



## Bioaccumulation Oversight Group (BOG) Meeting Notes

Wednesday, May 26, 2021  
9:30 AM - 12:00 PM (Pacific)



Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
1.	<p><b>Roll Call, Agenda Review, Goals of the Meeting</b></p> <p>50 participants at max attendance</p> <p><b>Program/BOG Leads</b> Anna Holder (SWAMP) Jay Davis (SFEI)</p> <p><b>Peer Review Panel</b> Bruce Monson (MPCA)</p> <p><b>EPA</b> Terrence (Terry) Fleming</p> <p><b>OEHHA</b> Lori Chumney Susan Klasing Shannon Murphy Wesley (Wes) Smith</p> <p><b>MLML/MPSL</b> Marco Sigala</p> <p><b>Regional Boards</b> R1: Mary Bartholomew, Rich Fadness R2: Absent R3: Absent R4: Emily Duncan R5: Robin Merod, Lauren Smitherman, Alisha Wenzel, Leah Jones R6: Laurie Scribe R7: Jeff Geraci R8: Heather Boyd</p>	Jay Davis	9:30 AM (10 min)

Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
1. cont	<p><b>Regional Boards, continued</b> R9: Chad Loflen</p> <p><b>State Board</b> <u>OIMA/SWAMP</u> Devan Burke Corey Clatterbuck Chad Fearing Tessa Fojut Jennifer Salisbury Michelle Tang</p> <p><u>DDW</u> Craig Bunas</p> <p><b>Other</b> Dennis Ackel Jeff Armsrtong (Orange County Sanitation District) Jeffrey Bell Soma Bhadra (PROTEUS Consulting) Arthur Boyd Charles Catch Lesley Dobalian (San Diego County Water Authority) Jason Dyogi (Beverly Hills Water Bureau) Bobby Gustafson Lia Holden (Golder Associates) Alfred Javier Airy Krich-Brinton Petra Lee (DWR Environmental Services) Robert Mackie (County of Orange) Cara Nager (City of San Diego) Sherri Norris (California Indian Environmental Alliance) Poyom Riles (Sierra Streams Institute) Kevin Stolzenback Chi-Li Tang (LACSD) Peter Vroom (City of San Diego's Public Utilities Department and Workgroup Liaison for the California Water Quality Monitoring Council) Elisabeth Wilkinson (Santa Clara Valley Water District) Carolyn Yee (CA Dept. of Toxic Substances Control)</p> <p>+3 phone numbers</p>	Jay Davis	9:30 AM (10 min)

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2.	<p><b>Information: Quick Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● New Workgroup Co-Chair, Anna Holder</li> <li>● 2018 manuscript accepted in Marine Pollution Bulletin <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Coast sampling with SoCal Bight Monitoring Program. Report has been accepted and is in revision.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● 2019 Bass Lakes data and data report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Data are still being processed, report to be expected later this year</li> </ul> </li> <li>● 2020 Coast analysis <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Started sampling in 2020, samples being analyzed, in progress.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● 2021 Bass Lakes sampling <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Sampling has begun (mid-may) and is underway</li> <li>○ Received first sampling report after early May sampling event.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● New fish consumption advisories <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">Hensley Lake in Madera County</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Senator Wash Reservoir in Imperial County</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Success Lake in Tulare County</a></li> <li>○ <a href="#">Silverwood Lake in San Bernardino County</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>● Updates on TMDLs <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Still working on Delta Mercury TMDL, in data gathering and review stage.</li> <li>○ Some other TMDLs are on the docket but focusing on the Delta for now.</li> <li>○ No update on Statewide Mercury Provisions</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Monitoring Council update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ None at this time.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Other updates from the group <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ <a href="#">California Water Data Science Symposium</a> June 29-30, 2021 (<a href="#">Full Program</a>)</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p><b>Desired Outcome:</b> Inform and update the Workgroup.</p>	Jay Davis	9:40 AM (20 min)

Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
2. cont	Action Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jay: Have an outline of the 2019 Bass Lakes data and data report ready for the August meeting.</li> </ul>	Jay Davis	9:40 AM (20 min)
3.	<p><b>Information: 2016 Lakes Data Report</b></p> <p>This draft report will be distributed to the Workgroup in a separate email by June 4. Please email comments to Jay (<a href="mailto:jay@sfei.org">jay@sfei.org</a>) by June 25.</p> <p><b>Desired Outcome:</b> Inform and update the Workgroup.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Report overdue because of prior year report backlog (2015, 2017 bass lake data reports), and contracting/data issues.</li> <li>● Delay in report release because of missing data points in some of the graphs</li> <li>● Report to be distributed by June 4th, 3 week comment period - submit comments to Jay by June 25th.</li> <li>● 2016 Lake Sampling Plan and data overview - see meeting <a href="#">slides</a> and <a href="#">recording</a> for details</li> <li>● 10 years ago, there was an effort to model mercury in lakes. Is there any interest in picking up that effort and modeling lakes now that we have more data?               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Referencing Clean lakes study (aka <a href="#">Low Concentrations of Contaminants Survey</a>) (2014)</li> <li>○ Need to also gather water and sediment data to develop models, but that is expensive to collect.</li> <li>○ Can use satellite imagery, but that will only get you so far.</li> <li>○ Not something the Program/Workgroup is looking into currently.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Mean concentrations tend to remain consistent over time.</li> <li>● Differences between lakes are due to properties in the lakes that are stable over time.</li> <li>● Data report to be distributed June 4, Final report posted July 30</li> </ul>	Jay Davis	10:00 AM (15 min)

Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
3. cont	<p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jay: Distribute draft report with Workgroup by June 4<sup>th</sup></li> <li>● All: Submit comments to Jay (<a href="mailto:jay@sfei.org">jay@sfei.org</a>) by June 25th</li> </ul>	Jay Davis	10:00 AM (15 min)
4.	<p><b>Discussion: Sampling Plan for 2021</b></p> <p>A bass lake sampling plan update was sent to the Workgroup on April 20. Refinements based on the feedback received and the latest information on lake accessibility will be described.</p> <p><b>Desired Outcome:</b> Inform and update the Workgroup.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● See meeting <a href="#">slides</a> and <a href="#">recording</a> for details</li> <li>● Plan underwent minor comments based on feedback. Will be finalized and posted online.</li> <li>● Comments related to new lab PCB analyses, minor clarifications, typos. Need to clarify things that have been changed relative to past plans.</li> <li>● Autumn needs to review before report is finalized</li> <li>● Autumn needs to work with Jennifer to add sampling plan to database</li> <li>● Budget could not support Panel 4 + OEHHA add-ons and additional lakes; prioritized Panel 4 and OEHHA add-ons</li> <li>● Needed to remove most extra lakes due to budget constraints, however if there are other deletions due to access issues, we <i>may</i> be able to visit them after all if they are an urgent priority for this year.</li> <li>● Jay to finalize after Autumn's review.</li> </ul> <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Autumn: review revised sampling plan, provide feedback</li> <li>● Jay: Finalize sampling plan, distribute to Workgroup</li> <li>● Autumn/Jennifer: add sampling plan to database</li> </ul>	Jay Davis	10:15 AM (15 min)

Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
5.	<p><b>Discussion: Planning for 2022 and Beyond</b></p> <p>Multiple priority monitoring needs are under consideration for 2022, including:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. completing the current coast survey,</li> <li>2. monitoring in support of the Realignment, and</li> <li>3. sampling rivers and streams as called for in the most recent long-term plan for the BOG and to support development of the Central Valley Rivers TMDL.</li> </ol> <p>This is probably more than the budget and capacity at MLML can accommodate, especially considering that EPA's National Lakes Assessment may also add fish this round. Priorities for work in 2022 need to be discussed, and may entail consideration of longer-term plans.</p> <p><b>Desired Outcome:</b> Obtain input from the Workgroup.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● See meeting <a href="#">slides</a> and <a href="#">recording</a> for details</li> <li>● Need to balance budget and suite of priority monitoring needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Completing current coast survey</li> <li>○ Sampling rivers and streams <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ As described in long term monitoring plan</li> <li>■ Support development of central valley rivers TMDL</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Monitoring in support of Realignment efforts</li> <li>○ Sampling for EPAs National Lakes Assessment (EPA NLA), which impacts Moss Landing field crew's workload</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Discussion of budget and priorities <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Potential solution, spread coast work out into 2 more years (2022 and 2024) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Concerns with putting off coastal monitoring</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Jay Davis	10:30 AM (30 min)

Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
5. cont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Discussion of budget and priorities, continued               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CIEA has some Central Valley funds for sampling near Cache Creek to be used this calendar year. We could contribute or coordinate with you and share our data.                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Sonoma county north, could be possibility for collaboration/augmentation</li> <li>■ Jay to follow-up with CIEA regarding collaboration opportunities</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Any other regions doing river sampling in 2022?                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Focus on rivers needed for R5 TMDL on valley floor, also need to decide what to do in the delta, which already receives lots of monitoring</li> <li>■ R5 interest in going up in tributaries to see long term changes, but 40K may not be able to support that.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ National Lakes Assessment                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Not a lot of overlap with panels, but wonder if there is overlap with what regions want (extra lake list)                       <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Jay to take a look at EPA NLA sites and compare to regional board extra lake list</li> </ul> </li> <li>■ Focus is on PFAS/PFOA in 32 lakes. But if sampling is in the same place, it is economical to collect samples and then have Program pay for analysis.</li> </ul> </li> <li>○ Long term monitoring plan                   <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Need to reassess what we can do with 450K per year going forward, reassess after completion of Panel 5 in 2023.</li> <li>■ Realignment to focus sampling on subsistence, Tribal and cultural needs.</li> <li>■ Anna to connect with CIEA on Realignment since they are working with Tribes on Tribal Beneficial Uses and water body designations.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Jay Davis	10:30 AM (30 min)

Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
5. cont	<p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Anna/Jay: Follow up with CIEA regarding collaboration opportunities</li> <li>● Jay: Look at EPA NLA sites and compare to regional board extra lake list</li> <li>● Jay/Autumnn/Anna: Definitively nail down budget, discuss long term plan</li> <li>● Jay/Anna: If sampling R5 rivers cannot occur in 2022, let Lauren S. know ASAP</li> </ul>	Jay Davis	10:30 AM (30 min)
<b>BREAK</b>			11:00 AM (10 min)
6.	<p><b>Discussion: Rebranding the BOG</b></p> <p>Currently the Bioaccumulation Oversight Group (BOG) is commonly referred to as “the BOG” as well as “the Safe to Eat Workgroup”. This can make connecting with individuals or entities that do not actively participate in the Workgroup difficult. We recommend we rebrand ourselves so that henceforth we are only referred to as the Safe to Eat Workgroup and revise the SWAMP and Council web pages and portals accordingly.</p> <p><b>Desired Outcome:</b> Obtain input from the Workgroup.</p> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CIEA gives advice to nurses/doctors, including how to eat fish safely, and branding is a big part of this. CIEA would like to help with the rebranding, and rebranding to Safe to Eat would help move this group to be more external instead of appearing internal.</li> <li>● Also, bioaccumulation monitoring is actually just SWAMP monitoring -- issues with teasing apart the Program and Workgroup. We need to make distinctions clear &amp; understandable as well as to associate products/reports with the correct entity.</li> </ul>	Anna Holder, Jay Davis	11:10 AM (10 min)

Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
6. cont	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Chat comment: I like the name change but always have concerns about declaring anything as being “safe” and potential liability. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Chat response: change to “safer” instead, this is what OEHHA approved for CIEA.</li> <li>○ Agree that this is a concern, and current partnerships with OEHHA will help guide the correct terminology.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Comment: I see the need for rebranding, but the Workgroup is also supposed to look at bioaccumulation for aquatic life beneficial uses, and we should not lose sight of that during any rebranding.</li> <li>● Chat comment: I think BOG is more accurately descriptive of the Program; safe to eat is confusing. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ The plan is to keep the name “Bioaccumulation Monitoring Program” which will still describe the Program, but Safe to Eat will describe the Workgroup.</li> <li>○ The new Workgroup name will consider the potential audience and participants</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Overall, no issues with rebranding but caution to continue distinction between the Program and the Workgroup.</li> </ul> <p>— Action Items:</p> <p>Anna: Update the SWAMP and Workgroup webpages to replace “BOG” with “Safe to Eat Workgroup”; the SWAMP webpages should continue to refer to the Program as the “Bioaccumulation Monitoring Program”</p>	Anna Holder, Jay Davis	11:10 AM (10 min)
7.	<p><b>Discussion: Review of Outreach Materials</b></p> <p>In past meetings, we have discussed developing a series of outreach materials for the Bioaccumulation Monitoring Program and this Workgroup. During this item we will review and discuss the following draft materials, and discuss other materials (if any) that we would like to develop in the future:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● <a href="#">Angler Brochure/Booklet Mockup</a> (for field crews)</li> <li>● <a href="#">Volunteer Angler Survey (PDF of Questions)</a></li> <li>● <a href="#">Program and Workgroup Factsheet</a></li> </ul> <p><b>Desired Outcome:</b> Obtain input from the Workgroup.</p>	Anna Holder	11:20 AM (20 min)

Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
7. cont	<p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● CIEA wants to see the the questions and the flyer to review <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Also recommends adding a question: “have you filled out another survey...” this helps to see if duplicate info is being gathered among multiple related surveys and when Tribes use data for TMDs with water board</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Handing the survey out to anglers on-location, it would be good to know if those anglers know about the current advice for the water body at that location, e.g., “Are you aware of advisories on the water bodies you fish on?” <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ CIEA is also looking at and interested in the details about public fish consumption habits, how the information the public receives impacts this, whether the interpretation of the information is accurate, etc.</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Chat comment: CDFW is now offering CA fishing licenses online. Perhaps a survey link may provide good input as it will reach anglers.</li> </ul> <p>— Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All: Email Anna any additional revisions by COB Friday, June 25th.</li> <li>● Anna: Update materials with Workgroup revisions, translate into multiple languages, post on website.</li> <li>● Anna: Follow up with Sherri re: outreach materials (questions, flyer, and fact sheet) and survey design.</li> </ul>	Anna Holder	11:20 AM (20 min)
8.	<p><b>Information: Bioaccumulation Monitoring Program Realignment Plan Update</b></p> <p>The implementation of the <a href="#">Bioaccumulation Monitoring Program Realignment</a> is underway. This agenda item will include an update on progress and next steps.</p> <p><b>Desired Outcome:</b> Inform and update the Workgroup.</p> <p>— Discussion - None</p> <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Anna: Reach out and connect with/invite additional Tribes, provide updates at future Workgroup meetings</li> </ul>	Anna Holder	11:40 AM (5 min)

Item	Topic	Lead	Time (Min)
9.	<p><b>Wrap-up and Adjourn</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Review action items</li> <li>● Review items for next meeting</li> <li>● Next meeting: August 25, 2021, 9:30 am - 12:30 pm</li> </ul> <p>Discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Addition of action items for multiple items (see “Action Items” sections above.</li> <li>● Question: Who are the boots-on-the-ground samplers in the field collecting data? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Marine Pollution Studies Lab at Moss Landing Marine Labs</li> </ul> </li> <li>● Appreciation that Sherri Norris at CIEA has joined us to help with these public materials &amp; realignment!</li> <li>● Not sure that the 2019 Bass Lakes data and data report will be ready for the next meeting, but Jay would like to have at least an outline for the next meeting.</li> </ul> <p>Action Items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● All: email Anna speaker/topic recommendations</li> <li>● Anna: send out/post meeting notes, presentation, and recording on the <a href="#">Meetings page</a></li> </ul>	Jay Davis, Anna Holder	11:45 AM (15 min)

**Adjourn: 11:55 am**