

Status of Priority Issues from the 2004 Triennial Review

Issues No. 1 through 7 were prioritized for investigation as a result of the 2004 Triennial Review. A status report on each of these seven issues is included on the following list.

Prioritized No	Category	Generalized Rank	Complexity	Score
1	Other	High	Low	160

Issue Name

Electronic Format of Basin Plan

Issue Summary

Convert the electronic format of the Basin Plan from WordPerfect into Word.

Watershed	Hydrologic Unit	Affected Waterbody(ies)
Administrative	Administrative	Administrative

Resource Estimations		Investigation				Running Sum	
Investigation	Amendment			Total			
PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars
0.34	\$25,835	0	\$0	0.34	\$25,835	0.34	\$25,835

Issue Submitted By

San Diego Regional Board

Status

In addition to converting the electronic format of the Basin Plan into WORD, the indexes, tables of contents, and endnotes of the Basin Plan were reformatted and updated, and new graphics were added. Acronyms were also updated to reflect terms now in use. Amendments approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) were incorporated into the text. A Basin Plan amendment for this issue was adopted by the San Diego Regional Board in Resolution No. R9-2006-0029 on April 12, 2006. The amendment (minus the "Controllable Water Quality Factors" text) was approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) on November 15, 2006, and by the OAL on April 25, 2007. The amendment is pending approval by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Following OAL approval, the updated Basin Plan was re-published in electronic format on our website.

Prioritized No	Category	Generalized Rank	Complexity	Score
2	Implementation Plan	High	Low	156

Issue Name

Onsite Sewage Treatment System Regulations

Issue Summary

Add newly promulgated regulations pertaining to onsite sewage treatment systems to the Basin Plan pursuant to California Water Code section 13291(e). The amendment would update Chapter 4 regarding regulation of conventional systems AND establish performance and prescriptive standards for the design, operation and monitoring of onsite wastewater treatment systems that are "alternatives" to a conventional septic tank/subsurface dispersal system.

Watershed	Hydrologic Unit	Affected Waterbody(ies)
Region-wide ground waters	Region-wide ground waters	Region-wide ground waters

Resource Estimations		Investigation				Running Sum	
Investigation	Amendment			Total			
PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars
0.34	\$25,835	0.61	\$46,473	0.95	\$72,308	0.68	\$51,670

Issue Submitted By

Prioritized 2004 Basin Plan Triennial Review Issue List

San Diego Water Board

Status

The State Water Board regulations remain in draft form. Until final regulations are promulgated, no action can be taken on this issue. The State Water Board anticipates releasing draft regulations by the end of the calendar year.

Prioritized No	Category	Generalized Rank	Complexity	Score
3	Beneficial Use	High	Low	155

Issue Name

Unnamed or Unidentified Waterbodies and Table Corrections

Issue Summary

Add the following unnamed or unidentified waterbodies to the Basin Plan. The following creek names below are reaches of existing streams that are either not currently identified or are identified as unnamed intermittent tributaries. Tables 2-2 and 3-2 should include: 903.12 Gird Creek, 905.32 Cloverdale Creek, 905.22 Green Valley Creek, 905.23 Felecita Creek, 911.30, Unnamed Tributary to Pine Creek (AKA South Pine Creek), 907.21 Aqueduct Arm Creek, 904.51 Cottonwood Creek, and Kit Carson Creek. Table 2-4 should include 902.36 Diamond Valley Reservoir and 905.21 Olivenhain Reservoir. Verify and correct as needed the name of the creek (Moonlight versus Cottonwood) referenced on page 2-54, endnote 7. Update list of Region's waterbodies on page 3-26. Correct endnote D to identify the Township as "14." Clarify information for HSA 903.14 in endnote "r" of the groundwater quality objectives table. Modify Table 3-3 to include a separate line for HSA 903.13 and HSA 903.14 in order to clarify which objectives actually apply to the aquifers mentioned in the endnote. Add Famosa Slough to Table 2-3. Famosa Slough was inadvertently omitted from Table 2-3, Beneficial Uses of Coastal Waters, and should be added as it supports a variety of wildlife. Correct Table 2-2, page 2-39 typo in 909.23. The name should be "Dehesa Valley," not Denesa Valley. On Table 2-2, page 2-37 designate the name "Pueblo San Diego Watershed" to include the surface waters listed in HU 908. Include the Irvine coast near Laguna Beach as an Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) on page 2-4 because this coastline is contiguous with the Irvine coast ASBS in Region 8. Review footnotes and endnotes for clarity and technical accuracy.

