



Delta Regional Monitoring Program (RMP) Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting

June 14, 2016

12:30 – 4:15 PM

Central Valley Regional Board, 11020 Sun Center Drive #200, Rancho Cordova, CA

Summary

Attendees:

TAC (and/or Alternate) members present¹:

Stephanie Fong, Water Supply (State and Federal Contractors Water Agency)

Brian Laurenson, Stormwater – Phase I (Larry Walker Associates)

Stephen McCord, TAC co-Chair (McCord Environmental, Inc.)

Mike Johnson, Agriculture (MLJ LLC)

Vyomini Upadhyay, POTWs (Regional San)

Tim Mussen, POTWs (Regional San)

Debra Denton, Regulatory – Federal (U.S. EPA Region 9)

Tony Pirondini, POTWs (City of Vacaville)

Erwin Van Nieuwenhuysse, Coordinated Monitoring (Reclamation)

Hope Taylor, Stormwater – Phase I (Larry Walker Associates)

Danny McClure, Regulatory – State (Central Valley Water Board)

Janis Cooke, Regulatory – State (Central Valley Water Board)

Lisa Thompson, POTWs (Regional San)

Tessa Fojut, Regulatory – State (Central Valley Water Board)

Melissa Turner, Agriculture (MLJ LLC)

By phone:

Joe Domagalski, TAC co-Chair (U.S. Geological Survey)

Karen Ashby, Stormwater – Phase II (Larry Walker Associates)

Others present:

Patrick Morris, Central Valley Regional Water Board

Thomas Jabusch, SFEI-ASC

Selina Cole, Central Valley Regional Water Board

Rachel Kubiak, Western Plant Health Association

Linda Deanovic, UC Davis APHL

Linda Dorn, Regional San, co-Chair of Steering Committee

Stephen Louie, CDFW

Jim Orlando, USGS

Meg Sedlak, SEI-ASC

¹ Name, Representing Category (Affiliation)

Adam Laputz, Regional San, co-Chair of Steering Committee
Tamara Kraus, USGS

On phone:

Brian Bergamaschi, USGS
Carol DiGiorgio, CDWR
Yumiko Henneberry, DSP
Otome Lindsey, DWR
Armand Ruby, Armand Ruby Consulting

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| 1. | <p>Introductions and Agenda</p> <p>New TAC member Melissa Turner attended as the second designated representative for Agriculture. The SC intends for the TAC composition to mirror that of the SC.</p> |
| 2. | <p>Approve Draft Meeting Summary (March 30, 2016)</p> <p>The meeting summary was unanimously approved.</p> <p><u>Recommendation:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Moving forward (and consistent with the SC), produce shorter TAC meeting summaries focusing on TAC responses to the SC, key recommendations, and action items. |
| 3. | <p>SC Updates</p> <p>Linda Dorn commented that the draft SC meeting summary in the agenda did not include her comments. Thomas Jabusch indicated that her comments and others have been received and the draft minutes revised accordingly.</p> <p>Stephen McCord presented the draft template for a TAC Highlights document that the SC requested the co-chairs prepare. The purpose of the report is to provide preliminary updates on TAC recommendations and monitoring activities updates in a condensed format. The TAC co-Chairs will draft and circulate each document to the TAC prior to submission to the SC in their meeting agenda packets.</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In the TAC co-Chair report, incorporate toxicity into the pesticide section, as it is not a stand-alone element. Circulate the revised version to the TAC prior to sending to the SC. |
| 4. | <p>Mercury: Revised QAPP</p> <p>ASC staff provided a brief summary of updates made to the QAPP and a schedule</p> |



