

Blue Ribbon Committee for the Rehabilitation of Clear Lake (Committee)

Meeting #25
1:00 pm-4:00 pm
May 25, 2023

Meeting Summary¹

Attendees:

See Appendix A

Action Items:

1. The Committee will discuss prioritization of projects in Fiscal Year (FY) 2024/25 at its next meeting, scheduled for September 14, 2023.
2. Sam Magill, facilitator, Sacramento State University Consensus and Collaboration Program, will follow up with all Committee members who voted “yes with modifications” or “no” on the projects listed below for further detail and project refinement. (follow-up request sent June 2, 2023).
3. Mr. Magill will send the LG Sonic Algae Mitigation addendum to Committee members for their consideration (sent June 2, 2023).
4. The Technical Subcommittee will discuss options for 3rd party review of harmful algal bloom (HAB) mitigation projects.
5. Mr. Magill will reach out to the Clear Lake Keys Property Owners’ Association for more information on cultural resource review. The findings will be presented at the September 14th, 2023 or December 7, 2023 Committee quarterly meetings.
6. Mr. Magill will send AB 707 (2017), the authorizing legislation for the formation of the Committee, to members. (sent June 2, 2023)

Meeting Overview

This meeting of the Committee focused entirely on the discussion and approval of projects submitted in 2022/2023 for funding in State FY 24/25. Each project proposal team provided a brief presentation on the proposal in question, followed by a request for approval of the project. Committee members were given the option to select “yes”, “yes with modifications,” “no,” or “abstain” for each proposal. Committee members were asked to abstain if their organization directly participated in the development of a proposal.

¹ Except as specifically noted, all comments reflected in the summary were derived from Committee Member statements. Where applicable, specific responses are provided to individual comments/questions.

A summary of comments made during the meeting and through subsequent discussion with individual members voting “yes with modifications” or “no” is provided below. A table with all Committee member votes is provided in **Appendix B**. A complete recording of the meeting is available online at <https://csus.zoom.us/rec/share/htwfKxntqJinlGbA68HkHhYaHH4ZMy7IOU1QPI6eeAMqUHQBGPOg7wlulTqFgGAj.ISz7DIHTwUDcVXe9?startTime=1685044944000>.

For a complete overview of each proposal, please visit https://resources.ca.gov/-/media/CNRA-Website/Files/Initiatives/Blue-Ribbon-Committee-for-the-Rehabilitation-of-Clear-Lake/Clear-Lake-BRC-Final-Proposals-Combined_v2.pdf.

The following projects were discussed:

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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. EutroPhix Alage Mitigation and Phosphorus Management 2. LG Sonic Clear Lake HAB Monitoring, Prediction, and Control System 3. Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB)/AECOM Optimization of Algae Harvesting Technology to prevent HABs in Clear Lake 4. UC Davis Early Warning System for HABs 5. US Geological Survey (USGS) HAB Monitoring 6. Siegler Springs Community Redevelopment Agency (SSCRA) Cobb | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Mountain Watershed Education and Restoration Program 7. Clear Lake Keys Property Owners Association (POA) Revitalization and Restoration Plan 8. County of Lake Clear Lake Management Plan Development 9. County of Lake Continuation of Limnological Sampling 10. County of Lake Natural Shorelines Stewards Program 11. County of Lake Dredging Boating Ways and Stream Mouths |
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1. EutroPhix Alage Mitigation and Phosphorus Management
 - Sarah Ryan, Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians; Temashio Anderson, Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians; and Dr. Jay Lund, UC Davis, expressed interest in developing a system for 3rd party, independent review of HAB proposal.
2. LG Sonic Clear Lake HAB Monitoring, Prediction, and Control System
 - Daniella Santana, Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake, requested the following information be added to the LG Sonic proposal prior to funding:
 - An overview of the staffing and buoy maintenance plan for implementation of the project.
 - A detailed budget breakdown, including information on potential Lakebed Management Plan budget increases from the Lake County Board of Supervisors (including any potential increase in lakebed fees).
 - An overview of Tribal outreach engagement efforts, including a list of who has been contacted to date, and which Tribes will be engaged moving forward.
3. CVRWQCB/AECOM Optimization of Algae Harvesting Technology to prevent HABs in Clear Lake

