

MEETING NOTES

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

June 26, 2023

PARTICIPANTS

Abigail Gomez, City of Jurupa Valley	Menu Leddy, Essential Env. & Eng. Systems
Andrea Macias, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD	Michael Mori, County of Orange
Aldo Licitra, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD	Nicole deMoet, City of Upland
Anthony Ortega, City of Pomona	Nicole Greenwoow, City of Riverside
Barbara Barry, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Nisha Wells, City of Chino Hills
Becky Dunavant, CDM Smith	Pat Boldt, Milk Producers Council
Bernadette Kolb, CDM Smith	Pearl Azizian, CDM Smith
Betsy Hunter-Binns, Milk Producers Council	Richard Meyerhoff, GEI Consultants
Cassandra Sanchez, City of Eastvale	Rohini Mustafa, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Chris Bland, County of San Bernardino	Rovi Porter, CDM Smith
Cordell Chavez, City of Corona	Ryan Kearns, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Cynthia Gabaldon, County of San Bernardino	Steven Wolosoff, CDM Smith
Emily Condon, CDM Smith	Terri Reeder, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Jared Ervin, Geosyntec	Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
Julie Carver, City of Pomona	Thomas Crowley, City of Rialto
Kaitlin Diaz, Regional Water Quality Control Board	T. Milford Harrison, SAWPA
Kimberly Colbert, Colbert Environmental Group	Gil Botello, SAWPA
Kris Hanson, City of Eastvale	Kelly Rowe, SAWPA
Lauren Briggs, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Rick Whetsel, SAWPA
Melanie Sotelo, CASC Engineering & Consulting, Inc	

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.

2. Approval of Meeting Notes from the April 17, 2023 MSAR Task Force Meeting

The April 17, 2023 meeting notes were approved as posted.

Regional Water Quality Monitoring Meeting Items:

1. Update: 2022-23 Santa Ana River Regional Bacteria Monitoring Program Annual Report (Rebecca Dunavant/CDM Smith)

Becky Dunavant, CDM Smith provided a brief update on the status of the draft 2022-23 Santa Ana River Regional Bacteria Monitoring Program Report. Stating that the report is nearly complete and on schedule to be submitted to Regional Board staff by the June 30th deadline.

Stakeholders requested that the Comment response matrix be included as an appendix to the Final Report.

She then informed the Task Force that Paul Caswell has left CDM Smith for other opportunities and introduced Pearl Azizian, Rovi Porter, and Emily Condon, who will be supporting the project from Southern California.

Pearl Azizian introduced herself as a water resources and environmental engineer, specializing in engineering and compliance related to stormwater and wastewater.

Draft Proposal for additional Lake Elsinore Bacteria Monitoring

This item was tabled for off-line discussion with staff from Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District and City of Lake Elsinore.

2. RWQM Task Force Administration (SAWPA Staff)

No update.

MSAR TMDL Meeting Items:

1. Update: Limited MSAR Basin Plan Amendment (Tess Dunham /KSC and Richard Meyerhoff & Steven Wolosoff/GEI)

Tess Dunham introduced Richard Meyerhoff to provide an update on the limited Basin Plan amendment. Richard presented to the Task Force on the project status, proposed revisions & draft implementation plan.

He informed the Task force that Regional Board staff have provided preliminary comments on all of the draft sections and the consultant team is planning to get the full document out to the Task force for review in July.

Key items the consulting team is working to update include:

- Extend Wet Winter Condition compliance date 20 years¹ – from December 31, 2025 to December 31, 2045
- Clarify applicability of Basin Plan High Flow Suspension (HFS) provision to MSAR TMDLs
- Incorporate Phase 2 Implementation Plan to replace the completed Phase 1 Implementation Plan (existing TMDL implementation plan)
- Clarify applicability of REC1 use to Cucamonga Creek

Additionally, the Technical Report may recommend additional future clarifications to address the following:

- Applicability of the “Wet” vs. “Dry” Compliance Schedules (e.g., weather-based instead of season-based)
- Definition of “Dry Weather” (defined in CBRPs, but not in TMDLs)

Following approval of the proposed revisions by the Task Force, the consultant team will proceed to work to support Regional Board staff on the preparation of Basin Plan amendment language with a target of February/March 2024 for an adoption hearing by the Regional Board.

2. Status Update: Bacteria Reduction Implementation Activities

a) RCFC&WCD

Rohini Mustafa reported that the SAWPA Commission formally approved the District’s Santa Ana Regional Stormwater Resources Plan for inclusion into SAWPA’s 2018 OWOW Plan update. The District provided a presentation to all stakeholders on June 8th and launched a second call for stormwater projects to be included in the plan. The deadline to submit projects is August 3, 2023.

She provided an update on the investigations relating to high bacteria counts from the Magnolia Center Storm Drain informing the Task force that the District and City of Riverside have officially launched design preliminary design phase for assessing the feasibility of the Low Flow diversion project. The project is intended to help improve water quality diverting the Magnolia Center Storm Drain to the City’s Regional Water Quality Control Plant.

The District is continuing its coordination with Jurupa Community Services District and Western Municipal Water District on projects for Eastvale lines D and E.

b) SBCFCD

Chris Bland informed the Task Force that the County is gearing up for the next round of sampling of Chris Basin and Cucamonga Creek to begin at the end of July.

c) Orange County

No update.

d) City of Claremont

Kimberly Colbert, representing the City of Claremont informed the Task Force that the Los Angeles Regional Permit was updated to require semi-annual reporting. The purpose of this reporting is to provide a more robust forward facing reporting so that the public can see what types of projects were put in the ground and to provide more oversight on the City's compliance efforts.

e) City of Pomona

Julie Carver echoed the requirement for semi-annual reporting as required by the City of Claremont.

f) Agricultural Operators

No update.

3. TMDL Task Force Administration (SAWPA Staff)

Rick Whetsel reminded the Task Force that invoices for FY 2023-24 will be distributed in July.

3. Other Business

No other business was discussed.

3. Schedule Next Meeting

The next meeting is proposed as only a MSAR TMDL Task Force meeting and is scheduled for Monday, November 20, 2023, at 1:00 p.m.

4. Adjourn

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