

MEETING NOTES

Basin Monitoring Program Task Force May 22, 2025

STAKEHOLDERS PRESENT:

Chino Basin Watermaster, Justin Nakano
Chino Basin Watermaster, Alonso Jurado
City of Beaumont, Kevin Lee
City of Beaumont, Thaxton Van Belle
City of Corona, Melissa Estrada
City of Rialto, Toyasha Sebbag
City of Riverside (RPU), Drew Faherty
Eastern Municipal WD, Doug Edwards

Eastern Municipal WD, Tom Henderson
Elsinore Valley Municipal WD, Jesus Gastelum
Inland Empire Utilities Agency, Pietro Cambiaso
Orange County Water District, Kevin O'Toole
San Bernardino Valley Municipal Water District, Greg Woodside
WMWD/WRCRWA, Carly Pierce
WMWD/WRCRWA, Jennifer McMullin

OTHERS PRESENT:

Dudek, Steve Stuart
Kahn, Soares, & Conway (KSC), Abby Taylor-Silva
Kahn, Soares, & Conway (KSC), Theresa (Tess) Dunham
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Ian Achimore
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Jasmin Hall
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Natalia Gonzalez

Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, Rick Whetsel
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority, T. Milford Harrison
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Adriana Godinez
Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board, Cindy Li
WSC, Joe Kingsbury
WSC, Michael Cruikshank

STAKEHOLDERS ABSENT:

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

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

Call to Order/Introductions

The Basin Monitoring Program Task Force meeting was called to order at 2:02 p.m. by Ian Achimore with participants participating remotely. Brief introductions were made.

Approval of March 2025 Meeting Notes

The March 24, 2025 meeting notes were approved as posted.

Schedule of the Task Force's Long-Term Deliverables – Ian Achimore, SAWPA

Ian Achimore of SAWPA presented an updated schedule of the Task Force's long-term deliverables, highlighting key efforts through 2030. The schedule includes the Annual Report of Santa Ana River Water Quality led by Rick Whetsel, the ongoing special study of Total Dissolved Solids (TDS) in Santa Ana River Reach 3 with consultant WSC, and the Basin Plan Amendment focused on clarifying certain contents in Chapters 4 and 5. Tess Dunham of KSC, noted a proposed State budget trailer bill that could exempt certain Basin Plan amendments from California Environmental Quality Act if water quality objectives are not made less stringent.

Mr. Achimore also referenced the 2023 Data Gap Framework, reminding agencies in "high-priority" Groundwater Management Zones (GMZs) of the December 31, 2025 deadline to follow required next steps per the Framework. Other upcoming work includes the 2026 ambient water quality recomputation and related groundwater data updates, which will begin with a scoping and procurement process in mid-2025. Additionally, data gathering for the 2030 Integrated Report will start in 2027, which is related to the Reach 3 Special Study.

Special Study of TDS for Santa Ana River Reach 3 – Joe Kingsbury, WSC

Joe Kingsbury from WSC provided the first status update on the Reach 3 TDS Special Study, following the April 10th project kickoff. WSC was awarded the contract through a competitive procurement process. The study aims to understand fluctuating TDS concentrations during baseflow conditions at the downstream end

of Reach 3. Mr. Kingsbury outlined the current focus on Task 1, which includes reviewing documents and compiling data from 2017–2024, mainly from Annual Reports of Santa Ana River Water Quality. Time series plots are being generated to help identify data trends and outliers. Task 2 - which involves outreach to local agencies to understand the planned groundwater monitoring efforts in the Reach 3 area and assess how these efforts can support the purpose of identifying TDS data gaps - will begin once more background data is compiled. Mr. Achimore reminded the group that this study will result in a collaboratively developed monitoring plan, with continued input from the Task Force.

Potential Data Gaps Framework Reminder – Ian Achimore, SAWPA

Mr. Achimore reminded the Task Force about the 2023 Data Gap Framework adopted by the group, specifically noting that high-priority GMZs, with at least one potential data gap, must take action by the December 31, 2025 deadline. These actions are the responsibility of the designated agencies, not SAWPA or the full Task Force. Ian will re-send the original September email, which includes links to the framework, a key table showing agency responsibilities, and steps to follow. SAWPA will follow up directly with these high-priority GMZs to check on progress.

Scheduling Next Meeting – Ian Achimore, SAWPA

The next Basin Monitoring Program Task Force meeting will be scheduled via Doodle poll for July 2025.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 2:34 p.m.