

San Diego Regional Stormwater Copermittees Regional Program Planning Subcommittee

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Meeting Notes

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Chairperson Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego)

Date / Time	Agenda Summary
5/16/2019 Start time: 1:30 PM End time: 3:15 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call to Order • Roll Call • Time for public to speak on items not on the agenda • Meeting Summary *VOTE* • Old Business • Biological Objectives • Legislative Update • Workgroup Updates • Announcements / Other • Future Meetings
Location	
County of San Diego 5510 Overland Avenue Conference Room A-451 San Diego, CA 92123	

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Voting Members in Attendance: (one vote per watershed)		Number of Voting Copermittees at this Meeting: 8/9	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Santa Margarita Watershed: County of San Diego Jo Ann Weber	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Carlsbad Watershed: City of San Marcos Reed Thornberry (on phone)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Los Peñasquitos Watershed City of Poway Tracy Beach (on phone)	
<input type="checkbox"/> San Diego River Watershed: City of Santee Cecilia Tipton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tijuana Watershed: City of Imperial Beach Wbaldo Arellano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Luis Rey Watershed City of Oceanside Justin Gamble (on phone)	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Dieguito Watershed: City of Escondido Juan Magdaraog Alicia Appel (on phone)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mission Bay Watershed: City of San Diego Jim Harry	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> San Diego Bay Watershed: City of Chula Vista Marisa Soriano (on phone)	
Non-Voting Members and Members of the Public in Attendance			
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County of San Diego Stephanie Gaines Rouya Rasoulzadeh Brianna Martin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Coronado Jessie Powell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Vista Jonathan Nottage	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of El Cajon John Phillips	<input type="checkbox"/> Unified Port of San Diego Stephanie Bauer	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of La Mesa Joe Kuhn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Del Mar/Solana Beach Fiona McHenry-Crutchfield	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Secretary Miguel Avalos (Michael Baker International)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Wood Matt Rich	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dudek Bryn Evans	
	<input type="checkbox"/> Weston Solutions Michelle Mattson		

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1. Call to Order

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Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) called the meeting to order at 1:35 p.m. She reminded attendees to please sign in.

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2. Roll Call

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Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) completed roll call for voting members.

10 **3. Time for Public to Speak on Items Not on the Agenda**

11 No comments from members of the public.

12 **4. Meeting Summary**

13 The following revisions were requested on the April 11th, 2019 meeting summary:

- 14 • PG 1, Voting Members in Attendance: Reed (City of San Marcos) noted that Rafe
15 Cesmat’s name was spelled wrong.
- 16 • PG 7, Line 195: John Philips (City of El Cajon) proposed that the term “legal
17 changes” be revised to “legal challenges” regarding Cecilia Tipton’s discussion on
18 the Biological Objectives Speaking Points. She was not in attendance to speak on
19 the proposed revision. The group decided to postpone the approval of the
20 meeting minutes until this revision can be confirmed by Cecilia, or until the next
21 PPS meeting.

22 **MOTION: Approve the meeting summary for April 11, 2019, as amended.**

23 **(POSTPONED)**

24 **5. Old Business**

Action Item	Status
1.	Jo Ann Weber (County of San Diego) to finalize set of talking points for Biological Objectives Workshop being held on April 18 th .
2.	Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) to coordinate meeting with copermittees via email with the purpose to discuss and review the 2019 Basin Plans Amendment draft comment letter. Copermittees to agree on a date between April 22 nd and May 2 nd .
3.	Rouya Rasoulzadeh (County of San Diego) to send an email to watershed leads to start the Ad Hoc Committee for PCW.
4.	Copermittees to complete the signature page of revised MOU and provide the signed form to Stephanie Gaines as soon as possible.
5.	Copermittees to send any agenda items for the May 2 nd Land Development Workgroup meeting to René Vidales (County of San Diego).

Action Item	Status
6. Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) to include a discussion item for legislative discussions in PPS meetings to come.	5/16/2019
7. Copermittees to notify Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) of any PPS agenda suggestions or ideas on presentations for work products, work plans, etc. to further collaboration among the Copermittees.	Ongoing

25 **6. Biological Objectives**

26 Jo Ann Weber (County of San Diego) presented on the status of the copermittees’
 27 comment letter. She first noted that the comment letter deadline has been extended to
 28 May 31st. She began by explaining the purpose of the Clean Water Act, which is to
 29 protect biological integrity. More specifically, the project goals are to protect high
 30 biological integrity and to prioritize the restoration of biological integrity. The
 31 components of which, consist of guidance for biological objective development, numeric
 32 objective for streams, and implementation.

