Attendees

Steering Committee Members:, Erika Castillo (Vice Chair; Alameda County Mosquito Abatement), Brenda Goeden (BCDC), Jaime Lopez (BCDC), Dave Halsing (SBSPRP), Evyan Sloane (SCC), Deja Gould (Confederated Villages of Lisjan), Jessie Olson (Save the Bay), Jonathan Cordero (Association of Ramaytush Ohlone), Erin Chappell (CDFW), Jen Siu and Dana Michels (US EPA Region 9), Matt Graul (EBRPD), Mike Chotkowski (USGS), Stacy Sherman (CDFW), Stuart Siegel (SF Bay NERR), Laurel Larsen (DSC), Dan Welsh (USFWS), Brian Meux and Ali Weber-Stover (NMFS), Renee Spenst (DU), Caroline Frentzen (US Army Corps)

WRMP Staff: Alex Thomsen, Carmen Zamora, SF Estuary Partnership (SFEP); Letitia Grenier, Cristina Grosso, Tony Hale, Jeremy Lowe, SF Estuary Institute (SFEI)
Other Attendees: Christina Toms (Water Board; WRMP TAC Chair)

Meeting Materials - Google folder
3/30/22 Steering Committee Meeting Minutes
Welcome packet for new Steering Committee members
Proposed Charter Revision - Please review prior to September SC meeting

Decision Items
- Meeting minutes for the 3/30/22 Steering Committee meeting were approved.

Action Items
- Charter revision will be considered for approval at the next meeting. The Charter Workgroup will work on changes and send it out via email for SC review before the September SC meeting.
- The Estuary Blueprint update was moved to the September SC meeting. Jessie Olson (Save the Bay) and Alex Thomsen (SFEP) will present at the September SC meeting.
- Letitia Grenier (SFEI) will come to future SC meetings to discuss indicator alignment further.
- We are still recruiting for members to join the "People & Wetlands" Workgroup - Contact Alex Thomsen (alexandra.thomsen@sfestuary.org) if interested in joining or providing input on the Workgroup.
- Opportunities for input on SOPs based on poll results from March SC meeting

- A few SC members expressed a desire to provide more detailed SOP input. Feel free to contact Christina Toms with your input.(Christina.Toms@Waterboards.ca.gov)
- All SC members are welcome to attend TAC meetings - contact Alex Thomsen (alexandra.thomsen@sfestuary.org) for invites. The TAC meeting schedule is on the WRMP website

Notes

Agenda Item 1- Welcome, Project Update, Announcements - (Slides)
- Dan Welsh (USFWS) serving as Jana Affonso's proxy for today
- Dana Michels standing in for Luisa Valiela from EPA Region 9
- Brian Meux (NMFS) is back on the SC after stepping away for an acting detail. Ali Weber-Stover was sitting in for him in the meantime.
- Natalie Washburn left her position in May and has been serving as Renee Spenst's (DU) alternate. Renee will have a new biologist start on July 20th.
- Jesse McKeen Scott (Save the Bay) is the new alternate for Jessie Olson.
- WRMP staff had a retreat last month to discuss joint program management and communications.
- The Administration Workgroup had their first meeting in May to discuss flow of key items relevant to the TAC and SC.

People and Wetlands
- To support this WG, the WRMP staff are procuring an equity consultant to integrate equity considerations into other areas of the program.
- We are still recruiting workgroup members. See action item above.
- Estimated summer 2022 kickoff meeting

Communication updates:
- External WRMP coverage:
  - OpenRoad episode: https://www.wrmp.org/wrmp-featured-on-openroad-with-doug-mcconnell/
  - SFEI newsletter: https://www.sfei.org/news/wetland-regional-monitoring-program-sf-estuary-enters-significant-new-phase
  - Frontiers article: https://doi.org/10.3389/fbuil.2022.814180
- New WRMP communications:
  - WRMP FAQs: https://www.wrmp.org/faqs/

Agenda Item 3 - Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) Update (Slides)
- The Fish & Fish Habitat (FFH) Workgroup will be finalizing the FFH SOP - Ali and Levi have been leading this effort and they expect to have this completed by this summer (SOP 1.0)
- The TAC will be updating the Master Matrix - last update was in Phase 1 program of the WRMP (Science framework laid out) about 2 years ago.
  - TAC expects to have SOPs for indicators 1 and 3 incorporated into the Master Matrix by the end of the year. The Master Matrix will continue to be a living document as the program develops.

