

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION**

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
August 9, 2023**

**ITEM 5**

**SUBJECT**

State Water Board Racial Equity Action Plan (*David Gibson*).

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Information item only, no recommendation.

**PRACTICAL VISION**

Chapter 4 of the San Diego Water Board Practical Vision, *Implement Racial Equity and Environmental Justice Measures*, calls for the Board to "Work towards equity in environmental protection by addressing past injustices, prioritizing actions in underserved communities, and integrating equity considerations into all aspects of the Water Board's responsibilities and decision making." Part of this effort is to implement the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Board) *Racial Equity Action Plan* (Action Plan). This agenda item will inform the Board on the goals of the Action Plan.

**DISCUSSION**

Adriana Renteria, Director of Public Participation for the State Board Communications Office, will provide the Board with an overview of the Action Plan and discuss the San Diego Water Board's role in its implementation.

The State Board's Racial Equity Resolution affirmed the Board's commitment to racial equity and directed staff to undertake a variety of actions to achieve racial equity throughout all Water Board programs and activities. Primary among the actions included in the resolution is the implementation of the Water Board's January 2023 *Racial Equity Action Plan*. The Action Plan has 3 Strategic Directions:

1. Integrating Racial Equity and Measuring Impact
2. Creating and Maintaining Spaces for Inclusion and Belonging
3. Activating BIPOC Community Wisdom and Sharing Power

Each of the goals included in the Action Plan have associated actions to help overcome existing barriers and achieve goals. While State Board Departments and Divisions are in the lead roles for action implementation, the San Diego Water Board will provide support in action development and implementation.

The Fiscal Year 23-24 San Diego Water Board Operation Plan proposes a new project, the *Racial Equity Action Plan Implementation Project*. The objective of the project is to implement racial equity and environmental justice projects that will help us make progress towards achieving the goals of the San Diego Water Board Practical Vision (*Chapter 4 - Implement Racial Equity and Environmental Justice Measures*) and the State Water Resources Control Board *Racial Equity Resolution* and *Racial Equity Action Plan*.

**PUBLIC NOTICE**

A Meeting Notice and Agenda for the August 2023 Board meeting was posted on the San Diego Water Board's website and sent to subscribers to the email list for Board meetings.

**SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None.