

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region
David Gibson, Executive Officer



Executive Officer’s Report
March 14, 2012

Table of Contents

Part A – San Diego Region Staff Activities.....2

1. Sustainable Remediation Forum Conference2

Part B – Significant Regional Water Quality Issues.....2

1. Rio Alomar Channelization Project in Mexico2

2. Laguna Beach Burn Dump Site5

3. Los Peñasquito Lagoon Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Public Comment
Period.....6

4. Enforcement Actions for January and February 2012.....6

5. Expedited Payment Program for Mandatory Minimum Penalties8

6. Former Santa Ysabel Chevron Gas Station – Status Report9

7. Ensuring Safe Drinking Water at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton10

8. Recycled Water Annual Summary Report 2011 (Attachment B-8).....11

9. San Diego Bay Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy11

Part C – Statewide Issues of Importance to the San Diego Region.....12

1. Statewide Mercury Policy and Mercury Control Program for Reservoirs –
Upcoming CEQA Scoping Meetings12

2. Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment: Draft Low-Threat Underground
Storage Tank (UST) Case Closure Policy13

3. Brownfields Funding Workshop – March 28, 201213

The February report for the Tentative Schedule of Significant NPDES Permits, WDRs, and Actions and the attachments noted on page 1 are included at the end of the report.

Part A – San Diego Region Staff Activities

1. Sustainable Remediation Forum Conference

Staff Contact: Julie Chan

The Sustainable Remediation Forum (SURF) held its west coast meeting on the UC San Diego Campus on January 31. Julie Chan, Cleanup and Land Discharge Branch Chief, participated on the “Regulatory Perspectives” panel at the meeting along with Paul Hadley of the Department of Toxic Substances Control, and Malcolm Weiss of Hunton & Williams LLP. Ms. Chan talked about the State policies that apply to environmental cleanups like Resolution No. 92-49 (the Cleanup and Abatement Policy) and the draft Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank Closure Policy, and how they support the implementation of sustainable remedial practices. The meeting was well attended by a mix of consultants, regulators, city and county government employees, academics, and attorneys.

SURF promotes the use of sustainable practices during implementation of remedial action activities with the objective of balancing economic viability, conservation of natural resources and biodiversity, and the enhancement of the quality of life in surrounding communities. SURF’s primary objective is to provide a forum for various stakeholders in remediation such as industry, government agencies, environmental groups, consultants, and academia, to collaborate, educate, advance, and develop consensus on the application of sustainability concepts throughout the lifecycle of remediation projects, from site investigation to closure. For more information, see the SURF website at <http://www.sustainableremediation.org/>.

Part B – Significant Regional Water Quality Issues

1. Rio Alomar Channelization Project in Mexico

Staff Contact: Dave Gibson

At the February 8, 2012 San Diego Water Board meeting, representatives from the Chilpancingo Collective for Environmental Justice and the San Diego Environmental Health Coalition informed the Board about Mexico’s ongoing Rio Alomar Channelization project and requested the Board’s intervention to alleviate environmental impacts from this project on both sides of the border.

The Rio Alomar River begins in the United States as Cottonwood Creek and is known as the Rio Alomar as it crosses into Mexico near Tecate. It traverses through Tijuana for about 10 Km and merges into the Las Palmas River to form the Tijuana River, which enters the United States at Tijuana international border crossing, and flows through the Tijuana River Valley into the Pacific Ocean (see Figures 1 and 2).



Figure 1 Rio Alomar is at the lower right corner; Tijuana River Valley is at the upper left corner (from Google map).

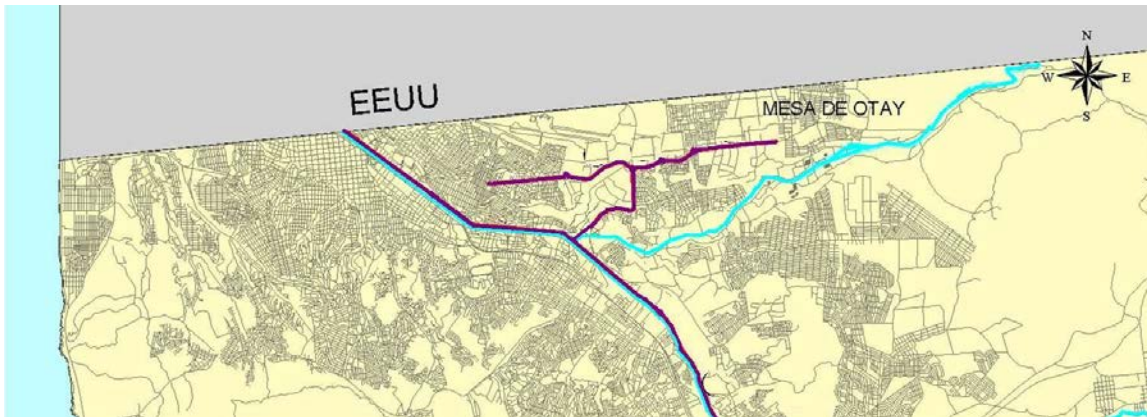


Figure 2 Green section is Rio Alomar (from Oscar Romo)

The Rio Alomar project, initiated and managed by CONAGUA¹, will channelize the entire section of the riverbed and banks with concrete inside Mexico from Tecate to the intersection of the Tijuana River (green section in Figure 2). CONAGUA will subsequently grant the waterway

¹ Mexico's National Water Commission (CONAGUA) is the federal authority (under the Ministry of the Environment and Natural Resources) responsible for administration of water resources, management and control of hydrologic systems, and related infrastructure and social development. CONAGUA also allocates water-related budget for the 32 states in Mexico.

federal land to the State of Baja California to build a highway system along the channel bank from Tijuana to the new Otay Mesa border crossing infrastructure, and to the city of Tijuana for urban development.

I met with Mr. Oscar Romo (Watershed Coordinator, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve) and a member of the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team regarding this project. I also toured the Rio Alomar project area during our January 24, 2012 visit and discussed the project during our meetings with Mexican officials from the City of Tijuana, State Water Commission, CESPT, SEMERNAT and CONAQUA. From these discussions, I learned that CONAGUA developed this project to address the following issues:

- Flood Protection - an area of approximately 1,384 hectares in the flood plain along Rio Alomar, including 362 hectares of federal land and 83 privately owned parcels flood every year during the winter season.
- Transportation Infrastructure - provide a major rapid transportation route connecting existing Highway 1 to the new Otay Mesa border crossing via Tijuana.
- Prevent Invasion of Public Land – federal land (the floodplain and riparian) along the waterway has been illegally claimed by private parties through fill and construction (Figure 3). By channelizing the river, CONAGUA can transfer the federal land to state and municipal government for infrastructure and urban development.



Figure 3

(a) Aerial view of the Alomar River. Notice the encroachment of the federal zone (flood plain) and the transformation of farm land into affordable housing developments.

(b) Illegal invasion of the flood plain and its riparian habitat by fill of debris and construction of cheap houses. Photo credit: Oscar Romo

The Rio Alomar project received approval following a complex technical and regulatory review process by a Watershed Council headed by CONAGUA, which includes federal, state and local government, Institute of Water Technology, as well as other users. The process considered factors such as legal requirements, technical merits, cultural value, and ecosystem preservation. At this time, the project is 80% complete and CONAGUA has spent the equivalent of approximately 80 million US dollars on the project.

