

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

City/County Library Community Room
995 Palm Street
San Luis Obispo

Wednesday, June 2, 2010
1:30 p.m.

1. **Determination of a Quorum and Introductions**
2. **Approval of May Meeting Minutes**
3. **Public Comment (15 Minutes)**
4. **Ongoing Updates:**
 - a. **Master Water Plan**
 - b. **Integrated Regional Water Management**
 - c. **Planning Department Efforts**
 - d. **Rainfall and Reservoir Update**
 - e. **Status of Negotiations with the Central Coast Water Authority for Emergency Water to South County**
5. **Subcommittee to Review the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's Draft Agricultural Order and Public Feedback**
6. **Shandon Community Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report Subcommittee Report**
7. **Consideration of Forming a Subcommittee to Review the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Resource Capacity Study**
8. **Consideration of Reconvening the Los Osos Wastewater Project Subcommittee to Review Publicly Released Information from the Interlocutory Stipulated Judgment Entities**
9. **Consideration of Holding a WRAC Meeting in July and/or August**
10. **Future Agenda Items**
11. **Public Comment (if needed)**

--- *Adjourn by 3:30 p.m.* ---

Next Regular Meeting: **TBD**

Visit Water Resources on the Web at: www.SLOCountyWater.org

Purpose of the Committee:

To advise the County Board of Supervisors concerning all policy decisions relating to the water resources of the SLO County Flood Control & Water Conservation District. To recommend to the Board specific water resource programs. To recommend methods of financing water resource programs.

Excerpts from WRAC By-Laws dated November 3, 2009

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY FLOOD CONTROL
AND WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

May 5, 2010

An audio recording of the meeting and materials submitted during public comment are available online at www.SLOCountyWater.org.

Approximately 1:30 p.m., Chairperson Winn called the meeting to order.

- 1) Determination of a Quorum and Introductions - Quorum Established.
- 2) Approval of April Meeting Minutes - The April 7, 2010 WRAC meeting minutes were approved upon a first by Member Fitzhugh, second by Member Sinton, and a unanimous vote with two (2) abstentions.
- 3) Public Comment (15 minutes) - Marshall Ochylski, Los Osos Community Services District President, informs the WRAC that the Los Osos Groundwater Basin Interlocutory Stipulated Judgment (ISJ) Working Group released a Groundwater Basin Update, which includes the results of recent saltwater intrusion monitoring and a peer review of the basin modeling analysis. Jeff Edwards requests that the WRAC discuss the issue of saltwater intrusion in the Los Osos groundwater basin in light of the Groundwater Basin Update that the (ISJ) Working Group recently released. Frank Ausilio speaks to the 2009 Resource Management System (RMS) Annual Summary Report and suggests that it address impacts of future Proposition 218 votes, basin-wide conservation measures, landscape ordinances, and utilization of catch basins for groundwater recharge. Gwynn Taylor requests that the WRAC review saltwater intrusion in the Los Osos groundwater basin, and informs the WRAC of an invasive alga, commonly referred to as "rock snot", that may cause significant negative impacts to regional rivers, streams, and reservoirs. Richard Margetson indicates that the Board of Supervisors continued the hearing to consider the 2009 RMS report to June 8, 2010, and asks if it is the intention of the WRAC to review the revised report. Member Hyman informs the WRAC of an article in The Tribune which indicates that the State could end seawater cooling by Diablo and Morro Bay power plants, and of another article indicating that mandatory water conservation measures are in now in effect for customers of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California. Member Greening requests that the WRAC review both the Los Osos saltwater intrusion study and the updated 2009 RMS report at the June WRAC meeting. Member Gilmore speaks to the Los Osos Groundwater Basin Update, and to its relation with the groundwater Basin Management Plan and other ISJ work products. Member Eby asks which agency has jurisdiction of saltwater intrusion in Los Osos. Chairperson Winn supports consideration of forming a subcommittee to review the Los Osos saltwater intrusion issue, and speaks to the schedule and Board direction regarding the 2009 RMS.

