



RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED ASSOCIATION  
TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP MEETING  
July 13, 2021 at 10:30 AM

THIS MEETING WILL BE HELD VIRTUALLY VIA REMOTE CONFERENCING SERVICE—  
NO PHYSICAL MEETING LOCATION

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86571844564?pwd=N0U1akc5aWFtbGRQWDJGbHN5Mmxmdz09>

Meeting ID: 865 7184 4564  
Meeting Password: 487030

### **SUMMARY NOTES**

#### **1. Greetings and Introductions**

Andrew Stricklin – City of Ukiah	Katie Robinson – City of Santa Rosa
Eric Janzen – City of Cloverdale	Nick Sudano – City of Santa Rosa
Jon Caldwell – City of Cotati	Andrea Rodriguez – Sonoma Water
Ben Kageyama – City of Healdsburg	Elizabeth Cargay – Town of Windsor
Andrew Bake – County of Mendocino	Adriane Garayalde – Russian River Confluence
Amber Fisette – County of Mendocino	Andy Rodgers – RRWA
James Linderman – County of Mendocino	Vanessa Apodaca – RRWA
Oriana Hart – County of Sonoma	Colleen Hunt – Public

- Review Agenda

Meeting called to order at 10:35 am

#### **2. Co-Permittee Meeting Updates**

Nick (Santa Rosa) is now leading the meetings with the Town of Windsor taking notes.

Elizabeth (Windsor) reported that they are starting to review their new permit. They have finalized the data valuation on the permit monitoring and reporting program. The report is being sent to the Water Board this week. Phase 3 of Streets to Creeks will begin in September and extend through December 2021. Everyone is working on their annual reports. Construction Storm Water training for maintenance staff is coming up, tentatively early December. The drought is affecting LID and Heaven is going to talk to the State about watering and maintaining these landscapes. The Laguna Monitoring Program went out for public comment; None received. They are expecting the Water Board to provide them with a letter indicating that they do not need to do dry weather monitoring.

#### **3. Program Management**

- FY 2020/21 year-end rollback calculations—Will be sent no later than the end of August.
- SharePoint—Vanessa (RRWA) highlighted the internal resource for members to access items such as: Board and Technical Working Group distribution lists, RRWA 2021/22 Work Plan text and budget, archive of RRWA Social Media posts (RRWA created content from 2016 to current) for member reuse.

**Action:** RRWA staff to connect with Andrew (Ukiah) for SharePoint site access.

#### **4. 2021/2022 Work Plan Kick-off**

- Review distribution lists—Vanessa (RRWA) highlighted access to RRWA distribution lists on the Members Site and asked that members review and send updates to staff at any time.

The Russian River Watershed Association complies with ADA requirements and will attempt to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities upon request.

Please contact Andy Rodgers, Executive Director, at 707-508-3670 with any questions.

- Subcommittees
  - Safe Medicine & Sharps Disposal
    - Drop Off Locations: Cloverdale Pharmacy closed. Scouting for a new Cloverdale location
    - SB212: RRWA to prepare comment letters for submitted draft Stewardship Plans. It is expected that at least two stewardship groups will form in Sonoma County and maybe two in Mendocino County.
    - Next subcommittee meeting TBD
  - Social Media
    - As of July 1:
    - Facebook Followers:  
1030 (↑ 34.25% 1 year)  
Average Monthly Reach: 7,045  
Average Monthly Engagement: 505
    - Instagram Followers:  
1,403 (↑ 17.9% 1 year)  
Average Monthly Reach: 263  
Average Monthly Impressions: 287  
Next subcommittee meeting TBD
  - Russian River-Friendly Landscaping Program – Carbon Gardening Initiative
    - Andy (RRWA) recapped the current subcommittee members and asked for additional member participation. Anyone interested can email RRWA Staff.
    - Kickoff meeting with Daily Acts TBD.
  - SSU Rising Waters—There is a handout showing a summary of work completed. A board presentation is in the works.
  - Watershed Collaborative
    - RRWA will announce any new members and facilitate forming a subcommittee
- Planning for key projects
  - Stormwater activities table—Will be sent no later than the end of August.
  - CASQA group membership and subcommittee—The membership and the handbooks have been renewed.
    - Vanessa (RRWA) asked if there was value in RRWA staff participating in the meetings since Oriana (County of Sonoma) is the Co-chair of the Phase 2 Subcommittee. Oriana mentioned there is a construction subcommittee that may be of interest. Vanessa let the group know there are many subcommittees, such as the Public Information Subcommittee. What, if any, subcommittee would bring value to the group for RRWA staff to participate in?
    - Oriana (County of Sonoma) is moving to the City of Sonoma. Eric (Cloverdale) would like RRWA to stay on the Phase 2 Subcommittee. Elizabeth (Windsor) asked if participating in subcommittee is in budget; Vanessa confirmed it is.
    - Action:** The group directed RRWA to participate in the Public Information subcommittee.
  - Streets to Creeks—The TIV invoice was received and will be paid as soon as the Administrative Agency contract comes through.
  - Creek Week—Fourth week of September 19-25, 2021. Please send event information to RRWA as soon as it becomes available.
  - Sonoma Water—Water Education Program
    - There is a hope that in-person will resume soon. The pandemic has greatly impacted the program.