Hydromodification projects typically result in significant environmental impacts including the alternation of flow regime, destruction of riparian and wetlands habitat, and the concurrent loss of the many beneficial functions provided by these habitats. In addition, riverbed channelization generally also results in an increase in the volume and velocity of peak flows during the wet season with a concomitant increase in pollutant loading to receiving waters. Although impacts are expected on both sides of the border from the Rio Alomar channelization project, environmental reviews on the project were completed in accordance with Mexican laws and policies.

While the Regional Board has no regulatory authority in Mexico, we will continue to work with the International Boundary and Water Commission- US Section, and the US Environmental Protection Agency to address any adverse impacts that do occur on the US side of the border. We will continue to seek support from our Mexican counterpart agencies to address watershed issues that affect both countries. Accordingly, improving mutually respectful collaboration through the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team's *Recovery Strategy* and cross border coordination through Border 2020 is the best course of action at this time in response to the concerns raised during the public forum at the February 8, 2012 Board Meeting.

2. Laguna Beach Burn Dump Site

Staff Contacts: Amy Grove, Chad Loflen

The San Diego Water Board has issued a Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (401 Certification) for the Interim Water Tank Ravine Burn Dump Stabilization Project pertaining to a former burn dump site in the City of Laguna Beach. The issuance of the 401 Certification involved close internal coordination between San Diego Water Board staff dealing with surface water and ground water issues associated with the burn dump site. The issuance of the 401 Certification was also closely coordinated with a number of entities having jurisdiction over the burn dump site including the Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Fish and Game, Orange County Health Care Agency, and the City of Laguna Beach (City).

In the Fall of 2011 the City notified the San Diego Water Board that wastes from a legacy burn dump site located on City property were exposed, eroded, and redeposited on residential properties and in Laguna Canyon Creek last winter following torrential rain events. The Laguna Beach Burn Site, also known as the Water Tank Ravine Burn Dump (or Site) is located in a ravine tributary to Laguna Canyon Creek, and was an unpermitted, privately owned and operated burn dump for residential household and agricultural waste from the early 1950s until 1972. According to the City, it was unaware of the Site's existence when it purchased the property in 1991.

The 401 Certification was issued on February 3, 2012. San Diego Water Board has been working with the Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Fish and Game, Orange County Health Care Agency, and the City to develop interim measures that can be implemented immediately to prevent further erosion, transportation, and deposition of burn ash and contaminated soils onto residential properties and into Laguna Canyon Creek, until the City can develop and implement a remedial action plan. The proposed stabilization project involves the temporary armoring of stream banks and construction of check dams within an unnamed ephemeral drainage that traverses the Site, affecting 140 linear feet of an unnamed tributary to Laguna Canyon Channel. The armoring will be accomplished through the placement of shotcrete over the creek banks and bed, which are currently comprised almost entirely of burn ash and residual landfill wastes. The placement of bank and bed armor is a temporary measure to prevent further erosion and the migration of burn ash and

contaminated soils downstream of the Site. The 401 Certification allows these temporary measures to remain in place for no more than three years. During those three years, the San Diego Water Board will continue to work with the City and other regulatory agencies to develop permanent measures for containing the wastes and restoring the vegetation in the area back to its native habitat.

3. Los Peñasquito Lagoon Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Public Comment Period

Staff Contact: Cathryn Henning

Staff released a proposed sediment total maximum daily load (TMDL) for Los Peñasquitos Lagoon on February 13, 2012. The San Diego Water Board will hold a public hearing on May 9, 2012, to deliberate and consider adoption of tentative Resolution No. R9-2012-0033 to amend the Basin Plan to incorporate the TMDL. This TMDL addresses the Clean Water Act section 303(d) sediment impairment for Los Peñasquitos Lagoon. Associated documents were distributed to known interested parties and posted on-line on February 13, 2012.

Los Peñasquitos Lagoon is one of the few remaining and irreplaceable coastal lagoons in southern California providing valuable estuarine habitat, as well as numerous other important beneficial uses. Over the course of the 20th century, the Lagoon has incurred a number of anthropogenic disturbances which, cumulatively have resulted in excessive sedimentation and the gradual degradation and loss of the saltmarsh habitat. Therefore, the draft TMDL proposes numeric targets for sediment loading from the watershed and for saltmarsh restoration in the Lagoon.

Interested persons are requested to submit written comments on the available documents and/or attend the hearing to present testimony. The formal public comment period began on Wednesday, February 15, 2012, and ends on Monday, April 2, 2012 (a total of 47 days). Interested persons are requested to submit written comments on the available documents. At the hearing, commenters are expected to summarize their written comments. Oral comments raising significant new issues not raised during the written comment period will not be permitted. Written comments must be submitted to the San Diego Water Board no later than Monday, April 2, 2012, at noon.

Relevant documents are available online at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/tmdls/los_penasquitos_lagoon.shtml.

4. Enforcement Actions for January and February 2012

Staff Contact: Jeremy Haas

During the months of January and February 2012, the San Diego Water Board initiated the following enforcement actions:

| | January | February |
|--|----------------|-----------------|
| Notice of Noncompliance with Storm Water Enforcement Act of 1998 | 1 | |
| Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint | | 1 |
| Expedited Payment Program for Mandatory Minimum Penalties | | 1 |
| Notice of Violation | 1 | 1 |
| Staff Enforcement Letters | 4 | 4 |
| Total | 6 | 7 |

A summary of recent regional enforcement actions is provided below. Additional information on violations, enforcement actions, and mandatory minimum penalties is available to the public from the following on-line sources:

State Water Board Office of Enforcement webpage at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/enforcement/

California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS):
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ciwqs/publicreports.shtml

State Water Board GeoTracker database: <https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/>

Notice of Noncompliance with Storm Water Enforcement Act of 1998

Conti & Son Monument Company, San Diego

A Notice of Noncompliance was sent on January 6, 2012, to Conti & Son Monument Company for failure to enroll in the statewide General Industrial Storm Water Permit Order No. 97-03-DWQ. The Notice is the first to inform the discharger that, pursuant to Water Code section 13399.30(a)(2), failure to enroll will subject it to mandatory penalties. A second Notice will be sent after 30 days if the discharger fails to enroll. If a Notice of Intent to enroll is not submitted within 30 days of the second Notice, the violation will be subject to a mandatory penalty of not less than \$5,000 per year of noncompliance plus staff costs pursuant to Water Code section 13399.33.

Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaint

City of Oceanside, Sanitary Sewer Overflow

ACL Complaint No. R9-2012-0036 was issued to the City of Oceanside on February 22, 2012, in the amount of \$1,572,850 for violations resulting from the discharge of 5,349,000 gallons of raw sewage to Buena Vista Creek, Buena Vista Lagoon, and the Pacific Ocean from December 23-28, 2010. A hearing on the matter is tentatively scheduled for May 9, 2012. Public comments on the proposed liability will be accepted through April 20, 2012.

Expedited Payment Program for Mandatory Minimum Penalties

Sweetwater Authority, Richard Reynolds Desalination Facility

Order No. R9-2012-0035 was issued on February 9, 2012, by the Executive Officer to endorse the Sweetwater Authority's participation in the Expedited Payment Program for mandatory minimum penalties. To resolve five effluent violations subject to mandatory penalties, Sweetwater Authority agreed to pay the \$15,000 mandatory minimum penalty required by Water Code section 13385(h). The Order was issued after a 30-day public comment period during which no comments were received.

