

Committee Request for Board Action: None

32 attendees by teleconference, representing 20 member agencies.

Action items shown in red.

Chlorine Basin Plan Amendment

- The Basin Plan Amendment is headed to the SWRCB for approval. BACWA has submitted a [comment letter](#) supporting its adoption.
- Regional Water Board staff have provided preliminary information about dilution credits to be used in implementing effluent limits for residual chlorine, which was circulated to committee members via email.

Statewide Toxicity Provisions

- The Regional Water Board has prepared draft implementation language for the statewide toxicity provisions within Region 2, as presented at the [December 2020 committee meeting](#).
- New toxicity language is not yet being put in administrative draft or Tentative Order permits. The RWQCB will be required to include the new language for any permits adopted after the provisions become effective (pending OAL and EPA approval, expected later in 2021). Some dischargers may see the language changed late in the permit adoption process, even if it is not included in early drafts.
- The group discussed key questions from review of the draft language. Discussion points and poll results are listed below. [Presentation used during discussion of draft toxicity permit language](#).
 - Committee members would like more training on how to use the [TST Spreadsheet tool](#).
 - Committee members prefer to keep using mysid, to the extent feasible, until new species sensitivity screenings are conducted (8 of 14 votes in the Zoom poll). The second preference was to use the next-most sensitive species from the most recent screening (5 of 14 votes).
 - Committee members prefer estuarine dischargers be allowed to use freshwater species in screenings and routine monitoring (9 of 17 votes were for maximum flexibility; 7 of 17 votes were for flexibility with constraints)
 - To determine whether past results were a “PASS” or “FAIL” at the IWC, committee members recommended an evaluation of results at the concentration that is closest to, but higher than, the IWC (i.e., a deep water discharger with an IWC of 2% would evaluate the 5% and 10% effluent concentration but would not consider results from the 25, 50%, or 100% effluent concentration for TST evaluation).
- **BACWA will edit the draft markup of the toxicity language and provide it to Regional Water Board staff for discussion in ~late February.**

Climate Change Surveys Planned by Regional Water Board

- 5 BACWA members are currently beta-testing the Regional Water Board’s draft [climate change survey](#). The next step is to **assemble the beta-test responses and brainstorm changes that could improve the survey.**
- Preliminary response from one beta-tester is that some agencies have prepared planning studies that use different sea level rise projections than those described in the survey. The survey should be worded so as not to imply that this was the wrong approach, given that sea level rise projections continue to change over time.

Nutrients

- BACWA is conducting a [nutrient planning implementation survey](#); responses are due February 16th.
- The 2020 [Group Annual Report](#) for the Nutrient Watershed Permit has been completed. The report contains influent data and removal rates for the first time. The group discussed that it could be valuable to see trends for individual plants (in addition to overall trends). BACWA plans to work with HDR to assess year-to-year variability in the loading data (individually and as a group), and the theoretical impact on compliance if load caps were in place.

Next BACWA Permits Committee Meeting: April 13, 2021