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## San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

May 21, 2018

In reply refer to:  
656543:RMitchell

To: Investigative Order Parties List

**Subject: Tentative Investigative Order No. R9-2018-0021, An Investigative Order Requiring the Submittal of Technical and Monitoring Reports to Quantify the Sources and Transport Pathways of Human Fecal Material to the San Diego River Watershed**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) is considering adoption of the enclosed Tentative Investigative Order No. R9-2018-0021 (Tentative Investigative Order) at a public hearing on August 8, 2018. The Tentative Investigative Order proposes to direct the following agencies (Dischargers) to submit technical and monitoring reports to identify and quantify the sources and transport pathways of human fecal materials to the San Diego River Watershed.

- City of San Diego
- City of Santee
- City of El Cajon
- City of La Mesa
- County of San Diego
- San Diego County Sanitation District
- Padre Dam Municipal Water District
- Ramona Municipal Water District
- San Diego State University
- Metropolitan Transit System
- California Department of Transportation

Development of the Tentative Investigative Order is in response to the San Diego Water Board's consideration of the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) Surfer Health Study<sup>1</sup> and other relevant studies that have identified human fecal matter in the San Diego River Watershed and that controlling human fecal sources is the most cost-effective method for reducing risk to human health. The San Diego Water Board is appreciative of these efforts by SCCWRP, the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego, and other contributing agencies to proactively take steps towards identifying and quantifying the sources and transport pathways of human fecal materials in the San Diego River Watershed.

The preparation and submittal of the technical and monitoring reports by the Dischargers as required by the Tentative Investigative Order is needed to 1) identify and quantify relative contributions of suspected sources of human fecal material in discharges to the San Diego River, 2) determine the transport pathways of such discharges, and 3) determine how this information will be used by each Discharger to assess the effectiveness of current management measures in preventing discharges of human fecal material into the San Diego River, its tributaries, and the downstream beach coastal waters.

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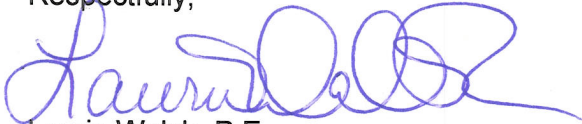
<sup>1</sup> Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), SCCWRP Technical Report 943, The Surfer Health Study, A Three Year Study Examining Illness Rates Associated with Surfing During Wet Weather, September 2016, available at [ftp://ftp.sccwrp.org/pub/download/DOCUMENTS/TechnicalReports/943\\_SurferHealthStudy.pdf](ftp://ftp.sccwrp.org/pub/download/DOCUMENTS/TechnicalReports/943_SurferHealthStudy.pdf) as of January 22, 2018.

The enclosed Notice of Public Hearing provides detailed information on the procedures for submittal of written comments on the Tentative Order. The Notice of Public Hearing also provides information on the scheduled August 8, 2018 public hearing for the San Diego Water Board to consider adoption of the Tentative Investigative Order. The enclosed documents are also available on the San Diego Water Board's website:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board\\_decisions/tentative\\_orders/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/board_decisions/tentative_orders/).

In the subject line of any response, please include the reference number 656543:RMitchell. If you have any questions or comments, please contact Mr. Roger Mitchell by phone at (619) 521-5898, or by e-mail at [Roger.Mitchell@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Roger.Mitchell@waterboards.ca.gov).

Respectfully,



Laurie Walsh, P.E.  
Senior WRC Engineer

Enclosure: Tentative Investigative Order No. R9-2018-0021  
Notice of Public Hearing

cc: Investigative Order Parties List

bcc: Storm Water and Wastewater Heads of Departments List (via e-mail only)

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