Notice of Violation (NOV)

Hines Growers LLC, Fallbrook

An NOV was issued to Hines Growers LLC on January 4, 2012, for submitting a deficient Monitoring and Reporting Program Plan and Quality Assurance Project Plan to comply with Conditional Waiver No. 4 for Discharges from Agricultural and Nursery Operations (a.k.a. Ag Waiver).

The Burnett Group, Anza

An NOV was issued to the Burnett Group for violations associated discharges of fill material without applying for waste discharge requirements or a Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification. The violations were noted during a site inspection on December 14, 2011, at property known as Tentative Parcel Map No. 36327 near Anza, Riverside County.

Staff Enforcement Letters (SEL)

City of San Diego, North City Water Reclamation Plant

An SEL was issued to the City of San Diego on January 10, 2012, for 11 violations of the 12-month average effluent limitation for manganese in Order No. 97-03 that occurred from January through November 2011.

Rancho Santa Fe Community Services District, Encinitas

An SEL was issued to the Rancho Santa Fe Community Services District on January 6, 2012, for three violations of the daily maximum discharge specification for total dissolved solids and one violation of the daily maximum discharge specification for chloride in Order No. 92-04. The violations occurred between January and September 2011.

U.S. Navy S.E.R.E. Camp, Warner Springs

An SEL was issued to the U.S. Navy on January 12, 2012, for four violations of the 12-month average and the daily maximum discharge specifications for total dissolved solids in Order No. 93-11. The violations occurred between January and December 2011.

Oceanside Marine Center, Oceanside

An SEL was issued to the Oceanside Marine Center on January 26, 2012, for numerous monitoring and reporting violations of Order No. R9-2006-0021 that occurred between 2006 and 2011.

LDG Holdings, LLC, Lake San Marcos Nutrient Impairment Investigation

An SEL was issued to LDG Holdings, LLC on February 6, 2012, for submitting a workplan for the Lake San Marcos nutrient impairment investigation that failed to meet the requirements in Investigative Order No. R9-2011-0033.

Fairbanks Ranch Community Services District

An SEL was issued to the Fairbanks Ranch Community Services District on February 16, 2012 for two violations of the 30-day average discharge specification for total dissolved solids in Order No. 93-05 that occurred between October 2010 and September 2011.

Lilac Enterprises, Inc., Hideaway Lake Mobile Home Estates

An SEL was issued to Lilac Enterprises, Inc. on February 14, 2012, for two violations of the daily maximum discharge specifications for biochemical oxygen demand and chloride in Order No. 93-27 that occurred between July 2010 and December 2011.

Warner Estates Homeowner Association

An SEL was issued to the Warner Estates Homeowner Association on February 10, 2012, for one violation of the 12-month average effluent limitation for total dissolved solids in Order No. 93-14 that occurred in September 2011.

5. Expedited Payment Program for Mandatory Minimum Penalties

Staff Contacts: Darren Bradford and Rebecca Steward

In January 2012 four dischargers accepted conditional resolutions and waived their rights to public hearings (Acceptance and Waivers) regarding mandatory minimum penalties (MMP) for reported violations of effluent limitations prescribed in NPDES permits issued by the San Diego Water Board. Notices of the proposed settlement agreements are currently posted on our web page for a 30 day public comment period. If no substantial comments are received, the San Diego Water Board's Executive Officer intends to execute the Acceptance and Waivers as stipulated orders assessing the uncontested penalty amount pursuant to Water Code section 13385. Below is a summary of the proposed MMP settlements:

| Responsible Party | Effluent Limitation Violations | Violation Date | MMP Amount (Water Code section 13385) | Public Comment Period End |
|---|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment, Inc. SeaWorld, San Diego | Total Ammonia (2 violations) | 5/24/2011 5/24/2011 | \$6,000 | 3/22/2012 |
| City of San Diego Point Loma WWTP | Settleable Solids (2 violations) | 12/31/2007 11/1/2007 | \$6,000 | 3/10/2012 |
| South Orange County Wastewater Authority Coastal Treatment Plant | Settleable Solids | 1/19/2009 | \$3,000 | 3/7/2012 |
| South Orange County Wastewater Authority Latham WWTF | Settleable Solids | 12/22/2010 | \$3,000 | 3/7/2012 |

Funds collected will be deposited into the statewide Cleanup and Abatement Account. Questions regarding the proposed settlement agreements should be directed to Darren Bradford at dbradford@waterboards.ca.gov.

6. Former Santa Ysabel Chevron Gas Station – Status Report

Staff Contact: Sue Pease

The San Diego Water Board is working with the State Water Board's environmental consultant, Tetra Tech, to evaluate options to restore the groundwater quality in the vicinity of a the former Santa Ysabel Chevron gas station. A release of gasoline constituents from the former gas station has impacted one public water supply well and three private wells. San Diego Water Board staff has been directing activities at the Site since the responsible party, Mr. and Mrs. Moretti, abandoned the site in March 2009. The State Water Board's Emergency, Abandoned, and Recalcitrant (EAR) Account has since funded cleanup activities at the site.

The site is located in Santa Ysabel, a small community east of Ramona that depends on groundwater as its source of drinking water. The San Diego County Department of Environmental Health established a moratorium on drilling wells in the community due to the petroleum pollution in the groundwater. Remediation of the petroleum pollution in groundwater may allow the moratorium to be lifted.

The next step is to identify an appropriate and cost effective remedial alternative for the site. Tetra Tech conducted soil sampling in 2011 to evaluate soil excavation as a potential remedial alternative but ultimately, did not recommend it for the following reasons. Sampling results showed that petroleum constituent concentrations have decreased to the point that little of the contaminant mass likely remains in the soil, having mostly leached into the groundwater. Furthermore, underground utilities and other access constraints make excavation of soil a less desirable remedial option. Staff has directed Tetra Tech to provide a comparison of the cost and effectiveness of three other remedial alternatives: soil vapor extraction with air sparge, groundwater extraction and treatment, and monitored natural attenuation. Staff expects to receive Tetra Tech's evaluation by June 30. Based on Tetra Tech's evaluation, staff will determine which remedial alternative is most suitable for the site and the community.

The groundwater in the vicinity of the impacted water supply wells contains gasoline constituents, primarily MTBE. The four wells have carbon treatment systems which are maintained by Tetra Tech to ensure the continued effectiveness of the systems. Tetra Tech will continue to sample the four supply wells, and will also sample the monitoring wells in Santa Ysabel this spring to get additional groundwater quality data with which to evaluate the potential remedial alternatives.

To ensure continued funding, the San Diego Water Board must re-nominate the site to the EAR Account Annual Site List every year, and the State Water Board must approve the nomination. The nomination of the site to the Fiscal Year 2012/2013 Annual Site List will be brought to the San Diego Water Board for consideration at the April meeting. The Santa Ysabel Site was first placed on the Annual Site list in 2009, and has been approved for the list every year since.

7. Ensuring Safe Drinking Water at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton

Staff Contact: Kelly Dorsey

Thanks to a cooperative effort between the San Diego Water Board and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), an enhanced drinking water monitoring program will be implemented by the U.S. Marine Corps for vulnerable groundwater wells at Camp Pendleton. The enhanced monitoring program will be in effect for two years, from January 2012 through December 2013, and will add two new chemicals of concern, 1,2,3-trichloropropane (1,2,3-TCP) and 1,4-dioxane to the list of constituents to be monitored.

