



bay restoration commission

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

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May 19, 2016

Agenda Item #3a

To: Executive Committee, SMBRC

From: Tom Ford, Executive Director

Re: Santa Monica Bay National Estuary Program Fiscal Year 2016-17 Work Plan Update

Action Requested of the Governing Board:

- Review and recommend Governing Board consideration of approval of the work plan

Background

Each year, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission (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), 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 work plan also identifies funding sources and specifies a timeline and budget for the fiscal year. The annual work plan for the federal fiscal year 2017 (FY17) 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 involved solicitation of input early on from the Watershed Advisory Council (WAC) at its annual meeting on March 30, 2016. Two presentations were made at the April 20, 2016 SMBRC Governing Board meeting to inform the Governing Board regarding the progress to date on the current 2016 Annual Work Plan and aspects of the comments submitted at the WAC meeting and online.

The FY17 work plan will build upon the work being carried out in the current fiscal year i.e. FY 16 – almost all tasks in the current work plan will be carried over from the current fiscal year (2015-16) to the new fiscal year (2016-17), except for projects or activities that are already completed or scheduled for completion before the end of the current fiscal year (September 30, 2016). This is a result of the multi-year aspect of most of the projects and programs that are developed and implemented for any given SMBNEP

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



Annual Work Plan. Furthermore, this reflect the fact that any given Annual Work Plan must support the overarching Bay Restoration Plan.

A newly formatted work plan, in development, will assist the SMBNEP in informing the public, satisfying the oversight of the SMBRC Governing Board, for the presentation of the Annual Work Plan to the USEPA for its consideration and approval. Additionally the new Annual Work Plan format will conform more closely to the structure of the Bay Restoration Plan so that the two documents will be more easily reviewed and the interrelationship of the two better conveyed. In practice, it will be easier to track progress, during a given period (months to years), to the Annual Work Plan and Bay Restoration Plan via this detailed, streamlined, and consistent approach.

The table below (Table 1) provides a comparison between the existing and proposed new work plan format, 1a and 1b respectively. Under the new format, all work plan tasks are consolidated from five sections under the current format into three main sections. The first two match up with the goals and objectives in the first two sections of the BRP, Water Quality and Natural Resources. The third includes all tasks that are considered either multidisciplinary and/or integrated in purpose or structure. Table 2 below provides a list and brief description of the FY17 Annual Work Plan tasks in the new format. As mentioned previously, these tasks are in many cases a continuation of the FY16 Annual Work Plan. Consistent with the FY16 Annual Work Plan, clarity is also provided on the role of SMBNEP entities related to any given task or aspect of the plan.

Accompanying this staff report is a summary of comments made by WAC members at the WAC meeting and staff responses to the comments. WAC comments addressed by the FY17 Annual Work Plan are highlighted in yellow.

Upon review and endorsement of these changes by the Executive Committee, a full version of the draft FY17 work plan will be developed and submitted to the Governing Board for consideration of adoption at the June 16, 2016 Board meeting. The adopted work plan will then be submitted to USEPA for approval. As the recipient of the USEPA Clean Water Act Section 320 grant funding, TBF will prepare and submit the grant application including the adopted work plan, and receive and administer the grant funding on behalf of the SMBNEP.

Budget/Financial Impact

Adoption of this work plan is necessary for USEPA to award the SMBNEP section 320 grant funding for the 2016 fiscal year.



Table 1 SMBNEP Work Plan Outlines

1a. Current Work Plan Structure (FY 2016 Annual Work Plan)

Program Areas	Work Plan Tasks
1. Water Resources and Quality Improvement	1.1 Oversee Proposition 12, 50 and 84 bond grants.
	1.2 Participate in the development and implementation of water quality requirements and best management practices in the Bay watershed.
	1.3 Participate in the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for Los Angeles County (State Prop. 50 & 84.)
	1.4 Implement green infrastructure and LID projects in targeted watersheds.
	1.5 Climate Change Adaptation and Climate Ready Program.
	1.6 Clean Bay Restaurant Certification Program.
2. Wetland and Other Coastal Habitat Restoration	2.1 Facilitate restoration of priority wetlands.
	2.2 Facilitate Stream Restoration and Protection.
3. Marine Habitat Protection and Restoration	3.1 Promote Marine Ecosystem Protection through Outreach and Information Sharing.
	3.2 Conduct and Support Research of Important Marine Habitats and Species.
	3.3 Restore and Enhance Rocky Reef Habitat.
	3.4 Restore Coastal Dune and Bluff Habitats.
4. Education and Outreach	4.1 Conduct General Outreach.
	4.2 Continue overseeing the Boater Education Program.
	4.3 Oversee the Public Involvement and Education Mini-grants Program.
	4.4 Participate in the Palos Verdes Shelf Institutional Controls Program.
5. Planning, Monitoring, and Program Management	5.1 Increase funding and/or develop new financing mechanisms for BRP implementation.
	5.2 Inter-agency coordination and involvement
	5.3 Implement the Comprehensive Bay Monitoring Program.
	5.4 BRP implementation progress tracking
	5.5 State of the Bay reporting
	5.6 Conduct general Governing Board support, organizational management and reporting activities.

1b. Proposed FY 2017 Annual Work Plan Structure

Program Areas	Work Plan Tasks
1. Water Resources and Quality Improvement	1.1. Improve water quality through TMDL implementation.
	1.2 Improve water quality through nonpoint source pollution control and prevention.
2. Natural Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration	2.1 Support natural resource protection policies and programs.
	2.2 Restore wetlands and streams in the watershed.
	2.3 Restore coastal bluffs, dunes and sandy beaches.
	2.4 Restore intertidal and subtidal habitats.
3. Multidisciplinary and Integrative Programs	3.1 Promote climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation.
	3.2 Increase funding and/or develop new financing mechanisms for BRP implementation.
	3.3 Public outreach and stakeholder support
	3.4 Facilitate Bay comprehensive monitoring and reporting.
	3.5 Organizational Activity Support

