REGIONAL MONITORING WORKGROUP – MEETING SUMMARY

County of San Diego
5201 Ruffin Road, Suite P
San Diego, CA 92123
Tuesday, November 25, 2008
10:00am – 12:00pm

Attendees:

Name	Organization
Jo Ann Weber	County of San Diego
David Renfrew	Weston Solutions
Bryn Evans	URS Corporation
Phil Gibbons	Port of San Diego
Todd Snyder	County of San Diego
Annie Hill	SDCRAA
Jamie Wood	City of Carlsbad
Khosro Aminpour	City of Chula Vista
Marisa Fontanoz	City of Chula Vista
Rosanna Lacarra	City of Del Mar (PBS&J)
Blake Behringer	City of El Cajon
Eric Steenblock	City of Encinitas
Judy Keir	City of Imperial Beach
Chris Helmer	City of Imperial Beach
Andre Sonksen	City of San Diego
Erica Ryan	City of San Marcos
Doug Coppi	City of Vista

REGIONAL MONITORING

Weston provided the group with the following updates on monitoring activities:

Regional Monitoring

- 8 of the 11 MLS samples for the wet season have been taken
- MS4 Monitoring – Random wet portion
  - No samples have been taken as of 11/28
- 11 of the 15 post-storm sediment pyrethroid samples have been taken
- Weston has been providing data to SCCWRP
- Weston will not sample during the Thanksgiving holiday due to safety and lab staffing issues
- The annual report is moving forward - Weston will post drafts on their ftp site.

Bight 08

- Coastal Ecology
  - All field work is complete
  - Wetlands portion – SCCWRP and Bight 08 group has a workplan and work will start soon; they are in the process of getting necessary permits
  - SCCWRP will do work in northern watersheds for eutrophication portion
- Microbiology
  - Workplan is still being finalized – most likely will see it in January 2009
  - Work may start in the dry season of 2009

TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF BASIN PLAN

There is a workshop for the Triennial Review of the Basin Plan on 12/08/08 at the SDRWQCB. The deadline to submit comments and issues to the Regional Board is 01/09/09. Review the 2004 issues from 2004. No workgroup will be formed. This will be an agenda item for our

December 18th meeting. For updates, see the Regional Board's website at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/tri_review.shtml

WATER MONITORING COUNCIL
Senate Bill 1070 established the California Water Monitoring Council, which includes supporters such as the State Board, SCCWRP, and NGOs. The Monitoring Council's goal is to maximize the efficiency and effectiveness of existing water quality data and dissemination and ensuring that collected data are maintained and available for use by decision makers and the public. They met recently in southern CA.

The National Academy of Sciences recently put out a Report in Brief called "Urban Storm Water Management in the United States." Copies can be found here: http://www.ceaccounties.org/resource_center/regulatorynews/nrc_stormwaterreport_fs.pdf

WORKPLANS
The workgroup discussed the various workplans that will be needed in the upcoming FY. These include: Source ID Workplan and the Targeted MS4 Wet Weather Monitoring Workplan, which will be attached to the Scope of Work for FY09-10, due on September 1, 2009. Due to the lead time of 9 months needed to issue contracts, JW cannot individually bid these contracts to create these workplans, so we may go to on-call contracts that the County or another Copermittee may have.

FY07-08 REGIONAL MONITORING REPORT UPDATES
Weston is in the process of sending out drafts. The following is an updated schedule:
12/12/08 – All drafts delivered to Copermittees
12/18/08 – Regional Monitoring Workgroup meeting – will talk about any issues with the draft thus far.
12/22/08 – All Copermittee comments must be submitted to Dave Renfrew at Weston Solutions by this date. Please copy Jo Ann on all comments.
01/08/09 – Weston will review all comments with Copermittees at the Regional Monitoring Workgroup meeting on this date.

ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION SUBMITTAL
Section 7.0 – Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Component is due to the Regional Board on 12/15/08. All Copermittees must submit their section to the County of San Diego by 12/12/08. Please note that another Certification Statement must be submitted with this section.

