



## RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP SESSION

April 14, 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 & Student Environmental Column
  - Trash program
  - Collection Systems
  - First Flush brochure
  - Carbon Footprint '08-'09 Work Plan Item
- 4. Forum and Advocacy**
  - Comment Letters (completed, pending & future)
  - Summary of March 16, 2009 meeting with RWQCB Assistant Executive Officer and RWQCB staff
- 5. Future Meetings and Agenda Items**
  - May 12, 2009 TWG Meeting
  - May 14, 2009 BOD 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 a.m.)**

Attendees:

Cristina Goulart, Windsor / W&K	Ken Krout, Sonoma County Regional Parks
Adrienne Aiona, RRWA	Rick Seanor, City of Ukiah
Phoebe Grow, RRWA	Brenda Adelman, RR Protection Committee
Forest Frasier, City of Santa Rosa	Colleen Fernald, member of the public
Shiko Njuno, City of Cotati	
Susan Keach, Sonoma County Water Agency	

**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 is currently preparing a Regional Acceptance Process (RAP) application for DWR in order to have the North Coast IRWMP be eligible for future funding under Propositions 84 and 1E. The RAP will outline 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. As with our past IRWM submittals, the County of Humboldt has agreed to submit this application on behalf of the North Coast Region. The application is due to DWR on April 29th. If the North Coast IRWMP passes this first hurdle, it will make us eligible to submit grant applications for future planning and implementation project funding from Props 84 and 1E (Note – DWR has not yet released draft guidelines or a schedule for either of these grant programs).
- **Prop 50, Round 1 Implementation Projects** – As was reported at the last working group meeting, the Prop 50, Round 1 implementation grant was included on the bond suspension exemption list. At their March 30th meeting, the Department of Finance announced that they are releasing funds from their first bond sale. \$1 billion has been allocated for projects included on the exempted list. The County of Humboldt, our Regional Administrator, is currently in discussions with the State Water Resources Control Board, our contract administrator, to get a precise timeline for when our project proponents can anticipate receiving payment for their work.
- **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. The grant manager has told the NCIRWMP staff that an agreement should be in place by early July – the beginning of the next fiscal year.
- **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. The website address is [www.northcoastirwmp.net](http://www.northcoastirwmp.net) and can also be accessed through the RRWA website: [www.rrwatershed.org](http://www.rrwatershed.org).

### 3. RRWA Programs Updates

#### Stormwater Items

- **Phase I permit:** A new draft of the Phase I permit is expected to be released soon.
- **Phase II permit:** Currently, the Phase II Permit is on hold while the SWQCB forms a Technical Advisory Committee to provide recommendations on new development standards. RRWA plans to convene an RRWA Phase II forum to discuss the draft Phase II permit. The scheduling of this Phase II forum will be based on the release of the draft permit.
- **Stormwater training certificates:** Certificates from the October 15 “Construction Site Planning and Management for Water Quality” workshop were handed out the Working Group members for distribution to their staff that participated in the workshop
- **EPA Green Infrastructure Webcasts:** It was noted that US EPA regularly presents *free* webcasts on Green Infrastructure (LID etc.). More information about the webcasts is available at [www.epa.gov/npdes/training](http://www.epa.gov/npdes/training)
- **Safe Medicines Disposal:** The TWG had a discussion regarding procedures for adding new sites to the SMD program. It was decided that RRWA will work with the agency wishing to add a location to increase that agency’s contribution to the program. We also discussed recommendations for Hospice and concluded to direct them to police stations because they have a high percentage of controlled substances.

#### Environmental Column & Student Environmental Column

- Lisa Steinman at the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency wrote the April environmental column on properly securing loads.
- At the present time, an environmental column topic for May has not yet been selected and author for the May environmental column has not yet emerged. RRWA staff will work to recruit an author from amongst Working Group members that were not in attendance at the April 14 meeting.
- Susan Keach (SCWA) volunteered to write the environmental column for June (Safe Medicines Disposal)
- Student environmental column contest entries are due on April 20, 2009.

