

**Bacteria Project I Total Maximum Daily Load<sup>1</sup> (TMDL)**

Resolution:	R9-2010-0001
Effective Date:	April 4, 2011
Impaired Water Body:	Pacific Ocean Shorelines: <sup>2</sup> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• San Joaquin Hills HSA (901.11)</li> <li>• Laguna Beach HSA (901.12)</li> <li>• Aliso HSA (901.13)</li> <li>• Dana Point HSA (901.14)</li> <li>• Lower San Juan HSA (901.27)</li> <li>• San Clemente HA (901.30)</li> <li>• San Marcos HA (904.50)</li> <li>• San Luis Rey HU (903.00)</li> <li>• San Dieguito HU (905.00)</li> <li>• Miramar Reservoir HA (906.10)</li> <li>• Scripps HA (906.30)</li> <li>• San Diego HU (905.00)</li> </ul> Creeks and Rivers: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Aliso Creek (901.13)</li> <li>• Aliso Creek (mouth) (901.13)</li> <li>• San Juan Creek(901.27)</li> <li>• San Juan Creek (mouth) (901.27)</li> <li>• Tecolote Creek (906.50)</li> <li>• Forester Creek (907.11)</li> <li>• San Diego River (Lower) (907.12)</li> <li>• Chollas Creek (908.22)</li> </ul>
Pollutant(s):	Enterococcus, Total Coliform, and Fecal Coliform Indicator Bacteria (Bacteria)
Responsible Dischargers:	Dischargers within the Bacteria Project I TMDL watershed areas defined by the watershed drainage areas to the Pacific Ocean Shorelines, Creeks and Rivers listed above.
Required Actions:	Dischargers in compliance with Industrial General Permit Order No. 2014-0057-DWQ (General Permit) meet the requirements of the Bacteria Project I TMDL. The Regional Water Board may

<sup>1</sup>Revised Indicator Bacteria Project I – Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (includes Tecolote Creek)

<sup>2</sup> The Bacteria Project I TMDL developed for Pacific Shorelines is applicable to all beaches located on the shorelines of the hydrologic subareas (HSAs), hydrologic areas (HAs) and hydrologic units (HUs) listed above. The TMDL is also applicable to the entirety of the HSAs, HAs and HUs listed above.  
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	require Dischargers to implement additional actions to reduce Bacteria discharges based on a site-specific analysis.
TMDL documents are available at: <a href="http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/tmdls/bacteria.shtml">http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/tmdls/bacteria.shtml</a>	

## **Fact Sheet for Bacteria Project I TMDL**

### Background

The Bacteria Project I TMDL addresses the Clean Water Act section 303(d) impairment for impacts related to bacteria in the Pacific Ocean Shorelines, Creeks, and Rivers in the San Diego region listed above. The presence of pathogens and the probability of disease are directly correlated with the density of fecal coliform, total coliform, and enterococcus bacteria (Bacteria) in waters used for shellfish harvesting or recreation.<sup>3</sup> A source analysis for Bacteria indicates that urban runoff from land uses and activities associated with urbanization are potential sources of Bacteria during wet and dry weather.<sup>4</sup>

The Bacteria Project I TMDL identifies the following responsible parties for point source discharges of Bacteria: Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4s), Caltrans, Publicly-Owned Treatment Works and Wastewater Collection Systems (POTW), and Confined Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO). Controllable non-point source (NPS) dischargers, such as agricultural facilities, nurseries, and septic systems, were also identified as sources of Bacteria. The TMDL does not name Dischargers as a responsible party; however, industrial and commercial land uses are identified as a potential source of Bacteria discharges to surface waters. Potential sources of Bacteria at industrial facilities include, but may not be limited to, waste management and disposal areas as well as poorly maintained septic systems or sewer lines and connections which may result in discharges of wastewater from a facility into the MS4.

