

## Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force

July 23, 2024

### **PARTICIPANTS PRESENT:**

Abigail Suter, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD	Michael Roberts, City of Riverside
Adam Gufarotti, City of Lake Elsinore	Natasha Thandi, Caltrans (MBI)
Alex Christie, City of Moreno Valley	Pat Boldt, WRCAC
Ann Marie Loconte, City of Banning	Rae Beimer, City of Moreno Valley
Anthony Budicin, EMWD	Rebekah Guill, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Ben Foster, City of Lake Elsinore	Richard Boon, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Chris Stransky, WSP USA	Richard Meyerhoff, GEI Consultants
Carlos Norvani, City of Lake Elsinore	Ryan Kearns, Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Cynthia Gabaldon, City of Menifee, Perris, and March JPA	Scott Bruckner, Riverside County Executive Office
David Renfrew, Alta Environmental	Scott Sewell, CDFW
Dustin Christensen, City of Beaumont	Shirley Colvin, City of Perris
Hannah Daum	Siomara Giroux, City of Beaumont
Jilleen Ferris, City of Hemet	Steven Wolosoff, GEI Consultants
Jim Klang, WRCAC	Stormy Osifeso, City of Riverside
Jagroop Khela, Regional Water Quality Control Board	Sudhir Mohleji, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
John Rudolph, WSP USA	Terri Reeder, Regional Water Quality Control Board
Kelsey Reed, City of Canyon Lake (Willdan)	Tess Dunham, Kahn, Soares & Conway, LLP
Kris Hanson, City of Wildomar (Interwest)	Bruce Whitaker, SAWPA
Lauren Briggs, Regional Water Quality Control Board	T Milford Harrison, SAWPA
Lauren Sotelo, March JPA	Gil Botello, SAWPA
Lenai Hunter, Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District	Rachel Gray, SAWPA
Lynn Merrill, City of San Jacinto	Rick Whetsel, SAWPA
Dr. Michael Anderson	Zyanya Ramirez, SAWPA

### **Call to Order & Introductions**

The Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL Task (Task Force) meeting was called to order at 10:02 a.m. by Rick Whetsel, with all participants participating remotely.

### **Approval of Meeting Notes from June 17, 2024 Task Force Meeting**

The June 17, 2024 meeting notes were approved as posted.

### **Status: Regional Board Update (Regional Board)**

Lauren Briggs, Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board informed the Task Force that Regional Board staff held a final meeting to wrap up discussion with EPA. EPA requested that the Task Force include additional text in the TMDL Technical report to compare to and justify why the Task Force is recommending the use of the Cumulative Distribution Function (CDF) curves instead of the approved EPA's Nutrient Models.

Lauren reminded stakeholders that a Board Workshop on the LE&CL TMDL updates is planned for September 13, 2024.

### **Update: TMDL Update Activities (Tess Dunham, KSC and Steve Wolosoff, GEI)**

Tess Dunham, KSC, presented to stakeholders an update on the TMDL documents and schedule moving forward. This included an overview outlining key sections of the Basin Plan Amendment language and TMDL Technical report, key revisions to the language, options for TMDL compliance, and key milestones and concepts relating to the TMDL implementation schedule.

Steven Wolosoff, GEI then presented to stakeholders on the methodology used to derive the TMDL allocations, a comparison of the revised external TMDL allocations to the 2004 TMDL allocations, and numeric targets expressed as Cumulative Distribution Functions.

Moving forward, Tess requested Comments from stakeholders on revised draft Basin Plan Amendment language & draft Executive Summary to be submitted to the consultant team by July 29, 2024. The consultant team will

then submit the final draft Basin Plan Amendment language and Technical TMDL Report to Santa Ana Water Board staff by August 6, 2024.

Copies of the presentations prepared by Tess Dunham and Steve Wolosoff are available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials:

- TMDL Document and Schedule Update (Tess Dunham) - <https://sawpa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/July-23-2024-LECL-Task-Force-Meeting.pdf>.
- Project Status Update (Steve Wolosoff) - <https://sawpa.gov/wp-content/uploads/2024/07/LECL-Task-Force-Presentation-July-2024.pdf>

#### **Update: LEAMS Future Options Study (Steve Wolosoff, GEI)**

Steven Wolosoff, GEI provided an update to the Task Force on the Lake Elsinore In-Lake Nutrient Reduction Alternatives Analysis being conducted and funded by the LEAMS Operators in support of the LE&CL TMDL Task Force.

The primary goal of this study is to conduct in-depth analysis of alternatives to improve N&P offsets in Lake Elsinore, as well as to improve the overall lake water quality. To date, the team of consultants have identified the various project options, and completed their condition assessment for the existing LEAMS system. The team of consultants is currently working on the conceptual design and costing for the various project alternatives. The next steps include a comprehensive alternatives analysis, and the sediment oxygenation demand and nutrient flux study.

