

# **Santa Rosa Plain Groundwater Management Planning Technical Advisory Committee Charge**

*Version 2: 04/05/2012*

## **Purpose and Goals**

The purpose of the Santa Rosa Plain Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) is to provide the Santa Rosa Plain Basin Advisory Panel (Panel) and collaborating entities with objective, expert advice and peer review for scientific and technical matters related to Santa Rosa Plain groundwater management planning and program implementation. The TAC works under the direction of the Panel to identify and prioritize science and technical needs, and to develop proposals for the Panel's consideration and approval for inclusion in the groundwater management plan. To this end, the goals of the group are to:

- Work collaboratively with other TAC members who represent groundwater users and interests from throughout the entire Santa Rosa Plain watershed.
- Develop a common technical understanding of the current status of water resources and future water demands in the Santa Rosa Plain.
- Support development of the groundwater management plan through technical input and review of plan elements and components including:
  - Water resources description and conceptual model for the SRP
  - Basin management objectives to protect resources in a sustainable manner
  - Monitoring program and protocols
  - Management components to address basins management objectives
  - Modeling various climate, demand, and management scenarios
  - Budget and plan to implement the groundwater management program

## **Membership**

The TAC includes representatives with complementary expertise that represent a broad cross-section of expertise and diverse backgrounds in different disciplines, including but not limited to geology, hydrology, engineering, and ecology. In part, the TAC is comprised of standing representatives from interest groups and existing technical and environmental organizations. Members may live in the watershed or beyond, or work in agencies that have jurisdiction in the Santa Rosa Plain. Panel Members approve the TAC charge and composition.

Additional stakeholders may join the TAC after its initial formation with the concurrence of Panel members. If an interest group or organization is already represented, interested stakeholders will be encouraged to participate through the existing TAC member. Member organizations may change their individual representatives if necessary by notifying the project manager or facilitator.

## **Roles and Responsibilities**

The Technical Advisory Committee will provide technical input and support to the Panel to develop and implement a non-regulatory groundwater management plan. The Panel will guide development of the plan, which the technical consultant will write and

the TAC will provide technical input and review. The Basin Advisory Panel is the final decision-maker on the content of the groundwater management plan. Panel members will consider the proposals and input of the TAC before reaching a decision on what to include in the plan.

As part of membership, TAC members agree to:

- Arrive at each meeting fully prepared to discuss the issues on the agenda. Preparation includes reviewing meeting summaries, technical information, and draft documents distributed in advance of each meeting.
- Present their technical input and unbiased views on the issues being discussed and be willing to engage in respectful, constructive dialogue with other members of the working group.
- Provide advice and peer review regarding overall science and technical issues, programs, and projects that the Panel and its collaborating entities may consider, or take part in, to advance actions and address science and resource management needs articulated in the GMP (in preparation), including identifying emerging issues and possible ancillary studies or activities.
- Develop a problem-solving approach in which they consider the interests and viewpoints of all group members, in addition to their own.

### **Decision-Making**

The TAC will strive for consensus in reaching the technical recommendations for the Panel's consideration. Consensus means that all TAC members can either fully support or can live with the decision or overall plans. In reaching consensus, some may accept it as workable or only be able to "live with it." Still others may choose to "stand aside" by verbally noting a disagreement, yet allowing the group to reach a consensus without them. Any of these actions still constitutes consensus. If unable to reach consensus, the TAC will present the areas of agreement and disagreement to inform the Panel's decision making.

### **Meeting Structure, Support and Schedule**

The Sonoma County Water Agency is convening and sponsoring the TAC meetings, and will garner necessary funding to complete the project, and provide in-kind staff to support the TAC. Marcus Trotta from the Sonoma County Water Agency will serve as the project manager for the TAC and groundwater management plan project. Marcus will interface with the technical consultant and facilitator to ensure that meetings are efficient and work is completed in a timely fashion. The technical consultant has a contract with the Sonoma County Water Agency to write the groundwater management plan and perform all related technical analyses, with technical input and review of the TAC. In cooperation with the TAC, the facilitator from the Center for Collaborative Policy will design meetings and guide the overall process toward achieving the TAC purpose and goals.

The TAC agrees to hold meetings on the **X day** of each month during the morning and to meet occasionally at other times for workshops. Periodically, the TAC may need to hold a special meeting or change the date should the need arise.

**Attendance**

Given the volume of information to be considered, regular attendance by the member or their designated representative is essential. Designees must be identified in advance, fully briefed and able to represent the member during technical discussions and decision making.

**Contact Information**

Please refer to the BAP Charter for more information. Questions, comments or suggestions regarding the TAC can be addressed to either:

- Marcus Trotta, SCWA Project Manager (707) 547-1978 [marcus.trotta@scwa.ca.gov](mailto:marcus.trotta@scwa.ca.gov)
- Tim Parker, Technical Consultant (707) 509-8750 [tim@pg-tim.com](mailto:tim@pg-tim.com)
- Rich Wilson, TAC Facilitator [rich@seatoneconsultants.com](mailto:rich@seatoneconsultants.com) (415) 515-2317 Skype: wilsonrich
- Gina Bartlett, Basin Advisory Panel Facilitator (415) 255-6805 [gina@ccp.csus.edu](mailto:gina@ccp.csus.edu)

**Work Plan Overview**

The TAC will work for 18-24 months to develop technical proposals for the groundwater management plan.

| <b>Timeframe</b>           | <b>Technical Advisory Committee Key Tasks</b>   |
|----------------------------|---|
| July 2012—September 2012   | Groundwater Management Goals and Basin Management Objectives<br>Groundwater Modeling Scenarios<br>Initial Water Resources Section |
| October 2012—December 2012 | Finalize Water Resources Section<br>Monitoring and Data Collection Protocols  |
| January 2013—March 2013    | Develop Initial Management Components<br>Preliminary Component Alternatives Analysis  |
| April 2013—June 2013       | Final Management Components<br>Finalize Component Alternatives Analysis   |
| July 2013—September 2013   | Program Implementation Approach<br>Funding Alternatives & Budget Development  |
| October 2013—December 2013 | Finalize Groundwater Management Plan  |

**TAC Members**

Jennifer Burke, City of Santa Rosa  
Michael Burns  
Mark Calhoun, Fircrest Mutual Water Company  
Brock Dolman, Occidental Arts & Ecology Center  
Joe Gaffney, Sonoma County Alliance  
Dawna Gallagher  
John Guardino, Laguna de Santa Rosa Foundation  
Tom Hammond  
Lloyd Iversen  
Jay Jasperse, Sonoma County Water Agency  
Darrin Jenkins, City of Rohnert Park  
John King  
Lisa Micheli, Pepperwood Reserve  
Gary Mickelson, California Groundwater Association  
Rita Kelley, Sotoyome RCD  
Anthony Lindstrom, Cal American Water  
Jane Nielson, Sonoma County Water Coalition  
Damien Obid, City of Cotati  
Matt O'Connor, O'Connor Environmental  
Bob Rawson, Graton Community Service District  
Walt Ryan, Sonoma County Farm Bureau  
Andy Soule, Cal American Water  
Rocky Vogler, Town of Windsor