Table 2. SMBNEP FY 17 Annual Work Plan Summary

Program Areas	Tasks Description	Engaged SMBNEP Entities		
		Entities	Role	
1. Water Resources and Quality Improvement				
1.1. Improve water quality through TMDL implementation.	1.1a Implement storm water pollution control BMP funded through Prop. 84 bond and other grant programs.	- Oversee pollution control BMPs funded through Prop. 84 bond grants.	SMBRC	Lead, Participate
		- Facilitate funding of WMP and EWMP implementing projects. Facilitate availability of Prop. 1 funding.	SMBRC	Facilitate
	1.1b Promote and participate in integrated watershed-wide water quality improvement planning and implementation (EWMP, IRWMP, etc.).	- Support the collaborative effort of local environmental for the County-wide storm water/urban runoff funding measure.	SMBRC	Support
		- Participate and support multi-jurisdictional, collaborative, sub-watershed based planning efforts.	SMBRC, TBF	Participate
		- Facilitate regional storm water monitoring and monitoring of LID effectiveness.	SMBRC, TBF	Facilitate
- Participate in the Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for Los Angeles County (State Prop. 50 & 84).	SMBRC	Participate		
1.2 Improve water quality through nonpoint source pollution control and prevention.	1.2a Implement green infrastructure and LID projects in targeted watersheds.	- Continue monitoring of completed rain garden projects.	TBF	Lead
		- Seek new partnership and funding opportunities for new rain garden and other LID projects.	TBF	Lead
	1.2b Continue overseeing the Boater Education Program.	- Conduct general boater outreach through publications, presentations, and participation of boating events.	SMBRA, TBF	Lead
		- Promote use of mobile pumpout services.	SMBRA, TBF	Lead
		- Conduct pumpout monitoring.	SMBRA, TBF	Lead
- Conduct outreach and implementation assistance to	TBF	Facilitate		



		boaters re: copper TMDL.		
	1.2c Clean Bay Restaurant Certification Program.	- Continue coordination and promotion of the program and update certification. Work to acquire funding and expand the program.	SMBRC, TBF	Lead
2. Natural Resource Protection and Habitat Restoration				
2.1 Support natural resource protection policies and programs.	2.1a Promote Marine Ecosystem Protection through Outreach and Information Sharing.	- Develop and implement new phase of the ocean vessel aerial monitoring project.	TBF	Lead
		- Promote sustainable fishery management.	SMBRC, TBF	Promote
		- Promote adaptive management and enforcement of Marine Protected Area regulations in collaboration with MPA Watch.	TBF	Promote
	2.1b Facilitate adoption of stream protection ordinances.	- In partnership with other stakeholder groups, facilitate and support adoption of stream protection ordinances by local jurisdictions.	TBF	Facilitate
2.2 Restore wetlands and streams in the watershed.	2.2a Facilitate restoration of priority wetlands.	- Conduct data collection and assist with the environmental impact review and permit application for the Ballona Reserve.	TBF	Participate
		- Continue developing communication strategies and public outreach and involvement.	TBF	Participate
		- Implement interim stewardship management through community engagement and invasive species removal ("FIX Ballona").	TBF	Lead
		- Assist in ongoing trash removal and maintenance projects at the Ballona Reserve.	TBF	Participate
		- Develop the regional Level 3 protocol standardization manual and associated products.	TBF	Lead



		- Continue Malibu Lagoon post-restoration maintenance and monitoring.	SMBRA, TBF	Participate
		- Facilitate restoration of Trancas and other coastal lagoons.	TBF	Facilitate
	2.2c Facilitate Stream Restoration and fish barrier removal.	- Promote fish barrier removal projects.	SMBRC, TBF	Promote
		- Support restoration of lower Topanga Creek.	SMBRC, TBF	Support
		- Carry out maintenance of the restored Stone Canyon Creek.	TBF	Lead
		- Continue to build support and seek funding for stream daylighting, restoration, and greenway projects.	TBF	Facilitate
		- Facilitate completion of the Rindge Dam removal feasibility study.	SMBRC, TBF	Facilitate
		- Conduct periodic mudsnail surveys in the Northern Bay watersheds.	SMBRC, TBF	Lead
		- Facilitate projects for eradication of crayfish and other invasive species in the North Bay/Santa Monica Mountains watersheds.	SMBRC, TBF	Facilitate
2.3 Restore coastal bluffs, dunes and sandy beaches.	2.3a Restore Coastal Dune and Bluff Habitats.	- Participate in and carry out restoration of coastal dunes at LAX and other dunes and bluffs.	SMBRA, TBF	Lead, participate
		- Conduct trash removal events at LAX dune on annual Coastal Clean-up Day.	TBF	Lead
		- Carryout the Santa Monica sandy beach and dune restoration pilot demonstration project.	TBF	Lead
	2.3b Promote protection of sandy beach habitats.	- Promote sandy beach habitat protection and restoration through citizen monitoring and outreach.	TBF	Promote
2.4 Restore intertidal and subtidal habitats.	2.4a Promote protection of rocky intertidal habitats.	- Promote protection of rocky intertidal habitats on PV Shelf and other areas through education and outreach.	TBF	Promote
	2.4b Restore and enhance rocky reef	- Carry out the multi-year rocky reef/kelp restoration project.	TBF	Lead

	habitat.			
	2.4c Reintroduce and restore abalone population in the Bay.	- Conduct and promote abalone study and restoration.	SMBRC, TBF	Lead
3. Multidisciplinary and Integrative Programs				
3.1 Promote climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation.	3.1a Conduct climate change vulnerability assessment and adaptation strategy development.	- Continue to carry out the Local Coastal Plan Sea Level Rise Adaptation project.	SMBRC, TBF	Participate
		- Develop BRP revision recommendations based on the results of the vulnerability assessment.	SMBRC, TBF	Lead
		- Promote comprehensive sediment management and other "soft" measures for adapting to climate change impacts.	SMBRC, TBF	Promote
	3.1b Conduct research on local impacts of climate change.	- Carryout the kelp restoration hydrodynamic study.	TBF	Lead
- Maintain and collect data from pH/CO2 sensors in Santa Monica Bay.		SMBRC, TBF	Facilitate, lead	
3.2 Increase funding and/or develop new financing mechanisms for BRP implementation.	3.2a Increase funding and/or develop new financing mechanisms for BRP implementation.	- Seek public and private funding contributions.	TBF	Lead
		- Seek grant funding for implementation of specific BRP objectives and milestones.	TBF	Lead
3.3 Public outreach and stakeholder support	3.3a Conduct General Outreach.	- Conduct public outreach through SMBNEP publications (Urban Coast, annual report, etc.).	SMBRC, TBF	Lead
		- Conduct media outreach and outreach through social media and website.	SMBRC, TBF	Lead
		- Conduct internship and volunteer programs.	TBF	Lead
	3.3b Oversee the Public Involvement and Education Mini-grants Program.	- Raise funding from local sponsors and initiate a new round of PIE program.	SMBRC, TBF	Lead

