

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
San Diego Region

David Gibson, Executive Officer



Executive Officer's Report  
April 14, 2021

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The April report for the Tentative Schedule of Significant NPDES Permits, WDRs, and Actions; Agenda Items Requested by Board Members; and the attachments noted above are included at the end of this report.

## Part A – San Diego Region Staff Activities

### 1. Personnel Report

*Staff Contact: Dulce Romero*

An updated staff list of the San Diego Water Board can be viewed at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board\\_info/agendas/2021/apr/StaffList\\_April2021.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_info/agendas/2021/apr/StaffList_April2021.pdf)

#### Promotion

Amy Grove, an Engineering Geologist in the Groundwater Protection Unit, has accepted the Senior Engineering Geologist position to oversee the Site Restoration and Agricultural Program Unit. Amy first joined the San Diego Water Board in 1997, as a student working in the Underground Storage Tank and Site Cleanup Programs. Amy briefly worked for Bechtel National Inc. in 1999, while finishing graduate school at San Diego State University. Amy returned to the San Diego Water Board in January 2000 and has worked for the last 21 years in the Land Disposal Program, supporting the Board's Mission and Practical Vision. Amy began her new duties on April 5, 2021.

#### Filled Vacancy

The Compliance Assurance Unit (CAU) has completed its recruitment process and is excited to welcome Water Resource Control Engineer Christina Arias to the enforcement program. Christina has been with the San Diego Water Board for nearly 20 years. She spent the last 3 years in the Site Restoration and Agricultural Program Unit and focused on enforcing enrollment requirements for the irrigated lands program. Prior to that Christina spent ten years performing compliance assessment and progressive enforcement in the municipal, industrial, and construction storm water programs. In the CAU, Christina will be assigned to work on complex, formal enforcement actions focused on priority violations from various programs in the agency.

Information regarding our vacancies is located on the following CalCareers and San Diego Water Board websites:

<https://calcareers.ca.gov/CalHRPublic/Search/AdvancedJobSearch.aspx>

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/about\\_us/employment/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/about_us/employment/)

### 2. Update to the Survey of Trash and Litter Control Measures Implemented by CalTrans during COVID-19 Pandemic

*Staff Contact: Laurie Walsh*

As a follow up to the March 2021 Executive Officers Report (EOR) regarding Trash and Little Control Measures during COVID19 Pandemic, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) provided additional information regarding its trash related efforts. The March 2021 EOR focused on the recreational areas close to the coast, which neglected some of the regional Caltrans efforts. In October 2020 Caltrans Regional Director, Gustavo Dallarda and his staff met with David Gibson and the stormwater program staff to talk about Caltrans' litter abatement program and upcoming goals. Gubernatorial and CDC COVID19 requirements restricted Caltrans'

ability to reach some of its short-term goals, however trash prevention and abatement measures have since increased due to some restrictions being lifted and others modified due to frequently changing public health conditions. Considering the current conditions, Caltrans District 11 is ramping up their efforts to resume trash and litter collection programs.

Based on the types of trash found roadside, Caltrans is struggling to abate the increasing single use products and to-go food containers being discharged as a result of dine-in restrictions. Also, used face coverings and other COVID19 related items are found roadside in increasing quantities. Specific actions and measures taken since the onset of the COVID19 pandemic to collect litter, debris, and trash from Caltrans Rights of Way (including the recreational areas along the coast) are described below:

Entity	Actions
Caltrans	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continued focused trash collection by the continuation of collection efforts of 2 days per month with all hands in Maintenance participating.</li> <li>• Focused trash pickup at collection specific high trash areas such as rest stops and vista points 2 times a day.</li> <li>• An influx of funding for trash abatement from Caltrans HQ for \$1.5 million. The funds will be spent over the upcoming 4 months mainly on contract help.</li> <li>• Hiring of 15 additional full-time permanent maintenance staff dedicated to trash removal.</li> <li>• Contract help for an additional 35-40 people from Center for Employment Opportunities, the Conservation Corps and several veterans’ groups funded by the previously mentioned HQ allocation.</li> <li>• Facilitating one day events with local volunteers by providing traffic control and personal protective equipment.</li> <li>• Modifying Maintenance agreements with Local Agencies which will increase their abilities to work more effectively in and around Caltrans Rights of Way.</li> <li>• Stressing need to tarp your waste load on Social Media and working with Surfrider Foundation to hand out free tarps at the landfill.</li> <li>• Making efforts to remove nonperforming Adopt a Highway participants and grow the program with those people, groups and companies wanting to do the work. <a href="https://thecoastnews.com/build-ncc-caltrans-and-sandag-joint-litter-cleanup-effort/">https://thecoastnews.com/build-ncc-caltrans-and-sandag-joint-litter-cleanup-effort/</a></li> <li>• Promoting “Swarm Maintenance” (the full closure of sections of roads allowing them to get into that area in force and complete all needed work efficiently).</li> <li>• SR 163 swarm maintenance activities <a href="https://www.cbs8.com/video/news/local/caltrans-cleans-up-sr-163-near-balboa-park-hillcrest/509-ff465f40-e621-4a73-aa71-2f6bff362795">https://www.cbs8.com/video/news/local/caltrans-cleans-up-sr-163-near-balboa-park-hillcrest/509-ff465f40-e621-4a73-aa71-2f6bff362795</a></li> <li>• Increased night street sweeping through additional crews and contract help.</li> </ul>

### **3. US-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Border Water Pollution Funding and the USEPA Eligible Public Entities Coordination Group (EPECG) Meeting (*Attachment A-3*)**

*Staff Contact: David Gibson*

Following the February 25, 2021 Eligible Public Entities Coordination Group Meeting (EPECG), the Water Board together with the Mayors of the Cities of San Diego, Imperial Beach, and Chula Vista, the Vice Chairman of the Port of San Diego, and both the Chair and Vice Chair of the County of San Diego Board of Supervisors communicated our shared concerns and questions for the USMCA process to U.S. EPA (*Attachment A-3a*). In particular, we expressed our concern for how Project 1, our top priority, was being evaluated by U.S. EPA's contractors and that additional feasibility analyses be performed to ensure it was fully evaluated in the final set of projects to be constructed and operated to address transboundary flows of waste.

The Water Board also participated in a two-day Binational Solid Waste Workshop on solid waste and sediment issues in the Tijuana River and tributary Canyons organized by the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve (TRNERR) and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). Included were detailed presentations from Comisión Estatal de Servicios Públicos de Tijuana (CESPT), U.S. EPA, TRNERR, NOAA, Baja California, City of Tijuana, and other agencies and organizations in Mexico. Several presentations addressed lessons learned from the emergency response to the 2019/2020 flooding that impounded over 500 million cubic meters of wastewater and runoff in the Canon del Matadero. The presentations also discussed emergency flooding and debris response nationwide in the U.S. and specific management measures implemented to protect the Matadero Canyon Pump Station and federal highway from recurrences of the blockage that caused the emergency flooding in 2019.

The Water Board is also continuing to coordinate with the County of San Diego on the Smuggler's Gulch sediment and trash control project and provided a comment letter on the draft CEQA Addendum being developed for the project (*Attachment A-3b*). Finally, the staff and Executive Officer met to discuss technical and legal changes in the draft TMDLs for solid waste and bacterial indicators that will be included in the Technical Report and Implementation Plan submitted for peer review.

### **4. Practical Vision Update**

*Staff Contact: David Gibson*

The 2013 Practical Vision (strategic plan) is being updated for the Water Board consideration later in 2021. Extensive informal outreach was conducted in 2019 and 2020 with agencies and organizations with early drafts of the document. Three new chapters are being considered for the final Practical Vision on Climate Change, Environmental Justice and Racial Equity, and engagement with sovereign Tribal Governments on water quality issues. The draft Practical Vision is being revised and edited and the draft language on Tribes, Climate Change, and Environmental Justice and Racial Equity will be reviewed with State Board and CalEPA prior to public release. A soft roll out is planned for Spring 2021 and workshops and consideration for adoption by tentative Resolution is planned for summer 2021.

