Mendocino County Water Agency

Water Agency Action Plan

Board of Directors

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INTRODUCTION
As we move toward 2015, the Mendocino County Water Agency (MCWA) is transitioning into a new phase within the Executive Office. We plan to improve operations, be proactive in emerging water issues, protect the ecosystem that provides our water supply and operate in a transparent and fiscally responsible manner to ensure long-term stability of MCWA.

This Action Plan enables MCWA to carry out its mission in a responsible, transparent and accountable manner, to strengthen the value of our organization and to renew our connections with the community we serve.

Like many other water resource agencies in California, MCWA is facing fast changing operating environments with unprecedented challenges on many fronts. The statewide emergency drought declaration, unprecedented groundwater legislation and uncertainties in local and state regulatory and economic climates are cause for the County to develop a tool for today and tomorrow.

I urge you to think of the MCWA Action Plan not as a static document, but as a “roadmap” that will guide decision making on a daily, monthly and annual basis for 2015 and beyond. MCWA’s success is dependent on the extent that we “live” rather than just read this plan.

I want to thank the Board of Directors and the Water Agency Committee for their efforts to bring this document to fruition.

I am pleased to present the 2015 Mendocino County Water Agency Action Plan. I look forward to working with the Board of Directors and our partners in implementing this Action Plan.

Carmel J. Angelo
Water Agency General Manager
Action Plan Background

An action plan, fundamentally, is an organizational tool to identify necessary decisions and steps to better direct operations. Mendocino County Water Agency has used that premise in creating this detailed plan to achieve its mission while upholding the Agency’s core values.

On January 20, 2015, the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors transferred the Water Agency to the Executive Office and named Chief Executive Officer Carmel J. Angelo as General Manager. Additionally, the Board of Supervisors commissioned a Water Agency Action Plan to be presented to the board within 90 days. Subsequently, the new General Manager created the Water Agency Committee consisting of representatives from county departments involved in the implementation of mandated water obligations. The committee rendered opportunity for the Water Agency to capture valuable input from supporting entities to develop a comprehensive action plan. This process helped establish the foundation of the organizational core functions and respective objectives and actions.

The Action Plan creates a foundation that MCWA will use to navigate the many regulatory, financial, water availability and legislative challenges and issues facing the organization. The objectives and action are a “road map” MCWA will follow to adaptively move forward in this ever changing environment to achieve our mission.
Mission

Our mission is to support the citizens of Mendocino County and their regional water interests by assisting community partners in protecting and enhancing the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources. The Agency will support safe, economical, and environmentally sustainable services, through regulatory compliance, advocacy, and collaboration.

Vision

Mendocino County Water Agency aspires to cost-effectively provide high-quality services garnering the trust of residents, community partners and fellow water agencies. To embrace North Coast regional cooperation and collaboration to improve the County’s ability to effectively manage county resources, promote sustainability, conservation and a vibrant economy.
**Core Values**

- **Public Trust** – Promote public confidence through transparency in open and honest internal and external dealings. Encourage participation and communication with stakeholders.
- **Integrity** – Promote ethical behavior in the conduct of Agency business.
- **Responsibility** – Be accountable for one’s conduct and achieve excellence in serving the community.
- **Prudence** – Exercise responsible financial management and ensure provisions for the future.
- **Forward Thinking** – Maintain an understanding of current and relevant issues on local, regional, state and national levels and evaluate how they may affect the region.
- **Responsive** – Anticipate needs of the County in accomplishing water related goals and objectives. Provide responsive service with open communication.
- **Collaborative** – Work cooperatively and collaboratively with local, regional, state and federal agencies to meet water related objectives.
- **Sustainability** – Promote environmental responsibility and sustainability.
- **Community** – Demonstrate leadership and stewardship in serving the community.
**Guiding Principles**

1. **Long-term protection and support** of water resources and promoting reliable water availability to meet current and future regional needs are the core objectives of this action plan.

2. **Regulatory compliance** is essential in keeping the County of Mendocino current with statewide and federal standards, ensuring access to various government funding streams. This is critical to protecting our local control and increasing the community’s confidence that we are meeting mandates and best practice standards.

3. **Being a fiscally responsible water resource agency** is the essential feature of this action plan. The agency must provide efficient services with maximum value for taxes. By exercising responsible financial management we can embody cost-effectiveness and secure long-term fiscal stability.

4. **Assuming a proactive leadership role** in water management, active participation in legislative and regulatory processes, and collaboration with regional water agencies will enable Mendocino County to meet current and future challenges and responsibilities within an ever changing operating environment.

5. It is important to play an active role in **protecting our natural resources and reducing our impact on the environment**. Responsively addressing environmental assessments, hazardous materials, waste and wastewater/stormwater management are a top priority for the Water Agency.
Mendocino County Water Agency History

The Mendocino County Water Agency (Water Agency) is a special district that encompasses all of Mendocino County and is governed by the Board of Supervisors sitting as the Board of Directors. The Water Agency was created by an act of the State Legislature in 1949 under the name of the Mendocino County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (MCFCWCD). The district was administered by the County Administrative Officer through the Public Works Department and provided civil engineering, maintenance and hydrologic consulting and services to water districts throughout the County. The district was funded with state and county apportioned tax revenues. In 1987, California Assembly Bill 2068 amended the original act and the former MCFCWCD became the Mendocino County Water Agency (MCWA). The act established the Water Agency as an organization autonomous of other county departments. Funding and support for the agency in this new structure was basically unchanged. Additional revenue streams may include grant funds and staff allocation for collaborative water obligations involving multiple departments. Other activities during this new phase of the agency included implementation of water quality and watershed assessment studies and sediment reduction and fishery enhancement projects with grant funds. In 2010, the Water Agency merged with the Planning and Building Services Department. By action of the Board of Supervisors, sitting as the Board of Directors, the Agency was transferred to its current location within the Executive Office.
**Mendocino County Water Agency Notable Events**

**1949:** Mendocino County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (MCFCWCD) was created by state statute.

**1956:** The results of a Mendocino County special election directed the Board of Supervisors to form within the Mendocino County Flood Control and Water Conservation District a special district to be known as the Mendocino County-Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District (Resolution No. 1983).

**1978:** Mill Creek Dams and Recreation Area was transferred from the State to the County, included Mill Creek Water Rights with a stipulation that the area would be kept for recreational purposes for at least 25 years (EIR Mill Creek Project, 2008).

**1987:** State legislative action, Assembly Bill 2068 (Statutes of 1987 – Chapter 266), changed MCFCWCD to the Mendocino County Water Agency and became a separate County department (prior to this the Agency was administered by the County Department of Public Works).

**1996:** A Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) was created to form the Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, “The Inland Water and Power Commission established in 1996 was a Joint Powers Agreement (JPA) that included 5 public agencies: the Mendocino County Water Agency, Redwood Valley County Water District, Potter Valley Irrigation District, City of Ukiah, Russian River Flood Control and Water Conservation Improvement District; with the purpose of developing new water sources and water rights, including the negotiation of agreements with agencies outside of the County (February 26, 2003 Minute Order).”

**1998:** Water Agency considered a move to the Department of Transportation, according to Board of Supervisors Minutes 11c (12/15/98). Water Agency Staff conducted analysis to determine the merits of placing the scientific portion of the water agency within other parts of the County’s organizational structure. The Department of Transportation was willing to pursue this possibility.

**2001:** General Consensus of the Board of Directors to direct administrative staff to work with an external consultant to develop a cohesive list of discussion points to assist the Board in better defining a vision and creating a framework for a Water Agency, and return to the Board for future discussion. Staffing of the agency included: General Manager, vacant position, Hydrologist, Engineering tech (1) and Engineering tech (seasonal).
2003: Resolution No. 03-032, adopted by the Board on February 4, 2003, directed the Mendocino County Water Agency to undertake the high priority task of working with Mendocino County water purveyors in planning for the current and future water needs of the county, seeking input as to a common understanding of the Board’s direction.

2004: Sediment discharge from the upper reservoir on Mill Creek resulted in triggering enforcement regarding discharges into a water course by both the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and the California State Water Resource Control Board. An EIR was prepared to evaluate alternatives for managing the Upper, Middle, and Lower Dams on Mill Creek and to identify alternative mitigation measures for the discharge. Removal of Feliz Dam was one of the mitigation alternatives that was proposed during the long process.

2008: Published a study titled “Irrigated Agricultural Water Needs and Management in the Mendocino County Portion of Russian River Watershed” with the U.C. Cooperative Extension.

2010: Water Agency merges with the Planning and Building Services Department. Staffing of the Agency went from 3 FTE’s down to 0.5 FTE.

2011: Most recent workshop providing staff with direction to focus on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES), stormwater education, Mill Creek Dams, continue to serve as a policy advisor to the Board, continue to work with the 5-County (Salmonid Conservation Program) effort, gather data that will be utilized in the formulation of groundwater studies and continue to be utilized for technical assistance in the development of County Land Use and Development Code, including integration of the County’s Stormwater Ordinance into the code.

2012: Helman Dam (Feliz Creek) removal, mitigation for sediment discharge on Mill Creek in December of 2004.


Organizational Blueprint
Implementation

The Water Agency and Executive office will ensure the Action Plan is implemented collaboratively with various county departments, contractors and community partners. Staff will focus on several elements to meet MCWA obligations, including:

- Evaluate MCWA capacity to meet objectives and identify additional resources, contracts, policies, or other factors that may be needed.
- Executive Office and MCWA will develop the annual budget.
- Executive Office and MCWA will monitor budget.
- Monitor MCWA contracts to ensure agreed upon tasks are completed within the designated time frame.
- Schedule periodic Water Agency Committee meetings to discuss roles and responsibilities of staff, partner departments, contractors and community partners.
- Track progress in accordance with time frames provided in the Action Plan.
- Update the Action Plan periodically to respond to changing obligations and conditions.
- Partner departments and MCWA will provide a quarterly progress report to the Executive Office.

