



## **DRAFT CV SALTS Technical Advisory and Economic Committees Work Plan 2010 - Version 3a**

### **1. Background**

At the November 19, 2009 meeting, attendees discussed issues they thought should be considered in the workplan for the year. Few items were discussed in detail and others were inferred from the Work Plan Outline and Beneficial Use and Objective Study (BUOS).

With this basis the following Preliminary Draft Work Plan was prepared. The Committee provided several rounds of comments and several items were added or changed by Board Staff in the Progress Milestones document shown as Attachment A. Items from that document are described below as workplan and implementation steps.

### **2. Further Develop Committee Workplan for 2010 and outline implementation steps**

The committee should further develop the workplan with the committee chairs and participants along with any direction provided by the Executive Committee and the CV RWQCB.

Several Items listed in the stakeholder progress demonstration list from the regional board need to be scoped and added or amend tasks in the Work Plan Outline.

- 9. Complete database design
- 16. Identify the near-term, intermediate, and long-term modeling and data collection/storage needs.
- 17. Begin work on surface and groundwater numerical objectives and modeling sensitivity and limitations
- 19. Complete classification of salt sources
- 20. Identify data gaps to be filled and initiate effort to develop data
- 23. Develop recommended process for identifying Best Practical Treatment or Control for salinity and nitrate

### **3. Tasks to be accomplished in 2010**

- a) Final Review of the Salt and Nitrate Source Pilot Implementation Study and other studies that are originated
- b) Technical Review of West Side Salt and Nitrate Source Study
- c) Beneficial Use and Objective Study, Develop Scope, Evaluate Proposals and Review work product 75% in 2010
- d) Technical Review of Coordination Efforts with SWRCB CVRWQCB efforts (see #4 below)
- e) Work Plan Outline Efforts (See #5 Below)
- f) Technical Review of Other Committee Efforts
- g) Develop Research Projects and Review of Potential Management Alternatives Including Best Management Practices from Industry or others
- h) Stakeholder progress demonstration list Items
  - a) 9. Complete database design



- b) 16. Identify the near-term, intermediate, and long-term modeling and data collection/storage needs.
- c) 17. Begin work on surface and groundwater numerical objectives and modeling sensitivity and limitations
- d) 19. Complete classification of salt sources
- e) 20. Identify data gaps to be filled and initiate effort to develop data
- f) 23. Develop recommended process for identifying Best Practical Treatment or Control for salinity and nitrate
- i) Other Recommended Efforts
  1. Implementation Options and Economics – Review of possible management alternatives (g)
  2. Conceptual Model of broad connections of all salts in the region how and where ( may be able to update the Staff Report from the State Water Board)
  3. Brainstorming sessions for identifying management options and alternatives and relative usefulness to CV-SALTS.
  4. Potentially use WARMF or other tools to test salt management alternatives
  5. Review the economics report findings with Dr. Howitt to make sure the data needed is being developed to eventually address economics issues
  6. Salt and Nutrient Management Plans integration and master guideline and integration plan
  7. Determine the base cost, what we compare alternatives to and when

#### **4. Coordination Efforts related to Salinity and Nitrates**

##### **Description**

This task requires coordination with related or integrated projects, policies, and other efforts that affect salinity management which are outside this work plan. Such efforts may include Delta changes (BDCP) or conveyance, changes in operation or restoration of the San Joaquin Rivers or the effects of climate change or drought. Those activities may also include other salt management controls or activities, water management or planning processes, major hydrologic or water quality projects proposed. The efforts will be to integrate and manage work overseen by other groups or committees. (Prepare an initial report of those efforts with highest potential to affect existing conditions. Maybe not be completed until 2011.)

##### **Committee Efforts**

- Coordinate closely with the agencies and efforts ongoing and bring information and decisions to the Committee in a timely manner
- Executive Committee to approve upon recommendation of TAC

##### **Funding**

No funding need has been identified except the coordination with the other programs which is provided by CVSC.