## Part B – Significant Regional Water Quality Issues

### 1. 2018 Triennial Review Project No. 1: Tijuana River Valley Water Quality Restoration TMDLs

*Staff Contact: Melissa Corona*

#### A. PROJECT INFORMATION

*Project Lead: Melissa Corona*

**Supervisor:** Cynthia Gorham

*Report Date: April 2021*

*Report Period: November 2020-February 2021*

*Overall Status: On track*

**Website:**

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water\\_issues/programs/tmdls/tijuanarivervalle.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/tmdls/tijuanarivervalle.html)

**Project Description:**

The purpose of this project is to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for indicator bacteria and trash in the Tijuana River because the San Diego Water Board has identified human health and ecosystem impacts in the Tijuana River Valley as regional priorities for many years. The TMDL development process includes timely communication with the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team, selecting numeric targets, identifying pollutant load reductions, and evaluating potential management actions.

Although the Tijuana River is on the 2014/2016 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments for impairments due to a total of 20 pollutants, control of the anthropogenic sources of indicator bacteria and trash is likely to result in a significant reduction of the remaining pollutants.

**Project Objective:**

The objective is to reduce pollutant loads entering the Tijuana River in order to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Tijuana River as well as the downstream Tijuana River Estuary and coastal waters.

**Triennial Review Commitments:**

Development of TMDLs for indicator and trash with implementation plans to restore impaired waters in the Tijuana River Valley.

Key Milestone	Target Date	Status
California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping meeting	May 15, 2019	Completed
Peer review of draft TMDL technical report	Spring 2021 (Revised from Summer 2020)	On track
Public review of draft TMDL technical report	Summer 2021 (Revised from Winter 2020-21)	On track

Key Milestone	Target Date	Status
Basin Plan amendment package to San Diego Water Board for adoption	Winter 2021-22 (Revised from August 2021)	On track

## B. PROGRESS REPORT: Tijuana River Valley TMDLs Reporting Period Events

Accomplishments during period	n/a
Collaboration during period	Briefing to Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team Steering Committee (December 16).
Activities planned but not completed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Internal review and revision of the draft TMDL staff report is near completion.</li> <li>Preparation of external scientific peer review materials is near completion.</li> </ul>
Key issues during period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), with consultation from the Eligible Public Entities Coordination Group (EPECG), has been evaluating ten proposed projects to reduce impacts in the U.S. from wastes generated in Tijuana. Five of these projects are prioritized as preferred projects. USEPA is considering funding one or more of these projects with <b>United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA)</b> funds appropriated by Congress in 2019. Based on meetings USEPA held on February 25 and 26, it appears to be focusing on sewage collection and treatment projects that may improve coastal water quality but not necessarily improve conditions in the Tijuana River or Estuary. For more details, refer to February and March 2021 San Diego Water Board Executive Officer Reports.</li> </ul>

### Looking Forward

Activities planned for next period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Completion of draft TMDL staff report internal review and revision anticipated by the end of May.</li> <li>Submittal of materials for external scientific peer review anticipated by the end of May.</li> </ul>
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<p>Key issues on the horizon</p>	<p>This project could be affected by a number of efforts involving the Tijuana River Valley, including the San Diego Water Board’s involvement in a lawsuit against the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC), adoption of San Diego Water Board Tentative Order No. R9-2020-0001 to reissue a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permit for discharges from USIBWC’s South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (scheduled for the May 2021 San Diego Water Board hearing), USEPA selection of USMCA-funded projects, efforts associated with IBWC Minute 320, and efforts led by the Tijuana River Valley Recovery Team.</p>
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**2. 2018 Triennial Review Project No. 3: Contact Water Recreation (REC-1) Water Quality Objectives**

*Staff Contact: Michelle Santillan*

**A. PROJECT INFORMATION**

**Project Lead:** *Michelle Santillan*

**Supervisor:** Cynthia Gorham

*Report Date:* April 2021

*Report Period:* November 2020-February 2021

*Overall Status:* On track

**Website:**

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water\\_issues/programs/basin\\_plan/issue3.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/issue3.shtml)

**Project Description:**

The purpose of this project is to implement and track progress of recommendations outlined in the [2014 Triennial Review Project Summary Report \(2018\)](#). The goal is to focus on short-term actions that can be completed within the next three years.

Project Objective:

1. To protect REC-1 beneficial uses,
2. To adopt new and/or updated regulations based upon the latest technical findings and scientific understanding,
3. To facilitate effective use of resources by regulated parties, and
4. To ensure judicious use of San Diego Water Board resources.

**Triennial Review Commitments:**

Staff committed to focus on short-term actions that can be completed within the next three years that were identified in the 2018 recommendations report for the 2014 Triennial Review REC-1 project. These actions may include:

1. Updating the municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) permit,
2. Updating waste discharge requirements for sanitary sewer systems,

3. Issuing an Investigative Order for the San Diego River Watershed, and
4. Updating Chapter 3 of the Basin Plan to reflect the latest statewide water quality standards for bacteria in the Water Quality Control Plans for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California, and for Ocean Waters of California.

<b>Key Milestone</b>	<b>Target Date</b>	<b>Status</b>
Draft Basin Plan Amendment for Public Review	May 2019	Released in December 2019
Public Hearing for San Diego River Watershed Investigative Order	June 2019	Adopted by San Diego Water Board on June 12, 2019
Basin Plan Amendment for Board Consideration	December 2019	Adopted by San Diego Water Board on March 5, 2020
Updates to Basin Plan Amendment for Public Review	October 2020	Complete
Updated Basin Plan Amendment for Board Consideration	December 8, 2020	Complete
Public Workshop for MS4 Permit Renewal	TBD	
Public Hearing for MS4 Permit Renewal	TBD	
Draft Revisions to Regional WDRs for Sanitary Sewer Systems	TBD	Staff participated in the State Water Board effort to identify proposed revisions to statewide requirements for sanitary sewer systems.

**B. PROGRESS REPORT: REC-1 Water Quality Objectives Reporting Period Events**

Accomplishments during period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Basin Plan Amendment to incorporate the latest statewide bacteria water quality objectives was adopted by the Board in December 2020 (Resolution No. R9-2020-0254). Staff is preparing the Basin Plan Amendment for State Board approval.</li> <li>• Staff reviewed REC-1 data through June 2019 for the 2020/22 Integrated Report and conducted assessments using the new statewide bacteria standards. Staff provided draft Clean Water Act 303 (d) list/ 305 (b) Report decisions to the State Water Board in February 2021 and a draft Staff Report is</li> </ul>
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	<p>expected to be released for public comment in June 2021.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff prepared and submitted a workplan for sampling human genetic markers and fecal indicator bacteria at reference beaches minimally impacted by anthropogenic activities to the State Water Board. If approved, work would be contracted using funds from the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program and would begin in summer 2021.</li> </ul>
Collaboration during period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The internal bacteria workgroup met in November 2020 and February 2021. The group meets on a bimonthly basis to share information and coordinate actions (where appropriate).</li> </ul>
Activities planned but not completed	None
Key issues during period	None

**Looking Forward**

Activities planned for next period	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff is preparing the Basin Plan Amendment to update Chapter 3 water quality objectives for State Water Board consideration on April 20, 2021.</li> </ul>
Key issues on the horizon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The State Water Board has issued a public notice announcing: (1) the availability of an informal staff draft Statewide Sanitary Sewer System General Order, and (2) two public workshops to provide stakeholders and interested parties information regarding the preliminary informal staff draft General Order. Additional information can be found at: <a href="#">Sanitary Sewer Overflow Reduction Program   California State Water Resources Control Board</a></li> </ul>

**3. Enforcement Actions for January and February 2021  
(Attachment B-3)**

*Staff Contact: Chiara Clemente*

During the months of January and February 2021, the San Diego Water Board issued 1 Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Settlement Order, 6 Notices of Violation, and 2 Staff Enforcement Letters. A summary of each written enforcement action taken is provided in the attached table (Attachment B-3). The State Water Board’s [Enforcement Policy](#) contains a brief description of the kinds of enforcement actions the Water Boards can take.