Partner Departments

- Board of Supervisors (BOS)
- Clerk of the Board (COB)
- Environmental Heath (EH)
- Executive Office (EO)
- Facilities Division (Facilities)
- Planning and Building Services (PBS)
- Transportation (DoT)
- Office of Emergency Services (OES)

Contractors

- LACO Associates (LACO)
- Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MCRCDD)
- SHN Consulting Engineers & Geologist, Inc. (SHN)
Department Profiles

Clerk of the Board
The primary role of the Clerk of the Board is to maintain the permanent record of the Board of Supervisors, including both historical and current information. In 2010, the Clerk of the Board was placed under the oversight of the Chief Executive Officer. Pursuant to government statutes, most Clerk of the Board programs are mandated by the State of California, while others are established pursuant to local regulations or administrative policy. Staff executes a variety of roles in support of the Board and individual District Supervisors, including Board business services, constituency support services, regulatory and policy guidance, technical support services, and associated responsibilities. Staff promotes close coordination and cooperation with Board members, County agencies and departments, community representatives, members of the public, and state and federal agencies. Clerk of the Board will be responsible to maintain the Water Library.

Environmental Health
The Environmental Health Division is responsible for safeguarding the public's health from environmental hazards. Environmental Health programs fall into four categories: Land Use (permitting and inspection of drinking wells and septic systems), Consumer Protection (permitting and inspection of restaurants, pools and spas, body art facilities, and small water systems), Hazardous Materials (permitting and inspection of hazardous materials handlers, and the clean-up of hazardous material releases), and Solid Waste (oversight of municipal landfills, composting facilities, and waste tire removal). Environmental Health handles Rabies Surveillance in collaboration with the county Animal Control Department and the Sonoma County Public Health Lab. Environmental Health staff in Fort Bragg conduct the Paralytic Shellfish Poisoning Program for Mendocino County in collaboration with the State Department of Health Services. Environmental Health staff regularly provide training to the public. Staff are also trained to participate in emergency response activities. Environmental Health is integral to this plan.

Executive Office
The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) provides a supportive framework for Board policies and decisions. The primary duties of the CEO are to plan, organize, control, and direct the overall operations of the County. The CEO provides various staff services in the form of leadership and guidance in the implementation of the policies of the Board of Supervisors. The CEO coordinates and oversees the County budget, makes recommendations, and analyzes issues regarding the administration and operation of County department programs, and the use of financial and human resources. The CEO also serves in the capacity of the Clerk of the Board, Water Agency General Manager, Purchasing Agent, Risk Manager and Director of Emergency Services.
Facilities Division
The Facilities Division is charged with routine and responsive maintenance, custodial and grounds-keeping responsibilities for all County owned and a few leased facilities. Included in this responsibility is the operation and maintenance of all County owned parks and recreation areas. The Facilities Division maintains these public recreational facilities and more than 90 buildings, comprising approximately 726,000 square feet, and adjacent grounds and parking facilities throughout the County, using its skilled crew of building maintenance mechanics, experienced grounds maintenance technicians, and custodians.

Planning and Building Services
The Department of Planning and Building Services (Department) consists of five primary functional service areas: planning, building, code enforcement, administrative services and most recently workforce development (WIOA). Under state and local planning law, the Department is responsible for preparing, updating, and implementing plans and regulations which guide and shape local development. The Department provides varying levels of staff support to multiple boards, commissions, and committees.

Transportation
The office of the Department of Transportation (formerly known as the Department of Public Works) is located (with the Ukiah road maintenance yard) at 340 Lake Mendocino Drive, north of Ukiah. The Department consists of four Divisions: Administration & Business Services, Engineering, Land Improvement, and Roads. Permit processes primarily involve the Land Improvement Division. The Department of Transportation is responsible for a vast array of functions to provide services and safety to the citizens of Mendocino County. Primary duties of the department include:

- Operation, maintenance, and improvements on 1,016 miles of County Maintained Roads as well as bridges and other related features such as signage, drainage, and pavement markings.
- Coordination with various local, state and federal agencies to ensure compliance with regulations and environmental requirements, as well as to acquire funding for projects.
- In conjunction with other County departments, process and provide guidelines for various land entitlements, such as subdivisions, boundary line adjustments and use permits.
- Operation and administration of two airports in Mendocino County: the Little River Airport and the Round Valley Airport.
- Administer post closure directives from various agencies for three closed landfills.

Office of Emergency Services
The Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services (OES), under the direction of the Director-Chief Executive Officer and Assistant Director-Sheriff, is responsible for the coordination of disaster preparedness, mitigation, and response within the operational area, which is all area within the geographical boundaries of Mendocino County.
Action Plan Projects
**NPDES MS4 Phase II Permit**

**Background:** The NPDES permit is a federally mandated program of the Federal Clean Water Act that has been delegated to the states. In California the program is administered by the State Water Resource Control Board and the respective Regional Water Quality Control Boards. As mandated by the act, the County of Mendocino is required to obtain a permit from the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board to discharge storm water runoff. The small MS4 permit or Phase II permit, which is the permit that the County has obtained, regulates stormwater discharges from municipalities that serve populations of less than 100,000 persons. 2014-15 marked the first fiscal year under the new permit (WDID 438918123M2000162). The new permit ushered in many changes to the program and thus necessitated numerous changes within County Departments. In addition, due to Case No.:3:13-cv-01087 CRM (Consent Decree), several required tasks of the new permit were accelerated. This acceleration has required the need for increased time devoted to NPDES and increased funding to outside contractors to aide in compliance.

The County is currently in compliance with the permit. All tasks for year one have been completed. Year two (2) of the permit involves more requirements and will be much more time consuming. The NPDES program is a collaborative effort between the Water Agency, Executive Office – Facilities Division, Planning and Building Services (PBS), Department of Transportation (DoT) and Environmental Health (EH). The Water Agency has contracted with LACO Associates for NPDES permit compliance support services.

**Objective:** Remain in compliance with the NPDES MS4 permit by completing tasks for year two (July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015) and year three (July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016).

**Action:** (NPDES MS4 numbered requirements are referenced for each action)

1. E.7.a Public Education and Outreach: Implement Comprehensive Storm Water Public Education Program
   a. Continue participation with North Coast Stormwater Coalition (NCSWC).
      i. Lead: LACO
      ii. Due: Ongoing
   b. Explore options for public information and outreach services
      i. Lead: EO Staff
      ii. Due: Fiscal year 2015/2016
c. Distribute and post public awareness surveys (from NCSWC) to Stormwater webpage.
   i. Lead: LACO & PBS admin
   ii. Due: April 30, 2015

2. E.7.b.1/2/3 Program Outreach and Education (b.1 Illicit Discharge Training, b.2 Construction Outreach and Education, b.3 Pollution Prevention/Good House Keeping Training)
   a. Develop biennial training program for in-house staff in implementing good housekeeping techniques.
      i. Lead: LACO, PBS, DoT & Facilities
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015
   b. Provide training specific to plan review and permitting staff.
      i. Lead: LACO and PBS
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015
   c. Provide educational materials to construction site operators.
      i. Lead: LACO and PBS
      ii. Due: June 30, 2016 – ongoing

3. E.8 Public Involvement and Participation Program
   a. Develop Public involvement strategy including a public advisory committee.
      i. Lead: LACO
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015
   b. Participate in Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP).
      i. Lead: Board of Supervisors
      ii. Due: Ongoing
   c. Advertise public engagement activities through website (i.e. beach and river cleanups such as coastal cleanup and pollution prevention week).
      i. Lead: PBS & EO/WA
      ii. Due: Ongoing

4. E.9.a/b Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE): Continued Facility Inventory (updates to existing list) and final Map production of priority outfalls with commercial and industrial facilities
   a. Complete outfall mapping.
      i. Lead: DoT (Alex Straessle/James Linderman)
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015 (completed)
   b. Complete list of priority commercial and industrial facilities for overlay onto outfall map.
      i. Lead: EH (Trey Strickland), LACO (Drew Jack), PBS (Russell Ford)
      ii. Due Date: June 30, 2015
c. Field Sampling of outfalls.
   i. Lead: DoT (Alex Straessle/James Linderman)
   ii. Due: June 30, 2015 (completed during outfall mapping)

5. E.9.d IDDE Investigations and Corrective Actions
   a. Maintain and update illicit discharge database including tracking calls and emails from hotline.
      i. Lead: Code Enforcement/Building Services (PBS)
      ii. Due: Ongoing
   b. Training to IDDE staff to recognize illicit discharges and make corrective action recommendations.
      i. Lead: EH (Trey Strickland through CUPA), Code Enforcement, LACO
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015

6. E.10.c Construction Site Inspection and Enforcement
   a. Inspect priority-level construction sites for compliance with stormwater ordinance.
      i. Lead: PBS building inspectors/code enforcement, EH & LACO
      ii. Due: start June 30, 2015 - ongoing

7. E.11a/b/c Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Permittee Operations Program
   a. Inventory of permittee owned and operated facilities and creation of facilities map.
      i. Lead: Facilities (Dan Manzantti), PBS (Russell Ford), LACO (Drew Jack)
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015 (completed, but annual updates needed)
   b. Creation of Facilities Map
      i. Lead: PBS (Russell Ford)
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015
   c. Conduct comprehensive inspection and assessment of facilities and identification of pollutant hotspots.
      i. Lead: DoT and Facilities (County maintained)
      ii. Due: June 30, 2016

