

Rebecca Tuden, M.P.P. Associate

BIOGRAPHY

Rebecca has considerable experience facilitating diverse stakeholder groups involving topics related to environmental issues including water quality, unique habitats and natural resource issues. Her skills include facilitation, strategic planning, regulatory and policy analysis, problem-solving and technical research. Before joining CONCUR, she gained over 20 years of experience in local, state and federal governments including over a decade at the US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Currently, Rebecca is working on California's Marine Life Protection Act Initiative (MLPA) and the Abalone Advisory Group process, and supports the full range of CONCUR projects, trainings, and other initiatives.

Rebecca has a diverse background involving issues of water quality pollutants, habitat restoration plans, compliance with groundwater regulations, and coordination and planning in marine and estuarine environments. In particular, she has directed problem-solving meetings involving local, state and federal regulators, facilitated complex stakeholder dialogues on watershed protection plans and negotiated conflicts on sensitive habitat and resource issues. Rebecca's recent projects include reaching agreement on an implementation plan in the Tomales Bay watershed to reduce nutrient and pathogen polluted runoff from private homeowners and agricultural landowners. She also initiated and designed an ad-hoc Task Force for addressing boating and marina needs in Tomales Bay. This effort conducted a joint fact-finding project evaluating the patterns of use for recreational and commercial boaters and their mooring needs and balanced those uses with concerns associated with sensitive benthic habitats, seal haul-out areas and other natural resource issues.

Rebecca earned her Master's Degree in Public Policy at UC Berkeley's School of Public Policy, where she specialized in environmental policy. She has a B.A. in Economics from Tufts University (with a year spent at the London School of Economics) and also completed undergraduate work in environmental science at the University of Pittsburgh.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Mediate complex, multiparty public policy disputes, building on strong facilitation, project management and public policy background.
- Extensive experience in facilitation, mediation, convenings, stakeholder analysis, process design, strategic planning, environmental policy analysis and training.
- Primary focus on government planning and regulation efforts, environmental, resource and economic development disputes.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2008-Present **Associate, CONCUR, Berkeley, CA.**

Selected CONCUR projects and clients include:

California Marine Life Protection Act Initiative -- South Coast. CONCUR Principal Scott McCreary and Associate Rebecca Tuden are the lead facilitators for the South Coast Study region, currently in progress. This effort involves a stakeholder assessment and creation of a Regional Stakeholder Group (RSG) that will generate recommendations to the state of California on designations for marine protected areas. The stakeholder group includes diverse representation from commercial and recreational fishermen, divers, local governments, environmental organizations, scientists, and education and research institutions. Key tasks include identifying and conducting joint fact-finding sessions, and designing and facilitating the plenary meetings of the RSG and the work sessions

San Miguel Island Abalone Fishery Advisory Group (AAG). CONCUR was selected by the Department of Fish and Game to facilitate a multistakeholder process to provide guidance to the California Department of Fish and Game regarding a re-establishing an abalone fishery at San Miguel Island. The AAG's charge is to generate recommendations on: a total allowable catch (TAC) for San Miguel red abalone, alternatives for allocation between user groups, alternative regulations to achieve the TAC and allocation, and potential management, enforcement, and monitoring techniques. CONCUR devised a procedure to recruit a population dynamist to serve as a key member of the Technical Committee, and help generate options for the TAC. Stakeholder members include recreational divers, commercial fishermen, non-consumptive users, conservationists, governmental agency representatives, and scientists. Key tasks include designing and facilitating AAG meetings and convening and facilitating an expert scientific panel to develop the TAC.

NSF EPSCoR Climate Change Project. In November 2008, Rebecca co-facilitated a strategic planning workshop to support the execution of the "Nevada Infrastructure for Climate Change, Education and Research", which received \$15 million grant from the National Science Foundation's (NSF) Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR).

Port of Oakland Maritime Air Quality Management Plan. CONCUR served as convenor and and facilitator of a Maritime Air Quality Task Force, organized to support the work of the Port of Oakland as they develop a to reduce health risks of air emissions in West Oakland. The 35-member Task Force met several times between June 2007 and October 2008, and was comprised of Port industries (shipping, rail, and trucking), West Oakland community representatives, staff of local officials, and representatives of the conservation and environmental justice communities. The Plan sets the goal of an 85% reduction in neighboring community cancer risks, and steps out a series of actions to accomplish this goal, including a set of early implementation actions.

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION SPECIALIST (January 1991 – April 2008)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX, San Francisco, California

Ground Water Office, 2006 – 2008

- Conducted range of compliance and enforcement activities for implementation of the Safe Drinking Water Act and protection of ground water resources from shallow well contamination; involved creating incentives and extensive negotiation with state counterparts and waste treatment facility operators.

Water Quality Liaison to Marin County Health Department & Regional Water Quality Control Board, 2001- 2006

- Facilitated problem-solving meetings between state, federal and local governments regarding pathogen reduction.
- Directed collaborative meetings between diverse stakeholders on complex, estuarine water quality issues
- Co-developed & implemented State's Total Maximum Daily Load to reduce pathogen loading to Tomales Bay
- Oversaw implementation of community watershed projects, risk assessment, and beach monitoring
- Partnered with dairy and ranching community to identify and implement management practices to reduce runoff

Wetlands Regulatory Specialist, 1996 – 2001

- Negotiated inter-agency and community solutions for protection of aquatic resources and ensuring adequate mitigation
- Analyzed wetland fill and flood control projects for compliance with federal wetland and water quality requirements
- Conducted technical evaluation of proposed projects and their impact on natural resources

Long Term Management Strategy for Dredging, 1993 - 1996

- Co-managed multi-agency effort developing policy framework for disposal of dredged material
- Facilitated inter-agency and stakeholder meetings evaluating proposed dredging policies and options
- Analyzed impacts of sediment disposal to estuarine and ocean resources.

California Statewide Water Quality Plans Coordinator, 1991 – 1993

- Evaluated California's Water Quality Plans (Inland Surface Waters, Bays and Estuaries and Ocean Plan) for compliance with federal regulations, policies, and permitting
- Analyzed water quality standards to evaluate their level of protection for San Francisco Bay fish and wildlife
- Ensured cross-programmatic coordination and achievement of water quality standards, permits/enforcement, and monitoring/assessment programs and goals
- Facilitated development of division-wide watershed strategy and outreach meetings with interested stakeholders
- Facilitated regular problem-solving meetings with state, EPA and regional managers

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER, 1989 - 1990

San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission, San Francisco, California

- Developed environmental plan to reduce oily waste pollution from boats and marina facilities
- Co-directed workshop for local government response to coastal environmental hazards
- Estimated economic impacts of marina regulations