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:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/enforcement/](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](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ciwqs/publicreports.shtml)

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

#### **4. Sanitary Sewer Overflows and Transboundary Flows from Mexico in the San Diego Region – January 2021 (Attachment B-4)**

*Staff Contact: Keith Yaeger*

Sanitary sewer overflow (SSO) discharges from public sewage collection systems and private laterals, and transboundary flows from Mexico into the San Diego Region can contain high levels of suspended solids, pathogenic organisms, toxic pollutants, nutrients, oil, and grease. SSO discharges and transboundary flows can pollute surface and ground waters, thereby threatening public health, adversely affecting aquatic life, and impairing the recreational use and aesthetic enjoyment of surface waters. Typical impacts of SSO discharges and transboundary flows include the closure of beaches and other recreational areas, the inundation of property, and the pollution of rivers, estuaries, and beaches.

##### **Sanitary Sewer Overflows (SSOs)**

State agencies, municipalities, counties, districts, and other entities (collectively referred to as public entities) that own or operate sewage collection systems report SSO spills through an on-line database system, the *California Integrated Water Quality System* (CIWQS). These SSO spills are required to be reported under the [Statewide General SSO Order](#)<sup>1</sup>, the [San Diego Regional General SSO Order](#)<sup>2</sup>, and/or individual National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit requirements. Some federal entities<sup>3</sup> report this information voluntarily. Most SSO reports are available to the public on a real-time basis at the following State Water Board webpage:

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<sup>1</sup> State Water Board Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ, *Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems* as amended by Order No. WQ 2013-0058-EXEC, *Amending Monitoring and Reporting Program for Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems*.

<sup>2</sup> San Diego Water Board Order No. R9-2007-0005, *Waste Discharge Requirements for Sewage Collection Agencies in the San Diego Region*.

<sup>3</sup> Marine Corp Base Camp Pendleton reports sewage spills to CIWQS as required by its individual NPDES permit, Order No. R9-2013-0112, NPDES Permit No. CA0109347, *Waste Discharge Requirements for the Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton, Southern Regional Tertiary Treatment Plant and Advanced Water Treatment Plant, Discharge to the Pacific Ocean via the Oceanside Ocean Outfall*. The U.S. Marine Corps Recruit Depot and the U.S. Navy voluntarily report sewage spills through CIWQS.

[https://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/readOnly/PublicReportSSOServlet?reportAction=criteria&reportId=sso\\_main](https://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/readOnly/PublicReportSSOServlet?reportAction=criteria&reportId=sso_main).

Details on the reported SSOs are provided in the following attached tables:

- Table 1: January 2021 - Summary of Public and Federal Sanitary Sewer Overflow Events
- Table 2: January 2021 - Summary of Private Lateral Sewage Discharge Events
- Table 3: January 2021 - Summary of Sewage Discharges by Source

A summary view of information on SSO trends is provided in the following attached figures:

- Figure 1: Number of Spills per Month
- Figure 2: Volume of Spills per Month

The figures show the number and total volume of sewage spills per month from January 2020 to January 2021. During this period, 34 of the 63 collection systems in the San Diego Region regulated under the Statewide SSO Program reported one or more sewage spills. Twenty-nine collection systems did not report any sewage spills. A total of 297 sewage spills were reported and over 12.8 million gallons of sewage reached surface waters.

Additional information about the San Diego Water Board sewage overflow regulatory program is available at

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water\\_issues/programs/ss0/index.shtml](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/ss0/index.shtml).

### **Transboundary Flows**

Water and wastewater in the Tijuana River and from canyons located along the international border ultimately drain from the City of Tijuana, Mexico into the United States (U.S.). The water and wastewater flows are collectively referred to as transboundary flows. The U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC) has built canyon collectors that capture dry weather transboundary flows for treatment at the South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant (SBIWTP) at the U.S./Mexico border. Dry weather transboundary flows that are not captured by the canyon collectors for treatment at the SBIWTP, such as flows within the main channel of the Tijuana River,<sup>4</sup> are reported by the USIBWC pursuant to [Order No. R9-2014-0009](#), the NPDES permit for the SBIWTP discharge. These uncaptured flows can enter waters of the U.S. and/or State of California (State), potentially polluting the Tijuana River Valley and Estuary, and south San Diego beach coastal waters.

In January 2021, there were seven reported dry weather transboundary flows. In total, the reported dry weather transboundary flows during this period resulted in over 770

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<sup>4</sup> Tijuana River transboundary flows typically consist of a mixture of groundwater, urban run-off, storm water, treated sewage wastewater, and untreated sewage wastewater from infrastructure deficiencies and other sources in Mexico.

million gallons of contaminated water<sup>5</sup> flowing from Mexico into the United States. USIBWC reported that due to an increase in wastewater flows in Mexico, a dual pump station in Mexico (PB1A and PB1B) is currently exceeding capacity resulting in wastewater overflows. The wastewater overflows from PB1A and PB1B enter the U.S. at Stewart's Drain.

Details on the transboundary flows reported in January 2021 are provided in the attached tables:

- Table 4: January 2021 - Summary of Transboundary Flows from Mexico by Event
- Table 5: January 2021 - Summary of Transboundary Flows from Mexico by Weather Condition

According to the 1944 *Water Treaty for the Utilization of Waters of the Colorado and Tijuana Rivers and of the Rio Grande* and stipulations established in [IBWC Minute No. 283](#), the USIBWC and the Comisión Internacional de Limites y Aguas (CILA)<sup>6</sup> share responsibility for addressing border sanitation problems, including transboundary flows. Efforts on both sides of the border have led to the construction and ongoing operation of several pump stations and treatment plants to reduce the frequency, volume, and pollutant levels of transboundary flows. This infrastructure includes but is not limited to the following:

- The SBIWTP, located just north of the U.S./Mexico border, provides secondary treatment for a portion of the sewage from Tijuana, Mexico and transboundary flows conveyed from canyon collectors located in Smuggler's Gulch, Goat Canyon, Canyon del Sol, Stewart's Drain, and Silva Drain. The secondary-treated wastewater is discharged to the Pacific Ocean through the South Bay Ocean Outfall, in accordance with USIBWC's NPDES permit, Order No. R9-2014-0009.
- Several pump stations and wastewater treatment plants in Tijuana, Mexico.
- The River Diversion Structure and Pump Station CILA in the City of Tijuana diverts dry weather transboundary flows from the Tijuana River. The flows are diverted to a discharge point at the Pacific Ocean shoreline, approximately 5.6 miles south of the U.S./Mexico border; or the flows can be diverted to SBIWTP or another wastewater treatment plant in Tijuana, depending on how Tijuana's public utility department (CESPT) directs the flow into the collection system. The River Diversion Structure is not designed to collect wet weather river flows and any river flows over 1,000 liters per second (35.3 cubic feet per second, 22.8 MGD).

Additional information about sewage pollution within the Tijuana River Watershed is available at

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water\\_issues/programs/tijuana\\_river\\_valley\\_strategy/sewage\\_issue.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/tijuana_river_valley_strategy/sewage_issue.html)

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<sup>5</sup>As used in this report, the term "contaminated water" is intended to refer to water that either meets the definition of "contamination" under Water Code section 13050(k) or that creates, or threatens to create, a condition of "pollution" under Water Code section 13050(l).

<sup>6</sup> The Mexican section of the IBWC.