JW will send out the updated Dry Weather Monitoring Data Sharing Format to the Copermittees. This now includes a Trash Monitoring Section.

HEC-HMS MODELING
The group discussed Weston's response to questions that the City of Chula Vista had regarding the HEC-HMS Modeling. Their response is attached.

TRASH MONITORING
The group discussed the format of the trash monitoring reporting for the FY07-08 Regional Monitoring Report. JW will request input from the DWM Workgroup regarding Threat to Water Quality and/or Human Health responses and follow-up actions. A copy of the suggested format is attached.

OTHER ISSUES
The Copermittees were reminded to submit their 2008 DWM data in the 12/15/08 Section 7 submittal to the Regional Board. If they have not submitted their 2007 DWM data, they should do so in this report.

FUTURE MEETINGS

The next Regional Monitoring Workgroup meeting is scheduled for **Thursday, December 18th from 10am to 12pm** at the County of San Diego, 5201 Ruffin Road, Suite P, San Diego, 92123.

Upcoming meetings are as follows:
Thursday, January 8, 10am-12pm (Copermittees only- to go over response to comments on the Draft Annual Report)

AGENDA
San Diego Regional Monitoring Workgroup
County of San Diego
5201 Ruffin Road, Ste. P
San Diego, CA 92123
Tuesday, November 25, 2008
10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

1. Introductions (10 to 10:05 am)
2. Approve meeting notes from October 25, 2008 meeting (10:05 to 10:07)
3. Regional Monitoring Activities Update (10:07 to 10:30)
   Bight 08 – Coastal Ecology, Wetlands, Microbiology
   Regional monitoring
   Discuss Work Plan schedules for 2008-2009 - Source ID Monitoring, Targeted Wet Weather MS4 Monitoring
4. Schedule for Draft San Diego County Copermittees 2007-2008 Urban Runoff Monitoring – Status Update
5. Dry Weather Monitoring Reports due in mid-December (bring any issues)
6. Coastal Storm Drain Monitoring Workgroup (Update)
7. Dry Weather Workgroup Update (Next meeting scheduled for February 18, 2009)
8. Responses to Chula Vista's comments on Modeling (Discussion)
9. Discussion on Proposed Trash Assessment format for Annual Report
10. Other Items (please bring to meeting)
11. Future Meetings - The following meetings are at the County of San Diego, Location will be 5201 Ruffin Rd, Ste. P, San Diego, CA 92123

Thursday, December 18, 10am to Noon
Thursday, January 8, 10am to Noon (Copermittees-only meeting to review comments on Draft annual report)

For updated meeting schedule, agendas and meeting summaries visit
www.projectcleanwater.org

The following are the responses to the questions that have been prepared in response to a letter dated 08/22/08 by Weston Solutions proposing to use HEC-HMS Modeling to calculate pollutant load discharges.

Questions:

1. What is the rationale for calculating annual loads versus daily loads? From TMDL programs, it appears that daily loads are more critical as far as impact on receiving water beneficial uses.

Response: Section III A.2.b(3) of the receiving Waters and Urban Runoff Monitoring and Reporting Program (Permit) requires the exhibition of pollutant load increases or decreases at each MLS and TWAS (we interpret this as an annual question). We recommend flow modeling to more accurately estimate flow. While measuring flow in streams occurs, modeling is used to fill in data gaps and to evaluate areas where flow monitoring does not occur. Loads can be reported on either a daily or annual load basis. The model is run at 5 minute intervals and the data can be provided to present daily flow data and subsequently daily loads if needed.

2. How will the impacts of groundwater discharge to receiving waters be separated from those attributable to surface runoff? For example, groundwater discharges with high levels of TDS and nitrate are not associated with land use activities, however, they have profound effects on TDS or nitrate concentrations, particularly during dry weather.

Response: Surface water concentrations and subsequent loads would need to be evaluated based on base flow separation analysis during dry weather. However, more advanced models would be recommended to evaluate the contributions from groundwater vs. urban runoff. However, these two tasks are not included in the Weston scope of work.

