



## SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

### SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

#### WHERE IS SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD?

The San Diego Region stretches along 85 miles of scenic coastline from Laguna Beach to the Mexican Border and extends 50 miles inland to the crest of the coastal mountain range. In a mild coastal climate, the Region's growing population enjoys many water-related activities; however, little precipitation falls within this semi-arid Region. Approximately 90 percent of the Region's water supply is imported from Northern California and the Colorado River.

#### KEY ISSUES IN REGION 9

The Regional Board took a lead role in conducting the "Bight 98" regional ocean monitoring program in the area's coastal waters. Staff coordinated a comprehensive San Diego Bay monitoring program with the Bight 98 project.

The Regional Board staff continues to coordinate issuance of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) for U.S. Navy dredging projects to implement Home Porting projects in San Diego Bay. The U.S. Navy currently ports nearly a third of its active fleet in San Diego Bay.

Work is underway to repair impaired water bodies through the development of four Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs). They are diazinon and metals in Chollas Creek and dissolved copper in the Shelter Island Yacht Basin. The fourth is for nutrients in Rainbow Creek.

The Regional Board adopted an updated municipal storm water permit for San Diego County. This permit regulates discharges that are currently the greatest sources of contaminants and pollutants that impact water bodies in the San Diego Region.

It addresses numerous highly controversial issues, in particular its requirements for new development and for meeting receiving water quality objectives.

In response to increasing concern over beach closures, the Regional Board has begun shifting its priorities from traditional "point sources" to urban runoff and nonpoint source issues. In an attempt to educate as many people as possible on the water quality effects of urban runoff, the Regional Board has increased outreach efforts to municipal, industrial and construction site dischargers, as well as to the general public and elected officials.

The Regional Board is taking an aggressive compliance effort against operators of sewage conveyance systems, construction site operators and municipalities. This includes bringing fines against sewerage agencies that allow sewage spills that contribute to beach closures.

The Regional and State Boards, in cooperation with local agencies, developed a beach closure warnings database for the Beach Water Quality Workgroup, an ad hoc committee composed of groups responsible for the protection and reporting of beach water quality in Southern California. The workgroup has developed a model monitoring program for bacteria in coastal waters. The model integrates monitoring by storm water agencies with that of sewage treatment plants and environmental health agencies. Additionally, the SWRCB is developing source investigation procedures for beaches where storm drains frequently contaminate beaches.

#### WATER DATA

- 3,900 square miles of land
- 910 miles of streams
- 19,220 acres of lakes
- 85 miles of coastline

• WHERE IS THE SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD?

• KEY ISSUES IN REGION 9

• WATER DATA

• SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD (REGION 9)

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