

# CHAPTER 5- PLANS, POLICIES AND ISSUES

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In addition to the Basin Plan, many other plans and policies are applicable to Regional Board actions or clarify the Regional Boards intent. This Chapter contains a list of applicable State Board and Regional Board plans and policies for water quality control. This chapter also contains discussions of important water quality issues that the Regional Board will be addressing in the future.

## I. STATE BOARD PLANS AND POLICIES

The applicable State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) Plans and Policy statements include:

### A. RESOLUTION No. 68-16

"Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California" (adopted October 28, 1968).

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/1968/rs68\\_016.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/1968/rs68_016.pdf)

### B. WATER QUALITY CONTROL

"Water Quality Control Policy for Addressing Impaired Waters: Regulatory Structure and Options" (adopted June 15, 2005, Resolution No. 2005-0050).

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/iw\\_policy.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/iw_policy.pdf)

### C. THERMAL PLAN

"Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California" (adopted on September 18, 1975; Resolution No. 75-89).

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/ocean/docs/wqplans/thermpln.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/docs/wqplans/thermpln.pdf)

### D. POWER PLANT COOLING

"Water Quality Control Policy on the Use and Disposal of Inland Waters Used for Powerplant Cooling" (adopted June 19, 1975; Resolution No. 75-58).

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/1975/rs75\\_058.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/1975/rs75_058.pdf)

### E. WATER RECLAMATION

"Policy with Respect to Water Reclamation in California" (adopted January 6, 1977; Resolution No. 77-1).

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/1977/rs77\\_001.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/1977/rs77_001.pdf)

## **F. SHREDDER WASTE**

"Policy on the Disposal of Shredder Waste" (adopted March 19, 1987; Resolution No. 87-22).

## **G. NONPOINT SOURCE PROGRAM STRATEGY AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN**

Volume 1, Nonpoint Source Program Strategy and Implementation Plan, 1998-2013 (PROSIP) (adopted January 2000).

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/nps/docs/planvol1.doc](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/docs/planvol1.doc)

## **H. SOURCES OF DRINKING WATER POLICY**

"Sources of Drinking Water" (adopted May 19, 1988; Resolution No. 88-63).

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2006/rs2006\\_0008\\_rev\\_rs88\\_63.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2006/rs2006_0008_rev_rs88_63.pdf)

## **I. RECYCLED WATER POLICY**

"Recycled Water Policy" (adopted February 3, 2009, Resolution No. 2009-0011).

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/water\\_recycling\\_policy/docs/recycled\\_waterpolicy\\_approved.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_recycling_policy/docs/recycled_waterpolicy_approved.pdf)

## **II. REGIONAL BOARD POLICIES**

Adopted Regional Board Policies include the following:

### **A. SEWERAGE SYSTEMS**

"Guidelines Regarding Grouped or Community Sewerage Systems" (adopted January 28, 1981; Resolution No. 81-35).

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/publications\\_forms/publications/docs/commsew.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/publications_forms/publications/docs/commsew.pdf)

### **B. SEWAGE DISPOSAL FROM LAND DEVELOPMENTS**

"Guidelines for Sewage Disposal from Land Developments" (adopted March 14, 1979; Resolution No. 79-42).

### **C. MOU WITH THE BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT**

"Memorandum of Understanding between California Desert District U.S. Bureau of Land Management and California Regional Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region" (adopted January 25, 1985; Resolution No. 85-24).

### **D. WATER QUALITY LIMITED SEGMENT**

"Designating Water Quality Limited Segments in the Colorado River Basin Region" (adopted January 27, 1988; Resolution No. 88-37).

### **E. MOA's**

"A Memorandum of Agreement between the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region and the Department of Health Services for the Regulation of Low-Level Radioactive Waste" (adopted June 28, 1989; Resolution No. 89-060).

"A Memorandum of Agreement between the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Colorado River Basin Region's Executive Officer and Ibanez Farms and Chino Corona Farms" (adopted November 29, 1989; Resolution No. 89-078).

### **F. WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT**

"Water Quality Assessment for the Colorado River Basin Region of California" (adopted November 20, 1991; Resolution No. 91-057).

### **G. AGRICULTURAL DRAINAGE**

"Agricultural Drainage Management Report for the Colorado River Basin Region" (adopted March 11, 1992; Resolution No. 92-023).

## **III. REGIONAL BOARD ISSUES**

The following issues will be considered by the Regional Board:

### **A. SEPTIC SYSTEM IMPACTS TO GROUND WATER BASINS**

There are a number of unsewered communities in this Region which have the potential to have a negative impact on the groundwater. The Regional Board has identified some communities with high densities of septic systems. As staffing and finances permit, the Regional Board will conduct investigations to determine the relative priority for sewerage the following communities:

- Communities in the Indio Hydrologic Subarea
- Yucca Valley

- Twentynine Palms
- Palo Verde
- Morongo Valley
- Lucerne Valley
- Borrego Springs
- Landers
- Joshua Tree

## **B. BENEFICIAL USE DESIGNATIONS OF AQUIFERS**

The ground water Beneficial Use Designations for this Region are currently based on hydrologic units. In the next three years, Regional Board staff intends to review the appropriate groundwater data and propose changes to the Beneficial Use Designations so that they will correspond to individual groundwater aquifers within the various hydrologic units. The proposed changes in designations will also be based on the review of the "Sources of Drinking Water Policy" in Chapter 2. These changes would result in an updated version of Table 2-5 (Chapter 2) and a more detailed map of the groundwater aquifers in this Region.

## **C. GEOTHERMAL FLUIDS**

Due to the extensive development of the geothermal industry in Imperial Valley, the Regional Board is assessing the potential of surface water and ground water contamination from geothermal brines. A Regional Board policy on geothermal development along with updated water quality objectives may be promulgated as necessary based on the findings obtained.