

## **CWP Bay Area Regional Workshop Summary Oakland, CA – March 24, 2008**

### **OVERVIEW**

As in the prior update, the 2009 Update of the California Water Plan includes a volume consisting of Regional Reports, which describe the conditions for each hydrologic region in the State – as well as two areas of special interest (the Delta and Mountain Counties areas). Each regional report uses a standardized format in describing the current conditions for each region or area. The content for each report is being developed with the involvement of regional and local interests through a series of public workshops conducted in each region or area.

Each workshop consists of three major presentations to describe: an update on the state of Update 2009 activities; revision of Regional Report outlines, based on previous workshop results; and overview of the initial draft outline. For each workshop, most of the time is dedicated to small group review and comment of the initial draft outline of the Regional Report for that region or area. A workshop for the San Francisco Bay Area hydrologic region was held on March 24, 2008 in Oakland, CA. Copies of the workshop presentations, handouts, and materials are available on the Water Plan website at [www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/materials](http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/materials).

A brief recap of the presentations is provided in the following paragraphs and the remainder of this document provides a summary of the small group discussions. Flip charts and worksheets were used to record ideas generated during the discussions and transcripts of the recorded results are located on the following pages.

Paul Dabbs, Project Manager for Update 2009, made the first presentation regarding the status of major 2009 Update activities. A key element is the integration of the FloodSafe and IRWM (Integrated Regional Water Management) programs with the Water plan. This new content will be reflected in each Regional Report, as well as the scenarios and Resource Management Strategies (RMS). Other additions to the Water Plan include: quantification of scenarios and potential response packages; assessment of climate change impacts and recommended adaptation actions; and incorporation of other State plans with strong connections to the Water Plan.

Outreach efforts to regional, Tribal, and local interests are continuing to expand. A total of six drafts will be available for each Regional Reports and RMS, with opportunities to comment on the five drafts preceding the final report. Workshop sessions for RMS will occur during July and August 2008, with a conference line to facilitate participation. In addition to the feedback solicited for Regional Reports and RMS, review and comment is requested by June 30, 2008 for the Draft Assumptions and Estimate report released at the end of 2007.

In the second presentation, Karl Winkler, Chief of the Central District for the Department of Water Resources, reviewed the key characteristics of the Bay Area hydrologic region. A recap of the comments heard during the previous workshop was also provided, along with a revised outline for the Regional Report format. The final presentation, Pierre Stephens, with the Central District of DWR, described each section of the Regional Report for the Bay Area. Workshop attendees reviewed, discussed, and provided suggestions for each section, as recorded on the following pages.

**CWP Bay Area Regional Workshop – Flip Chart Transcripts  
Oakland, CA – March 24, 2008**

**Questions**

- Will Update 2009 meaningfully address how much water the Delta needs? It may not necessarily quantify a specific number, but perhaps identifies what we need to ask scientists to do (in order to quantify how much water the Delta needs). Or perhaps provide a range of quantification of water that should flow to and through the Delta, especially to support fisheries. Or maybe less attention to quantities of water and more emphasis on function of the Delta. We don't want judges managing water.
  - how much water is actually used upstream? 60% of Delta diversions happen upstream of Delta! would dilution help address issues of salinity and contaminants?
  - temperature and flow requirements
  - are exports sustainable at a given level?

**Suggestions for Topics in BAY Area Regional Report Outline**

- showcase relationship between energy and water (water can both use and create energy), e.g. City of Santa Rosa Geysers Recharge Project; Leadership, Energy, and Environmental Development (LEED) has comprehensive plan with metrics.
- water contracts and water rights that have been applied for but not perfected
- how do you determine pre-1914 diversions? (need some high level discussion of modeling and how numbers are determined.)
- need both a big picture overview and a reference guide

**Suggestions for Bay Area Regional Report**

- need to clearly define terms
- distinguish recycled use that reduces potable water demands
- recycled water: point to best practices; list model ordinances; does recycled water get discussed under supply or use?; compare recycling efforts between regions; e.g., City of Dublin RFQ for purple pipe in development
- best quality water for recycling is in areas of EBMUD and the SF peninsula – but not a lot of recycling going on (no nearby applications, price of water is relatively inexpensive – although this may change with Delta limitations)
- graywater recycling, stormwater retention, rainwater catchment/harvest – need support from DPH; water quality concerns – need to educate cities and permitting agencies

**Setting**

- refer to companion documents for Bay Area IRWMP (see appendices, functional areas references – e.g. recycled water; see also Bay Area Water Management Report, although dated, and North Bay sanitation districts)
- include maps of groundwater basins