## **Part C – Statewide Issues of Importance to the San Diego**

### **1. Upcoming State Water Board Consideration of San Diego Regional Water Board Items**

*Staff Contacts: Michelle Santillan and Chiara Clemente*

As a matter of regulation or Policy, the State Water Board must approve or endorse certain regional water board actions before they become effective. In the coming months, the State Water Board will consider two such items for the San Diego Water Board:

1. Non-regulatory updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Region (Basin Plan). On April 20, 2021, the State Water Board will consider the Basin Plan amendment approved by the San Diego Water Board in December 2020 (Resolution No. R9-2020-0254). Water Code section 13245 requires State Water Board approval for any Basin Plan amendment to become effective. This item will be presented by Michelle Santillan, Water Resources Control Engineer, of the Restoration and Protection Planning unit.
2. Resolution to authorize use of supplemental environmental project (SEP) funds to supplement southern California regional monitoring programs. On May 4, 2021, the State Water Board will consider this resolution to authorize the San Diego Water Board to pool and use SEP funds for two regional monitoring programs managed by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP). State Board approval for this use of SEP funds is required by the Water Quality Enforcement Policy. The San Diego Water Board expressed its support of this use of regional SEP funds during its August 2020 Board meeting and requested staff seek authorization from the State Board. This item will be presented by Chiara Clemente, Senior Environmental Scientist, of the Compliance Assurance unit.

Agendas for the State Water Board meetings are posted at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_info/calendar/#calendar2021](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/#calendar2021)

Persons interested in receiving notice of the meetings at which the State Water Board will consider approving these items must subscribe to the State Water Board's email list (under GENERAL INTEREST):

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/swrcb\\_subscribe.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.html)

### **2. Sustainable Groundwater Management Act Update**

*Staff Contact: Tanya Clark*

The Department of Water Resource (DWR) released its 2019 Basin Prioritization – Phase 2 Process and Results (Phase 2) as part of the implementation process for the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA). DWR's recent release focused on the reassessment of the prioritization of 57 groundwater basins in the State, which were not included in Phase 1. Board staff summarized the findings of DWR's Phase 1

reassessment in the March 2019 Executive Officer's Report.<sup>7</sup> Phase 2 includes the following basin boundary changes in the San Diego Region:

### **Basin Boundary Changes in the San Diego Region**

- Upper and Lower San Luis Rey – The subbasin boundary shifted 28 acres of the Upper San Luis Rey Subbasin to the Lower San Luis Rey Subbasin. The new subbasin boundary did not change the prioritization category for either subbasin. The Upper San Luis Rey Subbasin remains a medium priority and the Lower San Luis Rey Subbasin remains a very low priority.
- Coastal Plain of San Diego – DWR approved the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department's request to consolidate the Sweetwater Valley, Otay Valley, and Tijuana Valley basins. The City's consolidation of the basins did not cause a change to the prioritization category. The Coastal Plain of San Diego remains a low priority.

More information regarding the Basin Boundary Modifications is available on the following DWR website: <https://gis.water.ca.gov/app/bp-dashboard/final/>.

### **Next Steps**

Groundwater Sustainability Plans (GSP) for the region's two medium-priority basins, the Upper San Luis Rey Subbasin and San Pasqual Basin, are due to the DWR by January 31, 2022. Board staff will review the GSPs, submit comments to DWR, and provide an update to the Board.

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<sup>7</sup>[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/publications\\_forms/publications/docs/executive\\_officer\\_reports/2019/EOR\\_03-13-2019.pdf](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/publications_forms/publications/docs/executive_officer_reports/2019/EOR_03-13-2019.pdf)

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION

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

April 14, 2021

APPENDED TO EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

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

**Action Agenda Items – San Diego Water Board**

**May 12, 2021  
Remote Meeting**

<b>Action Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Written Comments Due</b>	<b>Consent Item</b>
Waste Discharge Requirements for the City of San Diego, South Bay Water Reclamation Plant, Discharge to South Bay Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2021-0011, NPDES No. CA0109045). ( <i>Osibodu and Yaeger</i> )	NPDES Permit Reissuance	25-March-21	Yes
Waste Discharge Requirements for the United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission, South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant, Discharge to the Pacific Ocean through the South Bay Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2021-0001, NPDES No. CA0108928). ( <i>Rodriguez and Yaeger</i> )	NPDES Permit Reissuance	25-March-21	No
United States Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant, Discharge to the Pacific Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2021-0107). ( <i>Rodriguez and Yaeger</i> )	Tentative Order	NA	No

**June 9, 2021  
Remote Meeting**

<b>Action Agenda Item</b>	<b>Action Type</b>	<b>Written Comments Due</b>	<b>Consent Item</b>
Waste Discharge Requirements for the South Orange County Wastewater Authority (SOCWA) Discharge to the Pacific Ocean through the Aliso Creek Ocean Outfall (Tentative Order No. R9-2021-0055, NPDES No. CA0107611). ( <i>Lim and Yaeger</i> )	NPDES Permit Reissuance	TBD	TBD

Action Agenda Item	Action Type	Written Comments Due	Consent Item
General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for the Discharge of Lanthanum-Modified Clay to Surface Waters of the United States in the San Diego Region (Tentative Order No. R9-2021-0056, NPDES No. CAG999003). <i>(Yaeger)</i>	NPDES Permit Reissuance	TBD	TBD
Settlement Agreement and Stipulation for Entry of Administrative Civil Liability, In the Matter of City of Laguna Beach, November 2019 Sanitary Sewer Overflow, Aliso Creek, Pacific Ocean, CA (Tentative Order No. R9-2021-0008). <i>(Clemente)</i>	Settlement Agreement	12-Mar-21	No
Master Recycling Permit for South Bay Water Reclamation Facility, City of San Diego, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2021-0015). <i>(Bushnell)</i>	Master Recycling Permit	TBD	No
Addendum No. 1 to Order No. R9-2020-0108, An Addendum Transferring Responsibility for Order No. R9-2020-0108 from Sudberry Development, Inc., and PERCWater to Thomas J. Puttman, Civita Recycled Water Company, LLC, and Mark Radelow, Sudberry Properties, Civita Water Reclamation Facility, San Diego County. <i>(Komeylyan)</i>	Waste Discharge Requirement Addendum	TBD	Yes
Rescission of Order No. 94-114, Waste Discharge Requirements for State of California Department of Parks and Recreation, Cuyamaca Rancho State Park, San Diego County. <i>(Komeylyan)</i>	Waste Discharge Requirements Rescission	TBD	Yes
Rescission of Order No. R9-2006-0049, Waste Discharge Requirements for the Pauma Valley Treatment Plant, San Diego County (Tentative Order No. R9-2021-0037). <i>(Komeylyan)</i>	Waste Discharge Requirements Rescission	9-April-21	Yes
Results of San Diego State University Research to Identify Historical San Diego County Dry Cleaners. <i>(Alo)</i>	Informational Item	NA	NA

**July 2021**  
**No Meeting Scheduled**

**Agenda Items Requested by Board Members****June 10, 2020**

<b>Requested Agenda Item</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Status</b>
San Diego State University (SDSU) to present the findings of its preliminary homeless encampment bacteria report.	Strawn	Ongoing
Orange County Water District to present its PFAS Pilot Program and a representative from OEHHA to discuss the appropriate laboratory analytical test methods for PFAS at a future Board Meeting.	Abarbanel, Olson	April 2021

**August 12, 2020**

<b>Requested Agenda Item</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Status</b>
Update on how municipalities in the Region are dealing with increased trash in public spaces (specifically beaches) given intensified use during the COVID pandemic.	Warren	April 2021 EO Report
Any agreement or resolution to use Supplemental Environmental Project funds to supplement SCCWRP Ambient Monitoring Programs include an effort to avoid spending SEP funds on administrative costs.	Abarbanel	Summer 2021

**September 9, 2020**

<b>Requested Agenda Item</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Status</b>
Update on new scientific information regarding climate change and how we are including climate change considerations in our work.	Abarbanel	Fall 2021

**October 14, 2020**

<b>Requested Agenda Item</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Status</b>
Notify Board Members when staff plan to attend community of public environmental meetings for outreach purposes so they can participate should they desire.	Warren	Ongoing