4) Ongoing Updates:

- a. Master Water Plan - Courtney Howard, County Public Works, provides an update on the Master Water Plan (MWP), and speaks to incorporating comments into MWP documents, to revising the scoring system for water management strategies, to the availability of presentation materials online, to efforts to evaluate individual water planning areas (WPA) and how different water management strategies may meet the needs of each WPA, and to the status of associated Technical Memoranda. Discussion ensues regarding the distinction between anticipated cost estimates and actual project costs, varying levels of cost-benefit certainty among different projects, the use of the word *criterion* for the singular rather than *criteria*, and the reliability of an overall system versus the reliability of specific projects.
- b. Planning Department Efforts - Courtney Howard, County Public Works, indicates that the discussion points related to this agenda item were declared during the public comment period. Member Greening encourages members of the WRAC to provide water related input at the Land Use and Circulation Element and Climate Action Plan Town Hall event scheduled on May 13, 2010. Discussion ensues regarding private property owner requests for zoning changes and regarding the policy/planning nature of these documents.
- c. Procedures for Well Permit Referrals - Syllas Cranor, County Public Works, informs the WRAC that procedures are established with the Department of Planning and Building to address new well permit referrals for wells located in the Coastal Zone, that the Public Works Department is working with a consultant to develop a protocol to help evaluate these well permit applications, and that the consultant is also helping to evaluate additional wells to add to the District groundwater measuring program. Discussion ensues regarding the types of groundwater monitoring that may be required.
- d. Rainfall and Reservoir Update - Brief discussion.
- e. Status of Negotiations with the Central Coast Water Authority for Emergency Water to South County - Courtney Howard, County Public Works, informs members of the WRAC that District staff, Central Coast Water Authority (CCWA) staff, and Northern Cities Management Area (NCMA) representatives have mutually agreed on recommendations to provide emergency water to South County to mitigate the risk of seawater intrusion in the NCMA. Discussion ensues regarding the extent of the seawater intrusion, water quality trends for the Pier Avenue well, the potential terms of such agreement between the District and the CCWA, conceptual plan for a Santa Margarita exchange agreement, the costs that are generally included in a Proposition 218 initiative, other funding mechanisms to finance ongoing operations and maintenance expenses, the availability of the NCMA 2009 Annual Report, the current State Water delivery allocation, and potential impacts to State Water Project subcontractors that are not part of the NCMA.

- 5) Consideration of Forming a Subcommittee to Review the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's Draft Agricultural Order and Public Feedback - Chairperson Winn provides background information on agricultural community and the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) perspectives regarding the RWQCB's draft agricultural order, and asks WRAC members if they want to form a subcommittee to review the draft agricultural order and other related reports. Discussion ensues regarding the Agricultural Liaison Advisory Board's (ALAB) general role in reviewing draft agricultural order. Member Fitzhugh provides background information regarding the 2004 agricultural waiver, and speaks to current efforts between the agricultural community and the RWQCB to update the agricultural order. Discussion ensues regarding the conceptual nature of the agricultural community's alternative, the anticipated actions by the County Board of Supervisors, the development and content of the agricultural community's alternative, the past collaboration conflicts between the agricultural community and the RWQCB, the impacts of the draft agricultural waiver to low-risk dischargers, the content and schedule of future RWQCB workshops, the purpose and schedule of an ad-hoc subcommittee if it were to be formed, the current and future efforts between Agricultural Commissioner Robert Lilley and the Board of Supervisors, the involvement of other advisory committees, the quantity of public comment on the draft agricultural waiver, the validity and sources of supporting documents and reference materials, the need for compliance with the California Environmental Quality Act, the potential actions by the Board of Supervisors in response to advisory committee recommendations, the need for the WRAC to review water issues related to the county's largest industry, and the impacts of agricultural water use on urban communities. Member Winholtz moves to form a subcommittee to review the RWQCB draft agricultural order and supporting background materials, to review concerns raised by the agriculture community, to take into account the reports made by Agricultural Commissioner Robert Lilley to the Board of Supervisors, and to return to the WRAC with a clearer definition of the subcommittee goals, with a second by Member Hyman. The motion passes unanimously. Member Hyman, Member Luft, Member Fitzhugh, Member Zelinski, Alternate Member Broadhurst, and Alternate Member Gillespie volunteer to serve on the ad-hoc subcommittee. Member Luft volunteers to serve as subcommittee chair.
- 6) Subcommittee Report on the Draft Shandon Community Plan - Member Sinton, subcommittee chairperson, provides the WRAC with a summary of the subcommittee report, and reports that the proposed project will likely violate Policy AGP 11 and AGP 24 of the County Agriculture Element. Discussion ensues regarding declining groundwater levels in Shandon and the need to optimize groundwater recharge. Member Greening recommends that the text of the last sentence in the third paragraph read: "The applicability of this This policy should ...". Discussion ensues regarding the applicability of AGP 11 for areas with changed land use zoning and the need to require tertiary treated wastewater. Member Alakel speaks to the lack of a reliable groundwater supply and to current efforts to manage the Paso Robles groundwater basin, and recommends that the County consider including the community of Shandon in the "area of concern", as defined in the draft Paso Robles Resource Capacity Study. Discussion ensues regarding the boundary of the "area of concern" and the Paso Robles Groundwater Management Plan. Member Alakel recommends adding the following language to the end of the subcommittee report: "*The Shandon*

