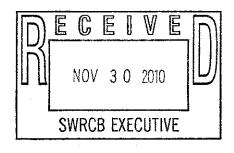


THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO

November 30, 2010

Electronic Delivery to: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov



Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board State Water Resources Control Board 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject:

City of San Diego Comments on the Proposed Approval of an

Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Region (Basin Plan) to Incorporate the Revised Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Indicator Bacteria, Project I – Twenty Beaches and Creeks

in the San Diego Region (Including Tecolote Creek)

Dear Ms. Townsend:

The City of San Diego, Storm Water Department (City) is pleased to provide the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) with comments regarding the Amendment to the Basin Plan to Incorporate the Revised TMDLs for Indicator Bacteria, Project I – Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (Revised Bacteria TMDL Project I). We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on this regionally important amendment. The City is committed to protecting the beneficial uses of our creek, bays, and beaches using best available science and cost-effective approaches. Resources to protect these vital assets need to be directed prudently towards protecting water quality.

The detailed City comments are presented in Attachment 1 together with the original comments submitted to the Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) and the Regional Board responses. The comments for the State Board address the Regional Board responses deemed inadequate or incorrect. General comments for the overall areas of concern are provided below.

Removal of De-listed Beaches from TMDL (Comment 82)

The Revised Bacteria TMDL Project I contains waterbody/pollutant combinations recommended for de-listing on the draft 2008 State Board Section §303(d) list. The de-listed waterbodies were kept in the TMDL under the premise that they could be re-listed in the future. There is no requirement for pre-emptive TMDLs in the Clean Water Act and this goes against the

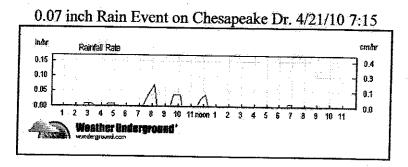


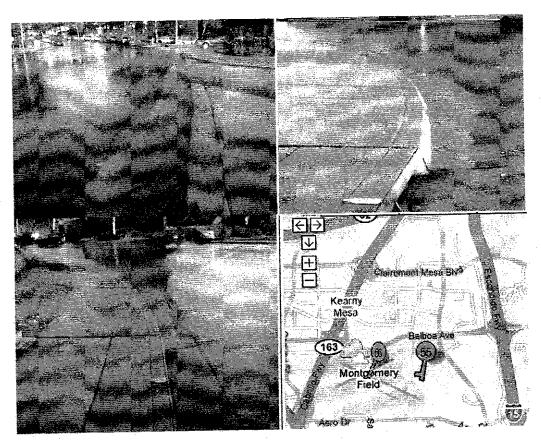
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prioritization process. The de-listed waterbodies are meeting water quality standards and should be removed from the TMDL.

Definition of Wet Days (Comment 83)

The definition of wet days in the TMDL is based on rain events of greater than 0.2 inches of rainfall and the following 72 hours. The original reference system study (Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria TMDL), on which this TMDL is based, used a wet day definition of rainfall greater than of 0.1 inch and the following 72 hours. By excluding all rain events between 0.1 and 0.2 inch of rainfall for wet weather the TMDL does not utilize best available science or follow the scientific constrains of the study on which it is based. Photographic evidence of the rainfall attributable to rain events of less than 0.2 inches is provided below and in Attachment 2. The photos demonstrate the volume of runoff associated even with rain events with less than 0.1 inch of rainfall. Including natural runoff from these rain events under dry weather conditions is incongruous with related TMDLs and reference system studies. There is no reasonable assurance that the waste load allocations in the TMDL can be achieved for dry weather conditions when rain water runoff is included for rain events greater than 0.1 inch of rainfall.





Dry Weather Allowable Exceedance Frequency (Comment 83)

The dry weather allowable exceedance frequency does not contain a winter dry exceedance allowance as found in similar TMDLs which used the same scientific basis. Winter dry weather flows are generally higher due to increased base flow from groundwater sources. This increased transport mechanism leads to increased exceedance levels in reference systems. It also incorporates all rain events of less than 0.2 inches which skews exceedance rates under conditions of elevated wet weather flow as demonstrated in the photographic evidence provided in Attachment 1.

