

San Diego Regional Stormwater Copermittees Regional Management Committee

Meeting Notes - FINAL

Chairperson Stephanie Gaines

Date	Agenda Summary
12/5/2016 Start time: 10:17 AM End time: 12:00 PM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductions and Announcements • Administrative Issues • Regional Water Quality Control Board Update • CASQA Update • Effectiveness Assessment of the San Diego Hydromodification Management Plan • Regional Shared Costs Accounting • Adoption of Proposed FY 2017-18 Regional Shared Costs Budget & Work Plan • Future Meetings
Location	
County of San Diego 5500 Overland Ave, 1 st Floor, Room 120 San Diego, CA 92123	

Meeting Attendance:

- Number of Voting Copermittees at this Meeting: 19

VOTING MEMBERS (one vote per jurisdiction)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Carlsbad Tim Murphy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Chula Vista Boushra Salem & Marisa Soriano	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Coronado Jim Newton Rosanna Lacarra	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Del Mar Kelly Barker
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of El Cajon John Phillips	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Encinitas Erik Steenblock	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Imperial Beach Chris Helmer	<input type="checkbox"/> City of La Mesa
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Lemon Grove Malik Tamimi	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of National City Tad Nakatani	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Oceanside Mo Lahsaie	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Poway Steve Strapac
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of San Diego Andre Sonksen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of San Marcos Reed Thornberry	<input type="checkbox"/> City of Santee	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Solana Beach Francesca DeLeon
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Vista Jon Nottage	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Port of San Diego Allison Vosskuhler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Airport Authority Richard Gilb	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> City of Escondido Alicia Appel
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County of San Diego Jo Ann Weber Miles Safa Joanna Wisniewska			

OTHER ATTENDEES

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tony Hancock Brown & Caldwell	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jennifer Peterson NV5	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Paul Glenn CDM Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Joanne Branch San Diego County Office of Education
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Jayne Janda-Timba Rick Engineering	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Scott Taylor CASQA	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tom Falk CDM Smith	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Sally Hansen San Diego County Office of Education
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Christina Arias RWQCB	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Andrea Crupack Western Solutions		

1 **1. Call to Order**

2 Stephanie Gaines (County of San Diego) called the meeting to order at 10:17 a.m.

3 **2. Roll Call**

4 Stephanie called roll for each Copermittee.

5 **3. Time for public to speak on items not on Non-Agendized Meeting Items**

6 Joanne Branch and Sally Hansen, both from the San Diego County Office of Education,
7 introduced themselves to the group. They provide the primary support for the industrial
8 and municipal storm water permits for school districts. Thirty-six out of 43 school
9 districts are members of their group, of which three have successfully achieved no
10 exposure status under the industrial permit. Another one or two members are taking
11 substantive steps to modify their existing facilities to meet permit requirements.
12 Regarding municipal permits, Joanne and Sally have been working with the State Water
13 Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and expect to hear in January that negotiations will
14 be beginning to include school districts in a new municipal storm water permit. If
15 Copermittees have any storm water issues with school districts, they are encouraged to
16 contact Joanne or Sally. They would be happy to facilitate communication.

17 **4. Introductions and Announcements**

18 Mo Lahsaie (City of Oceanside) shared that in reaction to the MS4 Permit, the city is
19 working closely with the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) to
20 identify groundwater seepages in the city. The Regional Board recently adopted a Water
21 Extraction Permit that is not the same as dewatering. Based on the Water Extraction
22 Permit, all Responsible Parties in the City of Oceanside are now informed to follow the
23 permits and determine appropriate solutions. The City provides three options. If
24 Copermittees are interested in more information, they are encouraged to contact Mo.

25 Alicia Appel (City of Escondido) announced the City of Escondido is hiring an assistant
26 stormwater program specialist. Information is on the city's website.

27 **5. Administrative Issues**

28 Stephanie stated that next year will be very busy with the Regional Monitoring Annual
29 Report (RMAR) and kick off for developing the Report of Waste Discharge (ROWD). The
30 Program Planning Subcommittee (PPS) and Regional Management Committee (RMC)
31 will be meeting more frequently (monthly). A meeting scheduler will be sent out to get
32 the meetings on people's calendars. The PPS usually meets the third Thursday of the
33 month in the afternoon. The RMC meets whenever time is available.

