



Bay RMP Steering Committee Meeting

January 24, 2018

San Francisco Estuary Institute

Meeting Summary

Attendees

SC Member	Affiliation	Representing	Present
Jim Ervin	City of San Jose	POTW-Large	Yes
Leah Walker	City of Petaluma	POTW-Small	Yes
Karin North**	City of Palo Alto	POTW-Medium	Yes
Adam Olivieri	BASMAA / EOA, Inc.	Stormwater	Yes
Kevin Buchan	Tesoro Golden Eagle Refinery	Refineries	Yes (alternate for Peter Carroll)
John Coleman	Bay Planning Coalition	Dredgers	Yes
Jessica Burton Evans	US Army Corps of Engineers	USACE	Yes
Tom Mumley*	SFB Regional Water Quality Control Board	Water Board	Yes

* Chair, ** Vice Chair

Guests and Staff

- Robert Wilson - City of Petaluma
- Craig Conner - USACE (new SC member for USACE)
- Mike Connor - East Bay Dischargers Authority
- Phil Trowbridge - SFEI
- Ila Shimabuku -SFEI
- Rebecca Sutton -SFEI
- Meg Sedlak - SFEI
- Scott Dusterhoff - SFEI
- Naomi Feger - SFBRWQCB (remote access)
- Jay Davis -SFEI (remote access)

1. Introductions and Review Agenda

Tom Mumley commenced the meeting with introductions and a quick review of the agenda. Jessica Burton Evans announced that a change in her position at the US Army Corps of Engineers is resulting in her resignation from the Steering Committee and that Craig Conner will be taking her seat. In addition to Jessica Burton Evans, this was also Jim Ervin's last meeting as he is retiring.

Action Item

- Update Steering Committee roster, email lists, and future meeting invitations to include new members. (Ila Shimabuku, 2/15/18)

2. Decision: Approve Meeting Summary from November 1, 2017, and Confirm/Set Dates for Future Meetings.

There were no comments on the November SC meeting summary before approval.

Karin North will not be able to attend the July 25 SC meeting.

Decision

- Leah Walker motioned to approve the November 1 Steering Committee meeting summary. Karin North seconded the motion. The motion for approval was carried by all present members.

Action Item

- Highlight the adjusted SC and TRC meeting start and end times when sending out the agenda packages. (Phil Trowbridge, 3/7/18)

3. Information: TRC Meeting Summary

Phil Trowbridge summarized the December TRC meeting and highlighted the copper, cyanide, and water toxicity update; planning for the laboratory intercalibration studies; and the research that Paul Salop (from AMS) had done to evaluate different acoustic-release options for RMP S&T bivalve monitoring.

A discussion took place regarding whether AMS should purchase the samplers and lease them out to the RMP as planned. Some committee members suggested that the RMP use reserve funds to purchase the samplers and that AMS store and use them as needed. Others suggested adding two clauses into the RMP-AMS contract: (1) the RMP can use purchase the samplers if AMS were no longer able to conduct the bivalve cruises, and, (2) AMS is responsible for having adequate equipment available for the bivalve cruises. Ultimately, the SC approved use of RMP reserve funds to purchase these acoustic-release samplers if, after exploring all options and consulting with AMS, the RMP decides to buy and own the samplers. One committee member cautioned that maintenance, overhaul, upkeep, and calibrations costs should be factored into the cost-analysis of the different options.

Decision

- If the RMP chooses, reserve funds may be used for the purchase of acoustic-release samplers. The motion for approval was carried by all present members.

Action Item

- Report back to the Steering Committee on how the acoustic release samplers were purchased. (Phil Trowbridge, 4/25/18)

4. Information: RMP Financial Update for 2017 Quarter 4

Phil Trowbridge commenced the financial update by presenting annual RMP balances and surpluses from 2014 to current day. Committee members discussed details of using MMP and SEP funds and concluded that current practices were acceptable. Phil proceeded to review all late and delayed deliverables. Committee members were wary that overloading of key staff will continue to be delay deliverables. Using subcontracts with external experts was suggested as a possible solution.

Decision

- John Coleman motioned to approve the following two items. Karin North seconded the motion. The motion for approval was carried by all present members.
 - Allocate \$15,000 from Undesignated Funds to the budget for the 2018 S&T Bivalve Cruise for boat rental.
 - Unencumber a total of \$5,038 from completed tasks in the 2016 budget.

Action Item

- Update 2018 and 2015 RMP budgets to reflect SC approvals on 1/24/18. (Phil Trowbridge, 1/31/18)

5. Decision: Approve 2018 Multi-Year Plan

Phil Trowbridge quickly reviewed the MYP and brought it forward for approval. Mike Connor recommended that RMP activities be better connected to important management decisions and to be prepared to explain why RMP work is important to municipal/agency boards. There was some discussion about how RMP work could be relevant to recycled water management decisions because findings could be of value to stormwater and wastewater agencies, but no changes to the Multi-Year Plan were suggested.

Decision

- Pending a minor change to be addressed (see action item below), Adam Olivieri motioned to approve the Multi-Year Plan. Karin North seconded the motion. The motion for approval was carried by all present members.