***Watersheds***

- verify boundaries with Water Plan
- Walnut Creek watershed is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest in the Bay area
- include coastsheds (e.g. drain to the coast)
- include habitat values and habitat challenges (e.g. Alameda Creek)
- contact water agencies for watershed management plans

**CWP Bay Area Regional Workshop – Flip Chart Transcripts  
Oakland, CA – March 24, 2008**

- inventory local water supply reservoirs, describe impact of reservoirs on habitat (beneficial and detrimental) and steelhead runs
- discuss source water protection for watersheds that contain reservoirs for public drinking water supplies – public health protections
- impacts of disastrous fires on watersheds

***Ecosystems***

- invasive species: quagga mussels, spartina (wetlands invasive vegetation)
- page 3-2: SF Bay Joint Venture can provide information
- value of wetlands for water quality and flood control
- include bay and estuary plans; ocean plans
- point to appropriate agencies and information regarding the ocean environment
- North Bay Aqueduct intakes on Barker Slough need to be relocated

***Climate***

-

***Demographics***

- verification of Tribal entities
- 20 year projections for population growth

***Land Use Patterns***

- zoning regulations

**Regional Water Conditions**

- use URWMP data from SWR rather than survey data forms
- California should consider a statewide groundwater rights authority from State Boards – others do not support
- add stormwater retention

***Water in the Environment***

- require instream flows pending for Endangered Species Act
- Alameda Creek and rainbow trout: area is highly developed, operation of quarry ponds, and environmental operational issues for fish passage

***Water Supplies***

- USGS reports and their use in measuring groundwater depletion and recharge

***Water Uses***

- demand of water use does not necessarily relate to population. (E.g. seasonal populations – winter residents, migrant labor, tourism)
- discuss permanent v. seasonal crops relating to agricultural uses
- discuss indoor/outdoor aspects of urban water use; relate to land use patterns
- specify sector use, types, and supply

***Water Quality***

- updating water purification facilities to address radio-nucleotides and pharmaceuticals
- discuss Delta water quality in terms of source water for domestic use, agricultural use, and groundwater
- discuss Delta water quality in terms of recycled water options, salt management

**CWP Bay Area Regional Workshop – Flip Chart Transcripts  
Oakland, CA – March 24, 2008**

- point source contaminants – Mill Valley wastewater treatment plant, oil spills
- PCBs (TMDL), pesticides (see what TMDLs the Regional Board is working on or has planned)
- point to Regional Board role, authorities, and responsibilities
- focus on SF Bay contaminant loads and discharge requirements
- impacts of disastrous fires on water quality
- statewide water quality issues: perchlorate, nitrates, arsenic, PCBs, boron

***Project Operations***

- need to show how the State Water Project fits into the regional report; how water quality is affected going east and south
- sea level rise issues (saltwater intrusion into outfalls)

***Water Governance***

- add section on “Regulatory Environment” – e.g. how laws have changed the way water is managed and planned.
- Area of Origin water rights have not been tested.
- representing diverse stakeholders with bio-region

***Flood Management***

Historic Floods

- can be put in appendices, but give sense of importance; emphasize future needs

Flood Hazards

- climate change and impacts on rainfall frequency, duration, intensity curves, and rule curves for reservoir operations
- impacts of disastrous fires on flood flows

Institutions

-

Existing Flood Damage Reduction Measures

- contact flood control districts
- add Alhambra flood control protection projects

**Relationship with Other Regions**

- this section should link water quality, water quantity, and ecosystem health
- inter-IRWMP coordination
- quantifying upstream-upstream interlays of supply
- compacts with other states
- aboriginal upstream claims
- there are strong relationships with other regions (Russian River, SWP, and water banking on the south San Joaquin)
- Sonoma and North Marin get water from Russian River
- is eastern Solano and Yolo in SF Bay hydrologic region? project require diversions here
- area of origin water needs
- environmental and economic relationships with other regions
- Delta island flooding
- upstream water quality

**CWP Bay Area Regional Workshop – Flip Chart Transcripts  
Oakland, CA – March 24, 2008**

- Bay influence on ocean; impacts of discharges on marine life
- capabilities of water districts for interties (e.g. in 1977, LA freed up water for Marin County – water carried across Richmond Bridge); there are interties within Bay Area, need interties with San Luis Reservoir and other regions

