

San Francisco Estuary Partnership
Implementation Committee Meeting
Wednesday, August 7, 2024

MEETING SUMMARY

Attendees

IC Members: Alyson Aquino, Amanda Bohl, Arthur Feinstein, Barbara Salzman, Becky Smyth, Cameron Carr, Campbell Ingram, Carin High, Chris Barr, Dana Michaels, Erin Chappell, Jackie Zipkin, Jane Lavelle, Jessica Fain, Jessica Martini-Lamb, Kelli McCune, Lindsay Correa, Lorien Fono, Luisa Valiela, Pat Eklund, Reid Bogert, Sree Gopal, Stuart Siegel, Tess Byler, Warner Chabot,

SFEP Staff: Caitlin Sweeney, Alex Thomsen, Alexis Gabriel, Athena Honore, Ben Botkin, Diana Fu, Hannah Kempf, Heidi Nutters, Karen McDowell, Leslie Perry, Lila Bowen, Natasha Daniels, Sarina Seaton, Sasha Harris-Lovett

1. Welcome/Intros

Amanda Bohl called the meeting to order, introduced the attendees, welcomed new participants, and reviewed the agenda.

2. Approve 05/22/2024 Meeting Summary (ACTION)

- Motion to Approve 05/22/2024 meeting summary by Barbara Salzman, seconded by Arthur Feinstein. Motion carried.

3. Director's Report

Caitlin Sweeney highlighted several items in the Director's Report:

- The 2024 State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference with a video encapsulating the event
- Welcome to New IC Chair, Keith Lichten
- Restoration Authority Grant Round Open
- Regional Sea Level Rise MOU Executed
- Two new funding sources to highlight
 - EPA Water Quality Improvement Fund – Wildcat Creek (\$6,102,000)
 - EPA Water Quality Improvement Fund – Pivot Points (\$4,524, 840)
- Completed projects
 - Alameda County Water District Fish Passage Project
- Introduced New Staff, Communications Manager, Alexis Gabriel
- Highlighted Wetlands Regional Monitoring Program Summer Newsletter
- Noted the retirement of IC Member Steve Goldbeck and his long years of service
- BCDC's primary representative for the IC will now be Jessica Fain, Director of Planning

4. **Estuary Blueprint Progress Report**

- Caitlin Sweeney presented highlights from the Progress Report
- All 25 actions are showing progress, with 8 exceeding 50% completion
- 87% of the 126 tasks within the 25 actions have been started
- We are about 40% of the way towards full completion of the Blueprint within the 5 year timeframe
- Michael Germeraad, Resilience Planner with ABAG/MTC, presented on Task 3-5, the refresh of the Priority Conservation Area Program
- Todd Hallenbeck and Phoenix Armenta with BCDC, presented on Task 2-1 the completion of the Community-Based Organization Directory Map

5. **Estuary Blueprint Implementation: Action 8 - Wetlands Regional Monitoring Program**

- Sasha Harris-Lovett, Alex Thomson, Hannah Kempf, SFEP, and Donna Ball, SFEI, presented
- Sasha Harris-Lovett spoke on mission to deliver coordinated regional monitoring of SF Estuary's wetlands
- Update on new SFEI Staff Scientists Lisa Beers and Aviva Rossi
- Funding updates - SFBRA & EPA grants awarded with in kind and matching support from partners
- Alex Thomson spoke about monitoring how people interact with wetlands
- Donna Ball gave a presentation on wetland tracking tools including Lidar for the whole Estuary next year

6. **California Climate Bond**

- Josh Quigley, Save the Bay, presented on the Prop 4 Climate Bond on November's ballot, including the history of getting the bond on the ballot and what the bond measure includes.

7. **IC Member Announcements**

- Warner Chabot reported on a 9-week virtual course at UC Santa Cruz for practitioners, includes a 3-day work session. Scrambling to find \$4,000 scholarships to provide to CBO and Tribal Community Leaders
- Stuart Siegel reported on staffing change at SF Estuary Research Reserve with Matt Ferner as the new Reserve Director. Stuart will be switching back to coastal resilience projects
- Amanda Bohl reported on the Bay Delta Science Conference which will be back in person on September 30th. Highlighted the call for posters.
- Lorien Fono reported on the SF bay Watershed Permit adopted on July 10th. Nutrients in wastewater must be reduced. Cost estimate is 11 billion. No new funding but 10-year timeline to achieve these reductions. Seeking to extend timeline.
- Jessica Fain reported that BCDC will host first ever Bay Adapt Summit. Rising together at the Exploratorium. BCDC is moving forward with the regional sea level rise adaptation plan.

SB272 must create guidelines by the end of this year for shoreline adaptation plans. These will be available for public review in September

- Dana Michaels reported on upcoming funding opportunity under BIL for SF Bay water quality improvement. Shoreline resilience in under-served communities. Open in October 2024 and closes in May 2025. Awarding 14 million through 2025/26

8. **2024 IC Meetings Road Map**

- Caitlin Sweeney reviewed the Road Map, which is in the packet. The next meeting will take place on November 6, 2024

9. **Adjourn to Next Meeting (2025 Meeting Dates not yet set)**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:38 AM