TMDL Re-opener (Comment 84)

A clearly defined schedule for the TMDL re-opener has not been included. Specific language is needed for revising the TMDL and the conditions required to amend the Basin Plan. The additional paragraph added to the Basin Plan amendment schedule statement should clearly state the necessary requirements for a TMDL re-opener.

Match Compliance to Risk and Safety (Comment 85)

Multiple comments have been submitted regarding imposing a recreational water quality standard on waterways that have never had this beneficial use. This issue has not been satisfactorily addressed for the following reasons: 1) there is a requirement for provision of "sufficient evidence" prior to reviewing designated beach usage, but no indication of what data

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would be acceptable and; 2) many of the creeks listed do not have historical or current functional recreational bathing characteristics and should not be held to a high frequency usage designation.

Misapplication of Basin Plan Water Quality Objectives (WQO) (Comment 85)

The TMDL Amendment states on page A15 that "Since coastal saltwater beaches are downstream of inland freshwater creeks, TMDLs for coastal saltwater beaches are calculated using the more conservative Enterococci REC-1 WQOs applicable to freshwater creeks (61 MPN/100mL and 33 MPN/100mL)". The numeric WQOs for Enterococci in REC-1 saltwater (104 MPN/100mL and 35 MPN/100 mL), established in the Basin Plan to be protective of beneficial uses, should be applied to the coastal saltwater beaches in this TMDL. Freshwater creeks and saltwater beaches have different physical characteristics (salinity, volume, hydrology, etc.) resulting in different loading capacities and the appropriate WQOs should be applied.

Compliance Monitoring Directed at Human Sources (Comment 86)

It is recommended that priority be given to those waterbodies with human sources of fecal contamination rather than sites with elevated indicator bacteria concentrations. In this way, resources can be directed, first and foremost, at areas where there is a higher human health risk. Allowance within the BLRPs and CLRPs should be provided for this human source approach.

Human versus Anthropogenic Sources (Comment 88)

Rapid method development to detect human sources of bacteria, currently underway at EPA, has not been included in the development of this TMDL. Consideration should be given for including these methods in the implementation of the TMDL.

Stated Use of Geometric Mean (Comment 90)

The summer dry weather exceedance criterion is being applied, through the use of the geometric mean, in instances when the monitoring includes winter dry weather flows with rainfall of less than 0.2 inches. Inclusion of wet weather flows with natural sources of bacteria for the geometric mean provides no reasonable assurance that the dry weather exceedance criteria can be met since a rolling average is used for the calculation.

Compliance Monitoring Needs to Account for Diversions (Comment 91)

The TMDL does not take into account diversion structures as they relate to compliance monitoring.

Best Management Practices (BMP) for Reducing Dry and Wet Weather Concentrations (Comment 92)

The TMDL does not allow for compliance through load reduction strategies in either dry or wet weather. In this way, stakeholders will not be able to show progress toward TMDL goals by reducing bacteria loads through tangible BMP implementation such as irrigation control or use of low impact development (LIDs).

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Compliance Timeline (Comment 93)

The timeline for wet weather compliance has been reduced from 20 years to 10 years. The City recommends this timeline be reverted back to 20 years to provide reasonable assurance that waste load allocations will be met.

Inclusion of Tecolote Creek Watershed in the TMDL (Comment 94)

Data collected under the Tecolote Creek Bacterial Source Identification Study were not included in the TMDL. Land-use specific data were collected in the study, together with assessments of natural and anthropogenic indicator sources. Data from the Tecolote Creek investigations should be included in the modeled loads and exceedance frequencies for this watershed.