**Regional Water and Flood Planning and Management**

- public/private partnerships and economic benefits (e.g. dredging)
- sub-regional planning organizations: North Bay Water, Coastside, Tomales Bay; Napa County has joined Bay Area IRWM; Solano County is in Bay Area IRWMP; flood protection; watershed coordinating committee (Phil Stephans and Coastal Commission); MBWA, Blueprint, SF Vision, Footprint, FOCUS (ABAG, BCDC, MTC, ARB)
- need groundwater management performance measures (Zone 7 is a good example)
- in Contra Costa, houses are still being built below sea level (Bethany Island, Oakley) – flood management agencies have no say

***Integrated Regional Water Management***

- new website address: [www.bairwmp.org](http://www.bairwmp.org)
- stormwater permits felt at land use planning level (this provides an opportunity to require interaction between land use agencies and water agencies)
- agencies are working with cities and counties for future demand (e.g. in 1970s, Livermore water agencies imposed development fees (through their connection program) to ensure water supplies); Zone 7
- Pinos Creek received an IRWM grant from the State Board (for the west side of San Mateo)
- Santa Clara Basin Watershed Management Initiative ([www.scbwmi.org](http://www.scbwmi.org))

***Accomplishments***

- inter-ties between water systems
- more dialogue between groups; regional conservation and outreach
- increased awareness of water issues
- wetlands restoration (Hamilton, Bel Marin, Napa, Salt Ponds)
- regional conservation (regional washing machine rebate – consumers apply at retailer)
- interties: Santa Clara, San Francisco, EBMUD with SF system, EBMUD and Contra Costa Water District
- regional desal pilot study (EBMUD, Contra Costa, SF, Santa Clara)
- Mt. View Sanitary District (Martinez) – McNaby Marsh (green wastewater system)
- brackish groundwater desal (Alameda County Water District)
- mutual aid: Bay Area Safety/Security Infrastructure Collaborative (coordinates emergency and security planning)

***Challenges***

- land use entities need to consider water availability and increased flood potential when issuing permits for growth and development.
- many individual systems lack regional water authority.
- conflicting objectives of State programs.
- reduced greenhouse gases v. recycling (and other high-energy water management strategies)

**CWP Bay Area Regional Workshop – Flip Chart Transcripts  
Oakland, CA – March 24, 2008**

- need more consolidation of State and Regional water planning; need inter-regional planning; perhaps a State agency to manage water supply?; New Mexico has a water assembly
- contaminated groundwater (boron, selenium, salinity), inappropriate land use: State Board asked CALFED Science Board to look at
- wastewater and pharmacological contaminants – unknown risk
- involving municipal government entities
- representing water managers, agricultural users, urban users, economic development, water specialists formally in constituent group committees
- levee protection; obtaining dedicated levee funding for urban areas with a population of more than 10,000; HOA assessment on new development to maintain levees
- 70% of water supply is from external sources
- levee impacts regarding water supply reliability and water quality
- wetlands restoration and mercury issues
- AB 32 and ARB – carbon reduction goals
- Salt Ponds

***Drought and Flood Planning***

- Bay Area IRWMP brought flood protection agencies together, created regional agency voice for flood protection element of plans
- need connection between flood management and water management
- tidal flooding, wastewater outfalls, need Federal assistance
- need policy recommendations for flood infrastructure funding mechanisms – revolving fund
- also emergency interventions and longer interventions; need awareness; interties; plans; catastrophic preparedness;
- stormwater retention, impervious surface, BASWMA- see Emeryville's application for LID (reducing discharge at source) – relates to land use
- add Bay Area Flood Protection Agencies Association
- groundwater banking for drought contingencies

**Looking to the Future**

***Future Scenarios***

- quantification of allocations in computer models with GIS overlay
- look at increased water for Delta (decreased diversions)
- reduced imports from all sources (not just Delta)
- reduced supply to Southern California from Colorado River

***Climate Change***

- impact of reduction of snowpack on water supply – projections
- AB 32 and ARB carbon reduction goals

***Response Strategies***

- linking water quality and quantity to land use.
- establishing buy-in from municipalities in regional plan (MOUs, upstream-downstream interests interfacing)
- maximizing local water resources

**CWP Bay Area Regional Workshop – Flip Chart Transcripts  
Oakland, CA – March 24, 2008**

***Implementation Next Steps***

- brine management for brackish and ocean desal (master plan needed, e.g. So. Cal outfalls); State policy for beneficiary pays – discuss change?
- encourage low-impact development – training sessions for developers and contractors
- defining priorities and regional public welfare statements
- developing stakeholder bodies for water authorities
- full wastewater reclamation
- public education: financial assistance, local ordinances for infrastructure investments
- additional agricultural water use efficiency and beneficial management practices

**Water Portfolios from 1998 - 2005**

-

**Selected References**

-