

State of California
Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Diego Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
September 10, 2014

ITEM: 6

SUBJECT: Information Item: Update on Current and Planned Research by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP). (*David Gibson*)

PURPOSE: To provide Board members with information about research conducted by SCCWRP as it relates to the work of the San Diego Water Board.

RECOMMENDATION(S): There are no recommendations at this time; no action will be taken by the Board at today's meeting.

KEY ISSUES: SCCWRP is the primary research institute that supports the research needs of the San Diego Water Board.

PRACTICAL VISION: Research conducted by SCCWRP supports work related to three chapters in the Board's Practical Vision:
Chapter 1: Strategizing for Healthy Waters
Chapter 2: Monitoring and Assessment; and
Chapter 3: Recovery of Stream, Wetland, and Riparian Systems.

DISCUSSION: SCCWRP is a public agency that was formed in 1969 to conduct coastal environmental research and suggest management strategies.

SCCWRP was created by a joint powers agreement (JPA) stemming from common needs among multiple government entities. SCCWRP's member agencies include entities that treat and discharge wastewater, storm water entities, and water quality regulatory entities, including the San Diego Water Board. The SCCWRP Commission, which includes a representative of each member agency, meets quarterly and helps to apply new scientific findings to management questions. Executive Officer David Gibson represents the San Diego Water Board on the SCCWRP Commission.

Although it began with a mandate to investigate regional coastal impacts from wastewater discharges, SCCWRP now conducts research pertinent to an array of water quality and aquatic habitat issues related to wastewater; urban runoff; coastal watersheds; stream, wetland, and riparian systems; enclosed bays, estuaries, and harbors; beaches; and the coastal ocean.

SCCWRP's Research Plan is organized by project purpose, with research activities falling into three main areas: development of new environmental assessment methodologies and tools, science to support management or regulatory programs, and regional monitoring programs to assess status and trends in ecosystem conditions.

In addition to conducting research, SCCWRP also works to coordinate diverse sectors, build consensus among experts, and facilitate technology transfer.

A SCCWRP representative will make a presentation at today's meeting.

LEGAL CONCERNS:

None

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

Information about SCCWRP research is available at <http://www.sccwrp.org/ResearchAreas.aspx>.

Fact sheets produced by SCCWRP are available at <http://www.sccwrp.org/Documents/FactSheets.aspx>.

PUBLIC NOTICE:

The agenda notice for today's meeting was posted on the Board's website and sent to those subscribed to the email list for Board meetings.