

CENTRAL COAST LONG-TERM ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT NETWORK (CCLEAN) Steering Committee

Meeting Minutes

July 22nd, 2026, 2:00 pm

Via Teleconference Zoom Webinar

The meeting was called to order on July 22nd, 2026, at approximately 2:01 pm by Jennie Munster. Roll call was taken of the voting committee members signed on to Zoom. A quorum was present.

Participants - Voting Members: Present:

Jennie Munster, Laboratory Manager and Environmental Compliance Manager: City of Santa Cruz

Patrick Treanor, District Engineer: CAWD

Mohammed Serageldin, Laboratory Manager: CAWD

Connie Machuca, Laboratory Manager: City of Watsonville

Olivia Woolery, Laboratory Supervisor: Monterey One Water (M1W)

Voting Members: Absent:

Anne Hogan, Wastewater System Manager: City of Santa Cruz

Dave Martin, Environmental Compliance Inspector: City of Santa Cruz

Mike Crane, Water Quality Chemist: City of Watsonville

Jose Guzman, Operations Manager: Monterey One Water

Jeremy Long, Wastewater Division Manager: City of Scotts Valley

Sarah Stevens, Environmental and Regulatory Compliance Supervisor: Monterey One Water

Laura Dale, EH&S Manager: Vistra Corp (Moss Landing Power Plant)

Participants - Non-Voting Members and Guests: Present

Aroon Melwani, Senior Scientist, Central Coast Managing Principal Partner: Applied Marine Sciences (AMS)

Sarah Bragg-Flavan, Water Resource Control Engineer: Central Coast Water Board

Non-Voting Members: Absent

Dane Hardin, Senior Marine Scientist, Principal: Applied Marine Sciences

Mary Hamilton, Environmental Program Manager: Central Coast Water Board

Cameron Kostigen Mumper, Associate Manager - Water Resources: Soquel Creek Water District

Virtual Public Attendees: None

1. APPEARANCES / PUBLIC COMMENTS

No public appearances or public comments were made.

2. AGENDA CHANGES

No formal agenda changes were requested. Before roll call, Jennie Munster noted that several one-time guests from the prior meeting remained on the invitation list and asked that future invitations be cleaned up so only necessary participants are included.

3. AGENDA ITEMS

A. Introductions

Discussion: The Committee conducted roll call. The agencies present were City of Santa Cruz, CAWD, City of Watsonville, Scotts Valley, and Monterey One Water. Vistra Corp. was not in attendance. Aroon Melwani attended for Applied Marine Sciences, and Sarah Bragg-Flavan attended for the Central Coast Water Board.
Decision: Roll call confirmed that a quorum was present.
Action Item: None

B. Chair's Report, by Santa Cruz Representative

Discussion: Jennie Munster stated that she did not have a separate Chair's Report. She requested that discussion of the prior CASA/ROMS-BEC nutrient modeling presentation and next steps be handled during the Program Director's Report.
Decision: None
Action Item: None

C. Review of Prior Meeting Minutes, Report by CAWD

Discussion: Patrick Treanor reviewed the June 24, 2026 meeting minutes. He summarized the prior meeting, including Dr. Martha Sutula's ROMS-BEC presentation, the AMS contract for the current program year, the continued status of Soquel Creek membership and MOA revision topics, AMS side-by-side analytical work, and the prior financial report. No corrections or revisions were requested.
Decision: Olivia Woolery moved to approve the June 24, 2026 minutes. Connie Machuca seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously.
Action Item: None

D. Lead Agency Remarks, Report by CAWD

Discussion: Patrick Treanor stated that he did not have a Lead Agency report. Mohammed Serageldin noted that he had information from BACWA lab-related meetings, which was deferred to General Announcements.
Decision: None
Action Item: None

E. Discuss Addition of Soquel Creek Water District as Member of CCLEAN

Discussion: Jennie Munster suggested removing the Soquel Creek Water District membership item from future agendas until there is a substantive update. Olivia Woolery agreed and suggested that Monterey One Water and Santa Cruz hold a separate discussion regarding the status and concerns surrounding the issue. Jennie stated that she would follow up separately with Olivia to determine who should attend that discussion.
Decision: The Committee agreed informally to remove the Soquel Creek membership item from the next agenda and add it back once there is something ready for discussion or decision.
Action Item: Jennie Munster will coordinate separately with Olivia Woolery regarding a Monterey One Water/Santa Cruz discussion. Patrick Treanor will remove the recurring Soquel Creek membership item from the next agenda until it is ready to return.