The City supports the development of stakeholder-based TMDLs, and understands that a TMDL is a plan to improve water quality. In order to develop TMDLs with reasonable assurance that waste load allocations will be achieved, the stakeholder process must be followed, and the best available science must be employed. As the TMDL is currently written, the reasonable assurance criteria are not met with the shortened wet weather compliance timeline and the dry weather exceedance limits which include rain water runoff. While the Revised Bacteria TMDL Project I is a solid foundation for the TMDL, further revisions should be made before adoption and implementation in the San Diego Region.

If you have additional questions, please contact Ruth Kolb at (858) 541-4328.

Sincerely,

Kris McFadden Interim Director

KM\rk

Attachment 1 City San Diego Comment Table **Enclosures:**

Attachment 2 Rainfall Photographs Attachment 3 Rain Data Comparison

cc:

Ruth Kolb, Program Manager, Storm Water Department Drew Kleis, Program Manager, Storm Water Department

Bill Harris, Supervising Public Information Officer, Storm Water Department

Table 1: City of San Diego Detailed Comments on the Revised Bacteria TMDL Project 1 (Draft Resolut

| Comment | Comment from City of San Diego to Regional Board | Response from Regional Bo | | |
|---------|---|----------------------------------|--|--|
| # 82 | Removal of De-listed Beaches from TMDL | | | |
| 0.4 | The Protogic Project I TMDI Revised Technical Report includes | Several beaches listed on the | | |
| | | Segments (303(d) List) have | | |
| | Designed Deords 202(d) list. In accordance with the Clean Water Act (CWA) the | from the 303(d) List, however | | |
| | locate Decad \$202/d) lighing process is used to prioritize Waterboules not subject to | future. All the specific beach | | |
| | legge and limitations and is to be based on scientific data that illustrate illipartitions. | 303(d) List, or earlier, indica | | |
| | This prioritization process allows for focused use of limited resources to address | remains in the present and fu | | |
| | these impairments through TMDL implementation by the Regional Board, | 2008 303(d) List, the majori | | |
| | municipalities, and other agencies, including the City. | the 2002 303(d) List and add | | |
| | municipalities, and other agentoics, morading are | these indicator bacteria TMI | | |
| | Inclusion of de-listed indicator bacteria and waterbodies in the TMDL is counter to | all the beaches that fall with | | |
| | this prioritization process and cost-effective use of our community's resources. It is | a delisted beach is listed aga | | |
| | understood that the timing of the draft Bacteria Technical Report did not coincide | address the impairment. Lik | | |
| | 1 to the annual of the most recent draft 700x Regional Board 2000 (4) 11501155. To | not listed in the past is listed | | |
| | be consistent with the prioritization process, the proposed de-listed indicator bacteria | already in place to address t | | |
| | and waterbodies need to be removed from the TMDL. | very resource and time inter | | |
| | and waternodies need to be foliofor from any | Furthermore, the San Diego | | |
| | | these indicator bacteria TM | | |
| | | would not be a good use of | | |
| | | the future. By having these | | |
| | | resources and ensuring that | | |
| | | Finally, Clean Water Act S | | |
| | | boundaries not able to mee | | |
| • | | In addition, section 303(d) | | |
| | | identified and prioritized as | | |
| | | of TMDLs as well. Thus, so | | |
| | | variations and margin of sa | | |
| | | Clean Water Act Section 3 | | |
| | | List is just a list of the water | | |
| | | TMDL implementation pla | | |
| | | The adoption of bacteria T | | |
| | | has a plan in place to addre | | |
| | | fulfill the requirements of | | |
| 83 | Definition of Wet Days | | | |
| 0.5 | Wet Weather Pagis - The TMDI states that the reference condition from Leo | A wet weather day was de | | |
| | Complete is applied to estimate the allowable exceedance frequency at beaches and | original Bacteria TMDLs | | |
| | analysis the TMDI However the exceedance frequency at Leo Carrino is based of | not been changed. There v | | |
| | of "0.1 inches and the following T/ hours" (Resolution No. 2002-002). | 1100 1100000000 | | |
| | This TMDI defines wet days as "0.2 inch of rain and the following /2 flours. It is | January 7, 2010 SAG mee | | |
| | asign if and by invalid to use a reference condition for a unifically storm size, because | calculated based on wet w | | |
| | the exceedence frequency for storm events of 0.2 inch or greater and 72 hours later | following 72 hours." The | | |
| | is not become To be consistent with the reference system, it is recommended that a | used to define an allowab | | |
| | storm event or wet day be defined as any instance of a rain event 0.1 inch or greater | bacteria TMDLs, the San | | |
| | and the following 72 hours. | frequency as an initial all | | |
| | | or multiple watershed spe | | |
| | | data were collected in ref | | |
| | In addition this TMDL defines the exceedance frequency for the wet weather | comments submitted for | | |
| | and dition but not the number of allowable exceedance days based on the critical | allowable exceedance fre | | |
| | trace Instead an allowable exceedance frequency is set. The use of the critical year | based on 0.2 inches rathe | | |
| | (90 th percentile storm year, 1993) to set the exceedance frequency incorporates | potentially a higher excee | | |