Community Plan does not reflect prudent water planning, and contradicts current basin management efforts and established land use policies. It is for these reasons that the WRAC strongly objects to the proposed plan.”. Member Greening moves to adopt the subcommittee report with the amendments suggested by Member Greening and Member Alakel (specified herein), with a second by Member Fitzhugh. The motion passes unanimously. Discussion ensues regarding the need for the ad-hoc subcommittee to review the Shandon Community Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report.

- 7) 2010-11 Fiscal Year Flood Control General Proposed Budget and WRAC Priorities - Courtney Howard, County Public Works, presents the proposed 2010-11 fiscal year Flood Control and Water Conservation District general budget and WRAC priorities, reviews the 2009-10 budget expenditures, and highlights budget allocations for the completion of the Master Water Plan, to perform the State Water Project Coastal Branch Capacity Analysis, to improve on and maintain existing hydrologic monitoring sites, to support Integrated Regional Water Management planning and County Planning and Building Department efforts, and increased participation with the Cachuma Resource Conservation District Mobile Irrigation Lab. Discussion ensues regarding the interest rates earned on reserves, the invasive mussel prevention efforts, the sources of potential revenue and the potential for grant opportunities, the necessity to fund county drainage studies, the increased costs associated with additional permitting requirements for perspective projects, and the desire to establish a budget for regional hydrologic modeling. Member Hyman moves to approve the 2010-11 fiscal year Flood Control General proposed budget and WRAC priorities, with a second by Member Ashbaugh. Discussion ensues regarding expenses related to the “Master Water Plan Coordination” and “Hydrological Data” budget items. The motion passes unanimously.
- 8) Future Agenda Items - Brief discussion.
- 9) Public Comment (cont.) - None.

Meeting adjourned approximately 3:30 p.m.

