

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
May 13, 2015

- ITEM: 7
- SUBJECT: Hearing and Adoption Consideration: 2014 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan). The San Diego Water Board will consider adopting a priority list of suggested Basin Plan revisions to serve as the basis of a three-year work plan. (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2015-0043, Supporting Document No. 1) (*Michelle Mata*)
- PURPOSE: To consider adoption of a priority list of suggested revisions to the Basin Plan developed through the 2014 Basin Plan Review. The Board may adopt the resolution and proposed priority list as is, reject the list, or adopt the list with modifications.
- RECOMMENDATION: Adopt Tentative Resolution No. R9-2015-0043.
- KEY ISSUES: None
- PRACTICAL VISION: The suggested revisions represent the San Diego Water Board's highest priority basin planning items and implement the goals of the Practical Vision to achieve healthy waters through collaboration, reliance on the latest science, and prioritization of issues and actions.
- DISCUSSION: The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses for water bodies in the San Diego Region and establishes water quality objectives and implementation plans (collectively known as water quality standards) to protect those beneficial uses. State and federal laws require periodic review of the Basin Plan. Because federal law requires a review every three years, the Basin Plan review is also referred to as the "triennial review."
- The triennial review is the process used to identify revisions to water quality standards and other elements of the Basin Plan. The product of the review is a priority list of suggested projects, which may result in Basin Plan revisions, and that serve as the basis of a three-year work plan. The proposed priority list is attached to the Tentative Resolution and described in more detail in the staff report (Supporting Document No. 2).

Staff initiated the triennial review in December 2014 by distributing a *Notice of Opportunity to Comment and Brief Issue Description Document* which identified a preliminary list of basin planning issues (preliminary issues). Written comments for possible revisions to the preliminary issues and other aspects of the Basin Plan were invited during a 60-day period from December 8, 2014 to February 6, 2015. The preliminary issues were also presented to the public during a workshop on January 8, 2015. The public workshop was well attended with approximately 27 people from various cities, counties and non-government organizations in attendance.

After consideration of public comments from interested persons, staff developed a *Staff Report and Prioritized List of Basin Planning Issues*. The Staff Report identifies Tier 1 issues that will be scheduled over a three year period using anticipated resource allocations. There are 2.2 staff positions per year, or 2.2 person-years (PYs) per year, to work on the Basin Plan, i.e., 6.6 PYs for a three-year period. In addition, the Staff Report also contains Tier 2 issues that could be considered for project development if resources and readiness allow.

The Staff Report identifies the following Tier 1 issues:

- Develop Biological Objectives for Water Bodies in the San Diego Region;
- Revise the Basin Plan based upon the results of the completed water effect ratio study prepared by the City of San Diego;
- Evaluate the science that could lead to revised REC-1 water quality objectives, Bacteria TMDLs, and compliance determination; and
- Identify opportunities to periodically update the Basin Plan with non-regulatory or mandated revisions.

San Diego Water Board staff used the Practical Vision as guidance when evaluating and considering issues to be placed on the priority list.

Sixteen comment letters (Supporting Document No. 4) were received from interested stakeholders during the public comment period. A Response to Comments document has been prepared and included as Supporting Document No. 5.

The next Basin Plan Review is scheduled for 2017.

LEGAL CONCERNS: None

SUPPORTING DOCS: 1. Tentative Resolution No. R9-2015-0043
2. Staff Report
3. Notice of Public Hearing
4. Comment Letters Received
5. Response to Comments Document

PUBLIC NOTICE: On March 27, 2015, a Notice of Public Hearing (Supporting Document No. 3) was:

- published in the San Diego Union Tribune, the Orange County Register, and the (Riverside) Press-Enterprise;
- sent via email to all known interested persons; and
- posted on the San Diego Water Board's web site.