



## RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP SESSION

March 9<sup>th</sup>, 2010, 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. Updates from recent RRWA Board of Directors meetings**
- 3. RRWA Programs Updates**
  - **Storm Water and Watershed Awareness Tracking Survey Follow-Up**
  - **Outreach Strategies**
    - Environmental Column
  - **IRWMP Support**
  - **Safe Medicines Disposal**
  - **Phase II Stormwater Update**
  - **Russian River Friendly Landscape Guidelines**
  - **Other items from 2009/2010 Work Plan**
- 4. Forum and Advocacy**
  - **USEPA Stormwater Rulemaking Comment Letter and Questionnaire**
  - **Discussion of potential future advocacy items**
  - **Agenda for meeting RWQCB staff**
- 5. Future Meetings and Agenda Items**
  - **April 13<sup>th</sup> Working Group meeting**
  - **May 20<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting**
- 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**  
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*Meeting Summary (prepared by RRWA staff Phoebe Grow & Virginia Porter)*

**1. Greetings and Introductions (8:35)**

Attendees:

- |  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| - Phoebe Grow, RRWA                                    | - Heaven Hix, City of Santa Rosa     |
| - Virginia Porter, RRWA                                | - Forest Frasier, City of Santa Rosa |
| - Susan Keach, SCWA                                    | - Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa |
| - Patrick Givone, Town of Windsor                      | - Kevin Fredrickson, City of Cotati  |
| - Cristina Goulart, Winzler &<br>Kelly/Town of Windsor | - Eydie Tacata, City of Rohnert Park |
| - Janice Gilligan, So. Co. PRMD                        | - Corbin Johnson – So. Co. Parks     |
| - Rick Seanor, City of Ukiah                           | - Brenda Adelman, RRWPC              |
| - Deb Lane, City of Santa Rosa                         | - Chris Dawson, public               |

**2. Updates from recent RRWA Board of Directors meetings**

Virginia Porter (RRWA) provided an update of the 1/28 and 2/25 Board meetings, including election of RRWA officers Jake Mackenzie as Chair and Robin Goble as Vice-Chair; approval of compensation to Administrative Agency; and approval of 2010-2011 Work Plan. Details of both Board meetings are in the meeting notes for those meetings on the RRWA web site.

**3. RRWA Program Updates**

**STORM WATER AND WATERSHED AWARENESS TRACKING SURVEY FOLLOW-UP**

Phoebe Grow (RRWA) presented Data Instincts' slides on the results of the *Storm Water and Watershed Awareness Tracking Survey 2010* which were presented to our Board on January 28. This presentation will also be made to the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency Board in May. The survey will be posted on the RRWA web site.

One outcome of the survey is the project in the 2010-2011 Work Plan to start e-mail outreach to interested parties on ways to improve the health of our watershed. The most important areas to follow-up with education and outreach are car washing, fertilizing the yard and pool and spa maintenance. Brenda Adelman asked if outreach could target not only use of fertilizers but also use of pesticides and TWG members agreed this was a good idea. Heaven Hix (City of Santa Rosa) also recommended the humorous monthly publication "Up Beat Times" as a possible outreach tool for our message.

**OUTREACH STRATEGIES**

Environmental Column: RRWA columns were discussed:

- **March:** Corbin Johnson (So.Co. Parks) and Eydie Tacata (City of Rohnert Park) authored an article on proper pet waste disposal. Thank you Corbin and Eydie.
- **April:** Rick Seanor (City of Ukiah) will author an article on spill response.
- **Future topics:** Numerous ideas were proposed for future articles: residential fertilizer and pesticide use; car washing; "our water our world", stormwater and wastewater – the difference in the plumbing; what not to flush; creek clean up events; and trash.
- **Annual calendar:** Staff will prepare a calendar for monthly column authors for 2010 to be presented at our next meeting with the goal of involving all member agencies in this outreach program.

## IRWMP SUPPORT

The Policy Review Panel (PRP) of the North Coast Integrated Water Management Plan (NCIRWMP) met in Eureka on February 11. RRWA Chair Jake Mackenzie is co-chair of the PRP, and he and Lisa Renton (SCWA) presented an update to the RRWA Board at the February 25 meeting.

For our watershed the most relevant news is the Proposition 84 draft guidelines and proposal solicitation packages (PSP) have been released and the comment period on these documents closes April 23, 2010. SCWA will host one of four public meetings on the Prop 84 documents on April 13. Also of note the NCIRWMP is being recommended for funding by the California Energy Commission for implementation of AB 811-type programs for energy efficiency projects.

