



Steering Committee Meeting Summary

February 22, 2019 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

Attendees:

Voting Steering Committee (and/or Alternate) members present

Name	Representing	Affiliation	Voting Status
Fadl, Dalia	Stormwater, Phase I	City of Sacramento	Alternate
Fleming, Terry	Regulatory-Federal	U.S. EPA Region 9 Water Division	Primary
Franklin, Rebecca	POTW	Regional San	Primary
Garcia, Kathryn	POTW	City of Stockton	Primary
Gearheart, Greg	Regulatory-State	SWRCB - OIMA	Primary
Grovhoug, Tom	POTW	Larry Walker and Associates (LWA)	Alternate
Hiestand, Stephanie	Stormwater, Phase II	City of Tracy	Primary
Houdesheldt, Bruce	Agriculture	Sacramento Valley WQ Coalition	Alternate
Laputz, Adam	Regulatory-State	Central Valley Regional Water Board	Primary, Co-Chair
Philippart, Shaun	Water Supply	Dept of Water Resources	Primary
Tamayo, Dave	Stormwater, Phase I	Sacramento County	Primary
Wackman, Mike	Agriculture	San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition	Primary
Webster, Debbie	POTW	Central Valley Clean Water Association	Alternate, Co-Chair

TAC Members Present			
Ashby, Karen	Stormwater	LWA	TAC member
Johnson, Michael	Agriculture	MLJ-LLC	TAC alternate
Laurenson, Brian	Stormwater	LWA	TAC member
McCord, Stephen	TAC Chair	MEI	TAC chair
Turner, Melissa	Agriculture	MLJ-LLC	TAC member
Ex Officio & Staff			
Cole, Selina		Central Valley Regional Water Board	Staff
Heberger, Matthew		Aquatic Science Center	Staff
Howard, Meredith		Central Valley Regional Water Board	Staff
Morris, Patrick		Central Valley Regional Water Board	Staff
DeParsia, Matt		U.S. Geological Survey	
Other			
Bedore, Paul		RBI Consultants	
Lawson, Dave		Western Plant Health Assoc.	
Liner, Noel		City of Lodi	

1. Introductions and Review Agenda

A quorum was established.

2. Decision: Approve Steering Committee Meeting Summaries

The October 29, 2018 and December 19, 2018 Steering Committee Meeting Summaries were approved by consensus. The date for the following upcoming meetings were set:

- SC Meeting, Wednesday, May 29, 2019, Location TBD
- SC Meeting, Monday, August 5, 2019, Location TBD

(Both meetings subsequently set for DWR in West Sacramento)

Action Items:

- Finalize the October 29, 2018 and December 19, 2018 SC Meeting Summaries and post to the website. (Matt Heberger, by 3/15/2019).
- Secure meeting rooms for May 29, 2019 and August 5, 2019 SC Meetings and forward calendar invitation for the May and August meetings (Matt Heberger, by 3/15/2019).

3. Information: Technical Advisory Committee Update

Stephen McCord gave a summary of the January 17, 2019 TAC meeting, and recap of the Delta Social Sciences Task Force kick-off meeting. The full Draft TAC Meeting Summary was included in the agenda package.

- **Mercury:** Monitoring is progressing as planned. Annual fish monitoring was completed in September 2018. The first of two winter wet-weather water sampling events have been completed.
- **Pesticides:** The first pesticides monitoring event took place December 19, 2019 and took 2½ days to complete all the monitoring sites. There was some delay in the processing of samples due to the federal government shutdown, but all samples were analyzed within hold time limits. The Pesticides Subcommittee is considering making some minor adjustments to the triggers for wet-weather monitoring to capture the effects of local runoff. If the decision is made to change the triggers, the QAPP will be updated with that information when the workplan for FY19-20 is completed.
- **Toxicity Testing/Ceriodaphnia:** The committee held a lengthy discussion on how the issue regarding the aquatic toxicity test methods for *Ceriodaphnia dubia*, (and the question as to what data gets uploaded into CEDEN), had been resolved since the October Joint SC/TAC meeting. Concern was expressed that the direction given by the Steering Committee in the last meeting had not been followed, and no documentation of the subsequent process was provided. The committee agreed to form a small group to work through both the process and technical questions on this issue, and bring a clarification/recommendation back to the Steering Committee. Participants identified for the small group: Debbie Webster, Greg Gearheart, Rebecca Franklin, Selina Cole, Mike Johnson. A conference call was scheduled for March 22, 2019 at 9:00 AM for this discussion.
- **Nutrients:** The chlorophyll-a sensor intercalibration parallel deployment events have been completed. This project has also been slightly delayed by the government shutdown. The Phase 2 Chlorophyll Sensor Intercalibration Study is ongoing, comparing data from the different labs. The subcommittee is looking for funding to carry that work into the next phase. The TAC will be reviewing a proposal for a Sacramento River Nutrients Change Study, designed to take advantage of a unique circumstance—planned shutdowns in the discharge from Regional San during the plant's upgrade.
- **Miscellaneous Updates:** We expect to hear the result of the application for Prop 1 funding to expand the Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CEC) study by the end of March. An update from the Delta Science Program will now be a standing item on the TAC agenda.

Action Items:

- A volunteer group of SC members will discuss how to resolve the toxicity testing/data upload issue. Participants identified for the small group: Debbie Webster, Greg

Gearheart, Rebecca Franklin, Selina Cole, Mike Johnson. A conference call was scheduled for March 22, 2019 at 9:00 AM for this discussion.

- The SC requested that the memo outlining the procedure for contacting lab managers be distributed to the Steering Committee (Matt Heberger, by 3/15/2019).

