

Special Study Proposal: Small Tributaries POC Loading Program Management

Summary: The goal of the Small Tributaries Loadings Strategy (STLS) Program over the next few years is to continue to provide information to RMP Stakeholders and the public that directly supports the identification and management of PCBs and Hg sources, concentrations, loads, and the determination of trends in relation to management efforts and beneficial uses in San Francisco Bay. To support the Small Tributaries POC stormwater concentration and loading program, the outcome of this task will be to maintain monthly communication with BASMAA program and Water Board representatives. This will be completed through regular check in phone calls, planning for and development of meeting agendas and materials, preparation of meeting summaries, and monitoring the agenda of and attendance at key external meetings.

Estimated Cost: \$40,000

Oversight Group: STLS/SPLWG

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Proposed Deliverables and Timeline

Task	Deliverable	2019											
		J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
A	STLS Management	!	!	!	!	!!	!	!	!	!	!	!	!

! = STLS check in for review and course corrections

!! = STLS/SPLWG oversight and review

Background

The San Francisco Bay Hg and PCBs TMDLs call for a reduction in loads by 50 and 90% by 2028 and 2030, respectively. In response, the first Municipal Regional Permit for Stormwater (MRP) Provision C.8.f. (SFRWQCB, 2009) called for a range of actions including gaining a better understanding of which Bay tributaries contribute the most loading to sensitive areas of biological interest on the Bay margin, better quantification of loads of sediments and trace contaminants on a watershed basis and regionally, a better understanding of how and where trends might best be measured, and an improved understanding of which management measures may be most effective in reducing impairment. These same needs were reflected in the small tributary loading strategy (STLS) (SFEI, 2009). On November 19, 2015 the second MRP was issued and provided an updated set of management questions (provided below) (SFRWQCB, 2015).

Study Objectives and Applicable RMP Management Questions

With an increased focus on collaboration synergy between projects funded by the RMP and those funded directly by BASMAA, it was recognized back in 2009 that an annual budget allocation was needed to ensure constant and efficient communication between RMP program staff and BASMAA and Water Board representatives. These objectives help to ensure quality planning and implementation of projects that aim to answer the following five management questions:

MRP 2.0 Q1: Source Identification / Leverage: Which sources or source areas provide greatest opportunity for load reductions?

MRP 2.0 Q2: Impairment: Which source areas contribute most to impairment of Bay?

MRP 2.0 Q3: Management effectiveness: Provide support for planning future management actions or evaluate existing actions.

MRP 2.0 Q4: Loads: Assess POC loads, concentrations, or presence/absence.

MRP 2.0 Q5: Trends: What are the spatial and temporal trends in loads or concentrations?

Approach

RMP staff will provide management of the STLS process and STLS projects. Tasks include:

- Monthly meetings (phone calls)
- Quarterly or as needed face-to-face meetings
- Planning for and development of meeting agendas and materials
- Preparation of meeting summaries, and
- Monitoring the agendas of, and attendance at key external meetings (e.g. BASMAA Monitoring / POC Committee meeting, BASMAA BoD meetings)

Reporting

Written meeting summaries are prepared during and after every meeting and archived. A list of action items and due dates are also maintained.

Linkages to other RMP Workgroups

RMP staff aim to help transfer information between other RMP workgroups and committees and the STLS and SPLWG. These include meetings of the Priority Margin Units (PCB Workgroup) and the Emerging Contaminants Workgroup (ECWG).

References

- SFEI, 2009. RMP Small Tributaries Loading Strategy. A report prepared by the strategy team (L McKee, A Feng, C Sommers, R Looker) for the Regional Monitoring Program for Water Quality. SFEI Contribution #585. San Francisco Estuary Institute, Oakland, CA.
http://www.sfei.org/sites/default/files/biblio_files/Small_Tributary>Loading_Strategy_FINAL.pdf
- SFRWQCB, 2009. California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Francisco Bay Region Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit, Order R2-2009-0074, NPDES Permit No. CAS612008. Adopted October 14, 2009. 279pp.
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/stormwater/Municipal/index.shtml
- SFRWQCB, 2015. California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Francisco Bay Region Municipal Regional Stormwater NPDES Permit, Order No. R2-2015-0049, NPDES Permit No. CAS612008. November 19, 2015. 350pp.

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