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| | <p>for wrapping up the review and approval process so that mercury monitoring can begin in August. The update to the QAPP primarily focused on adding a section on mercury; the FY16/17 Detailed Workplan includes fish and water mercury monitoring. Contract lab staff and the State Board and SWAMP QAOs are reviewing the updated QAPP concurrently with the TAC.</p> <p>Debra Denton commented on a footnote in the QAPP that says, “Inclusion of <i>Hyalella</i> water toxicity testing is pending a final decision by the SC.” She commented that there would be a need to clarify the roles of the SC and TAC, i.e. the SC sets budget and priorities and the TAC makes technical recommendations. She stated that whether or not to include <i>Hyalella</i> water toxicity testing should be a technical decision rather than a policy decision.</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure that the chlorophyll method used in mercury monitoring is consistent with those used by other labs such as SWAMP labs, USGS, and DWR (i.e., use of glass fiber filter for filtration) - Tabulate all changes made since the QAPP was approved in April. |
| <p>5.</p> | <p>Overview of Comments on the Revised Sensor Data Synthesis Report</p> <p>USGS staff provided a progress update on the sensor synthesis report and explained the types of changes that were made in response to comments from TAC members. Key comments received were that the report should more directly address the Delta RMP assessment questions and that the network examples should be more specific to the Delta. In response to comments, the report will be divided into three documents (Part 1, Introduction: what can be done with high frequency monitoring and case studies; Part 2, Synthesis of sensor data; and Part 3, How to design a sensor network) and will include a detailed response to comments. The final version of the report will be sent to the TAC on August 1. A concurrent review will be undertaken by the USGS.</p> <p>USGS staff also mentioned that USGS and ASC are seeking external funding for a high frequency sensor workshop to facilitate sensor network intercalibration and interoperability as well as data access and integration.</p> |
| <p>6a.</p> | <p>Nutrients: Nutrient Workshop</p> <p>ASC staff presented a proposed outline and agenda for a 2-day Delta RMP nutrient-monitoring workshop, to be held prior to the Delta RMP Multi-Year Planning Meeting in October. The SC co-chairs recommended holding off on scheduling Day 2 until after the “Ammonium Workshop” planned for the Delta Nutrient Research Plan, which is expected to be scheduled in November. The reason for holding off</p> |

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| | <p>would be that the Ammonium Workshop might require revisiting and reprioritizing the Delta RMP assessment questions. However, participants supported the idea of bringing the nutrient subcommittee together to identify monitoring gaps on Day 1 and several were interested in identifying “no regret” monitoring options. Several TAC members expressed concerns over the SC co-Chairs weighing in heavily on the discussion in terms of the roles of TAC vs. SC.</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - DWR and USGS should be invited to assure coordination among nutrient activities. - Revise workshop description and send to the nutrient subcommittee for input and then to TAC prior to including it in the SC agenda package for July 20. |
| 6b. | <p>Nutrients: Nutrient Synthesis in the FY16/17 Detailed Workplan</p> <p>ASC staff presented a more detailed scope of work, next steps, and work product examples for discussion by the TAC. Adam Laputz commented that he would still like to see more “flesh on the bones”. ASC staff advised that there is a challenge in providing more detail about the work without doing the actual work, because developing a more detailed outline of the final product requires initial data analyses and meetings with the nutrient subcommittee to discuss and refine the designs of the analyses and modeling work.</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Include a clear explanation of empirical orthogonal functions in the synthesis report (Task 1). |
| 7. | <p>Information: Joint TAC-SC Meeting (October 18th) – Planning for the meeting</p> <p>ASC staff provided an update on the Multi-Year Planning Meeting scheduled for October 18. TAC members welcomed the idea of a joint SC/TAC meeting.</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Clarify TAC composition in the revised charter, and delineate the relationships and roles of the SC and TAC relative to each other. - Make the charter (specifically roles and responsibilities) and a brief recap of the RMP development process to date as agenda items for the Multi-Year Planning Meeting on October 18. - Provide an agenda item explaining the program progress to date. - Once the charter is approved, schedule vote on co-Chairs at next TAC |