1,2,3-TCP was likely used at Camp Pendleton as a paint remover, and cleaning, degreasing and maintenance solvent. 1,4-Dioxane was also likely used as a cleaning and maintenance solvent. Drinking water production wells subject to the enhanced monitoring program are located near contaminated sites in the Santa Margarita River watershed where these and other potential contaminants were used.

The need for the enhanced monitoring program became apparent after 1,2,3-TCP was detected in Base drinking water Well 2202 in 2008. The Marine Corps eventually shut down the well and began investigating the source of the contamination. The investigation revealed that many potential sources of contaminants were located up- and cross-gradient of drinking water production wells in the Santa Margarita River watershed. Based on the investigation results and the persistent detection of contaminants, the Marine Corps converted Well 2202 to a groundwater monitoring well, and lost it permanently as a drinking water source.

The CDPH is the State agency that requires water suppliers to regularly monitor their drinking water production wells to ensure the safety of public water supplies. San Diego Water Board staff shared essential information with CDPH staff regarding the nature of groundwater pollutants detected at Camp Pendleton, the locations of active cleanup sites near base drinking water production wells, the historical impacts to base drinking water wells, and the threat that these pollutants pose to drinking water at Camp Pendleton. Enhanced monitoring in the Santa Margarita River watershed will help protect other drinking water production wells from suffering the same fate as Well 2202.

8. Recycled Water Annual Summary Report 2011 (Attachment B-8)

Staff Contact: Fisayo Osibodu

Every year, the San Diego Water Board surveys recycled water agencies to collect information on production, reuse, and the quality of recycled water in the San Diego Region. This information is analyzed and summarized in the *Recycled Water Annual Summary Report (Report)*. The report for 2011 is included as Attachment A. One purpose of the *Report* is to monitor progress in reaching the goals identified in the State's Recycled Water Policy. The *Report* is also designed to 1) raise awareness of the need for recycled water use in the San Diego Region and 2) encourage recycled water producers to take steps to increase the use of recycled water in their service area while maintaining the quality of the water to protect the beneficial uses of groundwater and surface waters of the Region.

The San Diego Region's recycled water agencies produced and beneficially reused more recycled water in 2011 than 2010. Still, over half of the recycled water produced was disposed rather than reused, which demonstrates the need to expand the market for recycled water in this Region. Reports indicate that the majority of the recycled water use is for irrigation purposes (primarily landscape irrigation). User compliance with rules and regulations changed slightly as the number of inspected sites with violations increased from 1 percent to 2 percent. Despite these violations, overall, recycled water quality met effluent limitations across the Region. Comparing historical data, there are no discernible trends for individual facilities or constituents, suggesting that the overall quality of recycled water remained consistent for the last two decades. Average total dissolved solids, chloride, and sulfate concentrations were reduced in recycled water in 2011 due to better quality source water.

9. San Diego Bay Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy

Staff Contact: Dave Gibson

The Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy for San Diego Bay, [released on Feb. 16, 2012](#), is one of the nation's first regional approaches to sea level rise adaptation, and resulted from the efforts of a broad collaboration of stakeholders, including the local governments around San Diego Bay, the Port of San Diego, San Diego Airport Authority, and many others. This strategic planning project was undertaken as part of the San Diego Regional Climate Protection Initiative, a partnership with The San Diego Foundation and all local governments in the San Diego region. The Initiative also included the preparation of 18 greenhouse gas inventories and a regional climate network for local government staff. It was supported by The San Diego Foundation through its Climate Initiative.

The strategy document consists of two main components: a comprehensive vulnerability assessment that evaluates how community assets could be impacted by sea level rise; and broad recommendations for building the resilience of community assets. This regional strategy is a foundation to guide coordinated adaptation planning among participating local jurisdictions. The

Sea Level Rise Adaptation Strategy and supporting documentation can be found at: http://www.icleiusa.org/climate_and_energy/Climate_Adaptation_Guidance/san-diego-bay-sea-level-rise-adaptation-strategy-1/san-diego-bay-sea-level-rise-adaptation-strategy.

Part C – Statewide Issues of Importance to the San Diego Region

1. Statewide Mercury Policy and Mercury Control Program for Reservoirs – Upcoming CEQA Scoping Meetings

Staff Contact: Charles Cheng

The State Water Board and Regional Water Boards are working together to develop a Statewide Mercury Control Policy and Mercury Control Program for Reservoirs (Statewide Mercury Policy and Control Program) to address mercury contamination in reservoirs in California. Four public CEQA scoping meetings have been scheduled around the state for early March 2012. The southern California meeting will be in Riverside on March 12.

Mercury is a heavy metal and potent neurotoxin that is harmful to both humans and wildlife. Women and children are most at risk from mercury poisoning. In California, sources of mercury typically include historic mercury and gold mining activities, atmospheric deposition from both local and global airborne sources, wastewater treatment plants, and urban storm water runoff.

Need for a Statewide Mercury Policy and Control Program

Harmful levels of mercury in fish are a statewide (indeed nationwide) problem. In 2010, the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) released findings from California's largest survey of contaminants in sport fish from lakes and reservoirs. The survey found methylmercury and polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are the contaminants of greatest concern. Reservoirs containing potentially harmful amounts of mercury are found throughout California, mostly in the Central Valley Region. A summary of the findings were provided in the August 2010 Executive Officer's Report.

Lake Hodges is currently the only water body in the San Diego Region listed as impaired for mercury pursuant to Clean Water Act section 303(d). It is impaired due to exceedances of the fish tissue screening value for human health and the water quality objective for municipal and domestic supply. However, of thirteen lakes and reservoirs sampled in the San Diego Region during the 2010 SWAMP study, one Reservoir (Loveland Reservoir) had fish samples that exceeded a no consumption advisory for methylmercury, and ten lakes had fish samples that exceeded the methylmercury advisory level for three fish servings per week.

A statewide Mercury Policy will provide the framework for a consistent approach to controlling mercury in California's inland waters. A statewide mercury control program for reservoirs is needed because the Water Boards must address impairments in an efficient and timely manner. Future phases may include development of control plans specific to other mercury-impaired water bodies such as creeks, rivers, bays, and estuaries.

CEQA Scoping Meetings

The CEQA scoping meetings are intended to (1) provide stakeholders and the public with a basic understanding of the project and the types of actions that may be required for compliance; and (2) provide opportunities to comment on the appropriate scope and content of the environmental analysis early in the project development process. Details about the CEQA scoping meetings and

related environmental documents are available on the State Water Board website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/mercury.

2. Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment: Draft Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank (UST) Case Closure Policy

Staff Contact: Sean McClain

The State Water Board has released the Draft Water Quality Control Policy for Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank (UST) Case Closure (Draft Policy) for public review. The Draft Policy was developed by a stakeholder group and will be considered for adoption by the State Water Board after the public has had an opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Policy. The purpose of the Draft Policy is to establish consistent statewide case closure criteria for low-threat petroleum UST sites. The Draft Policy and a Draft Substitute Environmental Document (SED) are available for public review and comment.

