



Best Management Practices

The California Urban Water Conservation Council (CUWCC) was formed in 1991 through a Memorandum of Understanding Regarding Urban Water Conservation in California (MOU). The urban water conservation practices, or BMPs, included in this MOU are intended to reduce California's long-term urban water

demands. **Table 4-1** provides an overview of the Authority and its member agencies' progress in the implementation of the recently updated BMPs as outlined by the CUWCC. The Authority's FY1999 and FY2000 BMP Report is included in **Appendix D**. Major Authority activities include: active participation in the development and implementation of statewide BMPs; participation with member agencies, Metropolitan and American Water Works Association Research Foundation in research and development activities; and implementation of public information and education programs.

Implementation of BMPs

Since program inception, the Authority and its member agencies have provided incentives for the installation of 383,948 ultra-low-flow toilets (ULFTs). Financial incentives have also been provided for installation of 4,479 residential high-efficiency clothes washers (HEWs) and 1,707 coin-operated HEWs. The Authority, member agencies and San Diego Gas and Electric (SDG&E) have also distributed over half a million showerheads to customers. Since 1990, the Authority has spent close to \$9 million on implementation of these and other conservation programs.

The Authority's FY200 budget includes \$1.2 million for conservation programs that are anticipated to save 38,000 AF/YR over the useful life of the measures. This funding is augmented by Authority member agencies, the USBR, SDG&E, and Metropolitan. In FY2000 this additional funding totaled \$5.1 million. Therefore, the total amount expected to be spent during FY2000 for all conservation programs is \$6.3 million. The Authority provides approximately 19 percent of all conservation funding. The Authority and its member agencies also administer both the Agriculture Audit Program and California Irrigation Management Information Systems (CIMIS) for agricultural use. Additional information on implementation of the BMPs by the Authority is available in **Appendix D**, CUWCC BMP Report.

**TABLE 4-1
BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR URBAN WATER
CONSERVATION IN CALIFORNIA**

BMP #	DESCRIPTION	CONSERVATION PROGRAMS	COMPLIANCE
1	Residential Surveys	• Residential Survey Program	Yes
2	Residential Plumbing Retrofit	• Showerhead distribution	Yes
3	Distribution System Water Audits		Yes
4	Metering with Commodity Rates		Yes
5	Large Landscape Programs and Incentives	• Professional Assistance for Landscape Management (PALM) Program • Protector Del Agua	Yes
6	High-Efficiency Clothes Washer Rebates	• Residential High-Efficiency Clothes Washer (HEW) Program	Yes
7	Public Information Programs	• Media Coverage • Xeriscape Awards • WebSite • Water Conservation Literature	Yes
8	School Education Programs	• Classroom Presentations • Splash Science Mobile Lab • Youth Merit Badge Program • Magic Show • Teaching Garden • Mini-grants of up to \$250	Yes
9	Commercial, Industrial & Institutional (CII) Water Conservation	• CII Voucher Program	Yes
10	Wholesale Agency Assistance Programs	Ongoing	Yes
11	Conservation Pricing	Ongoing	Yes
12	Water Conservation Coordinator	Water Resources staff	Yes
13	Water Waste Prohibition		Yes
14	Residential ULFT Replacement Programs	• Residential ULFT Voucher and Rebate Programs • Community Based ULFT Distribution Program	Yes

4.1.2 Issues

Revenue Impacts

Water conservation is a well established component in ensuring that there will be a reliable water supply in the future for the increasing population and commerce of our local region. However, conservation occasionally suffers from the perception that it reduces commodity-based rate revenues. Over the long-term, conservation measures actually serve to defer or limit rate increases by reducing the region's need for other, more expensive supplies and increased infrastructure. The Authority's FY2001 budget included \$1.6 million for conservation programs, which represents an average cost of \$3.00/AF of projected water sales during FY2000.