

Members

Diane Dillon
Mark Luce
Eric Sklar
Steven Rosa
Mark Van Gorder
Karen Slusser
Leon Garcia
David Graves
Jeff Reichel
Phill Blake
Donald Gasser
Kate Dargan
Jeffrey Redding
Robert Steinhauer
Charles Slutzkin
Marc Pandone
Richard Camera

Alternates

Harold Moskowitz

ADENDA

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, June 22, 2006 at 4:00 p.m.

**2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,
1125 Third Street, Napa CA**

Staff Representatives

Patrick Lowe,
Secretary
Deputy Director,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Jeff Sharp,
Watershed Coordinator
Planner III,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Laura Anderson,
Counsel
Attorney IV,
County Counsel's Office

1. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** (Chairman)
2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**
Regular meeting of October 27, 2005, November 24, 2005 and special meeting of December 15, 2005 (Chairman)
3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chairman)
4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Board/Staff)
 - a. California Department of Water Resources, Division of Planning and Local Assistance awards **grants to Napa RCD and Sonoma Ecology Center for work in Napa River** (RCD/SEC/Staff)
 - b. Others (Board/Staff)
5. **UPDATES/REPORTS:**
 - a. Update on current County **General Plan Update** process and General Plan **Steering Committee activities** (Board/Staff)
 - b. Update on **Regional Water Quality Control Board's approval of Pathogen TMDL** and Basin Plan Amendment, June 30, 2006 **notice and release of final proposed Sediment TMDL**, and announcement of "**Town Hall Meeting**" on the **Sediment TMDL** in late July (Staff)
 - c. Update and report on Countywide **Watershed Monitoring Program** development, including **draft management goals and monitoring objectives** now under TAC review (RCD/SFEI/Staff)

- d. Update on **WICC budget for fiscal year July 2006 – June 2007** (Staff)
- e. Update on **Lake Berryessa/BRBNA actives** and Bureau of Reclamation Record of Decision (ROD) for the Lake Berryessa Visitor Services Plan (Staff)
- f. Update on formation of **Park and Open Space District** (Staff)
- g. Others (Board/Staff)

6. **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION AUTHORIZING THE CHAIR TO SIGN A LETTER OF APPRECIATION TO STAG’S LEAP WINE CELLARS:**

Discussion and possible action authorizing the Chair sign a **letter of appreciation to Stag’s Leap Wine Cellars** for their assistance in hosting the WICC Board’s “Celebration of Watershed Stewardship” event on May 25, 2006 (Staff)

7. **PRESENTATION, DEMONSTRATION AND DISCUSSION OF WEBCENTER ENHANCEMENTS, UPDATES AND NEW LOOK:**

- a. Presentation and discussion of **WICC WebCenter enhancements, updates and new look** (www.napawatersheds.org); **including online demonstration** of new functionality, opportunities for watershed groups to profile themselves on the WICC, availability of additional group services, new web-based GIS mapping using data from the County’s Baseline Data Report and a discussion of future next steps and possible outreach opportunities (MIG/Staff)

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Board/Staff)

- a. Presentation and discussion on draft WICC Budget allocations based upon Strategic Plan action items and identified Board priorities (Staff)
- b. Tentative presentation and discussion by RWQCB staff on Sediment TMDL process and associated Basin Plan Amendment recommended for RWQCB adoption (Staff)
- c. Others (Board/Staff)

9. **NEXT MEETING:**

Regular Board Meeting of July 27, 2006 – 4:00 PM
Hall of Justice Building, 2nd floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa

10. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chairman)

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- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, October 27, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.
2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,
1125 Third Street, Napa CA

1. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** (Chairman/Staff)

Marc Pandone introduced as new member at large.

Members Present: Mark Luce, Mark Van Gorder, Jeff Reichel, Donald Gasser, Jeffrey Redding, Robert Steinbauer, Charles Slutzkin, Marc Pandone

Members Absent Excused: Diane Dillon, Richard Camera

Members Absent: Lori Luporini, David Graves, Phill Blake, Kate Dargan,

Staff Present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**

Regular meeting of July 28, 2005 and August 25, 2005 (Chairman)

Outcome: Approved as presented.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chairman)

Outcome: None presented.

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS** (Board/Staff)

- a. **“Promoting a Sustainable Water Future: Ag. Water Rights, Challenges & Opportunities”** a forum sponsored by the Napa County Farm Bureau, November 3, 2005 (Staff)

Outcome: Informational.

- b. CalFed Watershed Program is accepting nominations for **full scholarships to attend a “Watershed Partnerships Seminar,”** February 27- March 10, 2006 (Staff)

Outcome: Informational.

c. **Consideration of new 2006 Meeting Calendar** at next WICC Board Meeting (Staff)

Outcome: At their next meeting (during the Regular Board Meeting of December 22, 2005, see item 9), the Board will consider their 2006 meeting calendar. Members were encouraged to bring their calendars to the next meeting to facilitate scheduling.

d. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Jeff Redding announced a technical seminar sponsored by UCCE on soil erosion, vineyard management and water quality issues to be held at the Marriot Hotel in Napa. Jeff will be moderating. Mark Luce reported that NSD will approve outreach program next week that will outline NSD's reclaimed water use and public comment opportunity. Leigh Sharp from RCD announced the 2050 Study outlining water availability, demand and long-term use will be discussed on November 15th (place TBA) and soon will be available publicly.