8. E.11.j Landscape Design and Maintenance Program
   a. Implement approved Landscape and Maintenance Program.
      i. Lead: Facilities (Dan Manzantti)
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015
   b. Document Fertilizer and Pesticide application.
      i. Lead: Facilities
      ii. Due: Ongoing
      i. Lead: Facilities
ii. Due: June 30, 2015 - ongoing

9. E.11.f Storm Drain Assessment and Prioritization
   a. Prioritize storm drains for maintenance.
      i. Lead: DoT (Alex Straessle, James Linderman) & Facilities
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015

10. E.12 Post Construction Stormwater Management
    a. LID manual implementation
       i. Lead: PBS
       ii. Due: January 1, 2015 – ongoing
    b. Post Construction (LID Manual) training for staff.
       i. Lead: LACO and PBS
       ii. Due: June 30, 2015
    c. Feedback session with LID implementation staff to facilitate document revisions.
       i. Lead: LACO and PBS
       ii. Due: April 22, 2015
    d. Evaluation of post construction requirements on subdivisions and entitlement process; development of more detailed subdivision requirements within LID Manual.
       i. Lead: LACO
       ii. Due: June 30, 2015

    a. Implement Operation and Maintenance through a self-certification program.
       i. Lead: LACO and PBS
       ii. Due: June 30, 2016
    b. Complete an Inventory and Map of existing Post-construction LID BMP structures.
       i. Lead: PBS admin/PBS GIS staff
       ii. Due: June 30, 2016

12. E.14 Program Effectiveness Assessment and Improvement Plan
    a. Leverage CUPA inspections, DoT training surveys to produce feedback and recommendations for the Program Effectiveness Assessment and Improvement Plan.
       i. Lead: EH (Trey Strickland), DoT (Alex Straessle), PBS (Chris Warrick), LACO
       ii. Due: June 30, 2015

13. Biweekly Stormwater meetings
    i. Lead: EH, DoT, Facilities, PBS, EO & LACO (Chris Watt/Drew Jack)
    ii. Due: Ongoing
Helman Dam Removal & Feliz Creek Monitoring

**Background:** In September of 2012, Helman Dam on Feliz Creek was removed to mitigate impacts caused by the discharging of sediment that occurred in December 2004 at the upper Mill Creek Dam. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife required three tasks to be completed for the mitigation: (1) remove Helman Dam and have at all times a current Streambed Alteration Agreement (SAA) for operation of the Mill Creek Ponds by renewing the existing agreement (# 1600-2008-0546-R1); (2) complete Feliz Creek Riparian habitat restoration work previously agreed to by the County; and, (3) continue post-project monitoring, which is scheduled through 2017 (CA Fish and Game Letter, Neil Manji to BOS - July, 2013- Attachment A).

**Objective:** Complete Feliz Creek monitoring required by Helman Dam Removal mitigation tasks.

**Action:** Monitoring of the Feliz Creek Dam site will be conducted in 2015 and 2017; reports and photo documentation will be sent to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Agency (NOAA). This task was previously performed by Water Agency staff but will be contracted out for survey years 2015 and 2017.

Required contract work for 2015 will be finalized in July for surveying to be completed by the fall and submittal to appropriate agencies by the end of the year. To comply with the required monitoring reporting the following actions will be completed:

1. Review status of current contracts and evaluate the need for additional services.
   i. Lead: EO/WA & DoT
   ii. Due: July 2015
2. Coordinate with MCRCD to identify specific surveying needs to complete final report.
   i. Lead: EO/WA, DoT & MCRCD
   ii. Due: July 2015
3. Coordinate with landowner and SHN on surveying dates and access issues.
   i. Lead: DoT & SHN
   ii. Due: August 2015
4. Examine project site and mark existing thalweg by pin flags prior to survey to expedite survey process.
   i. Lead: DoT, MCRCD & SHN
   ii. Due: August 2015
5. Observe/participate in survey conducted by SHN to insure data collected is correct.
6. Review/edit submitted contractor survey data and maps. Work with SHN to finalize data and maps.
   i. Lead: SHN, MCRCD & DoT
   ii. Due: Time of survey

7. Redo pebble counts at three gravel bars. Plot and compare data with past data.
   i. Lead: MCRCD
   ii. Due: Fall 2015

8. Re-survey cross section at Mountain House Road and compare to previous data sets.
   i. Lead: SHN, MCRCD & DoT
   ii. Due: Fall 2015

   i. Lead: MCRCD
   ii. Due: Fall 2015

10. Obtain and include other monitoring reports for Feliz Creek (i.e., vegetative and biological monitoring) into Geomorphology Report to create a Master Monitoring Report and distribute to appropriate agencies.
    i. Lead: MCRCD & EO/WA
    ii. Due: December 2015
SBX7-6 – California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) Program

**Background:** On November 4, 2009, the State Legislature amended the Water Code with SBx7-6, which mandates a statewide groundwater elevation monitoring program to track seasonal and long-term trends in groundwater elevations in California’s groundwater basins. To achieve that goal, the amendment mandates collaboration between local Monitoring Entities (County of Mendocino) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR). The primary task of the Monitoring Entity (County) is to collect groundwater elevation data and report this data to the DWR. Collection and evaluation of such data on a statewide scale is an important fundamental step toward improving management of California's groundwater resources.

CASGEM is particularly focused on basins that are of “medium” and “high” priority according to the DWR Bulletin 118. Only Ukiah Valley Basin in Mendocino County has the distinction of being a “medium” priority basin and there are no “high” priority basins in the County. However, additional basins of concern are being monitored for CASGEM and include: Round Valley/Covelo, the Fort Bragg Terrace Area, Anderson Valley, and Sanel Valley.

The County has been officially recognized by the State Water Resource Board, as of August, 2014, as the monitoring entity for the Ukiah Valley Basin and is currently in compliance. The monitoring entity is the designated entity that conducts or coordinates the monitoring of groundwater elevations for a basin or subbasin. The County is coordinating the monitoring for the basins throughout the County, which involves collecting well data from the local agencies that are conducting the well monitoring and then formatting and uploading the information to the State system. The Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD) has been contracted to perform the monitoring in the Ukiah Valley. LACO Associates has been contracted to assist in the reporting and revising of the monitoring plan.

**Objective:** Remain in Compliance with SBX7-6 – CASGEM Program.

**Action:**

1. Collect well data from designated wells.
   i. Lead: Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD)
   ii. Due: May and November annually

2. Recruit wells for CASGEM program.
   i. Lead: MCRCD
   ii. Due: Ongoing
3. Upload received data on a semi-annually basis to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) CASGEM website. (Monitored basins include: Ukiah Valley, Round Valley/Covelo, the Fort Bragg Terrace Area, Anderson Valley, and Sanel Valley.)
   i. Lead: LACO (Drew Jack)
   ii. Due: May and November annually
4. Revise monitoring plan as required by the DWR.
   i. Lead: LACO (Drew Jack)
   ii. Due: As needed
**Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA)**

**Background:** On September 16, 2014, Governor Jerry Brown signed into law a three-bill legislative package, composed of AB 1739 (Dickinson), SB 1168 (Pavley), and SB 1319 (Pavley), collectively known as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). SGMA comprehensively reforms groundwater management in California. The intent of the Act is to place management at the local level under state oversight. Under the Act, the state will have direct oversight of how groundwater basins are managed at the local level and may intervene to manage basins when local agencies fail to take appropriate responsibility.

SGMA requires the creation of a groundwater sustainability agency(ies) (GSA) to develop and implement local Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP), allowing 20 years to achieve sustainability. The Ukiah Valley Basin is currently designated as “medium” priority basin and will be required to comply with SGMA. A GSA must be formed for the Ukiah Valley Basin by June 30, 2017, and managed by a GSP by January 31, 2022.

**Objective:** Review basin ranking data and request DWR review and reevaluate the Ukiah Valley Basin medium priority ranking (Attachment C). Present Mendocino County Board of Supervisors options for establishing a GSA for the Ukiah Valley Basin.

**Action:**

1. Basin ranking data review/collection and provide updated information to DWR for possible adjustment of basin ranking. Send DWR formal correspondence requesting a reevaluation of the Ukiah Valley Basin as a medium priority ranking.
   i. Lead: LACO (Chris Watt), EO/WA, EH, and Ag Commissioner
   ii. Due: June 1, 2015

2. Identify the various stakeholders within the groundwater basin.
   i. Lead: BOS, EO & LACO (Chris Watt)
   ii. Due: June 1, 2015

3. Hold public stakeholder meetings (with identified groups such as Farm Bureau, all public/private water agencies in the groundwater basin) regarding the formation of a GSA.
   i. Lead: EO/WA for scheduling and media outreach & BOS (Carre Brown)
   ii. Due: August 1, 2015

4. Analyze the pros and cons of forming a Centralized GSA, Distributed GSA, a combination of a Centralized and Distributed GSA or multiple GSAs.
   i. Lead: LACO (Chris Watt, Drew Jack)
   ii. Due: September 1, 2015
**Objective:** Present future implications of forming a GSA on County Land Use Planning and specifically, how the Ukiah Valley Area Plan (UVAP) can accomplish established goals.

**Action:**

1. Review the Ukiah Valley Area Plan to look for gaps, restrictions, or incentives to forming a GSA; and, how GSA duties through developing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan may fulfill UVAP water sustainability related goals.
   - i. Lead: Planning Staff (Andy Gustavson) and LACO (Chris Watt)
   - ii. Due: August 1, 2015

2. Review established GSPs in other communities to inform future land use planning.
   - i. Lead: Planning Staff (Andy Gustavson), LACO (Chris Watt)
   - ii. Due: September 1, 2015
External Affairs - Interagency Relations and Governmental Affairs

**Objective:** Engage in mutually beneficial community outreach and intergovernmental partnerships; conduct constructive advocacy with all stakeholders including the federal, state, and local legislators and agencies.

