



RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP SESSION

September 15, 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. RRWA Programs Updates**
 - **Stormwater Baseline Survey Update**
 - **Environmental Column**
 - **Student Video Contest topic**
 - **Watershed Clean-Up Sponsorships**
 - **IRWMP Support**
 - Climate Change Mitigation, Adaptation and Energy Independence Strategies Workshop – Sept 24
 - **Phase II Stormwater Update**
- 3. North Coast IRWMP Update**
- 4. Forum and Advocacy**
 - **Recent Advocacy Items**
 - Draft Phase I Permit - Comment letter & comment at RWQCB July 22 meeting
 - Dissolved Oxygen
 - **Discussion of Potential Future Advocacy Items**
 - **Agenda for next meeting with RWQCB Executive Officer and RWQCB staff (September 21,2009)**
- 5. Future Meetings and Agenda Items**
 - **October 13, 2009 TWG Meeting**
 - **October 29, 2009 BOD Meeting**
(rescheduled, originally scheduled for October 22)
- 6. Items of Interest**
- 7. Public Comment**
- 8. Adjourn**

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

Please contact Phoebe Grow at (707) 833-2553 with any questions.

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TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP SESSION
September 15th, 2009, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM
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9291 Old Redwood Highway, Windsor CA

Meeting Summary (prepared by RRWA staff Phoebe Grow & Virginia Porter)

1. Greetings and Introductions (8:45)

Attendees:

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| - Phoebe Grow, RRWA | - Janice Gilligan, County of Sonoma PRMD |
| - Virginia Porter, RRWA | - Lisa Steinman, Sonoma County Waste Management Agency |
| - Ken Krout, So. Co. Regional Parks | - Rick Seanor, City of Ukiah |
| - Patrick Givone, Town of Windsor | - Shiko Njuno, City of Cotati |
| - Cristina Goulart, Winzler & Kelly/Town of Windsor | - Edyie Takata, City of Rohnert Park |
| - Forest Frasier, City of Santa Rosa | - Diane Lesko, SCWA |
| - Lisa Brew-Miller, Data Instincts | |

2. RRWA Programs Updates

Stormwater Baseline Survey Update

Lisa Brew-Miller of Data Instincts provided an update on this work plan task which is a special benefit project with Healdsburg, Windsor, Rohnert Park and SCWA/Sonoma County participating. Lisa will finalize the survey questions and distribute them to the participating member agencies for review prior to initiating the 500 phone surveys. The project will parallel the 2005 Stormwater Baseline Survey, allowing for analysis of changes in behaviors and knowledge since the 2005 survey. Interviews will begin in October, with a draft report in late November, and a final report presentation to the RRWA Board on February 25, 2010.

Environmental Column: RRWA columns were discussed:

- **August column:** In addition to the environmental column on rainwater harvesting/graywater use authored by Jennifer Burke, RRWA contacted the Press Democrat which resulted in a front-page Empire Section article about rainwater harvesting and Santa Rosa's rebate program.
- **September column:** Susan Keach (SCWA) wrote a column about safe medicines disposal. Thank you Susan! With RRWA now supporting Santa Rosa's safe medicine disposal program, the RRWA web site now lists 30 drop-off locations.
- **October column:** Forest Frasier (City of Santa Rosa) will write a column about preparing your garden for the rainy season, including changing irrigation timers, securing loose debris, how to dispose of fallen leaves, and other actions to minimize stormwater runoff and pollution.
- **November column:** Illegal dumping will be the topic in November. Cristina Goulart (Town of Windsor) and Lisa Steinman (Sonoma County WMA) both expressed a willingness to participate in writing the article. We hope to have some data from the September coastal and river clean-up efforts available for inclusion.
- **December column:** Lisa Steinman (Sonoma County WMA) will author an article on holiday recycling for wrapping paper, trees, etc.

Student Video Contest: Carried over to October meeting

Watershed Clean-Up Sponsorships: RRWA has provided sponsorship funds for these three clean-up events:

- **Russian River Cleanup – Sept. 26** RRWA provides \$1500 sponsorship of this event
- **Sonoma Coastal Cleanup – Sept 19** RRWA provides \$500 to this effort, this year for the volunteer BBQ.
- **Upper Russian River Cleanups** – RRWA provides \$200 for supplies for this effort in Mendocino County.