Watershed	Hydrologic Unit	Affected Waterbody(ies)
San Luis Rey River	903.12	Gird Creek
San Luis Rey River	903.13	Groundwater
San Luis Rey River	903.14	Groundwater
San Marcos Creek	904.51	Moonlight/Cottonwood Creek, Kit Carson Creek
San Marcos Creek	904.52	Moonlight/Cottonwood Creek
San Dieguito River	905.21	Olivenhain Reservoir
San Dieguito River	905.22	Green Valley Creek
San Dieguito River	905.23	Felecita Creek
San Dieguito River	905.32	Cloverdale Creek
San Diego River	907.21	Aqueduct Arm Creek
Tijuana River	911.30	Unnamed tributary to Pine Creek (AKA South Pine Creek)
Sweetwater River	909.23	Dehesa Valley
Santa Margarita River	902.36	Diamond Valley Reservoir
Unnamed Intermittal Coastal Streams	908	Surface waters in 908
San Diego River	907.11	Famosa Slough
Aliso Creek	901.10	Coastal Waters

Resource Estimations

Investigation		Amendment		Total		Investigation Running Sum	
PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars
0.34	\$25,835	0.61	\$46,473	0.95	\$72,308	1.02	\$77,505

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Issue Submitted By

San Diego Regional Board, and Sierra Club

Status

In addition to the actions described above, changes were also made to the water quality objectives tables, and program descriptions and some definitions were updated to make them consistent with statues and regulations adopted since 1994. Text related to the toluene objective was corrected in this amendment (this action was originally identified as part of Issue No. 5). A Basin Plan amendment for this issue was adopted by the San Diego Regional Board in Resolution No. R9-2005-0239 on November 9, 2005. The amendment was approved by State Water Board on September 21, 2006, and by the OAL on January 4, 2007. The amendment was approved by the USEPA on September 23, 2008.

Prioritized No	Category	Generalized Rank	Complexity	Score
4	Other	High	Low	154

Issue Name

Basin Plan Map

Issue Summary

Update the Basin Plan map incorporating new hydrologic boundaries and GIS information. Update beneficial uses and water quality objectives according to the newly revised map. Investigate the need to change the boundary between Region 8 and 9 near the area of Diamond Valley Reservoir and Goodhard Canyon because the creation of the reservoir has affected the drainage patterns. Reconcile nomenclature in the beneficial use tables for surface and ground water with the nomenclature on the Basin Map. Beneficial Use Table 2-2 for surface waters should include the acronyms for Hydrologic Unit (HU), Hydrologic Area (HA), or Hydrologic Subarea (HSA) as does Beneficial Use Table 2-5 for ground waters.

Watershed	Hydrologic Unit	Affected Waterbody(ies)
Region-wide surface and ground waters	Region-wide surface and ground waters	Region-wide surface and ground waters

Resource Estimations

Investigation				Investigation Running Sum			
PY	Dollars	Amendment PY	Dollars	Total PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars
0.34	\$25,835	0.61	\$46,473	0.95	\$72,308	1.36	\$103,340

Issue Submitted By

San Diego Regional Board, Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality, and Port of San Diego

Status

Updating all of the Region Water Boards' Basin Plan maps was identified as a statewide issue by the Basin Planning Roundtable. Thus, the State Water Board has assumed the lead role in this investigation. The map update process has three major steps: (1) certification of the California Watershed Boundary Dataset; (2) creation of the geo-political overlay that includes the Regional Board Boundaries; and (3) reconciliation of new map with the existing CalWater numbering system. The first step is partially complete; a pre-certified California Watershed Boundary Dataset has been completed and submitted for certification and certification is expected by the end of the calendar year. The second and third steps will be initiated upon certification.

Prioritized No	Category	Generalized Rank	Complexity	Score
5	Water Quality Objective	High	Low	153

Issue Name

Source or Criteria for Water Quality Objectives

Issue Summary

Identify the underlying source or criteria upon which each water quality objective is based (e.g., USEPA CTR criteria). Delete Appendix C of Basin Plan and put the reference information with each of the water quality objectives listed in Chapter 3. Delete the "in excess of 1 mg/l" water quality objective for toluene

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on page 3-10 of Basin Plan. This objective is duplicative with the Title 22 objective. Add language to the Basin Plan clarifying anthropogenic versus natural sources of pollutants including controllable water quality factors. The text on this issue was inadvertently omitted from Chapter 3 during the 1994 Basin Plan revision.

Watershed	Hydrologic Unit	Affected Waterbody(ies)
Region-wide surface and ground waters	Region-wide surface and ground waters	Region-wide surface and ground waters

Resource Estimations				Investigation			
Investigation		Amendment		Total		Running Sum	
PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars
0.34	\$25,835	0.61	\$46,473	0.95	\$72,308	1.7	\$129,175

Issue Submitted By
San Diego Regional Board, and 1998 Triennial Review

Status
Investigation of Issue No. 5 is currently underway. The toluene component of this issue was included in Resolution No. R9-2005-0239, the Basin Plan amendment for Issue No. 3 that was adopted by the San Diego Regional Board on November 9, 2005 (see Issue No. 3, above). During the investigation into Issue 5, other issues were identified that will require further investigation. These other issues will be submitted for consideration during the upcoming triennial review.