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2010

Organization	Representative		Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Cambria CSD	Jim Adams	M												
	Robert Reason	A												
	Bob Gresens	Staff		X										
Heritage Ranch CSD	John D'Ornellas	M				X	X							
	Debbie Fransen	A												
Los Osos CSD	Maria Kelly	M	X	X	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Dan Gilmore**		n/a	n/a	X	X	X							
	Marshall Ochylski	A	X		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Maria Kelly**		n/a	n/a										
	Dan Gilmore	Staff	X	X	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Nipomo CSD	Marshall Ochylski		n/a	n/a			X							
	Bruce Buell	M			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Ed Eby**		n/a	n/a	X	X	X							
	Ed Eby	A	X	X	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Oceano CSD	Vacant*		n/a	n/a										
	Barbara Mann	M												
Templeton CSD	Phil Davis	A												
	Jeff Hodge	M	X				X							
San Simeon CSD	Judith Dieth	A												
	John Russell	M	X	X	X	X	X							
San Miguel CSD	Charles Grace	A												
	Mike Ellison	M												
City of Arroyo Grande	Dale Hamblin	A												
	Chuck Fellows	M	X		X	X	X							
City of Atascadero	Jim Guthrie	A												
	Russ Thompson	M	X	X			X	X						
City of Grover Beach	David Athey	A	*											
	Robert Mires	M	X	X	X	X	X							
City of Morro Bay	Debbie Peterson	A												
	Betty Winholtz	M	X	X	X	X	X							
City of Paso Robles	Dylan Wade	A	X	X	X									
	Christopher Alakel	M						X						
City of Pismo Beach	Keith Larson	A	X	X	X	X	X							
	Ted Ehring	M			X	X	X	X						
	Ed Waage	A												
	Dwayne Chisam	Staff		X	X	X								
City of San Luis Obispo	Allen Settle	M			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	John Ashbaugh**		n/a	n/a	X	X	X							
	Andrew Carter	A			n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Jan Marx**		n/a	n/a										
	John Ashbaugh	Staff		X	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Gary Henderson		X	X	X	X								
District 1	Ron Munds		X				X							
	Steve Sinton	M	X		X	X	X							
District 2	Bill Garfinkel	M	X	X	X	X								
District 3	Marilee Hyman	M	X	X	X	X	X							
District 4	Michael Winn	M	X	X	X	X	X							
District 5	Dan O'Grady	M	*	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	
California Men's Colony	Della Barrett**	M	n/a	X	X	X	X							
	John Kellerman	M					n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Mike Vela**	NM	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a								
	Mike Mintey	A			X	X		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Rudy Vargas**	NA	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a								
Camp SLO	Mike Vela	Staff				X	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	John Reid	M	X	*	X	X	X							
Cuesta College	Nicole Balliet	A		*										
	Edralin Maduli	M												
Atascadero Mutual	Terry Reece	A												
	John Neil	M												
Golden State Water	Jaime Lien	A			X		X							
	Mark Zimmer	M	*		X	*	*							
Agriculture At-Large	Patrick Vowell	A	X	X	*	*	X							
	Ray Allen	M		X		X	X							
	Lowell Zelinski**	M	n/a	X	X		X							
	Mike Broadhurst	A	*	X	X		X							
County Farm Bureau	Steve Lohr**	A	n/a				X							
	Joy Fitzhugh	M	X	X	X	X	X							
	Jackie Crabb	A				X								
	Sue Luft	M	X	X	X	X	X							
	Eric Greening	M	X	X	X	X	X							
Environmental At-Large	Daniel Berman**	M	n/a	X		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	David Chipping	A	X	X	X	X	X							
	Sue Harvey	A	X	X			X							
	Annie Gillespie**	A	n/a	*	X	X	X							
Coastal San Luis RCD	Linda Chipping	M	X	X	X	X	X							
	Kathie Matsuyama	A												
Upper Salinas RCD	Tom Mora	M		X										
	Bill Bianchi	A	X				X							
	Shayna Bailey	Staff	X											
	Donald J. Funk		X		n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Board of Supervisors	Jim Patterson	Dist. 5	X											
	Courtney Howard		X	*	X	X	X							
	Paavo Ogren				X	X								
	Dean Benedix	Staff		X										
	Sylas Cranor		X	X	*	X	X							
Planning and Building	Carolyn Berg			X										
	James Caruso		X	X	X	X								
	Suzan Ehdaie	Staff		X										
	Katie Simkover			X										
Public Health Services	Jay Johnson					X								
	Leslie Terry	Staff	X	X	X	X	X							
	Megan Lillich		X	X	X	X	X							
Agricultural Commissioner	Michael Isensee	Staff	X		X	X	X							

M = Member; A = Alternate; NM = New Member; NA = New Alternate;
 * = Notified of absence or conflict

* = To be confirmed at a future BOS meeting
 ** = Membership confirmed by the BOS after 01/01/2010