IRWMP Support: Funds in the RRWA budget for IRWMP support will go toward the September 24 workshop on Climate Change. RRWA will send out a reminder notice for RSVP's. A number of regional policy makers have already responded with their intention to attend.

Phase II Permit update: A draft of the Phase II Permit is currently being developed by the State Water Resources Control Board. Region 1 RWQCB is expecting to review this draft this fall. Public review of the draft will likely be in the winter of 2009/10. RRWA staff will participate in the CASQA Phase II sub-committee conference call.

Other Projects

- **Nursery Program** – In support of the MS4 permits (Phase I and II), RRWA staff is compiling existing information on best management practices for on-site nursery and bulk landscape materials yard operations. An outreach piece will be developed and distributed to all identified sites in 2010. RRWA staff will ask each member agency to provide the contact information for these businesses in their service area later in this work plan year.
- **Russian River Friendly Landscape Guidelines** – The City of Santa Rosa requests that all member agencies provide Jennifer Burke (City of Santa Rosa) with pictures they might have of sustainable landscapes, as well as contact information for any landscape professionals or community members who could provide comments/quotations for inclusion in the Guidelines. These will be used to tailor the Guidelines to our region and conditions.
- **First Flush** – According to the Russian River Keeper and Sotoyome RCD, there are no plans to do First Flush sampling this season.

3. 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:

- **Prop 84** – The North Coast IRWMP has been recommended for approval for this funding pool. Draft guidelines are expected in Nov/Dec with finalized guidelines by April 2010. If the State bond restrictions are lifted, applications may be submitted in May/June.
- **Prop 50, Round 1 Implementation Projects and Phase 2 funding** –The State Water Resources Control Board still needs to approve our request to extend our work through 2013. The County of Humboldt has submitted a formal request but has not yet received written approval of this date extension. The State can not currently enter into any contracts for round 2 funding due to the financial conditions with the State.
- **Projects with CEC** – North Coast IRWMP staff is working with the California Energy Commission to get small communities in our region to seek CEC Block Grant funds through a IRWM regional application. Eligible communities in our organization include Ukiah, Windsor, Healdsburg, Cloverdale and Cotati.

4. Forum and Advocacy

Recent Advocacy Items

- RRWA has previously provided written and oral comments on the revised draft of the Phase I MS4 Permit. The copermittees have been meeting with Regional Board staff on the final permit language. The final permit has not yet been released for review, but is expected to go to the Regional Board on

October 1, 2009 for approval. RRWA is prepared to make written and/or oral comments in support of our Phase I agencies at this meeting. The nature of these comments will depend on the final permit language. RRWA staff will stay in close communication with the copermittees on this topic, and coordinate with them on RRWA comment contents.

- RRWA had commented in late 2008 on the proposed Basin Plan amendment for dissolved oxygen. This item is not a high priority for the Regional Board at this time, so RRWA will continue to monitor this item as it moves up in priority for the Regional Board.

Potential Future Advocacy Items

- No specific items were brought forward for advocacy at this meeting.

Agenda for Next Meeting with RWQCB Executive Officer and RWQCB Staff:

- RRWA has a tentative meeting set with Catherine Kuhlman and some of her staff on September 21, 2009. This meeting might be postponed until sometime in October prior to the Oct. 29 RRWA BOD meeting.

5. Future Meetings and Agenda Items

- October 13, 2009 TWG Meeting
- October 29, 2009 BOD Meeting (NOTE : Date change from annual schedule)

6. Items of Interest:

- Sonoma County HazMobile will be at Sea Ranch August 21/22
- Sonoma County is sponsoring an e-waste collection in Petaluma October 10/11
- There is a new “Living Green” web site sponsored by two local radio stations, and it can be accessed through ksro.com/livinggreen
- The City of Cotati is planting trees at their demonstration project for their Cash for Grass program this Saturday, 9/19.
- The Keep Sonoma Clean web site is an effective resource for reporting illegal dumping and for accessing information about proper disposal of numerous products

7. Public Comment: None.

8. Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 10:20 am