critical conditions, but does not define the waste load allocations based on those critical conditions. It is recommended that the Regional Board use the reference condition exceedance frequency and the number of wet days in the critical year at each location within the TMDL to define a set allowance of exceedance days for each year.

allowable exceedance frequer is developed. This, however, Approach Basin Plan amendn with using a reference system conservative wet weather allc region specific wet weather a Board supports developing a during wet weather condition Region. Until a region specifi weather exceedance frequenc TMDLs.

83 Dry Weather Allowable Exceedance Frequency

Dry Weather Basis - The Leo Carrillo reference system was also used to establish the dry weather exceedance frequency limits in the Los Angeles area bacteria TMDLs (Resolution No. 2002-004). However, TMDL Section 4.2.1 states that "little data are available regarding exceedances of WQOs in a reference system....the reference system approach may be an option that would allow an exceedance frequency to be included with the dry weather numeric targets in the dry weather TMDLS." It is unclear why a reference system approach is appropriate for wet weather but not for dry weather. The data are presented in the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL. It is recommended that the reference condition for dry weather at Leo Carrillo beach be used in this TMDL. Additionally, to reopen the TMDL and incorporate any potential future dry weather data, it is recommended that a process should be defined and included in the TMDL.

In the TMDL, dry weather exceedance frequency limits are set at zero. However, in other TMDLs where the Leo Carrillo system was used as a dry weather reference, the dry weather TMDL is split into summer dry and winter dry seasons. This is an important distinction because during the winter months, the reference system exhibited exceedance days.

Therefore, instead of setting the dry weather exceedance frequency limit to zero during all dry periods, it is recommended that the TMDL should split the dry period into summer and winter seasons. The allowable exceedance frequency at Leo Carrillo is 3% during winter dry weather, and therefore that standard should apply in San Diego County. The wet weather reference condition applies and therefore so should the dry weather reference condition. The summer dry weather exceedance frequency limit would remain zero. The issue of the compliance point monitoring during dry weather conditions is discussed in following general responses. TMDL Reopener

This comment was raised dur Carillo Beach reference study reference study identified a re frequency specifically for the exceedance frequency of the: weather (3 percent), and sumi Water Board decided to use tl exceedance frequency for the weather allowable exceedance maximum and 30-day geome reference system that is not st weather allowable exceedance weather allowable exceedance developing and establishing a based on data collected from frequency that is developed n conditions) if the data suppor developed, a 0% allowable ex dry weather TMDLs.

