

# Interagency Ecological Program Stakeholder Meeting

August 10, 2016  
1:30-3:30pm

Dept. of Water Resources  
3500 Industrial Blvd, Rm 119  
West Sacramento, CA 95691



## Attendees:

Shawn Acuna, MWD	Mark Pruner, Pruner Law
Marina Brand, DSP	Alicia Seesholtz, DWR
Frances Brewster, SCVWD	Steve Slater, CDFW
Selina Cole, Regional Board	Lynda Smith, MWD
Louise Conrad, DWR	Ted Sommer, DWR
Steve Culberson, USFWS	Becky Stanton, SSJDC
Gregg Erickson, CDFW	Lisa Thompson, RegionalSan
Terry Erlewine, SWC	Vanessa Tobias, CDFW
Stephanie Fong, SFWCA	Erwin Van Nieuwenhuyse, USBR
Karen Gehrts, DWR	
Andrea Graffis, CDFW	<b>Via Phone:</b>
Alice Low, CDFW	Sheila Green, DWR
Patrick Morris, Regional Board	Holly Long, SLDMWA
Tim Mussen, RegionalSan	Kim Webb, USFWS

## Next IEP Stakeholder Meeting:

November 9, 2016  
1:30-3:30pm  
Dept. of Water Resources  
3500 Industrial Blvd, Rm 119,  
West Sacramento, CA 95691

DISCLAIMER: IEP does not own any of the content in the presentations, and sharing presentations is at the discretion of the presenters.

## Agenda

### **1. Welcome, introductions, and consideration of agenda**

- Note – Technical difficulties were experienced with operating AT&T Connect Web Conference for remote attendees. Attempted AT&T Connect Conference for the first time due to the large number of call-in attendees at last meeting that had exceeded capacity. Resorted to previous call-in number for remainder of meeting.

### **2. IEP Updates**

- Gregg Erickson, CDFW, [Gregg.Erickson@wildlife.ga.gov](mailto:Gregg.Erickson@wildlife.ga.gov)
- Provided update on the 2016 IEP Work Plan, budget, and the development of the 2017 Work Plan with fact sheets for Directed Studies
- Included 2017 Work Plan schedule and steps for Work Plan development
- Next Steps
  - Recommended Plan – September
  - Fact Sheets for New Directed Studies
  - IEP Science Agenda Alignment
  - Stakeholder Check-In - November
  - Final Revision or Additions – December
  - Organize Implementation – October-January
- A few hard copies of the draft 2017 work plan were provided at meeting and electronic copies are available via email by request to Sakura Evans ([Sakura.Evans@Wildlife.ca.gov](mailto:Sakura.Evans@Wildlife.ca.gov) ).
- IEP will have substantial cuts to Delta Smelt take in 2017
- USFWS issuance of Delta Smelt take permits is restricted, with questioning of efforts that target Delta Smelt

#### Questions:

- Is there funding for continued Microcystis monitoring?
  - Potentially none. Microcystis has been a special study, challenged for funding.
  - Microcystis monitoring is an example of the importance of sharing study funding needs, to avoid assumptions that efforts are being conducted
- How do we engage funding (IEP) efforts?
  - Opportunity to discuss and share information through IEP Project Work Teams, as well as this venue (IEP Stakeholders Meeting).
  - IEP PWTs provide an open forum discussion and venue to share efforts and money, that could inform Science Agenda, Directed Agency Actions, others. IEP prefers this method, but could contact IEP Science Management Team or Coordinator Team members directly.

DISCLAIMER: IEP does not own any of the content in the presentations, and sharing presentations is at the discretion of the presenters.

- What is the lead time necessary for new Directed Studies?
  - IEP deadlines for 2017 will likely be May for 2-page concept proposals and June for full proposals for Directed Studies. To be clear, Directed Studies are not open Proposal Solicitation Packages (PSP), but IEP agency funded efforts going forward.
  - IEP processes, developed by the IEP Program Support Team, are taking directed agency efforts, with funding, and leading to next year's effort as in the Work Plan. Not add hoc. Solicitation for Directed Study by agency, to request from IEP resources. Not a PSP, there is no regular money for PSPs. IEP current structure is ongoing monitoring or agency Directed Studies.
  - If there is an agency activity, be talking about it in February-March to see if it can be put together for review.
  - However, funded research does not always have to go into (through) IEP. IEP is still interested in helping, with available resources (e.g. staff time, sample collection, etc.). Directed Study research within agencies is what is captured in next year's Work Plan.
  - The Work Plans help to identify efforts and share resources for coordinated science. The Work Plan process also provides a common understanding of science so it is acceptable to a broad audience.

### **3. Research on Phytoplankton Growth in the Sacramento River and its Tributaries: Spring 2016 Survey and Mesocosm Study**

For more information about this presentation, please contact:

Lisa Thompson ([thompsonlis@sacsewer.com](mailto:thompsonlis@sacsewer.com)) or Tim Mussen ([mussent@sacsewer.com](mailto:mussent@sacsewer.com)).

