Task Force.

Comments to the Draft Key Principles for Technical TMDL Revisions are due to Ms. Dunham at tdunham@kscsacramento.com via email by end of day Wednesday, March 23, 2022.

Draft Comments on Staff Working Proposal for MS4 Permit

Tess Dunham, of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP, pointed out a relevant provision of the staff working proposal in which the Task Force would be collectively interested. This included Appendix 11 of the Staff

Working Proposal of MS4 Permit, which focused on the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDLs. She also presented some terms defined in the Glossary that could potentially impact the activities of the Task Force.

Mark Norton submitted oral feedback to Regional Board at the February workshop in support of the Task Force model. Ms. Dunham stated that she spoke with Regional Board and they are encouraging the Task Force to provide comments. They indicated interest in knowing how the working proposal could be revised to better reflect and incorporate how the Task Force works, with respect to TMDL compliance. The Task Force would like to submit comments and include a statement of the unique nature of Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore TMDLs. Ms. Dunham stated that a soft deadline to submit comments to Regional Board is March 10, she would like to have the draft comment letter out to the Task Force by March 8, with comments due by March 15, in order to submit the revised comment letter by March 18. Pamela Ybarra from Regional Board confirmed that the Regional Board is okay to receive comments by March 18.

A copy of Tess's presentation is available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials: <https://sawpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/2022-3-2-Item-5-Draft-Comments-on-Staff-Working-Proposal-of-MS4-Permit.pdf>

Status Update:

New Proposed Canyon Lake Alum Application contract – Aquatechnex (LESJWA staff)

Rick Whetsel stated that the LESJWA Board of Directors approved a new contract for Aquatechnex, which will be in effect for the Spring 2022 Canyon Lake Alum Application. They scope of work includes two alum application per year for the next three years with an option of two additional years.

Spring 2022 Canyon Lake Alum Application

Rick Whetsel asked the Task Force if there was a need to proceed with the Spring 2022 Canyon Lake Alum application in March or wait until the February monitoring data is available in a couple of weeks. He added that the supplier for alum is going to be closing their doors for two months and will not be able to provide alum from mid-April to mid-May of 2022. If the task Force were to proceed, it was suggested that the application be conducted the week of March 14.

Dale Welty, City of Canyon Lake moved a motion; Lynn Merrill, representing the City of San Jacinto second the motion.

MOVED, to proceed with the alum application in March if the February water quality monitoring results show total phosphorus levels to exceed 0.09.

SAWPA Santa Ana River Weather Modification Pilot Program (LESJWA staff)

This item will be deferred to a future meeting.

Task Force Administration

Discuss Draft FY 2022-23 Budget

Rick Whetsel provided a summary of the draft fiscal year 2022-23 budget for the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force. He stated there is an additional line item to budget for the 2022-23 to update the TMDL Technical Report. The proposed budget is \$878,851, which is about \$150,000 more than last year. The Task Force requested more time to review and bring back for approval at the next Task Force meeting.

A copy of this draft is posted on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials: <https://sawpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Draft-FY-2022-23-LECL-TMDL-Task-Force-Budget-030122.pdf>

Discuss Update to Task Force Agreement

The Task Force Agreement is due to expire June 2022. This item will be discussed at the next Task Force meeting.

Other Items

Amy McNeil, from the Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District invited the Task force to a learning opportunity offered by USACE. The meeting is Wednesday, March 30 from 11:00am to 12:30pm.

The meeting is to hear from experts within the USACE Engineering Research and Development Center to help provide examples of lake restoration specifically include dredging. The current Lake Elsinore aquatic restoration work under the USACE CAP program is limited in funds. However, as part of the project there will be narrative discussing recommendations for future work. The meeting will cover the methodology and development of a scope of work to help identify the recommendations.

Schedule Next Meeting

The next LE/CL TMDL Task Force meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 20, 2022, at 1:00 p.m.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.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	-	-
March 2, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Task Force agreed to submit a comment letter to the Draft Staff Working Proposal for MS4 Permit by March 18, 2022. Regional Board confirmed that they would accept the comments past their soft deadline of March 10. • Approved the alum application to the Canyon Lake if the February monitoring data exceeds 0.09. 	Voting Task Force members