



Wetlands Regional Monitoring Program Phase II Steering Committee Meeting

April 28, 2020, 10am-12pm

Remote Meeting via Zoom

Attendees: Heidi Nutters (SFEP), Kelly Santos (SFEP), Sarah Firestone (USACE), Mike Chotkowski (USGS), Tony Hale (SFEI ASC), Cristina Grosso (SFEI ASC), Donna Ball (SFEI ASC), Luisa Valiela (US EPA Region 9), Mike Vasey (SF Bay NERR), Aimee Good (SF Bay NERR), Julie Siu (US EPA Region 9), Julian Wood (Point Blue), Josh Collins (SFEI ASC), Sandra Scoggin (SF Bay Joint Venture), Jayme Ohlhaber (USACE), Kaylee Allen (USFWS), Maggie Jenkins (SCC), Sahrye Cohen (USACE), Dave Halsing (SBSRP), Matt Graul (East Bay Regional Park District), Jessica Davenport (SCC and SF Bay Restoration Authority), Jessie Olson (Save the Bay), Brenda Goeden (BCDC), Erika Castillo (Alameda County Mosquito Abatement), John Callaway (Delta Stewardship Council), Renee Spenst (DU), Xavier Fernandez (SFBRWQCB)

Actions

- Requests for WRMP Plan print copies can be [made with this form](#)
- We want to get feedback on what remote platform people prefer. [Please participate in this survey for web conference tools](#)
- Final WRMP logo can be [viewed here](#)
- Interim WRMP letter of support process can be [viewed here](#). The form for requesting a letter of support can be [found here](#)

10:00am **1) Welcome, Introductions and Project Update**

Heidi Nutters, SFEP & Project Manager (WRMP Core Team Rep & SC Chair)

- Provided updates on Core Team progress and goals of the meeting
- Welcome Mike Chotkowski to SC
- Requests for WRMP Plan copies can be [made with this form](#).
- Poll everywhere questions ([view the answers here](#)):
 - What key words would you use to describe the WRMP?
 - What WRMP products are most important for your work?
 - What organizations should be engaged to discuss funding the WRMP?
 - In your own words, describe how the WRMP will benefit the region?
 - WRMP Logo Options A and B
 - WRMP Logo Options - Positive and Reversed
- WRMP Meeting Schedule - will make remote and adapt as necessary

10:15am **2) WRMP Logo Options**

Heidi Nutters, SFEP (WRMP Core Team Rep & SC Chair)

Desired outcome: Inform Steering Committee, Gather Initial Comments

- Discuss options for the WRMP Logo and hear input from the SC
- No additional cost for SFEP to develop the logo and it can add benefit to our

communications. Business cards can be made, letterhead, powerpoint templates etc. Will use these colors going forward.

Questions/Discussion:

- Consider ADA accessibility including color contrast
- It would be nice to have the mudflat have more of a channelized design. Also, some vegetation behind the shorebird would help to represent that element of the monitoring.
- Do we feel the need to state San Francisco Bay WRMP?
- What about just adding some simple grass blades (cordgrass) left of W in WRMP?

10:45am

3) Update on formation of the WRMP Technical Advisory Committee

Xavier Fernandez (WRMP Core Team Member)

Desired outcome: Inform Steering Committee, Gather Initial Comments

An update on the development of the TAC Charter and initial steps in the formation of the TAC

Purpose of the TAC

- Provide scientific and technological advice to the Steering Committee
- Assure the relevance, credibility, and veracity of the WRMP content and findings
- Make recommendations on workgroups and special studies

TAC Charter Eligibility

- Has time and resources
- Is generally not a Steering Committee member
- Has no political or financial conflicts of interest

Desired Criteria

- Has an established reputation and expertise
- Represents the interests of at least one member organization
- Is acquainted with the regional tidalmarsh community
- Has a regional perspective, and network of colleagues within and outside region
- Has experience serving on advisory committees

Decision making: consensus based approach is same as SC (consensus minus 2)

