

DRAFT NOTES | September 9, 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	Ongoing
Tim / Marcus	Create list of potential candidate volunteer wells	Underway	September
Marcus	Research DWR/PRMD records for well logs for volunteer wells with no existing records	Underway	Ongoing
DWR (Mark) / Tim	Discuss whether or not any of the already identified volunteer wells may be added to the DWR monitoring effort.	Underway	Done – Review again w/DWR
SCWA	Request PRMD to give presentation to TAC and community on well construction requirements	Pending – need to determine which TAC meeting is best	October or November
Tim	Set up meeting of grant funding group	Underway	September
TAC	Comments on draft WELLness guide	Underway	Completed – Setting up Meeting with PRMD and EHD to discuss
TAC	Data gaps to fill on monitoring	Underway	September
TAC	Develop list of possible rainfall harvest projects	Underway	Ongoing
TAC	Further consider possible community site for pilot	Underway	Ongoing
TAC	Identify actions and strategy for rainfall harvesting/recharge demonstration/pilots	Started	Ongoing

Meeting Participants

- Rochelle Campana, private well owner
- Tito Sasaki, North Bay Agricultural Alliance
- John Guardino, Southern Sonoma County RCD
- Krishna Kumar, VOMWD
- Ed Nelson
- John Robb, Mission Highlands
- Glen Wright, City of Santa Rosa
- Jay Jasperse, SCWA
- John McLeod, Indian Springs Ranch
- Julie Jehly, Sonoma Ecology Center
- Chris Petersen, MWH Inc.

Staff

- Marcus Trotta, Sonoma County Water Agency
- Tim Parker, Parker Groundwater

Announcements

- Ed Nelson made five new contacts with private well owners in the south Sonoma Valley for possible inclusion into the SVGMP volunteer groundwater monitoring program
- Los Arroyos Golf course has declined to participate in the SVGMP volunteer groundwater monitoring program
- Dave Ortiz, Rainwater Harvesting, has volunteered to give a tour of several rainwater harvesting projects – also maybe some regulatory
- John Robb indicated that one well in the SVGMP volunteer groundwater monitoring program uphill from Mission Highlands wells is useless – it is 1,000 feet deep and has an obstruction

Conservation Awards

- Request for nominations by October 9th and the TAC will discuss at the next meeting (October 14th)
- Julie Jehly offered to hand out the announcement at the upcoming Fair
- Norm Goldstein has a couple of nominations in mind for some wineries
- Dave Ortiz may have some ideas
- Residential – Rochelle suggested that VOMWD should have some ideas for residential improvements through their landscaping grant program

Water Conservation Audit Program

- \$25,000 NBWA grant/\$25,000 SCWA match
- Capacity is 25 residential and five agricultural/winery sites
 - Approximately 6 remain for residential sites
 - 3 vineyard/wineries have been audited
- Deerfield Winery may be a candidate – Marcus Trotta will contact Robert Rex
- Nick Frye with the Sonoma County grape Growers Commission may be able to assist – Jay Jasperse will contact
- A dairy would be a good candidate for an audit – Laura Chenel good possibility

Draft Well Owner's Guide

- Intended to be a resource guide for residential private well owners

- Sonoma County Environmental Health published a private well owners guide focused on water quality in the early 1990's
- Members of the TAC and staff provided suggested modifications to the guide including:
 - Added a water level emphasis
 - Periodic water quality monitoring
 - Sonoma Valley specific information
- Staff have provided suggested modifications to the SCEH and Sonoma County Permitting and Resource Management Department – plan to meet with SCEH this month and hope to finalize the guide by the end of the year
- Water level monitoring – John Robb suggested requiring for putting tube for water level monitoring during new well installations and when the pump is pulled
 - This issues will be discussed further with PRMD as part of the guide finalization

Guidebook for Managed Aquifer Recharge and Rainwater Harvesting – John Guardino, South Sonoma County Resource Conservation District