Steven then introduced John Rudolph, WSP USA to provide a brief overview and update on the sediment oxygenation demand and nutrient flux study. The purpose of which is to determine what kind of biological and chemical oxygen demand the sediments are requiring, so that we can appropriately size the system to deliver oxygen to the bottom layers of Lake Elsinore to suppress the nutrient flux from the sediment. On Thursday (July 25<sup>th</sup>) WSP USA will be out on the lake to collect a total of 36 intact sediment cores at 4 locations across the lake. These core samples will then be brought to the laboratory at WSP USA to conduct an incubation study to look at both the nutrient flux and the demand of the sediment.

Steven will continue to provide updates to stakeholders at future Task Force meetings as appropriate.

#### **Update: Lake Elsinore Water Quality Plan (Adam Gufarotti, City of Lake Elsinore)**

Adam Gufarotti, representing the City of Lake Elsinore, provided an update to the Task Force on the City of Lake Elsinore Water Quality Plan initiated by the City in August 2023.

Adam provided an update on cyanobacteria (microcystin toxin) monitoring currently being conducted by the City. At this time the Lake is looking pretty good in terms of microcystin toxin levels, with the latest data (July 17<sup>th</sup>) showing each of the monitoring locations to be in the Caution Level, as determined by Regional Board.

Adam informed the Task Force that that Lake Elsinore City Council recently approved the purchase of two additional nanobubble barge systems that will inject an additional 5,000 pounds per day of oxygen into Lake Elsinore, bringing the total oxygen delivered by Nanobubbles systems into Lake Elsinore to 5,500 pounds per day. Tonight (Tuesday, July 23<sup>rd</sup>) City staff will be taking a request to City Council to approve \$450,000 for Lake Elsinore shoreline maintenance.

The City of Lake Elsinore is continuing its coordination with Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District on the evaluation of the LEAMS treatment options.

The City is still working with Regional Board staff for approval to add Phoslock (lanthanum based chemical) to treat the Lake and to include ozone treatment as a component of the Nanobubbles system. WSP USA is currently assisting the City with a toxicology to support the addition of ozone.

Adam will continue to provide updates to stakeholders at future Task Force meetings as appropriate.

**Update: Update: Fall 2024 Canyon Lake Alum Application (LESJWA Staff)**

Rick Whetsel informed the Task Force that the upcoming Fall 2024 Canyon Lake alum application is being planned for late September – October. LESJWA staff will coordinate with Aquatechnex and GEI staff to plan this upcoming alum application.

In support of the alum application program, LESJWA staff, in coordination with DeGrave Communications, will conduct a public workshop for Canyon Lake residents to inform them of the benefits of the alum application and to address any safety concerns. This event is tentatively scheduled for September 3<sup>rd</sup>, to be part of a regularly scheduled Canyon Lake Property Owners Association meeting.

**Task Force Administration (LESJWA Staff)**

Rick Whetsel informed stakeholders that FY 2024-25 LE&CL TMDL Task Force invoices will be going out later this week.

He also reminded the Task Force that draft 2023-24 Annual LE&CL TMDL Compliance Monitoring report is due to Regional Board by August 15<sup>th</sup> and that staff will be coordinating with WSP USA to present to the stakeholders on the results of the past year monitoring at a future Task Force meeting.

**Other Business**

No Other Business was discussed.

**Schedule Next Meeting**

The next LE/CL TMDL Task Force meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, August 27, 2024, at 9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:25 a.m.

### Table Summary of Agreements and Actions

<b>Date of Action/Agreement</b>	<b>Action/Agreement</b>	<b>Responsible Entities Reaching Agreement</b>
September 28, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> </ul>	Voting Task Force members.
November 3, 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Approve moving forward with the proposed step-wise approach to updating the TMDL Technical Report and its timeline.</li> </ul>	Voting Task Force members
January 10, 2022	-	-
March 2, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>Approved the alum application to the Canyon Lake if the February monitoring data exceeds 0.09.</li> </ul>	Voting Task Force members
April 20, 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>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.</li> <li>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.</li> <li>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</li> </ul>	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"> <li>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&amp;CL TMDL Task Force.</li> <li>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.</li> </ul>	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"> <li>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.</li> <li>Exercise an option for a two year extension with WSP USA to oversee and implement TMDL Compliance Monitoring. Program.</li> </ul>	Voting Task Force members
January 10, 2023	-	-
February 15, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Task Force moved to provide LESJWA staff in coordination with the Task Force consulting team the authority to make a determination on the need for a Spring 2023 alum application based upon review of the February 2023 Canyon Lake monitoring results to be provided by WSP USA.</li> </ul>	Voting Task Force members.
March 28, 2023	-	-
April 25, 2023	-	-
June 5, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Task Force approved LESJWA staff to rework the nutrient offset credits based solely on the need for total phosphorus offset credits and to invoice stakeholders for only 2022 TP offset credits. All</li> </ul>	Voting Task Force members.

	remaining funds are to be applied to stakeholders 2023 LEAMS budget allocation.	
August 7, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Task Force approved for LESJWA staff to prepare a Change Order for WSPUSA for an amount not to exceed \$10,330 to perform two additional Lake Elsinore in-lake monitoring events, one each in November and December 2023 using funds available from the LE&amp;CL TMDL Task Force reserve.</li></ul>	Voting Task Force members.