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The TMDL (Section 4.1.3) states that "if watershed specific exceedance frequencies are determined for any of the watersheds addressed in the TMDL, the wet weather TMDLs can be re-calculated based on these watershed specific exceedance frequencies." However, a specific process for amending the TMDL is not included in the technical report or the Tentative Resolution No. R9-2010-0001 (Tentative Resolution). A process for Basin Plan amendments is included in the Tentative Resolution, but no reopener dates are specified. The specific process for amending the TMDL, as well as TMDL re-opener dates, should be incorporated into the TMDL. Possible language to include in the Tentative Resolution could include language from the Attachment A to Resolution No. 2002-022 (Santa Monica Bay Beaches Wet Weather TMDL);

- Four years after the effective date of the TMDL, the Regional Board shall reconsider the TMDL.
- The four areas of consideration when reconsidering the TMDL shall

Written response:

A similar concern was raised Project I before it was adopte Technical Report). The Basin TMDL, as necessary. See pag Technical Report). This section amend the Basin Plan. In add amendments to "the Basin Pla dischargers and/or other entit Please see item 21 Final Tech Part III V-6 in the TMDL Im amendment (and Table 11-9 c of these TMDLs may take pla evidence that warrant a revisi

| | include | make every effort to amend t |
|-----------|--|--|
| | o Refine allowable wet weather exceedance days based on additional data on hacterial indicator densities in the wave wash | is not necessary. Adjustment to language in |
| | and an evaluation of site-specific variability in exceedance levels, | at a second of |
| | exceedance levels, including a reconsideration of whether the | Language was added to the te |
| | dependent on the rainfall conditions and an evaluation of natural variability in exceedance levels in the reference system(s), | "within 5 years from the et |
| | o Re-evaluate the reference year used in the calculation of allowable | "If no Basin Plan amendment Basin Plan amendment, and t |
| | exceedance days, and o Re-evaluate whether there is a need for further clarification or | that insufficient data exist to Plan amendment to revise the |
| | revision of the geometric mean implementation provision. | TMDLs will not be initiated |
| a r | Match Compliance to Risk and Safety | are met." |
| 85 | To meet the beneficial use goals and use the City's resources cost effectively, | Similar concerns were raised |
| , | compliance to the TMDL needs to focus on river segments and coastal areas where | in December 2007 (see comm Report). The REC-1 designa |
| | the recreational benefit is consistent with actual and potential use. The City is | noted. If there is evidence to |
| | committed to this goal and through its ongoing bacteria reduction and public | be required. If it becomes a p |
| | outreach efforts has been able to reduce beach postings by 76% during the first half of the last decade. However, certain concrete-lined flood channel sections of creeks | may consider creating subca Dischargers can propose suc |
| | of the last decade. However, certain concrete-lined flood chainles sections of events and streams are not subject to recreational use; however, they are still designated as | safety considerations during |
| | REC-1 waterbodies. These sections should not be part of the compliance | |
| | monitoring, as safety to the public prohibit access during storm events. | |
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| 86 | Compliance Monitoring Directed at Human Sources | The RI RPs or CI RPs that |
| 86 | To use the City's funds cost effectively, compliance monitoring during wet weather | taken to reduce bacteria loa |
| 86 | Compliance Monitoring Directed at Human Sources To use the City's funds cost effectively, compliance monitoring during wet weather events should focus on follow-up source tracking of human sources. | taken to reduce bacteria loa to be included in the BLRF |
| 86 | To use the City's funds cost effectively, compliance monitoring during wet weather | taken to reduce bacteria loa to be included in the BLRP be helpful, other anthropog |
| 86 | To use the City's funds cost effectively, compliance monitoring during wet weather | taken to reduce bacteria loa to be included in the BLRP be helpful, other anthropog Furthermore, the health ris understood at this time. Sp |
| 86 | To use the City's funds cost effectively, compliance monitoring during wet weather | The BLRPs or CLRPs that taken to reduce bacteria loa to be included in the BLRP be helpful, other anthropog Furthermore, the health risk understood at this time. Sp monitoring requirements caby the San Diego Water Bo |
| 86 | To use the City's funds cost effectively, compliance monitoring during wet weather | taken to reduce bacteria loa to be included in the BLRF be helpful, other anthropog Furthermore, the health ris understood at this time. Sp monitoring requirements c |
| 86 | To use the City's funds cost effectively, compliance monitoring during wet weather | taken to reduce bacteria loa to be included in the BLRF be helpful, other anthropog Furthermore, the health ris understood at this time. Sp monitoring requirements c |
| | To use the City's funds cost effectively, compliance monitoring during wet weather | taken to reduce bacteria los to be included in the BLRI be helpful, other anthropos Furthermore, the health ris understood at this time. Sp monitoring requirements of |