5. **UPDATES/REPORTS:**

a. Update on current County **General Plan Steering Committee activities and General Plan Update** process (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Staff informed the Board that the Committee discussed the DRAFT Circulation Element. Jeff Reichel gave an update to the Board. Debora Blodget also commented that the Committee is working on an aggressive agenda. Staff reported that the Committee's agenda schedule will be adjusted to allow for more discussion. The Committee will review the Safety Element at their next meeting in (early?) January.

b. Board of Supervisor's to consider **approval of the WICC's 2005-06 Strategic Plan and expansion of the WICC Board's membership** on November 1, 2005 (Staff)

Outcome: Staff informed the Board that the County Supervisors will consider both matters at their November 1, 2005 meeting. If expansion of the Board is approved, the Cities/Town will be contacted directly to nominate a distinct representative from each governing council currently not represented. This "equal/direct" City/Town representation will remove the need for WICC nominations by/from the City Selection Committee.

c. Report on **items to be discussed by the Board's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC)** on November 2, 2005 (Staff)

Outcome: Staff informed the Board that the TAC will meet on November 2, 2005 to review and discuss the Board's DRAFT Watershed Monitoring Strategy (from which will frame the future development of a monitoring program), review optional watershed assessment tasks supported and funded by the Army Corp's, review and prioritize a list of local watershed projects, review and comment on a local benthic macro invertebrate study, and to set a quarterly meeting schedule.

6. **REPORT, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF REGARDING RECOMMENDATION TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS:**

a. Report, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding the listing of the Napa River as water quality impaired and the **Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) process underway by the State Regional Water Quality Control Board to address sediment and pathogens pollution**; including TMDL development and implementation timeline, public meeting/workshop announcements and public comment opportunities and deadlines (Staff)

Outcome: Staff informed the Board of November 7, 2005 TMDL Workshops and comment opportunity on the scope of the environmental impact assessment and review required for the TMDLs under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Staff also presented the Board with a projected TMDL timeline (peer review of draft, response to comments, amendment development, and Regional Board adoption November/December 2006).

- b. Report, discussion and possible direction to staff regarding recommendation to the Board of Supervisors that a letter be sent to the State Water Resources Control Board commenting on the proposed **listing of the Napa River as water quality impaired due to excess mercury pollution** by the December 6, 2005 deadline (Staff)

Outcome: Staff informed the Board of the proposed listing and the sample testing/evidence used to support the impairment finding. The Board questioned the evidence used (species tested, limited samples collected, statistical significance) and asked for clarification on the proposed impairment and the methods/evidence used to support it. The Board recommended that that staff draft a comment letter for the County Supervisors consideration requesting more information and explanation from the to the State Water Resources Control Board regarding the proposed listing and expressing the need for a more solid/scientific understanding of the impairment issue, including possible sources of mercury pollution prior to any formal impairment listing.

7. **PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON NAPA COUNTY'S FISHERIES RESOURCES; INCLUDING PAST, PRESENT AND POTENTIAL FUTURE ACTIONS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND AND MANAGE THIS AQUATIC RESOURCE:**

Presentation and discussion on Napa County's fisheries resources; including past, present and potential future actions to better understand and manage this aquatic resource by Jonathan Koehler, Fisheries Biologist for the Napa County Resource Conservation District (Staff/RCD)

Outcome: Jonathan Koehler, Fisheries Biologist with the RCD presented the Board with a PowerPoint presentation on the fisheries resources of Napa River, discussed the lifecycle of anadromous species and outlined some of the efforts to monitor the resource (planned and underway). There was also a discussion of what other means of fisheries monitoring could be undertaken to better understand our aquatic resources and thus the overall health of the river system.

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Update on seminar on soil erosion, vineyard management and water quality; Update on Flood and Water Conservation District's 2050 Water Availability Study; and update on NSD plans for water reuse.

9. **NEXT MEETING:**

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, the **Regular Board Meeting of November 24, 2005 will be canceled.** As a result, the Board will need to discuss having a Special Meeting in November or no meeting at all and meet next during the Regular Board Meeting of December 22, 2005.

10. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chairman)

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Alternates

Harold Moskowitz
Karen Slusser

- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, November 24, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.
2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,
1125 Third Street, Napa CA

Staff Representatives

Patrick Lowe,
Secretary
Deputy Director,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Jeff Sharp,
Watershed Coordinator
Planner III,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Laura Anderson,
Counsel
Attorney IV,
County Counsel's Office

Meeting Canceled: Due to the Thanksgiving holiday, the Chairman of the WICC Board has canceled the Regular Board Meeting on this date and scheduled all business on the Board's next available meeting date.