- They have completed the resources identification and in the process of finalizing the scope – found some examples of rainwater harvesting, particularly from Tucson, Arizona
- Looking at the San Francisco PUC model with regulatory agencies – may consider this approach for an MOU between SCWA, SCEH, PRMD and state regulatory agencies
- The matrix previous developed by staff looks good and will look at using it for regulatory meetings and discussions
- Need to look at ways to enable and incentivize projects
- Highlight non-potable uses of water
- US EPA has a policy paper on how to do rainwater harvesting and address non-potable uses and groundwater protection and regulatory issues
- Water Harvesting as title versus LID?
- Expect a draft in Deep Fall
- Planning a meeting with regulators in early November.
- Draft for internal TAC review in December

City of Santa Rosa Rainfall Harvesting – Glen Wright, City of Santa Rosa

- City just permitted one rainfall harvesting project
- One more in process
- Rebate of \$0.25 per gallon
- Size of rainfall harvesting storage based on maximum rainfall per month
- Understand that a \$750 rebate was obtained on the project??
- Backflow valve is required and an annual inspection
- The backflow requirement is in case system conditions change in the future

Santa Rosa Plain

- This is a comprehensive by the USGS in a cooperative agreement with SCWA and several other local partners – beginning the final year of a five-year investigation

- Gina Bartlett, Center for Collaborative Policy, is doing a second round of interviews with local Santa Rosa stakeholders, and a report is expected in Deep Fall
- SCWA will then determine, based on the results of the CCP stakeholder assessment, if timing and political environment ripe for a GMP process
- As the USGS goes forward, will then start doing an educational forum in the spring with a small stakeholder group in the Santa Rosa Plain area
- Beginning to see a lot more wells going into the Santa Rosa Plain area – with decreasing surface water available due to a combination of factors including the recent biological decision on the Russian River, more groundwater will be used

Update on Sonoma Valley Groundwater Flow Model

- The Sonoma Valley groundwater flow model was updated by a graduate student research project at Stanford
- In general the model was modified with:
 - Added a recharge component to the model
 - Extended and spread the recharge to the model using a soil moisture budget
- The model is available to everyone – contact Marcus Trotta

Groundwater Banking Request for Proposals

- SCWA has been developing an RFP for a groundwater banking feasibility study
- The conceptual approach comes out of the SVGMP
- Partners in the proposed study with SCWA include City of Sonoma, VOMWD, and the cities of Cotati and Windsor
- The approach is to do a feasibility study focused on using wet year and seasonally wet water from the Russian River to recharge groundwater basins
 - Regional look at timing and availability of water from the Russian River
 - Conveyance capacity and timing
 - Permitting issues
 - Closer look at partner-specific pilot-scale feasibility and development of work plans
 - City of Santa Rosa interested in seeing RFP

AB303 \$250,000 Grant

- The grant includes:
 - Two multi-depth groundwater monitoring wells
 - Sonoma Valley groundwater recharge mapping study
- Recently heard from DWR that finally the funds, which were previously frozen due to the economy and state budget issues, are at least partially available
- SCEA plans to send out a request for bids for the wells in the next two months, and plan to install the wells in the spring, pending obtaining the fund authorization from DWR
- The groundwater recharge study is expected to get started in the next month or two and will be conducted by the SEC under contract to SCWA
- The recharge mapping project fits in with the guidebook project and the groundwater banking FS

Volunteer Groundwater Monitoring – Fall Round

- Plans are to start the fall groundwater monitoring in mid-October
- Volunteer monitors to meet via email or face-to-face and finalize well list
- Also to review latest developments on WebH2O – Marcus to beta test latest version
- Surveying of wells – issue brought up about SCWA possibly surveying of the new wells – previously did about 40-50 wells
- Department of Public Health wells and water quality data
 - Peak-day, peak-month, overall annual discharge
 - Next meeting discuss how and what to coordinate and constituents to incorporate into WebH2O
- Kenwood Stream Stewards meeting next week – Rochelle will give a presentation on the SVGMP volunteer groundwater monitoring program may have more volunteers along Sonoma Creek from Rochelle

BAP Meeting November 5th - Topics

- Monitoring update
- Rainfall harvesting guidebook
- Groundwater banking RFP
- Santa Rosa Plain update
- Citizen's Advisory Group issue on wells for new vineyards and water resource availability

Next TAC October 14th – Focused discussion on water conservation awards, public outreach, fall groundwater monitoring, annual report, planning for November BAP meeting

Location: Valley of the Moon Water District, 19039 Bay Street, El Verano