

Meeting Notes
Regional Monitoring Workgroup

May 17, 2005

Faraday Conference Room

Carlsbad, California

10:00 am to 12:00 pm

1. Update on October 1, 2004 Monitoring Request to the RWQCB

On May 16, the RWQCB called the County of San Diego and expressed misgivings on proceeding with the requested monitoring changes so late in the Permit cycle and did not want to go forward with the Technical Change Order on the June 8 docket. After discussion, the group concurred that we would withdraw the request and include it as part of the Report of Waste Discharge due in August 2005.

2. Draft Regional Monitoring Program for Discussion including Mass Loading Stations, Ambient Bay and Lagoon Monitoring, and Bioassessment Monitoring

In light of the withdrawal of the October 1, 2004 Pilot Monitoring Program, the options have been modified as the first year of the next Permit cycle will not be constrained. Options 1 and 2 were reviewed. The details are subject to change. This is a draft. As an overview, Option 1 includes a mass loading station at the mouth of each watershed that is sample several times during the Permit cycle concurrently with 1 to 5 upstream watershed assessment stations. Bioassessment occurs in the same watersheds that are sampled that year. ABLM consists of additional data assessment the first year of the Permit with additional special studies identified based on the assessment as well as participation in the Regional Bight 08 Study. Option 2 consists of sampling mass loading stations at the mouth of the watersheds each year and has 1 upstream watershed station in 2 out of 5 years for each watershed. The group discussed these options and concurred to have Weston continue to provide further statistical analyses to assess Option 1. Weston was directed by the group to prepare a presentation for the Copermitees Permit Reissuance Workgroup on Option 1.

The basic design of Option 1 is a holistic approach which included not only a fixed mass loading station at the mouth of the watershed, but additional upstream watershed assessment stations where wet and dry mass loading samples, bioassessment sampling in spring and fall, and potentially lagoon and bay sampling would occur, if present. This design approach will provide a better link with dry weather sampling and assist Managers in developing next steps in their watersheds. The design is based on statistical analysis of past data and complies with the recommendations of the Southern California Stormwater Monitoring Coalition's Model Municipal Monitoring Program Guidance (<http://www.sccwrp.org/pubs/techrpt.htm>; report #419). Northern watersheds will be sampled one year (first and third permit years) and

southern watersheds in alternate years (second and fourth years). Because the Pilot Program request will be withdrawn, details of monitoring in year 5 were discussed, but not decided upon at this meeting. See attached table for a preliminary draft of the conceptual design, including the number of upstream watershed assessment stations proposed for each watershed. Watershed maps were distributed with the proposed locations of the upstream stations. The upstream locations were recommended by the WURMP leads. These maps are preliminary and are not included in the meeting notes (the files are too large). A spreadsheet with the Draft program design is attached.

The framework of the Ambient Bay and Lagoon Monitoring Program was discussed. The third year of data for the current program will be collected Summer 2005 and the assessment of the 3 years of data in the first year of the new Permit will be used to evaluate if a linkage is seen between wet weather mass loading data and the thin, upper layer of the sediments deposited during storm events and sampled in the ABLM Program. Based on these data evaluations, the ABLM program for the final 4 years of the Permit will be determined. There were discussions of having special studies in Lagoons/Bays and also participating in Bight 2008. The design of the ABLM program is under discussion. In general, it was supported that special study sampling would be conducted in the same year that the watershed will be sampled, to be consistent with the overall program design.

3. **Dry Weather Program** – The Copermittees’ Reissuance Workgroup (via comments from the RWQCB) requested input from the Regional Monitoring Workgroup on the following items:
 1. Analytical Analyses of Dry Weather Program – Was this valuable?
 2. Guidance on how to design a Dry Weather Program- RWQCB wants to bring all Dry Weather Programs up to the same level
 3. Guidelines for IC/ID follow-up investigations – RWQCB wants to bring all Jurisdictional Dry Weather Programs up to the same level

There was clarification that the Dry Weather Workgroup would be requesting modifications that could allow for the use of Colilert[®] and Enterolert[™], if approved by the RWQCB as part of the ROWD. This may be included in the upcoming presentation to the Permit Reissuance Group. The Dry Weather Group will meet on June 15th. It was decided that each manager would go directly to their Dry Weather staff and further probe if any other changes should be made to the program. Most Copermittees present were satisfied with the existing Dry Weather Program.

4. Wrap-up and Review of Action Items

The County of San Diego will call the RWQCB to withdraw the October 1, 2004 request for changes in the monitoring program.

Weston will prepare a presentation supporting Option1 to the Permit Reissuance Workgroup. The meeting will be requested to be moved to June 7th. [Note: The request was approved].

Comments by the Permit Reissuance Workgroup will be incorporated and the updated presentation will be presented to the Regional Monitoring Workgroup in June [Note: meeting is was changed from June 16 to June 20 at the City of Encinitas, 10 am to Noon, Carnation Room].

The Copermitees RWQCB Liaison Group will meet with the RWQCB on June 26th. The updated presentation, including comments incorporated from the Regional Monitoring Workgroup, will be presented.

Attendees:

Cora Long, City of Lemon Grove
Mo Lahsaie, City of Oceanside
Art Barnett, Weston Solutions
Jayne Strommer, City of Carlsbad
Elaine Lukey, City of Carlsbad
Rosanna Lacarra, City of Del Mar
Kathy Weldon, City of Encinitas
Chris Herencia, Brown & Caldwell
Meleah Ashford, City of Encinitas
Richard Rusnak, MACTEC
Jay Shrake, MACTEC
Kelly Barker, County of San Diego
Michelle White, Port of San Diego
Jayna Nystrom, Port of San Diego
Cheryl Filar, City of Escondido
Ruth Kolb, City of San Diego
Jo Ann Weber, County of San Diego