

## Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board

December 19, 2014

Mr. Gerry Newcombe, Director  
San Bernardino County Flood Control District  
825 East Third Street  
San Bernardino, CA 92413-0835

### **Approval of the San Bernardino County Watershed Action Plan, Order No. R8-2010-0036, NPDES NO.CAS618036, Areawide Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit (MS4 Permit)**

Dear Mr. Newcombe:

We received the Second Revised Draft of the Watershed Action Plan (WAP), Phase 2, dated November 5, 2014 submitted by the San Bernardino County Flood Control District, the Principal Permittee on behalf of the San Bernardino County municipal permittees. The document was posted on our website and a notice was sent to the interested party list of its availability for review and comments. No public comments were received during the 30 day comment period.

We have completed our review and determined that the WAP now contains the WAP, Phase 2 elements specified in Section XI.B.b of Order No. R8-2010-0036. The WAP, Phase 2 includes but is not limited to the following information:

1. Procedures to integrate the use of the Watershed Geodatabase in the implementation of the WAP through the Municipal Storm Water Management Plan (MSWMP), Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP), and Local Implementation Plans (LIPs).
2. Sub-watershed Fact Sheets that outline watershed characteristics such as the receiving waters, water quality objectives, beneficial uses and impairments, wetland/riparian areas and biologically sensitive areas, groundwater basins and/or management of groundwater recharge, and degree of watershed urbanization that may influence water quality and stream functions to guide planners, development project proponents and other interested parties. The fact sheets reference the Watershed Geodatabase or other sources for more detailed information.
3. An updated list of potential retrofit projects that incorporate opportunities for addressing applicable Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plans, hydromodification management, and/or Low Impact Development (LID) implementation within the permit area.
4. A Hydromodification Management Plan (HMP) that identifies procedures for prioritization based on drainage feature/susceptibility/risk assessments and opportunities for restoration.

5. A Hydromodification Monitoring Plan (HMoP) to evaluate hydromodification impacts for the drainage channels deemed most susceptible to degradation. The HMoP identifies sites to be monitored, provides an assessment methodology, and requires follow-up actions based on monitoring results. Where applicable, monitoring sites may be used to evaluate the effectiveness of BMPs in preventing or reducing impacts from hydromodification.
6. Recommendations for streamlining regulatory agency approval of regional treatment control Best Management Practices (BMPs).
7. Section 7.1 of the WAP indicates that updates of the WAP will occur at 3 year intervals. The permittees recognize that the WAP is designed to be a living document so that as more information is developed in the watershed, more barriers to watershed protection principles are identified, and innovative ideas to achieving the WAP objectives are identified, they can be incorporated into the document. However, please note that any major and substantive changes to the approved WAP should only be made after soliciting comments from all stakeholders to ensure that the proposed changes are consistent with the approved plan.

The WAP was developed in two phases. WAP, Phase 1 met the requirements of Section XI.B.a and was approved with errata on July 6, 2011. The objective of the WAP is to improve integration of water quality, stream protection, storm water management, water conservation and re-use, and flood protection, with land use planning and development processes. The WAP, Phase 2 document that was submitted included some revisions of the Phase 1 components to integrate the Phase 2 information as well as update some elements of WAP, Phase 1. The WAP now fully describes the Permittees' approach to coordinated watershed management as specified in Section XI.B and is hereby approved. Please provide a summary of WAP implementation in the permittees' annual report.

Should you have any questions, please contact Milasol Gaslan at (951) 782-4419 or at [Milasol.Gaslan@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Milasol.Gaslan@waterboards.ca.gov) or Keith Elliott at 951-782-4925 or at [Keith.Elliott@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Keith.Elliott@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,



Kurt V. Berchtold  
Executive Officer

cc: Sundaramoorthy Srirajan, SBC DPW NPDES, [ssrirajan@dpw.sbcounty.gov](mailto:ssrirajan@dpw.sbcounty.gov)  
Marc Rodabaugh, SBC DPW NPDES, [Marc.Rodabaugh@dpw.sbcounty.gov](mailto:Marc.Rodabaugh@dpw.sbcounty.gov)