

# WELCOME TO THE EAST SAN JOAQUIN EXPERT PANEL MEETING

- **The meeting begins at 8:30**
- **Please contact Paul Smith ([pauls@sccwrp.org](mailto:pauls@sccwrp.org)) if you are having connection difficulties**
- **All observers will be muted until called upon during public comment periods**

# WELCOME TO THE ESJ PANEL MEETING

- **Panel members**

- Panel members will be on screen throughout the meeting
- Panel members will be unmuted, but asked to self-mute unless speaking

- **Speakers**

- Speakers will be promoted to onscreen when it is time for their agenda item
- Speakers will remain onscreen until their agenda item ends (including public comment)

- **Audience participation**

- We will take public comment associated with each agenda item, to the extent there is time
- Will also have a comment period later in the day for overflow and for non-agenda items

# BACKGROUND

- **The Eastern San Joaquin River (ESJ) watershed growers were issued a waste discharge permit by the Regional Board in 2012**
  - The permit included a surface water monitoring program
- **Adequacy of the monitoring program was challenged by several groups**
  - The State Water Board recognized some merits in the petition
  - They ordered the Regional Board to convene a panel of experts to review adequacy of the monitoring program
- **SCCWRP was asked to facilitate the Review Panel**

# WHAT IS SCCWRP?

- **Water quality research institute located in southern California**
  - A joint powers agency founded in 1969
  - Formed by 14 water quality management agencies
  - Our mission: Provide an unbiased scientific foundation for ambient water quality management in California
- **SCCWRP has a long history with developing and implementing monitoring programs**
  - We are here as facilitators, not expert participants, in this case
- **Most of our work is conducted outside of Regional Board 5**
  - Provides a level of independence in implementing the Expert Panel

# STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP

- **Created a stakeholder advisory group to advise me**
  - Nine locals who have intimate familiarity with the issues
  - Ensure Panel members have all the information and perspectives necessary to understand the issues on which they will base their recommendations
- **I asked for their help with three activities**
  - Refining the Panel charge questions
  - Selecting Panel members
  - Setting the agenda and selecting speakers for today's meeting
- **They are advisory only**
  - They have been wonderful to work with

# STAKEHOLDER ADVISORY GROUP

- **Three from agricultural groups most affected by the outcome**
  - Parry Klassen
  - Michael Wackman
  - Sarah Rutherford
- **Three from NGO's that initiated the petition**
  - Sean Bothwell
  - Lisa Hunt
  - Richard McHenry
- **Three from the regulatory community that would be part of implementing the Panel's recommendations**
  - Patrick Pulupa
  - Adam Laputz
  - Brianna St. Pierre

# PANEL MEMBERS

- **Kevin Armbrust - Environmental chemistry**
- **John Hunt - Monitoring program design and implementation**
- **Jon Constantino - Regulatory program implementation**
- **Doug Parker - Agronomy and agricultural practices**
- **Charles Menzie - Aquatic ecotoxicology**
- **Please see Panel web site for their biographies**

# ESJ PANEL MEETING SCHEDULE

- **The Panel is planning three meetings**
  - The first meeting was held in January to provide the Panel with background information
  - Included a field trip
- **Second meeting focused on answering questions posed by the Panel**
  - Three day meeting via Zoom
  - Goal is that the Panel will have enough information to prepare a draft report
- **Third meeting (probably in October/November) will be for the Panel to receive feedback on their draft report**
  - Final report to be submitted in December



# ESJ PANEL SECOND MEETING AGENDA

- **Day 1 (Today) – Response to Panel**
  - Case studies illustrating program effectiveness - Melissa Turner
  - Case studies illustrating how “special studies” are used - Mike Johnson
  - System hydrology - Parry Klassen
- **Day 2 (Tomorrow)**
  - Toxicity testing alternatives - Steve Shimek
  - Ventura County agricultural monitoring program Snejana Toneva/Jun Zhu/Amy Storm
  - Delta Regional Monitoring Program - Selina Cole/Adam Laputz
- **Day 3 (Wednesday)**
  - Morning: Additional perspectives and public comment
  - 1:30: Panel verbal report on their findings
- **Your personal sign-in link will work for all three days**

# QUESTIONS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

- **Presenters have been asked to limit their talk to half the time allotted**
  - We want time for questions and comments
- **Panel will have opportunity for questions first**
  - Advisory Group will next be given opportunity for any corrections to the information presented
  - We will then take public comments
- **Public comment**
  - We will take public comment associated with each agenda item, to the extent there is time
  - Will also have a comment period later in the day for overflow and for non-agenda items
  - Please enter the nature of your question/comment in the Chat box
  - Please indicate if you would like to verbalize the comment yourself, or have it read for you
- **You also have the opportunity to provide written input**
  - All written input will be placed on the Panel web site