



# Nutrient Strategy Team

## March 15, 2021 Meeting Summary

### ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS

**Executive Board Representatives:** Lori Schectel (Central Contra Costa Sanitary District); Amit Mutsuddy (San Jose); Eileen White (East Bay Municipal Utility District); Jacqueline Zipkin (East Bay Dischargers Authority); Amy Chastain (SFPUC).

**Other Attendees:**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Agency/Company</u>
Lorien Fono, Mary Cousins	BACWA
Blake Brown, Dan Frost, Mary Lou Esparza, Melody LaBella, Amanda Cauble	CCCSD
Amanda Roa	Delta Diablo
Don Gray	EBMUD
Jordan Damerel, Talyon Sortor, Meg Herston	FSSD
Mike Falk	HDR
Karin North	Palo Alto
Eric Dunlavey	San Jose
Azalea Mitch	San Mateo
Jennie Pang, Nohemy Revilla	SFPUC
Eric Hansen, Monte Hamamoto	SVCW
Cameron Kostigen Mumper, Ramana Chinnakotla	Sunnyvale
Tim Grillo, Armando Lopez	USD

### RESULTS OF NUTRIENT PLANNING AND IMPLEMENTATION SURVEY

The BACWA Executive Director shared a summary of responses from the recently completed survey that asked members to provide Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN) load projections and the status of nutrient reduction planning and implementation. Complete survey results were provided to NST members via email, and summarized as follows:

- 30 of 37 member agencies responded to the survey
- 17 of 30 survey respondents reported having a dry season load projection available for the next 10 years. Most of the reported values were in the range of 1 – 1.5% per year.
- 4 of 30 survey respondents currently receive organics for co-digestion; 12 agencies are considering new or expanded organics receiving projects, and 3 agencies anticipate that solids handling will increase TIN loading.
- 5 of 30 survey respondents have already identified projects that will keep TIN loads lower than the load cap identified in the Fact Sheet of the 2<sup>nd</sup> watershed permit.
- 10 projects currently being completed by survey respondents have the potential to reduce TIN load by approximately 10% of the total 2020 dry season load. These projects

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have a completion date of 2020 through 2027 (for the 8 of 10 projects that had a completion date identified).

- Limited cost information provided by survey respondents indicates that costs are about the same order of magnitude as predicted by the 2018 Optimization & Upgrade studies (which included project management costs). Meeting attendees discussed that at some point it would be worthwhile to revisit those cost estimates, but right now material pricing is extremely dynamic.
- Complete results will not be shared with the Regional Water Board until individual agencies provide approval.

The survey results will be used in developing key tenets for the 3<sup>rd</sup> Watershed Permit.

### **REVIEW OF PROPOSED SCOPE OF WORK FOR ANALYSIS OF HISTORICAL DATA**

Meeting attendees discussed the draft scope of work prepared by HDR to (a) evaluate how historical variability in annual loading could affect compliance with projected future load caps, and (b) revisit the loading trend statistics that are included in each Group Annual Report per provision IV.B.1.b.iii of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Watershed Permit.

Feedback from meeting attendees included:

- More clearly presenting the scenarios to be used in the analysis of historical load variability, in a table or matrix form;
- Using 2 sub-embayments instead of 5 for the analysis of load variability;
- Sophisticated statistical analysis of loading trends is not desired for the Group Annual Report; instead, it would be ideal to differentiate TIN load changes due to known upgrades from load variability due to other causes. The second portion of the draft scope of work regarding the Group Annual Report may be revised to include this concept, or deferred until a later date.

Written comments on the draft scope of work were requested by Friday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, after which HDR will prepare a revised draft scope.

### **NEXT STEPS**

The next meeting to be held in mid- to late April 2021 will include discussion of draft key tenets for the 3<sup>rd</sup> watershed permit. It will also include a brief status update on the analysis of historical variability with respect to projected load caps (which is not anticipated to be complete).