Interested persons may submit written comments on the Draft Policy and Draft SED by email, fax, or hard copy. In order to be considered, written comments must be received by the State Water Board by **12:00 noon on March 19, 2012**. The Draft Closure Policy and Draft SED may be viewed and downloaded from the State Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/lt_cls_plcy.shtml

Please direct any questions about this notice to Kevin Graves, UST Program Manager, at (916) 341-5782 (kgraves@waterboards.ca.gov).

3. Brownfields Funding Workshop – March 28, 2012

Staff Contact: John Anderson

Experts from the USEPA, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, and the State Water Board will be at the California Financing Coordinating Committee (CFCC) Funding Fair on March 28, 2012 at the CalTrans District 11 Headquarters in San Diego. The three agencies will be at the Fair to provide information regarding brownfield cleanup grants. Brownfields are underutilized properties where reuse is hindered by the actual or suspected presence of pollution or contamination. The CFCC Funding Fairs provide opportunities to obtain information about currently available infrastructure grant, loan, and bond financing programs and options. Annually the agencies hold public workshops throughout California and are part of a cooperative outreach to help educate the public about funding sources that are available for investigations and cleanups in the Brownfields program that the regulatory agencies award.

All three of the regulatory agencies are publicizing these events as much as possible. More information about the upcoming Funding Fair and no cost registration can be found at http://cfcc.ca.gov/funding_fairs.htm. For specific information on the workshops, please contact Ian Waters of the State Water Board at IWaters@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 323-7905. Ms. Susan Pease of the Central Cleanup Unit is the San Diego Water Board's Brownfields Coordinator. Please contact her at (858) 637-5596 or at SPease@waterboards.ca.gov for information on Brownfields Programs.

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION

Significant NPDES Permits,
WDRs, and Actions of the
San Diego Water Board

March 14, 2012

APPENDED TO EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE
SIGNIFICANT NPDES PERMITS, WDRS, AND ACTIONS
OF THE SAN DIEGO WATER BOARD

| Action Agenda Item | Action Type | Draft Complete | Written Comments Due | Consent Item |
|--|--------------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| April 11, 2012 | | | | |
| Mission Viejo City Council Chambers | | | | |
| Update from the Three (San Diego, Orange and Upper Santa Margarita) Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Groups <i>(Walsh)</i> | Information Item | NA | NA | NA |
| Waste Discharge Requirements, Jonas Salk Elementary School <i>(Monji)</i> | New WDRs | 90% | April 18, 2012 | Consent |
| NPDES Permit Reissuance with the South Orange County Waste Authority - San Juan Creek Ocean Outfall <i>(Lim)</i> | NPDES Permit Reissuance | 90% | March 12, 2012 | No |
| NPDES Permit Reissuance with the South Orange County Waste Authority - Aliso Creek Ocean Outfall <i>(Lim)</i> | NPDES Permit Reissuance | 90% | March 12, 2012 | No |
| Nomination of Santa Ysabel Chevron to State Emergency, Abandoned and Recalcitrant Site List <i>(Pease)</i> | Resolution | 75% | NA | Yes |
| May 9, 2012 | | | | |
| San Diego Water Board Office | | | | |
| Amendment Increasing Kinder Morgan Energy Partners Flow Rate of Treated Groundwater <i>(Neill)</i> | Permit Enrollment Amendment | 50% | April 3, 2012 | No |
| Resolution Endorsing the Regional Strategic Monitoring Framework <i>(Posthumus/Busse)</i> | Resolution | 25% | TBD | No |
| Total Maximum Daily Load for Sediment to Los Penasquitos Lagoon <i>(Henning)</i> | Hearing: Basin Plan Amendment | 90% | 2-Apr-12 | No |
| Reissuance of General Permit for Closed, Abandoned, Inactive Landfills <i>(Grove)</i> | Updated Waste Discharge Requirements | 100% | Mar. 14, 2012 | No |
| New General Permit for Closed, Abandoned, Inactive Burn Sites <i>(Grove)</i> | New Waste Discharge Requirements | 100% | Mar. 14, 2012 | No |
| Administrative Civil Liability against City of Oceanside, Haymar Line Sanitary Sewer Overflow <i>(Means)</i> | Administrative Civil Liability | 50% | 20-Apr-12 | No |
| June 13, 2012 | | | | |
| San Diego Water Board Office | | | | |
| Responding to Comments <i>(Barker, Chan and Haas)</i> | Information Item | NA | NA | NA |
| General Permit for Boatyards in the San Diego Region <i>(Morris)</i> | New NPDES Permit | 35% | 21-May-12 | No |
| Former Texaco and Former Shell Service Stations on Rancho Santa Fe Road <i>(Tobler)</i> | WDRs Recission | 75% | 30-Apr-12 | Yes |
| Fallbrook Public Utility District, Plant 1 <i>(Neill)</i> | NPDES Permit Reissuance | 90% | 21-May-12 | No |
| Amendment of Camp Pendletons NPDES Permit to the Oceanside Ocean Outfall <i>(Morris)</i> | NPDES Permit Amendment | 80% | 21-May-12 | Maybe |
| July 2012 | | | | |
| No Meeting Scheduled | | | | |

California Regional Water Quality Control Board San Diego Region Annual Recycled Water Summary Report 2011

California must diversify its water supply sources to meet the needs of a growing population. Importing water is not sustainable due to droughts, climate change, and complex legal issues. The State Water Board determined that managing a diverse water supply can help alleviate the problems. The State's Recycled Water Policy includes the goals of increasing total recycled water use in California by 1 million acre-feet per year by 2020, and by 2 million acre-feet per year by 2030. "Recycled water use" is defined as a use that replaces the use of potable water. For reference, the average family of four uses 0.45 acre-feet (ac-ft) of water each year.

One purpose of the San Diego Water Board's *Annual Recycled Water Summary Report* is to monitor progress in reaching the goals identified in the State's Recycled Water Policy. The Report also provides an analysis and summary of information on the production, reuse, and quality of recycled water in the San Diego Region. Information analyzed in the report comes from surveys of recycled water agencies. The *Recycled Water Annual Summary Report* is designed to 1) raise awareness of the need for recycled water use in the San Diego Region and 2) encourage recycled water producers to take steps to increase the use of recycled water in their service area while maintaining the quality of the water to protect the beneficial uses of groundwater and surface waters of the San Diego Region.

The San Diego Region's recycled water agencies produced and beneficially reused more recycled water in 2011 than 2010. Still, over half of the recycled water produced was disposed rather than reused which demonstrates the need to expand the market for recycled water in this Region, and the 4-year trend appeared downward. Thirty of the San Diego Region's 39 recycled water facilities reported that they treated approximately 110,000 acre feet (ac-ft) of wastewater, of which approximately 49,000 ac-ft of recycled water was beneficially reused, with the remaining volume either sent to the ocean for disposal or stored. The volume of recycled water that was reported as reused in the Region increased by 7,000 ac-ft from approximately 42,000 ac-ft in 2010 to 49,000 ac-ft in 2011. The percentage of beneficially reused recycled water, however, fell from 56.2 percent in 2010 to 44.6 percent in 2011. This is because a significantly larger volume of wastewater was treated in 2011 compared to 2010.