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- MINUTES / ACTION SUMMARY -

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

Thursday, December 15, 2005 at 4:00 p.m.
2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,
1125 Third Street, Napa CA

Staff Representatives

Patrick Lowe,
Secretary
Deputy Director,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Jeff Sharp,
Watershed Coordinator
Planner III,
Conservation Div., CDPD

Laura Anderson,
Counsel
Attorney IV,
County Counsel's Office

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL (Chairman/Staff)

Members Present: Diane Dillon, Phill Blake, Donald Gasser, Kate Dargan, Jeffrey Redding, Robert Steinhauer, Charles Slutzkin, Marc Pandone, Karen Slusser

Members Absent Excused: Mark Luce, Jeff Reichel, Richard Camera

Members Absent: Lori Luporini, Mark Van Gorder, David Graves,

Staff Present: Patrick Lowe, Jeff Sharp

2. APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES

Regular meeting of September 22, 2005 (Chairman)

Outcome: Approved as presented.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chairman)

Outcome: None presented.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS (Board/Staff)

- a. **“Caring for Napa County’s Creeks,” 2006 watershed awareness calendar** promoted by the Resource Conservation District (RCD) and the County’s Watershed Education Program (Staff/RCD)

Outcome: Informational. Jenny McIlvaine, Education Coordinator for the RCD presented the Board with copies of the 2006 calendar and outlined plans for its distribution.

- b. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Kate Dargan announced her new position as Assistant State Fire Marshall and desire to remain on the WICC Board in her new capacity.

5. UPDATES/REPORTS:

- a. Update on current County **General Plan Update process and General Plan Steering Committee activities** (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Notice of Preparation (NOP) for General Plan (GP) EIR has been circulated by County and a number of community meetings were held. 21 commenting agencies and individuals submitted comments. The Committee will begin to consider and review the GP alternatives at their next meeting on January 11, 2006.

- b. Update on the **expansion of the WICC Board's membership** to include an elected official from each of the County's municipalities, providing opportunity and representation of every City and Town in Napa County (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Notice has been sent to all city/town clerks that the County Supervisors request an elected official from each municipality to serve on the WICC Board. Some municipalities have already responded with their nominations and remaining nominations are expected soon. Diane Dillon expressed the need for all of the cities to be involved in the WICC, particularly since the issue of TMDLs (i.e., water quality of our river and stream systems) is a countywide issue that crosses jurisdictional lines.

- c. Update and report on the December 6, 2005 Board of Supervisor's meeting, approving a **comment letter to the Regional Water Quality Control Board** regarding the scope of the environmental review required under CEQA to support the Napa River TMDLs (Staff)

Outcome: Informational. A number of County staff attended the RWQCB's meetings and drafted a letter for the County Supervisors consideration on December 6, 2006. The letter, which speaks to the earlier concerns expressed by the County, was approved sent to the staff at the RWQCB. Phill Blake commented on the inclusion of grazing lands (livestock operations) as a source of pollution and under the current Pathogen TMDL development process. Meetings with the RWQCB and grazing professionals were held on the matter to discuss what is becoming a statewide issue to manage non-point source pollution from grazing/livestock operations. It is expected that the grazing issue will be very controversial across the state.

- d. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Informational. Napa Sanitation District is inviting questions and comments on alternatives to expand the use of recycled water. Two workshops are planned, December 6th and 8th. Comments on NSD's Recycled Water Strategic Plan are due on December 16, 2006.

Napa County Flood and water Conservation District released their 2050 Water Availability Study. Staff will make the study available on the WICC WebCenter.

6. **PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE DIRECTION TO STAFF ON A DRAFT 2006 MEETING CALENDAR FOR THE WICC BOARD:**

Presentation, discussion and direction to staff on a **DRAFT 2006 Meeting Calendar** for the WICC Board; establishing the Board's Regular Meeting schedule for the year 2006. Final consideration and approval of the calendar will occur at the Board's January 26, 2006 meeting (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Approved. Recommendations were made to adjust the calendar to accommodate the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. The accommodation will be sought by adjusting the Board's bylaws as a future date ("no meeting in November and adjust the December Regular Meeting to the second week of that month).

7. **PRESENTATION, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A WATERSHED MONITORING STRATEGY FOR NAPA COUNTY:**

Presentation, discussion and possible **approval of a Watershed Monitoring Strategy** for Napa County; a first step in the development of a Countywide Watershed Monitoring Program, a priority action item in the Board's 2005 Strategic Plan. The Monitoring Strategy was prepared under contract by a consultant (San Francisco Estuary Institute) and directed by the WICC Board's Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) (Staff)

Outcome: Approved with direction to move forward with monitoring program development. David Graves noted that the strategy is missing information on what we currently know about our watershed(s) and stressed that any future monitoring program resulting from the strategy should include an assessment of current monitoring activities occurring throughout the watershed (Stewardship work, BMI study, RCD fisheries work) and how those studies inform us about how to further develop a comprehensive monitoring program to aid us in effectively managing our watershed resources.

