

**MEETING NOTES**

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**Basin Monitoring Program Task Force  
September 30, 2024**

**STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT:**

**Chino Basin Water Master**, Justin Nakano  
**City of Beaumont**, Kevin Lee  
**City of Beaumont**, Thaxton Van Belle  
**City of Corona**, Melissa Estrada  
**City of Rialto**, Toyasha Sebbag  
**City of Redlands**, Karla Siordia  
**City of Riverside**, Reginald Agunwah  
**City of Riverside (RPU)**, Farid Ishak Boushaki  
**Eastern Municipal WD**, Doug Edwards  
**Elsinore Valley Municipal WD**, Lenai Hunter

**Elsinore Valley Municipal WD**, Jesus Gastelum  
**Inland Empire Utilities Agency**, Bonita Fan  
**Inland Empire Utilities Agency**, John Russ  
**Inland Empire Utilities Agency**, Pietro Cambiaso  
**Inland Empire Utilities Agency**, Daisy Puga  
**Orange County Water District**, Kevin O'Toole  
**San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District**, Greg Woodside  
**WMWD/WRCRWA**, Jennifer McMullin  
**WMWD/WRCRWA**, Mallory O'Conor  
**YVWD**, Ashley Gibson

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Dudek, Steve Stuart  
Kahn, Soares, & Conway (KSC), Theresa (Tess) Dunham  
Rincon Consultants, Rosalyn Prickett  
Rubidoux Community Services, Brian Laddusaw  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Gil Botello  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, T. Milford Harrison  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Ian Achimore  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Rick Whetsel  
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Natalia Gonzalez

Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Celina Rong  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Cindy Li  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Claudia Tenorio  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Eric Lindberg  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Hossein Shahrokhnia  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Jagroop Khela  
West Yost, Samantha Adams  
West Yost, Sodavy Ou  
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Celina Rong

**STAKEHOLDERS ABSENT:**

**Beaumont-Cherry Valley Water District**  
**City of Banning**  
**Irvine Ranch Water District**  
**Jurupa Community Services District**

**SBMWD/RIX/JPA**  
**San Geronio Pass Water Agency**  
**Temescal Valley Water District**

**Call to Order/Introductions**

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force (Task Force) meeting commenced at 1:35 p.m. in a virtual Zoom meeting.

**Approval of July 24, 2024 Meeting Notes**

The July 24, 2024 meeting notes were approved as posted.

**Basin Plan Amendment Overview – Tess Dunham, KSC**

Tess Dunham, of Kahn, Soares, and Conway, LLP (KSC), provided a PowerPoint Presentation to review the proposed revisions to certain sections of the Basin Plan. Ms. Dunham explained the Chapter 4 revisions related to the water quality objectives section such as Table 4-1. In addition, the Amendment will also factor in revisions to Chapter 5 which is the implementation chapter of the Basin plan that included our TDS and Nitrogen Control Program.

Eric Lindberg, of the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) reminded the task force the Basin Plan is not reopened for amendments often, and encouraged all on the opportunity to get editorial changes in through this Task Force-led process.

Claudia Tenorio (Santa Ana RWQCB) notified the Task Force of the parallel process led by her team focused on ADA compliant revisions to the entirety of the Basin Plan. All approved amendments are currently being incorporated into the Basin Plan and items should be up to date within two weeks. Ms. Tenorio also mentioned the upcoming Triennial Review comments are due by September 30, 2024 which will be taken to the RWQCB at their October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 meeting.

**Update on State Water Board's Consideration of San Diego Region's Biological Objectives – Tess Dunham, KSC**

Ms. Dunham provided a verbal report on State Water Board's consideration of the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board's biological-based water quality objectives. Concern has been expressed to the State Water Board on biological objectives, specifically on how they apply directly to flood control facilities along with the ability of a modified channel for flood control to meet these proposed objectives. Due to concerns, the State Water Board has canceled the hearing, and a workshop is being planned for early 2025 to discuss issues of modified channels.

The State Water Board has also been working on a statewide policy for biological and biostimulatory objectives. There has been concern as to how the San Diego Water Board's action might affect State Board's process.

**Potential Data Gaps Framework Refresher and Next Steps for GMZs – Ian Achimore, SAWPA**

Ian Achimore, of SAWPA, provided a PowerPoint Presentation along with 3 handouts to remind the Task Force on our work done related to potential groundwater data gaps. His presentation was focused on reminding the Task Force of upcoming deadlines for various groundwater management zones (GMZs) related to 2023 Data Gap Framework. Handouts include the detailed 2023 Data Gap Framework along with table 4-1 which shows number of potential data gaps in each GMZ along with the Dischargers and Agencies designated to resolve them. Included in the 4-1 are the footnotes that highlight important nuances. As a reminder to Task Force, there is a 3-step process in the 2023 Data Gap Framework for "high priority" GMZs to follow by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025.

**Update on August 19<sup>th</sup> Scoping Committee Meeting for Reach 3 TDS Special Study – Ian Achimore, SAWPA**

Mr. Achimore provided a verbal update on the Santa Ana River Reach 3 TDS Special Study request for proposals (RFP). The first RFP draft was developed in December 2023. The Reach 3 Special Study is to understand why there are fluctuating TDS concentrations during base flow conditions at the downstream terminus of Santa Ana River Reach 3, which is the USGS Stream Gauge Station named "Santa Ana River, below Prado Dam". The Scoping Committee recently met on August 19, 2024 where the study was reviewed. An updated version of the study was sent out to the scoping committee on September 23, 2024 along with a doodle poll to schedule the next scoping meeting.

**2023 Santa Ana River Annual Report Update – Rick Whetsel, SAWPA**

Rick Whetsel, of SAWPA, provided a verbal report regarding data and collection analysis for the Draft 2023 Annual Report of the Santa Ana River Quality. RWQCB staff comments on the proposed methodology will be under review with Ms. Dunham to make sure those expectations are met. Once completed the updated report will be sent out to the Task Force.

**Next Task Force Meeting on October 29<sup>th</sup> and Follow-On Scoping Meeting Related to a Basin Plan Amendment for Updating the Chino Basin Maximum Benefit Salt & Nutrient Management Plan – Ian Achimore, SAWPA**

The next Basin Monitoring Program Task Force meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, October 29, 2024** from 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. in person at Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Board Room, 11615 Sterling Avenue, Riverside CA 92503. A Zoom link will be provided to members who prefer a virtual option.

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 02:36 p.m.