33 Jo Ann presented the frequency data of California Stream Condition Index (CSCI) Scores,
 34 noting that most scores were often greater than 1.0. The single bright threshold,
 35 proposed at 0.79, includes those sites above the 10th percentile of reference streams.
 36 The data was based on the State reference pool.

37 Jo Ann presented more data, including a comparison of CSCI scores to CSCI threshold of
 38 proposed biological objectives. In general, the scores further east in the mountainous
 39 regions, met the biological objectives. Those that did not meet the objective, closer to
 40 66% of scores, tended to concentrate closer to the coast, along urbanized areas.

41 A map of benthic community effects impaired waters showed the same trends, with
 42 impaired streams flowing mostly further west towards the coast, and away from the
 43 mountainous regions.

44 Jo Ann continued explaining the key recommendations presented in the comment
 45 letter, including the support of a phase approached in the development of the
 46 objectives. CASQA’s recommendations include a two phased approach. The first entails
 47 supporting the anti-degradation of current conditions of benthic macroinvertebrate and
 48 protection of high quality waters that currently meet the CSCI threshold. The second
 49 phase recommended using a stakeholder process to flesh out the rest of the policy.

50 If the regional board moves forward with this recommendation, then the goal would be
 51 to use low elevation Southern California reference sites to reduce the objective
 52 threshold from 0.79 to 0.69. Additionally, the general assumption would have any CSCI

53 score of 0.63 or above qualify. This would account for the natural variability anticipated
54 in CSCI scores between years. If the threshold was reduced to 0.63, then an additional
55 one-third of the sites would meet the criterion.

56 The second key recommendation is to remove modified/constrained engineering
57 streams to eliminate these outliers and facilitate the process. The most likely option for
58 this would be to conduct a facilitated process or wait for the State process to play out. If
59 the regional board does not follow through, then Copermittees requested that the
60 regional board clearly outline the expectation in the Basin Plan Amendment that it will ,
61 take decades to meet the proposed threshold. Lastly, Jo Ann explained that
62 Copermittees should request that TMDLs not be issued for pollutants listed solely to
63 address biological objectives. Although she was uncertain if this would be supported,
64 she encouraged at least bring it to the board's attention.

65 Another key recommendation was to provide an option for Copermittees to request an
66 exemption for flood control channels. There appeared to be a conflict between
67 protection of aquatic beneficial uses with the protection of public safety and property.
68 Jo Ann explained this request was recently added since the last draft of the letter.
69 Additionally, copermittees requested that biological objectives not be a receiving water
70 limitation since there are already receiving water limitations for chemical pollutants.

71 Jo Ann continued explaining the key recommendations, transitioning to seasonal
72 streams. This topic is particularly complicated because the state reference site pool
73 include many intermittent streams. That leaves some uncertainty as to the collective
74 pool data. The recommendations in this regard consists of providing additional
75 flexibility, allowing a confirmatory sample prior to considering a 303(d) listing, and
76 clarifying sampling methods.

77 The last key recommendation included supporting a phased approach to develop
78 implementation costs. Jo Ann clarified that certain policies of the CA Water Code may
79 not be satisfied (Sections 13241 and 13242). However, from the copermittees'
80 perspective, those policies in large part have not carried much weight and often go
81 ignored. She indicated that it is worthwhile to categorize implementation costs. If the
82 regional board agrees to a phased approach, then copermittees can help develop it.

83 The schedule for the comment letter has been finalized. The update letter will be sent
84 out internally for review on 5/9. Copermittees must submit comments on the 2019
85 Basin Plans Amendment draft comment letter by May 29th. Jo Ann encouraged early
86 comments to facilitate and expedite the review process. The final comment letter is due
87 to the Regional Water Board on 5/31.

88 On May 17th, Riverside County, Orange County, and San Diego County will meet with the
89 RWQCB to discuss implementation. Jo Ann covered sample questions:

- 90
- How would Copermittees figure out what waterbodies are covered by the
91 objectives or is the RWQCB going to make this determination?