8. PRESENTATION AND DISCUSSION ON COMPLETED BASELINE DATA REPORT (BDR) OF NAPA COUNTY:

Presentation and discussion on the Napa County Baseline Data Report; including an overview of resource topics, uses of the report, and how the WICC may use the document, data and GIS information to support its Strategic Plan mission (Staff/BDR Consultant)

Outcome: Presentation and discussion. Staff and BDR Consultant (Ken Schwartz of J&S/EDAW) presented the completed report and outlined how the document will be used for many planning efforts countywide (including watershed planning). Staff stressed that the document is a "living" document and will be continually updated over time as needed. Staff and Consultant demonstrated the BDR CD Rom and link on County website to access the report.

9. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS (Board/Staff)

- a. **Election of new Chair and Vice-Chair** for year 2006 (per Bylaws§ II.A.)
- b. Discussion and final **adoption of 2006 Meeting Calendar** (per Bylaws§ III.A.)
- c. Others (Board/Staff)

Outcome: Possible discussions with RWQCB staff on TMDL status/development; Update on Hyperspectral Imagery (Kate Dargan)

10. NEXT MEETING:

Regular Board Meeting of January 26, 2006 – 4:00 PM
Hall of Justice Building, 2nd floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa

11. ADJOURNMENT (Chairman)

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT (Peter Krottje)
MEETING DATE: June 14, 2006

ITEM: 9

SUBJECT: **Proposed Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the San Francisco Bay Region to Establish a Napa River Watershed Pathogen Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) and Implementation Plan—Hearing to Consider Adoption of Proposed Basin Plan Amendment**

CHRONOLOGY: February 2006 – Public Notice of Proposed Basin Plan Amendment
April 2006 – Hearing to Receive Testimony on Proposed Basin Plan Amendment

DISCUSSION: At today’s hearing, the Board will be asked to consider adopting a Resolution (Appendix A) amending the Basin Plan to incorporate a TMDL and implementation plan to control pathogen discharges in the Napa River watershed. We will discuss revisions we have made to the Basin Plan Amendment as an outgrowth of stakeholder comments received during the public comment period, which ended on March 27, and also comments and questions raised by Board members and the public at the testimony hearing which you held in April (Appendix B). Additional documentation in your packet today includes our Staff Report (Appendix C), Responses to Comments (Appendix D), copies of all written comments received during the public comment period (Appendix E), and the transcript and documents submitted at the April testimony hearing (Appendix F).

In order to protect the public from exposure to waterborne illness in the Napa River, the Basin Plan amendment will establish the following:

- Numeric bacteria targets to protect recreational uses
- A concentration-based TMDL that is consistent with US EPA guidance and existing water quality objectives for protection of recreational uses
- TMDL allocations for all pathogen source categories in the watershed
- An implementation plan for the TMDL that includes actions to minimize animal waste runoff and eliminate discharges of untreated human waste
- A plan and schedule for evaluating and monitoring progress toward meeting the targets
- An adaptive implementation strategy for reviewing progress, evaluating new and relevant information, and revising the TMDL as necessary

On February 10, 2006, we released for public review and comment a Staff Report and proposed Basin Plan amendment specifying a TMDL and associated implementation plan to address pathogens in the Napa River watershed. We received six comment letters. On April 12, 2006, the Water Board held a public hearing and received oral testimony from several speakers. Our Responses to Comments document addresses all of these comments (both written and oral), and calls out revisions to the Basin Plan Amendment and/or Staff Report that we recommend based on those comments.

- TMDL Targets and Allocations U.S. EPA expressed support for our use of *E.coli* as a pathogen indicator, noting that is consistent with current guidance. However, EPA also states that this TMDL needs to be consistent with current Basin Plan water quality objectives, which are expressed as total and fecal coliform bacteria densities, and suggests that we add these objectives to the targets and allocations. The State Board is working on updating bacteria standards for State waters. We expect that the new standards will be based on current EPA guidance, and will eventually replace these coliform bacteria objectives. Therefore, we propose revising the Basin Plan amendment to include total and fecal coliform bacteria targets and allocations, as well as a sunset clause stating that when new bacteria objectives are established, the outdated targets and associated allocations will no longer apply.
- Implementation Costs and Uncertainty Several commenters suggested that the implementation plan is not detailed enough for them to understand how compliance will be measured, or how much implementation actions will cost. The implementation plan strikes the appropriate balance between specifying actions that dischargers must take in order to achieve the TMDL, and allowing flexibility and opportunities for stakeholders to participate in the development of site-specific, prioritized plans for success in the watershed. As you know, we are working on waste discharge requirements and waiver conditions for several discharger categories, and we expect Napa County stakeholders to play an active role in determining the most efficient and cost-effective strategies for achieving the TMDL. We have met with Napa County staff to clarify expectations regarding the implementation plan, and have refined the cost analysis to incorporate information provided by County staff.
- Source Assessment Several commenters suggested that we lack sufficient data to conclude that either septic systems or sanitary sewer lines are significant pathogen sources in the watershed. We agree that additional studies will help clarify the relative impacts of these two source categories on bacterial water quality in the watershed. However, the scientific peer reviewer characterized our source assessment approach as reasonable, especially in the context of adaptive implementation. As part of the adaptive implementation process, we propose additional monitoring and further investigation. Still, we are certain that we understand the pathogen problem well enough, and have sufficient information, to begin taking actions now to reduce animal and human waste discharges.