WATER RESOURCES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

2010 GUEST LIST

NAME	AFFILIATION (if any)	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Ausilio, Frank	Public	X			X	X							
Bailey, Shayna	Upper Salinas-Las Tablas RCD	X	X										
Barnett, Mark	Natural Resources Conservation Service	X											
Berman, Dan	Morro Bay National Estuary Program	X											
Bodrogi, Lisa	Paso Robles Wine Country Alliance	X		X									
Carella, Lou	Carollo Engineers	X											
Dooley, Michelle	DWR, San Joaquin District	X		X									
Edwards, Jeff	Private Planner	X	X	X	X	X							
Fain, Annika	ESA	X											
Gillespie, Annie**	Morro Bay National Estuary Program	X											
Gutierrez, Jose	Carollo Engineers	X			X								
Jennings, Dorothy	Public					X							
Lohr, Steve**	J. Lohr Vineyards & Wines	X											
Margetson, Richard						X							
McCann, Lisa	Water Quality Control Board			X									
Owen, Linde				X	X								
Petrick, Bill	Blacklake Management Association	X											
Rice, Amanda	North Coast Advisory Council	X											
Schroeter, Angela	Water Quality Control Board			X									
Smokoska, Ken	Program Coordinator	X											
Snyder, John		X	X	X	X								
Sorensen, Paul	Fugro West Inc.				X								
Sweet, Kathy	Public	X			X								
Tanaka, Steven	Wallace Group	X			X								
Taylor, George		X	X	X	X	X							
Taylor, Gwynn		X	X	X	X	X							
Thomas, Michael	Water Quality Control Board			X									
Tornatzky, Lynette						X							
Wald, Stephnie	Central Coast Salmon Enhancement		X										
Whitney, C. Z.	Santa Margarita Area Advisory Council			X									
Williams, Dawn	League of Women Voters					X							
Williams, Stan	Poseidon Water	X											
Zelus, Cheryl	Natural Resources Conservation Service	X											
Zigas, Eric	ESA	X											

*Special Meeting

**See Member List

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Courtney Howard, SLO County Water Resources Engineer

DATE: June 2, 2010

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #4.b: Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM)

Applications for the next implementation grant funding round are anticipated to be due by September 2010. Eligible projects are those that are identified in our region's existing IRWM Plan, and competitive projects are those that will be ready to go to construction within six months of grant award – roughly June 2011. Maximum funding available is in the \$5.7 to \$11.7 million dollar range.

The high priority projects identified in the IRMW Plan are attached. Public Works Staff would like to meet with the WRAC in July to recommend the appropriate projects to include in the grant application so that the project proponents can begin preparing application materials.

An update to the Plan is anticipated to begin shortly after the implementation grant round. The State is anticipated to conduct a concurrent planning grant round that, if our region were to apply and be successful, would help fund San Luis Obispo County's IRWM Plan update.

The draft State guidelines are available at the following website:
http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/integregio_new10.cfm

2007 San Luis Obispo County IRWM Plan Priority Projects

	Project	Readiness	Score	Program Linkages				
				Water Quality	Water Supply	Ecosystem	Groundwater	Flood
Water Quality	Los Osos Community Wastewater Project	2009	52.8	●	●	●	●	
	Southland Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade	2009	37.9	●	●	●	●	
Water Supply	Nacimiento Water Project	2008	32.1	●	●	●	●	
	Morro Bay Desalination Facility Upgrade	2008	37.1	●	●	●	●	
	Nipomo CSD Supplemental Water Project	2009	34.2	●	●	●	●	
Ecosystem	Morro Bay Estuary CCMP Chorro Creek Ecological Reserve Restoration Project	2008	68.5	●		●		●
Flood	Flood Control Zone 1/1A Waterway Management Program	2007	44.8	●		●		●
	Flood Control Zone 9 Waterway Management Program	2008	44.8	●		●		●

Rainfall Update

Region	Precipitation Station	Average Annual Rainfall	2008-09 Water Year Total Rainfall	2009-10 Water Year												Cumulative Total	% of Total Average
				Jul 09	Aug 09	Sep 09	Oct 09	Nov 09	Dec 09	Jan 10	Feb 10	Mar 10	Apr 10	May 10 ^A	Jun 10		
Cambria	Santa Rosa at Main Street (ALERT #717)	22.0	10.4 (47%)	0	0	0.16	4.29	0.04	3.43	5.43 ^C	5.20 ^C	1.54 ^C	2.17 ^C	0.12 ^C	-	22.21	101%
				0	0	0.04	3.60	0	3.48	5.72	3.28	0.56	2.56	0.08	-	19.32	137%
Paso Robles	Salinas River at Paso Robles (CDEC ID: PAS)	14.1	8.4 (60%)	0	0	0	3.86	0	3.54	5.98	2.99	0.71	1.93	0.08	-	19.09	112%
				0	0	0	5.71	0.08	4.92	8.62	4.72	0.83	1.89	0.04	-	26.81	112%
Atascadero	Atascadero (ALERT #711)	17.0	7.7 (45%)	0	0	0	7.36	0.08	4.80	8.94	5.75	1.81	2.44	0.20	-	31.46	131%
				0	0	0.08	7.36	0.08	4.80	8.94	5.75	1.81	2.44	0.20	-	31.46	131%
Santa Margarita	Santa Margarita (ALERT #723)	24.0	14.4 (60%)	0	0	0	4.70	0	5.85	7.56	4.77	1.99	2.78	0.29	-	27.94	121%
				0	0	0	4.70	0	5.85	7.56	4.77	1.99	2.78	0.29	-	27.94	121%
San Luis Obispo	SLO Reservoir (ALERT #749)	24.0	12.3 (51%)	0	0	0	0.17	0.21	2.78	6.08	3.54	1.41	2.79	0.67	-	17.65	119%
				0	0	0	0.17	0.21	2.78	6.08	3.54	1.41	2.79	0.67	-	17.65	119%
Lopez	Lopez Recreation Area (ALERT #707)	23.0	12.5 (55%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Nipomo	Nipomo ^B (CIMIS #202)	14.8	7.5 (50%)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