- Lisa and Tim provided a slide-show presentation on Ammonium and Chl-a concentrations in the Sacramento River during fall 2013 and new field and mesocosm studies to look at factors regulating phytoplankton growth and loss.
- Field effort is a snap-shot of conditions at time of sampling
- Pursuing "up-river" survey to look at phytoplankton and production, along with modeling and mapping
- Field sampling includes 16 sites over two surveys (spring 2016 and fall 2016)
- Bioassay Study
  - Directly compare factors regulating phytoplankton growth
  - Zooplankton grazing rates
  - Experimental design to include light levels, water source, clam grazing, effluent addition 58:1
- There are many questions, there was a phytoplankton bloom this year but Chl-a levels were flat in the river.

### **4. The Delta Regional Monitoring Program: Overview, Current Projects and Future Plans**

For more information about this presentation, please contact Patrick Morris ([Patrick.Morris@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Patrick.Morris@waterboards.ca.gov)).

DISCLAIMER: IEP does not own any of the content in the presentations, and sharing presentations is at the discretion of the presenters.

- Overview of Delta RMP
- Delta RMP is trying to grow and coordinate efforts with monitoring to inform decisions on regional quality conditions
- Org chart - Committees
  - Steering (comparable to IEP Coordinators Team)
  - Technical (comparable to IEP Science Management Team)
  - Coordinating (comparable to leadership)
  - Finance subcommittee (comparable to IEP Program Support Team)
  - Revenue subcommittee
  - ad hoc committees (comparable to IEP Project Work Teams)
  - Implementing entity – Science Center
- Management questions
  - Status and trends
    - Is there evidence of a problem?
  - Sources, pathways, loadings, processes
  - Forecasting scenarios
  - Effectiveness tracking
- Monitoring design
  - Pathogens
  - Pesticides and toxicity
  - Mercury/methylmercury
  - Nutrients
- Work Plan includes resources available to address monitoring
- Pathogen study
  - 2 year special study – Cryptosporidium and Giardia at ambient locations and intakes
  - Sampling by DWR’s Municipal Water Quality at 12 locations
  - No trigger value reached in first year
- Pesticides
  - Which pesticides?
  - What temporal and spatial patterns?
  - USGS pesticide scan – based on DPR pesticide prioritization
  - Partner with toxicity testing with UC Davis
- 5 sites, monthly basis; some sampling timed with winter storm runoff
- Mercury
  - Trends in ambient concentrations in fish, water, and sediment
  - Trends in time among subareas
- Nutrients
  - How concentrations vary spatially and temporally
  - What are sources, pathways, and processes
  - No field effort currently, synthesis, modeling and statistics using existing data (IEP-EMP)
- Nutrient Monitoring Workshop coming up on September 30, 2016
  - At RegionalSan office
- Data and Reporting
  - Uploads and reports available variable – several items released March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Delta RMP FY 16/17 budget
  - ~1 million – majority looking at pesticides and toxicity
- Future Plans
  - Nutrient workshop on Sept 30, 2016
  - 3 year planning meeting in October 2016
  - Growing RMP with coordination and adding resources

DISCLAIMER: IEP does not own any of the content in the presentations, and sharing presentations is at the discretion of the presenters.

- Reporting
  - Data is accumulated, available to public. Results do not go back to individual discharger.

## 5. Wrap up

- Reminder that email addresses added to sign-in sheet for this meeting will be used to provide electronic copy of draft 2017 IEP Work Plan and Fact Sheets document.
- Modified format today to bring in more of a PWT format. Request to group if still working. Consider CAMT facilitator is available for upcoming meeting. Other opportunities to coordinate.
- Will attempt AT&T Connect Web Conference again at next meeting to allow remote attendees to see presentations and to increase call-in capacity.
- Meeting feedback:
  - Nice to balance meeting with outside (program) activities along with time on actual IEP activities, today was good example. Maybe next time include Science Highlights and more on IEP efforts and findings.
    - IEP Science Highlights can be found at:  
<http://www.water.ca.gov/iep/highlights/index.cfm>
  - Interest in hearing updates on hiring status of IEP Lead Scientist
    - Hope to interview candidates soon.
  - Request for more information on new Directed Studies and opportunity to provide input. Maybe there could be presentations/briefings on each of the new studies.
  - Interest in hearing avenues that would allow cost sharing or matching funds for efforts short on funding (Microcystis).
  - Interest in receiving copies of presentation materials.
    - IEP leaves the decision of sharing presentations up to the discretion of the presenter. Please contact presenters directly.
  - Interest in hearing how agenda is set for Stakeholder meetings.
    - IEP leadership has been reaching out to other programs to participate and present. Also based on input from this quarterly meeting.
    - For future agenda suggestions, please contact Sakura Evans at [Sakura.Evans@Wildlife.Ca.Gov](mailto:Sakura.Evans@Wildlife.Ca.Gov)

DISCLAIMER: IEP does not own any of the content in the presentations, and sharing presentations is at the discretion of the presenters.