- Scott Harter, Lake County Special Districts, requested more information on the ability to scale the pilot project up to address HABs across the lake, and what the associated costs would be.
 - Mr. Harter also raised a concern about the concept of a 3rd party, independent review of HAB proposals if key experts such as the CVRWQCB are both project sponsors and project reviewers.
 - Mr. Anderson commented that the cost seems too high to adequately address HABs across the lake. Additional information is needed on the overall cost of the pilot project.
4. UC Davis Early Warning System for HABs
 - Mr. Anderson requested the internships funded through the project be extended to local college students.
 5. USGS HAB Monitoring
 - Mr. Anderson requested the project plan be amended to ensure Elem Indian Colony has approval of any sediment removal and monitoring efforts near Elem's territory.
 - Mr. Anderson requested additional information on the quality control methods for monitoring data such as an explanation of variables which may impact data reliability.
 6. SSCRA Cobb Mountain Watershed Education and Restoration Program
 - No comments received.
 7. Clear Lake Keys POA Revitalization and Restoration Plan
 - Mr. Anderson expressed concerns about the proposed project's long-term sustainability. He also noted that cultural resources consultation with Elem should be required as part of the proposal and project.
 - Ms. Santana asked if a plan exists post-project completion, who will track the potential return of invasive species, and whether an increase in POA fees would be increased to accommodate long-term costs associated with future channel dredging.
 - Ms. Santa echoed earlier comments on the interaction between the proposal team and Elem. Specifically, she asked if Elem leadership is aware of the proposal, whether they would like to partner on the effort, and whether the Tribal Historic Preservation Officer (THPO) has been contacted.
 8. County of Lake Clear Lake Management Plan Development
 - Mr. Anderson asked for more information on the project budget. Specifically, he asked how potential funding through the Committee process will address the pre-existing requirement for the County to develop a Clear Lake Management Plan. This concept was echoed by Ms. Ryan, who noted that the County was already mandated to complete a Management Plan before the Committee began its work.
 9. County of Lake Continuation of Limnological Sampling
 - Dr. Lund expressed a concern that other fully funded studies are already collecting similar information, and questioned whether another sampling effort was needed at this time. NOTE: the limnological sampling effort provides regular, up-to-date water quality information and was

previously managed by the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). DWR suspended its program in 2021.

- Lake County staff noted that the County is looking into a Proposition 218 process to assess fees for the long-term sustainability of the limnological sampling effort in addition to short-term funding through the Committee process.

10. County of Lake Natural Shorelines Stewards Program

- No comments received.

11. County of Lake Dredging Boating Ways and Stream Mouth

- Mr. Anderson expressed significant concern about the proposal, and comment he was not supportive of the concept without cultural resources assessments of each proposed dredging site. Ms. Santa echoed the need for these assessments, and requested Tribal consultation with all proposed dredging sites through the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process. She also noted THPO/Tribal monitors be provided for each site.
- Ms. Santana provided the following comments:
 - I would like to see the stream mouths be a priority in this project rather than the boat ramps. If we have another good water year will this project be delayed? Will it require more dredging at certain channels because of the current elevated sedimentation loading? Will the bathymetric surveys need to be repeated because of the changing hydrology and sedimentation processes? Are the existing bathymetrical surveys still valid?
 - The proposals should describe which measures will be put in place to prevent power loading and its associated impacts. The majority of the boat ramps have signs that say no power loading, but the majority of boaters still do it. Will there be additional enforcement procedures put in place? If these boat ramps are dredged and the boat ramps are extended by Public Services will the future dredging fall to them instead of LCWRD?
- Mr. Harter requested all dredging receive all necessary environmental clearance and approvals in advance of any project implementation.

Additional Discussion

In addition to discussion and approval of proposed projects, Committee members discussed concepts for 3rd party review of HAB proposals and how to integrate Committee feedback in Clear Lake Hitch (Chi) restoration and rescue efforts. The following comments were recorded:

- The UC Davis Native American Advisory Council should be involved in 3rd party HAB review discussions.
- The Technical Subcommittee should dedicate some of its meetings specifically for Hitch updates. The Committee can also serve as an important venue to bring Hitch discussions to a wider public audience to increase community awareness of Hitch issues.

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Appendix A: Committee Members Present

First	Last	Organization
Rebecca	Harper	Lake County Farm Bureau
Scott	Harter	Lake County Special Districts
Eric	Sklar	Blue Ribbon Committee for the Rehabilitation of Clear Lake
Jennifer	LaBay	Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
Harry	Lyons	Lake County Resource Conservation District
Wilda	Shock	Lake County Economic Development Corporation
Daniella	Santana	Habematolel Pomo of Upper Lake
Jay	Lund	UC Davis
Eddie "EJ"	Crandell	Lake County Board of Supervisors
Sarah	Ryan	Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians
Temashio	Anderson	Scotts Valley Band of Pomo Indians

Absent/Vacant Committee Seats

- VACANT Robinson Rancheria
- VACANT Middletown Rancheria
- VACANT Koi Nation
- Fred Kirschner Elem Indian Colony

Appendix B: Committee Member Approval of Project Proposals*

NAME	Eutrophix	LG Sonic	AECOM	UC Davis	USGS	Keys POA	SSCRA	Lake County-Lake Management Plan	Lake County-Limnological Sampling	Lake County-Natural Shorelines	Lake County-Dredging
Eric Sklar	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes w/mod	Yes
Daniella Santana	Yes	Yes w/mod	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes w/mod	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes w/mod
Supervisor Crandell	Yes	Abst.	Yes	No	Yes	Abst.	Yes	Abst.	Abst.	Abst.	Abst.
Harry Lyons	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Jay Lund	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Jennifer LaBay	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Sarah Ryan	No	No	Abst.	Yes	Yes w/mod	Yes w/mod	Abst.	No	No	Yes	Yes w/mod
Scott Harter	Yes	Yes	Yes w/mod	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes w/mod
Temashio Anderson	Yes w/mod	Yes w/mod	Yes	Yes	Yes w/mod	No	Yes	Yes	Yes w/mod	Yes	Yes w/mod
Wilda Shock	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

*NOTE: Rebecca Harper, Executive Director, Lake County Farm Bureau, was unable to attend the project approval portion of the agenda.