**Action:**

1. **Drought Response**
   a. Renew Mendocino County’s declaration of a Local Emergency and Imminent Threat of Disaster due to the ongoing drought emergency, allowing the county to take proactive measures to meet the statewide drought directives in Executive Order B-29-15.
      i. Lead: CEO & OES
      ii. Due: Summer 2015
   b. Coordinate with regional water agencies to petition the State Water Resource Control Board to update Decision 1610 criteria to ensure long term stability of Lake Mendocino and Lake Pillsbury.
      i. Lead: WA & BOS
      ii. Due: May 2015 – ongoing
   c. Coordinate briefings to update water agencies and residents throughout the County on drought information and to collaboratively address severe drought conditions in Mendocino County.
      i. Lead: EO/WA & OES (State participation: Cal-OES & DWR)
      ii. Due: May 2015 - ongoing
   d. Monitor County water use to achieve a cumulative 20% water reduction across County Facilities compared to 2013 usage.
      i. Lead: EO/WA & Facilities (support and participation from every department)
      ii. Due: August 2016
   e. Reinstate the Mendocino County Drought Hotline when directed by the Board of Supervisors.
      i. Lead: EO/WA & OES
      ii. Due: As needed
   f. Encourage and participate in environmental education programs that promote an informed understanding of water, wastewater and recycled water issues.
      i. Lead: EO/WA, MCRCRD & EH
      ii. Due: Ongoing
g. Encourage and participate in drought related conservation and water education efforts that promotes responsible water use and reductions.
   i. Lead: EO/WA, MCRCD & EH
   ii. Due: April 2015 - ongoing

2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Informational Forums
   a. Coordinate and host public meetings to provide an overview of SGMA.
      i. Lead: WA & BOS
      ii. Due: March 28, 2015 & May 20, 2015

3. Community Relations
   a. Promote and sustain timely and effective two-way communication between the, MCWA, county residents and local agencies.
      i. Lead: EO/WA
      ii. Due: Ongoing
   b. Continue to be a resource for the community on information pertaining to water, wastewater, recycled water and historical water history in the County.
      i. Lead: EO/WA & COB
      ii. Due: Ongoing
   c. Update webpage to improve usability and informational resources.
      i. Lead: EO/WA
      ii. Due: June 2015 - ongoing

4. Partnerships
   a. Position MCWA to respond and participate in partnership opportunities with various organizations that are mutually beneficial, to promote improved service to the community that is implemented in a planned and orderly fashion.
      i. Lead: EO/WA
      ii. Due: ongoing
   b. Coordinate with Inland Water and Power Commission (IWPC) on information gathering for the Army Corp of Engineers Coyote Dam Feasibility Study.
      i. Lead: EO/WA
      ii. Due: May 2015

5. Advocacy
   a. Conduct productive and effective federal, state and local advocacy to effectively influence legislation, regulation and outside funding in a manner that benefits the Agency and County of Mendocino. Collaborate with the County of Mendocino’s legislative coordinator to identify advocacy needs and take appropriate actions.
      i. Lead: EO/WA
      ii. Due: Ongoing
b. Advocate for responsible regulatory policy that provides for meaningful environmental protection in a cost-effective manner.
   i. Lead: EO/WA
   ii. Due: Ongoing

6. Academic Resources
   a. Develop enhanced working relationship with the University of California Cooperative Extension and other organizations to assist the Agency with technical and research expertise, and community issues.
      i. Lead: EO/WA
      ii. Due: Ongoing
Mendocino County Water Agency Library

**Background:** The Mendocino County Water Agency Library is a valuable asset to the community. The library contains historical documents and records of significance. It is often utilized by the public and fellow water organizations as a research hub and an information center for people who manage public water systems and land within the County. Currently, the library is located in the Mendocino County Planning and Building Services Department.

**Objective:** Update and maintain the Mendocino County Water Agency Library.

**Action:**

1. **Document imaging of library records**
   a. Evaluate document imaging needs of the library and convert the various records to an electronic format.
      i. Lead: EO/COB
      ii. Due: May 2016

2. **Re-locate the library to the Clerk of the Board**
   a. Identify and re-locate water library to a new location that will be managed by the Clerk of the Board and Executive Office.
      i. Lead: EO/COB & Facilities
      ii. Due: TBD

3. **Update library catalog & cross reference organization**
   a. Evaluate current catalog & cross reference organization and update to improve usability.
      i. Lead: EO/COB
      ii. Due: May 2016
Upper and Middle Mill Creek Dams – Water Diversion Reporting

Background: The California Water Code section 5104 authorizes the SWRCB to require triennial statements of water diversion and use. The County of Mendocino is required by SWRCB to submit a water diversion and use report associated with the diversion works on Upper and Middle Mill Dam locations. A report must be submitted for 2013, 2014 and 2015 in March 2016.

Objective: Submit a Supplemental Statement of Water Diversion and Use to the SWRCB in March 2016 on diversion associated with the Middle Mill Dam for the years of 2013, 2014 & 2015.

Action:

1. Gather data on the maximum rate of diversion for each month in the calendar year and amount of water diverted and used associated with the Upper and Middle Mill Dam locations for 2013, 2014 & 2015.
   a. Middle Mill Creek Dam data
      i. Lead: DoT
      ii. Due: January 2016
   b. Upper Mill Creek Dam data
      i. Lead: DoT
      ii. Due: January 2016

2. Upload data using SWRCB’s Report Management System. Reports must be competed online.
   a. Middle Mill Creek Dam upload
      i. Lead: EO/WA
      ii. Due: March 2016
   b. Upper Mill Creek Dam upload
      i. Lead: EO/WA
      ii. Due: March 2016
Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Local Agency Management Plan

**Background:** On September 27, 2000, Governor Gray Davis signed into law Assembly Bill 885 that required the State Water Resources Control Board (Water Board) to adopt standards or regulations for the permitting and operation of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS). After much public debate, the Water Board adopted a policy on June 19, 2012, that provides criteria for siting, design, operation, and maintenance of OWTS, and serves as the minimum standard for all local programs. This newly adopted policy implements levels (tiers) of requirements based upon potential threat to water quality that may be caused by the OWTS.

**Tier 1** allows the local permitting of new or replacement systems that comply with specific criteria intended to be protective of water quality. These criteria are intentionally conservative. Unfortunately, very few sites in Mendocino County can qualify for a new or replacement septic system that complies with Tier 1 requirements.

**Tier 2** provides alternative criteria to be implemented by local governing jurisdictions in areas with a Local Agency Management Plan (LAMP) that has been approved by the Water Board. Each county may choose to develop and implement a LAMP that provides a similar level of water quality protection while addressing unique geological conditions or management approaches. If a county chooses to not submit a LAMP, the restrictive conditions of Tier 1 will apply by default.

Those county-specific requirements must be stipulated in a Local Agency Management Plan (LAMP) that is submitted to the Water Board for approval.

The LAMPs are a critical component of the new OWTS policy. The conditions required to qualify for the base permitting tier (Tier 1) are so conservative that only a fraction of the undeveloped properties in Mendocino County would qualify for septic systems if no alternative were provided. Most new or replacement systems in Mendocino County will be subject to Tier 2 standards, so the development of a Mendocino County LAMP is critical for the construction and repair of future systems in this county.

**Objective:** Develop a LAMP based upon existing policies and practices that achieves compliance with revised State OWTS regulations despite the geologic and hydrologic challenges of Mendocino County. Explore the possibility of incorporating a pilot program for new sustainable wastewater technologies into a LAMP.
Action:

1. Review existing effective program to verify that it satisfies all the site evaluation, design, permitting, and inspection requirements of the new state OWTS policy.
   a. Lead: EH
   b. Due: June 30, 2015

2. Draft preliminary LAMP that complies with state requirements.
   i. Lead: EH
   ii. Due: December 31, 2015

3. Meet with stakeholders to discuss LAMP development and solicit suggestions.
   a. Develop public involvement strategy including a public advisory committee.
      i. Lead: EH
      ii. Due: June 30, 2015
   b. Conduct series of public meetings.
      i. Lead: EH
      ii. Due: ongoing

4. Develop a Monitoring and Reporting Program to supply annual data to NCRWQCB
   i. Lead: EH, WA
   ii. Due: March 31, 2016

5. Submit draft LAMP to County Counsel for review.
   i. Lead: EH, CoCo
   ii. Due: April 15, 2016

6. Bimonthly LAMP meetings with NCRWQCB and other counties to discuss progress and share compliance strategies.
   i. Lead: EH
   ii. Due: ongoing

7. Submit draft LAMP to RWQCB for review and approval.
   i. Lead: EO, EH
   ii. Due: June 15, 2016

8. Begin draft revision of County Code, pending final approval of LAMP by NCRWQCB
   i. Lead: EH, CoCo
   ii. Due: TBD (finalize code revision upon Water Board approval of LAMP)
**Russian River Pathogen Indicator Bacteria TMDL**

**Background:** A total maximum daily load (TMDL) is a planning and management tool intended to identify, quantify, and control the sources of pollution within a given watershed such that water quality objectives are achieved and the beneficial uses of water are fully protected. The term TMDL is used in two ways. First, it is the total maximum daily load of a pollutant that a water body can handle and still achieve acceptable water quality. Second, it is the document that includes all the supporting components. Under Section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act, states are required to identify water bodies that do not meet water quality standards and are not supporting their beneficial uses. Additionally, states identify the pollutant or stressor causing the impairments. The result of this effort is the 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. Placement on the 303(d) List generally triggers development of a TMDL for each water body and associated pollutant/stressor.