F. CCLEAN Membership MOA Revisions

Discussion: The Committee discussed the MOA revisions together with the Soquel Creek membership issue. Because the underlying membership question remains unresolved, the Committee determined that the MOA revision item should also be removed from the recurring agenda until there is a concrete update or proposed action.
Decision: The MOA revision item will be removed from the next agenda and restored when there is a substantive matter to discuss or finalize.
Action Item: Patrick Treanor will remove this item from the agenda and bring it back at a later date.

G. Program Director's Report, Report by Applied Marine Sciences

Discussion:

Aroon Melwani reported that AMS shared the write-up prepared by Dane Hardin on the side-by-side wet-season analytical comparison. AMS requested feedback on whether to develop a small certified reference material (CRM) study comparing WEC and PHYSIS results to provide additional confidence in the transition to WEC, particularly for neonicotinoids. The preliminary concept would use blind certified reference material samples from an independent source and would likely cost approximately \$5,000 to \$6,000.

Jennie Munster explained that the CRM study would help clarify differences between results from the two laboratories and provide additional confidence in the program's historical data, even though the program is expected to transition away from the PHYSIS method because the Regional Board is not certifying or accepting that method for future use. Mohammed Serageldin noted that the approach is similar to sending blind samples to contract laboratories to check performance and asked whether the purpose was to validate WEC going forward or evaluate confidence in the historic PHYSIS data. Aroon stated that it would be useful to better understand nearly ten years of existing program data.

The Committee did not vote on use of contingency funds during the meeting. AMS will develop a more specific proposal and cost before the Committee decides whether to proceed.

Aroon reported that the Water Board reviewed and acknowledged the updated CCLEAN monitoring plan for the next phase without additional comments. AMS will move forward with the plan and post it to the website. AMS is also coordinating with Integral to prepare for the return of river POP sampling beginning in the dry season, including re-establishing sampling sites, particularly the Pajaro site. A schedule will be provided once scopes and timing are better defined.

Connie Machuca asked whether the offshore sampling previously scheduled for August would be included in the upcoming schedule. Aroon confirmed that AMS is coordinating the pieces together and will share a schedule when the timing is closer.

Aroon reported that AMS is updating the program nutrient-data time series in response to Martha Sutula's request. AMS expects to share the compilation with the Committee and then provide it to Martha within the next couple of weeks.

Jennie relayed an update from Martha Sutula that she is downloading, cleaning, and compiling data, identifying and addressing data gaps, and aiming to have a dataset available for review during the first week of August. Martha also hopes to return for the August meeting to discuss next steps and data needs. Jennie noted that Martha is interested in touring Monterey One Water, and asked Olivia to coordinate with Martha regarding whether the plant-wide tour or a separate visit would be best.

The Committee briefly discussed the implications of the ROMS-BEC modeling work and nutrient permitting. Patrick Treanor noted that Martha's presentation prompted him to review Bay Area nutrient permits, where nitrogen appeared to be the primary nutrient of concern. Jennie emphasized that accurate facility and CCLEAN data are important because the model may inform future regulatory decisions, and current information suggests rivers are contributing substantially more nutrients than wastewater plants in the Central Coast region, even though wastewater contributions may still be considered non-trivial.

Decision:

AMS will prepare a more detailed CRM study proposal and cost estimate before the Committee votes on whether to use contingency funds. The updated monitoring plan has been acknowledged by the Water Board, and AMS will proceed with implementation.

Action Item:

AMS will prepare a CRM study proposal and cost estimate. AMS will share the updated nutrient-data compilation with the Committee and then provide it to Martha Sutula. AMS will provide a schedule for river POP sampling and related offshore work when available. Olivia Woolery will coordinate with Martha Sutula regarding a Monterey One Water facility tour. Jennie Munster and Patrick Treanor will plan for a CASA/ROMS-BEC modeling discussion with Martha Sutula near the beginning of the August agenda.