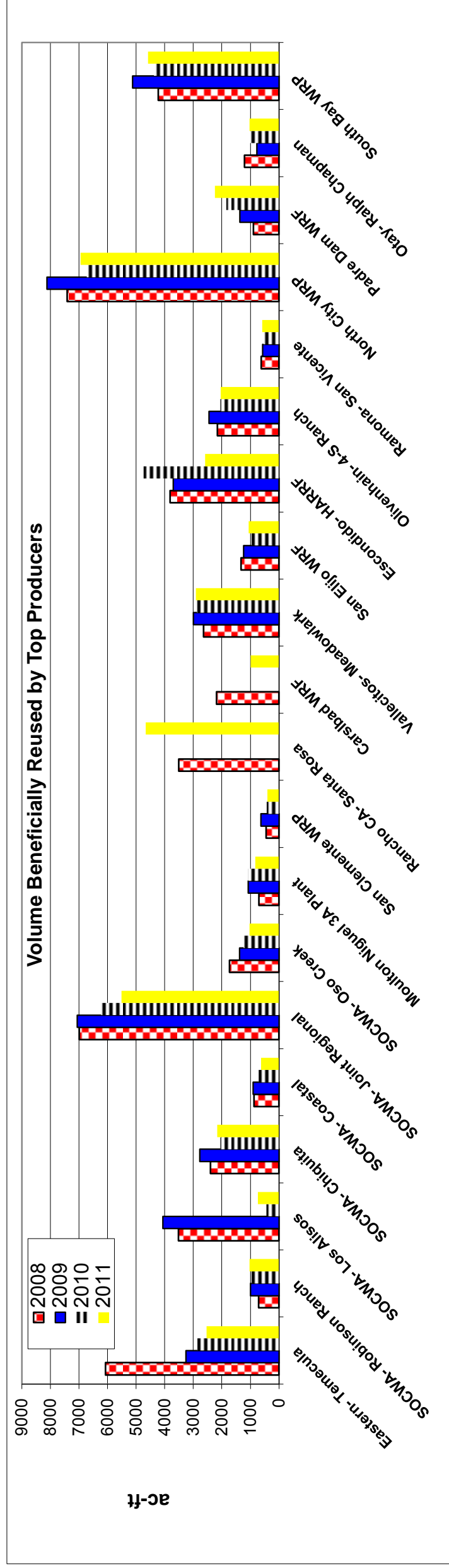
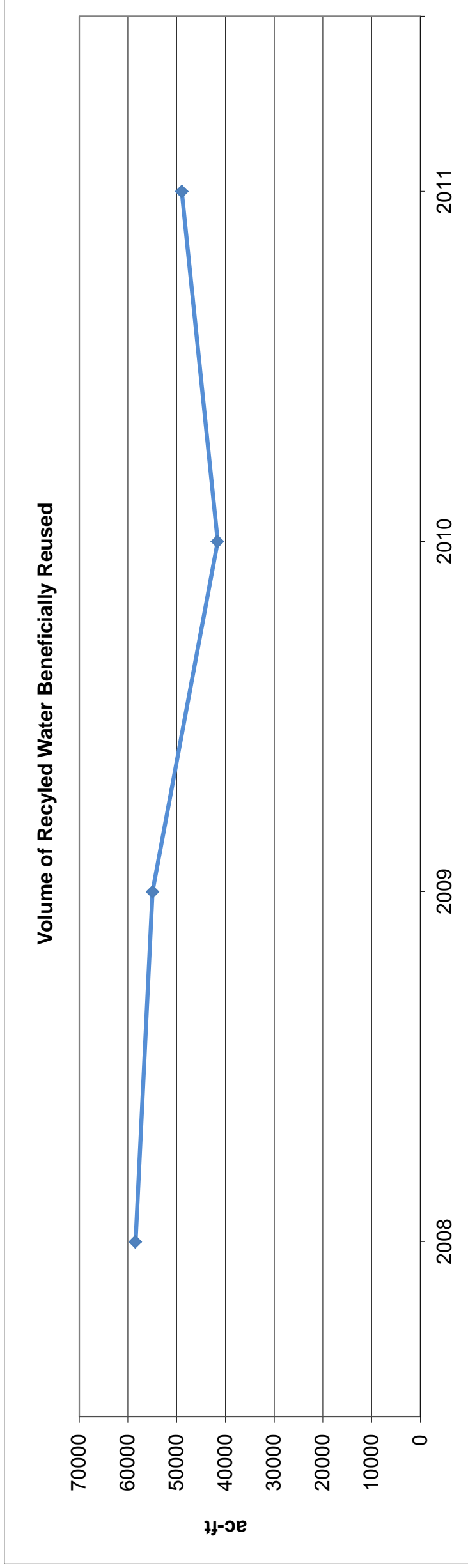
The San Diego Water Board regulates the production and discharge of recycled water through waste discharge requirements, Master Reclamation Permits, Water Reclamation Requirements (collectively referred to as "permits"), and waivers of waste discharge requirements. The Master Reclamation Permits are a tool intended to promote recycled water use by allowing the producer to regulate its users, rather than requiring each user to obtain separate requirements from the San Diego Water Board or the State Water Board.

The San Diego Water Board also collected information on the use type, use location, and compliance with permits. The number of reported use sites increased by 735 from 4,095 in 2010 to 4,360 in 2011. The percent of sites inspected by recycled water providers also increased from approximately 59 percent in 2010 to 69 percent in 2011. The number of violations identified in 2011 also increased. In 2010, 2,430 sites were inspected with 66 violations identified at 33 sites. In 2011, 2,995 sites were inspected with 341 violations identified at 53 sites. The percent of inspected sites with violations increased slightly from 1 to 2 percent. Although recycled water producers reported that a total of approximately 49,000 ac-ft of recycled water was reused in 2011, the use sites that provided data only accounted for 42,000 ac-ft, or approximately 86 percent of the total. This difference may have been due to accounting discrepancies and recycled water use at some of the water recycling plants not being reported. Information reported by recycled water producers shows recycled water is primarily used for irrigation.

Despite the violations noted above, overall recycled water quality met effluent limitations across the Region. The water quality data indicates that the average concentration of total dissolved solids (TDS), chloride, and sulfate in the source water decreased from 2010 to 2011. There was also a corresponding decrease in the average concentration of TDS, chloride, and sulfate in recycled water. Other constituents that showed decreased concentrations in recycled water from 2010 to 2011 were percent sodium, total nitrogen, boron, methylene blue-activated substances, and turbidity. Concentrations of constituents such as nitrate, manganese, and color increased from 2010 to 2011, while concentrations of fluoride and iron were approximately the same. Data for 16 of the wastewater treatment facilities from 2009-2011 was compared. The concentrations for 2009-2011 were generally within the range of historical data. Furthermore there are no discernible trends for individual facilities or constituents, suggesting that the overall quality of recycled water remained consistent for the last two decades.