1 **6. Regional Water Quality Control Board Update**

2 Christina Arias (Regional Board) shared that the Regional Board’s Executive Officer has
3 asked the Storm Water Program staff to attend the RMC meetings regularly.

4 Christina asked for more information on the attendees to the PPS and RMC meetings,
5 specifically if only San Diego County Copermittees were included, and how often
6 meetings were held. Stephanie replied that with the ROWD, the San Diego Copermittees
7 do talk and work collaboratively with Orange County and Riverside County. She is
8 unsure if the other counties are being included in work efforts for the RMAR. The PPS
9 has invited Riverside County and Orange County to meetings in the past for Region 9
10 issues, but the other counties are not involved on a regular basis. The PPS will be
11 meeting monthly for 2017. The RMC meets as needed typically to reconcile and approve
12 budgets, as a vote from the RMC is required for some budget issues.

13 Christina explained that the Regional Board wants to exercise the Practical Vision better,
14 especially with communication and transparency. The Regional Board wants a forum to
15 communicate in person with Copermittees three or four times per year. This need is
16 arising because there have been a lot of questions with the new MS4 Permit, and
17 different Copermittees or affected parties have brought up the same questions.
18 Christina noted that Orange County and Riverside County will benefit from the lessons
19 learned in San Diego. When questions arise, such as issues of how the Regional Board
20 interprets development requirements or priority development project definitions,
21 Regional Board staff discusses it and makes a formal interpretation. Christina believes
22 Dave Gibson would like to communicate the resulting interpretation to everyone at the
23 same time. In some cases, he may write a memo, and for other times, he may also want
24 to have in-person communication. Since several questions are from land development
25 and the RMC meetings are open to the public, Christina asked for land developers to be
26 formally invited to the RMC meetings, as well as any others who may be affected by a
27 particular planned topic. Regional Board Staff would also like to bring topics related to
28 the General Industrial Permit and General Construction Permit. When there are topics
29 relevant to non-San Diego County Copermittees, the Regional Board would like for those
30 other Copermittees to at least be provided the conference line information, especially
31 for the Regional Board Update section of the RMC meeting.

32 **7. CASQA Update**

33 *Presented By: Scott Taylor*

34 Scott Taylor is currently the Chairperson for the California Stormwater Quality Association
35 (CASQA) Membership Committee and the CASQA Policy and Permitting Subcommittee. Both
36 groups meet by phone, and CASQA members are welcome to join the calls.

37 Each year, CASQA provides annual updates as a service to its members to share what the
38 organization achieved. The annual update is normally given in March.

1 CASQA has a large constituency that includes most of the Phase I permittees from California.
2 CASQA also includes a vast majority of the Phase II permittees, too. One of CASQA's messages is
3 that they recognize storm water is a very large problem, and we can achieve better results more
4 efficiently and more effectively by working together. Anyone who holds a National Pollutant
5 Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit can be a voting member (a regular member). Non-
6 voting members can join as affiliate members. There are approximately 1,000 members in
7 CASQA, with roughly six to seven hundred being individual members. About 55% are affiliate
8 members and 45% are regular members. CASQA provides an important collective voice for
9 permittees and other professionals, representing over 23 million people.

