

**San Francisco Estuary Partnership
Implementation Committee Meeting**

March 6, 2013

Elihu M. Harris State Building
Oakland, California

DRAFT MEETING SUMMARY

1. Introductions

Amy Hutzel, Chair of the Implementation Committee, called the meeting to order at 9:35 am. Judy Kelly, Director introduced new members, Larry Goldzband, Executive Director of BCDC and in absentia, John Andrew representing California Dept. of Water Resources. A round table of introductions followed. Amy reviewed the meeting agenda for today.

The Meeting Summary from the November 28, 2012 was approved.

2. Public Comments: no public comments.

3. Director's Report – Highlights

- Judy Kelly reported the federal bills for the San Francisco Bay Restoration were reintroduced in Congress by Senator Dianne Feinstein and Representative Jackie Speier.
- Jennifer Krebs reported on progress of the 2013 IRWMP Phase 2 Proposal for \$20 million for SF Bay area projects due to DWR on March 29. Project cost benefit ratio is from 1 to 1.5 and agencies are providing \$59 million in non-state funding. There should be another \$73 million in Prop 84 funds for round 3 in 2014 for the Bay area.
- Ariel Okamoto, *Estuary News* editor, reported she was completing a special wetlands insert for *Bay Nature* magazine and then would begin work on a 20 year report card on CCMP progress in honor of the 20th anniversary of the CCMP.
- Mike Monroe of Friends of the Estuary reported on their efforts to hire an education/outreach staffer for increasing fresh water flows to the SF Bay. Interviews scheduled for next week.
- Rainer Hoenicke announced he is leaving SFEI to become the Deputy Executive Officer for Science for the Delta Stewardship Council. SFEI Board meeting tomorrow to approve Interim Director. Rainer's priority is an integrated health of the Estuary Report.

4. SFEP Activities

Strategic Plan Update

- Judy revisited the process for the Strategic Plan update.
Action: Judy will accept one more round of comments on the updated Strategic Plan currently posted on the web site. Send her notes or corrections. She will hold the plan open for 2 weeks to receive revisions or comments and then finalize.

Larry Goldzband mentioned BCDC is updating their Strategic Plan and including performance measures. BCDC thinks it important to tell public how successful they are.

Judy would like to see the BCDC model. There was discussion on the use of performance measures in the Strategic Plan versus the annual Work Plan. It was noted SFEP reports on performance continually to the IC and the Strategic Plan is a dynamic document to be reviewed annually for progress on objectives.

- Judy requested tentative approval of the Strategic Plan on the condition the IC has 2 weeks for additional review and comment after which the plan becomes final unless a substantive issue is raised. Motion was made, seconded and approved.
- Judy advised she would be bringing a proposal to revise the CCMP sometime this year. If and when it passes, a reauthorized CWA Section 320 [the NEP section] requires revising the CCMP every 5 years.

Annual NEP Meeting in Washington DC

- Caitlin Sweeney reported on the recent NEP meeting she and Judy attended. Highlights included celebrating NEP accomplishments: 115,000 acres restored; federal funds leveraged by \$790 million, or \$15 to \$1.
- Attended a series of work groups on potential programs and projects including advanced stormwater improvements.
- Per the Federal focus on climate change, every agency must have a plan to address and integrate into their funding awards. Requested Luisa to look into EPA's Regional efforts and report back.
- Briefed most of Bay Area Congressional delegation on SFEP achievements.

SFEP Annual Work Plan

- Draft posted on web site in IC package, Judy would like tentative approval; send her comments. She will bring back final at May meeting. Tentative approval of 2013-2014 Work Plan was moved, seconded, and approved.
- Re: sequester- Luisa Valiela said to budget for 5% less than current NEP funding.
- There was additional discussion about the 20th Anniversary CCMP Report document; the range of ways to do this. Report could focus on just projects of SFEP; or of all core partners; or a wider review of other agency projects affecting the estuary. There is an uneven amount of information known about various partner and non-partner entity projects. Intent is to especially give partners chance to have their projects recognized. Action: IC wants to provide input on work plan/scope of this effort. Judy and Ariel to bring back to next meeting.

5. Partner Programs

- Mark Holmes of The Bay Institute gave a slideshow presentation on a new report by TBI, "*The Horizontal Levy: Nature's Low Cost Defense Against Sea Level Rise.*" The report examines the rising tides due to climate change, the lost tidal marshlands of San Francisco Bay and their natural reduction of the impacts of storm surges and wave impacts, and the benefit of adding a "horizontal levy" or upper marsh natural soil buffer in lieu of the standard concrete levy. The full report can be found at <http://bay.org>
- Amy Hutzel gave a presentation update on "*The South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study*" that has been in development since 2007 with partners, State Coastal Conservancy, Santa Clara Valley Water District, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Work for the last 5 years has focused on flood plain modeling and mapping and economic damage assessment. Based on these findings, certain areas are targeted for marsh restoration and flood protection levees or "engineered levees." The first area for construction would be the Alviso region of San Jose (Area 11). In addition to marsh restoration, a transitional habitat or soil ecotone ("back berm") is proposed to buffer the

marsh from the engineered levee. The Draft EIS/Feasibility Report is due the end of this year, the final in 2014, and construction to begin in 2017.

6. Concluding Business

- Additional items suggested for the Road Map for future meetings include:
 - 20 Year Achievements Report
 - SFEI EcoAtlas to be released in May

7. Announcements

- Beth Huning announced that after 4 years of JV work, the San Francisco Estuary has been added to the RAMSAR list, Wetlands of International Importance, as of February 2, 2013.
- The IRWM Plan Update now in preparation will include a chapter on climate change.
- Korie Schaeffer announced 3 sites in California have been designated as NOAA Habitat Focus Areas for monitoring salmonid out-migrations for one year. The sites are Elkhorn Slough, Sonoma Creek, and Salt River.

8. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:30 pm. **The next meeting is May 22, 2013.**

SFEP IC Meeting Attendees

Liz Exell	The Bay Institute
Larry Goldzband	BCDC
Rainer Hoenicke	SFEI
Marc Holmes	The Bay Institute
Beth Huning	SF Bay Joint Venture
Amy Hutzal	Coastal Conservancy
Jim Kelly	BACWA
Jane Lavell	SF PUC
Peter LaCivita	US Army COE
Jessica Martini-Lamb	Sonoma County Water Agency
Mike Monroe	Friends of the Estuary
Tom Mumley	San Francisco Bay Water Board
Harry Seraydarian	North Bay Watershed Association
Korie Schaeffer	NOAA Fisheries
Ariel Stephens	Bay Planning Coalition
Claire Thorp	NFWF
Melody Tovar	City of Sunnyvale
Luisa Valiela	US EPA
Alex Westhoff	Delta Protection Commission
Erica Yelensky	US EPA

SFEP Staff	Athena Honore	Ariel Okamoto
Judy Kelly	Jennifer Krebs	Caitlin Sweeney
Josh Bradt	Karen McDowell	Paula Trigueros
Janet Cox	Jesse Mills	
Debbi Egtervanwissekerke	James Muller	