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| 8. | <p>Information: Preliminary Pesticide Results to Date and New Analytes</p> <p>Jim Orlando from USGS provided an update on preliminary USGS pesticide results for 152 analytes and new analytical capabilities being developed at the USGS lab.</p> <p>USGS detected 54 compounds in water and 10 on filter paper, averaging 9-21 detections per site. Fungicides and herbicides were most commonly detected, but varied among sites and seasons. Bifenthrin and fipronil exceeded benchmarks in some instances. All samples have met their data quality objectives. USGS recently added 6 common-use pesticides to its methods and is exploring 16 more analytes, all at no cost to the RMP.</p> <p>Karen Ashby expressed concerns that there wasn't a fully defined process in place for prioritizing pesticides (e.g. adding and eliminating pesticides from the current analyte list). Others weighed in and stated that Jim Orlando was presenting new capabilities, but that there would still be a process before new analytes are added (or removed from) the Delta RMP's preferred list of analytes.</p> <p>There was agreement on the need for a process in the TAC to recommend adding or removing analytes from the Delta RMP list of analytes that would be based on criteria that include both a technical rationale and cost considerations.</p> <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schedule an information item to discuss toxicity results for the September 20 meeting. - The TAC should develop a process for evaluating pesticides to include/remove from the Delta RMP list of analytes. |
| 9. | <p>Pathogens: Update on YR1 Sampling Activities and the need for a follow up trigger study</p> <p>LWA staff presented the need for a potential follow up trigger study for discussion. At this time, there is no need for a follow-up trigger study.</p> |
| 10. | <p>Updates and wrap-up</p> <p>Delta RMP Charter</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will provide additional clarification and guidance about the roles of the SC and TAC, and their interaction. <p>DSP External Review</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The External Panel will discuss their review with the RMP's review subcommittee on August 23 and provide a draft report in the week of |

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| | <p>Sept. 19.</p> <p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The new date for the next TAC meeting is September 20. The meeting will be at Regional San. The meeting after that is scheduled for December 13. The meeting time will be 12:30 to 4:15 pm for both meetings. <p><u>Recommendations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Schedule a discussion of the External Review for December 13. <p>Action Items</p> <p><i>QAPP</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare a table of changes to the QAPP and send out a clean copy of the updated QAPP to TAC for recommendation for approval by the end of the month (Thomas Jabusch, by June 21) – <i>Done</i>. - Provide comments on QAPP (TAC, by June 30) - Confirm chlorophyll measurements conducted as part of FY16/17 Hg project are conducted using standardized procedures (e.g., SWAMP methods)(Thomas Jabusch, by June 30) <p><i>Nutrient Sensor Synthesis Report</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribute final report to TAC, as a pdf (word file by request)(Brian Bergamaschi, by August 1). - Review revised nutrient sensor synthesis report (by August 15) - SFEI will be the official reviewer and compile comments received from TAC members into a single file (by August 31) <p><i>Nutrient Workshop</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Revise workshop description and send to the nutrient subcommittee (Thomas Jabusch, by June 21) – <i>Done</i>. - Schedule meeting with the nutrient subcommittee to discuss and plan the nutrient workshop (Day 1)(Thomas Jabusch, by June 30) - Send a Doodle poll to schedule workshop Day 1 (Meg Sedlak, by June 22) – <i>Done</i>. - Send revised workshop description to the TAC (Thomas Jabusch, by July 1) - Comment on revised workshop description (TAC, by July 6) - Include revised workshop description in SC agenda package (Meg Sedlak, by July 7) <p><i>TAC co-Chair report</i></p> |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide toxicity summary to Stephen McCord and ASC (Linda Deanovic, by June 29) - Prepare co-chair report to SC (Stephen McCord, by June 30) - Review co-chair report (TAC, by July 6) <p><i>TAC co-Chair report</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Distribute revised TAC co-Chair report template to the TAC (Stephen McCord, by June 22) - Prepare co-chair report to SC (Stephen McCord, by June 30) - Review co-chair report (TAC, by July 6) <p><i>Pathogens</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare 1-page summary on trigger studies for the SC agenda package (Brian Laurenson, by June 30) <p><i>Updates/Wrap-up</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Post presentations shown at the meeting on Google Drive (Thomas Jabusch, by June 21) – <i>Done</i>. - Send a reminder to the TAC about the September 20 and December 13 meeting dates (Meg Sedlak, by June 28) – <i>Done</i>. - Send out and reconfirm current rosters of the TAC and its subcommittees (Thomas Jabusch, by June 28) – <i>Done</i>. - Distribute a link to the algae bloom video (Thomas Jabusch, by June 30) - Include revised, most recent draft SC summary in SC agenda package that addresses comments provided by Linda Dorn, Josie Tellers, and Debbie Webster (Meg Sedlak, by July 7) |
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Parking Lot

- Identify opportunities for Delta field experience by TAC members
- Pesticides
 - . Benchmarks
 - . Risk potential definition and prioritization process