NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENTS
ON THE
AMENDED STORMWATER MANAGEMENT PLAN (SWMP)
FOR MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (MS4)
WITHIN THE WHITewater RIVER WATERSHED
Coachella Valley – Riverside County

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) will now accept comments on the amended Stormwater Management Plan (SWMP) submitted on June 20, 2014, by Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District on behalf of the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permittees¹ in the Whitewater River Basin.

The proposed SWMP describes the Permittees’ plan for implementing requirements of the discharge permit issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit program (33 U.S.C. § 1342), Board Order R7-2013-0011.

BACKGROUND

On May 21, 2008, the Colorado River Basin Water Board adopted the previous NPDES MS4 Permit, Board Order R7-2008-0001. In pertinent part, that permit required the Permittees to prepare and submit for Executive Officer approval a SWMP. The Permittees submitted the SWMP, which was approved by the Executive Officer in 2011. The Clean Water Act requires NPDES permits to be renewed every five years. Accordingly, the 2008 permit was amended and timely adopted by the Board on June 20, 2013, Board Order R7-2013-0011. Because the current permit contains additional and/or different requirements than the 2008 permit, the current permit requires the Permittees to revise the SWMP to incorporate those new requirements and to submit them for Executive Officer approval, as explained in more detail below:

1. The revised SWMP shall be submitted for approval by the Executive Officer within 12 months of adoption of this MS4 Permit. Until such time that the

¹ County of Riverside and the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, in cooperation with the Coachella Valley Water District and incorporated cities, including the Cities of Banning, Cathedral City, Coachella, Desert Hot Springs, Indian Wells, Indio, La Quinta, Palm Desert, Palm Springs and Rancho Mirage
Executive Officer provides approval of the revised SWMP, the Permittees shall continue to implement the requirements described in Order R7-2008-0001 and the 2011 SWMP.

2. Upon approval by the Executive Officer, the Permittees shall be required to implement the revised SWMP, and the requirements described in Order R7-2013-0011.

3. The proposed SWMP includes a description of Structural and Source Control Best Management Practices (BMPs) to reduce Pollutants discharged from Urban Runoff into the MS4 that are to be implemented during the term of this Permit.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The proposed SWMP is available to view or download on the Colorado River Basin Water Board's web site at:


Interested parties are advised that the full text of the current NPDES permit, Board Order R7-2013-0011, is available on the Board's web site at:


If you need a hard copy of SWMP or the current NPDES permit mailed to you, please contact Hilda Vasquez by phone at (760) 776-8950 or via e-mail at hvasquez@waterboards.ca.gov.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept written comments during a thirty (30) day public comment period, which begins October 29, 2014, and ends November 28, 2014. Written comments must be received by 5:00 pm on November 28, 2014, and addressed to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA  92260
Comment letters may be submitted electronically in PDF text format (if less than 10 megabytes in total size) to Hilda Vasquez via email at hvasquez@waterboards.ca.gov, or faxed to the office at (760) 341-6820. Please indicate in the subject line: “Comment Letter - Order R7-2013-0011: Amendments to Storm Water Management Plan.”

If there is no objection after the public review and comment period, the Executive Officer will consider whether to issue an authorization letter to the Permittees making the approved SWMP an enforceable part of the Board Order to become effective 60 days after the date of authorization.

If a written request for a hearing on the SWMP is received within the 30-day public review and comment period, which includes the reason(s) the hearing is being requested (e.g., why the SWMP is inadequate), the item will be placed on the next available Colorado River Basin Water Board meeting agenda. Because of the need to comply with certain minimum noticing requirements, placement of this item on the agenda will be at least thirty (30) days from the date when a hearing is requested plus any additional time necessary to follow the administrative procedures involved in preparing for the hearing.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

Please direct questions about this notice to Mr. Anders Wistrom at (760) 776-8964 or anders.wistrom@waterboards.ca.gov