The North Coast Regional Water Control Board (NCRWQCB) staff is developing the Russian River TMDLs for pathogen indicators to identify and control contamination. Potential pathogen contamination has been identified in three areas of the lower and middle Russian River watershed. Identification of the contamination led to the placement of waters within these areas on the federal Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters. The contamination identified has been linked to impairment of contact recreation and non-contact recreation. NCRWQCB completed sampling efforts to assess the impacts of intense recreation water uses in July 2013. This was the last monitoring exercise needed for the TMDL, allowing NCRWQCB to move into the data assessment phase in 2014. Internal drafts of the technical TMDL were completed, including the evidence of impairment, targets, source analysis, linkage analysis, loading capacity, and load allocations chapters. In spring 2014, NCRWQCB began developing the TMDL implementation actions. In 2014, they initiated stakeholder outreach efforts by hosting informal meetings to scope and discuss potential actions. NCRWQCB is continuing to work with stakeholders to develop potential implementation actions for Russian River pathogen indicator bacteria. Preliminary actions were released in January 2015 (Attachment B) and will be finalized in upcoming years. Included in the TMDL are requirements for septic systems near impaired water bodies.

Once the Russian River TMDL is adopted, the requirement for septic systems become governing regulations for the watershed and will need to be incorporated into the County’s LAMP.
NCRWQCB has also indicated that the following may be subject to future requirements in order to achieve compliance with the new TMDLs:

- Municipal wastewater discharges
- Sanitary sewer systems
- Land application of municipal biosolids
- Recycled water
- Recreational water use
- Homeless encampments and illegal camping
- Storm water runoff
- Domestic pet waste
- Dairies and non-dairy livestock and farm animals

**Objective:** Monitor and participate in stakeholder outreach and TMDL development. Prepare for implementation of the Russian River watershed TMDL.

**Action:**

1. Participate in NCRWQCB stakeholder efforts to discuss potential actions.
   i. Lead: EH, WA & EO (The scope of potential actions may require additional departments to participate)
   ii. Due: Ongoing
2. Monitor new developments from NCRWCB regarding the Russian River TMDLs.
   i. Lead: EH
   ii. Due: Ongoing
3. Identify and develop County responsibilities associated with the adoption of Russian River TMDL.
   i. Lead: WA & EO (The scope of potential actions may require additional departments to participate)
   ii. Due: TBD
4. Prepare and implement TMDL requirements for septic systems into the Mendocino County OWTS Local Agency Management Plan.
   i. Lead: EH
   ii. Due: TBD
Compilation of Alternative Water Supply Feasibility Studies

**Background:** Water agencies and residents throughout the region are dependent upon Lake Mendocino to meet their water needs. Raising Coyote Dam has been identified as an option to increase water storage and security for the region. Lake Mendocino and the dam are under the control of the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE). As part of an USACE requirement, an economic analysis must be completed for the project to be considered. As part of the economic analysis to complete the Coyote Valley Dam Raise Study, the Mendocino County Water Agency, in conjunction with the Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission (IWPC), is gathering information on alternative water supply and storage options, including the water supply sources, their yields and their costs. The alternative water supply studies will be a vital component of the economic analysis to determine federal interest and project funding requests for federal FY 16 and FY 17.

**Objective:** Compile studies regarding alternative water supply and storage options. Submit final report to U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

**Action**

1. Gather current and past feasibility studies on alternative water supplies and storage options.
   i. Lead: WA/EO & IWPC
   ii. Due: May 14, 2015

2. Transmit final report with IWPC to the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.
   i. Lead: WA/EO & IWPC
   ii. Due: May 15, 2015
# Action Plan Breakdown

**High Priority – completion date in 2015**  
**Medium Priority – completion date in 2016, 2017 or ongoing**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Actions</th>
<th>Priority Ranking</th>
<th>Completion Date</th>
<th>Participating Organization(s)</th>
<th>Comments/Status</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Remain in compliance with the NPDES MS4 permit by completing tasks for year two</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. **Public Education and Outreach: Implement Comprehensive Stormwater Public Education Program**

1.a Continue participation with North Coast Stormwater Coalition (NCSWC) | Medium | Ongoing | LACO |                |

1.b Explore options for public information and outreach services | Medium | FY 15/16 | EO/WA |                |

1.c Distribute and post public awareness surveys (from NCSWC) to Stormwater webpage | High | 4/30/15 | LACO & PBS | LACO will provide material for PBS to distribute and post. |

2. **Outreach and Education Programs**

2.a Develop biennial training program for in-house staff in implementing good housekeeping techniques | High | 6/30/15 | LACO, PBS, DoT & Facilities |                |

2.b Provide training specific to plan review and permitting staff | High | 6/30/15 | LACO & PBS |                |

2.c Provide educational materials to construction site operators | Medium | 6/30/16 – Ongoing | LACO & PBS |                |

3. **Public Involvement and Participation Program**

3.a Develop Public involvement strategy including a public advisory committee | High | 6/30/15 | LACO |                |

3.b Participate in Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) | Medium | Ongoing | BOS |                |
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.c</th>
<th>Advertise public engagement activities through website</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
<th>EO/WA &amp; PBS</th>
<th>i.e., beach and river cleanups such as coastal cleanup and pollution prevention week</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination (IDDE): Continued Facility Inventory</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>4.a</td>
<td>Complete outfall mapping</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td>DoT</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.b</td>
<td>Complete list of priority commercial and industrial facilities for overlay onto outfall map</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td>EH, PBS &amp; LACO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.c</td>
<td>Field sampling of outfalls</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td>DoT</td>
<td>Completed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. IDDE Investigations and Corrective Actions</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>5.a</td>
<td>Maintain and update illicit discharge database</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>PBS</td>
<td>Code enforcement/Building Services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.b</td>
<td>Training to IDDE staff</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td>EH, PBS &amp; LACO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Construction Site Inspection and Enforcement</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.a</td>
<td>Inspect priority-level construction sites for compliance</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15- Ongoing</td>
<td>PBS, EH &amp; LACO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Pollution Prevention/Good Housekeeping for Permittee Operations Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.a</td>
<td>Inventory of permittee owned and operated facilities</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td>Facilities, PBS &amp; LACO</td>
<td>Completed, but annual updates needed</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.b</td>
<td>Creation of Facilities map</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td>PBS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.c</td>
<td>Conduct comprehensive inspection and assessment of pollutant discharge and pollutant hotspot identification at facilities</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>6/30/2016</td>
<td>DoT &amp; PBS</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Landscape Design and Maintenance Program</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.a</td>
<td>Implement approved Landscape and Maintenance Program</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.b</td>
<td>Document fertilizer and pesticide application</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Description</td>
<td>Priority</td>
<td>Start Date</td>
<td>Due Date</td>
<td>Responsible Parties</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>-----------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
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<td>---------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.c</td>
<td>Document safety and best practices for pesticide application training</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Storm Drain Assessment and Prioritization</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.a</td>
<td>Prioritize storm drains for maintenance</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td></td>
<td>DoT &amp; Facilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>Post Construction Stormwater Management</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.a</td>
<td>LID manual implementation</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>1/1/15</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>PBS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.b</td>
<td>Post Construction (LID Manual) training for staff</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td></td>
<td>PBS &amp; LACO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.c</td>
<td>Feedback session with LID implementation staff to facilitate document revisions</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>4/22/15</td>
<td></td>
<td>PBS &amp; LACO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.d</td>
<td>Evaluation of post construction requirements on subdivisions and entitlement process; development of more detailed subdivision requirements within LID Manual</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td></td>
<td>LACO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Post-construction Best Management Practices Condition Assessment</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.a</td>
<td>Implement Operation and Maintenance through a self-certification program</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>6/30/2016</td>
<td></td>
<td>PBS &amp; LACO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.b</td>
<td>Complete an Inventory and Map of existing Post-construction LID BMP structures</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>6/30/16</td>
<td></td>
<td>PBS &amp; LACO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Program Effectiveness Assessment and Improvement Plan</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.a</td>
<td>Leverage CUPA inspections, DOT training survey’s to produce feedback and recommendations for the Program Effectiveness Assessment and Improvement Plan</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/30/15</td>
<td></td>
<td>EH, DoT, PBS &amp; LACO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## 13. Biweekly Stormwater meetings

| 13.a | Biweekly Stormwater meetings | Medium | Ongoing | EH, DoT, PBS, LACO, EO, Facilities |