H. CCLEAN Topics or Questions for Water Board Staff

Discussion:

Jennie Munster noted that she and Sarah Bragg-Flavan are scheduled to meet regarding the Santa Cruz Headworks project.

Olivia Woolery asked whether Sarah would continue as the Water Board staff contact for CCLEAN now that Drew has been identified as the new caseworker for certain facilities. Sarah stated that, for now, she will continue to cover CCLEAN and that Water Board staff share responsibilities for Monterey Bay-area facilities.

Patrick Treanor asked about timing for the CAWD permit. Sarah stated that Drew is currently working on the Monterey One Water and CalAm permit and that CAWD is next on his list, likely on a similar timing track to Scotts Valley. Olivia noted that the Monterey One Water permit hearing has been pushed back to December. Jennie asked how CCLEAN-related provisions would be coordinated across permits, and Sarah stated that Water Board staff are working toward consistency in future permits.

Decision:

None

Action Item:

CAWD may follow up with Drew for updated permit timing. Jennie Munster and Sarah Bragg-Flavan will continue coordinating on the Headworks project.

I. Water Board's Report, Report by Central Coast Water Board

Discussion:

Sarah Bragg-Flavan stated that she did not have a major Water Board update for the month. She reported that the updated CCLEAN monitoring plan had been reviewed and acknowledged by the Regional Board, which was the primary Water Board effort during the month.

In response to a question from Olivia Woolery about whether the Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) must be re-reviewed and reissued, Sarah explained that the QAPP has not yet been approved by the State Board. She noted that the monitoring has been acknowledged by the

Regional Board, but State Board approval remains an ongoing issue that affects CEDEN data use. Sarah stated that there have been internal comments and that the issue involves staff time and roles/responsibilities between Regional Board and State Board QAPP approval functions.

Decision:

The updated monitoring plan has been acknowledged by the Regional Board. The QAPP remains pending with the State Board.

Action Item:

Water Board staff will continue working through QAPP comments and the approval process.

J. General Announcements

Discussion:

Mohammed Serageldin provided a BACWA lab-group update. He reported that laboratories have been discussing issues with Enterococcus testing and IDEXX-related concerns. He noted that even when a problem appears to originate with the vendor, the accreditation body may still treat the issue as the laboratory's responsibility. Mohammed clarified that recent BACWA discussions he attended were primarily lab-method, ELAP, and pretreatment related, rather than focused on nutrient studies. Olivia Woolery noted that BACWA has discussed nutrients in the past, but recent meetings have been more focused on lab and pretreatment topics.

Connie Machuca asked whether others would be attending the Tri-State Conference in Las Vegas. Connie stated that she plans to attend, while others noted they were not attending or that collections staff from their agencies may attend.

Mohammed asked Olivia whether she planned to attend an IAS event in September. Olivia stated that she had not decided yet.

Decision:

No formal action was taken.

Action Item:

None.

K. Financial Report, Report by CAWD

Discussion:

Patrick Treanor reviewed the financials for July, noting that the program was in Quarter 1 and that the report showed Q1 billings to the agencies. He stated that there were no Applied Marine Sciences charges in the current quarter yet and that the report did not appear to include the end of the prior fiscal year.

Jennie Munster and Olivia Woolery noted that their agencies were still waiting for purchase orders to be generated in order to pay invoices. Patrick noted that the report showed approximately \$373,000 in cash assuming agencies pay the Q1 invoices.

Aroon Melwani stated that AMS had not fully billed the prior quarter because laboratory costs

usually arrive with some delay. Patrick indicated that the available funds should cover AMS closeout billing from the prior quarter and current-quarter expenses.

Decision:

None

Action Item:

AMS will continue closing out prior-quarter billing as laboratory costs are received. Agencies will process Q1 payments once internal purchase orders are issued.

4. ADJOURNMENT / NEXT MEETING DATE

The next Regular CCLEAN Committee Meeting will be held on August 26th, 2026, via Zoom.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at approximately 2:31 pm.