

NOTES | March 11, 2009
Technical Advisory Committee
Sonoma Valley Groundwater Management Program

Action Items (from this meeting and ongoing)

Name	Task	Status	Timeframe
TAC members	Conduct focused outreach for new volunteers, especially in the Glen Ellen and Kenwood areas. Continue to spread message about purpose of well monitoring and use of collected data. Need to educate landowners regarding importance of process and protection of their information and data.	Underway	Ongoing
Tim / Marcus	Create follow-up letter to be sent to willing participants to notify them whether their well is suitable for inclusion and provide feedback to TAC volunteers	Underway	Update in April
Tim / Marcus	Create list of potential candidate volunteer wells	Underway	Update in April
Marcus	Research DWR/PRMD records for well logs for volunteer wells with no existing records	Underway	Update in April
DWR (Mark) / Tim	Discuss whether or not any of the already identified volunteer wells may be added to the DWR monitoring effort.	Underway	ASAP
SCWA	Request PRMD to give presentation to TAC and community on well construction requirements	Pending – need to determine which TAC meeting is best	April TAC
Team	Develop list of actions that landowners can do now to conserve water and reduce off-site runoff	Pending – need to determine who will pursue this.	Completed
SCWA	Implement WebH2O Training	Scheduling training for March	Completed
Tim / TAC	Tim to introduce Well Owners Guide Outline and ask for volunteers to work with SCWA to develop draft guide.	Underway	Completed in March 09
Marcus	Follow up with County Regional Parks regarding available wells for monitoring	Underway	Update in April 09
Tim / SCWA	Final Annual Report	Final Comments due 3/6	March 09
Tim/TAC	TAC will discuss Spring Monitoring and discuss draft schedule and process for undertaking monitoring	April TAC	April 09
Tim	Contact Graywood Development to discuss GMP and desire for possible recharge – Lisa to	Underway	March 09

Name	Task	Status	Timeframe
	provide contact info to Tim		
Lisa	Contact Benziger about participation on groundwater level monitoring program	Underway	March 09
Al/Krishna	Contact Sonoma Developmental Center about participation on groundwater level monitoring program	Underway	March 09
John MacLeod	Contact Benziger regarding points in the organic rating for joining monitoring program	Underway	March 09
Marcus	Place add in newspaper for water conservation pilot program	Underway	March 09
Tim	Set up meeting of grant funding group	Underway	March 09
TAC	Comments on draft WELLness guide	Underway	13 March 09

Meeting Participants

- Wendy Atkinson, City of Sonoma
- Al Bandur, SV BAP
- Rochelle Campana
- David Goodison, City of Sonoma
- Susan Haydon, Southern Sonoma County RCD
- Jay Jasperse, Sonoma County Water Agency
- John MacLeod, Sonoma Valley Vintners and Growers Association
- Lisa Micheli, Sonoma Ecology Center
- Ed Nelson, Sonoma Valley Well Owner, Well Monitor
- Kathy Pons, SV BAP/Valley of the Moon Alliance
- John Robb, Mission Highlands Mutual Water Company

Staff

- Marcus Trotta, Sonoma County Water Agency
- Tim Parker, Schlumberger Water Services

Meeting Announcements

- Jay Jasperse with the Sonoma County Water Agency provided an update on ...
- Lisa Micheli, Sonoma Ecology Center, reported that the February 21st Water Wisdom Workshop was very well attended and many people stayed several hours. Also, there are Get Wet water education and training landscape water conservation workshops occurring every Saturday through March - this is free 4-week workshop series to help Sonoma Valley residents conserve water at home jointly sponsored by Sonoma Ecology Center, the City of Sonoma, and Friedman's Home Improvement. There is also interest in getting more involved with vineyard practices, and there is an experimental vineyard in the Carneros area which the Napa RCD has been involved with managing.
- Susan Haydon, Southern Sonoma County RCD indicating that the SSCRCD is working to set up a research station with the UC schools.
- Marcus Trotta with the Sonoma County Water Agency indicated that he and Lisa Micheli will attend the March 17th SVVGA Board meeting and discuss the

groundwater monitoring program, water forum activities and the water conservation audits.