	3.3c Participate in the Palos Verdes Shelf Institutional Controls Program.	- Participate in Fish Contamination Education Collaborative (FCEC) risk communication activities.	SMBRC, TBF	Participate
	3.3d Participating in, and provide technical support to stakeholder groups.	- Participate in, and provide technical support to partner organizations and other stakeholder groups involved in BRP implementation.	SMBRC, TBF	Participate
3.4 Facilitate Bay comprehensive monitoring and reporting.	3.4a Implement the Comprehensive Bay Monitoring Program.	- Incorporate implementation of the comprehensive monitoring program into NPDES permits.	SMBRC	Participate
		- Work with the dischargers and the TAC to develop pilot fish larvae and deep reef surveys.	SMBRC, TBF	Participate
		- Participate in development of habitat condition indices for rocky reef, and rocky and sandy beaches.	SMBRC, TBF	Participate
		- Assist federal partners in assessment of offshore eelgrass beds in Santa Monica Bay.	SMBRC, TBF	Facilitate
	3.4b BRP implementation progress and State of the Bay reporting.	- Track BRP implementation progress through semi-annual work activity reporting and annual GPRA reporting.	SMBRC, TBF	Lead
		- Refine the indicator matrix and improve data collection mechanisms in preparation for the next State of the Bay report.	SMBRC, TBF	Lead
3.5 Organizational Activity Support	3.5a Conduct general Governing Board support, organizational management and reporting activities.	- Support SMBRC and SMBRA board meetings, and TAC and WAC meetings.	SMBRC	Lead
		- Support TBF Board Meetings.	TBF	Lead
		- Conduct general management, communication, and reporting activities.	TBF	Lead

**Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission
Watershed Advisory Council Meeting
March 30, 2016
Summary of Comments and Responses**

The annual WAC meeting was held on March 30 at the Westchester Community Center. Sixteen members of the WAC and participants from the general public attended the meeting and provided comments. Comments from five participants were also received through an online survey, accessible through the SMBRC website (www.smbrc.ca.gov), from March 21 to April 8. The meeting included an overview of the SMBRC's Annual Work Plan and a facilitated rotating breakout session for group discussions and input on the work plan priorities. There were five breakout sessions/stations for each of the five work plan areas: water resource and quality improvement, wetland and coastal habitat restoration, marine habitat protection and restoration, education and outreach, and planning, monitoring, and program management. All meeting attendants were given the opportunity to participate in all five breakout sessions through rotation. Two staff persons were assigned to assist each station and took detailed notes during the meeting.

The summary below was compiled from the detailed notes of the five sessions and comments submitted through the online survey. Staff responses to each comment were first prepared based on careful review of each comment, then revised and finalized based on input from further review and discussion conducted among staff. In the summary, WAC comments addressed by the draft FY17 Annual Work Plan are highlighted in yellow.

WAC Member Comments	Staff Response
1. Water Resources and Quality Improvement	
<i>Integrated water resources management</i>	
Work with local cities to take a regional and holistic approach in planning water quality projects. Protocols used for designing water quality project by local municipalities should be informed by a regional context.	Cities and the County have taken a regional watershed approach in planning stormwater quality improvement projects through the Enhanced Watershed Management Plan (EWMP) process as required under the municipal stormwater permit. This regional approach will continue to be encouraged and more efforts will be made to work with local jurisdictions on implementation of this approach.
Foster “a community of practice” where “water people” take a “crest-to-crest” approach on water issues through improved organizational cooperation and collaboration.	Several on-going efforts in the region are aimed at improving cooperation and collaboration of all water management entities including the Greater LA Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) process and City of Los Angeles' OneWater LA initiative. Effort will be made to continue participating in these processes and seeking more opportunities to facilitate dialogue among our stakeholders.
Use SMBRC as the venue to provide better regional perspective, promote recycling every drop of water and the policy of no more “single use” water. Address the direct potable reuse issue by getting all entities together.	SMBRC was established as a broad-based partnership and is charged with promoting cutting-edge research and technology, facilitating stakeholder-driven consensus process, and raising public awareness. Effort will be made to work with concerned and affected partner organizations to continue seeking new resources and opportunities to study and facilitate dialogue on these issues.
Utilize this organization’s capacity to bring all parties to the table and help to connect all the dots on a long-term issue which has not been addressed, i.e., how to deal with the more concentrated waste stream than what are currently going to the ocean.	See response above. Effort will be made to work with concerned and affected partner organizations to continue seeking new resources and opportunities to study and facilitate dialogue on these issues.
Conduct cost-benefit analysis that takes into account the impacts of wastewater effluent on Bay habitats. Rethink and bring in recycling option and mold the message of recycling water into habitat protection.	See response above. Effort will be made to work with concerned and affected partner organizations to continue seeking new resources and opportunities to study and facilitate dialogue on these issues.
Support new State Senate bill SB163 that will limit water discharge to coastal water and require recycling all the water.	Bay Restoration Plan (BRP) Objective 14.3 calls for further increase of wastewater recycling and reuse. Effort will be made to monitor the bill's status in the State Legislature and to facilitate dialogue in addressing associated issues among concerned and affected partner organizations.
Play the role of confronting problems and find solutions ahead of the curve, such as the practical issue associated with SB163 due to the lack of demand for potable reuse or groundwater basin recharge of recycled water.	See response above. BRP Milestone 14.3b specifically calls for increased use of recycled water recharge from the Hyperion Treatment Plant, 14.3d specifically calls for regional and local water districts to investigate and study opportunities for direct and indirect potable reuse. Wastewater recycling, recharge, and reuse will be promoted, and efforts will be made to facilitate dialogue in addressing water-recycling associated issues among

	concerned and affected partner organizations.
Encourage West Basin to recycle al the wastewater instead of building desalination.	BRP Objective 1.3 calls for elimination of biological impacts of water intake and dishcharge from coastal desalination plants. Objective 14.3 of the BRP calls for further increase of wastewater recycling and resue. The State Water Resouces Control Board adopted an amendment to the Ocean Plan which sets sets criteria for permitting desalination facilities while protecting marine life and water quality. Wastewater recycling will be promoted, and efforts will be made to work with concerned partner organizations to address the potential impacts of desalination on marine environment.
Educate people on the different alternative of wastewater recycling versus desalination and the impacts on ocean environment. Look into potential funding opportunities through the Commission for this public education program. Collaborate and fund Surfrider Foundation to carry out this effort.	See response above.
Add a task led by the Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority for recycled water seasonal storage project to minimize discharges to Malibu Creek.	BRP Objective 14.3 calls for further increase of wastewater recycling and reuse, and Milestone 14.3c specifically calls for an increase in the use of recycled water from the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility through expansion of the distribution system. This Milestone identifies Las Virgenes Municipal Water District as the lead and Los Angeles Department of Water and Power as the partner. Efforts by these agencies to achieve this objective and milestone will be encouraged and supported.
Add a task led by the Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority, MS4 permittees and park agencies for conducting additional monitoring and studies to evaluate factors from both the upper and lower watershed that affect algal growth and benthic macroinvertebrate impairments in Malibu Creek.	BRP Objective 1.2 calls for elimination and prevention of water and sediment quality impairments from both point and nonpoint sources from waterbodies in the Malibu Creek watershed. Milestone 1.2c specifically calls for additional monitoring and studies to evaluate factors from both upper and lower watershed that affect algal growth and benthic macroinvertebrate impairments in Malibu Creek. Lead entities for implementaiton of this milestone include Las Virgenes Municipal Water District, Malibu watershed cities, Park agencies, Heal the Bay, and other partner entities. Effort to collaboratively achieve this objective and milestone by these entities are encouraged and supported.
Participate in development of WRD groundwater basin plan recharging groundwater from wastewater and demonstrate the effects of recharging on the Bay.	BRP Objective 14.3 calls for further increase of wastewater recycling and resue, and Milestone 14.3b specifically calls for increasing the use of recycled water from the Hyperion Treatment Plan to supply West Basin Municipal Water District for groundwater recharge. Efforts by these agencies for achieving this objective and milestone are continuously encouraged and supported.