Prioritized No	Category	Generalized Rank	Complexity	Score
6	Implementation Plan	High	Low	152

Issue Name
Compliance Time Schedules in NPDES Permits

Issue Summary
Add necessary language to the Basin Plan that provides for the establishment of compliance time schedules in NPDES permits.

Watershed	Hydrologic Unit	Affected Waterbody(ies)
Region-wide surface waters	Region-wide surface waters	Region-wide surface waters

Resource Estimations				Investigation			
Investigation		Amendment		Total		Running Sum	
PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars
0.34	\$25,835	0.61	\$46,473	0.95	\$72,308	2.04	\$155,010

Issue Submitted By
San Diego Regional Board

Status
A Basin Plan amendment for this issue was adopted by the San Diego Regional Board in Resolution No. R9-2005-0238 on November 9, 2005. The amendment was approved by the State Water Board on October 25, 2006, and by the OAL on March 23, 2007. The amendment was pending approval by the USEPA. However, the State Water Board developed a statewide compliance schedule policy that was adopted by the State Water Board on April 15, 2008, approved by OAL on June 26, 2008, and approved by USEPA on August 27, 2008. The statewide compliance schedule policy supersedes that of the San Diego Regional Board. Thus, no action will be taken by USEPA on the San Diego Regional Board's amendment. The San Diego Regional Board will incorporate the statewide compliance schedule policy into the Basin Plan.

Prioritized No	Category	Generalized Rank	Complexity	Score
7	Water Quality Objective	High	High	141

Issue Name

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Water Quality Objectives for Indicator Bacteria

Issue Summary

Update and clarify existing water quality objectives for bacteria indicators. Include language in Basin Plan Chapter 3 clarifying how objectives should be interpreted and implemented (e.g. applicability of *E. coli* and enterococcus for use in NPDES permitting). Additionally, develop a Basin Plan amendment authorizing use of a reference system and antidegradation approach (RSAA) or natural sources exclusion approach (NSEA) during implementation of indicator bacteria water quality objectives within the context of a TMDL.

Implementation of indicator bacteria water quality objectives using the RSAA requires control of indicator bacteria from anthropogenic sources so that the bacteriological water quality that is achieved is consistent with that of a reference system. A reference system is a watershed and the beach to which the watershed discharges that is minimally impacted by anthropogenic activities that can affect indicator bacterial densities in the water body. The RSAA also requires that no degradation of existing bacteriological water quality in the targeted waterbody occurs when the existing bacteriological water quality is better than that of a reference system waterbody. Using the NSEA, implementation of indicator bacteria water quality objectives requires control of indicator bacteria from all anthropogenic sources. But rather than requiring achievement of reference system bacteria levels, the NSEA requires dischargers to demonstrate that all anthropogenic sources have in fact been controlled and that the residual indicator bacteria densities do not pose a human health risk.

Use of the RSAA or NSEA during implementation of indicator bacteria water quality objectives is needed because data show that exceedances of indicator bacteria water quality objectives frequently occur at beaches or in creeks that receive runoff from predominately undeveloped watersheds. This indicates that natural uncontrollable sources of indicator bacteria (e.g., wildlife feces, bacterial resuspension from disturbed sediment, regrowth on the beach wrack, etc.) can cause exceedances of indicator bacteria water quality objectives on their own, without contributions from anthropogenic sources. Since control of natural sources is likely infeasible, possibly detrimental to important beneficial uses, and could impact other resources during construction of treatment works, these implementation provisions in the Basin Plan authorize the San Diego Water Board to allow exceedances of indicator bacteria water quality objectives within a bacteria TMDL.

Watershed	Hydrologic Unit	Affected Waterbody(ies)
Region-wide surface waters	Region-wide surface waters	Region-wide surface waters

Resource Estimations				Investigation			
Investigation		Amendment		Total		Running Sum	
PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars	PY	Dollars
2.48	\$189,186	1.17	\$89,287	3.65	\$278,473	4.52	\$344,196

Issue Submitted By

San Diego Regional Board, County of Orange, USEPA Region 9, and 1998 Triennial Review

Status

This issue has two major components. The first component is the development and adoption of water quality objectives for indicator bacteria. The State Water Board has taken the lead on this and it is currently underway. The San Diego Regional Board intends to rely on the State Water Board's investigation and will update the bacteria objectives when the State Water Board finishes its process.

The second component is the development and adoption of a Basin Plan amendment authorizing the Regional Board, within the context of a TMDL, to implement water quality objectives for bacteria using a reference system and antidegradation approach and/or a natural sources exclusion approach. This action is complete. The San Diego Regional Board conducted an investigation of the reference system/natural sources exclusion approach, and a Basin Plan amendment was developed. The amendment was adopted by the San Diego Regional Board on May 14, 2008. The Basin Plan Amendment was approved by the State Board on March 17, 2009, by the Office of Administrative Law on June 25, 2009, and by the EPA on September 16, 2009. The Basin Plan Amendment is fully approved and in effect, but not yet published in the Basin Plan.