**November 18, 2020**

<b>Requested Agenda Item</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Status</b>
Staff to keep Board Member informed of any water quality concerns within the San Diego Region that should be shared with the Water Quality Subcommittee for the Western States Water Council.	Olson	Ongoing
Notification of dates when the San Diego City Council will consider taking an action on the De Anza Cove Amendment to the Mission Bay Park Master Plan and any related CEQA actions.	Abarbanel	Ongoing
Updates on the City of San Diego's planning process for the De Anza/ReWild project when available.	Warren	Ongoing
Monthly check-in about the progress of the Lake San Marcos project.	Olson	Ongoing

**December 8, 2020**

<b>Requested Agenda Item</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Status</b>
Updates about the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) Border Fund projects as they are drafted for staff consideration	Warren	Ongoing
Update on Tijuana River pollutant flows and response options.	Cantú, Warren	Ongoing

**February 10, 2021**

<b>Requested Agenda Item</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Status</b>
Update about the range of chemicals that might cause problems with the symporter of the fetus.	Olson	Summer 2021

**March 10, 2021**

<b>Requested Agenda Item</b>	<b>Board Member</b>	<b>Status</b>
Annual update on the progress and accomplishments of the Project Clean Water program, including information related to the impacts of the program on water quality.	Abarbanel, Warren	Ongoing
Region-wide workshop regarding the water quality issues in the Tijuana River Valley, including a discussion of water quality objectives and steps needed to achieve them.	Abarbanel	Fall 2021



March 15, 2021

Mr. Andrew Sawyers  
Mr. Tomás Torres  
EPA Co-Chairs; USMCA Eligible Public Entities Coordinating Group  
[Sawyers.andrew@epa.gov](mailto:Sawyers.andrew@epa.gov)  
[Torres.Tomas@epa.gov](mailto:Torres.Tomas@epa.gov)

Dear Mr. Sawyers and Mr. Torres,

As the local representatives to the Eligible Public Entities Coordinating Group (EPECG), we appreciate and recognize the effort from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to identify and assess projects for a comprehensive solution to the transboundary wastewater and stormwater pollution crisis in the Tijuana River Valley. The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board), San Diego Unified Port District, City of San Diego, County of San Diego, City of Chula Vista, and City of Imperial Beach are committed to the success of the EPA's United States-Mexico-Canada-Agreement (USMCA) Tijuana River Infrastructure Technical Analysis (Technical Analysis). The purpose of this joint letter is to unequivocally state our minimum expectations for USMCA projects and evaluation criteria as the EPA develops project alternatives and proceeds with its environmental assessment.

Mr. Sawyers  
Mr. Torres

For the reasons stated below, we believe Project 1, New Tijuana Diversion System in the U.S. and Treatment in the U.S., is an indispensable component of the comprehensive solution to the Tijuana River Valley sewage crisis.

Based on the most recent EPECG Meeting held on February 25, 2021, and the public stakeholder meeting held on February 26, 2021, we wanted to reiterate the shared position of local leaders, state officials, and congressional representatives to prioritize USMCA funds on U.S. side main channel infrastructure projects. We are concerned that the metrics identified to demonstrate project efficacy are skewed against diversion and treatment in the United States; and that the project concept has been reimagined in a way that detracts from its ability to achieve its purpose.

As indicated above, we are concerned that the project scoring criteria are skewed to the enhancement of Mexico's sewage infrastructure and the reduction of flows to San Antonio de los Buenos (SAB) rather than protection of water quality within California's Tijuana River Valley. While replacement of SAB is desirable and may improve coastal water quality, emphasizing that expediency in lieu of addressing the longstanding impacts to water quality in the Tijuana River watershed—which watershed is documented in the Clean Water Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters—presents the prospect of normalizing the status quo in the Tijuana River Valley to the detriment of the California communities and ecosystems.

To that point, the EPA's focus on biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) and total suspended solids (TSS) impacts as the main metrics for project efficacy is troubling. Understanding BOD and TSS impacts is clearly important to the design of any new sewage treatment facility. Reliance solely on those metrics, however, misrepresents the true impacts of pollution in the river valley, estuary, and beach closures along the coast. Comparing BOD and TSS reductions at SAB Creek and the Tijuana River mouth as a proxy for Project efficacy discounts the upstream impacts of Tijuana River flows on endangered species and other receptors in the Estuary and River Valley; ignores BOD and TSS deposition and subsequent re-mobilization during flushing flows in the U.S.; disregards BOD and TSS contributions from community discharges in Mexico to the north of SAB Creek; and misses the mark as to the primary pollutants of concern, specifically indicator bacteria, which are the main driver of beach closures in the U.S.

Instead, project success should be measured by results, including increased capture of fugitive sewage and substantial reductions in transboundary flow days in the Tijuana River and tributary canyons. The downstream communities, habitats, and beneficial uses within the U.S. will continue to suffer, if USMCA projects do not address those conditions, irrespective of BOD and TSS improvements at SAB. Accordingly, reduction in transboundary flow days and reduction in beach closure days based on current indicator bacteria health standards must be the primary project evaluation metric. Project reliability (and susceptibility to enforcement mechanisms) should be a close second, to ensure that projects benefits are consistently realized.

Mr. Sawyers  
Mr. Torres

Additionally, the description of Project 1 as an exclusively wet weather diversion is not consistent with either the SB 507 Needs and Opportunities Assessment Report, nor the many references to date in the USMCA coordination process. While capturing the first flush and ebbing post storm event flows is desirable, Project 1 has been consistently discussed and studied as primarily a dry weather diversion and treatment system to complement the poorly designed, undersized, and inconsistently operated PB CILA diversion system that does not provide treatment of diverted flows. Even with the recent upgrades at PB CILA, we still strongly believe there is a critical need for a second dry weather diversion system that is operated and maintained in the U.S. as a reliable defense against future transboundary flow events.

We encourage the EPA to conduct a more detailed analysis of different diversion options for Project 1 that cover the practical range for a U.S. side diversion system that includes: dry weather only; dry weather plus pre and post storm flows; and a maximum alternative that includes the diversion of wet weather events.

As Eligible Participating Entities, we believe it is important to reiterate that in order for the EPA's efforts to result in meaningful, lasting improvement of the health and wellbeing of our communities, EPA must implement U.S.-side infrastructure projects centered on the International Boundary and Water Commission's (IBWC) flood control channel. Project 1 combined with the management of trash is the only solution that adds the necessary defensive infrastructure that protects the river valley and downstream communities from pollution after flows cross the border, and that will achieve compliance with forthcoming total maximum daily loads (TMDL) for the Tijuana River. Without main channel infrastructure diverting and treating as much wastewater as possible, as much of the time as possible, as soon as possible, we fear that the long history of failed action on the Tijuana River will repeat, and our communities will continue to suffer from the effects of poorly maintained and deficient infrastructure in Mexico.

We recognize that Project 1 poses practical and legal hurdles that are not present with EPA's proposed projects in Mexico, including compliance with state and federal environmental laws; heightened standards for construction, operation, and maintenance; designation of an accountable project operator; and identification of ongoing operations and maintenance funding. But these are exactly the reasons why this critical infrastructure must be built in the United States, as the likelihood of surmounting these hurdles is, as history has repeatedly demonstrated, markedly higher in the United States than in Mexico. This is why conveyance-to-treatment is an integral part of the New River Strategy, as it should be in the Tijuana River Valley. Moreover, omitting Project 1 leaves open the question of compliance with the TMDLs being developed to restore water quality in the Tijuana River and Estuary—a question that the EPA and IBWC may need to answer in not-so-distant future, but potentially after USMCA funds have been committed.

Thank you for considering our comments and your continued commitment to improving conditions in the Tijuana River Valley. We respectfully request a meeting as soon as

Mr. Sawyers  
Mr. Torres

possible to discuss the EPA's position on these issues, and to obtain additional clarification on EPA's process between now and June, when the USMCA preferred project grouping alternative will be announced.

