

NBWA
Watershed Council Meeting Summary
June 13, 2012 – 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.
Novato Sanitary District
500 Davidson Street
Novato, CA 94945

I. Introductions.

Introductions began at 4:10 p.m. and Harry Seraydarian, NBWA Executive Director reviewed the agenda.

Announcements:

- Sonoma Ecology Center and four other non profits are now operating Sugarloaf Ridge State Park
- NBWA and PRBO are hosting two Sea Level Rise Workshops:
 - June 20th – Petaluma, 1 to 5 pm, PRBO Office: 3820 Cypress Dr #11
 - June 28th – San Rafael, 8:30 am-12:30 pm, Marin County Health & Wellness Campus: 3240 Kerner Blvd.

II. BAIRWMP Update/North Bay Sub-Region. Harry used a PowerPoint presentation to update the Council on Bay Area efforts since January 2012. Harry referred to a prior detailed briefing for background on the NBWA website under Watershed Council Presentations – January 24, 2012. Harry noted that the overall schedule was still the same (completion date in August 2013) and highlighted the topics that have been identified for the rest of the calendar year for the BAIRWMP Coordinating Committee monthly meetings (for information go to the BAIRWMP website: <http://bairwmp.org/> Recent Events: May 21, 2012 with meeting attachments). Harry announced that the Project Template is now available on the BAIRWMP website and can be downloaded and e-mailed to: Projects@bairwmp.org. Harry reinforced the emphasis on “integrated” projects and announced that the project deadline for submittals is September 1, 2012. Harry then described the sequential review process for Plan chapters using the Governance chapter as an example. He then addressed the Plan Objectives and described the approach to revisiting the 6 Goals and 62 Objectives in the 2006 Plan. Harry noted the biggest change will be the effort to quantify objectives and he then walked through the approach to quantify objectives using the Watershed/Habitat objectives in the 2006 Plan. Harry then described the efforts on the Climate Change chapter and the proposal to create a Technical Advisory Committee (TAC). The first TAC workshop on Climate Change will focus on vulnerability assessments and Harry highlighted the types of questions that would be asked about vulnerability. Harry also noted other Bay Area Climate Change efforts including: the Joint Policy Committee: http://www.abag.ca.gov/jointpolicy/jpc_climate_change.htm and the Bay Area Ecosystem Climate Change Consortium: <http://baeccc.org/>. Harry concluded with a summary of outreach efforts. He noted the County meetings (in Marin, Napa and Sonoma) held in February and March and then described the most recent plans for Bay Area outreach by Kearns & West, including special efforts for outreach to Disadvantaged Communities and a “Regional” Workshop in July. Harry indicated that NBWA will work with the North Bay County sub-region leads on the best way to relay new information from the Regional Workshop to North Bay stakeholders.

III. County Watershed Updates.

- A.** Marin County Watersheds – Chris Choo provided a PowerPoint presentation to update the group on the Marin County Watershed Program: <http://www.marinwatersheds.org/>. She started with a map highlighting the key watersheds that have flood issues (Novato Creek, Las Gallinas, Ross Valley, Southern Marin, and Stinson Beach). Chris reviewed the program goals and emphasized the importance of a watershed approach, a holistic look at watersheds, rather than just flood management, and then described the stakeholder process underway in each watershed. Chris reviewed the tools being used by the County, including: Golden Gate LiDAR (upgrading topographical maps), collaboration, models, and solutions with multiple benefits. She provided an example of a 2 dimensional interactive flooding model and then summarized the approach to analyzing alternatives. Chris concluded with a summary of next steps and noted that watershed workplans are available online: Stinson Beach is scheduled for completion in 2012 and the other watersheds are scheduled for completion in 2014. Jamie O’Halloran mentioned that the USACE is working on a Novato Creek restoration project.
- B.** Napa County Watershed – Leigh Sharp provided a PowerPoint presentation on the Napa River Watershed efforts. She provided some background on the historic flooding, “Living River” concept, and the Measure A (sales tax to fund projects). Leigh provided some facts on the Napa River and emphasized cold water fisheries as the beneficial use driving the sediment TMDL. Leigh then provided updates on the major projects including the Napa/Sonoma Marsh Restoration Project, the City of Napa Flood Project, the Rutherford and Oakville Restoration Project, and the Zinfandel Lane Fish Passage Improvement Project. Leigh provided some details on

the Sediment Reduction Projects (storm proofing rural roads) and the Fisheries Monitoring Program. She explained the results of fisheries monitoring and noted that 95% of fish are native. Reports are available at www.naparcd.org and www.napawatersheds.org

- C. Sonoma County Watersheds – Caitlin Cornwall provided a verbal update on Sonoma Creek issues. She noted the progress on the sediment TMDL and the efforts to prioritize sediment reduction projects and highlighted the problem of sediment erosion from park trails. Caitlin described the riparian and stormwater management work on mostly private lands. She also noted that the Sonoma Ecology Center was a founding member of the North Bay Climate Adaptation Initiative (NBCAI). Caitlin also noted the overlap between watershed protection and the Sonoma Creek groundwater management program. Caitlin then described a potential IRWMP project on two watersheds that feed into the City of Sonoma and the efforts to identify properties that could be used for flood management. Caitlin also mentioned recent efforts regarding Highway 37, looking at flooding and sea level rise. Finally, Caitlin gave a short description of a fish barrier on a tributary to Sonoma Creek on private property. Carl Morrison referred to the March 1 Sonoma County meeting and noted that the Friends of the Petaluma River and City representatives had interesting discussions about possible collaboration.

IV. Wrap Up.

- Will hold another Watershed Council Meeting in September 2012
- Will determine the next BAIRWMP update steps based on content in the “Regional” Workshop to be held in July.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

Participants:

Betsy Bikle – Mill Valley Streamkeepers & Marin Conservation League	Carl Morrison – Morrison & Associates, Inc.
Chris Choo – Marin County, Dept. of Public Works	Jamie O’Halloran – U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Caitlin Cornwall – Sonoma Ecology Center	Tito Sasaki – North Bay Agricultural Alliance
Chris DeGabriele – North Marin Water District	Judy Schriebman – Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District
Bianca Gomez – City of Mill Valley	Leigh Sharp – Napa County RCD
Beverly James – Novato Sanitary District	Susan Stompe – Marin Conservation League
Sue Lattanzio – Friends of Novato Creek	Harry Seraydarian – NBWA Executive Director
	Elizabeth Preim-Rohtla – Assistant to Executive Director