

Committee Request for Board Action: None

37 attendees, including representatives from 25 member agencies and 4 guests from V&A

Round Table Discussion on October Atmospheric River

BACWA's Regulatory Program Manager shared data from CIWQS regarding the number of SSOs in late October due to the atmospheric river event. Steve Moore from Ross Valley Sanitary District noted that Kentfield recorded 12 inches of rain in 24 hours! The number of SSOs in the San Francisco Bay Area was not remarkable compared to historic trends, but there were several very high-volume SSOs, so the total volume was high. The Regional Water Board compiled information about some of the large SSOs and treatment bypasses in the [November 2021 Executive Officer's Report](#). Representatives from Pacifica and San Francisco shared information about SSOs in their service areas due to the rain event. As a result of the storm, Pacifica has decided to add popup valves as a standard spec for private lateral cleanouts. Several plants, including Napa Sanitation District and CMSA, set new records for peak flow. The storm was less noticeable in the South Bay.

Presentation on Using Data Science to Optimize Gravity Main Cleaning

Lars Stenstedt of [V&A Consulting Engineers](#) presented on the use of data science to optimize cleaning of gravity sewer mains. His presentation slides are available [here](#). Highlights from the presentation and Q&A included:

- Agencies should plan to make a gradual transition to greater use of data science. The most challenging step is the acquisition of collection system data and putting into a usable form for advanced analytics.
- Data science can be used to demonstrate which parts of the collection system may need to be cleaned more or less frequently, and which types of equipment should be used (i.e., if roots are expected based on past experience, go in with a rodder).
- Agencies should consider collecting information during the cleaning process – was the stream clear, light, medium, or heavy? Were there roots, FOG, debris, or rags collected? If this information is entered into a database, it may reveal trends that can be used to optimize cleaning practices.
- During the discussion, there was agreement that photographs of these different cleaning metrics (light vs. medium buildup) would be important for operators in the field to reference, especially if there is going to be consistency across agencies.

SSS WDR Update

The committee discussed the status of the Draft Sanitary Sewer Order (SSS-WDR). BACWA recently conducted outreach to Regional Water Board staff to remind them on key points from the June [comment letter](#). State Water Board plans to release a public review draft in December 2021 or January 2022, starting a 60-day public comment period. Attendees requested that once the public draft is released, BACWA staff prepare a markup with specific questions flagged for collection system operators. Collecting feedback from committee members and collection system operators is crucial for developing BACWA's response.

A special committee meeting may be called if review comments on the public draft SSS-WDR are needed before the February meeting.

Next Collection System Committee Meeting

Thursday, February 10th, 2022 10 AM via Zoom.
The committee may resume meeting in-person in 2022,