- 92 • What, if any, monitoring would need to be added and who would do the work?
- 93 • What happens if the waterbody has multiple potential causes of the impairment
- 94 or the causes can't be identified?
- 95 • How do you see the biological objectives being incorporated into the permit and
- 96 WQIPs?
- 97 • How does RWQCB staff expect to manage the programs with these objectives,
- 98 especially related to prioritization of efforts?

99 Jo Ann will provide Copermittees with the discussion questions and summaries that
100 were sent to the RWQCB in advance of the meeting. She also noted that MS4 staff will
101 be present, so she would like to raise awareness to some of these issues regarding
102 implementation. Jo Ann will provide copermittees with the redlines to the Comment
103 Letter, if any, after the May 17th meeting with the RWQCB.

104 She concluded her presentation by reaffirming the project goals, which are to protect
105 high quality waters and to guide meaningful restoration of degraded waters.

106 **7. Legislative Update**

107 As agreed upon at the last meeting, the PPS meeting will now provide a dedicated
108 agenda item for legislative updates. Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) explained
109 that, with the State Assembly again in session, the County has been receiving several
110 updates on proposed Assembly Bills. The updates will be shared with the group as they
111 are received; Copermittees will be linked to the California Legislative Information
112 website. The County's Office of Strategy and Intergovernmental Affairs has been
113 pushing the updates to the workgroup, asking how the new assembly bill would impact
114 the program and requesting a response. Rouya Rasoulzadeh (County of San Diego) will
115 forward the the Legislative Updates to all copermittees for their reference. If interested,
116 copermittees can discuss the updates regularly at any following PPS meetings.

117 **8. Workgroup Updates**

118 ***MOU Update Ad Hoc Committee***

119 Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) provided a brief update on the status of the
120 signatures received for the revised MOU. She has currently received a total of 9
121 signatures. Copermittees that have yet to complete the signature forms will have
122 through 7/31/2019 to provide the completed forms.

123 ***Land Development Workgroup***

124 There was no one present to speak on the LDW. René Vidales (County of San Diego) will
125 provide an update at the next meeting.

126 ***Education and Outreach Workgroup***

127 Jon Nottage (City of Vista) provided an update on the May 8th Education and Outreach
128 Workgroup meeting in which the group discussed the draft messaging concepts
129 proposed by Action Research. The marketing group based their recommendations off a
130 phone survey conducted in 2018. The messaging concepts included suggestions for
131 several issues including dog waste, residential runoff, and other waste.

132 The workgroup members agreed to review the Action Research Messaging Concept
133 draft document in further detail and provide suggestions to Rouya so that she may
134 coordinate with Action Research. The group generally agreed to focus on more
135 prevalent issues such as residential runoff, cigarette butts, and even structural BMP
136 maintenance, rather than issues like dog waste, which were reported less often.

137 Jon also provided an update on the Marketing RFP. Rouya had a meeting with the
138 County Department of Purchasing and Contracting (DPC) scheduled for May 14, 2019 to
139 discuss timing and other related issues. The County is hoping to issue the RFP in early
140 summer and use some of the funding from this fiscal year to help cover the costs. The
141 unused budget will be carried forward to the next fiscal year. Additionally, the County is
142 looking for two copermittee representatives to assist in the interview panel (Source
143 Selection Committee). Once dates are finalized, available and interested workgroup
144 members can coordinate with Rouya.

145 At the meeting, the workgroup also discussed moving away from traditional mediums
146 such as the calendars, in preference of new forms of communication such as social and
147 digital media. Members proposed several options including a social media and graphics
148 team as well as a radio commercial. The group agreed that despite the discussion at the
149 Education and Outreach, there needs to be more discussion regarding the need and
150 demand of calendars before eliminating the option altogether.

151 The San Diego County Fair will start in early June. I Love a Clean San Diego and the
152 County of San Diego will set up a table at the fair on June 22 and 29 and June 28,
153 respectively. Jon announced that, any copermittees with extra promotional materials
154 should to coordinate with Rouya by June 7th so that she can distribute the items at the
155 County Fair.

156 Rouya invited all members to the upcoming Education and Outreach meeting tentatively
157 scheduled for August 6th. Interested members can coordinate with her.

