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| Permits Committee –  Report to BACWA Board | Permits Committee Meeting on: 6/14/16  Executive Board Meeting Date: 6/17/16  Committee Chair: Amanda Roa |

**Committee Request for Board Action: None**

**21 attendees, representing 12 member agencies**

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| **Adoption of Permits/Permit Amendments:**  **July –** *Napa* – Napa is fine with their TO, which includes an updated discharge prohibition period. |
| **Regional Water Board Report-out**   * There are several staff retirements on the horizon * Diane Feinstein’s office contacted Region 2 and Region 5 to ask about ammonia loading to Suisun Bay. |
| **Microplastics and CECs**   * *CEC monitoring* - Staff from SFEI attended the committee meeting to describe their offer of assistance in pooling resources to do CECs analyses, and to provide study design and analyses as needed. Analyses will be done by Axis Analytical, although SFEI offered to explore options in the US. BACWA may serve as a contracting agency if procurement is a problem to send funds to a Canadian company. Agencies that participate in this sampling effort may elect not to share their data. Data from agencies that do elect to share it may be used in a poster presentation or Fact Sheet, but not a press release. There was a discussion about the value of this data in terms of bolstering Region 2’s CECs management strategy. SFEI will send BACWA data from previous CECs studies of the SF Bay. Interested agencies should respond to SFEI’s [survey](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1E2quGLLMn4CzGF-eMtB6C15xWFO9ods83WllExTg50A/viewform). * *Microplastics Workshop –* The meeting is scheduled for 6/29. The agenda is now [posted](http://www.sfei.org/events/rmp-microplastic-monitoring-and-science-strategy-workshop#sthash.jwj7dFpk.dpbs). Nirmela will be presenting results from the BACWA workgroup. * *RMP Technical Review Committee –*The TRC discussed projects throughout the RMP program. The committee ranked potential CECs projects as follows: 1) CEC strategy and continuation of baseline tracking; 2) PFAS synthesis; 3) imidacloprid study; 4) phosphate flame retardant study; 5) bisphenol study; 6) triclosan in small fish study. Funding for these projects has been bolstered by the Alternate Monitoring Plan. They will also be funding an estrogenic bioassay study. The RMP will also be funding the nutrient science strategy, the sources, pathways, and tributaries ongoing research, ambient monitoring, as well as a selenium strategy, which includes the sturgeon derby next year and an “early warning” monitoring workgroup meeting in July. |
| **Shallow Water Discharge Prohibition**   * The role of the Shallow Water Discharge prohibition in permitting wetlands supported by wastewater was raised. Regional Water Board staff were asked what members could do to assuage concerns about near shore discharges. This item will be on the BACWA/RWB Joint Meeting agenda for July. Lorien will work with Robert Schlipf to develop a list of issues for the meeting. |
| **Nutrients**   * + *Optimization/Upgrade Studies –* The consultant team released the first wave of facility reports on May 9 ([see schedule](http://bacwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Facility-Report-Schedule.pdf)). BACWA will host a workshop on July 27 to discuss the facility reports with its members. BACWA will look into options for allowing agencies to join the meeting remotely. A second workshop will be held in late summer/early fall and will include Regional Water Board staff.   + *NTW Meeting and Steering Committee –* The 6/3 NTW meeting’s purpose was to describe the list of projects and their prioritization. On 6/10, the Steering Committee approved a Fiscal Year 2017 budget, and list of projects which is greater than can be funded with available budget. SFEI is soliciting additional funding from interested/affected agencies. The budget covers a core program of modeling. SFEI is looking to hire an additional modeler who will spend half their time focusing on the Lower South Bay, and half on Suisun Bay.   + *Annual Reporting –* HDR provided a [data worksheet](http://bacwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/BACWA_RFI_GAR_2016-1.xlsx) for agencies to input their data for the Nutrient Annual Report. They plan to issue a revised worksheet that accounts for data points that are DNQ, as well as MDLs. This will be discussed at the next CMG meeting. Lab committee members are reviewing the latest data sheet. Data are due to HDR on July 31. |
| **Drought/Recycling**   * *State General Order for Recycled Water –*The State Water Board proposed an addition to the General Order for Recycled Water that would require Regional permittees, such as those covered by 96-011 to be enrolled in the State General Order within three years of adoption (Finding 34). The State Water Board adopted the General Order on 6/7, and considered [three options](http://bacwa.org/document/state-general-order-three-options-finding-34/) for Finding 34, and decided to require enrollment of Regional Permittees within three years, but to not address individual permittees until the next reopener. The BACWA testified at the adoption hearing. View the [outcome of BACWA talking points](http://bacwa.org/document/adoption-state-general-order-recycled-water-outcome-bacwa-talking-points/). BACWA will work with the Regional Water Board to determine how Regional permittees will be transferred to the State General Order. * *SB163(Hertzberg) –* An amended Bill was released that requires 50% water reuse by 2033 (see [CASA notice](https://casaweb.org/urgent-letters-needed-stop-ban-dischargers/)). CASA and WateReuse oppose the Bill. BACWA does not comment on legislation, so member agencies are encouraged to send in letters to their Senators. * *Recycled Water Survey* – BACWA is issuing [surveys](http://bacwa.org/document/bacwa-2015-recycled-water-survey-template/) with Optimization/Upgrade facility reports so that the consultant can calculate loads removed through water recycled. BACWA worked to make sure that the data requested is convergent with that which will be requested by DWR in a survey that they plan to issue later this month, so agencies will not have to generate two sets of numbers. |
| **NPDES Update**  EPA has issued [Proposed Updates](https://www.epa.gov/npdes/npdes-application-and-program-updates) to the NPDES rule, impacting items such as toxicity, antidegradation, and dilution. In general, these changes reflect standard practice in Region 2, so no impacts are anticipated. The main item that causes concern amongst agencies and regulators in other States is a provision that will allow EPA to veto permits that have expired and reissue them on their own. This should not have an impact in our Region. |
| **Announcements**   * + EPA expected to issue draft selenium criteria by end of June.   + Toxicity – State Water Board still targeting July for new draft of Toxicity Plan.   + [FWQC Issues Matrix Update](http://bacwa.org/document/fwqc-issues-matrix-060616/) - list of ongoing regulatory issues at the Federal Level. For access to the Federal Water Quality Coalition (FWQC) Website, contact Lorien for a password, since BACWA is a dues-paying member.   + Alternate MRP Invoices sent out by SFEI so agencies can pay surcharge with FY16 funds.   + The AIR committee will be hosting their annual meeting with the Air District on June 15. All BACWA members are welcome to attend. |
| **Report out from the 4/15 Executive Board meeting and 5/3 Joint meeting with the Regional Water Board**   * Most items covered previously in the agenda. * *Technical Review of Scientific Documents –* BACWA has contracted with LimnoTech to provide review of the data related to the Assessment Framework and associated documents. * Sarah Deslauriers gave a CWCCG update. * The Biosolids Committee will be developing a survey that will be distributed this summer. |
| **Committee Succession**  Amanda Roa (Delta Diablo) will be stepping down and Eric Dunleavy will assume the role of Committee Chair. Chris Dembiczak (EBMUD) will be Vice-chair. |
| **Next BACWA Permits Committee Meeting:** Tuesday, July 12, EBMUD. |