



bay restoration commission

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

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June 11, 2025

Agenda Items #3b, c, d

To: Governing Board, SMBRC

From: Tom Ford, Executive Director

Re: Watershed Advisory Council Meeting Report and Fiscal Year 2015-16 & 2016-17 Work Plan Updates

Action Requested of the Governing Board:

- None

Background

Each year, the SMBRC, in collaboration with The Bay Foundation (TBF) and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Authority (SMBRA), prepares and submits a work plan of the Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program (SMBNEP) to USEPA that identifies the expected tasks and activities necessary to implement the Bay Restoration Plan (BRP), the objectives to be achieved, and the entity that is expected to carry out the specific tasks. USEPA uses the annual work plan to track grant expenditures and progress toward achieving the program's objectives, and to compile information on the environmental outcomes of work plan implementation.

The annual work plan for the federal fiscal year 2017 covers the time period between October 1st, 2016 and September 30, 2017 and it must be submitted to USEPA before the end of June to allow sufficient time to process the SMBNEP annual grant application before the start of the federal fiscal year.

As in previous years, the process for developing the annual work plan involves solicitation of input from the Watershed Advisory Council (WAC) at its annual meeting, and input and review from the Executive Committee and the Governing Board, and final approval by the Governing Board, which is tentatively scheduled for the June 16 Governing Board meeting. Also, as in previous years, the work plan for the upcoming fiscal year will build upon the work being carried out in the current fiscal year, including many multi-year tasks to be carried over to the next year and beyond. Meanwhile, changes will be made to reflect new program priorities and new project opportunities, based on the assessment of current work plan activities and in response to input received from the WAC and the Governing Board.

Accompanying this staff report are two documents prepared by staff to inform members on the outcome of the recent WAC meeting and status of the current work plan. The first document is a summary of comments made by participants at the March 30 WAC meeting. The second document provides a summary of the current work plan, semi-annual progress update on each task (October 1, 2015 – March 30, 2016), and preliminary assessment of the likelihood for continuation or changes in the new fiscal year.