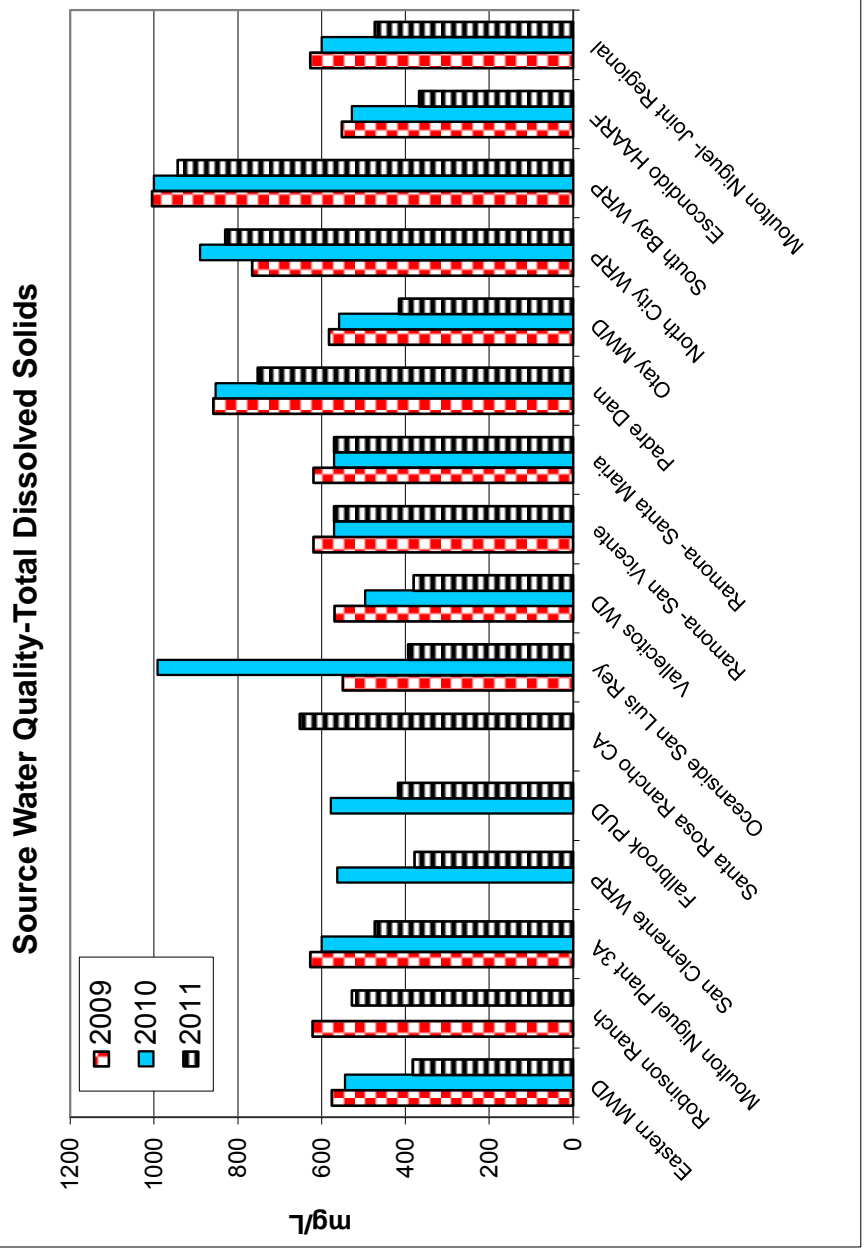
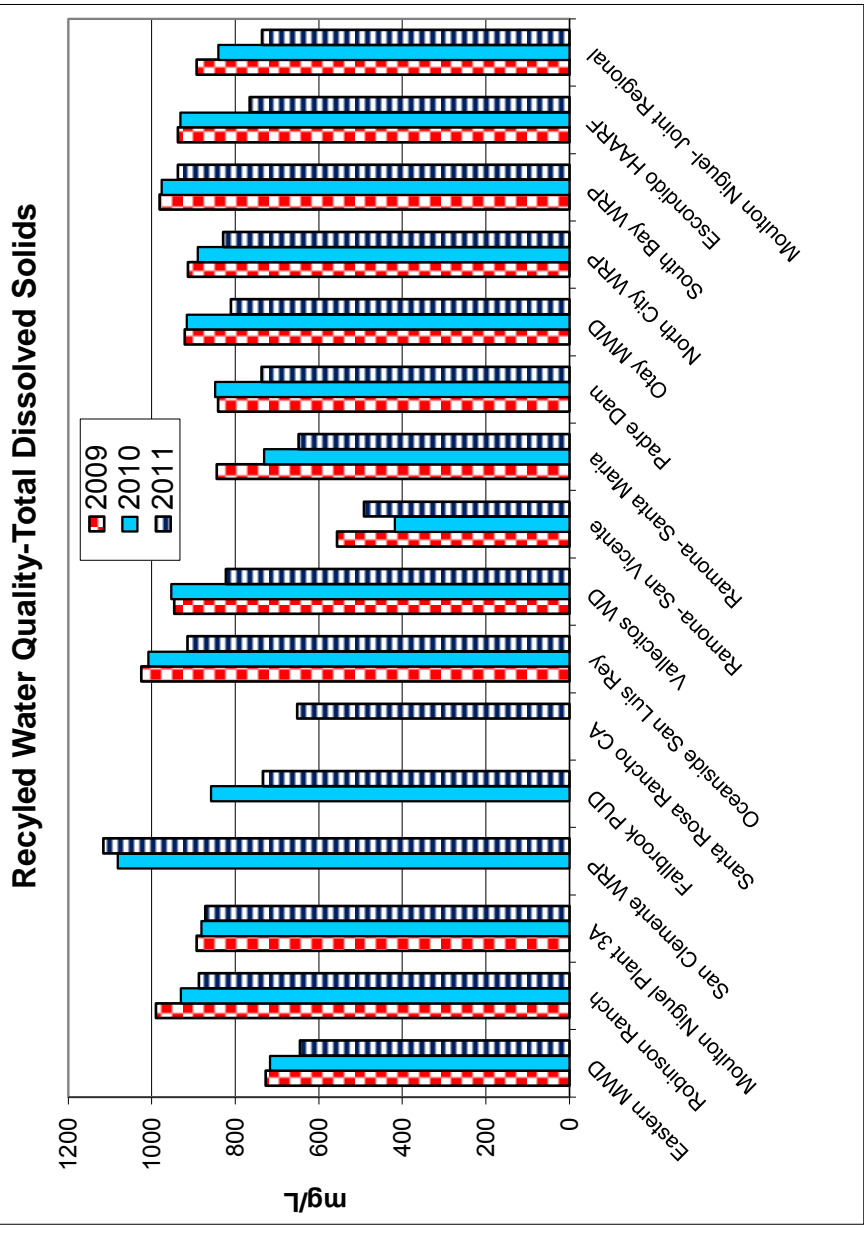
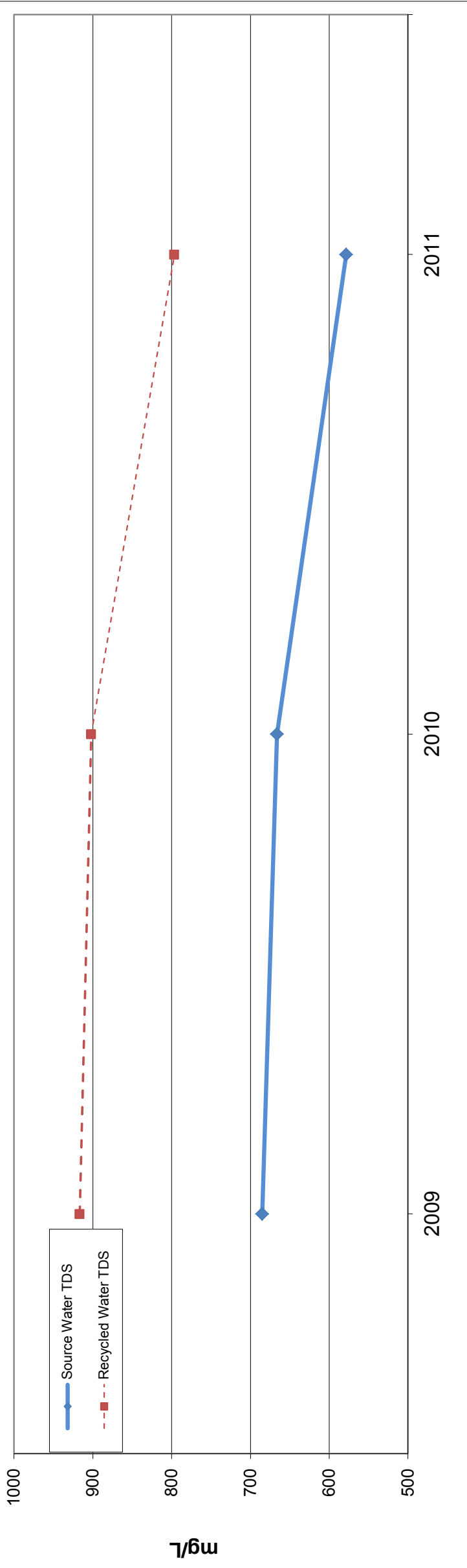
The San Diego Water Board gathered data for this report from annual reports, both voluntary and permit required. All comparisons are approximations due to inconsistent methods of measuring, reporting and gathering data. In addition, volumes and percentages of recycled water produced and distributed may vary due to storage conditions and due to instances of production/distribution between agencies and jurisdictional areas of the San Diego and Santa Ana Water Boards.