10 Scott reviewed the highlighted CASQA accomplishments from 2015.

- 11 • The Board of Directors officially adopted the CASQA Vision and Strategic Actions
12 document in 2015. The purpose of the document is to address and provide a holistic,
13 comprehensive plan for stormwater management. The document can be found on the
14 CASQA website.
- 15 • Receiving water limitations were a significant issue in 2015 and were appealed in the
16 Los Angeles Permit. CASQA was very engaged in this issue and continues to work on it.
- 17 • The Pesticide Subcommittee Annual Report and Effectiveness Assessment is a very
18 technical and academic portion for what CASQA does but is very important at ground
19 level. Most toxicity in California is from pesticides. CASQA is on the leading edge
20 identifying pesticide toxicity in receiving waters, identifying what the pesticides are, and
21 getting them banned or appropriately addressed.
- 22 • CASQA worked on the zinc sources found in runoff. This is a progression from the
23 successful effort of reducing copper in runoff from brake pads.
- 24 • The Stormwater Effectiveness Assessment Portal was completed with assistance from a
25 Proposition 84 grant. Jon Van Rhyn (County of San Diego) has been the champion of
26 developing this repository on the CASQA website. In 2015, Jon released the *Strategic*
27 *Approach to Planning and Program Effectiveness Assessment in Stormwater Programs*.
28 Jon has continued efforts by providing a series of webinars with the recordings posted
29 on the CASQA website. The Portal is an excellent resource for Program Effectiveness
30 Assessment.
- 31 • Also with assistance from a Proposition 84 grant, CASQA worked on removing barriers
32 for low impact development (LID) in municipal codes. Working with 25 cities across the
33 state now, CASQA has been reviewing codes and providing templates to ensure
34 municipal codes do not inhibit implementation of green infrastructure. The LID Portal
35 with valuable resources is on the CASQA website.
- 36 • CASQA identified that the stormwater program was funding other programs at the State
37 level. Rebates, in the form of reduced stormwater permit fees, have been provided. In

1 2015, the rebates amounted to a 28% discount. There may be some credits still available
2 for next year.

- 3 • CASQA provided significant comments and input on the Proposition 1 Funding
4 Guidelines, including making Stormwater Resource Plans easier to assemble so that
5 projects can be eligible for funding.
- 6 • For the Trash Amendments, CASQA has been working with the SWRCB to get full
7 capture equivalency on some of the non-proprietary BMPs. In the New
8 Development/Redevelopment BMP Handbook that is currently being revamped, some
9 fact sheets will have a full capture logo indicating the BMP is SWRCB Certified as a Track
10 1 full capture option. The handbook will be released soon in 2017.
- 11 • The 2015 CASQA conference was held in Monterey and had an attendance of about 800
12 people. Attendance exceeded expectations and broke all records. It included a great
13 networking event at the Monterey Aquarium.

14 Scott highlighted some issues CASQA is focusing on in the near future.

- 15 • Scott is one of two CASQA representatives on the SWRCB's Strategy to Optimize
16 Resource Management of Stormwater (STORMS) Implementation Committee. The
17 mission of STORMS is analogous to CASQA's vision. SWRCB has funded staff positions to
18 implement STORMS as a landmark deal and is serious about pushing it forward. CASQA
19 is involved with SWRCB, providing implementation labor and probably dollars as well.
20 Scott encourages interested persons to google SWRCB STORMS and look through it.
- 21 • CASQA will be involved with the zinc petition from the Department of Toxic Substances
22 Control. This focuses on zinc in tires. There are 1.5 pounds of zinc in every tire, and tires
23 are replaced approximately every 50,000 miles. Studies will be done to see how much
24 the tire dust contributes to the zinc problem in urban areas. There will be an effort to
25 fund a research study through the Transportation Research Board at the national level,
26 too.
- 27 • CASQA is currently reviewing the 9th Circuit Decision on the petition regarding the Los
28 Angeles Permit. The 9th Circuit reversed the lower court's position that allows for the
29 safe harbor provision to provide compliance during the implementation period. CASQA
30 is developing a fact sheet to explain the 9th Circuit's opinion and the implications it has
31 for stormwater programs.
- 32 • The online New Development/Redevelopment BMP Handbook will be revised. The last
33 update was 13 years ago. Since that update, permits have moved to retention-based
34 standards, green infrastructure, and LID.
- 35 • CASQA will continue efforts to create a Joint Powers Authority with SWRCB. This will
36 allow for easier transferring of funds for important research problems. According to
37 Geoff Brousseau, SWRCB is hovering over the signature block to approve it.

- 1 • The 2016 CASQA Conference was held in San Diego with the Monday night networking
2 event on the USS Midway. The conference, again, broke all records. Over 1,000 people
3 attended the conference. This has become a problem because the venue needs to fit
4 the attendance. There are multiple tracks offered at the conference, and it is known
5 across the country. High quality technical papers are presented, and the conference
6 includes rigorous peer review of papers.