<i>Storm water pollution control and LID implementation</i>	
Require good modeling and data collection for water quality projects to assure fiscal responsibility and accountability. Require water quality projects to follow strict post-implementation monitoring standards and procedures as a condition for awarding funding.	Effort has been made by SMBRC TAC to facilitate effective pre and post monitoring of storm water BMP implementation. However, this has always been challenging as a limited amount of a grant can be allocated to monitoring.
Create a unified guidance on LID design together by various jurisdictions and agencies. Encourage the TAC and the Water Board to take lead on this effort.	Many efforts have been made to research the effectiveness of multi-benefit LID projects. SMBRC TAC developed a standard monitoring protocol to ensure that such monitoring will be conducted and meaningful data are collected to evaluate the effectiveness of projects funded by the Prop. 50 and 84 grant program. SMBRC TAC also helped evaluate research projects conducted by partner organizations. TBF has done detailed research on the cost-effectiveness of rainwater harvesting, and rain garden projects in Culver City. Cost-effectiveness research is also an important component of the on-going MWD rain garden project. Efforts will continuously be made in this area, including development of mechanism for regional, collaborative research.
Make sure demonstration LID projects are represented in ALL five supervisorial districts.	Many LID projects have been implemented in partnership with local agencies and municipalities, such as the City of LA (Baldwin Hills to Ballona Creek) storm water diversion, treatment, and reuse project, Culver City rainwater harvesting program, Manhattan Beach greenbelt park project, and Santa Monica storm drain in-line infiltration project. Effort will be made to continue exploring more partnership opportunities for LID project implementation throughout the watershed.
Prioritize EWMPs funding. Support and facilitate more Prop. 1. funding opportunities. Work with local cities (especially South Bay cities) to find funding for storm water capture and cleanup projects.	Projects included in the EWMPs were prioritized for Prop. 84 grant funding. Effort will be made to continue working with cities in the watershed to facilitate other sources of funding for stormwater pollution control.
Facilitate new rain garden projects. Foster greater collaboration with Surfrider Foundation for ways to get more funding to perpetuate its Ocean Friendly Gardens program (Surfrider Foundation)	Many rain garden projects have been successfully completed in the Ballona Creek watershed. Effort will be made to encourage and promote collaborative opportunities with other organizations and to seek funding and opportunities for more rain garden projects.
<i>Nonpoint source pollution control</i>	
Encourage new County ordinances to combat pharmaceutical beach litter (e.g. needles) by requiring pharmaceutical companies to create a “take back” program and provide easy, public-accessible “take back” options.	Objective 3.2 of the BRP calls for reducing loading of emerging contaminants in waterways, and Milestone 3.2a specifically calls for promoting an extended producer responsibility (e.g. pharmaceuticals take-back) program. Effort will be made to promote such program including through new local ordinances and/or legislations.

Address trash issue along lower Ballona Creek. Conduct more education/outreach on proper disposal of trash and fishing gear along the Creek.	Building upon the work initiated by TBF and the Friends of Ballona Wetlands in the last several years, efforts will be made to continue partnering with community organizations and looking for more funding opportunities for trash and fishing line removal along Ballona Creek. Involvement and collaboration by other organizations are always encouraged. Educational and outreach opportunities will also be promoted.
Make copper TMDL outreach a priority via boater program and seek more funding such as CWA Section 319) for copper TMDL outreach.	TBF has made efforts to assist LA County Department of Beaches and Harbors to apply for CWA 319 grant for copper TMDL outreach.
Work with consultants representing the cities to outreach and encourage more cities to vouch for and join the Clean Bay Restaurant program.	Efforts have been made to expand and increase the visibility of the Clean Bay Restaurant program, using marketing tools and providing incentives for more businesses and cities to participate. These efforts will continue.
Have more coordination to avoid overlap between Surfrider Foundation's Ocean Friendly Restaurants program and SMBNEP's Clean Bay Restaurants Certification Program.	Discussion has begun and will continue to explore ways of working more closely and increase coordination between the two programs.

2. Wetland and Coastal Habitat Restoration

Wetland restoration

Devote more effort in building community support and educate people on the need for wetland restoration and the positives of what could come.	A significant amount of time and effort has been devoted to this effort, and work will continue to educate the public about the value of wetlands and the need for wetland restoration using a variety of methods and opportunities. Partnership and collaboration in this area is encouraged.
Prioritize projects that would protect wetlands. Prioritize stormwater projects where pollutant loading is particularly damaging to a wetland.	To comply with stormwater NPDES permit issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, cities in the Santa Monica Bay watershed and County of Los Angeles have developed Enhanced Watershed Management Plans (EWMP) that prioritize stormwater projects for meeting TMDL pollutant loading reduction targets. These include targets set specifically for protection of Ballona Creek, Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve, and Malibu Lagoon. Efforts will continue to protect wetlands and reduce pollutant loading.
More public presentations on information related to Malibu Lagoon restoration, both successes and failures.	Efforts have been made including many presentations given on these topics. Efforts will be made to expand outreach efforts and present results of Malibu Lagoon post-restoration monitoring. In addition, detailed and explicit data reports are available for free download online, and the broad distribution of those results will continue.

