

**SAN LUIS REY WATERSHED COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES: 03/26/2007**

- **Call to Order:** 1:10 pm by George Wilkins.
- **List of Attendees present on 3/26/07:**

Rob Roy	La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians - EPA
John Beresford	La Jolla Band of Luiseño Indians - EPA
Paul Campo	Vista Irrigation District
Paul Dorey	Vista Irrigation District
Jack Griffiths	Rainbow Municipal Water District
Mo Lahsaie	City of Oceanside
Vic Smothers	USDA/Natural Resources Conservation Service
Ruth Herber	Riverwatch
Sandra Stoneburner	Los Coyotes Band of Indians
George Wilkins	Pacific REMS

- **(Item 2) Introduction of Attendees:**

Introduction of attendees was bypassed due to the desire to allocate plenty of time to Mo Lahsaie for his presentation on NPDES & TMDL permits.

- **(Item 3) Approval of Minutes:**

The minutes of 02/26/07 were reviewed, but not approved due to lack of advance time for review. Formal approval will take place next month.

- **(Item 4) Presentation: Mo Lahsaie, City of Oceanside – The New San Diego Region NPDES Permit and TMDLs:**

Mo spoke about how the new NPDES permit affects the County and is being managed by the City of Oceanside for their area.

The focus of the NPDES permit and associated regulations is all about contaminated water runoff within the watershed and focuses on navigable waters. It does not deal with ecology, just water quality. Storm drains which handle runoff water and the sanitary sewer system are not connected. An MS4 permit is for a system that conveys or discharges to waters of the U.S. Knowledge of land use in the watershed is very important as it lets you know what types of pollutants may occur in a given area.

Pollutants of Concern: Sediment, bacteria, heavy metals, nutrients, and trash.

The new Stormwater Permit #2007-0001 is the third in a series of permits/regulatory actions issued by the RWQCB R9 which have occurred every 5 or so years since 1990. It affects all municipalities, the County, and the San Diego Port District and airport. Requirements under the permit have increased in each subsequent permit.

Three main components: the JURMP- Jurisdictional Urban Runoff Management Plan, WURMP- Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program, and RURMP- Regional Urban Runoff Management Plan.

JURMP components: pertains to activities in each jurisdiction, public agencies and private businesses that could discharge runoff water, development planning, construction activities, and existing development. It includes the IDDE-Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination. SD County is the permittee outside of city boundaries. Agriculture is handled directly by the RWQCB and agriculture waivers are currently being reviewed. It also includes education and public participation.

Comparison of present requirements versus previous: Inspection are up by 40%; Commercial and industrial inspections up by 100%; Nurseries, agriculture, gas stations, and restaurants are now included; Also included are fiscal analysis, a program effectiveness assessment, updating, and reporting.

The WURMP is the Watershed Urban Runoff Management Plan. This requirement is primarily watershed-based in focus and is a requirement for the co-permittees under both old and new NPDES permits. Federal lands are not currently regulated by this plan and the State Water Resources Control Board, but they likely will be in the future. It is important for all jurisdictions to become familiar with this issue, including tribes.

The RURMP is a new component. Focused on the entire San Diego region, this new requirement includes residential education programs that are pollutant specific. It also requires standardized fiscal reporting, an effectiveness assessment of the JURMP, WURMP and RURMP, and updating and reporting requirements.

TMDL stands for Total Maximum Daily Load. A TMDL is defined as the maximum amount of a specific pollutant that can be discharged into a water body from all sources, point and nonpoint, and still have the water body attain water quality standards. Under the Clean Water Act Section 303(d), TMDLs must be developed for all water bodies that do not meet water quality standards after application of technological controls. There are several TMDLs currently in effect for streams and water bodies in the San Diego region: bacteria TMDLs for beaches and creeks; a nutrient TMDL for Rainbow Creek; diazinon and other TMDLs for Chollas Creek. Several new TMDLs are in the process of being developed. These include bacteria, sediment, nutrient and TDS TMDLs for seven San Diego region lagoons. An important point to understand about TMDLs is this: the pollutant being focused on is regulated on a watershed basis. The jurisdiction of land does not matter, because TMDLs are promulgated and enforced under the authority of the Environmental Protection Agency, a federal agency with jurisdiction in all areas.

Additional new NPDES Permit requirements:

HMP – Hydrological Modification Plan. SUSMP – Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan, which includes Low Impact Development (LID). New Monitoring Programs: Mass loading stations, Temporary Watershed Assessment Stations (TWAS), Bioassessment monitoring, Ambient Bay & Lagoon Monitoring (ABML), coastal storm drain monitoring, pyrethroid pesticide monitoring, follow-up monitoring, and urban runoff monitoring. All of these new monitoring requirements will be very costly.

The fiscal impact of the new NPDES Permit and monitoring program to the City of Oceanside alone is estimated to be around \$2.4 million, and will require the hiring of up to five additional staff.

George commented that this is a very important issue and everyone in the County will need to be aware of and deal with this sooner or later. Various comments were made about particular issues: imported water quality often exceeds BASIN plan limits (TDS); the various sources of pollution in SD; water levels of chlorination; who will pay for all this new monitoring work; and how effective are these regulations?

- **(Item 5) SLRWC Nonprofit Formation – Discussion and Planning Session:**

Very few members attended this month's meeting. George commented that the SLRWC is at a cross-road and is in danger of fading away. What will the future of the SLRWC be? What is the solution? There was no time left for a formal discussion of this item, so it will be postponed until the next meeting.

- **(Item 6) Attendees' News:**

Attendee's news was bypassed (as mentioned earlier), due to the desire to allocate plenty of time to Mo Lahsaie for his presentation on the new NPDES Permit and TMDLs.

- **(Item 7) Upcoming Meeting Dates/Facilitators:**

The next SLRWC meeting will be on April 23. George commented that the May meeting was scheduled on Memorial Day and said it should either be cancelled or the date changed. No formal decision was reached.

- **(Item 8) Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 3:04 pm.