

## MEETING NOTES

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# Middle Santa Ana River TMDL Task Force

March 18, 2024

### PARTICIPANTS

Abigail Suter, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Adam Fischer, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Aldo Licitra, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Amanda Grey, UC Riverside  
Anthony Ortega, City of Pomona  
Betsy Hunter-Binns, Chino Basin Watermaster, Agricultural Pool  
Brandon Steets, Geosyntec  
Chris Bland, County of San Bernardino  
Cordell Chavez, City of Corona  
Jared Ervin, Geosyntec  
Jagroop Khela, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Julie Carver, City of Pomona  
John Wingett, City of Jurupa Valley  
Kevin O'Toole, Orange County Water District  
Kimberly Colbert, Colbert Environmental Group  
Kris Hanson, City of Eastvale  
Lauren Briggs, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Mike Roberts, City of Riverside  
Nicole Greenwood, City of Riverside

Nisha Wells, City of Chino Hills  
Pat Boldt, Milk Producers Council  
Patrick Lewis, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Rachael Johnson, Riverside County Farm Bureau  
Ray Hiemstra, Inland Empire Waterkeeper  
Rebekah Guill, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Richard Boon, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Richard Meyerhoff, GEI Consultants  
Rohini Mustafa, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Ryan Kearns, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD  
Steven Wolosoff, CDM Smith  
Stormy Osifeso, City of Riverside  
Terri Reeder, Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP  
Bruce Whitaker, SAWPA  
T. Milford Harrison, SAWPA  
Gil Botello, SAWPA  
Rachel Gray, SAWPA  
Rick Whetsel, SAWPA

### 1. Call to Order & Introductions

The MSAR TMDL Task Force Meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. by Rick Whetsel at SAWPA with all participants participating remotely.

### 2. Approval of Meeting Notes from the January 18, 2024 MSAR Task Force Meeting

The January 18, 2024 meeting notes were approved as posted.

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

Tess Dunham provided an update on the limited Basin Plan amendment informing the Task force that the consultant team are waiting on final comments from Regional Board staff.

Terri Reeder, Regional Water Quality Control Board, informed the Task Force that due to limited staff resources and prioritization of the Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDLs, has led to delays in providing final comments. It is the goal of Regional Board staff to provide comments by the end of March and with that, it is proposed that staff is looking to bring the limited Basin Plan Amendment for the MSAR TMDLs before the Regional Board in the first quarter of 2025.

Moving forward, the plan is to get a final version of the of the limited Basin Plan Amendment out to stakeholders for final review in preparation of the next Task Force meeting, noting the new requirements under AB 2108, which require additional community outreach.

### 4. Discussion: Tentative MS4 Permit (Tess Dunham /KSC)

Tess Dunham informed the Task Force that since we last met, the Regional Board released its tentative draft Regional MS4 Permit. This Regional MS4 permit is different for the past permit in that it is a single permit that applies to the entire Santa Ana River Watershed (Regional Board, Region 8) encompassing the three Counties including western Riverside and San Bernardino Counties, as well as northern and

central Orange County. This is a significant change and a significant undertaking. Regional Board staff presented their preliminary staff proposal to the public on Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup>. From discussion, additional time to review the draft was requested and the comment deadline has been extended to July 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Tess informed that Task Force that Appendix 11 discusses the incorporation of the MSAR TMDLs into the permit. That Appendix does not discuss the proposed extension for the wet weather compliance date.

Tess requested from the stakeholders if there is an interest from the perspective of the Task Force to provide comment and if stakeholders would want her to prepare a comment letter to Regional Board. Following a brief discussion, the Task Force agreed and requested Tess to prepare a draft comment letter for their review and approval.

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

This item was tabled for future discussion.

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

Rick Whetsel informed the stakeholders that there are not outstanding issues regarding the administration of the Task Force and noted that invoices for FY 2024-25 will be issued in July.

**7. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

**8. Schedule Next Meeting**

The next meeting is proposed as a Joint RWQM/MSAR TMDL Task Force meeting and is scheduled for Monday, May 6, 2024, at 9:00 a.m.

**9. Adjourn**

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