A - Report generated at 10:30 a.m. on 05/27/2010

B - It appears that this gauge is occasionally recording irrigation water, in addition to precipitation.

C - Value underrepresents actual rainfall; the equipment at this site malfunctioned during this month.

Notes:

This table contains provisional data from automated gauges and has not been verified.

All units reported in inches.

Reservoir Update

Reservoir	Date	Water Elevation (ft)	Spillway Elevation (ft)	Storage (acre-feet)	Capacity (%)
Nacimiento	May 26, 2010	776.5	800.0	256,243	68%
	May 26, 2009	741.5	800.0	123,975	37%
Lopez	May 26, 2010	499.4	523.0	30,890	63%
	May 26, 2009	495.7	523.0	28,429	58%
Salinas (Santa Margarita)	May 27, 2010	1300.4	1300.7	23,592	99%
	May 27, 2009	1288.2	1300.7	15,833	66%
Whale Rock	May 26, 2010	180.4	216.0	22,632	56%
	May 26, 2009	184.8	216.0	24,506	60%
Twitchell	May 27, 2010	557.2	651.5	13,637	7%

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee
FROM: Courtney Howard, SLO County Water Resources Engineer
DATE: June 2, 2010
**SUBJECT: Agenda Item #6: Shandon Community Plan Draft
Environmental Impact Report Subcommittee Report**

Recommendation

Review and consider submitting the subcommittee's report on the Shandon Community Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report to the County.

Discussion

The subcommittee's comments on the Shandon Community Plan Draft Environmental Impact Report are attached.

Attachments: Subcommittee Comments

Report
of the
San Luis Obispo County Water Resources Advisory Committee
Subcommittee to review the Shandon Community Plan Update and San Juan Village
Environmental Impact Report
May 2010

The subcommittee members are Steve Sinton (subcommittee chair), Ray Allen, Della Barrett, Sue Luft, Mike Winn, and Eric Greening. The subcommittee presented a report regarding our review of the Shandon Community Plan Update to the WRAC at the May 5, 2010 meeting. This report was unanimously approved by the WRAC for transmittal to SLO County Planning.

Subsequent to presentation of our report to the WRAC, the Environmental Impact Report for the Shandon Community Plan Update and San Juan Village was released. The subcommittee has prepared an additional report for consideration by the WRAC. If approved by the WRAC, this report would also be submitted to SLO County Planning.

Our review was limited to Section 4.14 - Water and Wastewater, Appendix I – Water Resources Evaluation, Section 4.2 – Agricultural Resources (with respect to agricultural water supplies) and the introductory sections which address water and wastewater. We also incorporate by reference, as additional comments, our earlier report concerning the Shandon Community Plan Update.

Section 4.14.1a. Discussion of the most recent groundwater reports and data should be included and analyzed. The section needs to address the “Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Water Balance Review and Update”, dated March 2010. This report states that “demand in both the Atascadero Subbasin and the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin as a whole is approaching the average annual perennial yield.” In 2009, total groundwater outflow in the Basin was between 94% and 99% of the perennial yield.

Also, the report presented to the Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Management Plan Advisory Committee should be discussed. The map of the “Change in Groundwater Levels in the Shandon Subarea for the 1997 to 2009 Period” (page 9 of the Paso Robles Groundwater Management Plan, Overview of Shandon Subarea, dated February 25, 2010) shows a 60 to 70 foot decline in groundwater elevation during the 12-year period studied, and the same report at page 7 states that a well “just west of Shandon” has experienced a decline of almost 90 feet.

