

Outreach Workshops Plan for CV-SALTS

These PRE-CEQA process scoping workshops are being held with broad stakeholders similar to the required CEQA Scoping meetings. The future CEQA scoping meetings, as described in the Public Resources Code section 21083.9, with guidance in the CEQA Guidelines section 15206, will be held at a later date when more specific project alternatives have been determined.

The purpose of these workshops is to gather and facilitate broad and sustained public input on areas and priorities of consideration as potential CV-SALTS Initiative is developed. Some concepts and management alternatives to be presented and discussed in are intended to illicit a broad range of public discussion and comments, and do not necessarily represent a list, or even complete range, of alternatives that may be considered in any the CV-SALTS initiative.

Hold Two CV-SALTS Initial Workshops

In accordance with RWQCB staff recommendation two initial workshops will be planned in a fashion similar to CEQA Scoping meetings typically held by the Board. Additional workshops may be scheduled at later dates. CVSC will coordinate and fund the workshops, and CV-SALTS participants and RWQCB staff will assist and facilitate at the workshop sessions. Proposed Dates for the two initial workshops are April 26 and April 27.

Notice

In accordance with the typical Board CEQA scoping meetings process CVSC will prepare a public Workshop Notice, drop press releases to local media, and distribute same to the CV-SALTS email list and RWQCB CEQA mailing list. RWQCB staff will email the Notice to their Lyris list. The Notice will be distributed 45 days prior to the Workshops. A draft Notice is prepared for review and shown as attachment A.

Notice will present potentially controversial topics and information related to salinity and nutrient management options and opportunities.

Proposed Initial Workshops Program

Develop program materials

Program materials will be

- Tri-fold Factsheet (printed)
- Brochure (printed)
- Copies of the Questions and response format and meeting evaluation

Workshop duration is expected to be 2-3 hours total.

Proposed Workshop Outline:

1. Introduction to Workshop and CV-SALTS (45-60 min)
 - a. What is CV-SALTS and CV-Salts Organization and Goals
 - i. Why you should care
 - ii. Your opportunity to influence and participate
 - iii. Introduction to Salinity and Nitrate Management
 - iv. Basin Planning Process
 - v. Status Report on CV-SALTS and its work develop science and policy

1. CV-SALTS Work Plan Description and Development
2. Accomplishments and Current Status of specific projects
2. Introduction to Breakout Sessions (10 min)
 - a. Purpose, goals and process
 - b. Questions and factors to be considered
 - c. Groups and leader introductions for breakout
3. Discussion groups 50-70 min
4. Report from leaders 10 min present 5 questions each 45-60 min
5. Next Steps/Meeting Report/Wrap-up
6. Adjourn

Logistics

Notices: (see above)

Locations:

All facilities are booked and confirmed as of 2/12/2010

Date: April 26, 2010

Time: 9:00 AM to Noon

Place: Yolo County Farm Bureau

69 W Kentucky Ave [MAP](#)

Woodland, CA 95695

POC Denise Sagara

530.662.6316 office

denise@yolofarmbureau.org

Date: April 27, 2010

Time: 9:00 AM to Noon

Place: Tulare AgTac

Southern California Edison Agricultural Technology Application Center (AGTAC)

4175 South Laspina Street [MAP](#)

Tulare, CA 93274

559-625-7189

POC: Janiece

Alternate

Sacramento (available and booked 26/27)

SACRSD Goethe Road

POC Vicki/Linda

Registration:

Free Registration Link

<http://cv-salts-4-26.eventbrite.com/>

<http://cv-salts-4-27.eventbrite.com/>

or email to info@cvsalinity.org

Sign-in and group assignment

Estimated Staffing Requirements:

Registration Desk (2-3)

Presenters CV-SALTS Background (2-3)

Group Facilitators (3-4)

Recording of sessions:

Laptop and software (3-4)

Conference Call Line?

Documentation of sessions

Document or Database??

Results will be available on the Web

Content to be developed

- CV-SALTS Introduction Presentation
- Introduction to Breakout Sessions Presentation
- Workshop Questions Document and Response Format
- Workshop Questions Presentation
- Instructions for Facilitators
- “Day of Workshop” Plan

Potential Workshop Questions

All 3 or 4 groups attempt to address questions 1-5. After 1-5 are completed allow the group to answer any other questions they wish to respond to.

