

**LAKE ELSINORE/CANYON LAKE TMDL TASK FORCE
MEETING NOTES**

August 14, 2019

PARTICIPANTS

Charles Russell
Daniel Cortese
Rita Thompson
Cynthia Gabaldon
Maria Arreguin
Mike Roberts
Paul Merrill
Ankita Vyas
Dave Woelfel
Amy McNeill
Andrea Gonzalez
Rebekah Guill
Sudhir Mohleji
Tim Moore
Richard Meyerhoff
Tess Dunham
Chris Stransky
John Rudolph
Garth Engelhorn
Roger Turner
Karen Breucop
Rick Whetsel

REPRESENTATIVE

City of Hemet
City of Hemet
City of Lake Elsinore
City of Perris
City of Perris
City of Riverside
City of San Jacinto
Michael Baker/Caltrans
Regional Water Quality Control Board
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Riverside County Flood Control & WCD
Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District
Risk Sciences
GEI Consultants
Somach Simmons & Dunn
Wood Environmental
Wood Environmental
Alta Environmental
Roger Turner & Associates
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority
Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

VIA-CONFERENCE CALL

Haile Ford
Doug Edwards
Pat Boldt
Steven Wolosoff
Kasey Castillo
Loren Sotelo

City of Menifee
Eastern Municipal Water District
WRCAC
CDM Smith
City of Canyon Lake
March JPA

Call to Order & Introductions

The Lake Elsinore/Canyon Lake TMDL Task Force meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by Rick Whetsel at the Riverside County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, located at 1995 Market Street, Riverside, California.

Meeting Notes

Approval of the Meeting Notes from the June 19, 2019 Task Force meeting were deemed acceptable.

Discussion: Comments received regarding the Basin Plan Amendment to Update and Revise TMDLs (Risk Sciences)

Summarize Comments submitted to Regional Board by other (non-Task Force) Stakeholders (Risk Sciences)

Tim Moore /Risk Science informed the Task Force of public comments submitted to Regional Board regarding the Update to the LE&CL TMDLs. These included comments from the Orange County Coastkeeper (OCCK) expressing concerns over the use of cumulative distribution functions in lieu of water quality targets, as well as, the extension to the deadline for TMDL compliance. Mr. Moore explained that Ken Theisen discussed both of these issues in-depth during his presentation to the Regional Board at the workshop last May. Since representatives from the OCCK did not attend that workshop, it would be a good idea to schedule a meeting with them to avoid any misunderstanding about how the new targets will be enforced and how the new compliance schedules will work.

Mr. Moore noted that no other public comments (beyond Task Force stakeholders) were received by the Regional Board.

Status of State Peer Review Process (Regional Board Staff)

Barbara Berry /Santa Ana Regional Board informed the Task Force that the Peer Review is expected to be completed by the end of August. Following review of the Peer Review comments by Regional Board staff, the Peer Review will be made available to the Task Force. The Regional Board may request assistance from the Task Force's technical consultants in responding to Peer Review comments, if necessary.

Projected Schedule for next Regional Board Hearing/Workshop (Regional Board Staff)

Barbara Berry /Santa Ana Regional Board informed the Task Force that the LE&CL TMDL Update will be going out for a second round of Public Comment (45-days) and a Regional Board Hearing/Workshop will be scheduled for the fall/winter (October, December or February) depending on the level of effort to address comments.

Supplemental Technical Support Materials Needed? (Regional Board Staff)

Barbara Berry /Santa Ana Regional Board informed the Task Force that it is unknown at this time if additional/supplemental technical support materials are needed. We will have a better idea of needs following review of the Regional Board Peer Review.

Action Item: Proposed September 2019 Canyon Lake Alum Addition (LESJWA Staff)

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA updated the Task Force on issues related to a September alum application to Canyon Lake, noting that there is a question of need, due to improved Canyon Lake water quality, as well as, a question if nutrient offset credits for alum treatment will be available to stakeholders, based upon language added to the Regional Board Resolution.

