



RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP SESSION

May 12, 2009, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM
Windsor Town Council Chambers
9291 Redwood Road, Windsor, CA 95492

A G E N D A

- 1. Greetings and Introductions**
- 2. North Coast IRWMP Update**
- 3. RRWA Programs Updates**
 - Stormwater Items
 - Environmental Column
 - Trash Program
 - Collection Systems
 - First Flush Brochure
 - Student Video & Environmental Column Contests
- 4. Forum and Advocacy**
 - Comment Letters (completed, pending & future)
 - Agenda for next meeting with RWQCB Assistant Executive Officer and RWQCB staff
- 5. Future Meetings and Agenda Items**
 - May 14, 2009 BOD Meeting
 - June 9, 2009 TWG Meeting
- 6. Items of Interest**
- 7. Public Comment**
- 8. Adjourn**

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Meeting Summary (prepared by RRWA staff Phoebe Grow and Adrienne Aiona)

1. Greetings and Introductions (8:45)

Attendees:

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| - Cristina Goulart, Windsor / W&K | - Heather Gourley, City of Santa Rosa |
| - Adrienne Aiona, RRWA | - Renae Gundy, City of Santa Rosa |
| - Phoebe Grow, RRWA | - Craig Scott, Town of Windsor |
| - Forest Frasier, City of Santa Rosa | - Corbin Johnson, Sonoma County Regional Parks |
| - Susan Keach, Sonoma Co Water Agency | - Lisa Steinman, Sonoma County Waste Management Agency |
| - Rick Seanor, City of Ukiah | - Martin St. George, City of Santa Rosa |
| - Brenda Adelman, RR Protection Committee | - Janice Gillian, County of Sonoma PRMD |
| - Eydie Tacata, City of Rohnert Park | - John Short, NCRWQCB |
| - Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa | - Zeno Swijtink |
| - Terry Macute, Sonoma County Environmental Health | |

2. North Coast IRWMP Update

Lisa Renton (SCWA) e-mailed an update on North Coast IRWMP activities and the IRWM funding outlook to RRWA staff. Highlights of this update included:

- **Regional Acceptance Process** – Staff submitted a Regional Acceptance Process (RAP) application on behalf of the North Coast IRWMP to DWR on April 29th. The RAP is an eligibility requirement for future IRWM funding under Propositions 84 and 1E. The RAP outlined the North Coast IRWMP’s governance structure, communication framework, stakeholder outreach, regional boundary, and the plan’s approach to effectively integrate multiple water management strategies. The County of Humboldt’s Board of Supervisors unanimously agreed to submit this application on behalf of the North Coast Region, and a copy of their resolution was included within the application. A full copy of the RAP application text, maps and appendices can be found in the library section of the North Coast IRWMP website (www.northcoastirwmp.net). If the North Coast application is initially approved, Supervisor and Policy Review Panel Chair, Jimmy Smith of Humboldt County and Councilmember and Vice-Chair, Jake Mackenzie along with North Coast IRWMP project staff will attend an interview with DWR and other State agency representatives to answer any additional questions regarding the North Coast’s planning process.
- **Prop 50, Round 1 Implementation Projects** – Unfortunately, although the Prop 50, Round 1 implementation grant was included on the bond suspension exemption list the projects have yet to receive funding. These projects are victims of the State’s budget crisis and have been suspended since January. Conversations with SWRCB staff indicate that the Controller’s office is setting up the accounts for distribution and that funding should be rolling out “any day now”. North Coast IRWMP staff is continuing to track this issue and will continue to keep all of you and our project proponents informed.
- **Prop 50, Round 2 Contract Update** – The projects included in the 2nd round of funding did not make the Pooled Money Investment Board’s exemption list and are still in a holding pattern. We have been told by our grant manager that an agreement should be in place by early July – the beginning of the next fiscal year. We will continue to keep you all posted as we receive news.

- **The North Coast IRWMP Policy Review Panel and Technical Peer Review Committee** are planning a meeting in Humboldt County at the end of June. Once a date and location have been finalized the information along with a draft agenda will be posted on the North Coast IRWMP website.
- **The North Coast Regional News** section of the website has been updated to include upcoming meetings, workshops, conferences as well as updates on funding opportunities, local, regional, state and national news and publications. Additionally, a new page has been added to the site called, “North Coast Strategies for Energy Independence and Emissions Reduction” and can be accessed under the North Coast Planning and Implementation header on the home page. The website address is www.northcoastirwmp.net and can also be accessed through the RRWA website: www.rrwatershed.org.
- **Russian River Stakeholders Meeting** – RRWA will coordinate a stakeholder meeting at the end of June modeled on the meeting conducted in Trinity County. The meeting will focus on the differences between Prop 50 IRWMP and Prop 84 IRWMP focusing on the climate change and energy independence elements. West Coast Watersheds will assist with coordination.

