

MINUTES

Lower Santa Cruz River Basin Study Project Team Meeting #1

Monday, April 4th, 2016, 1:30 PM

Pima Association of Governments, 1 East Broadway Blvd. #401, Tucson, AZ,

Action Items are bold and underlined.

Attendees

Mary Reece and Eve Halper (Bureau of Reclamation), Kathy Chavez (Pima County Wastewater), Mike Block (Metro Water), Wally Wilson (Tucson Water), John McKinney (FICO), Bob Hedden (GVDWID), Mead Mier (PAG), Jeff Tannler (ADWR), Kathy Jacobs (UA CCASS), Bailey Kennett (UA/WRRC), Brian O'Neill (UA/Pima County), Peter Abraham (Oro Valley), Selso Villegas (Tohono O'odham Nation), Justin Manuel (Tohono O'odham Nation), Sue Montgomery (representing Pascua Yaqui Tribe), Asia Philbin (Marana Water), John Kmiec (Marana Water), Ken Seasholes and Warren Greco (CAP, by phone), Jim DuBois (Pima County Wastewater, by phone), Marcelino Flores (Pascua Yaqui Tribe, by phone)

Purpose of Meeting

The purpose of this kick-off meeting was to identify Sub-team leads and group members, both within and external to the Project Team. Sub-teams will be responsible for providing sector-specific revisions to regional water supply and demand estimates, then establishing projections through 2060 concurrent with the Project Team's determined climate change scenarios.

Sub-Teams

Sub-teams include sector-specific teams within the larger LSCR Basin Study. Sub-team leads will contact individuals external to the Project Team that they believe would be valuable Sub-team members, and will notify Eve and Kathy Chavez of their confirmed participation. The municipal, agricultural, industrial and environmental sector sub-teams will work collectively to provide revisions to current water supply and demand estimates within their sector, and estimate future demands as impacted by the Project Team's determined climate change scenarios. Research conducted and vetted by Sub-teams will inform the direction and integration of data at the Project Team level.

It was determined that a "Climate Change Sub-team" and a "Groundwater Modeling Sub-team" should be created, as these are substantial tasks requiring expertise of Project Team and non-Project Team individuals.

There was discussion about the purpose of the Cultural (Tribal) Sub-team and how to go about evaluating these needs. Municipal, industrial and agricultural water use by Tribes will be accounted for within the other sector sub-teams. A suggestion was made that this committee be reconsidered, possibly substituting a new committee that focuses on identifying and evaluating adaptation strategies. **Sue Montgomery will confirm**

this decision with the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council. Moving forward, Sue will verify the Project Team's baseline water use data with the Tribal Council.

Climate Change Sub-team

Sub-team lead: *Kathy Jacobs*

Sub-team members (all listed here noted interest in scenario building): *Selso Villegas, Justin Manuel, Wally Wilson, Ken Seasholes (or another CAP representative)*

Note: Subhrendu Gangopadhyay of Reclamation will provide technical assistance in developing the climate change projections, and will work directly with the Climate Change Sub-team.

Groundwater Modeling Sub-team

Sub-team lead: *Wally Wilson*

Sub-team members: *Mead Mier*

Other possible members: *Evan Canfield (Pima County Regional Flood Control District; **Mead to contact**)*

Note: Bob Talbot and Bethany Jackson of Reclamation (Denver Technical Service Center) will develop recommended improvements to the groundwater model, and will work directly with the Groundwater Modeling Sub-team. The proposed modifications will then be reviewed and discussed by the Project Team at large.