#### Trash Program

- RRWA will be working with the Sonoma County Waste Management Association to produce a brochure about properly securing loads. The brochure will be based on a brochure from Kitsap County, Washington (see [http://www.kitsapgov.com/SW/pdf/3098\\_cover\\_load.pdf](http://www.kitsapgov.com/SW/pdf/3098_cover_load.pdf)). Kitsap County Public Works has sent RRWA the photos that they used in the brochure.
- The brochure about properly securing loads will be distributed to contractors in coordination with outreach material regarding opportunities for recycling/reuse of building materials.
- RRWA is working with the Sonoma County Waste Management Association to get a sign installed at the Central Disposal Site (500 Meham Rd.).

#### Collection Systems

- Tim O’Connor from the Novato Sanitation District has agreed to give interested RRWA member a demonstration of the ICCOMM computerized maintenance management system (CMMS) that Novato uses. RRWA will e-mail the potentially interested parties at the member agencies to schedule the demonstration.
- The group discussed needs for sewer lateral outreach materials to be developed by RRWA as outlined in the 2008-2009 Work Plan. RRWA will follow up by e-mail with the appropriate people at each member agencies to determine what sewer lateral outreach items might be most appropriate.

#### First Flush Brochure

- RRWA has been in communication with the Sotoyome RCD regarding RRWA's Work Plan item to develop a public outreach brochure summarizing the 2008 Russian River First Flush (RRFF) event and previous RRFF events. The data for RRFF 2008 is available but it is not known when the RRFF 2008 report will be completed. Riverkeeper is still planning to complete the RRFF 2008 report but they do not have sufficient funding at this time. The RRFF 2007 has been finalized and is available on the Sotoyome RCD website (<http://sotoyomercd.org/creekstewardship/FirstFlush2007.html>). A draft of the brochure will be available for the next RRWA Working Group meeting (May 12, 2009).

#### Carbon Footprint '08-'09 Work Plan Item

- Based on feedback from the BOD and TWG this item will be dropped for 08/09 and the funds will be refunded to the member agencies.

#### **4. Forum and Advocacy**

##### Submitted Comment Letters:

In March, RRWA submitted comment letters to the Drug Enforcement Agency regarding Safe Medicine Disposal programs and to the SCWA Stream Maintenance Program. In response to public request the final versions of these letters will be posted on the RRWA website.

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

RRWA is planning on submitting a letter of support for the North Bay Water Reuse Authority project. This effort is awaiting issuance of the final EIR which is expected soon. 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:

On March 16, 2009 Jake Mackenzie (Chair of RRWA's Board of Directors) and Phoebe Grow (RRWA) met with representatives from the North Coast RWQCB- Luis Rivera (Assistant Executive Officer), David Leland (Watershed Protection Division Supervisor) and John Short (head of the Core Regulatory Unit). This meeting was one of the regularly scheduled meetings between RRWA and the RWQCB (usually Catherine Kulhman, RWQCB Executive Officer, and Dave Richardson, RRWA Executive Director attend these meetings but at the last minute neither were able to attend on this day). Topics discussed at the meeting included:

- Schedule for draft of Phase I and Phase II stormwater permits
- Basin Plan Amendments: pending (Incidental Runoff and Dissolved Oxygen) and potential (mixing zones for non-toxic constituents)
- Safe Medicines Disposal: RRWA staff gave RWQCB staff an update on the programs

Next TWG meeting: May 12<sup>th</sup>.

#### **5. Items of Interest:**

- Rick Seanor asked other member agencies how they have approached a Post Construction BMP Ordinance without specific permit guidance. Windsor is approaching this by having the ordinance state general support of LID concepts.

**6. Public Comment:** Colleen Fernald spoke about potential partnering opportunities between RRWA and the Russian River Watershed Council (RRWC). RRWC (<http://www.rrwc.net/>) has a history of hosting successful public forums and has conducted several interesting projects including the Russian River Interactive Information System (RRIIS) and the Russian River Watershed Adaptive Management Plan (WMP). Colleen sits on the RRWC Board but was speaking simply as a citizen of the watershed and not as a representative of RRWC. Colleen's contact information is: 707-829-2243, infinite\_c@yahoo.com.

**7. Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 10:25 a.m.