<p>Encourage State Parks be proactive in mobilizing volunteers to participate in removing non-natives at Malibu Lagoon.</p>	<p>California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) is the lead agency responsible for management of the Lagoon. TBF assists DPR in the recruitment of volunteers for both restoration and monitoring activities at the Lagoon. Efforts will continue in assisting DPR in volunteer participation of restoration and monitoring activities.</p>
<p>Promote lessons learned from Malibu Lagoon restoration and use the lessons to inform the planned restoration at Ballona Wetlands. Use insight gained from outreach before, during, and after the restoration of Malibu Lagoon as guidance for outreach associated with the Ballona Wetlands restoration project.</p>	<p>Efforts have been made and will continue in assisting the two lead agencies [California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and Army Corps of Engineers (Corps)] in outreach to the public for the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve restoration project. These efforts include promotion of the results of the Malibu Lagoon restoration and discussion of 'lessons learned' from that restoration and for outreach to the public in support of the lead agencies.</p>
<p>Supports the Ballona Wetland iceplant removal project.</p>	<p>The support from the community for this important interim stewardship project, including support provided at the Coastal Commission hearing is appreciated. Continued involvement in the project by all individuals and entities is welcome and encouraged. Notices of public restoration events will be posted in late summer 2016.</p>
<p>Focus workplan more on implementing interim stewardship management and reconvene the “interim stewardship committee” for the BWER. Bring more community groups to participate in activities such as non-native removal at the BWER.</p>	<p>Neither SMBRC nor TBF are in charge of public access to the wetlands. CDFW is the land manager and one of the two lead agencies (with Army Corps from the federal side). One of the main goals of the BWER restoration is to increase safe and well-managed public access at the Reserve. The non-native plant removal project at the BWER that TBF was awarded through a competitive grant is an important interim stewardship project. Participation of the project by all individuals and entities is encouraged and welcome. Notices of public restoration events will be posted in late summer 2016.</p>
<p>Hold more on-site educational events at BWER.</p>	<p>See response(s) above.</p>
<p>Incorporate climate change planning into Ballona restoration – e.g. SLR; use new tools from Adapt LA and others</p>	<p>During the on-going Draft Environmental Impact Report/Statement (DEIR/S) process led by CDFW and the Corps, the restoration alternatives being evaluated are thoroughly incorporating the potential impacts of climate change, including results from many local studies and tools. The use of newer tools and incorporation of newer information from AdaptLA and others in the evaluation and finalization of the restoration plan will be encouraged and facilitated.</p>
<p>Have more presence of law enforcement at the Ballona Ecological Reserve to intercede and deter the homeless, and reduce the problem of trash and fire-burning.</p>	<p>CDFW is the land manager and is responsible for law enforcement on the property. Assistance and encouragement will be provided to trash removal efforts by CDFW.</p>

Have more communication apart from mandated public comment period. Create more opportunities for agencies to solicit input beforehand and to communicate clearly on why decisions were made. Same applies to communication after the project's completion.	Neither SMBRC nor TBF are the lead agency regarding the BWER restoration, and neither entity is in control of public participation opportunities in the CEQA/NEPA process. CDFW and the Corps are the lead agencies for that project. The environmental review process has provided and will continue to provide opportunities for public comment and involvement. Participation in that public process will be encouraged and promoted.
Incorporate stakeholder comments into development of success criteria for Ballona restoration process.	See response(s) above. Neither SMBRC nor TBF are the lead agency regarding the BWER restoration, and neither entity is in control of public participation opportunities in the CEQA/NEPA process.
Do more outreach to explain the Ballona Wetlands EIR to the public, and the thinking of the SMBRC TAC and the SMBRC Governing Board, especially for those who are not scientists.	See response(s) above. Updates on the BWER restoration planning by the lead agencies (CDFW and Corps) has been provided to both the SMBRC Governing Board and the Technical Advisory Committee. Both meetings are open to the public and any documents created by each group are also available to the public.
More stakeholder involvement in the Ballona Wetlands restoration project management team.	See response(s) above. Neither SMBRC nor TBF manage the BWER restoration project management team. CDFW and Corps are the lead agencies on that project.
More stakeholder groups involved and come together to talk about Ballona Wetlands restoration related issues. Hold quarterly meetings of all stakeholder groups for wetlands including scientists at local universities, TAC members and all the neighborhood groups.	See response(s) above. Neither SMBRC nor TBF are the lead agency regarding the BWER restoration, and neither entity is in control of public participation opportunities in the CEQA/NEPA process.
Hold another interactive WAC meeting during the Ballona Wetlands restoration public review period, including ample time for dialogue.	See response(s) above. Neither SMBRC nor TBF are the lead agency regarding the BWER restoration, and neither entity is in control of public participation opportunities in the CEQA/NEPA process.
Consider and explore how WAC might function more like a new and improved version of the Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force.	Comment noted. The WAC does not operate in the same capacity as the former Ballona Creek Watershed Task Force. On the other hand, the lack of SMBRC's or TBF's involvement does not preclude other organizations from convening a group similar to the Task Force.
Have more opinions and viewpoints posted on the Ballona Facebook page and Ballona restoration website page.	Neither SMBRC nor TBF are in charge of online media for the BWER restoration project. CDFW is both the state lead agency and the local land manager. TBF will assist CDFW in keeping the website and online resources up-to-date and accurate.
<i>Stream protection and restoration</i>	
Support stream protection ordinance.	TBF will continue to expend effort to inform and support the adoption of a stream protection ordinance by the City of Los Angeles.

<p>Explore more opportunities to advise, assist, and partner and collaborate with community organization such as Ballona Creek Renaissance/assist invasive plant removal, habitat restoration, and related outreach, education, and volunteer recruitment along Ballona Creek from the hills to the bay.</p>	<p>Effort will continue to reach out to BCR and other organizations for possible collaborations on projects of this scope and scale. More specific input on collaborative partnerships and funding opportunities are encouraged.</p>
<p>Explore possibilities to develop and facilitate an Adopt-the-Creek Program and/or expanding the current creek cleanup operations by Ballona Creek Renaissance.</p>	<p>See response above.</p>
<p>Add the Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority as a partner for projects for eradication of crayfish and other invasive species, along with studies to evaluate the impact of invasive species on stream health, in the North Santa Monica Bay/Santa Monica Mountains watersheds.</p>	<p>More participation from other agencies are encouraged to the effort led by National Parks Service and MRCA for eradication of crayfish and other invasive species in the North Bay Santa Monica Mountain watersheds.</p>
<p>Address the issue that recreational fishermen taking mussels from ballona creek and other places, which depleted the food source for birds in the area.</p>	<p>See response above (comment regarding trash removal in Ballona Creek). It is unclear from a scientific perspective what the cause for mussel loss is in Ballona Creek - it is possible that climate change and El Nino have also had an effect on mussel density.</p>
<p><i>Climate change adaptation</i></p>	
<p>Incorporate climate change as much we can in everything we do. Help to facilitate integrated water research and management, involving stakeholder on both the ocean side and freshwater side.</p>	<p>A vulnerability assessment of all Bay Restoration Plan objectives and milestones are being conducted. The results of the assessment will be incorporated into the BRP when it is revised in the near future. The assessment involves input from climate change experts, the SMBRC TAC, SMBRC and TBF staff, and managers of watershed and marine resources. Adaptation efforts and continued collaborations and projects that consider and plan for climate change are always encouraged.</p>
<p>Support and collaborate on projects that look at the impacts of SLR on coastal aquifers, beaches, wetlands, and intertidal habitats etc., such as the “Coastal SEAS” project by Dr. Rich Ambrose at UCLA.</p>	<p>Efforts have been made to support and collaborate on several regional research efforts investigating the impacts of climate change on various coastal resources and habitats, including, but not limited to the AdaptLA project in collaboration with USC Sea Grant, the City of Santa Monica, and other coastal jurisdictions. Dr. Rich Ambrose is a member of SMBRC's Technical Advisory Committee, and will be contacted regarding a potential collaboration with UCLA's Coastal SEAS project.</p>