### TMDL Waste Load Allocation

Dischargers in commercial and industrial land use categories are included in the MS4 land use category. Because the San Diego Water Board determined point source discharges of Bacteria were largely discharged from MS4s (Municipal and Caltrans), the primary mechanism for meeting this TMDL is through the Municipal MS4 and Caltrans NDPES permits and municipal land use ordinances. No separate waste load allocations (WLAs) have been assigned to Dischargers.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>3</sup> Resolution No. R9-2010-0001, Technical Report, p. 17

<sup>4</sup> Resolution No. R9-2010-0001, Finding 22

<sup>5</sup> Resolution No. R9-2010-0001, Technical Report, p. 94

### TMDL Requirements

Although Dischargers have not been assigned a separate WLA, Dischargers remain responsible for demonstrating that their discharges do not cause or contribute to exceedances of Bacteria in Bacteria Project I TMDL watersheds. Enrollment in this General Permit satisfies this requirement because Dischargers enrolled in the General Permit are not expected to cause or contribute to an exceedance of Bacteria in Bacteria impaired waters. This General Permit requires Dischargers to take actions to control their risk of Bacteria discharges. The General Permit requires enrollees to identify all potential Bacteria contributions from their site (section X.G), implement BMPs to reduce Bacteria discharges (section X.H), and conduct visual observations (section XI.A). For Dischargers with coverage under the prior General Permit, the current General Permit requires Dischargers implement an updated SWPPP in accordance with section X, by July 1, 2015. For Dischargers filing after July 1, 2015, the General Permit requires development of a SWPPP in accordance with section X. The update or development of a SWPPP for this General Permit satisfies this TMDL's requirements because the General Permit requires enrolled Dischargers to take actions to control their discharges of Bacteria, monitor the effects of efforts to control pollutants, and report the outcomes. Additionally, non-storm water discharges are not authorized unless they meet the requirements as set forth in section IV.B of the General Permit.

### Monitoring and Reporting

The Bacteria Project I TMDL states that municipal MS4s have the primary monitoring responsibility under the TMDL.<sup>6</sup> To the extent Dischargers may be contributing Bacteria loads into Bacteria impaired waters, the General Permit's existing monitoring requirements are sufficient to identify significant sources. During dry weather days, monthly visual observations shall be conducted in accordance with section XI.A of the General Permit. Monthly visual observations by Dischargers would identify unauthorized non-storm water discharges (NSWDS), potential sources of Bacteria, BMP maintenance conditions, and authorized NSWDS. Monthly visual observations of BMPs to reduce potential sources of Bacteria can include ensuring trash areas are in compliance with this General Permit's waste management and housekeeping requirements and confirming that wastewater infrastructure maintenance schedules have been conducted.

During wet weather sampling events, visual observations conducted in compliance with section XI.A must include identifying the presence of activities or materials that can contribute to Bacteria loading at all discharge points from the Discharger's site. Once identified via visual observations, it is expected that the Discharger either minimizes or eliminates the presence of activities or materials that can contribute to Bacteria concentrations in discharges from their industrial site.

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<sup>6</sup> Resolution No. R9-2010-0001, p. A-57  
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### TMDL Compliance

In light of the General Permit's existing requirements, Dischargers in the Bacteria Project I TMDL watersheds are assumed to be in compliance with this TMDL and their contribution to the total MS4 WLA if all of the following are completed:

1. Enrollment in this General Permit; and
2. Inclusion of BMPs to reduce or control Bacteria in the Discharger's SWPPP; and
3. Compliance with this General Permit.

The Regional Water Boards retain the authority to require Dischargers to revise their SWPPPs, ERA Reports, or monitoring programs as well as to direct a Discharger to obtain an individual NPDES permit if additional Bacteria controls are necessary.

### Watershed Coordination

Phase I MS4s in the Bacteria Project I TMDL are implementing an adaptive management approach to improve water quality in multiple Watershed Management Areas in the San Diego Region in watershed specific Water Quality Improvement Plans. Coordinated efforts by Responsible Parties will accelerate the Bacteria waste load reductions required in the TMDL and achieve the ultimate goal of improving water quality as soon as possible. Industrial dischargers are encouraged to coordinate with the Phase I MS4s and other Responsible Parties to meet the Bacteria Project I TMDL WLA requirements using an adaptive management approach. Dischargers are encouraged to contact the Storm Water Program Manager for the Phase I MS4 jurisdiction within which your industrial facility is located to collaborate.