



RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
WATER QUALITY & REGULATIONS  
WORKING GROUP SESSION

September 12, 2006, 8:30 AM – 10:00 AM  
Windsor Corporation Yard, Building 100  
8400 Windsor Road, Windsor, CA 95492

**A G E N D A**

- 1. Greetings and Introductions**
- 2. Mercury Pollution Prevention Program**
- 3. Coordinated Permitting**
- 4. Phase II Stormwater Awareness Program**
  - Environmental Column
  - Press Democrat – Stormwater Ad Campaign
  - Phase II NPDES Forum Recap
- 5. Residential Fats, Oils, and Grease Program**
- 6. Collection System Strategy**
- 7. Future Meetings and Agenda Items**
- 8. Items of Interest**
- 9. Public Comment**
- 10. Adjourn**

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*Meeting Summary (prepared by RRWA staff Christy Kennedy & Phoebe Grow)*

**1. Greetings and Introductions**

Attendees:

Forest Frasier, City of Santa Rosa  
Alejandro Perez, Town of Windsor  
Eydie Tacata, City of Rohnert Park  
Cristina Goulart, City of Cotati  
Phoebe Grow, RRWA  
Christy Kennedy, RRWA  
Dave Smith, City of Santa Rosa  
Craig Scott, Town of Windsor  
Brenda Adelman, RRWPC  
Stephanie Hughes, RMC (via conference call)

**2. Mercury Program:** Stephanie Hughes (RMC) joined the group via conference call to discuss mercury program tasks. The group reviewed a draft powerpoint presentation to be presented to the students in the dental hygienist/assistant program at Santa Rosa Junior College (SRJC). Stephanie has been in contact with Doni Bird – the SRJC dental program coordinator – to find a timeslot when she can present the Mercury presentation to the students. The presentation will fit in with the fall curriculum. Comments on the mercury presentation should be submitted to Christy Kennedy (RRWA) by 9/26/06 for incorporation into a final presentation. Other mercury program tasks including presentation to the local dental association were discussed briefly. Stephanie will take pieces of the SRJC presentation to develop a more thorough presentation for the Redwood-Empire Dental Association, focusing on amalgam separators and potential upcoming regulations.

**3. Coordinated Permitting:** Greg Desmond (Sonoma County PRMD) is spearheading an effort to create a Russian River Watershed permit coordination meeting similar in format to the Marin Coordination Meeting. RRWA is supporting Greg Desmond in the effort. Greg Desmond and Phoebe Grow (RRWA) attended the Marin Coordination Meeting on July 27, 2006. As observed by Greg and Phoebe, the Marin Coordination Meeting is fairly informal meeting where permit applicants and the permitting agencies discuss project environmental permitting issues. Representatives from Region 2 RWQCB, Dept. of Fish and Game, and NOAA Fisheries were in attendance at the meeting as well as a representative from Marin County and representatives from several Marin cities/towns. Projects discussed at the meeting were at various levels of design completion. The idea of having a similar meeting in the Russian

River Watershed was discussed at the 8/22/06 meeting that Greg Desmond and Dave Richardson (RRWA) had with Catherine Kuhlman and John Short of RWQCB 1. This idea was received favorably by the RWQCB but they noted that it is their feeling that the most significant problem with the permitting process is that inadequate applications are submitted. Greg and Dave communicated to them that one intention of the meeting is to improve the quality of the applications by facilitating effective communication between permit applicants and the permitting agencies.

#### **4. Phase II Stormwater Awareness Program:**

**Environmental Column.** Cristina Goulart (Cotati) developed the August article on Integrated Pest Management which was distributed. Rick Seanor (Ukiah) is preparing the October article. The topic is creek and water monitoring, water quality issues, creek clean-up and the trash/litter connection between streets and what ends up in the creek. The October article will be distributed to the group for review around September 20<sup>th</sup>. The topics and schedule were reviewed through January. The November article will be written on Residential FOG Issues (Christy Kennedy to prepare), the December article on Recycling tips and information around Sonoma and Mendocino counties (author TBD), and the January article on the benefits of water recycling (Windsor to prepare).

**Press Democrat Stormwater Ad.** The RWQCB has requested that the environmental column extend to the Press Democrat. They suggested paying for advertising space and running an awareness piece if the PD would not accept a column. The group discussed what this would include and decided it should be similar to the SCWA billboards and should focus on litter in the streets reaching creeks. It was suggested to use some of the pictures from Paul Keiran's August 22<sup>nd</sup> presentation showing trash in the creeks. RRWA staff will draft a version to be sent out via email for comment. Frequency and size of the ad were also discussed. The most feasible option may be the "revenue" level where ad space is bought on a yearly basis, and an additional 5 full pages ads are received for \$2,700. It is estimated that costs for this advertisement will be on the order of \$5,200 exclusive of time spent developing ad. Money for this item will need to be pulled from areas outside of Stormwater Awareness, which could include Public Outreach plan implementation funds and Forum for Collective Comment funds. RRWA staff will get more pricing information from the PD to help decide on the best course of action.

