

Watershed Management Initiative

CORE GROUP

March 1, 2007

9:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Santa Clara Valley Water District, Headquarters' Board Room
5700 Almaden Expressway, San José, CA 95118

MEETING MINUTES

- **Attendance:** Phil Bobel, Trish Mulvey, Melody Tovar, Elaine Marshall, Sarah Young, Matt Krupp, Kristy McCumby, Nancy Bernardi, Vivian Blomenkamp, Bob Powers, Matt Webber, Steven Osbourn, Lorrie Gervin, Mondy Lariz, Louisa Valiela, Larry Johmann, Phil Schreiber, Tom Mumley and Sandra Freitas.
- **Meeting Agenda:**

TIME	TOPIC
9:30 a.m.	Introductions, Early Announcements, and Celebrations?
9:40 a.m.	Review Agenda
9:42 a.m.	Review Minutes and Update Action Items
9:45 a.m.	Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) by Ken Schreiber
10:30 a.m.	Review Grant Support Letters for Santa Clara Creeks Coalition and Water Use Efficiency
11:00 a.m.	Basin Plan Amendments (TMDLs) and 303(d) and 305(b) lists by Tom Mumley
11:45 a.m.	Retreat in June and Meeting Wrap-up

- **Action Items:**

#	Current Action Items	Assigned to	Date Due	Status
1.	Provide flyer regarding Andy Lipkins' presentation.	Trish Mulvey	3/16/07	
2.	Revise Creeks Coalition Support Letter and submit it to Sarah Young for review. (Upon final review, Sandra to forward to group for input.)	Phil Bobel, Sandra Freitas, and Sarah Young	3/2/07	Complete

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3.	Provide information to Sandra Freitas regarding Capitol Day in Sacramento on 3/21. (Sandra to distribute to group.)	Larry Johmann and Sandra Freitas	3/2/07	Complete
4.	HCP: Submit 50 page document regarding the landscape level to Sandra Freitas.	Ken Shreiber	3/14/07	
5.	Identify Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) goals in the WMI Action Plan.	Sarah Young and Sandra Freitas	3/16/07	
6.	Contact facilitator of stakeholder committee sessions regarding formation of a new committee.	Nancy Bernardi	3/16/07	

- **Minutes:**

- 1. Introductions, Early Announcements, and Celebrations**

- Announcements:

- Collaborative effort between the Santa Clara Valley Water District and the City of San José facilitated completion of the Willow Glen Way bridge. This event occurred on February 28, 2007 from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m.; the public was invited to attend.
- Salt Pond Restoration Project Environmental Impact Report (EIR) on March 9, 2007.
- Annual Watershed Day in Sacramento on March 21, 2007. A flyer with event information will be provided via e-mail.
- Regional Board Meeting on April 3, 2007. Brainstorm ideas at the end of the month to see what we would like the Board to do with the Basin Plan Amendment.
- Introduction of new City of San José representation: Elaine Marshall with Watershed Prevention and Sandra Freitas new WMI Coordinator.

- 2. Review Minutes and Update Action Items**

- Minutes and action items from previous meeting were unavailable. Core is beginning with a “clean slate”.
- Meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

- 3. Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP) by Ken Schreiber**

- Ken Schreiber presented the status of the Santa Clara Valley Habitat Plan including the process to develop Biological Goals and Objectives. The power point presentation was the same as used at a Habitat Plan Stakeholders Group meeting held on February 27, 2007. The focus of the Plan is on a conservation measures for endangered species and their habitat.
- Local agencies working on this plan include: Cities of San José, Morgan Hill and Gilroy, VTA, Santa Clara County and the Water District.

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- An endangered species incidental take permit will be granted for a 30-50 year term. It will promote protection of species (animals and vegetation) and enhancement of their habitat. The cost of implementing the Habitat Plan is sensitive and yet to be determined.
- The Plan will address 29 or 30 animal and plant species.
- At this time, there is a consultant working on a budget plan. However, there are legal constraints and limits to fees. There are state and federal resources that may benefit this program.
- Trish Mulvey inquired with subcommittees WAM and LUS to see how their groups may assist with this effort. Both parties need a better understanding of the plan and how they'll be able to support it. They are interested in monitoring the sites.
- Members expressed interest in forming a "Hydrology" subcommittee to help them better understand urban streams.
- Others expressed importance of the action items that have been considered in the WMI Action Plan for the HCP. Sarah Young and Sandra Freitas will meet off-line to discuss this item.