Following discussion, the Task Force requested Mr. Moore to prepare the following:

- Recommendation to the Task Force, based upon the most recent water quality data collected by Wood Environmental, as to the need for a September 2019 alum application.
- Letter to Regional Board requesting confirmation that the alum application program will continue to be considered an approved offset program for the purpose of demonstrating compliance with the nutrient TMDLs established for Canyon Lake.

The Task will approve these items via-email vote.

SAWPA staff will coordinate with Aquatechnex and appropriate Task Force stakeholders for a Late September / October Canyon Lake Application based upon the recommendation of the Task Force.

Task Force Administration (LESJWA Staff)

Action Item: Change Order to TMDL Monitoring to address Additional Requirement for TP Offset Monitoring

Rick Whetsel /SAWPA informed the Task Force of the need for a Change Order to Wood Environmental for their contract to implement LE&CL TMDL water quality compliance monitoring. This Change Order is specific to the TN/TP Offset Monitoring being conducted to support LEAMS for an amount not to exceed \$10,972, which includes two (2) monthly sampling (August and September 2019) and duplicate depth-integrated samples collected as part of the offset monitoring program.

Following a brief discussion, a motion was put forward by Rita Thompson representing the City of Lake Elsinore and seconded by Sudhir Mohleji representing EVMWD to approve the Change Order using the \$10,000 available as contingency in the current agreement with Wood Environmental, with the additional new money of \$972 coming from the Task Force Reserve Fund.

Informational Item: Task Force Regulatory Strategist/Facilitator Tess Dunham of Somach Simmons & Dunn
Rick Whetsel /SAWPA informed the Task Force that the recommendation to approve a two-year agreement with Tess Dunham /Somach Simmons & Dunn will be going to the LESJWA Board for approval tomorrow, Thursday August 15th.

Presentation: Water Quality Impacts to Lake Elsinore from Holy Fire (John Rudolph/Wood Environmental)

John Rudolph /Wood Environmental provided an update and presentation on their effort to support the City of Lake Elsinore in evaluating the water quality impacts to Lake Elsinore from sediment runoff from the Holy Fire.

Following the presentation, Tim Moore requested Wood Environmental to conduct an additional toxicity test to confirm if the toxicity identified in the winter of 2018, which is presumed to be caused by Golden algae is still an issue in Lake Elsinore. The thought being that if no toxicity is identified now, during the summer, that possibly the toxicity was due specifically to the Golden algae, which is only present in the colder season.

Following a brief discussion, Wood Environmental confirmed that they would conduct an additional round of toxicity testing.

A copy of the Wood Environmental presentation is available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials: <https://sawpa.org/task-forces/lake-elsinore-and-canyon-lake-tmdl-task-force/#stakeholder-effort>

Update: Lake Elsinore Fishery Management Program (John Rudolph/Wood Environmental)

John Rudolph /Wood Environmental provided a brief update and presentation on the Lake Elsinore Fishery Management Program activities. He noted that Wood Environmental is continuing to work on updates to finalize the program Workplan/QAPP.

The first zooplankton and phytoplankton samples were collected July 26th and the team is scheduled for its first beach seining event on September 4th.

A copy of the Wood Environmental presentation is available on the SAWPA website under Agendas and Meeting Materials: <https://sawpa.org/task-forces/lake-elsinore-and-canyon-lake-tmdl-task-force/#stakeholder-effort>

Other Business

David Woelfel /Santa Ana Regional Board inquired about the availability of water quality data from the Task Force to support the San Jacinto CWAD. Mr. Moore explained that the Task Force conducts surface water quality data to address TMDL compliance for the watershed and that there is no land use or site specific water quality data collected through the Task Force. Any land use or site specific water quality data to support the CWAD would be collected by WRCAC. Currently WRCAC is conducting a pilot study to create a water quality index tool for assessing water quality to support agricultural operators participating in the San Jacinto CWAD.

Schedule Next Meeting

The next LE&CL TMDL Task Force meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 25 at 9:00 a.m. at SAWPA.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 3:50 p.m.