

Nutrient Stakeholder & Technical Advisory Group (STAG) Meeting

01 March 2016

1:00 PM – 4:00 PM

**Central Valley Regional Water Quality Board
11020 Sun Center Dr. Suite #200, Rancho Cordova**

Agenda Overview

- Item 1 – Introduction, Announcements & Roll Call**
- Item 2 – Approve the December 15, 2015 Meeting Summary**
- Item 3 – Workshop Planning Discussion**
- Item 4 – Acceptance of the Modeling White Paper**
- Item 5 – Update on the Mass Balance Document**
- Item 6 – Update on Drinking Water Work Group White Paper**
- Item 7 – Update on Nutrient Research Prioritization Process**
- Item 8 – Next Steps and Wrap Up**

Agenda Item #1

Introductions

Announcements & Roll Call

No slides just a verbal discussion

Brock Bernstein

Agenda Item #2

Approve the December 2015 Meeting Summary

No slides just a verbal discussion

Brock Bernstein

Agenda Item #3

Workshop Planning Discussion

Janis Cooke

STAG meeting objectives

1. Accept charge for workshop and white paper.
2. Direct Water Board staff and Planning Subcommittee to secure white paper author.

Summary of Charge

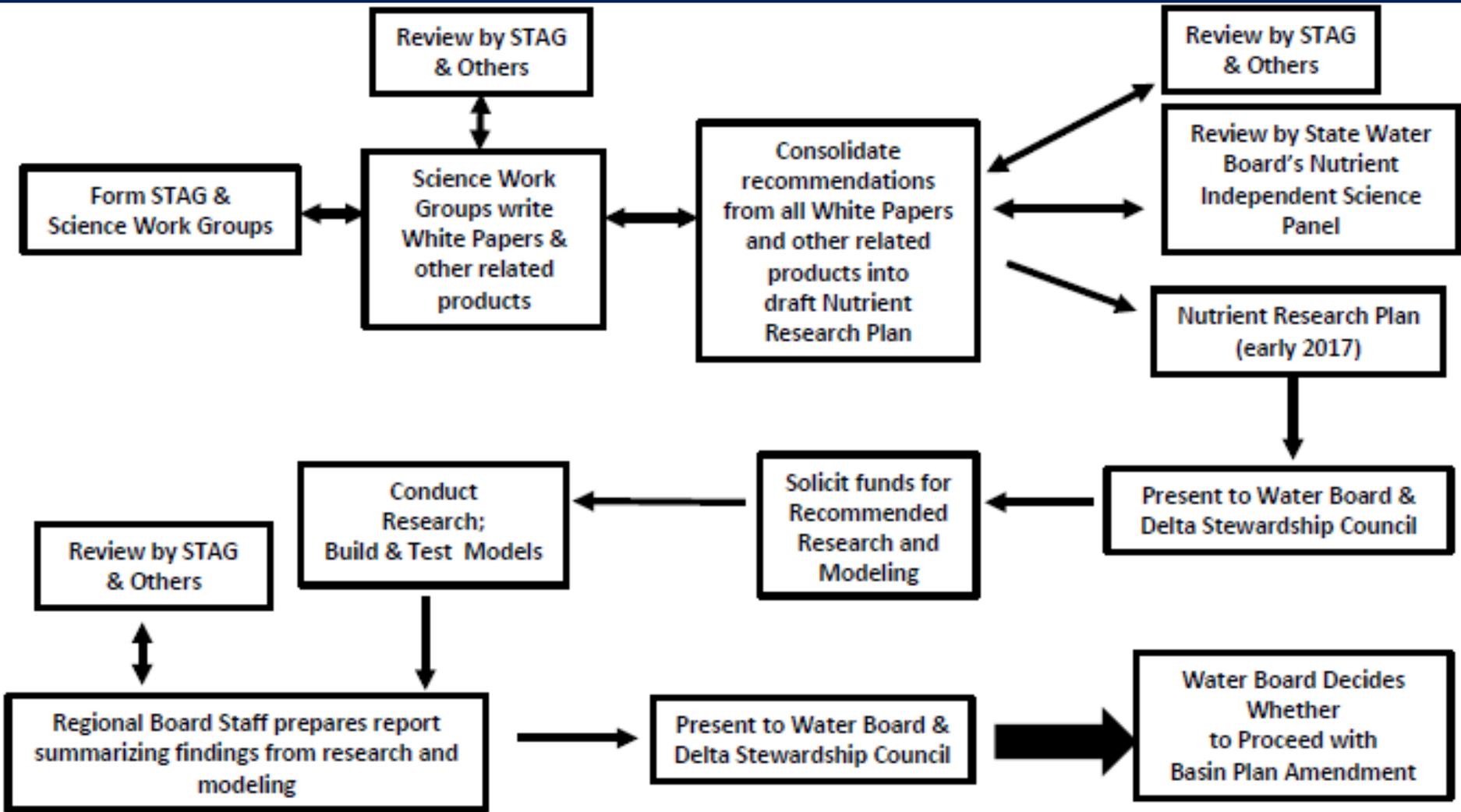
The objectives of the white paper are to: 1) describe areas of agreement regarding the importance of nutrient loads, forms, and ratios to the decrease in primary productivity and shifts in algal species composition in the Delta and Suisun Bay; 2) identify significant unresolved science questions; and 3) provide recommendations for future research and monitoring.

