

California Cyanobacteria Harmful Algal Bloom (CCHAB) Network Meeting
Friday, October 4, 2019, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Cal EPA Building, Training 1 West (1st floor)
1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

To Access Audio: Call (916) 574-1755 (no code needed)
(Skype audio is unreliable so we decided to use a regular telephone line instead)
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(PLEASE PROVIDE NAME WITH NUMBER ON CALL-IN)

Agenda

9:00 am Welcome, Introductions, Announcements, etc. (15)

Introductions

Thor Benzing, ACWA JPIA; Damon Wyckoff, Calaveras Co Water District; Kevin Calcagre, Europhins Eaton Analysis; Joseph Westhouse, State Water Board; Spencer McLintock, Humboldt State University; Eva Bush, Delta Stewardship Council; Nick Martorano, State Water Board; Keith Bouma-Gregson, State Water Board; Christine Joab, Central Valley Water Board; Sarah Ryan, Big Valley Band of Pomo Indians; Beckye Stanton, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA); Briana Sakata, DWR; Dave Caron, University of Southern California; Carrie Austin, San Francisco Water Board; Mary Fiore-Wagner, Lahontan Water Board; Holly Bowers, MLML; Heather Boyd, Santa Ana Water Board; Randy Turner, SFEI; Michelle Newcomer, LBL; Reggie Linville, OEHHA; Susan Fricke, Karuk Tribe; Tom Gillogly, LWA; Josh Westfall, Los Angeles City; Dan Deeds, USBR; Joseph Draper, Fresno; Ali Dunn, State Water Board; Elea Beckerlowe, CNRA; Rebecca Franklin, ...; Jacob Kann, Aquatic Ecosystem Sciences; Jayme Smith, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project; Loreina Childress, MCDEH; Michael Parsons, Florida Gulf Coast University; Rebecca Hillwig, Oregon Health Authority; Ved Bhoot, LBL; Bill Taylor, retired (mitigation subcommittee)

Review of July Meeting Notes

Approved

CCHAB Web Accessibility Update

There has been an additional push for web accessibility. The co-chairs are seeking ways to get past presentations available, however, we will likely need to modify future presentations according to the standards.

Webpage Membership and Logos Update

If you come up with some ideas for logos, speak with Nick M. and he can have graphic staff work on developing something.

Annual Report to California Water Quality Monitoring Council (CWQMC)

Sarah provided an update, including updated subcommittees. Received good feedback. Mentioned 4 keys goals of CCHAB. Was within the discussion of the 4 key goals that additional feedback was given offering support. CWQMC has requested that all workgroup leads (including CCHAB) attend the December 5th meeting to provide their top 3-5 action items that need support.

Annual Report and presentations are available on the CWQMC Website at https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/meetings/2019sep/item_8.pdf Annual Report and presentations are available on the CWQMC Website at https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/monitoring_council/meetings/2019sep/item_8.pdf

9:15 am

Update on AB 834 (Marisa Van Dyke/Keith Bouma-Gregson) (10)

AB 834 established FHAB program, and 835 established standards. 834 was passed Sept 27th and 835 is stalled. Water Board is the lead agency to direct the bill. Will establish a Water Board lead program in consultation with other HAB water agencies. Will include ambient monitoring and research and development. \$1.6 million value (\$850k for positions, \$750k monitoring and analysis, \$10K for monitoring and analysis equipment). Five new positions. Report will be due in 2021 that summarizes actions to protect water quality. Did not specifically include language to develop water quality standards.

Karuk Tribe is requesting funds get dispersed to Regional Boards to develop emergency response for HABs and incorporate a HAB standard into the biostimulatory policy.

9:25 am

Update on SWRCB/SCCWRP FHAB Monitoring Strategy project (Jayme Smith)(15)

Reminder: The key products of this project are to provide recommendations for an ambient monitoring program – coordinate some field surveys, citizen science program, remote sensing. Aiming to address Wadeable Streams, rivers, lakes, reservoirs and ponds, coastal confluences.