**Phase II Agency Forum.** RRWA staff coordinated a forum lead by Paul Keiran of the RWQCB for Phase II agencies to discuss reporting format and examples. The forum was held in Windsor on August 22<sup>nd</sup>. The powerpoint presentation given by Paul was distributed to the working group and notes are being prepared for distribution. With remaining Phase II Agency Forum budget the group discussed conducting two additional forum meetings. One to be held before December 2006 regarding post-construction BMPs and ordinances, and a second meeting in June 2007 that would be a refresher on stormwater management plan annual reporting (similar to the August 22, 2006 meeting).

**5. Residential Fats, Oils and Grease Program:** The door-hanger and scraper graphic layout were discussed by the group. It was determined that the scrapers could be

finalized and ordered. Based on comments, there will be two versions of the door-hanger available. One version will be the current version where the text says, "Grease related sewer backups and overflows have been noted in your neighborhood". The second version will **not** state that overflows have occurred. In lieu of this text, the second version of the scraper will say, "Grease in the sewers can cause overflows in the street – or sewage backups in your home!" The member agencies participating in the FOG program will receive 200 door-hanger packets. Prior to ordering, the agencies will be asked how many of each version (adding up to a total of 200) they would like to order.

**6. Collection System Strategy:** An electronic version of the SSMP questionnaire was sent out to the group by e-mail on August 28<sup>th</sup>. It was requested at that time that the questionnaire be completed and sent to Phoebe Grow (RRWA) by September 30<sup>th</sup>. The questionnaire is intended to provide RRWA with information that will be used to tailor the upcoming SSMP workshop. It was discussed that questionnaire would be redeveloped so as to be able to be filled out electronically and then e-mailed to the group. The exact date of the SSMP workshop has not been set – but it will likely be in mid-November 2006.

Copies of the "Notice of Intent to Comply with the Terms of the Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems" form were passed out at the meeting. This form should be used by public agencies that own or operate sanitary sewer systems to enroll in the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) Sanitary Sewer Overflow Program. The form and other information about the program are available at <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/sso/>. The form and the program annual fee (\$872.00 for populations < 50,000, \$4,676 for populations > 50,000) should be submitted to the SWRCB by November 2, 2006. The form asks for very basic information and instructions for filling out the form are provided on the above referenced website.

**7. Future Meetings and Agenda Items:** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday October 10, 2006 the Windsor Corporation Yard.

**8. Items of Interest:** No items of interest were discussed.

**9. Public Comment:** No public comment.

**10. Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 9:56 a.m.



RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
INTEGRATED RESOURCES & PLANNING  
and  
PUBLIC OUTREACH & FUNDING  
COMBINED WORKING GROUP SESSION

September 12, 2006, 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM  
Windsor Corporation Yard, Building 100  
8400 Windsor Road, Windsor, CA 95492

**A G E N D A**

- 1. Greetings and Introductions**
- 2. Update on North Coast IRWMP**
- 3. RRWA Regional Project for North Coast IRWMP**
- 4. Chinook Recovery Strategy**
- 5. Press Democrat Stormwater Ad Campaign**
- 6. Speaker's Bureau Opportunities/Conferences – RRWA Booth**
- 7. Public Outreach Items**
  - **Sponsorship of Cleanup Events**
  - **Electronic Newsletter**
  - **Facility Tours**
- 8. Future Meetings and Agenda Items**
- 9. Items of Interest**
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The Russian River Watershed Association complies with ADA requirements and will attempt to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities upon request.

Please contact Christy Kennedy at (707) 833-2553 with any questions.

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*Meeting Summary (prepared by RRWA staff Christy Kennedy & Phoebe Grow)*

**1. Greetings and Introductions**

Attendees:

Lisa Renton, Sonoma County Water Agency  
Forest Frasier, City of Santa Rosa  
Cristina Goulart, City of Cotati  
Eydie Tacata, City of Rohnert Park  
Glen Wright, Santa Rosa  
Christy Kennedy, RRWA  
Phoebe Grow, RRWA  
Craig Scott, Windsor  
Keenan Foster, SCWA  
Yvette O'Keefe, SCWA  
Brenda Adelman, RRWPC

**2. Update on North Coast IRWMP:** Christy Kennedy (RRWA) provided the group an update on progress in the IRWM program. The implementation grant funding timeline has not changed from previous updates. The NC IRWM effort is currently conducting a one-on-one survey with every priority project in Step 2 regarding how much time and resources went into the application. The end goal of the survey is to provide draft language for the SWRCB regarding improvements to the program for Round 2.