3. RRWA Programs Updates

Stormwater Items

- **Phase I permit:** John Short from the RWQCB informed the group that the new draft of the Phase I permit is expected to be released Friday this week (May 15th).
- **Phase II permit:** The Phase II Permit is still on hold while the SWQCB forms a Technical Advisory Committee to provide recommendations on new development standards. Adrienne will participate in a CASQA subcommittee phone call for the Phase II permit.
- **CASQA:** is having their general meeting on this Friday, May 15th, the topic is rainwater harvesting.
- **Manufactured BMPs:** The NCRWQCB issued a guidance letter addressing the use of Manufactured Stormwater BMPs (cartridge filters, tree boxes, etc.). The letter stated a preference for use of landscaped stormwater treatment included as part of LID but acknowledged the usefulness of manufactured BMPs. The letter noted that manufactured BMPs ought to be certified to ensure effectiveness and that the Washington Department of Ecology has a certification process. The Washington Department of Ecology certification program is, however, unfunded at this time.
- **Safe Medicine Disposal:** The group discussed the transition of Santa Rosa’s and SCWA’s Safe Medicine Disposal sites to RRWA at the beginning of the ‘09/‘10 work plan year. Susan Keach (SCWA) is leading the development of new protocols that can be distributed to the disposal sites. The SMD program leads will schedule a conference call to discuss these issues in more detail. The group also discussed an editorial published in the Sonoma Index Tribune that encouraged people to throw medications in the trash and labeled disposal programs as unnecessary and expensive. The benefits of Safe Medicines Disposal programs will be emphasized in upcoming RRWA environmental column.

Environmental Column & Student Environmental Column: Upcoming planned RRWA columns were discussed:

- **May column:** The May environmental column was a rerun of a 2007 column discussing protecting water quality while using public parks during the summer. The original column was written by Robert Jensen from Sonoma County Regional Parks. Corbin Johnson and others from Regional Parks helped RRWA update the column.
- **June column:** RRWA will work with Lisa Steinman (Sonoma County Water Management Agency) to create column proper fireworks disposal. The column will note that fireworks are illegal in some parts of the watershed.
- **July column:** Janice Gillian (Sonoma County PRMD) volunteering to write a column on non-stormwater runoff. This topic is seasonally appropriate (summertime irrigation, car washes, etc.).

- **August column:** Jennifer Burke (City of Santa Rosa) will write a column on rainwater harvesting/grey water use. Jennifer gave a presentation on Santa Rosa's approach to rainwater harvesting/grey water use at a recent Santa Rosa City Council meeting. The video recording of the meeting is available at - http://ci.santa-rosa.ca.us/doclib/agendas_packets_minutes/Pages/20090512_CC_video.aspx. The presentation slides as well as other information about rainwater harvesting are available at www.srcity.org/rainwaterharvesting.

Trash Program

- RRWA, SCWMA and MCWMA are coordinating to complete a flyer about properly securing loads. SCWMA will provide graphic design services and MCWMA will provide Spanish translation.
- Lisa Steinman is coordinating the design and installation of a sign at the Central Disposal Site (500 Meham Rd.). The original plan was to install the sign on Meham Road but due to difficulties getting this approved by the County the sign will now be installed within the landfill site.
- Terry Macute recommended including Christine Sasko in the review of the flyer.
- TWG members will email Adrienne Aiona, RRWA, organizations to contact as part of the outreach efforts.
- It was discussed that the RRWA Trash Program should be coordinated with the Keep Sonoma Clean program (focuses on illegal dumping). The TWG will pursue posting the flyer on the Keep Sonoma Clean website.

Collection Systems

- ICOMMM Demonstration – RRWA e-mailed representatives from each of the member agency about the opportunity to see the ICOMMM Computerized Maintenance Management System. The demonstration may be scheduled for sometime in June depending on the response from the member agencies.
- The TWG agreed to not move forward with the Sewer Lateral Outreach workplan item

First Flush Brochure

- RRWA staff shared a preliminary draft of the First Flush brochure. The brochure discusses these general topics:
 - What first flush is
 - Actions people can take to reduce stormwater pollution
 - Common stormwater pollutants, their environmental impacts and sources.
 - How the sampling event works and how to get involved.
- The TWG supported this general outline.
- RRWA staff will complete the FF brochure draft and circulate to Sotoyome as well as TWG members that volunteered to assist in the review (Eydie Tacata, Jennifer Burke and Forest Frasier)
- The RRF 2007 has been finalized and is available on the Sotoyome RCD website (<http://sotoyomercd.org/creekstewardship/FirstFlush2007.html>).

Student Contests

- Awards for the Student Video Contest will be presented at Thursday's Board meeting.
- Only one student entered the Student Environmental Column Contest the topic of her column was mercury pollution. Heather Gourley recommended publishing it in September for Pollution Prevention week and in conjunction with a potential thermometer take back event.

4. Forum and Advocacy

Planned Comment Letter - North Bay Water Reuse Authority Recycled Water Program

It has been suggested that RRWA submit a letter of support for the North Bay Water Reuse Authority project. The RRWA Board will discuss this potential comment letter at their meeting on Thursday (May 14th). Further information about the North Bay Water Reuse Authority is available at <http://www.nbwra.org/>

Meeting with RWQCB Assistant Executive Officer and RWQCB Staff:

The next meeting is scheduled for June 11th, 2009. Send Phoebe Grow suggestions for topics to include on the agenda.

Next TWG meeting: June 9th.

5. Items of Interest:

- Lisa Steinman brought copies of the new Sonoma County Recycling Guides to hand out.
- Jennifer Burke informed the group about a Water Smart Expo the City of Santa Rosa is hosting on May 27th.

6. Public Comment: Public comment taken during the course of the meeting.

7. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 10:00 am