

San Francisco Estuary Partnership
Implementation Committee Meeting
Tuesday, November 14, 2023

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees

IC Members: Tom Mumley, Pat Eklund, Luisa Valiela, Lindsay Correa, Rinta Perkins, Tess Byler, Kelli McCune, Becky Smyth, Rinta Perkins, Dana Michels, Nicole Williams, Allison Chan, Jane Lavelle, Casey Skinner, Hannah Fertel, Erica Yelensky, Campbell Ingram, Moira McEnespy, Nicole Williams, Barbara Salzman, Brad Paul, Jessica Rudnick, Jill Sunahara, Jackie Zipkin, Jessica Martini-Lamb, Lorien Fono, Chris Sommer, Warner Chabot

SFEP Staff: Caitlin Sweeney, Ben Botkin, Darcie Luce, Diana Fu, James Muller, Karen McDowell, Leslie Perry, Athena Honore, Heidi Nutters, Will Geiken

1. Welcome/Intros

Tom Mumley called the meeting to order, introduced the attendees, welcomed new participants, and reviewed the agenda.

2. Approve 8/16/23 Meeting Summary (ACTION)

- Correction: Tess Byler was in attendance.
- Correction: Lorien Fono was incorrectly listed as Lorie.

Motion to Approve 8/16/23 meeting summary by Tess Byler, seconded by Barbara Salzman.

Motion carried.

3. Director's Report

Caitlin Sweeney highlighted several items in the Director's Report:

- The State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference will be held at the Henry J Kaiser Center For the Arts in Oakland on March 11-13, 2024.
 - The poster abstract submission deadline was extended to Thursday 11/16. More info at: <https://www.sfestuary.org/soe-2024-posters/>
 - The call for awards was released and nominations are due by January 5th. More info at: <https://www.sfestuary.org/awards/>
 - Conference sponsors are being solicited. Please reach out to Caitlin or Diana Fu if you would like to sponsor the conference. More info at: <https://www.sfestuary.org/sponsorship-opportunities/>
- The Estuary Blueprint Steering Committee identified Task 23-2 as unlikely to make progress in this cycle.

- SFEP is pleased to have received \$1M from the State Water Resources Control Board to build an online platform for the State of the Estuary Report.
- SFEP will be using the 2nd year of Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL) funding from the EPA to support work in North Richmond, the Novato Creek Operational Landscape Unit (OLU), and the Estuary Youth Council.

4. Delta Residents Survey

Tom Mumley introduced the Delta Residents Survey and Jessica Rudnick, California Sea Grant Extension Specialist/Delta Stewardship Council. Jessica presented the methodology and results of this large-scale household survey that aims to identify the links between the Delta and well-being. A question-and-answer period followed. The full report is available here:

<https://ktomari.github.io/DeltaResidentsSurvey/>

5. Estuary Blueprint Implementation: Task 16-1

Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update

Tom Mumley introduced the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update and Nicole Williamson, Division of Water Rights, State Water Control Plan. Nicole provided an overview of the Draft Staff Report on the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update and the public comment process. Caitlin introduced that the Estuary Partnership is seeking opinions on a potential comment letter for the Draft Staff Report. A question-and-answer period followed that led into a discussion on which partners would need to abstain from signing as well as the consensus process. As no consensus was reached, the IC will not be drafting a comment letter.

6. Estuary Blueprint Implementation: Task 3-3

Regulatory Pathway Priorities for NbS

Caitlin Sweeney introduced the Blueprint Task and Heidi Nutters, Jill Sunahara, and Jennifer Siu presented their work on identifying and addressing regulatory challenges for nature-based solutions. A question-and-answer period followed. Existing project products are available here:

<https://www.sfestuary.org/regulatory-pathways-for-nbs/>

7. USEPA SF Bay Program Office – Priority Project List

Tom Mumley introduced the new USEPA's San Francisco Bay Program Office and Luisa Valiela, USEPA Region 9. Luisa presented on the San Francisco Bay Program Office Fiscal Year 2024 Draft Annual Priority List, which will determine how funding is distributed. The Draft Annual Priority List received positive comments from Committee Members, and Luisa received multiple requests to present at upcoming meetings. A question-and-answer period followed.

8. IC Member Announcements

No member announcements were made.

9. 2024 IC Meetings Road Map

Caitlin Sweeney reviewed the 2024 Implementation Committee Meeting dates and noted that all meetings will be hybrid. The next meeting will be on February 21, 2024, which is earlier than usual to accommodate the State of the Estuary Conference in March.

10. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 PM