

**SAN DIEGO RIVER WATERSHED MANAGEMENT AREA**  
**WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN WORKGROUP**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

**COUNTY OPERATIONS CENTER**  
**5510 OVERLAND AVE., ROOM 451, SAN DIEGO, CA 92123**  
**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2017 10:00-12:00**

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**MEETING ATTENDEES (\*VOTING MEMBERS)**

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| • Cecilia Tipton, City of Santee*       | • Joanna Wisniewska, County of San Diego        |
| • Jim Harry, City of San Diego*         | • Sheri Dister, Weston Solutions                |
| • Joe Kuhn, City of La Mesa*            | • John Quenzer, D-Max Engineering, Inc.         |
| • John Phillips, City of El Cajon *     | • Antonia Estevez-Olea, Larry Walker Associates |
| • Ruth de la Rosa, County of San Diego* |   |
| • Stephanie Gaines, County of San Diego |   |

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**AGENDA ITEM 3: OPPORTUNITY FOR MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC TO SPEAK ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA (LIMIT TO 3 MINUTES)**

No members of the public were present.

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**AGENDA ITEM 4: APPROVAL OF MEETING SUMMARY FROM JANUARY 12, 2017 – VOTING ITEM**

The January 12, 2017 meeting summary was approved with edits to item 10. John motioned to approve the agenda as amended, seconded by Cecilia. (Vote: 5-0 in favor).

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**AGENDA ITEM 5: APPROVED WORKGROUP BUDGETS - FISCAL YEAR 2016-17&2017-18**

Ruth revised and distributed the approved FY 2016-17 San Diego River Watershed Management Area (WMA) Workgroup Budget summary sheet. The revised summary sheet shows the approved \$157,500 roll over to task 4.3 *Bacteria TMDL reopener budget*, the \$10,000 jurisdictional support rollover for the City of San Diego, and the \$38,200 credit to the SDR WMA Copermittees.

Ruth provided the approved FY 2017-18 San Diego River Watershed Management Area Workgroup Budget to the workgroup.

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## AGENDA ITEM 6: MONITORING UPDATE

Joanna provided the following monitoring updates:

- Wet weather MS4 outfall monitoring was conducted at site SDR-3 on January 19<sup>th</sup>. One more site (SDR-1) is needed to complete the wet weather MS4 outfall monitoring.
- One dry weather monitoring event was conducted on January 18<sup>th</sup> and one wet weather monitoring event on January 25<sup>th</sup> for the San Diego River Watershed Bacteria TMDL Monitoring Program. The wet weather monitoring is complete. **Table 1** provides the location, weather condition, and indicators exceeding single sample maximum water quality objectives.

**Table 1. Bacterial Exceedances at San Diego River Sampling Locations**

Site Type	Site	January 18, 2017 (Dry)	January 25, 2017 (Wet)
Freshwater Creek Site*	SDR-FC1	<i>Enterococcus</i>	<i>Enterococcus</i> and <i>E. coli</i>
	SDR-FC2	<i>Enterococcus</i>	<i>Enterococcus</i> , fecal coliform, and <i>E. coli</i>
	SDR-CDE	<i>Enterococcus</i> and <i>E. coli</i>	<i>Enterococcus</i> and <i>E. coli</i>
	SDR-MLS	<i>Enterococcus</i> and <i>E. coli</i>	<i>Enterococcus</i> and <i>E. coli</i>
Beach Site**	FM-010	None	<i>Enterococcus</i>

\* Freshwater sample results for *Enterococcus* and fecal coliform are compared to MS4 Permit receiving water limitations for creeks, which are consistent with Basin Plan single sample maximum REC-1 water quality objectives for freshwater designated beach.

\*\* Marine sample results compared to MS4 Permit receiving water limitations for beaches, which are based upon California Ocean Plan water quality objectives.

On February 2, 2017, the County of San Diego hosted the Monitoring and RMAR Coordination meeting to discuss RMAR requirements and coordinate monitoring reporting efforts. Modifications to the dry-weather MS4 outfall data shared template (template) were considered. Any approved changes to the template will be integrated into the next monitoring year. A meeting summary and presentation will be distributed.

The County of San Diego is planning a microbial source tracking and identification study in the San Diego River to identify sources of bacteria. The study is not yet approved by the San Diego Regional Water Board. The City of Santee notified the group that Padre Dam Municipal Water District (Padre Dam MWD) conducted a similar study in 2016.

