

Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force

November 14, 2022

PARTICIPANTS PRESENT:

Abigail Suter, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD	O. Pearson
Alberto Acevedo, CDM Smith	Pat Boldt, WRCAC
Alexander Wells	Patrick Lewis, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Barbara Barry, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Paul Anderson, Bluewater Renewable Energy
Ben Foster, City of Lake Elsinore	Paul Senker, GEI Consultants
Carlos Norvani, City of Lake Elsinore	Paula Kulis, CDM Smith
Chris Stransky, WSP USA	Rachael Johnson, Riverside County Farm Bureau
Cynthia Gabaldon, City of Menifee, Perris, and March JPA	Rae Beimer, City of Moreno Valley
Dave Woelfel, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Richard Meyerhoff, GEI Consultants
Dan Cortese, City of Hemet	Rohini Mustafa, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Dustin Christensen, City of Beaumont	Scott Sewell, CDFW
Garth Engelhorn, NV5	Stefan Awender, CDFW
James Klang, TBL Consultants	Steven Wolosoff, GEI Consultants
Johnathan Oliver Skinner, City of Lake Elsinore	Stormy Osifeso, City of Riverside
Kayla Urbina, Weldon/City of Canyon Lake	Sudhir Mohleji, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Kris Hanson, Interwest/City of Wildomar	Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
Lauren Briggs, Regional Water Quality Control Board	T Milford Harrison, SAWPA
Lenai Hunter, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	Mark Norton, SAWPA
Lynn Merrill, City of San Jacinto	Rachel Gray, SAWPA
Michael Anderson, Anderson Consulting	Rick Whetsel, SAWPA
Natasha Thandi, MBI/Caltrans	

Call to Order & Introductions

The Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL Task (Task Force) meeting was called to order at 9:31 a.m. by Mark Morton , Task Force Chair, with all participants participating remotely, due to COVID-19 related social distancing restrictions.

Approval of Meeting Notes from September 27, 2022 Task Force Meeting

The September 27, 2022 meeting notes were approved as posted.

Status: Regional Board Update (Regional Board)

Barbara Barry, Regional Board, provided an update on the Regional Board's F-HAB monitoring for Lake Elsinore. She informed the Task Force that based upon the most recent results available from the October monitoring for microcystin "Danger" level signage was posted around the lake. At this level, the City has closed the Lake for water contact level recreation, fishing and boating. With expected cool fall season temperatures it is expected that the microcystin levels will decrease.

Regional Board staff is still awaiting the results from the latest sampling and will update the City of Lake Elsinore and LE&CL TMDL Task Force when those results are available.

Regional Board is to complete their monitoring in November.

Presentation: Bluewater Renewable Energy Storage Project (formerly LEAPS) (David Pfeiffer and Paul Anderson, Bluewater Renewable Energy LLC)

Paul Anderson, Bluewater Renewable Energy provided a presentation on the re-envisioned Lake Elsinore Renewable Energy Storage Project (formerly LEAPS). This included information about the new ownership group and their vision for the project, key project benefits, and next steps.

Following his presentation, Mr. Anderson fielded a number of questions from stakeholders and Regional Board staff including the following:

- Use of State Project Water in start-up and make-up water to Lake Elsinore?
- Anticipated volume of water and corresponding nutrient load to be added to lake Elsinore on a daily basis?
- Enhancements to in-lake water quality treatment?
- Will the constructed reservoir provide additional recreational benefits?
- Has project considered the potential increase in the release of cyanotoxins due to cell lysing?
- Has project examined the potential for the entrainment of fish and zooplankton in the system in-take?
- Has project examined the potential flooding impacts from a 100 year storm event?
- Has project examined the potential impacts from increased turbidity from the project?

A copy of this presentation is available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials:
<https://sawpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/11/2022-11-14-Bluewater-Renewable-Energy-Storage-Project-TMDL-Task-Forcerev.pdf>.

Update: TMDL Implementation Plan (Tess Dunham, KSC and Steve Wolosoff, CDM Smith)

Tess Dunham, of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP, presented an update on the efforts of the consulting team to work on the narrative text for the proposed TMDL Implementation tasks and address comments provided by Regional Board staff on the draft Outline and Tasks.

Tess again shared the draft outline and list of Phase 1, 2 and 3 Tasks presented at the last task Force meeting informing the Task Force that Regional Board staff did not have significant comments on the Tasks laid out for Phases 1 and 2, as a number of these tasks have already been completed or are currently being worked on by the Task Force.

The focus of the consultant team moving forward between now and the next task Force meeting will be to further define what the work will look like in Phase 3, years 21 through 30, and bring that back to the Task Force for discussion at the next meeting.

Tess will be reaching out to schedule individual conversations with task force members and requested any additional feedback and comments on the draft Outline and Tasks be submitted to her and the consultant team as soon as possible.

Next step is for Tess and the consultant team to get a draft document out for stakeholders to review the week following thanksgiving.

A copy of the draft outline is available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials:
https://sawpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Draft-Attachment-A-Version-1-09_23_2022-rw.docx

Update: Fall 2022 Canyon Lake Alum Application (LESJWA Staff)

Rick Whetsel informed the Task Force that the fall 2022 Canyon Lake alum application conducted the week of October 10 to 14th. was successfully completed, with no issues or incidents reported.

The Task Force will initiate discussion regarding a Spring 2023 alum application in February 2023.