The revisions we propose today respond to stakeholder concerns, protect water quality, and meet all federal and state requirements. Our overall approach to solving this water quality problem requires that all potential sources take responsibility for proper management of human and animal waste, while the implementation plan provides opportunities for future adaptive improvements to the plan. If we all work together we can achieve the TMDL and have confidence that these waters are safe for wading, fishing, and swimming. .

RECOMMEN-
DATION

Adopt the Resolution

APPENDICES:

- A. Tentative Resolution with Proposed Basin Plan Amendment (Exhibit A)
- B. Proposed Basin Plan Amendment showing all changes since February 10, 2006
- C. Staff Report
- D. Responses to Comments
- E. Written Comments
- F. April 12, 2006 Hearing Transcript

WICC Board of Directors

Chair

Charles Slutzkin
Public at Large

Vice Chair

Donald P. Gasser
Napa County Resource
Conservation District

Phill Blake

Natural Resource
Conservation Service

Richard Camera

Public at Large

Diane Dillon

Napa County Board
of Supervisors

Leon Garcia

American Canyon City
Council

David Graves

Napa County Planning
Commission

Mark Luce

Napa County Board
of Supervisors

Marc Pandone

Public at Large

Jeffrey Redding

Public at Large

Jeff Reichel

Land Trust of Napa
County

Steven Rosa

Yountville Town Council

Eric Sklar

St. Helena City Council

Karen Slusser

Calistoga City Council

Robert Steinhauer

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Deputy Director, CDPD

Jeff Sharp

Watershed Coordinator
Planner III, CDPD

June 15, 2006

Countywide Watershed Monitoring Program Development **Draft Management Goals (MG) and Monitoring Objectives (MO)**

1. Landscape Condition

MG: Conserve, protect, and enhance the quality and quantity of natural habitat areas in Napa County

MO: Identify natural habitat types in Napa County and characterize changing trends in critical habitat abundance and patterns

MG: Ensure habitat connectivity and continuous habitat areas for wildlife movement

MO: Identify wildlife corridors and characterize changing trends in habitat connectivity for wildlife movement.

2. Biotic Condition

MG: Maintain and restore the existing level of biodiversity found within Napa County

MO: Characterize biological communities and trends

MG: Protect the continued presence of State and Federally recognized rare, threatened, or endangered species and their habitats in a manner that is consistent with Federal and State laws

MO: Characterize population trends for special-status species and trends in the abundance and patterns of their habitats.

MG: Ensure viable self-sustaining populations of native species in Napa County

MO: Characterize status of native species using appropriate indicators.

3. Hydrology/Geomorphology

MG: Protect and restore hydrologic processes (related to surface and groundwater)

MO: Identify and characterize essential hydrologic processes and trends

MG: Protect public and private water supplies from overdrafts to ensure a sustainable drinking and irrigation water supply for the future

MO: Characterize and evaluate trends in public and private water supplies relative to demand

4. Chemical/Physical Properties (e.g., water, air, soil, sediment)

MG: Protect the County's water supply reservoirs and aquifers to ensure clean drinking water and maintenance of aquatic life

MO: Characterize water quality trends for drinking water supplies and other water sources

MG: Improve the quality of waters listed as water quality limited (i.e., polluted) under the Clean Water Act

MO: Characterize water quality conditions using appropriate indicators

MG: Improve existing air quality problems and prevent potential air quality problems

MO: Characterize air quality trends

5. Natural Disturbance Regimes

MG: (under development)

MO: Characterize the frequency, intensity, extent and duration of natural disturbance regimes

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West

Record of Decision Future Recreation Use and Operations of Lake Berryessa

**Solano Project, Napa, California
Mid-Pacific Region
June 2, 2006**



**U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
Sacramento, California**

Executive Summary

This document is the Record of Decision (ROD) of the Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region, for the Future Recreation Use and Operations of Lake Berryessa, hereinafter referred to as the Visitor Services Plan (VSP) ROD. The project is the subject of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) dated October 2003 and a Final EIS dated October 2005, developed in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Lake Berryessa is the operating reservoir for Reclamation's Solano Project (Project). The Project was authorized by the Secretary of the Interior (Secretary) on November 11, 1948, under terms of the Reclamation Project Act of 1939 for purposes of irrigation and municipal and industrial (M&I) water supply along with incidental flood control benefits. Monticello Dam was completed in 1957. The Project provides flood control protection for the City of Winters and other downstream communities and delivers close to 200,000 acre-feet to farmlands, cities, and industries annually.