##### **Milestones and Deadline**

See Matrix of Coordinated Programs and develop Committee calendar

## 5. Technical Work Plan Outline Tasks

### Description

Tasks a) through f) from the Work Plan Outline have efforts that are slated to begin or be underway in 2010. Further development of the details is needed to proceed for the items shown in PURPLE below but the limited information from the outline is provided here. Items e), f) and g) are included in currently ongoing or scoped work. The original workplan text font and numbering is retained for reference.

### 1) Identify Salt Constituents and Data Requirements

- a) Determine salt and nutrients constituents, standardize data collection, analysis, & assessment approach, set minimum data quality criteria for screening old data  
Establish a process for including constituents in the Salinity/Nutrient Management Plan beyond EC/TDS and nitrate. The process should include steps similar to the following: 1. Identify all potential constituents of concern to the management of salts and nutrients. 2. Develop screening criteria (i.e. data availability, documented impacts on beneficial use, identified constituents of concern, etc.) to determine and recommend which constituents are ready for what level of objective setting (i.e. numeric vs. narrative vs. review in 10 years). 3. Establish a schedule for the next review of constituents. Also, a separate but important task is to develop a standard approach to be taken when collecting, analyzing, and assessing data.  
(The Committee may be able to make use of existing standards and will want to insure compatibility with other water quality monitoring via California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) and Water Quality Monitoring Council.
- b) **Beneficial uses and requirements**  
Identify beneficial uses that have the potential to be impacted by the identified constituents of concern (now or in the future). Identify in which water bodies these beneficial uses currently apply. Document how these beneficial uses are currently protected from these constituents of concern (numeric or narrative objectives, or objectives set in end uses, such as drinking water MCLs). Document areas where beneficial uses do not currently exist in protected areas, or document areas, which are especially challenged by constituents of concern. Identify water bodies that need beneficial uses designated and/or reviewed
- c) **Identify surface water quality data requirements**  
Define geographic scope. Prepare a metadata report on available historic surface water quality data for constituents of concern. (This first item is finished). Prepare literature search and summarize what is currently known about the constituents of concern in surface water bodies (rank by state of knowledge and by applicable data quality).  
For water bodies within the scope of the Plan, collect information on current regulation and 303(d) listings for water quality constituents, and information on current flow standards for fishery protection. Use this material to determine current regulatory overlap with the identified constituents of concern (for conflicts and for leveraging opportunities). Examine any proposed numeric or narrative salinity/nutrient objectives for conflicts with existing programs. Acquiring access to available data to determine the historic and current surface water quality for constituents of concern, flows and characteristics of waterbodies is included in task 3 b) below.
- d) **Identify groundwater quality data requirements**  
Define geographic scope. Prepare a metadata report on available historic ground water quality data for constituents of concern. (This first item is finished). Prepare literature search and summarize what is currently known about the constituents of concern in ground water basins (rank by state of knowledge, by state of quality).



For groundwater basins within the scope of the Plan, collect information on current regulation and drinking water quality monitoring for all water quality constituents, on current water quality studies or improvement/maintenance programs, and currently implemented regulations. Use this data to determine current regulatory/program overlap with the identified constituents of concern (for conflicts and for leveraging opportunities). Examine any proposed numeric or narrative salinity/nutrient objectives for conflicts with existing programs.

Acquiring access to available data to determine the historic and current groundwater quality for constituents of concern, subsurface hydrologic and aquifer characteristics is included in task 3 b).

**e) Salt/nutrient sources and sinks – pilot implementation studies**

Pilot studies to characterize salt/nutrient sources and sinks on a regional scale at locations representative of the Central Valley’s variability. Summarize pilot study methodology and applicability for subtasks c and d above in the plan. Use pilot studies results to direct future implementation and to revise other work where needed to protect water quality.

**f) Geographic Data**

Geographic and location data should be captured in compatible geographic information systems (GIS) formats to allow management, analysis, presentation and public access to the information at various levels of summarization.