1. **While all water use adds salt does salt impact your community/industry today?**
 - a. **How could it impact you in the future?**
2. **Are current regulations a problem for your community/industry?**
3. **How do you think salt should be managed regionally? What factors should be considered?**
4. **Should management address groundwater differently from surface waters?**
5. **Should management efforts address nitrates and nutrients differently from salts?**

Optional Questions for the Workshops

Items in gray are facilitators' notes to initiate the discussion.

6. Should salt be managed in conjunction with water use? Should it be coordinated with surface water rights or groundwater adjudication?
7. What geographic scale should be addressed in the Salinity Management Plans?
 - a. Salinity Control in the entire Central Valley
 - b. River Basin Management Plans for Salt Control ie. Tulare Lake and Sacramento/San Joaquin or others
 - c. Local management and control
8. What categories, if any, should be considered for grouping salt sources?
 - a. Users who by use of water concentrate salt, versus users who add new salts to water
 - b. For planning or regulatory requirements (e.g., geography, climate, process or Ag commodity, soil type, operations, threat to water quality)?
9. Should economics and social/community cost be considered in CV-SALTS management alternatives? Are there specific costs that should be considered?
10. How do you recommend the planning and implementation costs be fairly distributed?
11. Should there be a level of salt that is de minimis and should not need regulation, if so how should that level be determined?
12. The California Water Code decrees recycled water and water conservation as a benefit to the people of the State, should recycled water projects be given special consideration? If so why and how?
13. Are there any additional factors that should be considered in developing and implementing CV-SALTS projects further regulatory programs?

Questions for Evaluation Survey and written comments only

14. Is there any information that was not provided that you would like to have about the CV-SALTS?
15. Should CV-SALTS hold meetings in other areas outside Sacramento more frequently?
16. Do you get information on CV-SALTS efforts at the right frequency?

Questions to be asked later in the process or during formal CEQA Scoping

17. What implementation schedule duration do you think is optimum?
 - a. Shorter schedule reduces overall cost
 - b. Longer schedule reduces costs in the early years
 - c. Extended schedule allows balancing costs but may raise overall costs
18. What type or scale of implementation programs should be considered?
 - a. Large institutional program
 - b. Local or distributed systems
 - c. Salt fee or tax

d. Independent for profit programs

19. Should there be a credit or trading program for salt management? Who should be able/be required to participate?
 - a. Should salt be allowed to accumulate in the soils or groundwater
 - b. Can salts be sequestered
20. Traditionally most regulatory processes have focused on permitted discharges to surface and groundwaters. Should the Regional Board focus regulatory efforts for salt management primarily on discrete sources or expand their efforts in land use or non-point sources?
21. Who should be responsible for legacy salts (before regulations were enacted)?
22. What Level of certainty should be required of the data and analysis and of management plan success?
23. The CV-SALTS Basin Plan Amendment could allow degradation of ground and surface waters up to Basin Plan objectives ie salts and nutrients, which would still protect beneficial uses. Are there specific waters or geographic areas where such potential degradation should be prohibited?
24. Are there specific regulatory tools (e.g. waivers of waste discharge requirements, waste discharge requirements) that should (or should not) be used and why?
25. What potential negative environmental impacts may occur due to further efforts to protect ground or surface water quality due to nitrate or salinity?
26. Who should aggregate and analyze the data for planning? For the regulatory process?
27. What potential negative environmental impacts may occur if salinity is allowed to increase in groundwater? Surface water?
28. What is needed to ensure that CV-SALTS implementation programs are effective at protecting water quality?
29. What factors should be considered to ensure that the CV-SALTS salt and nitrate management efforts are fair?
30. Who should implement the program needed to come into compliance with the standards
31. Are there any specific costs/economic concerns that should be addressed during development of the development of the CV-SALTS Management or implementation plans?
32. What should be considered to ensure that the CV-SALTS implementation is completed in a manner that is cost effective for the State, regional and local communities, and the business?
33. Is there merit in managing salt by adjudicating the discharges from each watershed or river basin? If so who should enforce the requirements?
34. What level of data should be used to determine the historic and current salinity in groundwater?
35. What factors should be considered when determining the implementation plan?
36. A No Project alternative would mean the Basin Plan would not be amended to include TMDLs and programs of implementation addressing salt and nitrate. What parts of the Existing Basin and water quality regulation for salinity and nitrates should be improved?
37. If beneficial uses are changed or objectives are raised what factor should be considered in protection vs degradation for public benefit, water supply, habitat etc?
38. What funding alternative should be considered for planning costs? for implementation costs?
 - a. Market based, salt fee, credit trade or offsets
 - b. Stakeholder contributed funding
 - c. Individual permit requirements
39. What implementation alternatives should be considered?
 - a. Regulatory
 - b. Non-Regulatory economic or voluntary
 - c. Real Time Management or optimization