### Helman Dam Removal & Feliz Creek

**Complete Feliz Creek Monitoring required by Helman Dam Removal mitigation tasks**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Step</th>
<th>Task Description</th>
<th>Urgency</th>
<th>Due Date</th>
<th>Responsible Parties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Review status of current contracts and evaluate the need for additional services</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>7/2015</td>
<td>EO/WA, DoT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Contractors: MCRCD and SHN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Coordinate with MCRCD to identify specific surveying needs to complete final report</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>7/2015</td>
<td>EO/WA, MCRCD, DoT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Coordinate with landowner and contractor on surveying dates and access issues</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>8/2015</td>
<td>DoT, MCRCD &amp; SHN</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Examine project site and mark existing thalweg by pin flags prior to survey to expedite survey process</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>8/2015</td>
<td>MCRCD, SHN DoT, EO/WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DoT point of contact for SHN and EO/WA point of contact for MCRCD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Observe/participate in survey conducted by contractor to insure data collected is correct</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>At the time of survey in 2015</td>
<td>MCRCD, SHN DoT, EO/WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DoT is the point of contact for SHN and EO/WA point of contact for MCRD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Review submitted contractor survey data and maps. Finalize data and maps</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Summer/Fall 2015</td>
<td>SHN, MCRCD, DoT</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>DoT will ensure SHN survey fulfilled contract and submitted data to County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Redo pebble counts at three gravel bars. Plot and compare data w/ past data</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
<td>MCRCD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Re-survey cross section at Mountain House Road and compare to previous data sets</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
<td>SHN &amp; MCRCD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Needed re-surveying for Mountain House Road will be identified in section 2.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Prepare Geomorphology Report which integrates survey, pebble count and cross section data</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>Fall 2015</td>
<td>MCRCD</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
10. Obtain and include other monitoring reports for Feliz Creek (i.e. vegetative and biological monitoring) into Geomorphology Report to create a Master Monitoring Report and distribute to appropriate agencies  

| SBX7 6 – California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM) program |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Remain in Compliance with SBX7 6 – CASGEM Program** |
| **1.** Collect well data from designated wells | Medium | Annually May & November | MCRCD |
| **2.** Recruit wells for CASGEM program | Medium | Ongoing | MCRCD |
| **3.** Upload data on a semi-annually basis to the DWR CASGEM website | Medium | Annually May & November | LACO |
| **4.** Revise monitoring plan as required by the DWR | Medium | As needed | LACO |

| Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA) |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Present Mendocino County options for establishing a GSA for the Ukiah Valley Basin** |
| **1.** Basin ranking data review/collection and provide updated information to DWR for possible adjustment of basin ranking | High | 6/1/15 | EO/WA, LACO EH & AG |
| **2.** Identify the various stakeholders within the groundwater basin | High | 6/1/15 | BOS, EO & LACO |
| **3.** Hold public stakeholder meetings | High | 8/1/15 | EO/WA & BOS |

Meeting with groups such as Farm Bureau, all public/private water agencies in basin.
| 4. | Analyze the pros and cons of forming a Centralized GSA, Distributed GSA, a combination of a Centralized and Distributed GSA or multiple GSAs | High | 9/1/15 | LACO | EO/WA participation |

**Present future implications of forming a GSA on County Land Use Planning**

| 1. | Review the Ukiah Valley Area Plan to look for gaps, restrictions, or incentives to forming a GSA; and, how GSA duties through developing a Groundwater Sustainability Plan may fulfill UVAP water related goals | High | 8/1/15 | PBS & LACO |

| 2. | Review established GSP in other communities to inform future land use planning | High | 9/1/15 | PBS & LACO |

**External Affairs - Interagency Relations and Governmental Affairs**

| **1. Drought Response** |

| 1.a | Renew Mendocino County’s declaration of a Local Emergency and Imminent Threat of Disaster due to the ongoing drought emergency, allowing the county to take proactive measures to meet the statewide drought directives in Executive Order B-29-15 | High | 5/5/15 | CEO & OES |

| 1.b | Coordinate with regional water agencies to petition the State Water Resource Control Board to update Decision 1610 criteria to ensure long term stability of Lake Mendocino and Lake Pillsbury | Medium | May 2015 – ongoing | WA & BOS | The process with the SWRCB is a multi-year task. |
### 1.b Coordinate briefings to update water agencies and residents throughout the County on drought information and to collaboratively address severe drought conditions in Mendocino County

- **High**
- **5/2015-ongoing**
- EO/WA & OES
- State participation: Cal-OES & DWR

### 1.b Monitor County water use to achieve a cumulative 20% water reduction across County Facilities compared to 2013 usage

- **High**
- **August 2016**
- EO/WA & GSA
- Participation needed from all county departments

### 1.e Reinstate the Mendocino County Drought Hotline when directed by the Board of Supervisors

- **Medium**
- **as needed**
- EO/WA & OES

### 1.f Encourage and participate in environmental education program that promotes an informed understanding of water, wastewater and recycled water issues

- **Medium**
- **Ongoing**
- EO/WA, MCRCD & EH
- Collaboration with multiple County Departments may be needed

### 1.g Encourage and participate in drought related conservation and water education efforts that promotes responsible water use and reductions

- **High**
- **5/2015 – ongoing**
- EO/WA, OES, EH & MCRCD
- Collaboration with multiple County Departments may be needed

### 2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Informational Forums

#### 2.a Coordinate and host public meetings to provide an overview of SGMA

- **High**
- **March 28, 2015 & May 20, 2015**
- WA &BOS
- We had a guest speaker from DWR at the March 28 meeting. Over 50 people in attendance. The video is uploaded on the County website on the WA page.
- The UC Corporative Extension has been instrumental in identifying speakers.
### 3. Community Relations

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.a</th>
<th>Promote and sustain timely and effective two-way communication between the Agency, county residents and local agencies</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
<th>EO/WA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.b</td>
<td>Continue to be a resource for the community on information pertaining to water, wastewater, recycled water and historical water history in the County</td>
<td>Medium</td>
<td>Ongoing</td>
<td>EO/WA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.c</td>
<td>Update webpage to increase usability and informational resources</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>6/2015 – ongoing</td>
<td>EO/WA</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 3. Partnerships

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>3.a</th>
<th>Position the Agency to respond and participate in partnership opportunities</th>
<th>Medium</th>
<th>Ongoing</th>
<th>EO/WA</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.b</td>
<td>Coordinate with Inland Water and Power Commission (IWPC) on information gathering for the Army Corp of Engineers Coyote Dam Feasibility Study</td>
<td>High</td>
<td>May 2015</td>
<td>WA, BOS &amp; IWPC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### 4. Advocacy

| 4.a | Conduct productive and effective federal, state and local advocacy to effectively influence legislation, regulation and outside funding in a manner that benefits MCWA and County of Mendocino | Medium | Ongoing | EO/WA | Collaborate with the County of Mendocino’s legislative coordinator to identify advocacy needs and take appropriate actions |
|-----|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|---------|-------|
| 4.b | Advocate for responsible regulatory policy that provides for meaningful environmental protection in a cost-effective manner | Medium | Ongoing | EO/WA |

Page | 44
5. Academic Resources

5.a Develop enhanced working relationship with the University of California Cooperative Extension and other organizations to assist MCWA with technical and research expertise, and community issues

| Medium | Ongoing | EO/WA |

Mendocino County Water Agency Library

1. Document imaging of library records

1.a Evaluate and convert Water Agency to an electronic format

| High | May 2016 | EO/COB |

2. Re-locate the library to the Clerk of the Board

2.a Relocate library to the Executive Office

| Medium | TBD | EO/COB | Facilities assistance during the move |

3. Update library catalog & cross reference organization

3.a Update library catalog & cross reference organization

| Medium | May 2016 | EO/COB |

Upper and Middle Mill Creek Dams – Water Diversion Reporting

1. Gather data on the maximum rate of diversion for each month in the calendar year and amount of water diverted and used associated with the Upper and Middle Mill Creek Dam locations for 2013, 2014 & 2015

1.a Middle Mill Creek Dam data

| Medium | January 2016 – ongoing | DoT |

1.b Upper Mill Creek Dam data

| Medium | January 2016 – ongoing | DoT |

2. Upload data using SWRCB’s Report Management System. Reports must be competed online

2.a Middle Mill Creek Dam Upload

| Medium | March 2016 – ongoing | EOWA | Reporting is required every 3 years for all years in between |

2.b Middle Mill Creek Dam Upload

| Medium | March 2016 – ongoing | EO/WA | Reporting is required every 3 years for all years in |
### Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Local Agency Management Plan

1. **Review existing effective program**

   **1.** Review existing effective program to verify that it satisfies all the site evaluation, design, permitting, and inspection requirements of the new state OWTS policy.

   - **Status:** High
   - **Timeline:** June 30, 2015
   - **Responsible:** EH

2. **Draft preliminary LAMP**

   **2.** Draft preliminary LAMP that complies with state requirements

   - **Status:** High
   - **Timeline:** December 31, 2015
   - **Responsible:** EH

3. **Meet with stakeholders to discuss LAMP development and solicit suggestions.**

   **3.a** Develop Public involvement strategy including a public advisory committee

   - **Status:** High
   - **Timeline:** June 30, 2015
   - **Responsible:** EH

   **3.b** Conduct series of public meetings

   - **Status:** Medium
   - **Timeline:** Ongoing
   - **Responsible:** EH

4. **Develop a Monitoring and Reporting Program**

   **4.** Develop a Monitoring and Reporting Program to supply annual data to NCRWQCB

   - **Status:** Medium
   - **Timeline:** March 31, 2016
   - **Responsible:** EH

5. **LAMP Review**

   **5.** Submit draft LAMP to County Counsel for review

   - **Status:** Medium
   - **Timeline:** April 15, 2016
   - **Responsible:** EH, CoCo

6. **Bimonthly LAMP meetings**

   **6.** Bimonthly LAMP meetings with NCRWQCB and other counties to discuss progress and share compliance strategies

   - **Status:** Medium
   - **Timeline:** Ongoing
   - **Responsible:** EH

7. **Submit Draft LAMP**
| 7. | Submit draft LAMP to RWQCB for review and approval | Medium | June 15, 2016 | EH |
| 8. Draft revision of County Code |
| 8. | Begin draft revision of County Code, pending final approval of LAMP by NCRWQCB | Medium | TBD | EH, CoCo | Finalize code revision upon Water Board approval of LAMP |

**Russian River Pathogen Indicator Bacteria TMDL**

Monitor and participate in stakeholder outreach and TMDL development. Prepare for implementation of the Russian River watershed TMDL.