Action Item

- Change footnote text on page six of the multi-year plan from "Triggers will be updated..." to "Comparisons to triggers will be updated..." (Ila Shimabuku, 1/29/18)

6. Discussion: Follow-up on Action Items Regarding Potential Changes to RMP Membership and Funding Model

Tom Mumley opened this item by explaining that the SC had previously asked Phil to investigate possible additional participants (specifically dry docks) and changes to the funding structure and allocations. Phil reported that dry docks were not able to join the RMP because their permit explicitly states that dry docks can only coordinate with, not join, the RMP. Phil recommended that we don't take further action on changes to the funding structure and committee members agreed after some discussion.

One committee member suggested that, while the RMP financial structure remains the same, shifting priorities and changes in funding allocations should be considered on a routine basis. For example, monitoring of legacy contaminants versus water-supply issues, habitat loss, and changes in the Delta.

Prior to the lunch break, the Steering Committee took a moment to thank Jim Ervin for his involvement on the Committee from 2013 to the present and congratulated him on his retirement.

Lunch

7. Information: Science Update on Updated CEC Strategy

Rebecca Sutton began her presentation by refreshing the SC on the three components of the CEC strategy: CEC monitoring and risk evaluation, knowledge accumulation, and non-targeted monitoring. She proceeded to cover many aspects of the updated strategy, including revisions to the tiered risk framework for CECs, recommendations for S&T monitoring, and anticipated proposals for 2019. She also highlighted a potential opportunity for leveraged funding through California Sea Grant. The grant would fund a collaborative project with Dr. Eunha Hoh (San Diego State University) to perform non-targeted analysis on 2019 S&T sport fish to screen for unexpected contaminants that would warrant further monitoring. The SC was generally supportive of the potential opportunity. Item 7 was concluded with a viewing of a mini-documentary on 5-Gyres / SFEI / RMP microplastics work in the Bay.

Tom Mumley suggested that the guideline to keep monitoring declining-concern contaminants for two S&T events shouldn't be followed strictly, especially for infrequently monitored matrices like sediment and sport fish. Mike Connor also suggested that RMP studies for CECs are better characterized as "screening" rather than "routine monitoring."

There was some discussion about a future study idea to mine the data we have on chemicals that have been banned/phased out to develop a model to predict how quickly future chemical bans will have an effect on water quality in the Bay (as a function of the chemical properties, sources, and pathways).

Action Item

- Send a link to the microplastics video to the SC when it is ready to be released. (Rebecca Sutton, 2/15/18).

8. Information: Science Update on Sediment Supply Synthesis and Strategy Development

Phil Trowbridge presented some of his own, and some of Dave Schoellhamer's, slides to report on the current status of the sediment supply synthesis and strategy development. This synthesis has incorporated many projects and data sources along with RMP and USGS analyses to answer several questions regarding sediment transport in the Bay. Phil highlighted that the current estimate for magnitude of sediment transported into the Bay each year is 2.0 ± 0.6 million metric tonnes. Strategic recommendations for future work were to focus on sediment mass balances at multiple spatial scales to inform decisions about dredging and restoration. At the Sediment Workgroup meeting on 1/31/18, the group will prioritize information needs to achieve this objective. Phil concluded by stating the importance of the RMP's role in Bay sediment work and the collaboration of monitoring, modeling, synthesis efforts.

Action Item

- Share finalized slides from Item 8 with Steering Committee. (Phil Trowbridge, 1/29/18)
- Look into collaborative efforts with Santa Clara Valley Water District, BAFCAA, Jim Fiedler, and the Resilient by Design project. (Phil Trowbridge, 1/31/18)

9. Information/Decision: Update on RMP Communications and Approve Plans for 2018 RMP Update, Annual Meeting, and Special Sessions at SETAC

Jay Davis quickly presented on RMP Communications, the RMP Update report, and upcoming events. Steering Committee members agreed that October 11, 2018, was an appropriate date for the 2018 Annual Meeting and confirmed their availability.

For the RMP Update, the committee members agreed with the general outline and suggested highlighting the article on PFAS which has already been prepared for Estuary News.

Committee members recommended merging the "Central Bay margins" and "Emeryville Crescent PCBs" topics for the March Estuary News article and to cover sediment in the June article. CECs should be the topic for the December article.

Members favored "Water Quality Impacts of Fires and Floods" for a session topic at the Society of Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry conference. The other two topic ideas recommended by the TRC were also acceptable. However, committee members cautioned about the time needed for RMP staff to organize a session.

Action Item

- Proceed with booking October 11 with the David Brower Center and send out a save-the-date to SC and TRC committee members. (Ila Shimabuku, 2/1/18)

10. Discussion: Status of RMP Deliverables and Action Items

Because Phil Trowbridge had reported on RMP deliverables during Item 4, there was no further discussion on deliverables.

11. Discussion: Plan agenda items for future meetings

RMP staff and committee members listed the following topics for inclusion at the April SC meeting:

- Annual meeting planning
- Workgroup guidance
- Outbrief on the first Sediment Workgroup meeting
- Present on repurposed material from the EEWG and ECWG meetings
- Luisa Valiela and Heidi Nutters to present on regional wetland monitoring and Measure AA restoration authority
- Unencumber left over funds from 2017 budget
- Quick report back on plans for the purchase of acoustic release systems

12. Discussion: Plus/Delta

None were brought forward.

13. Adjourn

Jessica Burton Evans and Jim Ervin were both thanked again for their involvement in the Steering Committee.