



RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING  
May 10, 2022 at 10:30 AM

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://zoom.us/j/91806438004?pwd=VDhtdFA5LzR6eFU0NVNZeTRHRDFrZz09>

Meeting ID: 918 0643 8004

Meeting Password: 114544

**SUMMARY NOTES**

**1. Greetings and Introductions**

Andrew Stricklin – City of Ukiah  
Claire Myers – Santa Rosa  
Ben Kageyama – City of Healdsburg  
Katie Robinson – City of Santa Rosa  
Nick Sudano – City of Santa Rosa  
Elissa Overton – City of Sebastopol

Connor DeVane – Daily Acts  
Liz Platte-Bermeo – Daily Acts  
Elizabeth Cargay – Town of Windsor  
Vanessa Apodaca – RRWA  
Austin Oerding – RRWA

- Review Agenda

Meeting called to order at 10:32 am

**2. Guest Presentation:** Carbon Gardening Education and Outreach Partnership,  
Connor DeVane, Daily Acts

- Daily Acts met with the RRFL subcommittee to prioritize a list of educational resources and content resulting in 8 short carbon gardening videos (90 sec).
- Compost giveaways have been hosted by Daily Acts to align with the campaign.
- Educational materials are scheduled for distribution in July to October 2022.
- Daily Acts expressed interest in having an RRWA representative on screen for videos.
- Videos will be hosted on Daily Acts social media and website and will be available for sharing on any member agency platforms.
- Action Campaign will run from August to November 2022.

**3. Technical Working Group Business**

- Social Media
  - Facebook Group
    - Subcommittee member informed group that algorithms have changed and suggested a Facebook Group be created for better reach and engagement.
    - RRWA staff proposes a Group that will admit public, but public will not be able to comment for the time being.
    - Potential Facebook Group names for consideration:
      - Friends of RRWA
      - Watershed Warriors
      - Guardians of our Watershed
      - River Champions
      - River Watch
      - Friends of the Watershed
      - Other Ideas?

TWG is in support of creating a group and had no comments or suggestions on the name.

The Russian River Watershed Association complies with ADA requirements and will attempt to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities upon request.

Please contact Andy Rodgers, Executive Director, at 707-508-3670 with any questions.

- Drought Campaign
  - RRWA Actions
    - Webpage created
    - Radio ads
    - Social Media
      - i. Water Wise Wednesday
      - ii. Fact Friday
    - No comments on drought campaign. TWG recommends establishing a drought subcommittee including members of regional Water Use Efficiency departments. Contact names were provided by members for RRWA staff to connect with.
- Landscape signage
  - Promote Cash for Grass Rebate Program
  - Regional design

TWG referred staff to talk with Sonoma Marin Partnership and Water Use Efficiency members from each agency.
- Sponsorships
  - Fiesta de Independencia 2022 (at LBC)
    - All municipalities involved should coordinate and create shifts, including bilingual representatives. RRWA staff will coordinate with the Board of Directors for staffing the booth.
    - Preference is to include Streets to Creeks logo as well as the RRWA logo
- FY 2022/2023 Meetings venue and schedule
  - Group is open to meeting in person, but a hybrid meeting was suggested
  - Scheduling for the first month of the quarter is ideal
  - TWG is in support of aligning with the Board schedule. The first TWG meeting for the next FY will be in July.
- WaterSMART Drought Response Program: Drought Resiliency Projects for FY 2022/2023
  - RRWA staff is available to support funding efforts.
  - No comments
- Presentations:
  - Sebastopol City Council and American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) presentations
  - Public inquiry request for Guerneville town hall presentation—No Interest from TWG in having staff present.
- Standing collaboration items
  - Co-Permittee Updates
    - Nick (Santa Rosa) mentioned that agency programs are winding down and the focus is now on reporting. He would like to see metrics to quantify reach and success of campaigns including watershed map, website, and social media. Similar to the Streets to Creeks campaign report to be included in the Stormwater Activities Table to quantify efforts.
    - Elizabeth (Windsor) suggested RRWA staff provide update of workplan to the Board of Directors and how it's being implemented and executed.
  - Trash capture
  - Composting – On farm resource information shared with the group
  - Drought Mandates & other information on RRWA webpage

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- Streets to Creeks Phase III campaign
  - Phase 4 is coming soon. Regional expansion (outside of RRWA) is taking place
- Future agenda items? – No comments.