The EIR appears to say that declines in the Shandon area are a result of activity in the Shandon area, not the Estrella area. However their wording is very confusing. We suggest the wording be clarified. The EIR also does not address whether the area near the Paso Robles airport with significantly lowered water levels will cause any acceleration in draw down of the Shandon area water levels. If so, the impact of that in combination with development impacts should be addressed.

In the section of the EIR where the Shandon Sub basin is described as being 2,000 feet thick in places, we suggest the EIR should include some analysis of the water quality at that depth. If no analysis is available, we suggest language be inserted pointing out that

fact, mentioning that water quality typically deteriorates deeper in an aquifer, and also mention the mild problems with mineral levels at the current level of pumping.

Section 4.14.2. Impact W-1, Water Supply. Community Plan Update. The subcommittee agrees that the impacts of both Scenario 2 and 4 are Class I, significant and unavoidable. The conclusion for Scenario 4 appears to be in conflict with the discussion in Appendix I. However, the conclusion regarding this scenario presented in Section 4.14.2 is correct.

Section 4.2. We agree that the Shandon Community Plan will violate Ag Policy 11, which states that groundwater should be maintained for production agriculture, not municipal uses.

An overarching concern of the subcommittee is that the EIR has demonstrated that there is a Class I significant and unavoidable impact to water supply from the Shandon Community Plan. The Executive Summary states that “[a]lthough implementation of the mitigation measures outlined above, including importation of State Water Project water, would reduce impacts to the extent possible, no feasible measures are available to reduce buildout water demand to the extent that there is no annual net decrease in water storage.”

The subcommittee re-affirms the statements made in the WRAC comments on the Shandon Community Plan: 1) that the Plan does not reflect prudent water planning, and contradicts current basin management efforts and established land use policies and 2) it is for these reasons that the WRAC strongly objects to the proposed plan.

Further, we believe that no “Statement of Overriding Considerations” could genuinely override this resource limitation. The current voluntary basin-wide efforts to conserve our existing groundwater supply are pointless if the County will allow overdrafting of the groundwater in Shandon. In fact, approval of the Shandon plan with its reliance on groundwater could de-rail the progress made thus far in voluntary conservation when individuals see their own curtailing of water use was only to provide water for new development.

While the EIR concludes that the Falling Star development will not adversely impact groundwater supplies underlying Shandon, it is unclear if this assessment includes all of the potential development from existing undeveloped parcels in the community. The number of infill and pre-existing lots within the Shandon planning area should be included in evaluating this potential development impact.

At page 22 of section 4.14 in setting the “Plan Requirements and Timing” for the wastewater treatment facility, the EIR would require the design of the facility prior to the issuance of building permits for development, but not the actual commitment to construction of the WWTF as was recommended by the WRAC in the prior and included comments on the community plan update.

TO: Water Resources Advisory Committee

FROM: Courtney Howard, SLO County Water Resources Engineer

DATE: June 2, 2010

SUBJECT: Agenda Item #9: Consideration of Holding a WRAC Meeting in July and/or August

Recommendation

Hold a WRAC meeting on July 7, 2010 from 1:30 to 3:30.

Discussion

Based on discussions between the Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary regarding the timing of high-priority items within the WRAC's purview, it is recommended that the WRAC meet in July to discuss and potentially act on the following items:

- Paso Robles Groundwater Basin Draft Resource Capacity Study and Water Balance Update (August Planning Commission hearing)
- Selection of Projects for Integrated Regional Water Management Program Implementation Grant Application (September application submittal)
- Subcommittee to Review the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's Draft Agricultural Order and Public Feedback and a Presentation from Agricultural Commissioner Bob Lilley. (July 8 workshop)
- Los Osos Wastewater Project Subcommittee to Review Publicly Released Information from the Interlocutory Stipulated Judgment Entities (if reconvened and timing is a consideration)

Public Works Staff may also be able to provide a substantive update on invasive mussel prevention programs in July.

It is possible that some of the schedules for these items may change, at which point holding a WRAC meeting in August should be considered.