- Student Video Contest theme—Vanessa (RRWA) went over the theme presented by Sonoma Water, “Drought is here. Save Water!,” along with other past potential themes. Nick (Santa Rosa) offered “Every Drop is Precious”. Elizabeth (Windsor) supports this suggestion. Vanessa (RRWA) asked that any additional ideas be emailed to RRWA staff for Board consideration.
- Regional fee incentive—No updates.
- OWOW, Safe Meds, and Carbon Gardening—(See previous discussion above)
- Children’s placemats—Spanish translation

There is budget for this, and Vanessa (RRWA) asked for direction from the group. Andrea (Sonoma Water) and Elizabeth (Windsor) are in support of this. Nick (Santa Rosa) asked that the translation be culturally appropriate and not just an exact translation of the current English version; he suggested reaching out to Hugo.

**Action:** RRWA staff will work on a draft with Andrea and coordinate translation with Juan-Carlos who is already involved with RRWA.

- Environmental Articles—Andy (RRWA) let the group know RRWA is drafting the August article due to deadline issues. Nick (Santa Rosa) mentioned that youth outreach and the Discovery Center.

**Action:** RRWA staff to reach out to Sandy Funke at the Center as a potential author.

Agency Author FY 2021-22 List			
Month	Agency	Draft Due to RRWA	Topic
August	Sebastopol - RRWA?	June 30	Safe meds?
September	Cotati	July 31	TBD
October	Ukiah	August 31	TBD
November	Healdsburg	September 30	TBD
December	Santa Rosa	October 30	TBD
January	County of Mendocino	November 30	TBD
February	Town of Windsor	December 31	TBD
March	Sonoma Water	January 31	TBD
April	Guest/ RRWA staff	February 28	TBD
May	Cloverdale	March 31	TBD
June	Guest/ RRWA staff	April 30	TBD

**5. Storm Water Program Updates**

- Placemats in Sebastopol—D’s Diner and Fandee’s Restaurant are new partners.
- Effectiveness Assessment—Vanessa (RRWA) reminded the group that the Effectiveness Assessment that was recently completed identified utility bill inserts and direct mail/post cards as the top mechanism for outreach regarding local water quality. She asked the group if they wanted to collaborate on this type of outreach, there is some budget in Task B.2 of the work plan. No comments provided.

**6. Russian River Watershed Coordination**

- June 12 Drought Drop-By event update  
 10,000 buckets distributed or delivered to households.  
 The buckets contained the following: Low flow shower head, faucet aerator, toilet dye tab, hose shut off valve, shower timer, MCRCD’s Home Water Use Survey (Mendo only), a drought survey (Mendo only). Mendocino County

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had two locations and Sonoma County had seven locations (Cloverdale, Cotati, Healdsburg, Forestville, Rohnert Park, Santa Rosa, and Windsor).  
There will be another Drop-By event in August.

