



2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit/Governance Update

BACWA ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 10, 2020

Agenda



- ▶ Background
- ▶ Key Provisions of the 2nd Nutrient Watershed Permit
- ▶ Current Status
- ▶ Governance of the NMS
- ▶ Next Steps

Background



- ▶ Negotiations for the 2nd WS Permit undertaken by the BACWA Nutrient Strategy Team
- ▶ Over a 3 year period conducted internal discussions and negotiations with the Water Board
- ▶ Each BACWA member contacted individually and received concurrence on supporting the Permit provisions
- ▶ Permit adopted May 2019, effective July 1, 2019
- ▶ 5 Year Permit Term

Key Provisions

- ▶ Continuation of individual plant monitoring for nutrients (influent added, focus on TIN loadings)
- ▶ Continuation of Group Annual Report (change from FY to water year)
- ▶ Continuation to funding for the science (increased to \$2.2 M/yr.)
- ▶ Report on regional recycling
- ▶ Study on nature based solutions, with multiple benefits, for nutrient reduction
- ▶ Established planning level targets for nutrient loads to assist POTWs in their planning efforts
- ▶ Recognition of early actors who achieve significant nutrient reductions

Current Status

- ▶ BACWA funding many of the requirements of the Permit via the Nutrient Surcharge
- ▶ BACWA responsibilities and status:
 - ▶ Group annual report – 1st year completed
 - ▶ Recycled Water Study – under contract, completion in 2023
 - ▶ Study of Nature Based Solution – under contract, completion in 2023
 - ▶ Funding the science – funds for FY 20 will be provided to SFEI in early 2020 with expenditures overseen by the Nutrient Management Strategy (NMS) Steering Committee

Governance

- ▶ The Water Board's NMS sets forth the approach for a scientific investigation of nutrient impacts on the Bay
- ▶ NMS is governed by a 17 member Steering Committee consisting of multiple stakeholders (regulators, resource agencies, dischargers, NGOs, scientific organizations, agriculture, industry, etc.)
 - ▶ Meets quarterly (just completed 22nd meeting), BACWA has 2 seats,
 - ▶ Planning Subcommittee sets agenda and makes recommendations to SC (just completed the 43rd meeting), includes BACWA, BayKeeper and Water Board
- ▶ Science Program is managed by SFEI who engages world-side experts in developing and implementing the Science Plan

Next Steps for BACWA

- ▶ Meet all permit deadlines for reporting and funding
- ▶ Communicate progress to the BACWA membership (i.e. workshops, seminars, briefings, monthly bulletin, etc.)
- ▶ Continue to engage in the governance of the NMS in seeking answers to key scientific questions which will inform the Water Board on needed provisions in the 3rd Watershed Permit
- ▶ Begin early internal discussion on provisions envisioned for the 3rd Watershed Permit and activities that need to be undertaken in preparation for permit negotiations.