| 87 | Compliance Based on Relevant Science | |
|----|---|---|
| | Preliminary data presented in the Tecolote Bacteria Source Study (Weston Solutions, 2009) have suggested that storm water is characterized by fecal bacteria associated with a greater health risk during the initial first flush and an increasing predominance of lower risk species of enterococcus bacteria associated with plant matter and re-growth. Compliance needs to have a greater focus on applicable risk-based criteria and sound science in order that measures to be implemented for risk reduction are done in a cost-effective manner. | The BLRPs or CLRPs that are taken to reduce bacteria loads to be included in the BLRPs of be helpful, other anthropogen Furthermore, the health risk a understood at this time. Speci monitoring requirements can by the San Diego Water Boar |
| | | |
| 88 | Human versus Anthropogenic | |
| | Compliance should be measured by addressing human sources of bacteria detected above objectives in wet weather flows at appropriate compliance points. If the purpose of the TMDL is to protect REC-1 beneficial use so the public can swim, the use of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) bathing standards should not be allowed because they are based on the protection of human health from human sewage sources. Therefore, monitoring should focus on human sources rather than a broad category of anthropogenic sources that may not be associated with an unacceptable human health risk threshold. Without focusing these monitoring efforts to human sources, extensive public resources could be used to track sources of little or no risk, instead of using limited funds to track and implement source controls from known high-risk human sources. It is therefore recommended that a tracking program be implemented to find sources using Quantitative PCR (QPCR) techniques along with monitoring at appropriate compliance points where recreational use has been recorded or access and safety ordinances could allow for future recreational use. | Please see the responses to Co |
| | The assumption in the TMDL that all dry weather exceedances may be attributed to the municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) is invalid, as shown in the Mission Bay, PB Point, and San Diego River studies, which were conducted for the California State Water Resources Quality Control Board (State Board). The results of these studies showed that birds and other wildlife are often the source of indicator bacteria exceedances during dry weather at beaches. Holding the City (and other MS4 dischargers) accountable for indicator bacteria exceedances caused by natural sources is invalid. The assumption that all dry weather flows are due to anthropogenic influence is invalid. Many of the streams in Southern California flow naturally during the dry season. Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) studies have shown that in reference systems, including San Mateo creek in San Diego | |
| | County, natural flows occur during the dry season. Additionally, during winter dry conditions, nearly all streams in San Diego County exhibit flow because of storm events that raise the groundwater table and cause infiltration into the creeks. | |