ATTACHMENT A-RECYCLED WATER ANNUAL SUMMARY 2011
Data Tables and Charts

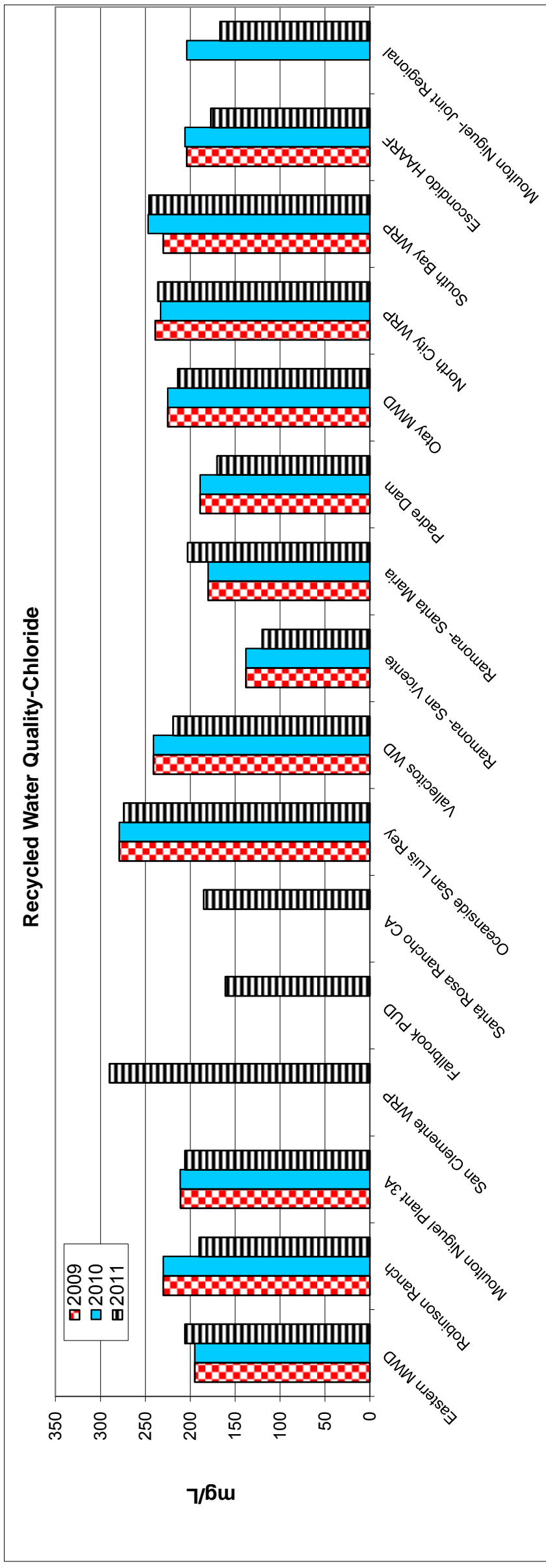
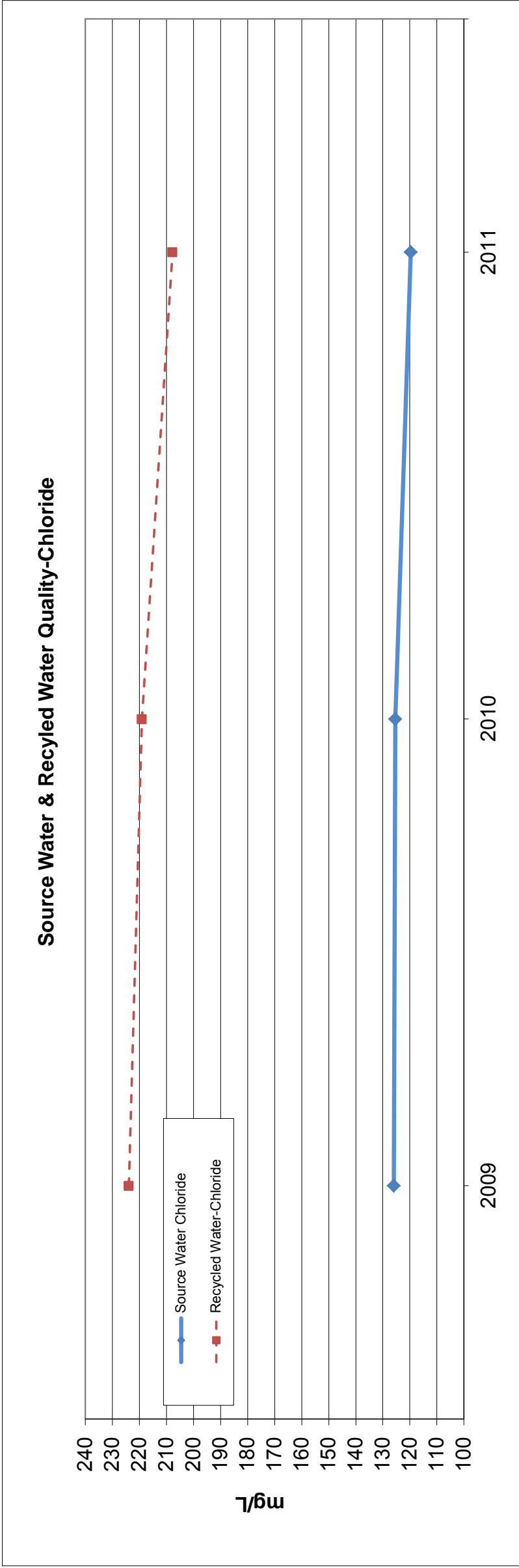


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Source Water & Recycled Water Quality-Total Dissolved Solids



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