Will produce monitoring framework documents with an overview of different strategies, an implementation guidance document with recommendations to implement framework methods, then prioritized list of special studies targeted to provide information to fill science gaps necessary to implement the FHAB monitoring strategy.

Two components. State implementation framework focuses on conducting statewide/regional aquatic resource surveys and the voluntary framework will be boots on the ground. Would like a complimentary relationship between the two.

Voluntary program means a program that is modular and endorsed by the state/supports enhancing monitoring efforts.

Three Technical Advisory Groups are currently meeting, to provide recommendations for: field-based surveys across waterbodies in California, waterbody focused monitoring and remote approaches. Statewide and Regional Management Questions Were Developed.

1. What is the overall extent and magnitude of FHABs in the Regions/State?
2. To what extent are FHABs changing over time?
3. What are the drivers of FHABs?
4. Which waterbodies are at risk to experience FHABs?
5. How effective are water quality maintenance and improvement projects or programs for maintaining or restoring beneficial uses impacted from FHABs?

Workshops were held June 11-12 and Aug 28-29. Developed multiple survey design

options intended to answer the management questions. Now drafting those options into a summary, which will be fleshed out and designed, communication, management actions, data collection, recruitment and retention of partners, leveraging of resources of other programs, and pros and cons will be discussed.

Goal is to create a strategy and roadmap for how to implement ambient monitoring program for FHABs at multiple scales – statewide, regional, single WB and watershed scales.

- 9:40 am** **EPA Federal Register Notice – Freshwater HAB event of national significance determination (Co-chairs) (10)**
National HAB Committee. Comments for *marine* side have been submitted, *freshwater* comments are being written, due October 31, 2019
- 9:50 am** **Invited guest speaker: Do airborne microcystins present a human health risk? Results of a pilot study in southwest Florida (Michael L. Parsons Florida Gulf Coast University, The Water School) (30)**
Please contact Joseph Westhouse at Joseph.Westhouse@waterboards.ca.gov for a copy of Dr. Parson’s presentation. For questions, Dr. Parsons can be reached at MParsons@fgcu.edu.
- 10:20 am** **Break (10)**
- 10:30 am** **Invited guest speaker: HABs, hydrology, climate change: (Michelle Newcomer; Lawrence Berkeley National Lab) (45)**
Please contact Joseph Westhouse at Joseph.Westhouse@waterboards.ca.gov for a copy of Ms. Newcomer’s presentation. For questions, Ms. Newcomer can be reached at MNewcomer@lbl.gov.
- 11:15 am** **HABs Status Updates (30)**
Regional HAB coordinators
Region 1 – active monitoring in Russian and other rivers for benthic monitoring. Dog death investigated.

Region 2 – Working on Lake Anza, oxygenation system will be installed, Caution and Danger signs were put up. East Bay Regional Parks – some detects over the holiday and recent benthic mats.

Region 3 – participated in the Labor Day HAB assessment

Region 4 – no report

Region 5 – Heavy blooms in late July, Clear Lake and elsewhere. Danger advisories. Investigated 5 dog deaths. Presence of benthic cyanobacteria and anatoxin. Working with Drinking Water division for communication to surface water purveyors. Lake Oroville danger advisory

Region 6 – August was busy. 17 affected surface waters, 3 HAB related dog deaths

Region 7 – no report

Region 8 – no report

Region 9 – no report

HAB Illness Workgroup – State agency coordination group that works with regional staff if illness cases come up. Working on updating all the health pages – domestic animal, human health and ___ page. The workgroup will present at the December 6 CCHAB meeting. 11:45 pm Wrap up (15)

Summary

Next meeting (Friday, December 6th) – planning on longer agenda with 2019 overview and lessons learned; other suggested agenda items?

12:00 pm

Adjourn