#### 4. Informational Updates

- Environmental Article signup & topics
  - New representative for Sonoma County: Alisa Keenan
  - Author reminders will now include the most recent articles for reference.
- El Dorado Irrigation District's CEQA challenge – Information to be provided at next TWG meeting.
- Funding Information:
  - Recap of 2021 Urban and Multibenefit Drought Relief Grant Program funds received
  - Funding Fair
    - Registration is now open for the California Financing Coordinating Committee's two free virtual funding fairs on May 17 and May 25.  
<https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/LIXvCv29m5lp1OwTQNb1e?domain=gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com>
  - CalRecycle Household Hazardous Waste Grant Program
    - Two cycles for FY22/23
    - Cycle 38 - Funds construction of a new facility or a construction project that expands or upgrades an existing facility
      - a. \$500k
    - Cycle 39 is designed for small projects that complement existing programs.
      - a. \$1M
    - Applications due in June.
    - For more information:  
<https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/HomeHazWaste/Grants/>
    - Eligibility, Scoring Criteria, and Evaluation Process for the Grant Program: <https://www2.calrecycle.ca.gov/PublicNotices/Details/4339>
- CASQA
  - Call for Abstracts – May 9th
  - Conference – October 24-26 in Palm Springs
    - Celebrating Milestones: Taking the Next Steps for Stormwater
  - Phase II Subcommittee updates
    - Informal draft in early 2023
    - San Joaquin Valley Annual MS4 Phase II Training – May 19
  - Engagement and Education Subcommittee (formerly PIPP) updates
    - Seeking volunteers – May 12
    - Initiative #1 Public Education Permit Requirements Analysis
    - Initiative #2 Project E - Phase II
- Events:
  - April 22 - Earth Day update – RRWA staff requesting updates.
  - April 30 - DEA's National Prescription Drug Take Back Day—Results TBA
  - April 13 - OWOW Drought Proof Gardening Webinar
    - 77 registered and 40 attended
    - Nick (Santa Rosa) suggested reaching out to Daily Acts about partnering to reach more people

- Regulatory Forum and Advocacy
  - Executive Order N-7-22 - Gavin Newsom
    - State Water Resources Control Board's April 21 public webinar recording [https://youtu.be/rzao\\_skf6bs](https://youtu.be/rzao_skf6bs)
  - Voluntary Water Sharing Program for Upper Russian River Watershed
    - The goal is to provide water users in the Russian River Watershed with an alternative to curtailment of their water diversion and use which could potentially avoid or delay full curtailment for participants
    - All water users in the Upper Russian River Watershed (municipal, agriculture, domestic) can participate
    - Water right holders on the main stem, East Fork and West Fork as well as tributary creeks north of the river's confluence with Dry Creek are all eligible
    - For additional information:
    - Program Presentation Slides from 4/14/2022 Santa Rosa Workshop [https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/aLY-CwpRn5uKoEnFVo\\_1MP?domain=mendowater.us6.list-manage.com](https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/aLY-CwpRn5uKoEnFVo_1MP?domain=mendowater.us6.list-manage.com)
    - Program Fact Sheet <https://protect-us.mimecast.com/s/gKoCrkMg5iExROu7P7HNP?domain=mendowater.us6.list-manage.com>
  - Quarterly meeting with RWQCB staff – March 17
    - Permit fee and incentive is not looking like it's going anywhere and has been pulled from the next RRWA FY Work Plan.
    - Russian River Pathogen TMDL Implementation will be agenized in late May/ early June
    - Russian River is in a bleak situation for drought and curtailments, which will be reissued by the state water board. They are reassessing methodology of when land curtailments will go into effect.
    - They are looking at groundwater and surface water interaction.
    - Cal Trans permit work is out for public review and will be going to the state for possible adoption in June.
    - With state highways running through MS4s, the regional board has drafted Compliance Plans for Cal Trans for sediment control.
  - Comment and Support Letters
    - AB 1690 (Rivas) Single-Use Tobacco and cannabis products
      - a. March 23 support letter
      - b. March 29 sign-on letter
    - March 30 Support for Lower Colgan Creek Project

## 5. Items of Interest

- The Freshwater Trust (TFT) virtual event: Immerse 2022 - A Virtual Benefit for TFT
  - May 12 from 7:00 PM – 8:00 PM  
<https://t.e2ma.net/click/xb4gee/tsy4szb/5dru0m>

## 6. Public Comment – No one present

## 7. Adjourn 11:46 am

- TWG TBD
- BOD May 26

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**RRWA Calendar Summary:**

Unless otherwise noted, RRWA Meetings will be virtual.

<b>Upcoming TWG Meetings</b> 10:30 am – 12:30 pm	<b>Upcoming Board of Directors meetings</b> 9:00 am – 11:00 am
	May 26, 2022
<b>Environmental Columns</b>	
April – Thank you, Connor DeVane, of Daily Acts – Carbon Gardening: A Dirt Simple Solution to Climate Change	
May – Thank you, Michele Miller, West Yost Associates, for the City of Cloverdale – Living With and Preparing For Wildfires	
June – Guest, RRFL subcommittee – Water Smart, Water Trees	
<b>Important Dates</b>	
May 26, 2022 - Student Video Contest Awards ceremony/student showcase	

Action Items:

- Coordinate establishing a drought subcommittee with member’s Water Use Efficiency department staff.
- Fiesta De Independencia 2022 - Coordinate with Board of Directors and establish a signup sheet for municipalities involved in the booth to set up shifts.
- Discuss with Board of Directors in person meeting or hybrid, and scheduling.
- Provide metrics to quantify reach and success of RRWA campaigns in Activities Table
- Connect OWOW with Daily Acts to increase webinar participation.