Recreation was not a purpose of the Project as originally authorized; nonetheless, public visitation began almost immediately. Reclamation therefore entered into an agreement with Napa County (County) to manage recreation at the lake. Between 1958 and 1959, the County awarded seven concession contracts for a term of 30 years each to develop and manage designated areas along the lakeshore for recreation purposes. During that same time, Reclamation commissioned the National Park Service to develop a "Public Use Plan" (PUP) to guide the then-current and future management of resources and recreation activities at Lake Berryessa. The PUP was completed in 1959. Lake Berryessa officially became available for public recreational use that same year.

Over time, all seven contractors allowed private owners to install their trailers and mobile homes on an indefinite basis. Long-term private use of this type was in conflict with the original concession contracts and the approved PUP. Owners often added significant improvements to and around their units including decks, docks, and driveways. In addition, privately owned trailers and mobile homes generally occupied acreage most suitable for development, particularly lakeshore sites, to the exclusion of campsites, picnic areas, and other short-term or overnight facilities. Concession contractors contended that the year-round revenue generated from this arrangement was essential for business solvency.

Audits by the Government Accountability Office in 1971 and the Department of the Interior Office of Inspector General in 1995 and 2000 required Reclamation to address health, safety, and exclusionary issues associated with the nearly 1,300 long-term trailers and mobile homes located on Federal property around the lake. The PUP was formally updated in 1972. The Reservoir Area Management Plan (RAMP) was completed in 1992. Both the PUP and the RAMP ROD imposed additional conditions on long-term exclusive use at the concession areas.

Public Law 93-483, dated October 27, 1974, authorized Reclamation to manage recreation activities at the lake and construct several new Government-operated facilities. The recreation management agreement with the County was terminated in 1975 and all seven long-term contracts were transferred to Reclamation. The Secretary eventually renewed the existing concession contracts for two successive 10-year periods each under authority of Public Law 96-375, dated October 3, 1980. There is no authority to renew the existing concession contracts beyond their cumulative 50-year terms now permanently expiring in 2008 and 2009.

Reclamation initiated the visitor services planning effort in 2000 through the NEPA process. The primary objective was to provide as much time as possible for public participation in determining the future recreation use and operation of the lake prior to expiration of the existing concession contracts. Reclamation conducted extensive outreach and public scoping to formulate project alternatives. The

Draft EIS, published in October 2003, included four broad alternatives. Reclamation received more than 3,400 written comments to the Draft EIS through two separate comment periods lasting a combined 7 months, in addition to extensive feedback from more than 100 public meetings and briefings.