- 7 • The 2017 CASQA conference will be in Sacramento. CASQA is looking to engage the
8 State and have more presence from State agencies, including the Department of Toxic
9 Substances Control, Cal EPA, etc.

10 There are several opportunities for CASQA members, including events like the annual
11 conference and quarterly meetings. CASQA is trying to revise the quarterly meetings to require
12 less travel by making them webcasts. Training will continue to be made available through
13 webcasts. CASQA members have access to portals on the CASQA website, for which CASQA is
14 working to provide downloads of fact sheets for use in the field on mobile devices. CASQA
15 members also receive the Water Quality News Flash, compiled by Fred Krieger. Each Water
16 Quality News Flash is a one-page consolidation of information on contemporary stormwater
17 issues and problems. CASQA members can pull up Water Quality News Flashes and do key word
18 searches for different topics.

19 Work at CASQA is done at the committee and subcommittee levels. There are about 25
20 committees. If a member is interested in a topic or issue, CASQA has a committee to cover it. All
21 committees, their meeting schedules, and contact phone numbers are on the CASQA calendar
22 on the CASQA website. CASQA tries to rotate committee chairpersons every four to six years.
23 They are always looking for new people for leadership positions, including serving on the CASQA
24 Board. There is no physical headquarters location for CASQA. All reports, calendar of events, the
25 CASQA mission, sign-ups for QSD or QSP training classes or certification, webcasts, BMP
26 handbooks, and portals are available at www.CASQA.org.

27 Mo Lahsaie (City of Oceanside) asked for an update on the effort mentioned before of doing a
28 CASQA type organization at the national level. Scott informed the group that the National
29 Municipal Stormwater Alliance (NAMSA) has been formed. It is a 501(c)(3) organization with
30 thirteen members at this time. The members are organizations like CASQA. Scott is currently
31 Vice Chair of NAMSA. NAMSA is working to promote the MS4 agenda with the EPA to achieve
32 the same level of synergy at the national level that CASQA has at the state level.

33 Jon Nottage (City of Vista) asked for information on CASQA's involvement with Proposition 218.
34 Scott explained that CASQA does work with lobbyists but does not do any lobbying. CASQA's
35 focus is on education. They have compiled some strategic white papers on how to change
36 Proposition 218. There have been about ten different efforts at legislation to get stormwater in
37 as one of the exempt definitions. CASQA is highly vested in this issue, and funding is a priority
38 issue under the STORMS initiative. Sustainable funding is needed for stormwater.

1 **8. Effectiveness Assessment of the San Diego Hydromodification Management Plan**

2 The 2007 MS4 Permit required, as part of the Hydromodification Management Plan (HMP), a
3 program for monitoring the effectiveness of the HMP criteria that were established. The HMP
4 was finalized in 2011. In 2013, the Copermittees revisited the HMP monitoring (Chapter 8) to do
5 adaptive management based on challenges of implementing the monitoring plan. The 2013 MS4
6 Permit did not change the monitoring plan. The final report is due at the end of December 2016.

7 Sheri McPherson (County of San Diego) thanked Stuart Kuhn (County of San Diego), Eric
8 Mosolgo (City of San Diego), and Boushra Salem (City of Chula Vista) for their efforts on the final
9 report.

10 In assessing effectiveness of the HMP, the following three questions were investigated:

- 11 1. Do field observations confirm that the HMP appropriately defines the flow rate (Q) that
12 initiates movement of channel bed or bank materials?
- 13 2. Are BMPs adequately meeting the flow design criteria of the HMP?
- 14 3. What is the effect of development on downstream cross-sectional stability?

15 The monitoring plan evaluated these questions through the following approaches:

- 16 1. Event-based channel monitoring to determine the threshold that causes movement of
17 sediment;
- 18 2. Continuous monitoring of BMPs; and,
- 19 3. Channel surveys and assessments.