Next Steps

- Formation of TAC - identify members- target size 10-15
- Schedule first meeting
- Initial priorities - establish benchmark sites and baseline maps, also vet projects, can TAC be able to tackle projects that they champion (under WRMP rubric and implemented by partners)
- Want a diverse group, tech backgrounds, gender, more perspectives the be

Discussion

- If SC members are interested in being considered for the TAC, they should

reach out to Xavier. They would be requested to ask someone else to participate from their org on the SC

- Want to ensure that there is communication between SC and TAC - Chair and Vice Chair can be on both the SC and TAC
- TAC meetings will be open to SC members - the first meetings will be a lot of logistics - would want to wait until the 2nd or 3rd meeting to attend
- TAC Charter is in the meeting folder and can be [viewed here](#)
- One priority is to figure out which projects we champion as WRMP projects.
- Project Letter of support request - will be put it on the website

11:15am

4) Update on data management and delivery system + baylands mapping proposal Tony Hale/Cristina Gross, Aquatic Science Center (WRMP Core Team Member)

Provide update on early fit gap analysis for the data management process and discuss proposal in development for USEPA's Water Quality Improvement Fund

How is a Fit-Gap Analysis applicable to the WRMP Data Management implementation?

- The indicators described in the science framework are founded on data. So of these data are readily available; others are in various states of readiness.
- Success in quantifying the indicators depends on the availability of data of sufficient quality and scope. We must carefully characterize the potential gap between requirements and availability.

What will the analysis contain?

Vis-a-vis the Scientific Framework, the FiGap Analysis will:

- Describe each indicator's data requirements
- Identify and describe currently available sources
- Define levels of utility for the data in contributing to indicator calculation
 - Levels of certainty, etc. Look at data quality and standards
- Characterize the steps and level of effort in producing useable data

All materials described above will be vetted by the TAC.

How will the Fit-Gap Analysis influence the drafting of data management SOPs?

- The Fit-Gap Analysis explores the possibilities to address gaps that the SOP must fill via an articulation of repeatable, reliable processes.
- The TAC will review the level of effort needed to address the need identified

What follows from the Fit-Gap Analysis?

- The team will produce Indicator Calculation Documentation, in close consultation with the TAC.
- Ensures that the Indicator Calculations are based on actual data that can be collected.
- Together, the Fit-Gap Analysis and Indicator Calculation documents provide occasions for both idealistic and practical discussion regarding data collection harmonization, integration, analysis, and visualization.

WRMP Data Management—Near-Term Steps

- Meet with constituted TAC
 - Relate and discuss indicator information
 - Propose fitgap analysis
 - Solicit feedback and expertise
- Consult Core Team and Steering Committee
 - Clarify any matters regarding data for indicators
 - Share drafts of fitgap analysis
 - Vet proposed documentation on data associated with indicator calculation
- Complete fit-gap analysis and documentation on the data needed for indicator calculation
- Begin preparation of quality control and data custody documentation

Discussion

- Management question 1a is the first priority for the fit gap analysis.
- Discussion about the need for data visualization/data dashboard and the users of the dashboard such as the Steering Committee, Core Team, SFBJV, restoration community, TAC, Restoration Authority (Jessica Davenport to willing to facilitate the conversation to keep the RA and restoration community informed)

Presentation and Discussion on Fact Sheet for WQIF Proposal

- Fact sheet is an informational update & overview of proposal to USEPA WQIF
- There is a need for a baylands map and partners involved.
- Montezuma Wetlands Project and South Bay Salt Pond agreed to provide match
- Discussion about match and that any other funds beyond match are leverage and shouldn't be included in the budget
- SFBJV developed fact sheet
- Looking for old vs new version of map for the fact sheet
 - Ideas: Sonoma Baylands and Palo Alto Harbor
- Fact sheet highlights some of the data sets
- Fact sheet is going to be used for outreach to partners to get letters of support
- WRMP letter of support process was just developed. The Core Team will be able to vet letters of support. Xavier provided a letter from water board

We want to get feedback on what remote platform people prefer

[Please participate in this survey for web conference tools](#)

Questions include:

1. What platforms are people excluded from
2. What platforms do people prefer

Feedback from the SC meeting: EPA has no preference, Dave H is indifferent, FWS has limits on zoom, they have teams

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