**6 a) Classify salt sources**

Use available information (such as IRWMPs and other water quality programs), conceptual models, and regional pilot studies to classify types of salt and nutrient source activities, or other factors that are exacerbating salt and nutrient problems. This information will be used to ensure management strategies are fully investigated in Task 6b. The TAC may determine that this task is best completed by division into relevant regional or sub-regional areas or hydrologic basins.

**6 b) Identify salt and nutrient management actions**

Develop a list of all known and potential physical salinity and nutrient management control actions – ranging from large regional solutions to best management practices. Develop information on how well suited the alternative management control actions are to the types of sources and situations identified in Task 6a.

**6 c) Identify regulatory tools for salt and nutrient management**

Develop a white paper exploring the regulatory tools of the Waterboards that can be applied to salinity and nutrient management, and discussing the pros and cons of each. Develop information on how well suited the regulatory tools are to the types of sources and situations identified in Task 6a

### Committee Efforts

- Further Develop Tasks, scope and budgets to accomplish the work needed and complete the BUOS study and other tasks
- Develop scope for work elements and recommend approval
- Executive Committee to approve upon recommendation of TAC

### Funding

Funding has been identified in the BUOS contract and other funds raised by CVSC. The Tasks identified have a cost range in the Work Plan Outline from \$1,200,000 to \$3,500,000. This is in addition to coordination of the efforts is also provided by CVSC.

**Milestones and Deadline**

Milestones and Deadlines need to be developed for these tasks where they are not included in the description.

**6. Plan Implementation**

The plan should be approved for content/appropriateness by the Executive Committee and for funding availability by the CV Salinity Coalition and Funding Source. Upon finalization of the plan, the PEOC will submit to the Executive Committee and CVSC.

**7. Budget**

The budget for this effort would be approximately \$1,500,000 not including the committee support provided by CVSC. Many of the efforts listed in the effort are part of the Beneficial Use and Objective Study, currently funded by the State Water Resources Control Board under a grant administered by the SJ Valley Drainage Authority. Approximately \$900,000 could be funded from this source. Other contributions would be needed for the remaining efforts. The budget below is based on the original work plan outline and funding available.

Table of Major Potential Revenue

BUOS	\$900,000
Grants	\$300,000
Other	<u>\$300,000</u>
TOTAL	\$1,500,000

Attachment A

## CV SALTS Initiative 2010 Milestones

### Stakeholder (CVSC) Progress Demonstration Status

To address the Significant Progress Milestones proposed on February 25, 2010 the following is proposed.

#	Timeline	Activity or Effort	Group	Document/Event	Status
1-a	Apr-09	Workplan development elements	TAC	Development	Ongoing
4	Ongoing	Add detail to the task descriptions in the work plan to better illustrate the extent of work involved for each item listed	TAC	Ongoing	Ongoing
7	Mar-10	Identify salinity management options to be evaluated through modeling, and identify the model or models to be used	TAC	Review of Pilot and develop	April
9	May-10	Complete database design	TAC	Scoping	?
14	Jul-10	Assess the validity of the salt source survey pilot study. If the approach needs modification, identify the adjustments that will be made to make the approach useful in the rest of the region.	TAC	Review Pilot - March Draft - April	July
16	Sep-10	Identify the near-term, intermediate, and long-term modeling and data collection/storage needs.	TAC	Scoping	?
17	Sep-10	Begin work on surface and groundwater numerical objectives and modeling sensitivity and limitations	TAC	Scoping	?
18	Oct-10	Identify geographic data needed	TAC	Scope post BUOS P-1	?
19	Nov-10	Complete classification of salt sources	TAC	Scoping	?
20	Dec-10	Identify data gaps to be filled and initiate effort to develop data	TAC	Scoping	?
21	Dec-10	Identify beneficial use projects to be conducted and initiate collection	TAC	June	Ongoing
23	Dec-10	Develop recommended process for identifying Best Practical Treatment or Control for salinity and nitrate	TAC	Scoping	?
3	Ongoing	Continue to update Program Coordination Matrix	TAC/Exec	Ongoing	Ongoing
12	Jul-10	Identify administrative and technical program needs that could be met through in-kind services rather than financial contributions	TAC/Exec	Report to Committee	July