Update: Lake Elsinore Lake Elsinore Algae Harvesting

Prop 1 Rd 1 grant funded Innovative Algae Harvesting Technologies (WSP USA)

Chris Stransky, WSP USA provided a brief update to the Task Force on the Lake Elsinore Algae Treatability Pilot Study awarded to the City of Lake Elsinore through a Prop 1 IRWM Grant.

To date, in-lake pilot testing has proceeded without incident and is scheduled to conclude in November. A draft analysis report is expected to be available for stakeholder review and comment by the end of December.

Prop 1 Rd 2 grant application AECOM Algae Harvesting Technology (LESJWA Staff)

Rick Whetsel provided a brief update on the Prop 1 Rd 2 grant application for the installation of AECOM Algae Harvesting Technology unit at Lake Elsinore. , Noting that LESJWA is awaiting a decision by the City of lake Elsinore on a commitment of matching funds for the project is to proceed either as a full implementation project or as a pilot study... or if the project is to be tabled for future consideration.

Ben Foster, City of lake Elsinore informed the Task force that this decision is in the hands of the City Manager and City Council and that a decision is expected to be provided to SAWPA by November 15th.

Task Force Administration (LESJWA Staff)

Draft FY 2023-24 Budget

Rick Whetsel shared a preliminary draft FY 2023-24 budget with the Task Force highlighting that placeholder values have been used for the consultant support tasks, due to the need to amend consultant contracts expiring at the end of FY 2022-23. This includes the Task Order for Regulatory Support by Tess Dunham, which Mark Norton is currently working to extend for all of the SAWPA /LESJWA Task Forces and the Task Order to oversee and implement TMDL Compliance Monitoring Program with WSP USA, which includes an option to exercise a two year extension.

Additionally, WSP USA noted several possible cost saving items for stakeholders to consider for the FY 2023-24 Compliance monitoring program.

Following brief discussion staff was requested to distribute today's draft budget to serve as a starting point for city managers and continue to work with Task Force consultants to develop a formal draft FY 2023-24 Task Force budget to be presented at the next meeting

Mark reminded stakeholders that the recommendation of the Task Force at last month's meeting was to make a clean break at the start of the new year to transition the contract work supported by Steven Wolosoff from CDM Smith to GEI Consultants. This recommendation has been discussed and approved by both management at CDM Smith and GEI Consultants. Today Mark is looking for a motion by the Task Force to authorize LESJWA staff to take this recommendation to the LESJWA Board for approval. Rick Whetsel recommended that the Task Force consider in this motion the option to exercise a two year extension with WSP USA to oversee and implement TMDL Compliance Monitoring Program.

Lynn Merrill, of City of San Jacinto, moved a motion; Pat Boldt, of WRCAC, seconded the motion.

MOVED, motion for staff to take the formal recommendation of the Task Force to the LESJWA Board for approval to 1) transfer the remaining balance of the contract work supported by Steven Wolosoff as of December 31 2022 from CDM Smith and enter into an agreement with GEI Consultants to complete this work starting on January 1 2023; and 2) exercise an option for a two year extension with WSP USA to oversee and implement TMDL Compliance Monitoring Program.

Status of Amendment #2 signatures

Rick Whetsel informed the Task Force that all signatures have been received and the fully executed amendment has been distributed to the Task Force.

Status of FY 2022-23 Stakeholder Invoices

Rick Whetsel informed the Task Force that only a few outstanding FY 2022-23 Stakeholder contributions and expects these to come in soon, now that the signed Amendment #2 has been distributed to Task Force members.

Reminders will be sent out next week for any remaining outstanding FY 2022-23 Stakeholder contributions.

Other Business

No other Business.

Schedule Next Meeting

The next LE/CL TMDL Task Force meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 10, 2023, at 9:30 a.m. as a remote Zoom meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

Table Summary of Agreements and Actions

Date of Action/Agreement	Action/Agreement	Responsible Entities Reaching Agreement
September 28, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 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
April 20, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved execution of the Key Principles for Technical TMDL Revision by Mark, Norton Task Force Administrator on behalf of the voting members of the task force subject to revisions discussed at the 4/20/2022 task force meeting. • Approved submittal of the Task Force Comment letter to Regional Board on the Staff Working Proposal for the MS4 Permit upon revision discussed at the 4/20/2022 task force meeting. Regional Board abstained from action and conversation of this matter. • Approved amendment #3 to extend the LE/CL TMDL Task Force Agreement for a period of three years to June 30, 2025, with the option that the Agreement, while still in full force and effect, may be extended an additional two years, to June 30, 2027, by means of Administrative Action by the Task Force Administrator 	Voting Task Force members; Excludes Regional Board in relation to the Comment Letter to Regional Board on the Staff Working Proposal for the MS4 Permit.
June 27, 2022	-	-
August 17, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approved execution of the Key Principles for Technical TMDL Revision by Mark Norton, Task Force Administrator on behalf of the voting members of the LE&CL TMDL Task Force. • Approved a proposal by CDM Smith and a recommendation to the LESJWA Board to authorize a Task Order to update and revise the technical document and additional TMDL technical support services. 	Mark Norton, Task Force Administrator on behalf of the voting members of the LE&CL TMDL Task Force
September 27, 2022	-	-
November 14, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Transfer the remaining balance of the contract work supported by Steven Wolosoff as of December 31, 2022 from CDM Smith and enter into an agreement with GEI Consultants to complete work starting on January 1 2023. • Exercise an option for a two year extension with WSP USA to oversee and implement TMDL Compliance Monitoring Program. 	Voting Task Force members