

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
BOARD MEETING SESSION – DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
JUNE 2, 2009**

ITEM 3

SUBJECT

CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION TO ALLOCATE \$700,000 FROM THE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO THE SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD (SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER BOARD) FOR PHASE ONE OF THE TIJUANA RIVER VALLEY TRASH/SEDIMENT TRANSPORT AND DEPOSITION STUDY (STUDY)

DISCUSSION

The San Diego Regional Water Board requests funding in the amount of \$700,000 from the CAA for Phase One of the Tijuana River Valley Trash/Sediment Transport and Study.

The Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team (TJRVRT) was formed as a result of a workshop held by the San Diego Regional Water Board on June 25, 2008, for persons and agencies interested in activities to restore the wetlands and to abate pollution in the Tijuana River Valley watershed. The mission of the TJRVRT includes the removal of trash and sediment and the restoration of the hydraulic/hydrologic functions of the Tijuana River Valley.

Included in the TJRVRT are four sub-teams, each responsible for specific tasks. These teams are the Cleanup Team, the Border Issues Team, the Mexico Issues Team, and the Restoration Team. The Cleanup Team was tasked with the cleanup of the trash and sediment in the Tijuana River Valley. The County of San Diego, as lead for the Cleanup Team, has proposed this Study to determine the full extent of the trash and excess sediment in the river valley as the first step to a cleanup.

The overall cost for all phases of this Project is estimated to be \$1.9 million. It is anticipated that Phase One will require \$700,000 to meet the outlined objectives. Tasks of Phase One include: (1) taking an inventory of existing information, (2) digitizing and compiling the information, and (3) analyzing the existing flow regime and determining floodplain impacts. Additional resources provided by the County of San Diego and other partners will be realized through in-kind services.

The requested allocation is consistent with the purposes of Water Code Section 13442. Section 13442 provides that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) may order moneys to be paid from the CAA to a public agency with authority to cleanup or abate the effects of a waste in order "to assist it in cleaning up the waste or abating its effects on the waters of the state."

POLICY ISSUE

Should the State Water Board:

Approve the resolution to allocate \$700,000 from the CAA to the San Diego Regional Water Board for Phase One of the Tijuana River Valley Trash/Sediment Transport and Study?

FISCAL IMPACT

As of April 7, 2009, the uncommitted CAA balance is estimated to be no less than \$2.5 million dollars according to the most current data.

REGIONAL WATER BOARD IMPACT

Yes, the San Diego Regional Water Board.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

The State Water Board should:

Approve the resolution to allocate \$700,000 from the CAA to the San Diego Regional Water Board for Phase One of the Tijuana River Valley Trash/Sediment Transport and Study.

State Water Board action on this item will assist the Water Boards in reaching Goal 1 of the Strategic Plan Update: 2008-2012 to implement strategies to fully support the beneficial uses for all 2006-listed water bodies by 2030.

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STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2009-

ALLOCATE \$700,000 FROM THE CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT ACCOUNT (CAA) TO THE SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD (SAN DIEGO REGIONAL WATER BOARD) FOR PHASE ONE OF THE TIJUANA RIVER VALLEY TRASH/SEDIMENT TRANSPORT AND DEPOSITION STUDY (STUDY)

WHEREAS:

1. The San Diego Regional Water Board requests funding in the amount of \$700,000 from the CAA for phase one of the Tijuana River Valley Trash/Sediment Transport and Study;
2. The Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team (TJRVRT) was formed as a result of a workshop held by the San Diego Regional Water Board on June 25, 2008, for persons and agencies interested in activities to restore the wetlands and to abate pollution in the Tijuana River Valley watershed. The mission of the TJRVRT includes the removal of trash and sediment and the restoration of the hydraulic/hydrologic functions of the Tijuana River Valley;
3. Included in the TJRVRT are four sub-teams, each responsible for specific tasks. These teams are the Cleanup Team, the Border Issues Team, the Mexico Issues Team, and the Restoration Team. The Cleanup Team was tasked with the cleanup of the trash and sediment in the Tijuana River Valley. The County of San Diego, as lead for the Cleanup Team, has proposed this Study to determine the full extent of the trash and excess sediment in the Tijuana River Valley as the first step to a cleanup;
4. The overall cost for all phases of this Project is estimated to be \$1.9 million. It is anticipated that Phase One will require \$700,000 to meet the outlined objectives. Tasks of Phase One include: (1) taking an inventory of existing information, (2) digitizing and compiling the information, and (3) analyzing the existing flow regime and determining floodplain impacts. Additional resources provided by the County of San Diego and other partners will be realized through in-kind services; and
5. The requested allocation is consistent with the purposes of Water Code Section 13442. Section 13442 provides that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) may order moneys to be paid from the CAA to a public agency with authority to cleanup or abate the effects of a waste in order "to assist it in cleaning up the waste or abating its effects on the waters of the state."

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Approves \$700,000 from the CAA to the San Diego Regional Water Board for Phase One of the Tijuana River Valley Trash/Sediment Transport and Study; and

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2. The funds will be available until June 30, 2012. Any unexpended funds, as of June 30, 2012, shall revert to CAA, unless the Deputy Director or Assistant Deputy Director of the Division of Financial Assistance authorizes an extension.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Clerk to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Board held on June 2, 2009.

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board