Groundwater discharges can and often do have elevated TDS and nitrate concentrations. However, nitrate may be a result of current or past land use activities and TDS has been noted to be elevated due to increased importation of water, the nature of San Diego's arid climate, and considerable droughts where rainfall flushing of salts in the aquifer has not occurred. It does present a different challenge for municipalities and may require different approaches for evaluation.

3. What is the rationale for adding dry weather and wet weather loads? In arid climates similar to Southern California, dry weather discharges can be assumed to be fairly uniform, however, pollutant concentrations are typically transient. Storm event discharges form short spikes in channel flow. The majority of pollutant loading takes place during the first flush (with the exception of bacteria and sediment). The remaining flow has much lower pollutant concentrations. It is suggested to calculate pollutant loads from the first flush flow (0.6 inches of rainfall) during each storm

event and calculate two distinguished daily loading patterns; one without a storm event, and the other with a storm event.

Response: Permit Section III A.2.g requires estimation of pollutant loads (wet weather loads plus dry weather loads) due to urban runoff for each of the watersheds. We interpret this to be a measure of loads in the receiving water, which includes urban runoff. We agree that dry weather discharges can be assumed to be fairly consistent. However, ambient monitoring events are conducted over a 24 hour period which should be representative of the conditions in the receiving water and possibly influenced by urban runoff. If the concentrations are below water quality benchmarks, they would not be considered a pollutant.

Pollutant loading occurs as a result of many factors which include rainfall total, intensity, and duration which varies throughout the year and is different every year. The regional monitoring program submitted by the Copermittees as part of the Report of Waste Discharge and adopted by the RWQCB in the 2007-01 Permit, recommended collecting the wet weather sample through out the hydrograph. This program will be revisited during the next Report of Waste Discharge and your option will be considered. Additionally, the collection of pollutographs (collect 6 to 8 individual samples at key portions of the storm hydrograph) is another possible alternative. Orange County collects two sets of wet weather samples –one set for first-flush effects and a second set through most of the storm hydrograph.

4.6.3 Trash Assessment

Trash assessments were conducted at receiving water stations during ambient and wet weather monitoring events to comply with the Permit (Section II.A.1.k of the Order). Trash assessments were conducted in accordance with the Monitoring Work Plan for the Assessment of Trash in San Diego County (WESTON, 2007).

Trash assessment results are presented in Table 1.

Table 1. Trash Assessment Results in San Luis Rey Receiving Waters

Site	Date	Trash Assessment Rating[1]	Threat Rating
SLR-MLS	9/19/2007	Suboptimal	None
	11/30/2007	Suboptimal	None
	2/4/2008	Suboptimal	Threat to Human Health[2]
	5/13/2008	Suboptimal	None
SLR-TWAS-1	9/19/2007	Submarginal	Threat to Aquatic Health[3]
	11/30/2007	Poor	None
	2/3/2008	Suboptimal	None
	5/13/2008	Optimal	None

[1]Sites with submarginal or poor ratings have trash type ranking, source evaluation, and potential route information provided in Appendix H.

[2]Non-specific; comments state "light debris including some cardboard and plastics."

[3]Non-specific; trash at location includes chairs, crates, empty beer boxes, plastic bags and bottles, and paper cups.

Trash assessments were not required for the 2007 Jurisdictional Dry Weather Monitoring Program under Order 2001-01, and therefore, due to the limited data available, discussion of the findings on the watershed scale is not appropriate. However, trash assessments are included in the Jurisdictional Dry Weather Monitoring Program for 2008 under the 2007 Permit. Discussion of trash assessments will be provided in future reports where inclusion of the dry weather trash assessments will result in a more robust data set that can be used to assess trash on a watershed scale.

Regional Monitoring Workgroup Meeting - November 25, 2008

LAST NAME	FIRST NAME	ORGANIZATION	EMAIL	PHONE NUMBER
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