| 90 | Stated Use of Geometric Mean | The goal of any TMDL is to |
|----|--|---|
| | Attachment A of the Tentative Resolution (page 715 f) states and the west weather 30-day | the water quality objectives the |
| | and dry weather samples will be used together to calculate the wet weather 30-day geometric mean and that no exceedances of the wet weather 30-day geometric mean | the water quality objectives a |
| 1 | geometric mean and that no exceedances of the wet weather 50 day geometric are allowed. The allowable exceedance of single sample criteria is zero during dry are allowed. The allowable exceedance of single sample criteria is zero during dry are allowed. | corrected. The water quality |
| | weather periods, but there is a frequency allowance for wet weather samples. Using | maximum and a geometric m |
| | the two sets of samples together will likely result in an exceedance of the 30-day | objectives are applicable to the |
| | geometric mean, and no exceedances of the geometric mean are allowed. This | the San Diego Water Board h |
| | methodology is not scientifically defensible. The 30-day geometric mean should not | single sample maximum wate |
| | be applied to wet weather samples but only to the dry weather condition. | exceedance frequency greater |
| | be applied to wet weather samples out only to the my | an allowable exceedance freq |
| | Page A66 of Attachment A of the Tentative Resolution (Section (2) Compliance | weather or dry weather TMD |
| | of the least state of the first the end of the wet weather living compliance schedule, and | the single sample maximum |
| | l assisting woters must not exceed the single sample maximum REC-1 w QOS more | MS4s dischargers must meet |
| | 1 41 the rest weather allowable exceedance requester. I lieft is no mondon of a week | to be considered "in complian |
| | Additionally, item 28 01 the 1 chitative resolution | MS4s are identified as causin |
| | in the state of the suct weather INITI COMBINING Schedule, the single | not causing or contributing to |
| | 1 and 30-day geometric mean KEC-1 wood inust not be exceeded | compliance. The receiving w |
| | in the receiving water more frequently than the allowable exceduance nequences. | objectives (from Ocean Plan |
| | Please clarify the use of the wet weather 30-day geometric mean and whether or not | maximum and 30-day geome |
| | it will be used as a measure of compliance. | Compliance with Wet Weath |
| | | a. Single Sample Maximum I |
| | | a. Single Sample Waximum 1 all wet weather days between |
| | | b. 30-day Geometric Mean R |
| | | wet and dry weather days bet |
| | | Compliance with Dry Weath |
| | | a. Single Sample Maximum I |
| | | all dry weather days during th |
| | | b. 30-day Geometric Mean R |
| | | all dry weather days during th |
| | | · · |
| | | At this time, compliance will |
| | | will be assessed on a watersh |
| | | later than 10 years from effec |
| | | and implement Bacteria Loac |
| | | to no later than 20 years if the |
| | | addition, the San Diego Wate |
| | | watershed specific allowable |
| | | mean based on data collected |
| | | exceedance frequencies deve |
| | | seasons) if support by the dat |
| | | |
| 91 | Compliance Monitoring Needs to Account for Diversions | |
| | The City has invested in dry weather diversion at the base of the Tecologe watershed | Mission Bay from the discha |
| | the second of th | Tecolote Creek. The TMDLs |
| | With no dry weather flows entering Mission Bay from Tecolote Creek, compliance | |
| | to protect the heneficial use of the waterbody that is accessible and actually used for | |
| | recreational purposes should be directed at monitoring the effectiveness of the | |
| | diversions rather than any periodic flows in the flood control channel. | • |
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|---------------------------------------|--|--|
| 92 | Best Management Practices for Reducing Dry and Wet Weather Concentrations | |
| | Reducing Dry Weather Concentration – The TMDL applies a concentration-based | The goal of any TMDL is to |
| | compliance goal, however many BMPs, including low impact development (LID) | the water quality objectives t |
| | and irrigation controls, can effectively reduce loads but not concentration (City of | the water quality objectives |
| • | Laguna). The compliance goals of the TMDL state that progress toward TMDL | corrected. The mass-load ba |
| | implementation will be based on exceedance frequency reduction. It is also | sources with bacteria loads to |
| İ | important to include mechanisms to show progress toward TMDL compliance using load reductions. | quality objectives measured |
| | Toad reductions. | receiving waters, the assump |
| | Reducing Wet Weather Concentrations - LID BMPs may be used to reduce runoff | If, however, the receiving wa |
| i | volume during storm events, but this will not likely result in decreased | demonstrate that they are no |
| | concentrations of bacteria. LID can be part of an integrated suite of BMPs to reduce | demonstrate they are not cau |
| İ | the volume of runoff and pollutant loading including bacteria, but if compliance is | or LA. The most straightforv |
| | focused on concentration, this may discourage the innovative use of these and other | or |
| · | more sustainable approaches. If the TMDL allows load reduction goals to show | contributing to the exceedance |
| | progress toward TMDL compliance, then these approaches would be more widely | concentration) if their discha |
| | implemented to address bacteria. | objectives and allowable exc |
| | r | also provide evidence that up |
| ŀ | This TMDL has been revised to use a reference system exceedance frequency | sources can demonstrate they |
| | approach instead of a load reduction approach for improving bacteria densities at | water limitations, then the ap |
| | beaches and creeks. However, the allowable loads are presented in the Technical | TMDLs may be warranted. |
| : | Report and in the Tentative Resolution. This is confusing and does not follow EPA | Also, please see the response |
| | guidelines. EPA federal guidance states that all TMDLs include daily load | |
| ļ | calculations. This recommendation is based on the outcome of Friends of the Earth | |
| | v. EPA (446 F.3d 140 (D.C. Cir 2006)), which states that the intent of the Congress | |
| | was to establish daily loads and not seasonal or annual loads. If allowable loads will | |
| j | be included in the Technical Report and Tentative Resolution, then they should be | |
| ŀ | estimated for the daily case. Additionally, if loads are presented in the TMDL, then | |
| | dischargers should be allowed to make progress toward load reduction to show | |
| · | progress toward TMDL compliance. | |
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| 93 | Compliance Timeline (Integrated Approach) | |
| * | | Application of the second seco |
| | The compliance schedule was 20 years in the previous version of the TMDL but is | Please see the response to Co |
| | now ten years for all waterbodies, excepting Chollas Creek. It is stated in the TMDL | The timelines for the complia |
| | and Tentative Resolution that if dischargers submit a Comprehensive Load | amendment adopted in Decei |
| 1 | Reduction Plan (CLRP), they may set the compliance schedule greater than ten years | underline/strikeout version of |
| | for wet weather but must meet dry weather compliance goals within ten years. It is | schedules and interim milestc |
| | recommended that the compliance deadline should be 20 years for both wet and dry compliance. | No change in the compliance |
| | Compilation. | |
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94 Inclusion of Tecolote Watershed in the TMDL