<p>Link different research tools to development management strategies such as NSF coastal seas, USGS basin model, new groundwater model, ModFlow, WarMer and CosMos.</p>	<p>TBF and UCLA developed an inventory of climate change impact assessment tools as part of the BRP vulnerability assessment project (see response above). Both TBF and SMBRC have also been engaged in development of the Coastal Storms Modeling System (CoSMoS). The link among different research tools to better assist the development of adaptation strategies will be discussed with the TAC, USC Sea Grant, and other researchers.</p>
<p>Collaborate with USC Sea Grant and LARWQCB in addressing climate change impacts on water quality.</p>	<p>TBF and SMBRC will continue to collaborate with LARWQCB and USC Sea Grant, on climate change related impacts on water quality.</p>
<p>Continue engaging in the Adapt LA project and support more NOAA grant funding for modeling research on climate change impacts on coastal wetlands.</p>	<p>See response above. Effort will be made to continue the partnership and collaboration in the AdaptLA project.</p>
<p>Evaluate the impacts of future beach nourishment to LA beaches – compare to other climate change risk adaptation alternatives</p>	<p>TBF supported and participated in a sediment transport study off Point Dume and ongoing hydrodynamic studies on Palos Verdes Shelf. Effort will continue to promote watershed-based comprehensive sediment management and to encourage incorporation of climate change impacts in future planning efforts.</p>
<p>Implement the sandy beach restoration pilot project and scale it up to more beaches. Use scientific information gathered from the pilot to inform larger conversations with the County Dept. of Beaches and Harbors about beaches and the coast as well as the need to stop grooming a beach area.</p>	<p>TBF has initiated a sandy beach restoration pilot project in collaboration with the City of Santa Monica and State Parks. Rigorous scientific data will be collected during the project and the data will be used to evaluate and inform the feasibility of expanding beach restorations to other beach locations along the Bay's coastline. Additionally, effort will be made to seek funding to expand the distribution of results of this pilot project and similar projects and to continue discussions with beach managers in the Los Angeles region.</p>
<p>Form partnership to conduct projects that address the climate change impacts on salt water intrusion.</p>	<p>The potential impacts of salt water intrusion and the need and ways to address this impact is being evaluated as part of the Bay Restoration Plan climate change vulnerability assessment project.</p>
<p>Make sure County flood control protocols integrate climate change adaptation.</p>	<p>Los Angeles County Flood Control District in collaboration with the Federal Bureau of Land Management recently completed the Los Angeles Basins Study. The study assessed the region's major water conservation and flood risk management infrastructure to prepare for future drivers that may impact water supply, including the need to adapt to impacts of climate change.</p>
<p>Require Local Coastal Programs (LCP) incorporate climate change adaptation and mitigation. More involvement in LCP development happening in Santa Monica and Venice.</p>	<p>California Coastal Commission is the lead agency in reviewing and approving Local Coastal Programs (LCP). Efforts will be made to collaborate with key partners to engage in the regional AdaptLA project, which will provide coastal jurisdictions with tools and information to incorporate climate change adaptation strategies into the LCPs. Effort will also be made to continue involvement in LCP development in Santa Monica and Venice Beach.</p>

3. Marine Habitat Protection and Restoration	
<i>MPA and Fisheries</i>	
Conduct more MPA monitoring underwater in addition to aerial surveys. Assess the relative effects of poor habitat quality vs. water quality in MPA performance.	The MPA Monitoring Enterprise under the California Ocean Science Trust has implemented a five-year MPA monitoring and assessment program. Support to this State wide effort will continue to promoting implentation of long-term MPA monitoring.
Address the need to implement milestones in BRP sections 4.2 and 4.3 set for 2015 including promotion of an adaptive MPA management strategy and enforcement plan, development and implementation of fishery management plans for high priority fisheries, studies to evaluate effectiveness of SM Bay commercial fishing closure, promotion of outreach and cooperative research on fishery management, and increase of local wardens.	Calif. Fish and Game Commisnoners approved the spiny lobster fishery management plan (FMP) in 2015 and implementation of the Plan is scheduled for 2017. DFW's effort will be encouraged and promoted to complete development of fishery management plan for other high priority fisheries including stock assessment of Calif. halibut. Cooperative research to support better fishery management has be facilitated and conducted by TBF, including the study that developed and tested non-lethal methods to determine the age and sex of halibut conducted in partnership with DFW and MDR Anglers between 2013 and 2015.
<i>Beach habitat protection and restoration</i>	
More public outreach about beach native planting and looking at beaches as a habitat.	BRP Objective 8.2 calls for protection and management of sandy intertidal habitats, and Milestone 8.2d specifically calls for development and implementation of a public education program about the importance/benefits of natural, ungroomed beaches. TBF has made, and will continue to support, public outreach conducted by local universities and community groups for implementing this milestone and objective. Additionally, outreach will be conducted to encourage public involvement as part of the Santa Monica Beach Restoration Pilot Project.
Develop more education programs about beach and intertidal habitats. Prevent disturbance of the habitat including stomping of the area by science research groups.	See response(s) above.
Encourage County Dept. of B&H to change beach grooming practice for protection of bird habitats.	See response(s) above. BRP Milestone 8.2b also specifically calls for the implementation of beach best management practices. Effort will be made to continue facilitating development and implementation of these best management practices by Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors and other agencies with beach management responsibilities.
Encourage County Department of Beaches and Harbors to remove non-native plants and adopt a native species list for planting to help restoration of native habitats at Dockweiler Beach and reduce dispersal of non-natives from Dockweiler to LAX dunes.	In collaboration with Los Angeles World Airport (LAWA), a multi-year project will be implemented to restore and enhance natural habitats of the LAX dunes. As part of this project, introduction of non-native vegetation into LAX dunes will be reduced through active restoration, outreach, and other best management practices. As part of this project and others, discussions with the County will also continue regarding beach management strategies.