4. Review Grant Support Letters for Santa Clara Creeks Coalition and Water Use Efficiency

- The grant support letter for the Santa Clara Creeks Coalition was not available for review. It will be circulated via e-mail for everyone's input.
- Representatives from the Santa Clara Valley Water District provided information on the five Water Use Efficiency grants they're applying for. They include:
 - "Water Meters for Existing Agricultural Irrigation Systems" will benefit growers and assist them in implementing state-required Farm Water Quality Plans. It will also contribute to a forecasted energy savings of 3900 kW-h per meter. This grant will provide \$44K and the SCVWD will contribute \$64K.
 - The "Commercial High-Efficiency Clothes Water Rebate Program" is designed to replace old clothes washers with high-efficiency models in the commercial sector. While asking for \$645K, the SCVWD will be able to fund \$478K. This will provide 1,500 rebated to commercial and multi-family dwellings.
 - The "Regional Residential Clothes Washer Rebate Program" provides financial incentives to replace older, inefficient residential clothes washers with high-efficiency machines. This program is expected to generate over 25,000 acre feet of savings during the 14-year lifetime of the high-efficiency clothes washers.
 - The "Better Not Wetter Farms Program—Rebates for Agricultural Upgrades" will target agricultural users who have the most water savings potential. Total water savings is expected to be 450 acre-feet/year of water savings, and continuing forward for the duration of the life of the upgraded irrigation systems, which is estimated to be 10-20 years. This is a three year program. The SCVWD will be able to contribute \$300K. Via this grant proposal they are seeking, \$475K.
 - "Multi-Family Dwelling and Commercial, Industrial and Institutional High-Efficiency Toilet Installation Program" will replace old toilets with high-efficiency models and target the sites with the most savings potential. This savings program is expected to be approximately 2,938 acre-feet of water of the lifetime of the equipment. SCVW will contribute \$1.3 million and are seeking \$553K.
 - All letters were approved and signed by Trish Mulvey.

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5. Basin Plan Amendments (TMDLs) and 303(d) and 305(b) lists by Tom Mumley

- Tom Mumley provided a brief update on TMDLs, Water Quality Objectives, and the 2008 303(d) and 305(b) Report. Several water quality projects have been completed in the Napa River, Sonoma Creek, Tomales Bay Watershed, San Francisquito Creek, and the Guadalupe River Watershed. The next projects to be completed are in the San Francisco Bay and Urban Creeks.
- TMDLs for Mercury (to be discussed at a later date) and PCBs were reviewed.
 - The Guadalupe Watershed Mercury TMDL Peer Review will be completed some time in April/May 2007. It will go for Public Review in July/August, with a planned Testimony Hearing in September to November 2007. An Adoption Hearing is projected for November/January 2008.
- TMDL for PCBs in the San Francisco Bay:
 - Target: 10 µ/kg ww in fish, includes dioxin
 - Food web model is 1 µ/kg in sediment
 - Mass balance model is 10 kg/year
 - TMDL=10 kg/yr
- Upcoming Reviews and Hearings for SF Bay TMDL:
 - Draft of Basin Plan amendment package will be available for Peer Review in March 2007.
 - Draft Basin Plan amendment plan will be available for Public Review in May 2007.
 - Testimony Hearing: July 2007
 - Adoption Hearing: September/October 2007
- New 2006 Santa Clara Basin 303(d) Impaired Waters
 - Stevens Creek (toxicity)
 - Stevens Creek Reservoir (mercury, PCBs, and legacy pesticides)
 - There is no mercury mine in this watershed and the mercury concentration is due to the air deposition.
- TMDL Information is available online:
www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/tmdlmain.htm
- For Basin Plan (WQOs), visit: www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/basinplan.htm

6. Retreat in June and Meeting Wrap-up

- The COS Group Retreat will be held at the Sanborn County Park Youth Hostile on June 7, 2007. At that time, the new Chair and Co-Chair will be elected.
- Next Group Meeting: COS on Friday, March 16 from 10:00 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Meeting concluded at 12:00 p.m.

The WMI's role will be to continue to serve as a stakeholder forum for watershed initiatives, to facilitate problem-solving processes, and to support and encourage agency actions in the direction of the nine strategic policy objectives.

WMI Work plan Priorities

1. Conduct education and outreach to planning officials and decision makers.

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2. *Develop citizen participation in watershed stewardship.*
3. *Continue the development of watershed health indicators.*
4. *Pursue on the ground stream enhancement, preservation, and restoration activities.*
5. *Foster information sharing among those involved in modifying and implementing local ordinances, guidelines, and standards.*