4. Information: Delta RMP Finances

Matt Heberger presented a financial update for the period ending December 31, 2018, summarizing Delta RMP assets and liabilities and the status of the Undesignated Reserve Fund.

- Financial Assets = \$1,403,467. Liabilities = \$1,208,437. Balance in the reserve fund = \$171,322.
- The expected revenue for FY18-19 was revised upward by \$280,000 based on the addition of 2 new direct contributors to the program
- The committee was asked to approve a proposed change to Task 4A of the Nutrients Modeling Study. The original workplan called for this task to be done by a subcontractor who has now elected not to do the work. The request was to move the \$35,000 budgeted for this task from a subcontractor to ASC.
- The committee requested that a list of all Delta RMP contributors, and the amount contributed, be made available.
- Dalia Fadl is transitioning to a new position and will no longer be a Finance Subcommittee participant. Shaun Philippart (DWR) will be replacing Dalia on the Finance Subcommittee.

Decisions:

- After discussion, the committee voted to approve the transfer of \$35,000, budgeted for Task 4A of the Nutrients Modeling Study, from the original subcontractor to ASC labor, with the task to be completed at the original contracted amount. There was one abstention.

Action Items:

- Amend the workplan and budget to reflect the transfer of the \$35,000 for Task 4A to ASC. (Matt Heberger, by 3/20/2019)
- Post a complete list of Delta RMP contributors, and dollar amount of contributions, to website. (Matt Heberger, by 2/28/2019)

5. Decision: Approve public release of FY16-17 Pesticides Data via CEDEN

Per the Delta RMP Communications Plan, the committee was asked to approve the FY16-17 pesticides data for public release. These data have been made previously publicly available online

via the USGS' National Water Information Service (NWIS). It is unclear whether a subsequent upload to CEDEN is warranted.

Decisions:

- The committee voted to approve the public release of the FY16-17 pesticides data via CEDEN. There was one abstention.
- In an effort to clarify the Steering Committee role in the “approval” and/or “public release” of data it was agreed the Coordinating Committee would convene a small group to consider forthcoming recommendations from the Data Management Subcommittee, and any changes needed to the Delta RMP Communications Plan, and present a suggested path going forward on these issues to the Steering Committee for approval.

Action Items:

- The Coordinating Committee will convene the small workgroup and develop a recommendation for the Steering Committee on the process for data management, and approval or certification of data (i.e., confirm the data quality assurance process and turn existing standard operating procedures into a Data Management Plan).

6. Project Progress Update

Matt Heberger provided detailed update an on development of a CECs workplan, and progress on the Pesticides Interpretive Report by Deltares.

- ASC has been communicating regularly with Deltares on the Pesticides Interpretive Report. The first two deliverables were recently received by ASC and will be forwarded to the TAC and Pesticides Subcommittee. The request was made to also forward this information to Steering Committee members.
- A detailed project planning update was presented for the CECs three-year pilot study. Based on feedback from State Board staff, the Sampling and Analysis Plan (SAP) and QAPP will now be merged into a single document. The choice for analytical labs has not been finalized. The choice for most other contractors has been set. The proposed sampling locations and methods, as well as sampling schedules were also presented, but warrant further consideration based on fish species maps (potentially available from the IEP or CDFW) and lab capabilities/costs.. The cost estimate for the study has not been finalized. Planning figures will be adjusted when the Prop 1 grants are announced in March.

Action Items:

- Forward a copy of the Deltares deliverables and schedule information on TAC and Pesticides Subcommittee review discussions to Steering Committee members. (Matt Heberger, by 3/15/2019).

7. Multi-Year Planning Process

Matt Heberger provided an overview of the proposed timeline for the multi-year planning process, with a multi-year planning workshop anticipated in the fall of 2019. Stephen McCord presented a Management Drivers Table drafted by several TAC members and discussed in the recent TAC meeting. The table was initially developed based on discussion held at the October 2019 Joint SC/TAC meeting. There was general agreement that the table needed to be refined, including further prioritization of the drivers.

- TAC was directed to have each of the subcommittees develop project proposals for FY19-20 based on budget parameters set in the October Joint Meeting, along with a 3-5-year projection. The monitoring designs will continue to identify the management assessment questions and the management drivers that will be addressed by the monitoring.
- A request was made for a high-level update on monitoring programs being done across the Delta.

Action Items:

- Inquire with contractor for the recently awarded Delta Monitoring Enterprise Review to see if a project overview is possible for the Delta RMP summer planning meeting. (Matt Heberger, by 4/15/2019)
- TAC condense the Management Drivers Table into a more focused and prioritized list. (Stephen McCord, by 4/30/2019)

8. Report by Ad Hoc Subcommittee on Governance

Matt Heberger provided an update on the work done by the subcommittee created to examine the policies and procedures around adding new seats to the Steering Committee. Meeting summaries from both subcommittee meetings were included in the agenda package (pages 65-75). It was decided there was no need for major reform of the process at this time. The subcommittee recommends greater advance notice to the committee to ensure adequate time for consideration of significant, or potentially controversial, issues.

Action Items:

- This subcommittee will meet a third time to discuss possible updates needed to the Delta RMP Communications Plan. This will be coordinated with the Action Item for Item 5 regarding data management and the possible communications plan update.

9. Science Presentation

Brian Bergamaschi (USGS Biogeochemical Research Group) presented some provisional results from the “Cross-Delta Monitoring Using High-Frequency Tools.” The study report is due at the end of March 2019.

10. Agenda Items for Next Meeting

Committee members agreed to the following for a future science presentation:

- Science Presentation – Historical Ecology work done in the Delta by SFEI scientists.