Action item (s):

- Joanna will send the Monitoring and RMAR Coordination meeting summary and presentation to SDR members.
- City of Santee will forward Padre Dam MWD source study to Joanna.

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## AGENDA ITEM 7: WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN ANNUAL REPORT - LESSONS LEARNED

The San Diego River Water Quality Improvement Plan 2015-2016 Annual Report was submitted on January 31, 2017. Ruth emailed a copy of the date stamped submittal letter to the workgroup. The Annual Report is available on Project Clean Water (<http://www.projectcleanwater.org/download/fy-15-16-sdr-wqip-ar-w-appendices/>). One section of the Annual Report is not available for download. The County of San Diego will correct this issue.

The SDR WMA Workgroup discussed lessons learned during the WQIP Annual Reporting process and made the following recommendations.

- Annual reporting is resource intensive for small and medium municipalities that have less staff and smaller budgets. These cities feel that the current WQIP annual reporting process obstructs the implementation process, as it takes away staff time and money. The group recommended for WQIP reporting to be conducted less frequently, perhaps once every three (3) years.
- Municipalities are struggling to plan for the monitoring year (October 1<sup>st</sup> to September 30<sup>th</sup>), as fiscal budgets prevent municipalities from starting monitoring early. As a result, most Cities do not complete their monitoring until September 30<sup>th</sup>, leaving less than two months for data to be compiled, analyzed, and integrated into the annual report. Copermittees suggested moving the annual report submittal to a later date, perhaps March.
- A forum for WMAs to express concerns regarding the WQIP Annual Reporting process is recommended as part of the Report of Waste Discharge development process, so comments/recommendations are considered and addressed as part of the permit renewal.

Action item (s):

- Sheri will let Ruth know which section of the WQIP Annual Report is not available.
- Sheri will ask Paul Hartman if a meeting for all WMAs will be scheduled to provide comments regarding the WQIP reporting process during the development of the ROWD.

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## AGENDA ITEM 8: REGIONAL MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT REPORT (RMAR)

Sheri discussed the preliminary results for the SDR receiving water limitation assessment (A.4.a). Per Sheri's request, the group proceeded with the following:

- Combine Copermittee data with data from the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) sites by water bodies segments in order to have more data points;
- Have Sheri consult with other WMAs to determine how best to address data gaps (some contaminants that are monitored in receiving waters but not in MS4s outfalls);
- Plot all outfall monitoring sites for each long-term monitoring constituent in one time series plot; and
- Postpone the review of MS4 outfall discharge field screening data pursuant to Provision D.4.b.(1)(c)(v) until the next annual report.

For the assessment of status and trends of receiving waters (Provisions D.4.a (2)), Joanna informed Sheri that in April 2015, all AB411 sites were moved to “point zero” where ocean currents meet river discharge. Previously, all AB411 sites were located 25 yards down current of where ocean currents meet river discharge in ankle to knee-deep water. As a result, data may show false increasing trends. The group decided that AB411 data collected after March 2015 will not be used in the assessment.

Due to time constraints, the County of San Diego will schedule a meeting within the next two weeks to evaluate and approve the proposed process to improve the methodology used in the SDR WQIP (Section 2.3.1) to identify the priority and highest water quality condition. In preparation for changes to the SDR WQIP, Ruth contacted the SDR WMA consultation panel. All but one alternate agreed to continue to serve on the panel.

Action Item (s):

- The County of San Diego will schedule a meeting with the SDR WMA group to discuss the priority and highest priority water quality conditions selection process.

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#### AGENDA ITEM 9: JURISDICTIONAL UPDATES

The new Project Clean Water (PCW) platform is now online. Additional information regarding the access, management, and training opportunities will be provided in late February. The county of San Diego will maintain the SDR PCW site.

Action item (s):

- Jurisdictions will verify contact information on Project Clean Water.

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#### AGENDA ITEM 10: OTHER ITEMS

No other items were discussed.

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#### AGENDA ITEM 12: NEXT WORKGROUP MEETING

The next meeting is scheduled for March 8<sup>th</sup>, 2017 from 10:00 – 12:00 pm. Send agenda items to Ruth and Antonia by Wednesday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.