| 1. | Participate in NCRWQCB stakeholder efforts to discuss potential actions | Medium | Ongoing | EH, WA & EO | The scope of potential actions may require additional departments to participate |
| 2. | Monitor new developments from NCRWCB regarding the Russian River TMDLs | Medium | Ongoing | EH |
| 3. | Identify and develop County responsibilities associated with the adoption of Russian River TMDL | Medium | TBD | WA & EO | The scope of potential actions may require additional departments to participate |
| 4. | Prepare and implement TMDL requirements for septic systems into the Mendocino County OWTS Local Agency Management Plan | Medium | TBD | EH |

**Compilation of Alternative Water Supply Feasibility Studies**

Compile studies regarding alternative water supply and storage options. Submit final report to U.S. Army Corp of Engineers.

| 1. | Gather current and past feasibility studies on alternative water supplies and storage options | High | May 14, 2015 | WA/EO & IWPC | Completed |
| 2. | Transmit final report with IWPC to the Army Corp of Engineers | High | May 15, 2015 | WA/EO & IWPC | Completed |
### Project Cost Estimates

#### NPDES MS4 Phase II Permit

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LID Manual Implementation</td>
<td>$19,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NPDES year 2/3 requirements</td>
<td>$25,998</td>
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<tr>
<td>IDDE</td>
<td>$3,701</td>
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<tr>
<td>ESCP</td>
<td>$5,696</td>
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<tr>
<td>NPDES on-call services</td>
<td>$2,640</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### County Staff Time Cost Estimate

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PBS</td>
<td>$18,164</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DoT</td>
<td>$171,100</td>
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<tr>
<td>EH</td>
<td>$4,224</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>$17,984</td>
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<tr>
<td>EO</td>
<td>$1,763</td>
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#### Additional Expenditures

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SWRCB NPDES Permit Fee</td>
<td>$9,000</td>
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</table>

**Net Cost Estimate**

$279,496

### CASGEM Program

#### Cost Estimate for Contracted Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Estimated Cost (*based on 2014-15 contract)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Program Implementation &amp; Outreach Expenses</td>
<td>$21,988*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Annual Monitoring Expenses</td>
<td>$22,572*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Well Data Upload</td>
<td>$330</td>
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<tr>
<td>Plan Update</td>
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<td>Contingency Services</td>
<td>$4,456*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Department</td>
<td>Estimated Cost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-----------------</td>
<td>----------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA/EO</td>
<td>$154</td>
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<tr>
<td>EH</td>
<td>$256</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$50,762</strong></td>
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</table>

**Helman Dam Removal & Feliz Creek**

**Cost Estimate for Contracted Services (2015)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service Description</th>
<th>Cost Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>SHN Surveying</td>
<td>$33,766 (remaining balance of $63,500 contract)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MCRCRD Surveying &amp; Report Development</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**County Staff Time Cost Estimate**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DoT</td>
<td>$300.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EO/WA</td>
<td>$419</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$34,485 +</strong></td>
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</table>

**Sustainable Groundwater Management Act of 2014 (SGMA)**

**Cost Estimate for Contracted Services**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Budget Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Research and Investigation</td>
<td>$12,953</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coordination and Meeting Attendance</td>
<td>$4,021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Development of preliminary options for GSA</td>
<td>$6,527</td>
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**County Staff Time Cost Estimate**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EO/WA</td>
<td>$1,117</td>
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<tr>
<td>PBS</td>
<td>$1,698</td>
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<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$26,316</strong></td>
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**External Affairs - Interagency Relations and Governmental Affairs**

**County Staff Time Cost**

<table>
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<th>Estimated Cost</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EO/WA</td>
<td>$5,845</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EH</td>
<td>$2,560</td>
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<tr>
<td>OES</td>
<td>$3,300</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$11,705</strong></td>
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**Mendocino County Water Agency Library**

**County Staff Time Cost**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>COB</td>
<td>$3,925</td>
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<tr>
<td>Facilities</td>
<td>TBD</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$3,925 +</strong></td>
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</table>

**Upper and Middle Mill Creek Dam & Water Diversion Reporting**

**County Staff Time Cost**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Department</th>
<th>Estimated Cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DoT</td>
<td>$1,500 (Dam structure maintenance)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EO/WA</td>
<td>$154</td>
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**Additional Expenditures**
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Cost Estimate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>DWR Dam Inspection Fee</strong></td>
<td>$20,754</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$22,408</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mendocino County OWTS Local Agency Management Plan</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>County Staff Time Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EH</td>
<td>$91,639</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$91,639</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Russian River Pathogen TMDL</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>County Staff Time Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EO/WA</td>
<td>$384</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EH</td>
<td>TBD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$384 +</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Compilation of Alternative Water Supply Feasibility Studies</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>County Staff Time Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WA/EO</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Cost reimbursed by IWPC</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Memberships</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Inland Water &amp; Power Commission</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eel Russian River Commission</td>
<td>$1,300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Russian River Water Association</td>
<td>$25,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Groundwater Federation</td>
<td>$35.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Salmonid Restoration Federation</td>
<td>$60.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CA Stormwater Association</td>
<td>$275.00</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$28,670</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Net Cost Estimate</strong></td>
<td><strong>$549,790</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>10% Contingency</strong></td>
<td><strong>$54,979</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total Action Plan Cost Estimate:</strong></td>
<td><strong>$604,769</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SUPPORTING MATERIAL
List of Acronyms and Terms Defined

- AB – Assembly Bill
- AG – Agriculture department/ Agriculture Commissioner
- BOS – Board of Supervisors
- BMP – Best Management Practices
- CASGEM – California Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring Program
- CEO – Mendocino County Chief Executive Officer
- COB – Mendocino County Clerk of the Board
- CoCo – Mendocino County Counsel
- CUPA – Certified Unified Program Agencies
- DoT – Mendocino County Department of Transportation
- DWR – California Department of Water Resources
- EH – Mendocino County Office of Environmental Health
- Facilities – refers to Mendocino County Facilities Division within the Executive Office
- FTE – Full Time Employee
- GIS – Geographic Information System
- GSA – Groundwater Sustainability Agency
- IDDE – Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination
- IWPC – Inland Water and Power Commission
- JPA – Joint Powers Agreement
- LACO – LACO Associates, Water Agency Consultant for support services
- LAMP - Local Agency Management Plan
- LID – Low Impact Development
- MCFCWCD – Mendocino County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
- MCRCD – Mendocino County Resource Conservation District
- MCWA – Mendocino County Water Agency
- NCRWQCB – North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
- NPDES – National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
- OES – Mendocino County Office of Emergency Services
- OWTS – Onsite Wastewater Treatment System
- PBS – Mendocino County Planning and Building Services Department
- SGMA – Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
- SHN – SHN Consulting Engineers & Geologist, Inc.
- SB – Senate Bill
- TBD – To Be Determined
- TMDL – Total Maximum Daily Load
- USACE – U.S. Army Corp of Engineers
- UVAP – Ukiah Valley Area Plan
- WA – Water Agency in reference to Mendocino County Water Agency
Attachment A
CA Fish and Game Letter, Neil Manji to BOS - July, 2013

State of California – Natural Resources Agency
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
Region 1 – Northern
601 Louden Street
Redding, CA 96001
www.wildlife.ca.gov

July 11, 2013

Board of Supervisors
County of Mendocino
890 Bush Street
Ukiah, CA 95482

Re: Status of Helman Dam Removal Project, Feliz Creek

Dear Board of Supervisors:

In December 2004, the Mendocino County (County) Water Agency discharged sediment from the upper reservoir on Mill Creek that harmed fish and wildlife resources (discharge). As discussed below, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (Department) determined that removing Helman Dam on Feliz Creek would mitigate for the impacts caused by the discharge, while providing other benefits to fish and wildlife resources. In September 2012, Helman Dam was removed successfully. Based on the completion of this project, and the County’s continuing efforts to complete certain tasks related to the project and the operation of its reservoirs on Mill Creek, the Department hereby confirms that the County has fulfilled its primary mitigation obligation related to the discharge. Remaining tasks involve post-dam removal site monitoring and revegetation through 2017, as detailed below.

Since the discharge occurred, the Department has been working with the county, the Mendocino County Resource Conservation District (MCRCD), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), private landowners, and others to mitigate the discharge’s impacts on fish and wildlife resources. The Department’s goal was to work cooperatively to find a solution that would both address the discharge and more broadly provide benefits to fish and wildlife resources in the upper Russian River watershed. After considering other mitigation options, including proposals to improve instream habitat in Mill Creek immediately below the upper reservoir, the working group agreed that removing Helman Dam was an ideal solution.

Helman Dam was an old 12-foot-high concrete structure on Feliz Creek, approximately four miles upstream from the Russian River. Since the 1950s, the dam completely blocked the upstream passage of salmon and steelhead (salmonids) under most flow conditions. By removing the dam, salmonids would again have access to nine miles of suitable spawning and rearing habitat in the upper reaches of Feliz Creek. The Department realized, too, that removing the dam would provide opportunities to complete other stream improvement projects in the upper Russian River system. For example, the ranching family who owns the property where Helman Dam was located had been working with the MCRCD and the Natural Resource Conservation Service...
Board of Supervisors
July 11, 2013
Page 2

Office in Ukiah to establish vegetation along Feliz Creek near the dam site to stabilize stream banks and shade the stream. They have continued that work since the dam’s removal.

Removing the dam has already contributed to salmonid conservation in the Upper Russian River watershed. In the winter of 2012-13, both Chinook salmon and steelhead accessed and successfully spawned in reaches above the dam site. Completing other stream improvement projects along Feliz Creek, now that Helman Dam is gone, will further benefit salmonids and other fish and wildlife resources.