Please reach out directly to any of our agencies if you have any questions.



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Serge Dedina, Mayor,  
City of Imperial Beach



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Todd Gloria, Mayor,  
City of San Diego



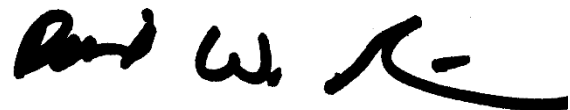
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Nathan Fletcher, Chair,  
Supervisor, District 4,  
County of San Diego



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Nora Vargas, Vice Chair,  
Supervisor District 1, County of San Diego



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



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Dan Malcolm, Vice Chairman,  
San Diego Unified Port  
District



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Mary Salas, Mayor,  
City of Chula Vista



GAVIN NEWSOM  
GOVERNOR



JARED BLUMENFELD  
SECRETARY FOR  
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

## San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

March 19, 2021

Sent by Email Only

Kiran Kaur  
County of San Diego Department of Parks and Recreation  
5500 Overland Avenue, Suite 410  
San Diego, CA 92123

Ms. Kaur:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) appreciates the opportunity to comment on the proposed *Addendum to the Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Regional General Permit 53 Project* (Proposed Addendum).

The Regional General Permit 53 (RGP 53) was issued by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE) and received water quality certification under Clean Water Act Section 401 (File No. SB09016GN). The RGP 53 authorizes the County of San Diego to conduct the mechanical removal of sediment, vegetation, and debris from channels and culverts to prevent flooding of adjacent roads and properties. The RGP 53 applies to a set of facilities in the County of San Diego, including Smuggler's Gulch, a tributary to the Tijuana River within the Tijuana River Valley Regional Park. In our review of the proposed Addendum, the San Diego Water Board consulted with the ACOE and confirmed that RGP 53 will continue to be used to regulate the proposed activities.

An Initial Study / Mitigated Negative Declaration (IS/MND) for RGP 53 was adopted in 1998. The Proposed Addendum analyzes whether new activities would result in new or substantially more severe significant environmental impacts compared to those impacts analyzed under the original IS/MND. After reviewing the Proposed Addendum, **the San Diego Water Board has determined that the proposed changes to the project are consistent with the activities described in the IS/MND, would not result in new or substantially more severe environmental impacts, and would not call for preparation of a supplemental environmental document.**

The San Diego Water Board regulates the discharge of waste to protect the quality of waters of the State, and as such has reviewed the following relevant sections of the Proposed Addendum:

- Section 3.1 Biological Resources

CELESTE CANTÚ, CHAIR | DAVID GIBSON, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Kiran Kaur  
County of San Diego

March 19, 2021

- 2 -

- The Proposed Addendum includes additional impacts to biological resources that would be reduced to a less than significant level with existing mitigation protocols included in the original IS/MND and Section 401 Water Quality Certification.
- The original IS/MND includes a special condition to remove exotic invasive plants as they occur during routine maintenance. The proposed activities would further those efforts by expanding the County of San Diego’s ability to identify and remove invasive plants.
- Section 3.10 Hydrology and Water Quality
  - The Proposed Addendum includes no new impacts to hydrology or water quality because all activities would be constrained to the footprint of existing activities.
  - The County of San Diego would need to apply for coverage under the Construction General Permit, including preparation of a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan and implementation of appropriate construction best management practices.

In summary, the San Diego Water Board has determined that the Proposed Addendum describes activities consistent with the original IS/MND. A supplemental environmental document is not necessary. **The San Diego Water Board would rely on the proposed CEQA Addendum in reviewing the project for issuance of a water quality certification under the Clean Water Act Section 401 and/or waste discharge requirements pursuant to the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act.**

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the proposed *Addendum to the IS/MND for the Regional General Permit 53*. For clarification on any of our comments or if we may be of further assistance, please contact Jill Harris at (619) 521-8050 or [Jill.Harris@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Jill.Harris@waterboards.ca.gov).

Respectfully,

DAVID W. GIBSON  
Executive Officer

DWG;jlh

cc via email only

Crystal Benham  
County of San Diego, Parks and Recreation  
[Crystal.Benham@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Crystal.Benham@sdcounty.ca.gov)

Deborah Mosley  
County of San Diego, Parks and Recreation  
[Deborah.Mosley@sdcounty.ca.gov](mailto:Deborah.Mosley@sdcounty.ca.gov)

RWQCB Internal Use Only	
Place ID	819293
Reg Measure	383380

## Enforcement Actions for January and February 2021

## NPDES WASTEWATER

Enforcement Date	Enforcement Action	Entity/ Facility/Location	Summary of Violations and Enforcement	Applicable Permit/Order Violated
2/12/2021	<a href="#">Administrative Civil Liability No. R9-2021-0005</a>	SeaWorld Parks & Entertainment Inc., a Delaware Corporation, SeaWorld LLC, SeaWorld San Diego, San Diego	Executive Officer approval of ACL Settlement for Mandatory Minimum Penalty totaling \$3,000	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Order No. R9-2018-0004
2/5/2021	Notice of Violation No. R9-2021-0035	IBWC-US & Mexico Section, South Bay International Wastewater Treatment Plant, San Diego	Multiple effluent violations and deficient reporting	NPDES Order No. R9-2014-0009
2/26/2021	Staff Enforcement Letter	Promenade Mall Development Corp., Groundwater Extraction Promenade at Pacific Beach, San Diego	Total Settleable Solids effluent violations subject to Mandatory Minimum Penalties	NPDES Order No. R9-2015-0013

## NPDES STORMWATER

Enforcement Date	Enforcement Action	Entity/ Facility/Location	Summary of Violations and Enforcement	Applicable Permit/Order Violated
2/9/2021	Staff Enforcement Letter	GA Development, Summit Subdivision, Santee	Deficient Best Management Practices implementation	NPDES Construction General Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ

## WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS: WASTEWATER

Enforcement Date	Enforcement Action	Entity/ Facility/Location	Summary of Violations and Enforcement	Applicable Permit/Order Violated
1/22/2021	Notice of Violation No. R9-2020-0263	Otay Municipal Water District, Ralph W. Chapman Water Reclamation Facility, Spring Valley	Unauthorized discharge of 2.3 million gallons of recycled water to Poggi Canyon Creek and Otay River	Waste Discharge Requirement Order No. R9-2007-0038

**SITE CLEANUP PROGRAM**

<b>Enforcement Date</b>	<b>Enforcement Action</b>	<b>Entity/ Facility/Location</b>	<b>Summary of Violations and Enforcement</b>	<b>Applicable Permit/Order Violated</b>
<b>2/25/2021</b>	Notice of Violation No. R9-2021-0023	Self-Realization Fellowship, Formerly Electralab Facility, Encinitas	Failure to notify of site occupancy changes	Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R9-2017-0041

**WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS: CANNABIS**

<b>Enforcement Date</b>	<b>Enforcement Action</b>	<b>Entity/ Facility/Location</b>	<b>Summary of Violations and Enforcement</b>	<b>Applicable Permit/Order Violated</b>
<b>2/1/2021</b>	Notice of Violation	Tom and Francine Accetta Property, Aguanga, Riverside County	Unauthorized cannabis cultivation	Basin Plan Prohibitions and CWC Sections 13260 and 13264
<b>2/24/2021</b>	Notice of Violation	Top Shelf LLC, Top Shelf Property, Aguanga, Riverside County	Unauthorized cannabis cultivation	Basin Plan Prohibitions and CWC Sections 13260 and 13264
<b>2/26/2021</b>	Notice of Violation	Olivia Liu Property, Ranchita, San Diego County	Unauthorized cannabis cultivation	Basin Plan Prohibitions and CWC Sections 13260 and 13264

**Table 1: January 2021 – Summary of Public and Federal Sanitary Sewer Overflow Events**

Responsible Collection System Agency	Total Volume (Gallons) <sup>1</sup>	Total Recovered (Gallons) <sup>2</sup>	Total Reaching Surface Waters (Gallons) <sup>3</sup>	Total Reaching Separate Storm Drain and Recovered (Gallons) <sup>4</sup>	Total Discharged to Land (Gallons) <sup>5</sup>	Surface Water Body Affected <sup>6</sup>	Miles of Pressure Sewer	Miles of Gravity Sewer	Population in Service Area <sup>7</sup>
City of Imperial Beach	50	0	50	0	0	Otay River / San Diego Bay	4.6	39.5	26,337
City of San Diego	154	0	134	0	20	San Diego River	112.5	2,925.1	2,500,000
City of San Diego	1,160	1,160	0	0	1,160	Not Applicable	112.5	2,925.1	2,500,000
City of San Diego	340	0	330	0	10	San Diego River	112.5	2,925.1	2,500,000

<sup>1</sup> Total Volume = total amount that discharged from sanitary sewer system to a separate storm drain, drainage channel, surface water body, and/or land.

