



bay restoration commission

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

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March 16, 2012

Agenda Item #3 d i

To: Executive Committee, SMBRC
From: Shelley Luce, Executive Director
Subject : Commission FY 13 Work Plan

Action Requested of the Executive Committee:

- Review and recommend Governing Board approval of the work plan

Background

The SMBRC is a National Estuary Program of the US EPA and receives its major operational funding through a grant from US EPA as specified in Section 320 of the Clean Water Act. Each year, we prepare a work plan outlining the issues we will work on, the program objectives, tasks, funding sources, and resource allocations for the work to be performed during the federal fiscal year. The USEPA requires that our Governing Board adopt a work plan, which is then used by USEPA to track our grant expenditures and our progress toward achieving our mission to improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resource, and protect the Bay's benefits and values.

The FY13 work plan builds upon the work being carried out in the current fiscal year and for this reason many of the tasks in the current work plan will be carried over. In addition, we propose several changes/additions that reflect new program priorities and opportunities. Also, new to this year, the proposed work plan incorporates suggestions from members of the Watershed Advisory Council (WAC) at the February 22, 2012 meeting and subsequently. We also reformatted the work plan by grouping all tasks in five major program areas. This restructuring makes the format of the work plan more consistent with the Bay Restoration Plan and other SMBRC publications such as the annual report, and will simplify tracking and reporting of our progress.

The table below provides a summary of proposed FY 13 work plan tasks and how they are related to the tasks in our current (FY 12) work plan. Also attached is a summary of comments and suggestions from WAC members, and follow-up recommended by staff. We are able to incorporate many of the suggestions in the FY 13 Work Plan and they are highlighted in blue in both tables.

Upon endorsement of these changes by the Executive Committee, a full version of the draft FY13 work plan will be developed and submitted to the Governing Board for adoption and to EPA for approval. Although the 2013 federal fiscal year does not start until October 1, 2012, EPA has requested that we submit the work plan no later than April 15, 2012.

As the primary fiscal agent for the US EPA Section 320 grant funding, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation (SMBRF) will prepare and submit the grant application including the adopted work plan, and receive and administer the grant funding on behalf of the SMBRC.

Budget/Financial Impact

Adoption of this work plan is necessary for the USEPA to award section 320 grant funding for the 2013 fiscal year.

our mission: to restore and enhance the santa monica bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, and protect the bay's benefits and values

