

Coachella Valley Regional Water Management Group Salt and Nutrient Workshop #1

Wednesday August 22, 2012
1:00 – 3:00 pm

Coachella Valley Water District
CVWD Training Room
75-515 Hovley Lane East
Palm Desert, CA 92260

MEETING NOTES

Italics denote action items.

Attendance

Berlinda Blackburn, CWA
Katie Ruark, DWA
Mark Krause, DWA
Brent Gray, MSWD
Mike Thornton, MSWD
Brian Macy, IWA
Sara Toyoda, IWA

Olivia Bennett, CVWD
Steve Bigley, CVWD
Patti Reyes, CVWD
Abdi Haile, RWQCB
Daniel Cozad, IPM
Scott Lynch, RMC
Rosalyn Prickett, RMC

Meeting Objectives

- Introduction to Salt and Nutrient Management Planning (SNMP)
- Understanding of Water Planning History in Region
- Approach for Developing Salt and Nutrient Management Strategy

Agenda

1. IRWMP Background

Scott Lynch provided background the Coachella IRWMP and the various technical tasks being conducted under the IRWMP, including the Coachella Groundwater Basin Salt/Nutrient Management Plan (SNMP).

2. Introduction to SNMP

Daniel Cozad provided background information on the State's requirements for conducting Salt/Nutrient Management Plans (SNMP). The State's process, timeline, suggested and required elements, and planning phases were presented. The stakeholder process and involvement was also discussed.

3. History of Water Planning in the Coachella Valley

Daniel Cozad presented a summary overview of water planning history in the Valley and the Colorado River Basin Plan.

4. Approach and Process

Scott Lynch presented the SNMP planning process, including the approach and process for developing the Coachella Groundwater SNMP. Key considerations for developing the SNMP Work Plan and the SNMP were presented. Current and additional stakeholders were identified and discussed. A preliminary Work Plan outline was presented.

- Suggestions to add the following stakeholders to the invite list:
 - Peter Nelson – Agriculture interests
 - Stew Roland – Golf Course interests
 - Critical dischargers, including Valley Sanitation and the City of Palm Springs
 - MS4 Permittees
 - Mike Shetler - Riverside County
 - Scott Brouchner - Riverside Flood Control District (lead for Valley MS4 permitting)
 - Caltrans
 - Banning Pass Water Agency – they are a sub area to the Valley
- Question: Do CECs need to be covered in the SNMP?
 - General discussion and consensus was that this would be something that would be decided during the SNMP process. CECs are most important when Indirect Potable Reuse Projects are being considered. This may also be up to the RWQCB.
- Suggestion that the Work Plan be presented to the RWQCB for their information.
- The Basin Plan only has one overall objective, despite different parts of the Basin having different uses and water qualities. This may be something for the Stakeholder to address as part of the SNMP process.
- Question: Will the SNMP include an evaluation of the Salton Sea?
 - Abdi Haile said that the focus would only be on the Coachella Groundwater Basin and would not involve the Salton Sea. However, we the Salton Sea may need to be considered as part of the SNMP since it is a federally recognized salt discharge body.

5. Next Steps

Scott Lynch presented the proposed next steps in the development of the SNMP Work Plan.