As mentioned above, the Department’s confirmation that the County is meeting its mitigation obligation as it relates to the discharge is based on the successful removal of Helman Dam, and the completion of certain tasks. The tasks the County must complete are as follows: 1) the County shall have at all times a current streambed alteration agreement (SAA) for operation of the Mill Creek Ponds by renewing the existing SAA (Notification No. 1500-2006-0546-R1) and thereafter obtaining a new SAA if it cannot again be renewed; 2) the County, working with the MCRCD, shall fully satisfy its obligation to complete certain Feliz Creek riparian habitat restoration work previously agreed to by the County; and 3) the County shall continue the post-project monitoring work that is currently scheduled to run through 2017. The Department will continue to work with both the County and MCRCD to complete these tasks.

The Department wishes to thank the County, the MCRCD, Ron and Sandy Hognestad, and other entities and individuals who worked together to successfully restore salmonids to upper Feliz Creek, and who continue in their efforts to improve the creek to benefit other fish and wildlife resources.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Senior Environmental Scientist Scott Downie at (707) 725-1070 or scott.downie@wildlife.ca.gov, or Staff Environmental Scientist Rick Macedo at (707) 928-4369 or richard.macedo@wildlife.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

NEIL MANJU, Regional Manager
Region 1 – Northern

cc and cc: see Page 3
Board of Supervisors  
July 11, 2013  
Page 3

cc:  
Mr. Steve Dunnitiff  
Mendocino County Department of  
Planning and Building Services  
860 North Bush Street  
Ukiah, CA 95482

Mr. Howard Dashiel, Director  
Mr. Park Steiner, DOT Environmental Compliance  
Department of Transportation (DOT)  
340 Lake Mendocino Drive  
Ukiah, CA 95482

Mr. Tom Dougherty  
National Marine Fisheries Service  
2550 North State Street  
Ukiah, CA 95482

Mr. Scott Wilson  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Post Office Box 47  
Yountville, CA 94599-0047

ac:  
Messrs. Dick Butler and Jeffrey Jahn  
NOAA, Santa Rosa Office  
Dick.Butler@noaa.gov, Jeffrey.Jahn@noaa.gov

Messrs. Kevin Sheffer and Stafford Lehr, Fisheries Branch,  
California Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Kevin.Sheffer@wildlife.ca.gov, Stafford.Lehr@wildlife.ca.gov

Messrs. Larry Ducumet, Eric Larson, Curtis Milliron, Scott Downie, Richard Macedo,  
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Attachment B
January 2015 – Potential Implementation Actions for Russian River Pathogen Indicator Bacteria TMDL

Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region
Potential Implementation Actions for Russian River Pathogen Indicator Bacteria TMDL
January 2015

Direct Municipal Wastewater Discharges
- Ensure discharge attains effluent limitations for Total Coliform Bacteria

Municipal Wastewater Discharges from Holding Ponds
- Ensure discharge attains effluent limits for E. coli and Fecal Coliform, unless demonstration that discharge meets WLAs
- Upgrades to existing disinfection systems to a process more completely destructive of wastewater pathogens (e.g., ozone, heat sterilization, ultrafiltration)
- Initial or additional disinfection of holding pond effluent immediately prior to discharge
- Zero discharge through expansion of recycled water use or enlargement of wastewater holding ponds

Wastewater Discharges to Percolation Ponds and Spray Irrigation - Effluent limits for E. coli, and Fecal Coliform

Leaks from Sanitary Sewer Systems
- Permittees under General Permit for Sanitary Sewer Systems amend their Sanitary Sewer Management Plans (SSMP)
- Increasing the frequency and method of surveillance of sanitary sewer pipes, pump stations, siphons, and other sewer infrastructure that are located where overflows, spills, and exfiltration may adversely impact the Russian River or its tributaries.
- Accelerating schedules for pipeline rehabilitation and/or replacement.
- Revising sewer design standards to specify construction materials and methods that will ensure a water-tight sanitary sewer system for new and replacement sewer components in areas adjacent to the Russian River and its tributaries.
- Establishing local ordinances to require property owners to inspect their private sewer lateral upon property transfer, in response to chronic sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs), or after significant changes in property use
- Developing programs to enable and help finance ratepayers to voluntarily inspect and repair deteriorating private service laterals

Runoff from Land Application of Municipal Biosolids - Prepare Erosion Control Plan pursuant to General Order for Land Application of Biosolids

Spills and Incidental Runoff of Recycled Water
- Prepare Bacteria Load Reduction Plan (BLRP)
- Evaluating and, when necessary, improving Best Management Practices (BMPs) to prevent overspray, spills, and incidental runoff
- Increasing setbacks from recycled water points of use to waterbodies, curbs, pavement and storm water inlets
- Improving compliance with recycled water user requirements through increased public outreach and, when necessary, through progressive enforcement.

Failing and Substandard Individual OWTS
- Responsible parties are Mendocino and Sonoma Counties and Special Districts and Municipalities with OWTS within their boundaries
- Responsible parties submit BLRP that includes:
  - Priority ranking for areas within watershed
  - Performance Standards
  - OWTS Management Program under aegis of County, Special District, Onsite Wastewater Zone, or other similar oversight program

Large Private OWTS in High and Medium Priority Areas
- Performance standards for E. coli and Fecal Coliform
Waste Discharges Associated with Recreational Water Use
- Responsible parties submit BLRP
- Installing temporary or permanent restroom facilities, including diaper changing stations, near the recreation use areas and signage to effectively design recreators to restroom facilities
- Establishing interagency agreements with local sanitation districts to provide maintenance and waste disposal for temporary restroom facilities
- Developing and distributing educational outreach materials (flyers, brochures) to inform river recreators about proper waste disposal and sanitation at beaches and access points along the Russian River and tributaries
- Conducting outreach to private recreational beach operators and commercial river outfitters to improve beach housekeeping and provide adequate sanitation facilities for customers
- Publicizing locations of public restroom facilities on the county website and at recreational outfitters' headquarters
- Limiting availability of parking along county roads near beach areas where waste collection is difficult.

Human Waste Discharges Associated with Homeless Encampments and Illegal Camping
- Providing or improving options for shelters, transitional housing, affordable housing, and other homeless services
- Conducting public outreach to owners of private property in the Russian River Watershed to inform and assist them on how best to prevent illegal camping and trespassing on their property, including how to report illegal use to local law enforcement
- Establishing a program, including a hotline, for reporting homeless encampments and facilitating camp cleanup activities
- Installing physical barriers to prevent illegal camping and habitation under bridges and overpasses
- Funding and implementing public works projects to clear overgrown riparian vegetation that provides or may provide cover for illegal camping and other prohibited activities
- Initiating and participating in pilot programs that provide public restroom facilities along public trails and upgraded restroom facilities at public parks.

Urban Storm Water Runoff - MS4 permittees prepare or update Non-Storm Water BMP Plan

CalTrans Storm Water Runoff – Address homeless encampments in Caltrans Right-of-Way.

Discharges of Domestic Pet Waste –
- Responsible parties (Mendocino County, Sonoma County, and municipalities) submit BLRP
- Improving or establishing a pet waste program that could include more widespread availability of pet waste collection systems and a higher profile outreach program to educate the public about proper disposal of pet waste and the environmental consequences of improper disposal, and
- Partnering with local businesses and organizations to sponsor the installation, operation, and maintenance of pet waste collection systems.

Runoff from Non-dairy Livestock and Farm Animals
- Regular cleanup of manure and soiled bedding in animal habitation areas
- Use of impermeable surfaces for storage of manure
- Use of onsite composting to stabilize and reuse manure
- Siting of manure storage areas away from watercourses and off slopes
- Reduction of storm water contacting manure storage areas, paddocks, and kennel areas
- Use of vegetated buffers to encourage uptake of pollutants
- Limiting of animals' access to waterways.

Runoff from Dairies
- Responsible parties submit BLRP
- Actions, such as riparian fencing, that prevent animal access to water courses and provide a vegetated buffer to reduce manure runoff
- A surface water monitoring plan that includes routine monitoring for pathogen indicator bacteria to demonstrate attainment of WQAs
April 24, 2015

Mr. Curtis K. Anderson, Northern Region Office Chief
Department of Water Resources, Northern Region Office
2440 Main Street
Red Bluff, CA 96080

Subject: Request for Review of Ukiah Valley Sub Basin Ranking Values

Dear Mr. Anderson,

The Mendocino County Board of Supervisors, which also serves as the Mendocino County Water Agency Board of Directors, is deeply concerned about the current ranking criteria data for the Ukiah Valley sub basin. We are requesting the Department of Water Resources review the ranking criteria data for the Ukiah sub basin in regards to data components four and five, total number of wells and total irrigated acreage, respectively.

Currently, the Ukiah Valley sub basin has received a ranking value of 5 for total number of wells and a ranking value of 3 for total irrigated acreage. However, after our own cursory review of the data available to us and some of the data utilized by the Department of Water Resources, we believe that these rankings might not be entirely representative of the conditions present in the Ukiah Valley sub basin. We believe the accuracy of data components four and five could be improved through a further review of all of the data available. This would, in turn, improve the accuracy of the overall basin priority ranking score.

We look forward to working with you to improve these data sets and increase the accuracy of the overall ranking of the Ukiah Valley sub basin. Please do not hesitate to contact us with further questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Carre Brown, Chair
Mendocino County Board of Supervisors
Mendocino County Water Agency Board of Directors

CC: Carmel J. Angelo, Mendocino County Water Agency General Manager
    Mark W. Cowin, Department of Water Resources Director
    The Honorable Mike McGuire, Senator
    The Honorable Jim Wood, Assemblymember

THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS – WATER AGENCY BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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