20 The monitoring program encountered several challenges. One challenge was the limited number
21 of BMP sites available. With the economic downturn, there was a slowing of development. OF
22 the sites selected for BMP monitoring, none of the upstream projects were developed. Another
23 challenge was due to natural drought conditions reducing the number of rain events to be
24 monitored.

25 Even with these challenges, the HMP Monitoring Subworkgroup addressed each question as
26 follows:

- 27 1. Approach: Monitored three sites, developed sediment rate curves and other analyses,
28 and compared the movement thresholds to the established HMP low flow thresholds.
29 Conclusion: The monitoring supports the use of the low flow thresholds, and the HMP
30 appropriately defines the flow rates that initiate sediment movement.
- 31 2. Approach: Monitored inflow and outflow from BMPs, developed flow duration curves,
32 completed modeling, and compared flow rates.
33 Conclusion: The measured Q_2 was reduced, and BMPs are working as designed to
34 prevent hydromodification.

- 1 3. Approach: Monitored nine channel sites (three downstream from pending
2 development, three urban sites, and three reference sites) and evaluated channel
3 stability and response with physical measurements and remote sensing to observe
4 historical changes over time to add to field data.
5 Conclusion: Inconclusive. Development never occurred on the three sites with pending
6 development; however, significant insight was gathered with respect to noise within
7 channels.

8 All conclusions are summarized in the Effectiveness Assessment of the San Diego
9 Hydromodification Management Plan (final report). The final report is posted on Project Clean
10 Water under the Land Development Workgroup. The Land Development Workgroup approved
11 the final report on November 15 for submittal to the Program Planning Subcommittee. The
12 Program Planning Subcommittee voted on November 17 in favor of recommending the report to
13 the Regional Management Committee for submittal to the Regional Board. With approval from
14 the Regional Management Committee, the County will submit the report by this Friday.

15 Miles Safa (County of San Diego) asked for clarification on what it means for Question 2 that the
16 Q₂ was reduced. Sheri explained that indicates the BMP was working properly.

17 Chris Helmer (City of Imperial Beach) questioned how much in total was spent on the
18 monitoring project and whether value was gained from it or if it was an exercise to check off a
19 permit requirement. Sheri replied that at least a half million dollars was probably spent on it
20 over the entire project. The program was completing an obligation, but it also resulted in
21 increased knowledge that helps understand the effect and use of tools that support the HMP.
22 Christina agreed that, specifically, finding that BMPs are working as designed to prevent
23 hydromodification across a wide range of geomorphically significant conditions is highly
24 valuable, especially if developers try to push back through plan check.

25 Miles shared that installing HMP facilities in the right-of-way is causing issues for developers and
26 the County for long-term maintenance. He asked if there is a study that indicates installing a
27 grassy swale without the structural HMP required sections is less effective in the long term.
28 Sheri replied that a grassy swale would not be designed and engineered as a hydromodification
29 device and encouraged Miles to speak offline with the County engineers in stormwater
30 regarding his concerns.

31 Stephanie explained a 2/3 quorum vote from the Regional Management Committee would be
32 required for submitting the Effectiveness Assessment of the San Diego Hydromodification
33 Management Plan to the Regional Board.

- 34 • **MOTION**: Submit the Effectiveness Assessment of the San Diego Hydromodification
35 Management Plan to the Regional Board. **(APPROVED)**
36 ♦ Moved by: Chris Helmer (City of Imperial Beach)
37 ♦ Seconded by: Andre Sonksen (City of San Diego)

1 ♦ Vote: 19-0 in favor

2 **9. Regional Shared Costs Accounting**

3 Since voting on budget issues requires all 21 Copermittees to participate, this item is tabled until
4 next meeting.

5 **10. Adoption of Proposed FY 2017-18 Regional Shared Costs Budget & Work Plan**

6 Since voting on budget issues requires all 21 Copermittees to participate, this item is tabled until
7 next meeting.

8 **11. Future Meetings**

9 Copermittees recommended having a conference call for the next RMC meeting.

10 Stephanie reminded everyone that Program Planning Subcommittee meetings will be monthly in
11 2017 because of the amount of work to accomplish.

12 The meeting was adjourned at 11:28 AM.