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| Permits Committee –  Report to BACWA Board | Permits Committee Meetings on: 6/12/18  Executive Board Meeting Date: 6/15/18  Committee Chair: Chris Dembiczak |

**Committee Request for Board Action: None**

**21 Participants representing 13 member agencies**

**Regional Water Board and SFEP Staff in Attendance**

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| **Upcoming Permits**  ***June –*** *Sausalito-* No issues, satellite agencies have not been included in permit.  *Burlingame –* No issues, satellite agencies have not been included in permit.  ***August –*** *SASM -* No issues, satellite agencies have not been included in permit. SASM does not frequently blend, and owns part of its collection system. Its satellite systems also have private sewer lateral ordinances.  *Tiburon –* No known issues. |
| **Regional Water Board Report-out**  Because of the adoption of the Statewide Sediment Quality Objectives, there may need to be some non-substantive changes to the language in permits about SQOs.  The Regional Water Board is developing changes to the Standard Provision under “Effluent Characterization”. They would like all priority pollutant monitoring conducted for the Effluent Characterization be reported in CIWQS. To make this happen, they propose to move the priority pollutant monitoring and reporting requirements back into the Monitoring and Reporting Program in future permits. This will allow the Regional Board to access the data more easily for conducting a reasonable potential analysis. These changes could impact the language in the Alternate Monitoring Plan Order as well. New language would require dischargers to review priority pollutant concentrations and evaluate whether their concentrations are significantly increasing so there are no surprises during Reasonable Potential Analyses. They must also notify the Regional Water Board within 45 days if any pollutant exceeds water quality objectives.  There was a discussion about the list of items that could be incorporated into the Basin Plan through the Triennial Review Process that would improve clarity. Referring to the [Issue Descriptions,](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/planningtmdls/basinplan/web/docs/Triennial_Review/Brief_Issue_Description_2018_Triennial_4-18-18%20post.pdf) these items are:   * Issue 2.1 - Add Unnamed Water Bodies that Receive Discharges * Issue 2.3 Align Ocean Plan and Basin Plan for Recreational Contact Use * Issue 3.13 Clarify Implementation Requirements for Municipal Supply and Agricultural Supply Water Quality Objectives * Issue 4.3 Update Cyanide Dilution Credits * Issue 6.1 Clarify Turbidity Water Quality Objective |
| **State Recycled Water Policy**  The draft amendment to the State Recycled Water Policy includes a provision that will terminate Regional orders one year after its adoption. There was a discussion about how the new General Order does not include coverage for recycled water production, only distribution. The committee recommends that BACWA’s comments to the State Water Board request that the State General Order be amended before 96-011 is terminated to include recycled water production. |
| **Mercury methods for influent and biosolids**  The ultraclean mercury method that is required in permits is generally not suitable for influent or biosolids because it is impossible to get a clean equipment blank. In permits moving forward, the Regional Water Board will move the method footnote to indicate that the method applies to just effluent, and not influent and biosolids. |
| **SFEP Presentation**  Staff from the San Francisco Estuary Partnership provided a presentation on wetlands opportunities in the SF Bay margins. These include treatment wetlands, with a focus on horizontal levies, as well as marshlands supported by wastewater effluent. So far, work has been funded via an EPA grant and conducted in partnership with the Regional Water Board, who have been looking at permitting concerns. They are developing a proposal for SRF funding that would allow them to further their research on contaminant removal, provide designs for projects at EBDA, Palo Alto, and San Leandro, and continue capacity building on the project in terms of collaboration and information exchange. The Regional Water Board is interested in a test case for a wetlands project, which will likely be Palo Alto’s ecotone project. Collaboration with SFEP could be part of fulfilling the Regional Study that will be part of the next watershed permit, since the projects under consideration are candidates for nutrient removal. |
| **Nutrients**   1. *Optimization/Upgrade Studies –* BACWA hosted a workshop on May 31 to review the main body of the Optimization and Upgrade Studies Report. Comments from the workshop are being incorporated, and the report is expected to be submitted to the Regional Water Board by the July 1 2018 deadline. Certification letters have been received from all but two agencies. 2. *NST meeting –* The Nutrient Strategy Team met on May 18 to discuss elements of the second watershed permit - the Regional Study as well as concepts for encouraging early actions and reducing the risk of agencies that plan to implement Capital Projects to reduce nutrients. There was some consensus on a concept where early actions could lead to credits that would allow agencies to exceed baseline concentrations for some amount of time in a nutrient load cap scenario. |
| CECs  a. *BACWA White Paper on CECs participation-*  BACWA is developing a White Paper detailing POTW participation in RMP studies. This will be provided to the Water Boards to demonstrate that Region 2 has a robust CECs program, where POTWs participate in studies when needed. The alternative would be requirements for monitoring from the State Water Board. The White Paper will provide a menu of POTW characteristics that would allow the RMP to select representative POTWs to provide effluent studies for any given sample.  b. RMP CEC Workgroup meeting April 12-13 – [see agenda](https://bacwa.org/document/ecwg-agenda-4-11-18/). The group reviewed a series of proposals and selected mostly stormwater studies for recommended funding. There will also likely be a study looking at sunscreen in POTW effluent.  c. RMP Microplastics Workgroup meeting May 15. There was a methods review, and there will be a workgoup to determine how to develop representative analysis techniques to cut down on labor due to particle counting. The group recommended that the RMP fund studies looking at microplastics in fish guts, and tissues, if funds are available. |
| **Triennial Review**  BACWA submitted [comments](https://bacwa.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/BACWA-comments-Triennial-Review-2018.pdf) on the Triennial review. (See RWB Report-out) |
| **Announcements**   * 1. RWB soliciting nominations for 2018 P2 Award – email [Debbie Phan](mailto:Phan,%20Debbie@Waterboards%20%3cDebbie.Phan@Waterboards.ca.gov%3e) by July 13   2. BAAQMD hosting organics recovery Workshop June 25 - [RSVP](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/developing-a-sustainable-organics-recovery-sector-registration-46160634701) |
| **Succession Planning**  The committee is seeking a new vice-chair for FY19. |
| **Next BACWA Permits Committee Meeting:** Tuesday July 10, 12 to 2pm, EBMUD Lab Library |