

Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force

January 10, 2023

PARTICIPANTS PRESENT:

Abigail Suter, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD	Lynn Merrill, City of San Jacinto
Aldo Licitra, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD	Marisa Van Dyke, SWRCB
Alberto Acevedo, CDM Smith	Michael Roberts, City of Riverside
Barbara Barry, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Natasha Thandi, MBI/Caltrans
Becky Dunavant, CDM Smith	Pat Boldt, WRCAC
Ben Foster, City of Lake Elsinore	Patrick Lewis, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Carlos Norvani, City of Lake Elsinore	Paula Kulis, CDM Smith
Carly Nilson, SWRCB	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	Steven Wolosoff, GEI Consultants
Eric Lindberg, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Stormy Osifeso, City of Riverside
Garth Engelhorn, NV5	Sudhir Mohleji, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Joe Bellomo, City of Canyon Lake	SueAnn Neal, Regional Water Quality Control Board
John Rudolph, WSP USA	Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
Kirk Larkin	Bruce Whitaker, SAWPA
Kris Hanson, Interwest/City of Wildomar	T Milford Harrison, SAWPA
Lauren Briggs, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Mark Norton, SAWPA
Lenai Hunter, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	Rachel Gray, SAWPA
Liselle DeGrave, DeGrave Communications	Rick Whetsel, SAWPA

Call to Order & Introductions

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

Approval of Meeting Notes from November 14, 2022 Task Force Meeting

The November 14, 2022 meeting notes were approved as posted.

Status: Regional Board Update (Regional Board)

Barbara Barry, Regional Board presented on the Regional Board's Harmful Algal Bloom (FHAB) Monitoring at Lake Elsinore. Barbara then introduced Carly Nilson and Marisa Van Dyke from the State's Freshwater and Estuarine Harmful Algal Bloom (FHAB) Program to update the Task Force on the efforts by the State.

Barbara informed the Task Force during her presentation that the FHAB monitoring study for Lake Elsinore is complete and that due to the lack of available funding no future regular monitoring for Lake Elsinore is planned.

Following the presentation Regional and State Board staff reached out to the Task Force for support in continuing the Lake Elsinore FHAB Monitoring.

Ben Foster, City of Lake Elsinore informed the group that the City has contracted with WSP USA to continue FHAB monitoring. This monitoring is expected to continue until the results are consistently showing levels below the danger threshold after which the City will reevaluate if monitoring is to continue.

John Rudolph, WSP USA informed the group that they are currently sampling 3 locations in Lake Elsinore on a weekly basis for the City. Results to date have been similar to the results shown by Regional Board. He then stated that the monitoring WSP USA conducts for the Task Force as part of the compliance monitoring program does not include any monitoring for cyanotoxins. They are; however, collecting monthly samples for algal speciation as part of the LEAMS offset monitoring, so they do get a good indication of cyanobacteria present in the lake.

John added that the Task Force also conducts satellite monitoring for both Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake that is coordinated with the TMDL compliance monitoring. For this monitoring, WSP USA is using the sentinel 2 satellite, with a 10 m resolution during the period between October through June and the landsat 7 and 8 satellites with a lesser resolution of 30 m during the summer months. This is done, due to issues with glare off of the lake during the summer months which makes the sentinel 2 imagery unusable.

Following discussion, it was concluded that the FHAB monitoring conducted by the City of lake Elsinore would satisfy the request by Regional Board for the time being.

To reach out to Carly and Marisa with further questions regarding the efforts by the State you can contact them at: CyanoHAB.reports@waterboards.ca.gov

A copy of this presentation is available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials: https://sawpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/FHAB_LECL-TF-mtg_1_10_23-Barbara.pdf.

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

Tess Dunham, of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP, presented the list of the topics to be discussed today and then outlined the schedule of topics moving forward over the next few months to be at a point where we are ready to submit documents to the Regional Board to amend the Basin Plan language for the LE&CL TMDLs.

Tess then introduced Steven Wolosoff, GEI Consultants to present today's topics, which included a review of the program of implementation, an overview of the allocations and various methods to demonstrate compliance followed by discussion on additional data needs for the revised technical report.

Tess suggested, in addition to the Task Force having access to the presentation, that she and her team summarize the key points from the presentation for stakeholders to review and provide comment.

Copies of these presentations are available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials: https://sawpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/LECL-Task-Force-meeting-1_10_2023-Tess.pdf and <https://sawpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/LECL-Task-Force-Presentation-January-2023-Steve.pdf>.

Update: Lake Elsinore Lake Elsinore Algae Harvesting

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

John Rudolph, WSP USA presented to the Task Force an update on the Lake Elsinore Algae Treatability Pilot Study awarded to the City of Lake Elsinore through a Prop 1 IRWM Grant.

Following his presentation John informed the Task Force that a draft final report is expected to be available in March 2023.

A copy of this presentation is available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials: https://sawpa.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/LE-Algal-Pilot-Study-Update_011023-John.pdf.

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 pilot testing of the AECOM Algae Harvesting Technology at Lake Elsinore. He informed the Task Force that the project application for \$3M, including \$1.5M in grant funding and a local match of \$1.5M was submitted to SAWPA for inclusion in the prop 1 Rd 2 grant submittal due to DWR in February 2023.

Task Force Administration (LESJWA Staff)

Draft FY 2023-24 Budget

Rick Whetsel presented an updated draft FY 2023-24 budget (that was shared with stakeholder via email on November 21, 2022). Following brief discussion the Task Force requested additional time for review and that approval of the FY 2023-24 budget will be done through email.

Other Business

Tess Dunhan informed the Task Force that Regional Board released a revised General Order for irrigated lands, which will replace the Conditional Waiver on Agricultural Discharge (CWAD). The Waste Discharge Requirement (WDR) is to be put in place to be consistent with the State Board precedent. WRCAC is currently working with Regional Board staff with respect to the content of the WDR and it is to go before the Regional Board for approval in February. The TMDL language within this WDR is to be consistent with the approaches that the Task Force has taken in the past and allows for the WRCAC participants to continue to participate in the TMDL Task Force for purposes of compliance. Pat Boldt added that, if changes are required, due to revisions to the TMDLs the WDR will be able to be amended.

SueAnn Neal, Regional Board stated that the regional Board switched from a the CWAD to General Order was remove the deadline for compliance imposed by the CWAD.

Tess also informed the Task Force that Regional Board staff working on the MS4 permit update has questions as to how off-set credits are calculated and applied for the various Task Force members. It was suggested that the consultant team for the LE&CL TMDL Task Force provide a briefing to Regional Board Permitting staff to provide them with background on the past program.

Tess requested and was given approval from the Task Force for approval to proceed with this event and will coordinate with Regional Board staff to schedule this event.

Schedule Next Meeting

The next LE/CL TMDL Task Force meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 15, 2023, at 1:00 p.m. as a remote Zoom meeting.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.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
January 10, 2023	-	-