Workshop Charge (pg. 5)

1. Precisely articulate the areas of certainty and uncertainty (observations, causal factors, specific mechanisms) within the scientific community regarding the relationships between nutrient forms, ratios, concentrations, and loads and low phytoplankton biomass and species shifts in the Delta and Suisun Bay.
2. Identify the types of studies (e.g., field investigations, controlled experiments, statistical analysis of data, and modeling) that would test the areas of disagreement and outstanding science questions related to low phytoplankton biomass and species shifts in the Delta and Suisun Bay.

Workshop Charge (pg. 5)

3. Identify additional studies and monitoring needed to fill knowledge gaps and understand changes in phytoplankton species composition and biomass in the Delta and Suisun Bay, particularly in light of anticipated changes in nitrogen and ammonia loads.



Agenda Item #4

Modeling White Paper

Motion for STAG to accept the document

Christine Joab & Phil Trowbridge

What is Acceptance?

- Did we follow the process outlined in the Charter and the Modeling Science Work Group Charge?
 - Open and transparent process?
 - Opportunity for stakeholder input and comments?
 - Develop credible, feasible, scientific recommendations through collaborative discussions?
 - Present draft Science Work Group products to STAG for review and comment?

Modeling Science Work Group

Mike Deas – Chair (*Watercourse Engineering, Inc.*)

Phil Trowbridge – White Paper author and Facilitator (*SFEI*)

Science Work Group Members:

Eli Ateljevich – *California Department of Water Resources*

Eric Danner – *National Oceanic and Atmospheric Admin.*

Joe Domagalski – *United States Geologic Survey*

Chris Enright – *Delta Stewardship Council*

William Fleenor – *University of California Davis*

Marianne Guerin – *Resource Management Associates, Inc.*

David Senn – *San Francisco Estuary Institute*

Lisa Thompson – *Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District*

Charge to the Science Work Group

- Advise Regional Board on important criteria for models to inform nutrient management questions
- Provide information on characteristics of the institution(s) housing and maintaining the model(s)
- Development and use of water quality models as a component of the Nutrient Research Plan

Develop a white paper that will:

- Examine and expand types of management questions model(s) need to inform
- Assemble a list of important criteria models should meet
- Assemble a list of available hydrodynamic and WQ models
- Evaluate available models against identified criteria, discuss pros/cons of each model and the improvements needed to inform management questions
- Provide advice on cost and time to develop model(s)
- Advice on phasing model development and identify key tasks at each phase

Modeling White Paper

Science Work Group Meetings

- June 2015 Meeting – develop, review, comment on outline
- September 2015 Meeting – review 1st draft, develop recommendations
- October 2015 Meeting – review 2nd draft, polish language

STAG Presentation (Nov. 3)

- Draft distributed in October 2015
- White Paper presentation by Phil Trowbridge at November meeting
- Presented overview of document with key findings & recommendations

STAG Comment period (Nov. 3 to Dec. 4)

- Written comments received by Jon Rosenfield and Bill Fleenor

White Paper Revision (Dec. 9 to Jan. 4)

- Science Work Group discuss comments and approach to revisions
- Draft final distributed to STAG in January 2016 for final review
- No comments received, document ready to be accepted as final

Motion for STAG Consideration:

Did we follow the process outlined in the Charter and the Science Work Group Charge?

Does the STAG accept the Modeling White Paper?

Agenda Item #5

Update on the Mass Balance Report

No slides just a verbal discussion

Tom Grovhaug

Agenda Item #6

Update on the Drinking Water Work Group White Paper

No slides just a verbal discussion

Tom Grovhaug

Agenda Item #7

Update on the Nutrient Research Prioritization and Ranking Process

No slides just a verbal discussion

Tom Grovhaug

Agenda Item #8

Next Steps and Wrap Up

Brock Bernstein

Next Steps & Wrap Up

- **Identify Next Steps**
- **Recap Action Items**
- **Discuss Next Meeting Date**
- **Draft and Post Meeting Summary**

End of Presentation