

## MEETING NOTES

---

# Joint Regional Water Quality Monitoring/Middle Santa Ana River TMDL Task Force

November 7, 2022

### PARTICIPANTS

Aldo Licitra, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Abigail Suter, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Amanda Grey, UCR  
Anthony Ortega, City of Pomona  
Arlene Chun, County of San Bernardino  
Barbara Barry, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Bobby Gustafson, City of Riverside RWQCP  
Chris Bland, County of San Bernardino  
Cordell Chavez, City of Corona  
Cynthia Gabaldon, County of San Bernardino  
Dave Woelfel, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
J Wingett  
Kimberly Colbert, Colbert Environmental Group  
Kris Hanson, City of Eastvale  
Lauren Briggs, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Mike Roberts, City of Riverside  
Nisha Wells, City of Chino Hills  
Pat Boldt, Milk Producers Council

Patrick Lewis, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Paul Caswell, CDM Smith  
Paul Senker, GEI Consultants  
Rachael Johnson, RivCo Farm Bureau  
Raul Gutierrez, County of San Bernardino  
Raymond Hiemstra, Inland River Keeper  
Rebekah Guill, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Richard Boon, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Ryan Kearns, CWE  
Steven Wolosoff, CDM Smith  
Thomas Crowley, City of Rialto  
Terri Reeder, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP  
T Milford Harrison, SAWPA  
Bruce Whitaker, SAWPA  
Zyanya Ramirez, SAWPA  
Mark Norton, SAWPA  
Rick Whetsel, SAWPA

### 1. Call to Order & Introductions

The MSAR TMDL Task Force Meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Rick Whetsel at SAWPA with all participants participating remotely, due to COVID-19 related social distancing restrictions.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Notes from the September 26, 2022 MSAR Task Force Meeting

The August 29, 2022 meeting notes were approved as posted.

### 3. Update: Next Steps MSAR TMDLs (Tess Dunham/KSC)

Tess Dunham provided an update on the limited Basin Plan amendment informing the Task Force that she and Richard Meyerhoff/GEI have provided Regional Board staff a tribal consultation letter and a draft sequence scoping notice. She and Richard are planning to have draft language to share with the Task Force and Regional Board staff by the next meeting.

Barbara Barry informed the Task Force that Regional Board staff is pushing for a CEQA scoping meeting in December to discuss an extension of the wet weather MSAR Bacteria Indicator TMDLs.

Tess also shared that the State Water Board is considering updates to the Newport Bay TMDL SHEL bacteria objective at the November 15<sup>th</sup> workshop, noting that this should provide the MSAR Task Force stakeholders with an idea of the process to update bacteria related Basin Plan amendments.

### 4. Update: 2023 MSAR Triennial Report (Steve Wolosoff/CDM Smith & Richard Meyerhoff/GEI)

Steven Wolosoff/CDM Smith provided an update on the status of 2023 MSAR Triennial Report. This update included a review of various bacteria indicator monitoring and DNA marker data compiled for Reach 3 of the Santa Ana River.

As part of this presentation Steven also discussed some of the key takeaways from the 2022 California Bacteria Summit and then followed with some possible near and long term next steps for the Task Force to consider.

This included analyzing the archived samples available from the pig marker study (2022 dry season) for additional markers including GenBac HF183, Avian and revisiting the proposed 2020 special study of river bottom sediments in key locations within non MS4 Segment.

Following discussion, it was suggested that Steven work to further develop the concept, outline the work to be done and to identify what questions this work will address with respect to TMDL compliance and bring it back to a future meeting for further discussion.

A draft of the Triennial Report is scheduled to be available for review by December 16, 2022, with a final report due to Regional Board by February 15, 2023.

A copy of the GEI Consultants presentation is available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials: <https://sawpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/MSAR-Task-Force-Presentation-November-2022.pdf>

## **5. Status Update: Bacteria Reduction Implementation Activities**

### **a) RCFC&WCD**

Aldo Licitra reported that the District is in the process of preparing its Santa Ana Regional Stormwater Resources Plan for submittal to DWR. Following review by the State, the District is planning to submit the Plan to the OWOW Steering Committee and SAWPA Commission for review and inclusion into the OWOW Plan.

Aldo also informed the Task Force that the District is conducting site visits to District maintained outfalls which directly discharge dry weather flows.

Richard Boon added that the District is now working with Brandon Steets /Geosyntec on a conceptual approach employing engineering solutions to address dry weather flows for the 16 to 17 District maintained outfalls that drain to the Middle Santa Ana River. Engineered solutions being considered include but are not limited to diversion to sewer, diversion to cistern for local irrigation and onsite treatment using ozone or ultraviolet and then returning the flows to the drain. The District expects to have a document outlining this conceptual dry weather abatement strategy by the end of the year.

Mike Roberts /City of Riverside added an acknowledgement to RCFC&WCD and City of Riverside staff for their efforts on the Phoenix Diversion to Sewer Project. This project was awarded the annual award for water quality mitigation by the American Society of Civil Engineers, Riverside CA Branch.

### **b) SBCFCD**

Arlene Chun reported that the County completed another round of “10 week monitoring” for the Cucamonga Creek Channel, as well as, monitoring within the newly reconfigured Chris Basin and a “5 week monitoring” study on San Antonio Channel. This data will be shared with the Task Force consulting team as soon as it is available from the laboratory.

### **c) Orange County** Nothing to report.

### **d) Pomona & Claremont**

Kimberly Colbert /Colbert Environmental Group representing the City of Claremont – reported that the City is working to complete its annual reporting to support the San Bernardino County CBRP.

Anthony Ortega representing the City of Pomona also reported that the City is working to complete its annual reporting to support the San Bernardino County CBRP.

e) Agricultural Operators

Pat Boldt representing Chino Basin Agriculture and Dairy had nothing new to report.

**6. TMDL Task Force Administration (SAWPA Staff)**

*Draft FY 2023-24 budget*

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA presented the draft FY 2023-24 budget to the Task Force. Following brief discussion, a motion to approve the Draft FY 2023-24 MSAR TMDL Task Force Budget was put forward by Arlene Chun representing San Bernadino County Flood Control District and seconded by Pat Boldt representing Milk Producers Council. The motion was passed unanimously by the Task Force. Following this meeting, SAWPA staff will distribute the approved FY 2023-24 budget to Task Force.

*Signature status Amendment #2 to Task Force Agreement*

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA announced to the Task Force that all parties have provided signatures for Amendment #2 to the MSAR TMDL Task Force Agreement. Following this meeting, SAWPA staff will compile and distribute the fully executed amendment to Task Force.

**7. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

**8. Schedule Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be scheduled as a MSAR TMDL Task Force and is scheduled for Monday, January 9, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

Note: it was recommended the Regional Board public CEQA scoping meeting for the extension of the wet weather MSAR Bacteria Indicator TMDLs be held in conjunction with the January 9<sup>th</sup> MSAR TMDL Task Force meeting.

**9. Adjourn**

There being no further business for review, the meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.