More tidepool conservation and education along Palos Verdes Peninsula.	A similar suggestion was brought up in last year's WAC meeting. In response, TBF partnered with UCLA in a project regarding tidepool restoration and education/outreach was conducted in partnership with UCLA. Information and other assistance were also provided to the Junior Ranger Program. Additional resources and collaborative opportunities are welcome to contribute to this ongoing effort.
Prioritize beach erosion mitigation and limit sand nourishment permitting (cf. Broad Beach). Also, prioritize "soft"/low-impact solutions to beach erosion to protect off-shore sand deposits and limit the need for beach erosion mitigation such as the one proposed for Broad Beach.	BRP Milestone 4.5c calls for promotion of climate change adaptation strategies using environmental friendly "soft" solutions or other solutions with minimum negative environmental impacts. The use of "soft", minimum impact approaches in addressing beach erosion issues will continue to be promoted. See also responses above.
Continue ecological assessments of beach nourishment.	See response above. Also see similar comments and responses under Climate Change Adaptation.
Coordinate bike path improvements with restorations and increase habitat connections, using the 60-mile big bike loop path funded by Orange County Transportation as a model.	SMBRC and TBF facilitated the development of the Ballona Creek Greenway Plan which incorporated bike path improvements with native habitat restorations along the Creek. Such coordination will be promoted in other parts of the watershed. Efforts will continue to support MRCA's efforts to improve the bike path and restore habitat along Ballona Creek.
<i>Other</i>	
Support artificial reefs projects.	Effort will continue to participate in artificial reef planning in the Santa Monica Bay.
Get more involved in the Port of LA's revitalization process.	Effort will continue to develop projects that will benefit the Bay that would be supported by the Port's revitalization process.
4. Public Education and Outreach	
<i>General Outreach</i>	
Improve the SMBRC's website to have better access to meeting minutes and the State of the Bay Report.	Effort will continue in maintaining and improving the SMBRC website to make information readily available to stakeholders and the general public.
Advertise better and distribute widely the new State of the Bay Report. Ask every city to post or provide link to the report on their websites.	Significant outreach efforts have been made and as a result the State of the Bay report has received thorough and broad media coverage. Each City in the Watershed was provided the Report upon release. Many presentations were made on findings from the reports to various stakeholder groups. These outreach efforts will continue.
Provide more and better background information (with Power Point presentation or slides) on the annual work plan – how it fits in with the strategic plan and monitoring plan. Same with presentations showing and clarifying the connection between SMBRC, TBF, SMBRA.	The format of the SMBNEP annual work plan has been improved to more clearly describe the tasks and identify the roles of lead and partner entities and the timeframe. Improvements to the Annual Work Plan and communication of the Annual Work Plan are ongoing.

Conduct more general and community-based outreach to let stakeholders know on an ongoing basis what's happening	SMBRC and TBF will work with partner agencies and organizations to continue to hold public meetings, give presentations, and conduct outreach through other mechanisms to inform the public about on-going and planned projects. Additionally, many public meetings such as the SMBRC Governing Board meetings, TAC meetings, WAC meetings, and EC meetings often contain detailed project status updates and information.
Share more information to let municipalities know about the projects and activities of the SMBNEP	See response above. The website, social media, BAYWIRE newsletter, and BWER newsletter also provide ongoing information on projects.
Partner with Sea Grant's Urban Tides on outreach through social media. Work together more in community events.	Extensive support, participation, and promotion of the Urban Tide program were provided throughout the last year. More opportunities to work together with Sea Grant and other organizations will be explored through various events and media.
Develop booklets for birds in the region and other outreach materials.	Efforts will be made to continue explore collaboration with other entities in the development of education materials regarding natural resources of the Bay.
<i>Boater Program</i>	
Continue the suite of on-going education outreach in the Marina which covers a nice set of topics and engage boaters as well as help with the state of the marina.	This successful education program will continue.
Facilitate a voluntary dye tablet program in Marina del Rey to address the continuing bacterial exceedance observed there. The dye program can be one similar to what the city of Avalon is doing as part of the sewage pumpout inspection and the boating education efforts.	The ongoing boater education program use dye tablet to check for possible leaky sewer holding tank as part of pumpout station inspection. A voluntary dye tablet program will be promoted in the coming year.
<i>Public Involvement and Education (PIE) Grant Program</i>	
Need funding support, such as PIE grant to continue implementing Surfrider Foundation's Ocean Friendly Garden program.	Effort will continue to promote the value of the program in helping small-scale grassroots and community efforts attain needed funding.
Streamline the administration of the PIE grant to lessen the time and resources burden for both TBF staff and the grantee and make it more proportionate to the typical small grassroots scale of the projects.	SMBRC and TBF will continue to explore ways to streamline the administrative processes of the grant(s).
<i>Seafood Risk Communication</i>	
Support SMBNEP involvement in EPA's seafood risk communication program on PV Shelf. Get the information out to the public. Distribute education materials at events such as beach clean-up, etc.	US EPA Regional 9 Superfund Program leads the Palso Verdes shelf seafood contamination investigation and conduct risk communication through the Fish Contamination Education Collaborative (FCEC). Active involvement in the program will continue, including development and distribution of the education materials.

Need update on the latest results of seafood risk assessment and if there is any change in risk communication messages.	See response above. US EPA Region 9 Superfund Program also organized a Technical Information Exchange Group to receive update and provide technical review on EPA's monitoring and risk assessment efforts. Active participation of the Group will continue and update on the latest results will be provided to the Governing Board as they become available.
5. Planning, Monitoring, and Program Management	
<i>Bay Restoraton Plan Implementation Financing</i>	
Have more involvement in the county-wide task force of city managers and council members working to find internal, county-wide funding mechanisms.	BRP Objective 1.5 calls for instituting a reliable regional funding mechanisms for storm water quality improvement, and Milestone 1.5a specifically calls for facilitating adoption of a reliable County-wide Clean Water and Clean Beach funding mechanism. Effort was made to facilitate and support the County-wide funding initiative in 2013. Effort will continue to support the new collaborative effort initiated by the County and local municipalities.
Make the task on county-wide funding measure broader than the county only to also include other local measures.	BRP Milestone 1.5b calls for support of Proposition 218 reform and implementation of other financing mechanisms to provide local governments with funds for storm water program. Facilitation and support of local efforts for achieving this milestone will continue.
Submit and/or support Proposition 1 grant funding applications for projects that address Bay Restoration Plan priorities.	Ways to bring more Propostion 1 funds to the Los Angeles area as well as other sources of funding are being explored for projects that advance implementation of the BRP.
Help to get funding to meet the storm water management needs that have huge impact on city budget. Facilitate partnership as required to demonstrate by RFPs of a lot of grants.	More partnerships and grant funding opportunities will be explored to help local municipalities meet the challenge of storm water management.
<i>Comprehensive Bay Monitoring</i>	
Focus monitoring on regional basis and away from being conducted currently by separate entities and jurisdictions.	The goal of the Santa Monica Bay Comprehensive Monitoring Program (CMP) is to coordinate monitoring conducted by separate entities and jurisdictions on regional basis and refocus these monitoring efforts on answering key habitat health questions. Collaborative efforts to implement the CMP will continue.
As wastewater discharger, support regional monitoring and surveys to assess ecological health. Prioritize and carry out fish larvae and deep water surveys as they are important data gaps.	Fish larvae and condition of deep reef habitat are important data gaps identified in the CMP, and a plan regional fish larvae and deep water surveys is being developed through collaboration with Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD), City of Los Angeles Environmental Monitoring Division, and Chevron. As a first step, a special study to assess the applicability of ichthyoplankton meta-barcoding for routine monitoring will be conducted in the coming year through the joint effort of LACSD, City of LA, and Southern California Coastal Water Research Project. Collaboration with these entities to carry out these