158 René Vidales (County of San Diego) also provided a brief comment regarding structural
159 BMP maintenance at the 5/8 Education and Outreach meeting. Stephanie thought that
160 would be a good presentation topic for the next PPS meeting. She agreed to coordinate
161 with René and Jon to prepare a presentation on structural BMPs for the July PPS
162 meeting.

163 **9. Announcements / Other**

164 John Philips (City of El Cajon) shared news of grants awarded to the City of El Cajon for
165 the City of El Cajon’s Broadway Channel project. The project will be phased and will
166 costs upwards of \$10 million. He also announced the “America on Main Street’
167 celebration taking place on Saturday, May 18th. He invited all to the entertaining and
168 exciting event which is held every year in Downtown El Cajon.

169 Justin Gamble (City of Oceanside) spoke on the recent meeting with Regional Board staff
170 regarding the classification of pavement repairs and how it relates to PDP
171 determinations. The City of Oceanside is working with the Regional Board to gain more
172 clarification of full depth reclamation, which can be justified as maintenance. Justin will
173 provide updates as the conversation develops.

174 Justin again announced the open Environmental Specialist position available at the City
175 of Oceanside. Jon Nottage announced that the City of Vista also has a similar opening in
176 their storm water department.

177 Rouya introduced Brianna Martin (County of San Diego) as a new County employee. She
178 will be taking over Jaime Milani’s role.

179 The County also spoke of a separate meeting with Regional Board and other watershed
180 leads and consultants carried out prior to this PPS meeting. The purpose of the meeting
181 was to discuss annual reporting, among other issues. The Regional Board presented a
182 list of items, including schedules and comment letters. The County believed they may be
183 enforcing a 90-day clause. A summary of the meeting will be provided.

184 Stephanie announced that the Dry Weather Flow meeting hosted by Mike Watt and
185 Scott Norris on May 20th has limited seats available. Invitees were asked to limit the
186 number of attendees; a WebEx will be available. The meeting will provide a high-level
187 overview followed by an open discussion of dry weather flow issues.

188 Lastly, Stephanie reminded the group that CASQA abstracts are due May 20th.

189 **10. Future Meetings**

190 The next meeting is scheduled for June 20th, 1:30 to 3:30 PM.

191 All Copermittees are asked to notify Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) when they
192 have PPS agenda suggestions or ideas on presentations for work products, work plans,
193 etc. to further collaboration among the Copermittees. Agenda items should be
194 submitted at least a week before the scheduled meeting.

195 Stephanie adjourned the meeting at 2:25 PM.

	New Action Items	Responsible Party	Due Date
1.	Copermittees meeting with the regional board on May 17. Agenda (Key talking points) sent to participants.	Jo Ann Weber	Completed
2.	Jo Ann Weber to provide Copermittees with edited Biological Objective Comment Letter.	Jo Ann Weber	Completed (5/21/2019
3.	Copermittees provide comments to Biological Objective letter by May 29 th .	All Copermittees	Completed 5/31/2019
4.	Biological Objective comment letter due to Regional Board (extension June 2nd)	County of San Diego	Completed 6/2/2019
5.	Stephanie Gaines to forward information on the Legislative Updates to all Copermittees.	Rouya Rasoulzadeh	Completed
6.	Copermittees to complete the signature page of revised MOU and provide the signed form to Stephanie Gaines as soon as possible.	All Copermittees	Ongoing through 7/31/2019
7.	Approval of the March 14 th meeting minutes has been postponed until the following PPS meeting until further clarification of the proposed amendments is provided.	All Copermittees Cecilia Tipton	6/20/2019
8.	René Vidales to provide an update of the May 2 nd Land Development Workgroup meeting at the following PPS meeting.	All Copermittees	6/20/2019
9.	Stephanie Gaines to coordinate with René Vidales and Jon Nottage to prepare a presentation on structural BMPs for the July PPS meeting.	Stephanie Gaines René Vidales Jon Nottage	July PPS Meeting
10.	Copermittees to notify Stephanie Gaines of any PPS agenda suggestions or ideas on presentations for work products, work plans, etc. to further collaboration among the Copermittees.	All Copermittees	Ongoing

New Action Items	Responsible Party	Due Date
11. All Copermittees with extra promotional materials/items to coordinate with Rouya by June 7th. Rouya to ensure their distribution at the County Fair.	All Copermittees Rouya Rasoulzadeh	6/7/2019

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