- - ○ TAC is refining metrics related to FFH SOP and will add new monitoring questions
  - Next TAC meetings will be:
    - ○ July 15, August 25, October 6; November 17
  - Question: How are the project networks being selected?
    - ○ One criteria to select Reference sites, is that the ideal sites have to have historical data
    - ○ One criteria to select Project sites, is that the ideal sites must have ongoing and recent monitoring consistent with the WRMP approach and represent a variety of restoration engineering designs.
    - ○ Other criteria for example can be areas not represented by benchmark sites or those that capture wetlands/wetland projects near frontline communities
  - For more information on site criterias, here is the link to materials from the 6/2 TAC meeting, including candidate site networks: https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1UCzV988OFNml9gVVKHQQ4ADCePD0aSdw?usp=sharing
  - Question: How is existing monitoring going to be handled at these sites? We don't want to have duplicate monitoring and redundant data sampling.
    - ○ Have site consultations with those folks that are already monitoring these sites.
  - Suggestion to reach out to IEP (Interagency Ecological Program)
    - ○ Ideally, TAC wants to wait until FFH SOP is completed to reach out to IEP and science data council. FFH WG does not propose duplicating data but leveraging data instead.

Agenda Item 4 - [Charter Revision Update and Proposal](#)
- Suggestion to include a definition that recognizes different types of tribes in glossary.
- Discussion on Chair & Vice Chair term limits
  - ○ There should be space for new members from each organization to come in and be a part of the SC, not just older members.
  - ○ Since the WRMP is so new, we wanted stability initially and it was hard to set rules which is why no limit was made. Since the WRMP is only 1 year in, we can revisit yearly.
  - ○ Suggestion to have a maximum limit set. The language to have a two year minimum is okay as long as a term limit max is set.
  - ○ *Chat: Completely agree to promote growth of people into leadership positions. Being one of these later-career folks, I strongly support bringing up folks to step in!*
  - ○ *Chat: Agree. A long term limit seems like a good change. We could make the language as "maximum of 10 years" or something similar.*
- The Charter revision will be brought up again in the September SC meeting. Charter group will work on new changes and send it out via email to have SC members comment on it before the next SC meeting.

Agenda Item 5 - Indicator Alignment Efforts across Programs
Letitia Grenier, SFEI
- Here to discuss if there is an opportunity right now to do more regional coordination as the WRMP is evolving and growing on how we report out estuarine health. Is this interesting to folks? Should we continue the conversation more?

- With the WRMP coming online, we have a history of reporting on different elements of ecosystem health in different places of the estuary and then sending reports out through our networks of loosely coordinated organizations and funding.
- The big idea is to coordinate more with each other and increase our partnership. Put together all those indicators of estuarine health in one place. Just gather all that data to be more of a one-stop-shop for people that want to know more about how the Bay and Delta are doing.
- WRMP is coordinating some indicators, but not all and it would be great to get more aligned and coordinated.
- Program staff from SFE are leading a proposal to align indicators across estuary projects, programs, and reports (SF Bay Restoration Authority, State of the Estuary Report, etc.).
- Program staff from SFEI are funded to align WRMP indicators with SFBRA performance measures, and are also proposing to include the WRMP in a broader indicator alignment effort being proposed by the State of the Estuary Report Core Team.
- Idea would be to put all indicators in one place like a website (maintaining original branding and authorship to recognize where the data come from). The funding for this coordination effort is available, but we need to produce clear messaging of how the Bay and the Delta are doing to be able to show funders we have an equal playing field for funding like other Estuaries that can bring more stakeholder involvement.
- Advantage: increase coordination with more consistency and fundraising
- We are considering forming an Indicator Working Group to identify where indicators can be aligned, and who would want to be involved.
- Possible suggestion to include an Indicator Matrix for when the WRMP needs to align with other historical monitoring.
  - *Chat: New website, or leverage existing aggregators of data? E.g., https://www.baydeltalive.com/*
  - *Chat: I think a combo of both? A new site into which some existing aggregators (like BDL, Ted's EMP site, etc.) can be plugged. It's something that Letitia and Donna and I have to discuss more; these discussions are just beginning. Obviously the Delta science community is way ahead of the lower estuary. Link to current SFBRA Dashboards: https://ecoatlas.org/dashboard/sfbraDashboard.php*
- We need to fundraise to have entities involved be paid for their time.

Agenda Item 6 - Data Management Update ([Slides](#))
- This discussion will focus today on the output: the Geospatial catalog
- *Chat: Can the title of the SFBRA dashboard say what's in the fine print footnote, "habitat types in implementation projects funded by the Authority" mention your suggestion to Jessica.*
- *Chat: There are a variety of highly valuable "legacy" data that might be thin on metadata. How will these data be considered if not complete relative to the basic metadata standards?*
- Required fields will have metadata showing who produced the data, where is the location of the data, etc.
- Question: Who would do that metadata coordination? Who would be the logical person?

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    - The TAC and Geospatial WG are coordinating closely to figure out which datasets to spend time on.
  - Aimee Good (SF Bay NERR) and Sandra Scoggin (SFBJV; SC Chair) are planning user testing sessions for data management. They suggested adding a new field so that users can filter for each indicator.
    - *Chat: "those indicators" being the ones in the metadata*

Agenda Item 7- WRMP in the Estuary Blueprint
- Will be moved to September 22nd 10am-1pm SC meeting