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS

To seek public input on the development of regulatory and non-regulatory programs to manage salt & nitrate in Central Valley waterbodies and potential modifications of Central Valley Basin Plans

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Central Valley Salinity Coalition (CVSC) and the CV-SALTS Executive Committee, in cooperation with the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board staff, will hold public workshops to seek input on the information that CV-SALTS should consider in developing of salt and nitrate management plans and proposing modifications or amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River, San Joaquin River and Tulare Lake Water Basins and Sacramento Bay Delta (Basin Plans) that may incorporate new or revised numeric objectives and management plans, and a program of implementation for application to manage Salts and Nitrate to in Central Valley surface water and groundwater.

Supplemental information regarding the CV-SALTS Initiatives and the need for management plans and potential Basin Plan amendments is available on the Central Valley Salinity Coalition website at: www.cvsalinity.org.

These workshops will provide participants with: (1) an opportunity to learn about the CV-SALTS programs, (2) Comment on issues and content of future efforts to manage salt and nutrients and develop Salinity Management and Basin Plan amendments and discuss potential changes to water rights.

Workshop Dates:

Date: April 26, 2010

Time: 9:00 AM to Noon

Place: Yolo County Farm Bureau

69 W Kentucky Ave [MAP](#)

Woodland, CA 95695

Date: April 27, 2010

Time: 9:00 AM to Noon

Place: Tulare AgTac

Southern California Edison Agricultural Technology Application Center (AGTAC)

4175 South Laspina Street [MAP](#)

Tulare, CA 93274

Submission of Workshop Comments:

The Central Valley Salinity Coalition will accept comments on behalf of the CV-SALTS Public Education and Outreach and Executive Committees. We will accept both written and

oral responses to the questions provided or on any salt and nitrate regulation concerns you have which may help determine the boundaries of the CV-SALTS Initiative. We recommend that responses address the issues raised in the Workshop questions document located at http://cvsalinity.org/index.php/documents/doc_download/340-outreach-meeting-questions-and-information in the format provided for responses. All written comments should be submitted to Daniel Cozad no later than **12:00 Noon on May 30, 2010** (contact information provided below).

Responses should be submitted by email to info@cvsalinity.org (if less than 15 megabytes in total size) or by fax at 860-736-8498. Please indicate in the subject line, "Workshop Questions Responses **CV-SALTS Initiative Initial Outreach Workshops.**" Electronic submission via e-mail is strongly preferred. Comments provided at the Workshops will be reviewed and considered by the CV-SALTS Committees and Board Staff during the development of the CV-SALTS work. Salinity and nitrate management plans and the Basin Plan amendments are expected to be submitted to the Central Valley Water Board for consideration in the Fall of 2013.

WHO SHOULD ATTEND

All groups or individuals interested in or concerned about water quality and/or quantity, salinity, nitrate, water supply, and regulatory and non-regulatory controls of salt and nitrate in or who utilize Central Valley waters are encouraged to attend. This includes, but is not limited to, public and private land owners and facility managers; agricultural producers; commercial industries groups, academic faculty and students, water and wastewater ratepayers, taxpayer associations, water district managers; wastewater treatment and disposal managers; environmental groups; recycled water and water efficiency advocates, city and county officials in charge of land use planning and storm water management; and other federal, state and local lawmakers, regulators, and water management officials.

REGISTRATION

There is no charge for registration and it is not mandatory, however to assist the facilitators in Workshop logistics and event check-in we request that you register in advance.

For Woodland on April 26, 2010 at <http://cv-salts-4-26.eventbrite.com/>

For Tulare on April 27, 2010 at <http://cv-salts-4-27.eventbrite.com/>

If you have problems registering email info@cvsalinity.org or call (888) 826-3635

CONTACT INFORMATION

Questions regarding this notice should be directed to Daniel Cozad at dcozad@cvsalinity.org or (888) 826-3635. To continue receiving notifications regarding CV-SALTS efforts, you must subscribe to the "CV-SALTS program at <http://cvsalinity.org/index.php/component/user/?task=register> or by sending your contact information to info@cvsalinity.org.

Workshop facilities are accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Mr. Cozad at or (888) 826-3635 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.