Municipal Sector Sub-team

Sub-team lead: *Wally Wilson*

Sub-team members: *Asia Philbin, Mike Block, Peter Abraham, Bob Hedden*

Other possible members: *Jeff Tannler or Pam Muse (ADWR; **Jeff to contact**)*

Industrial Sector Sub-team

Sub-team lead: *Bob Hedden – will coordinate with the mines in his area, though may need assistance making contacts in Tucson area; was suggested to look at Type 2 Rights provided in the Tucson AMA Draft 4th Management Plan.*

Sub-team members: *John McKinney*

Other possible members: *TEP representative*

Agricultural Sector Sub-team

Sub-team lead: *John McKinney*

Sub-team members: *Dave Bateman (CMID)*

Other possible members: *BKW Farms, Kai Farms*

Environmental Sector Sub-team

Sub-team lead: *Mead Mier*

Sub-team members:

Other possible members: *Evan Canfield (Pima Co Regional Flood Control District), Julia Fonseca (Pima County; **Kathy Chavez will contact**), Tom*

Meixner (UA; **Eve will contact**), additional UA faculty (**Kathy Jacobs will contact**), Tucson Audubon Society, Nature Conservancy science team, Sonoran Institute, Watershed Management Group)

Stakeholder Advisory Sub-team

Sub-team lead: *Mike Block*

Sub-team members: *Mead Mier, Asia Philbin*

Other possible members: *Kelly Mott-Lacroix, (UA WRRC; **Eve Halper will contact**), Candice Rupprecht (Tucson Water; **Wally will contact**)*

Note: The Stakeholder Advisory Sub-team will be coordinated through PAG's existing committees, which are open meeting forums. Public stakeholder meetings may occur in conjunction with these standing meetings.

Overview of Climate Change Considerations

There are a number of different methods to develop climate change projections, as well as assumptions that could be used to formulate the scenarios to be used in this study. Basin Studies to date have utilized “statistically downscaled” projections of temperature and precipitation, there are more recent projections available that use “dynamical downscaling” to better reflect regional climate effects. Some of these are available from UA researchers.

In addition, partners need to consider whether to focus only on trends in long-term temperature and precipitation averages, such as the “middle of the road” assumptions used by Reclamation in the Colorado River Basin Study or to include planning for weather extremes.

These issues will be discussed in detail during the upcoming Project Team climate change meeting (see “Upcoming Meetings” section below).

Upcoming Meetings

The Project Team will meet monthly, until sub-committees are fully established and working independently. A regular meeting date will be discussed at subsequent meetings.

Doodle polls will be sent to determine availability for two upcoming meetings:

- ADWR and CAP projection assumptions – Jeff/Pam and Ken will present the supply and demand projections – and associated assumptions – for all sectors, as provided in their baseline assessments
 - o Proposed dates: week of April 26th
 - o **Jeff and Ken will meet prior to this date to outline the similarities and differences in their projections and model assumptions**
 - o **Mead will invite PAG's population projection modeler**

- Climate change – UA climate experts will present regional impacts, and will provide an overview of downscaling methods and implications
 - o Proposed dates: Tuesday, May 16th or Wednesday, May 18th
 - o **Kathy Jacobs will confirm presenters, likely Chris Castro, Michael Crimmins if they are available**

Action Items

- Eve and Kathy Chavez will send Doodle polls to the Project Team to schedule the two upcoming meetings
- Sub-team leads will identify additional Sub-team members, external to the Project Team, and will notify Eve and Kathy Chavez of their confirmed participation
- All Project Team members will review the above “Sub-team” section and assist Sub-team leads in identifying and contacting additional members, when necessary.
- Sue will confirm with the Pascua Yaqui Tribal Council that the “Cultural (Tribal) Sub-team” as to whether they wish to have such a Sub-team, and if not, whether they would like a sub-team with a different focus.
- It was noted that tribal water use data, including some groundwater use, is public record available via CAP and ADWR; therefore, this information won’t need to be provided by the Project Team Tribal representatives.
- Jeff and Ken will meet prior to the proposed “ADWR and CAP assumptions” meeting to outline similarities and differences in their projections and model assumptions
- Mead will invite PAG’s population projection modeler to the proposed “ADWR and CAP assumptions” meeting
- Kathy Jacobs will identify and confirm UA climate experts to present at the proposed “climate change” meeting
- For this effort, ADWR will disaggregate tribal information in their database; will represent each tribe as a unique water users