Two important updates from the PRP: 1) Changes are being proposed to the Memorandum of Mutual Understandings (MOMU) which RRWA is signatory to. Staff will try to get a copy of the proposed changes; 2) An organized contingent of Native American tribal representatives has requested tribal representation on the PRP, and this request is being evaluated. The next PRP meeting is in June 2010.

## SAFE MEDICINES DISPOSAL

Waste Hauler Update – The new waste hauler services are settling in and SCWA is in the process of developing a contract with the new service provider, and RRWA will follow suit for hauling service in Windsor, Cloverdale and Healdsburg. At this time CVS pharmacies are still participating in the programs, but their future is uncertain.

## PHASE II STORMWATER UPDATE

Renewal schedule – The schedule is the same as at our last meeting: the State Water Resources Control Board expects a draft permit to be available for public review in July, with a 60-day comment period; public hearing is scheduled for November 2010 and adoption for February 2011. If this schedule is met Phase II agencies would need to submit revised Stormwater Master Plans in February 2012.

Permit contents - The new Phase II permit is expected to include an “audit” to use to evaluate whether current programs meet the new permit requirements, Low Impact Development (LID) including possible retrofits, industrial inspection and outfall monitoring. Heaven Hix suggested the Phase II agencies work together to develop ideas about how permit compliance can be met and present these ideas to the RWQCB. Phoebe Grow suggested it might be time for a forum meeting of our Phase II agency members and will contact Christine Sotelo with the SWRCB as well as our RWQCB staff about a meeting with the regional Phase II agencies.

## RUSSIAN RIVER FRIENDLY LANDSCAPE GUIDELINES

Jennifer Burke and Deb Lane (City of Santa Rosa) presented two color options for the cover of our Guidelines document and asked members to provide feedback on preference within two weeks. Staff will send these out to the group electronically. A draft of our Guidelines document is ready for comment by the group. All are asked to review for content and provide feedback to Virginia Porter in two weeks. The document is large and will be sent to the group electronically.

## OTHER ITEMS FOR 2009/2010 WORK PLAN

The current work plan is on track for completion by the end of this fiscal year.

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

USEPA Proposed Stormwater Rule Making – RRWA sent a comment letter on the US Environmental Protection Agency proposed changes to stormwater regulations. Many TWG members provided input to the letter which strengthened the message. Our Board reviewed the letter and endorsed RRWA going on record at their February meeting. Staff will follow this item and update the TWG.

Potential Future Advocacy Items - No specific items were brought forward for advocacy at this meeting.

Agenda for meeting with RWQCB staff - RRWA is meeting with RWQCB staff on Monday March 15. The agenda will include discussion of the Phase II stormwater permit and the RWQCB's triennial review of the Basin Plan.

**5. Future Meetings and Agenda Items**

- April 13, 2010 next TWG meeting, followed by May 11, 2010.
- May 20, 2010 next BOD meeting which will include Student Video Contest winners and guest speaker Guinness McFadden who will present on the National Marine Fisheries Service storage curve for Lake Pillsbury and now this affects Russian River flows.

**6. Items of Interest:**

- Jennifer Burke updated the group on the process the state is undertaking to develop methods for implementing the 20% water use reduction by 2020 legislation (SB x7 -7), specifically defining the technical methodologies for calculating base daily per capita water use, baseline commercial/ industrial/institutional (CII) water use, compliance daily per capita water use, gross water use, service area population, indoor residential water use, landscape area water use, and criteria for consistent implementation. The state is taking comments on these topics through 3/17/2010.
- Heaven Hix updated that Santa Rosa has convened a technical committee to inform the update to the Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) document which will now be called the "Stormwater LID Technical Manual" and will replace the current SUSMP. Within a few weeks an e-mail will notify of a web link for reviewing drafts of the technical standards and documents being generated in this update process.
- Patrick Givone (Town of Windsor) announced a "brown bag" talk hosted by the Town of Windsor on Monday March 15 on restoration with native plants. Staff will send a notice out to TWG members about this talk.
- Patrick Givone notified the group that the RWQCB is having a training on 3/10 on the new statewide general construction permit at their offices.

**7. Public Comment:**

- Public comment was taken throughout the meeting and those comments are reflected in the meeting notes on the specific topics.

**8. Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am