<sup>2</sup> Total Recovered = total amount recovered from a separate storm drain, drainage channel, surface water body, and/or land.

<sup>3</sup> Total Reaching Surface Waters = total amount reaching separate storm drain (not recovered), drainage channel, and/or surface water body, but does not include amount reaching separate storm drain that was recovered.

<sup>4</sup> Total Reaching Separate Storm Drain and Recovered = total amount reaching separate storm drain that was recovered.

<sup>5</sup> Total Discharged to Land = total amount reaching land.

<sup>6</sup> Agencies are only required to note the surface water body affected if the discharge reaches or has the potential to reach a surface water. If the discharge did not reach a surface water and does not have a potential to reach a surface water (i.e., a discharge to land or a discharge to a separate storm drain that is fully recovered) the surface water body affected is listed as "Not Applicable." If the discharge was to a surface water body or to a separate storm drain and was not fully recovered, and the surface water body was not reported, the surface water body affected is listed as "Not Reported."

<sup>7</sup> As reported in the Collection System Questionnaire required under Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ.

**Table 2: January 2021 – Summary of Private Lateral Sewage Discharge Events**

<b>Responsible Collection System Agency</b>	<b>Total Volume (Gallons)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Total Recovered (Gallons)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Total Reaching Surface Waters (Gallons)<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>Total Reaching Separate Storm Drain &amp; Recovered and/or Discharged to Land (Gallons)<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Surface Water Body Affected<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>Population in Service Area<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>Number of Lateral Connections</b>
City of National City	2	2	0	2	Not Applicable	58,967	8,000
City of Oceanside	200	150	0	200	Not Applicable	175,464	42,040
City of San Diego	123	0	123	0	Drainage Channel	2,500,000	265,012
City of San Diego	360	360	60	300	Not Reported	2,500,000	265,012
City of San Diego	55	55	0	55	Not Applicable	2,500,000	265,012
Eastern Municipal Water District	40	0	40	0	Not Reported	254,286	56,752
Eastern Municipal Water District	200	0	0	200	Not Applicable	254,286	56,752

<sup>1</sup> Total Volume = total amount that discharged from private lateral to a separate storm drain, drainage channel, surface water body, and/or land.

<sup>2</sup> Total Recovered = total amount recovered from a separate storm drain, drainage channel, surface water body, and/or land.

<sup>3</sup> Total Reaching Surface Waters = total amount reaching separate storm drain (not recovered), drainage channel, and/or surface water body, but does not include amount reaching separate storm drain that was recovered.

<sup>4</sup> Total Reaching Separate Storm Drain & Recovered and/or Discharged to Land = total amount reaching separate storm drain that was recovered and/or total amount reaching land.

<sup>5</sup> Agencies are only required to note the surface water body affected if the discharge reaches or has the potential to reach a surface water. If the discharge did not reach a surface water and does not have a potential to reach surface water (i.e., a discharge to land or a discharge to a separate storm drain that is fully recovered) the surface water body affected is listed as "Not Applicable." If the discharge was to a surface water body or to a separate storm drain and was not fully recovered, and the surface water body was not reported, the surface water body affected is listed as "Not Reported."

<sup>6</sup> As reported in the Collection System Questionnaire required under Order No. 2006-0003-DWQ.

<b>Responsible Collection System Agency</b>	<b>Total Volume (Gallons)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Total Recovered (Gallons)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Total Reaching Surface Waters (Gallons)<sub>3</sub></b>	<b>Total Reaching Separate Storm Drain &amp; Recovered and/or Discharged to Land (Gallons)<sup>4</sup></b>	<b>Surface Water Body Affected<sup>5</sup></b>	<b>Population in Service Area<sup>6</sup></b>	<b>Number of Lateral Connections</b>
Padre Dam Municipal Water District	53	53	0	53	Not Applicable	70,492	15,641
Ramona Municipal Water District	50	0	0	50	Not Applicable	13,174	4,379
South Coast Water District	5	5	0	5	Not Applicable	42,000	14,762

**Table 3: January 2021 – Summary of Sewage Discharges by Source**

<b>Spill Type</b>	<b>Month/Year</b>	<b>Number of Spills</b>	<b>Total Volume (Gallons)<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Total Recovered (Gallons)<sup>2</sup></b>	<b>Total Reaching Surface Waters (Gallons)<sup>3</sup></b>	<b>Total Reaching Separate Storm Drain &amp; Recovered and/or Discharged to Land (Gallons)<sup>4</sup></b>
Public Spills	January 2021	4	1,704	1,160	514	1,190
Federal Spills	January 2021	0	0	0	0	0
Private Spills	January 2021	10	1,088	625	223	865
<b>All Spills</b>	<b>January 2021</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>2,792</b>	<b>1,785</b>	<b>737</b>	<b>2,055</b>

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<sup>1</sup> Total Volume = total amount that discharged from sanitary sewer system to a separate storm drain, drainage channel, surface water body, and/or land.

<sup>2</sup> Total Recovered = total amount recovered from a separate storm drain, drainage channel, surface water body, and/or land.

<sup>3</sup> Total Reaching Surface Waters = total amount reaching separate storm drain (not recovered), drainage channel, and/or surface water body, but does not include amount reaching separate storm drain that was recovered.

<sup>4</sup> Total Reaching Separate Storm Drain & Recovered and/or Discharged to Land = total amount reaching separate storm drain that was recovered and/or total amount reaching land.

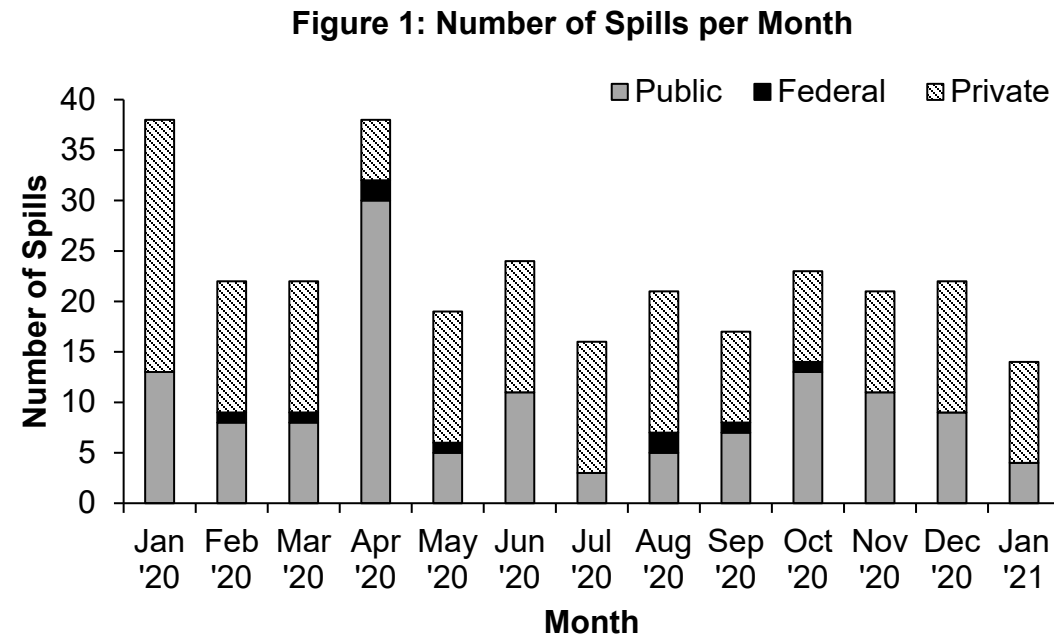


Figure 1: The number of public, federal, and private sewage spills per month from January 2020 to January 2021.