**3. RRWA Regional Project for North Coast IRWMP:** The group discussed the "Benefits Memo" for the Russian River Enhancement Project. The memo had been e-mailed to the group prior to the meeting. The Russian River Enhancement Project is proposed as a combination of the Giant Reed (Arundo) Removal Program and the Safe Septics Program. The draft benefits memo was prepared by RRWA staff and when finalized will be used to help present the merits of the project to the RRWA Board of Directors, and individual member agency boards and councils. The group commented that the memo should be modified so as to emphasize the region-wide benefits of the project and to highlight the significant to which the Project meets the goals of both RRWA and the IRWM program. RRWA will complete a revised draft of the memo prior to the next working group meeting.

**4. Chinook Recovery Strategy:** Keenan Foster (SCWA) distributed and discussed a "Statement of Purpose" for the Chinook Recovery Strategy, and discussed other

Recovery Strategy efforts underway. RRWA staff discussed action steps for the program which include drafting an MOU and developing a stakeholder database for the Chinook Evolutionary Significant Unity (ESU).

**5. Press Democrat Stormwater Ad:** The RWQCB has requested that the environmental column extend to the Press Democrat. They suggested paying for advertising space and running an awareness piece if the PD would not accept a column. The group discussed what this would include and decided it should be similar to the SCWA billboards and should focus on litter in the streets reaching creeks. It was suggested to use some of the pictures from Paul Keiran's August 22<sup>nd</sup> presentation showing trash in the creeks. RRWA staff will draft a version to be sent out via email for comment. Frequency and size of the ad were also discussed. The most feasible option may be the "revenue" level where ad space is bought on a yearly basis, and an additional 5 full pages ads are received for \$2,700. It is estimated that costs for this advertisement will be on the order of \$5,200 exclusive of time spent developing ad. Money for this item will need to be pulled from areas outside of Stormwater Awareness, which could include Public Outreach plan implementation funds and Forum for Collective Comment funds. RRWA staff will get more pricing information from the PD to help decide on the best course of action.

**6. Speaker's Bureau Opportunities:** The group briefly discussed the idea of having a booth at ACWA in Monterey in the spring again. The feedback was that this was very beneficial and the group would like to do this again. Budget has not been set aside for ACWA or other regulatory agency outreach in this year's workplan, so a budget will need to be developed to show where ACWA funds could come from and in-kind support to staff the booth will be needed. This will be further investigated as the ACWA conference gets closer in time.

## **7. Public Outreach Items**

- **Sponsorship of Cleanup Events:** RRWA staff reported that RRWA contributed to half of the printing costs for the Sonoma County Coastal Cleanup effort and the RRWA logo is on the poster for the event. RRWA also contributed the same amount of funding (\$125) to the Mendocino County Coastal Cleanup effort. RRWA is also sponsoring the Russian River Watershed Cleanup event on September 23<sup>rd</sup> and has developed the outreach flyers for the event, and donated \$1000 to the Russian River Cleanup committee for the event.
- **Electronic Newsletter:** A draft newsletter was distributed to the group using an html newsletter program called "Constant Contact". The newsletter template is being fine-tuned to correspond to the look of the RRWA fact sheet. The group agreed on the formatting (side bar/headers, etc). A final draft will be sent out to the group prior to the next working group meeting.

- **Facility Tours:** RRWA has been gathering information about tours of facilities in the watershed that have a direct relationship to watershed protection and local water resources. Such facilities could include facilities managed by the member agencies. Santa Rosa has provided information about tours of their Laguna Treatment Plant and Laguna Wetlands. RRWA has also collected information on tours at facilities such as the fish hatchery at Lake Sonoma and the Environmental Discovery Center in Spring Lake Regional Park. It was discussed at meeting that there may also be some possibility of tours of zeroscaped gardens within the watershed. It was also suggested that a local winery that has adopted innovative stormwater management practices and the parking structure at SCWA could also make for interesting tours/educational opportunities. RRWA will continue to gather information about facility tours and other educational opportunities within the watershed. It has not yet been determined how this information will be used but it could form a component of RRWA's outreach to the general public, elected officials and eligible entities, and school groups.

**8. Future Meetings and Agenda Items:** The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10, 2006 at 10:00 am at the Windsor Corporation Yard. The meeting will be combined with the POF meeting.

**9. Items of Interest:** No items of interest were discussed.

**10. Public Comment:** No public comment.

**11. Adjourn:** Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.