

# **MSAR TMDL / Regional WQ Monitoring Task Force Meeting Notes**

**January 9, 2019**

## PARTICIPANTS

Steven Wolosoff  
Cordell Chavez  
Kris Hanson  
Mike Loving  
Julie Carver  
Lynn Merrill  
Mike Roberts  
Stormy Osifeso  
Richard Meyerhoff  
Ken Theisen  
Tim Moore  
Bobby Gustafson  
Andrea Gonzales  
Abigail Suter  
Edwin Quinonez  
Rebekah Guill  
Cynthia Gabaldon  
Arlene Chun  
James Fortuna  
Michael Mori  
Amanda Grey  
Rick Whetsel

## REPRESENTING

CDM Smith  
City of Corona  
City of Eastvale  
City of Eastvale  
City of Pomona  
City of Rialto  
City of Riverside  
City of Riverside  
GEI Consultants  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Risk Sciences  
Riverside RWQCP  
Riverside County Flood Control  
Riverside County Flood Control  
Riverside County Flood Control  
Riverside County Flood Control  
San Bernardino County  
San Bernardino Areawide Program  
OC Public Works  
OC Public Works  
UC Riverside  
SAWPA

## Via-Conference Call

David Jensen  
Megan Brousseau  
Kimberly Colbert

CDM Smith  
Inland Empire Waterkeeper  
The Colbert Group for the City of Claremont

### **1. Call to Order & Introductions**

The MSAR TMDL/Regional WQ Monitoring Task Force Meeting was called to order at 9:01 a.m. by Rick Whetsel at Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA). Brief introductions were made by the attendees.

### **2. Approval of the Meeting Notes**

Rick Whetsel addressed comments by Orange County regarding the October 31, 2018 Regional Water Quality Monitoring meeting notes. Mr. Whetsel will revise the meeting notes and have them posted on the MSAR TMDL Task Force web-page as final.

## **Regional Water Quality Monitoring Meeting Items:**

### **3. Update: Santa Ana River Watershed Bacteria Monitoring Program (CDM Smith)**

#### Update: Monitoring Program

Steven Wolosoff /CDM Smith presented to stakeholders an update on the current FY 2018-19 Santa Ana River Regional Bacteria Monitoring program.

#### Action Item: Proposal to Update and Revise Santa Ana River Watershed Bacteria Monitoring Plan and QAPP

Mr. Wolosoff also outlined to stakeholders a number of key updates to the Santa Ana River Regional Bacteria Monitoring Plan and QAPP.

Additionally, a number of additional items regarding the update to the Santa Ana River Regional Bacteria Monitoring Plan and QAPP were discussed as follows:

Tim Moore raised a question regarding the priority three (3) monitoring sites that are included on the 303(d) list but do not yet have an approved TMDL. He noted that there were 14 of these waterbodies. He wanted to know if sufficient water quality data has been collected or if the Task Force is on track to collect enough data to possibly delist these waterbodies (if appropriate) prior to the next call for data by the State for the 303(d) listing process in 2022? The State's formal call for data in the Santa Ana region is likely to occur sometime in 2020.

Mr. Wolosoff noted that the Task Force is on track to have collected about 15 geo-means by that time. Ken Theisen noted that a minimum of 26 samples are required to delist. Mr. Moore then made a request that the Task Force review the 14 water bodies to identify the ones that can possibly be delisted and accelerate the sample collection process to collect the needed data. Mr. Wolosoff said that CDM Smith will address this issue as part of the effort to update the Santa Ana River Watershed Bacteria Monitoring Plan and QAPP.

It was also noted that the Task Force will need to look at the issues regarding salinity for several of the Orange County waterbodies, with respect to which indicator Enterococci (for estuarine) or E.coli for (fresh water) is appropriate.

Action on this item by the Regional Water Quality Monitoring Task Force was tabled for further discussion during the MSAR portion of the meeting and possible revisions to the scope of work by CDM Smith.

Due to lack of a quorum, Mr. Whetsel will send out the proposal submitted by CDM Smith to update the Santa Ana River Watershed Bacteria Monitoring Plan and QAPP along with details on the cost allocation to stakeholder for approval by email.

#### **4. Discussion: Task Force Priorities for FY 2019-20 (Risk Sciences)**

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences presented to stakeholders a handout detailing the RWQ Task Force Priorities for FY 2019-20.

#### **5. RWQ Task Force Administration (SAWPA)**

##### Action Item: Draft FY 2019-20 Budget

Rick Whetsel / SAWPA informed the Task Force that staff from Orange County Public Works had a number of comments with regard to the format and approval process of the budget. These comments did not have an impact on the budget allocations; however, SAWPA staff thought it appropriate to address these comments for Orange County Public Works and bring this budget back to the Task Force for formal approval.

Mr. Whetsel distributed an updated budget report, reviewed the changes, with the intent of approving the FY 2019-20 budget. Following a brief discussion, representatives from Riverside and San Bernardino again acknowledged their approval for the FY 2019-20 RWQ Task Force budget. Staff from Orange County requested to be able to take this budget back to discuss approval with upper management.

Mr. Whetsel informed the Task Force that once Orange County Public Works formally approves the FY 2019-20 RWQ Task Force Budget a copy of the approved budget will be sent out to stakeholders. Invoices will be sent out in July.