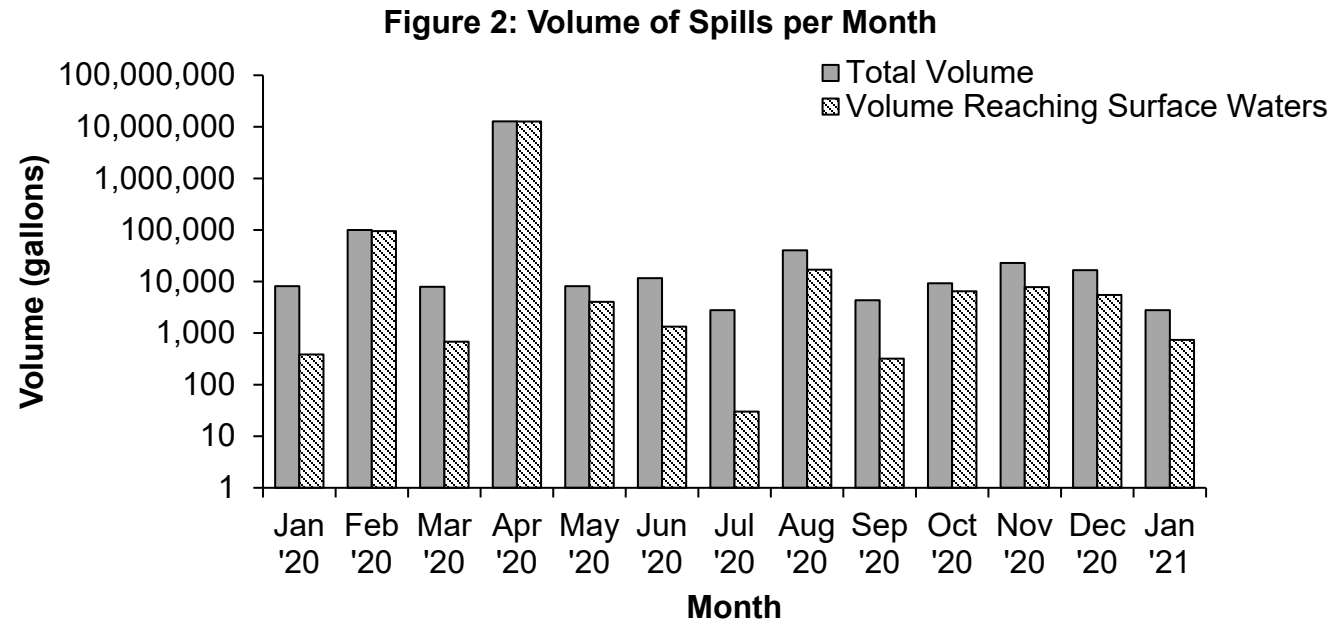


Figure 2: The volume of public, federal, and private sewage spills per month from January 2020 to January 2021. Note the logarithmic scale on the vertical axis showing the wide variation in spill volumes.

**Table 4: January 2021 – Summary of Transboundary Flows from Mexico by Event<sup>1,2</sup>**

Location	Date(s) of Transboundary Flow	Weather Condition <sup>3</sup>	Total Volume (Gallons)	Total Recovered (Gallons)	Total Reaching Surface Waters (Gallons)	Additional Details
Tijuana River	1/1/21 through 1/17/20	Dry	707,543,000	0	707,543,000	Due to a storm event ending on December 29, 2020, flows in the Tijuana River were beyond the capacity of Pump Station CILA allowing the flow to bypass the River Diversion Structure and cross the U.S./Mexico border.
Stewart’s Drain	1/15/21	Dry	15,700	0	15,700	Peak wastewater flows in Mexico exceeded the capacity of Mexico’s infrastructure resulting in an overflow that entered the U.S. at Stewart’s Drain. The Stewart’s Drain canyon collector was unable to divert the excess flow.
Stewart’s Drain	1/16/21	Dry	980	0	980	Peak wastewater flows in Mexico exceeded the capacity of Mexico’s infrastructure resulting in an overflow that entered the U.S. at Stewart’s Drain. The Stewart’s Drain canyon collector was unable to divert the excess flow.
Stewart’s Drain	1/17/21	Dry	13,160	0	13,160	Peak wastewater flows in Mexico exceeded the capacity of Mexico’s infrastructure resulting in an overflow that entered the U.S. at Stewart’s Drain. The Stewart’s Drain canyon collector was unable to divert the excess flow.

<sup>1</sup> Transboundary flow volumes are obtained from self-monitoring reports submitted by USIBWC under Order No. R9-2014-0009.

<sup>2</sup> There are inconsistencies with the information provided by USIBWC regarding the transboundary flows occurring in November 2020. The information provided is the San Diego Water Board’s current understanding of the transboundary flow events. USIBWC is working to correct the deficient and/or inaccurate reporting.

<sup>3</sup> Order No. R9-2014-0009 requires monthly reporting of all dry weather transboundary flows defined as the preceding 72 hours have been without precipitation greater than 0.1 inch, based on the Goat Canyon Pump Station rain gauge. Wet weather transboundary flows are not required to be reported and information is provided voluntarily.

Location	Date(s) of Transboundary Flow	Weather Condition <sup>3</sup>	Total Volume (Gallons)	Total Recovered (Gallons)	Total Reaching Surface Waters (Gallons)	Additional Details
Stewart's Drain	1/18/21	Dry	12,400	0	12,400	Peak wastewater flows in Mexico exceeded the capacity of Mexico's infrastructure resulting in an overflow that entered the U.S. at Stewart's Drain. The Stewart's Drain canyon collector was unable to divert the excess flow.
Stewart's Drain	1/21/21	Dry	185,000	0	185,000	Peak wastewater flows in Mexico exceeded the capacity of Mexico's infrastructure resulting in an overflow that entered the U.S. at Stewart's Drain. The Stewart's Drain canyon collector was unable to divert the excess flow.
Tijuana River	1/23/21 through 1/27/21	Wet	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available	Pump Station CILA was shut down due to a storm event on January 23, 2021. With Pump Station CILA shut down, flows in the Tijuana River bypassed the River Diversion Structure and crossed the U.S./Mexico border.
Tijuana River	1/28/21	Dry	62,640,000	0	62,640,000	Due to a storm event ending on January 25, 2021, flows in the Tijuana River were beyond the capacity of Pump Station CILA allowing the flow to bypass the River Diversion Structure and cross the U.S./Mexico border.

**Table 5: January 2021 - Summary of Transboundary Flows from Mexico by Weather Condition**

<b>Weather Condition<sup>1</sup></b>	<b>Month/Year</b>	<b>Total Volume (Gallons)</b>	<b>Total Recovered (Gallons)</b>	<b>Total Reaching Surface Waters (Gallons)</b>
Dry Weather	January 2021	770,410,240	0	770,410,240
Wet Weather	January 2021	Not Available	Not Available	Not Available

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<sup>1</sup> Order No. R9-2014-0009 requires monthly reporting of all dry weather transboundary flows. Wet weather transboundary flows are not required to be reported. All wet weather transboundary flow information is provided voluntarily.