- Lisa Micheli also mentioned that the Graywood Development were encouraged to keep surface flow discharges from going offsite – this equates to a potential recharge opportunity with water to deal with and in being in an area where the Sonoma Creek disappears into the ground part of the year. Lisa will provide contact info to Tim Parker who will contact them and provide information on the GMP.
- Ed Nelson indicated that the Sonoma Golf course has officially joined the monitoring program and submitted paperwork, and Ed will be monitoring one of their three wells.
- John Robb, Mission Highlands MWC has contacted 15 different wineries for interest in the monitoring program. Landmark has indicated an interest in joining. Benziger has also previously indicated an interest and Lisa Micheli will follow up with Matt Atkinson.
- John MacLeod, SSVGA, indicated that Benziger has developed a graded system for organic and sustainable certification – for example, if you measure the volume of water use, you get points – he will contact them and suggest that if you join the monitoring program and allow your well to have groundwater level measurements you get points - contact is Mark Birmingham.
- Sonoma Developmental Center – still not in the program – they have a number of wells and also obtain water from the SCWA, and SCWA is doing a \$500,000 BMPs retrofit there. Al Bandar will follow up with Krishna Kumar, VOMWD who has a cooperative agreement with SDC.

Updates

- AB303 Funding, Drought Funding Status of Facilitation Contract - DWR funding for the monitoring well installations/recharge mapping and stakeholder facilitation contract is still frozen. Latest info on this is that this funding will be released later in 2009, pending sales of bonds. New is that there may be some DWR drought emergency funding available, for example for monitoring wells – a number of wells are below 1977 low groundwater levels and this information was provided to DWR. SCWA is currently planning to include funding for stakeholder facilitation in the next fiscal year budget (beginning in July 2009), meaning that we will have Gina Bartlett back for the BAP meetings after July 1, but that the TAC meetings will go on with Marcus Trotta and Tim Parker leading.
- Water Supply Situation in County - The current water supply situation in the county is that we have a normal rainfall year. Lake Sonoma is near full, but Mendocino is only at 50%, and the instream flow requirements for a “normal” year require releases now, and releasing water now will result in a lack of water supplies later in the fall, and SCWA deliveries will be constrained. This is all a result of a combination of the complex system plumbing, how it is regulated, relatively new permitting requirements, and then the recent biological opinion. This underscores the need for conjunctive use and groundwater banking, taking wet water and wet year supplies when available and routing this water through the system when there is capacity to areas where it can be stored underground for use when the system is constrained.

- Status of Water Conservation Pilot Program – so far, two have signed up. Next actions are to put an article in the local newspapers – Marcus Trotta will take care of this item. John MacLeod indicated that their MWC had received flyers to out in the mail to their customers.
- Tracking of Outreach Activities – The group suggested we need to have a good way to track and record all the various outreach activities going on. The TAC meeting minutes will capture most – but it would be useful to post – perhaps these can be listed in the groundwater website.
- Websites – there are a number of different organizations with websites with different activities – these all need to be linked
- Annual Report – Only a few additional comments have been received since the BAP meeting, and the last day for comments was March 6th. Several TAC members said they had a few comments, and all agreed that they would send their final comments by end of business March 13th. The TAC members will each get a hard copy of the full annual report. SCWA will decide how many other hard copies are made – this should be available at local libraries.
- Potential grant opportunities – the TAC should be looking for any grant opportunities. SCWA is going to do a study to look at flooding and recharge opportunities – RFQ will be out in next few months. There may be a way to leverage this effort with other funds, such as possible drought relief funds if possible. The grant funding group should meet again, to start looking for any grant opportunities in the near future. Tim will send out an email later this week for a meeting next week.

Draft Well Owners Guide

- A copy of the Sonoma County Division of Environmentally Health Services “WELLness – A Guide to Water Quality in YOUR Well” for discussion purposes. With a little updating and basin specific information, this guide would be able to serve the Sonoma Valley.
- The TAC members are to provide comments to Tim by the end of the week on anything they would suggest editing or modifying.
- Jay Jasperse will discuss the possibility of updating the guide with EHS.-

Mid-April 2009 Groundwater Level Monitoring Event

- The TAC will finalize detailed logistics for April water level monitoring at the April TAC meeting, right before the monitoring event.
- Any additions to the monitoring need to be on board with forms filled out and submitted by the end of March.

Web H2O Training

- An 1 ½ hour on-line WebH2O training was conducted by Pascual Benito and Scott McLaughlin.
- The training was attended by John Robb, Rochelle Campana, Kathy Pons, John MacLeod (for part of it), Tim Parker, and on the telephone were Mark Nordberg and Bill Brewster with DWR.
- The trainees suggested that available rainfall data should be included in WebH2O that several of the menu items should have drop-down choices, and also requested that

well geographic coordinates not be required for entry, but that a street address could be required instead. Web H2O agreed to work in this changes to the system.

Next TAC April 8th – and will include water level monitoring event final logistics
Note Location: Valley of the Moon Water District, 19039 Bay Street, El Verano