### **MSAR TMDL Meeting Items:**

#### **6. Update: SAWPA Assessment of Impacts of Homelessness on Water Quality in the Santa Ana River (SAWPA Staff)**

Rick Whetsel / SAWPA informed the Task Force that SAWPA received eight proposals for the assessment of homelessness on water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat in the Santa Ana

River. The project review committee has trimmed down the proposals to three (3) interviews to take place on January 14<sup>th</sup>. From these interviews a recommendation will be taken to the SAWPA Commission in February.

## **7. Discussion: Task Force Priorities for FY 2019-20 and Forward (Risk Sciences)**

Tim Moore/Risk Sciences presented to stakeholders a handout detailing the MSAR TMDL Task Force Priorities for FY 2019-20 and forward. This document identified a number of key tasks for the task Force to address over the next two years and beyond.

Much of the discussion revolved around outlining the goals and tasks of the synoptic study including a number of items including but not limited to the following:

- Update the Tier 1 monitoring study,
- Address the Triennial report
- Dry weather flow analysis
- Bacteria Mass Balance Analysis
- Small MS4 permittees (UC Riverside)
- Impacts from LA Cities of Claremont and Pomona

Following much discussion, a motion was put forward by Arlene Chun and seconded by Edwin Quinonez for Tim Moore /Risk Sciences working with SAWPA staff to prepare for approval by the Task Force a request for proposals to conduct a synoptic study in the summer of 2019. The motion was approved unanimously by the Task Force.

It is anticipated that the results of this synoptic study will be available in time to assist the Task Force in addressing issues with regard to the Cities of Pomona and Claremont and the other small MS4s (i.e. UC Riverside and others) for the FY 2020-21 budget.

With respect to the MSAR TMDL update, Mr. Moore anticipates that the Task Force should consider developing a request for proposals for consultant support in revising the TMDL Technical document next spring in early 2020 and look to also begin that work in 2020-21.

Additionally, Tim Moore / Risk Sciences presented a draft letter to Regional Board to request that the due date for delivery of the TMDL Triennial Report be deferred from February 15th of this year (2019) to February 15th of next year (2020). Mr. Moore informed stakeholders that he would submit the letter on behalf of the Task Force and MS4 permittees. Ken Theisen proposed the letter be submitted to Regional Board as written and that he will recommend his management approve the request.

Following a very brief discussion, a motion was put forward by Arlene Chun and seconded by Lynn Merrill representing the City of Rialto for Tim Moore /Risk Sciences to submit on behalf of the MSAR TMDL Task Force and each of the MS4 permittees a letter requesting the Regional Board to defer the submittal of the 2019 Triennial Report Task Force. The motion was approved unanimously by the Task Force.

A key item to be addressed is a succession plan by Risk Sciences. Mr. Moore informed stakeholders that he intends to retire from full-time consulting in June of 2020. Thereafter, he will be available only in a part-time advisory role with limited travel requirements.

He suggested the Task Force consider a colleague of his to transition into his role as regulatory compliance expert and at the interest of the Task Force will be introducing this person in the upcoming months.

## **8. Update: Comprehensive Bacteria Reduction Plan Implementation Activities**

### RCFC&WCD

Edwin Quinonez /RCFC&WCD informed the group of on-going work with the City of Riverside on the Phoenix storm drain dry weather diversion project. They expect to have a conceptual plan completed by

the end of the month and then move into design phase. They anticipate completion this summer. Mr. Quinonez also noted the on-going discussions regarding the Eastvale line with JCSD.

Ken Theisen / Regional Board asked about a possible diversion in the Hole Lake area as a possible solution for the Arlington grove. Mr. Quinonez noted there have not yet been discussions on that project.

**SBCFCD**

Arlene Chun informed stakeholders of the County's efforts. The MND for Chris Basin is at the State clearing house. The review period ends within the week. Once the project is adopted, the County will submit the applications to the regulatory agencies for permitting.

**Orange County**

Not available to provide an update.

**Pomona & Claremont**

No update from the City of Pomona.

Kimberly Colbert / City of Claremont informed stakeholders that the City is being audited by EPA regarding its industrial/commercial inspections for discharges to San Jose Creek.

**Agricultural Operators**

Not available to provide an update.

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

**Action Item: Approve FY 2019-20 Budget**

Rick Whetsel / SAWPA reminded stakeholders the FY 2019-20 MSAR TMDL Task Force Budget was approved by email in November. A copy of the approved budget will be sent out to stakeholders shortly. Invoices will be sent out in July.

Amanda Grey /UC Riverside brought forth the question of the participation of UC Riverside as recommended by Regional Board to address their requirements for compliance as a small MS4 permittee. It was recommended that the Task Force working with Tim Moore /Risk Sciences further investigate the issue to determine the role and an appropriate fee for UC Riverside to participate in the MSAR TMDL Task Force. It was also recommended that this fee not be tied to the current year budget.

**Status Update: Amendment No. 1 to MSAR Task Force Agreement**

Rick Whetsel / SAWPA updated the Task Force on the outstanding signature pages to Amendment No. 1 to Task Force Agreement. These include Chino Basin Watermaster (Ag Operators) and the City of Claremont.

**10. Other Business**

No other business was discussed.

**11. Schedule Next Meeting**

The next meeting is a MSAR TMDL Task Force, and is scheduled for February 19, 2019, at 9:00 a.m. at RCFC&WCD.

**12. Adjourn**

There being no further business for review, the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.