- Drought Campaign
  - Links to mandates on webpage
  - Webpage metrics
    - Since April 22 launch
    - Second Highest RRWA trafficked page, after homepage
    - 2,921 new users to RRWA.org
    - Average time on drought page is 4:54
    - 1,080 pageviews (each individual time a page on our website is loaded by a User)
    - RRWA will add the radio ad recordings to the Members Site.
  - Social Media metrics
    - 'Water Wise Wednesday'—a weekly prompt regarding how to implement water savings into day-to-day activities.
    - 'Fact Friday' posts include information on local drought impacts on the watershed and ideas on how residents can help replenish it.
    - 18-post campaign ran from May 5 - June 30, 2021
    - \$337 spent on Facebook post boosts
- Regional Monitoring Program (R3MP)
  - TAC meeting July 14
    - Biostimulatory conditions description review
    - Conceptual model framework discussion
    - Funding opportunities
      - WPDG Application
      - CDFW Prop 1
      - Others
  - Steering Committee meeting July 21
    - WPDG Grant Application
- URRWM meeting updates—Adrienne (Confluence) reported that based on the recent steering committee meeting, it looks like curtailment will most likely happen around August 1.
- Safe Medicine and Sharps Subcommittee meeting June 29 update—(See above)
- RRWA/RWQCB Quarterly Meeting – June 9 update
  - MS4 target is April 2022 to RWQCB
  - TMDL workshop is targeted for August with an adoption hearing in December
  - New staffing positions- There are still two empty seats on the board. There are two new staff positions - one focused on addressing Algae Blooms and one promoting septic to sewer in the lower Russian River.
  - Andy (RRWA) and the Chair/Vice-Chair of RRWA will present to the regional board in October. He asked the co-permittees to send any talking points around success in meeting permit compliance during the pandemic and anything else.
  - Nick (Santa Rosa) mentioned OWOW transition to webinars for pesticide reduction. Elizabeth (Windsor) would like the drought campaign to be highlighted.
- CASQA Phase II Subcommittee update
  - No updates on Phase II permit
  - Construction General Permit
    - CASQA working group to draft a comment letter

## 7. Forum and Advocacy

- Regional Water Board meeting—June 17 update  
Emergency curtailments  
Shallow domestic wells could go dry  
SWRCB drought page has specific information on Russian River Watershed  
[www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/drought/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/drought/)  
Conservation tips at [www.saveourwater.com](http://www.saveourwater.com)

## 8. Items of Interest

June 25, 2021, the State Water Resources Control Board issued a Public Notice announcing a 60-day public comment period for the draft Statewide Municipal Stormwater Permit and draft Time Schedule Order for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans);

- July 9, 2021—A Public Workshop providing a staff overview of the draft permit documents, and the opportunity for interested parties to ask questions and provide informal feedback.
- July 20, 2021— A State Water Board Public Hearing allowing interested parties the opportunity to provide oral comments directly to the Board; and
- August 27, 2021—The public comments due date at noon, for written public comments regarding the draft permit and draft time schedule order to be submitted to the Board.
- Further Information and Document Availability: Please visit the State Water Board Department of Transportation Stormwater Program page ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/caltrans.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/stormwater/caltrans.html)) for information regarding the public workshop, public hearing, 60-day public comment period, and for the draft permit documents.

Andy (RRWA) shared the testimonial from Daily Acts and mentioned RRWA will be drafting one for them as well for grant use and outreach.

Grant Opportunity: Projects that will cleanup or prevent contamination of groundwater that serves or has served as a source of drinking water are eligible for Prop 1 GWGP funds:

- The Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program Round 3 solicitation for implementation projects opened on July 6, 2021 at 8:00am.
  - More information is available on the [Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program website](#).
  - Concept Proposals are due by 5:00pm on September 7, 2021.
  - If you have any questions or for further information, please contact [gwquality.funding@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:gwquality.funding@waterboards.ca.gov), Subject Line: Prop 1 Groundwater Grant Program – Round 3 Solicitation.

Andy also noted the English version of the Video Contest winners is available at the RRWA YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCf72jccZ89rD-TSbkh8Ujig>

## 9. Public Comment

## 10. Adjourn

**RRWA Calendar Summary:**

Unless otherwise noted, RRWA Meetings will be virtual.

<b>Upcoming TWG Meetings 10:30 am – 12:30 pm</b>	<b>Upcoming Board of Directors meetings 9:00 am – 11:00 am</b>
September 14, 2021 November 9, 2021 January 11, 2022 March 8, 2022 May 10, 2022	July 22, 2021 October 28, 2021 February 24, 2022 May 26, 2022
<b>Environmental Columns</b>	
June – Thank you, Vanessa Apodaca, of West Yost Associates/RRWA Staff, Eight Water Conservation Tips and Tricks July – Thank you, Soluna Outreach Services and Zero Waste Sonoma, Recycling Your Used Motor Oil and Filters Helps Our Watershed! August – City of Sebastopol, TBD September – City of Cotati, TBD October – City of Ukiah, TBD November – City of Healdsburg, TBD December – City of Santa Rosa, TBD	
<b>Important Dates</b>	