	surveys in the Bay will continue.
Support efforts to install high precision instrument packages for measurement of pH, DO, and pCO ₂ , which will provide additional data on acidification and hypoxia in the Santa Monica Bay that can be used to better understand current and future impacts and trends.	With support and collaboration by the USEPA, the Los Angeles County Sanitation District (LACSD), City of Los Angeles Environmental Monitoring Division, and Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board, a high precision instrument package for monitoring pH, DO, and pCO ₂ will be deployed in the Bay in the summer of 2016.
Support other research, monitoring, and planning efforts related to the causes and impacts of ocean acidification and hypoxia.	New efforts have been made to facilitate and support ocean acidification and hypoxia research, as demonstrated by the planned deployment of high precision instrument package for monitoring pH, DO, and pCO ₂ in the Bay. A study is also been conducted involving collecting water samples and other data on the PV shelf to inform the status and trend of physical and chemical oceanographic properties. More monitoring and research aimed at understanding the causes, extent, and impacts of ocean acidification and hypoxia in the Bay will be encouraged and supported.
Support work to implement the Comprehensive Monitoring Program, specifically the work to assess the applicability of ichthyoplankton meta-barcoding for routine monitoring and examining the pelagic monitoring data collected under the California Cooperative Oceanic Fisheries Investigations (CalCOFI) program, including sampling of multiple water parameters, fish larvae, and zooplankton.	See response above. More support and contributions from partners and stakeholders for implementation of the Bay Comprehensive Monitoring Program is encouraged.
Conduct more sediment and benthic monitoring at storm drain outlets and wastewater outfall sites.	There have been extensive sediment and benthic monitoring at outfalls of wastewater treatment facilities and targeted major storm drain outlets as required under NPDES permits. Data collected from these monitoring efforts should be evaluated to determine if more monitoring is needed.

Devote more effort for better assessment of the stream condition in the Bay watershed and fill the gap in the health index for streams in the State of the Bay Report.	The latest 2015 State of the Bay report identified a lack of data for assessing stream conditions in the Bay watershed. Additional data gaps were identified throughout many of the habitat categories. The SMBRC TAC plans to develop strategies to address some of the identified data gaps. Collaborative opportunities and partnerships are welcome to contribute to monitoring efforts that help address the many gaps identified.
Implement larger, county-wide monitoring efforts for birds. Conduct general shorebird count, similar to the statewide pelican count.	Local universities and researchers specialized in beach ecology have been working to implement a regional beach monitoring strategy, which includes birds. Support will continue to expand these efforts.
Facilitate sharing of citizen monitoring data sets such as those collected by Audubon. Utilize long-term bird count data collected by Audubon at Malibu which documented the decline of snowy plover population.	Efforts have been made and will continuously be made to support citizen monitoring groups and projects. Efforts will continue to look for partners and opportunities to conduct more citizen monitoring projects and utilize the data generated by existing citizen monitoring programs.
Plan ahead and find ways to sustain the post-restoration monitoring at Malibu Lagoon after the five-year term of the current project.	State Parks has jurisdiction over Malibu Lagoon and is the lead agency responsible for its management. TBF has conducted post-restoration monitoring at the Lagoon with funding support from State Parks and EPA for the past three and a half years. Effort will continue to work with State Parks and other agencies to implement a long-term Lagoon monitoring program.
<i>Other</i>	
Establish a mechanism and provide more incentives to get local groups more informed and involved in restoration and monitoring projects.	Comment noted. Involvement of local community organizations in restoration projects are encouraged and will continue to do so in the future. See also individual responses above.
Reassign the role of SMBRC and TBF under each work plan task all to the SMBNEP.	Comment noted. The annual SMBNEP work plan has been revised in the last few years to clarify the role and specific services provided by SMBRC and TBF.
Revise the title of the inter-agency involvement section of the work plan because the current title is misleading and would exclude involvement by TBF, which is not an agency.	The fiscal year 2016-17 work plan will be re-organized and many task descriptions will change, the inter-agency involvement section may be revised.
Reinstall staffing section in the work plan and better define/delineate responsibilities of SMBNEP staff.	Comment noted. With revisions made to the annual work plan in the past few years, roles and responsibilities of different SMBNEP entities have been, and will continue to be well-defined.
Convert the five tables featured at the annual WAC meeting into subgroups/committees that meet several times per year.	Comment noted.
Greater public oversight and accountability of projects funded by TBF/SMBRC/SMBRA.	Comment noted. All three entities of the SMBNEP have made significant efforts in recent years to inform stakeholders and respond to public inquiries about their work activities. See also responses above.

<p>More transparency on who is working on what projects. Make clear if SMBRC is involved or not.</p>	<p>Comment noted. SMBNEP's annual work plan and annual report clearly identify the role of SMBRC in all on-going and planned projects.</p>
<p>Hold all staff working on behalf of the Santa Monica Bay Nationally Estuary Program to the same high standard of public transparency and accountability</p>	<p>Comment noted and see response above.</p>
<p>More WAC workshops because on-line survey is limited to 300 words.</p>	<p>Comment noted. SMBRC will continue to meet at least the minimum meeting standards as outlined in its Memorandum of Understanding.</p>
<p>Reallocate money currently being used to pay for armed Sheriff's deputies at SMBRC meetings to the stewardship of public resources, such as the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve.</p>	<p>Comment noted. The presence of law enforcement at the public meetings is evaluated and adjusted based on security needs and requests.</p>
<p>Allow WAC members to determine meeting frequency and agendas, to form sub-committees (i.e Work Groups), and to adopt position statements in order to be more effective and impactful.</p>	<p>Comment noted. See response above.</p>