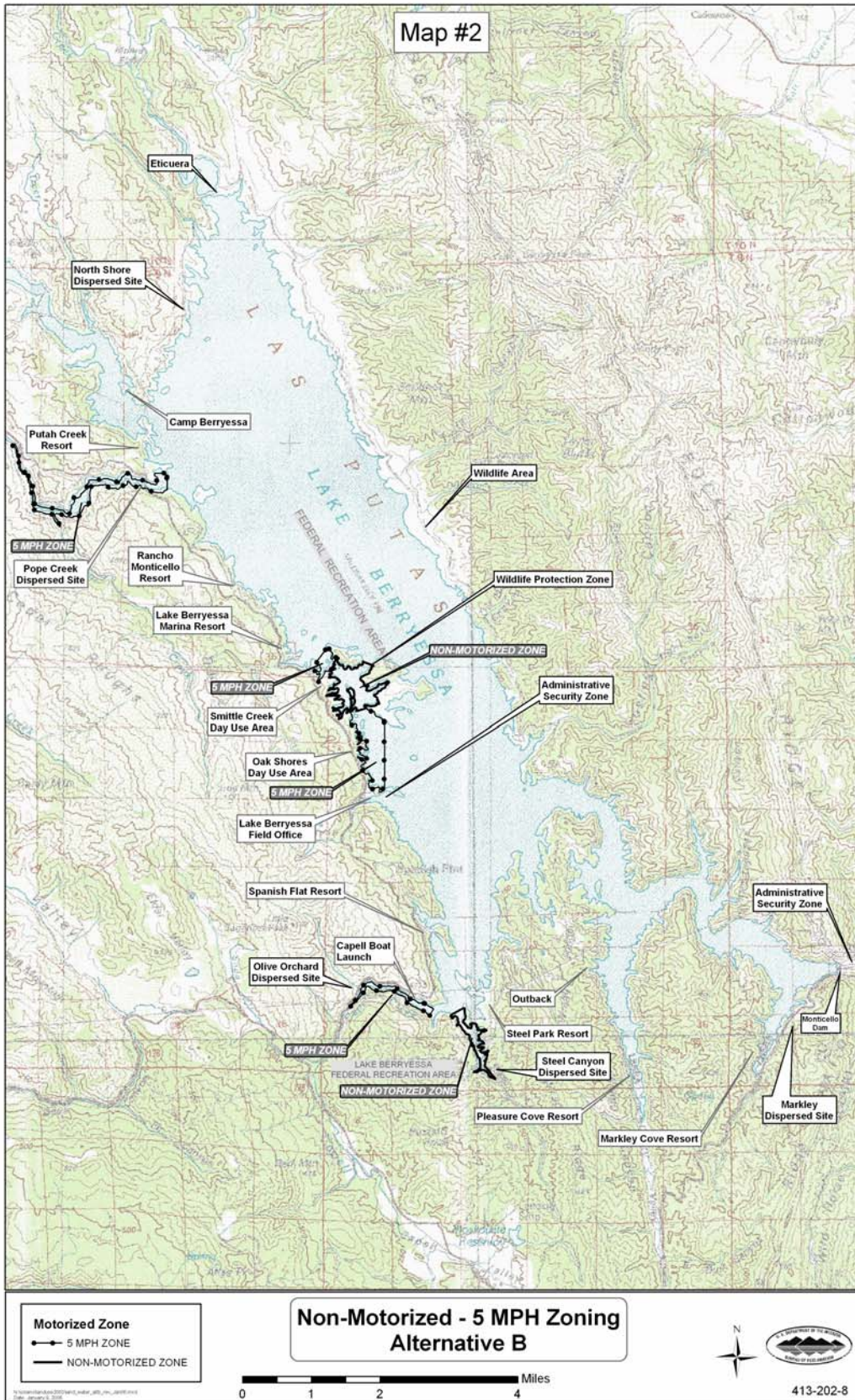
The Final EIS, released in November 2005, identified Alternative B as the Preferred Alternative. The main focus of Alternative B was the development of new facilities and programs to better serve the short-term visitor. According to Alternative B, all long-term trailers and mobile homes would be removed from Federal property at Lake Berryessa and replaced with short-term facilities according to a framework developed by Reclamation for each individual concession area. Alternative B also adopted the Water Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WROS) zoning system for land and water user classification and committed to developing a trail system in and around Federal facilities.

Reclamation conducted another round of public outreach concurrently with the release of the Final EIS. The main purpose was to provide members of the public a final opportunity to submit any new or clarifying information prior to deliberations on the VSP ROD. In order to maximize the range of potential solutions, Reclamation adopted an interest-based approach to developing the VSP ROD. The process took almost 5 months to complete and resulted in substantive modifications to the Preferred Alternative identified in the Final EIS. Specifically, Alternative B is modified by the VSP ROD to include elements of Alternatives A, C, and D. The VSP ROD also carries forward key recreation-related provisions from the RAMP ROD and includes a range of mitigation measures. In summary:

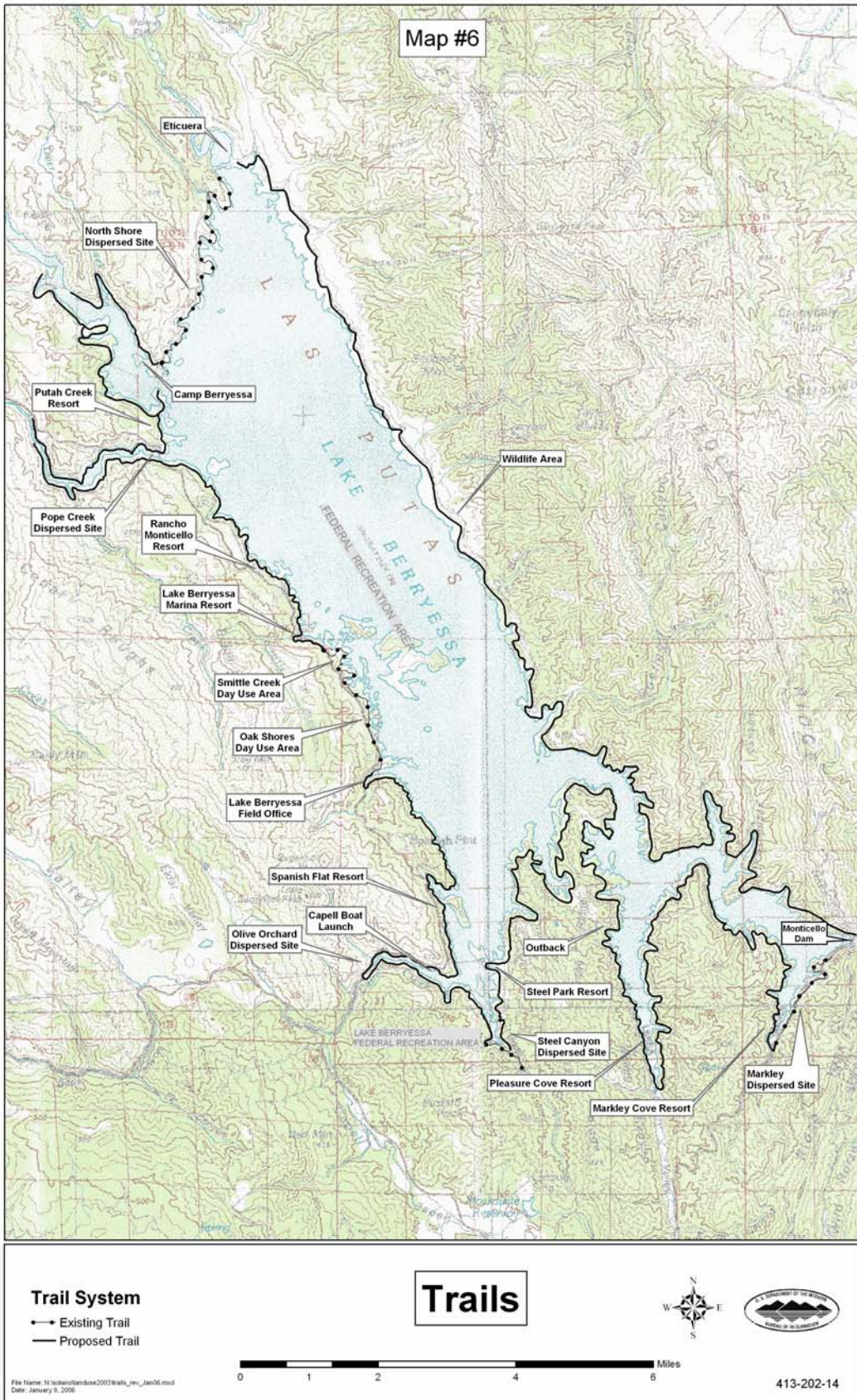
1. Recreation program management. The VSP ROD prescribes basic management principles designed to guide and support lake-wide integration of Government operations and commercial operations in the best interests of the visiting public. In that regard, Reclamation will establish and sponsor a forum of public agencies, with meetings open to the public, to promote communication and collaboration in implementing the VSP ROD and addressing issues of mutual concern.
2. Facilities. The VSP ROD limits future development of the concession areas to facilities that support short-term, traditional, non-exclusive, and diverse recreation opportunities at the lake. The framework in the Final EIS is further generalized to allow prospective contractors greater flexibility in formulating and submitting proposals that meet this primary objective, subject to additional site-specific environmental analysis as appropriate. All facilities must be constructed or installed, operated, and maintained by the concession contractors. All privately owned trailers, mobile homes, and associated personal property must be removed from Federal property at Lake Berryessa.
3. Facility locations. The VSP ROD specifies the types of facilities that may be developed within each of three geographic locations at each concession area. The locations correspond with elevations above mean sea level (MSL) related to critical reservoir operations. Specifically, elevation 440' MSL represents the top of the active conservation pool for water supply and water quality purposes, and elevation 440'-455' MSL is the reservoir surcharge capacity for flood control purposes.
4. Occupancy. The VSP ROD defines three different types of occupancy for facilities within each sector. In addition to day-use occupancy and short-term occupancy, the decision allows annual occupancy in certain circumstances of units constructed or installed, operated, and maintained by the concession contractors.
5. Mitigation. The VSP ROD identifies a range of potential mitigation measures to reduce the impact of the decision on existing concession contractors, current trailer and mobile home owners, current contractor employees, and others. No immediate mitigation measures were necessary for construction and development.

6. Other. The WROS is not adopted as part of the VSP ROD. Instead, requirements in the RAMP ROD governing water surface carrying capacity and vessel occupancy are carried forward, and certain areas of the lake are reserved for non-motorized water craft and trolling engines. In addition, the VSP ROD requires signage to comply with Reclamation's Visual Identity Program requirements and commits Reclamation to work with partner agencies and new contractors to expand and maintain a trail system for non-motorized recreation in or around Federal property at Lake Berryessa.

Appendix B: Map No. 413-202-8 – Non-Motorized – 5 MPH Zoning



Appendix C: Map No. 413-202-14 – Trails



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June 22, 2006

**Warren Winiarski, Proprietor
Stag's Leap Wine Cellars
5766 Silverado Trail
Napa, CA 94558**

Dear Mr. Winiarski,

On behalf of the WICC Board of Directors, we would like to thank you and your staff at Stag's Leap Wine Cellars for your hospitality and a job well done!

At the WICC Board's "Celebration of Watershed Stewardship" on May 25, 2006, the setting at Stag's Leap Wine Cellars contributed greatly to the event's success.

We also enjoyed your staff's presentation on your Chase Creek Restoration Project. The presentation added greatly to the afternoon's program and your effort to restore and enhance the creek is model for others to follow.

The WICC Board would like to express its appreciation and gratitude to you personally for offering the event space and for your continued contribution to stream restoration efforts throughout Napa County.

Sincerely,

Charles Slutzkin, Chair