The City activity worked with the Regional Board to develop the Tecolote TMDL; however, it was included in the Bacteria Project I after the City's efforts to gather additional data for the indicated TMDL. Specifically the City met with Regional Board staff beginning in the first quarter of 2008 to coordinate data collection and assessment for the purpose of improving the Tecolote Creek bacteria TMDL. These data were not incorporated into the TMDL, and the process for inclusion in the TMDL or a future re-opener of the TMDL have not been included. Please include specific guidance for TMDL revisions and a TMDL re-opener date that will allow dischargers to refine the TMDL to assure that the TMDL is based on sound science that can then lead to cost-effective, practical solutions.

Comments from the 2006 version of the TMDL indicate that old land use data were identified as a potential issue. The response to the comment indicated that if it was possible to update the land use data, it would be done. It does not appear that the land use data were updated. Because load estimates were based on land use information, if loads will be included in the TMDL, then they should be based on the most up-to-date and accurate information. As new information becomes available, it should be incorporated into the TMDL. Setting a firm re-opener deadline (e.g., three to four years after TMDL implementation) would allow dischargers to update information and improve the TMDLs. It is recommended that a TMDL re-opener date be set to allow for future updates to the TMDL.

The Storm Water Department supports the use of sound science to improve and protect water quality. This policy can best be observed at the City's beaches, which have shown a 76% reduction in beach closure days during the second half of the last decade. The City also supports the use of the reference system approach for development of bacteria TMDLs. To assure the City's resources are used cost effectively to improve water quality, we have provided these comments based on sound science approaches. Compliance with the proposed TMDL will require significant amounts of City resources, and it is important that waterbodies recommended for de-listing from the draft 2008 Regional §303(d) list be removed from the TMDL. Secondly, while the City supports the use of the reference system approach, it must be used appropriately. The wet weather definition in the reference system is 0.1 inch of rain, but this TMDL defines a wet day as 0.2 inch of rain. This inconsistency is scientifically invalid, and it is recommended that the definition of a wet day be changed to 0.1 inch of rain or greater. Thirdly, the TMDL states that the Regional Board is open to modifying the implementation of the TMDL to account for additional data, newly defined reference conditions, or special studies submitted by the dischargers. However, there is no timeline laid out in the TMDL implementation section. It is recommended that a date be set for a TMDL re-opener, at which time the TMDL may be modified.

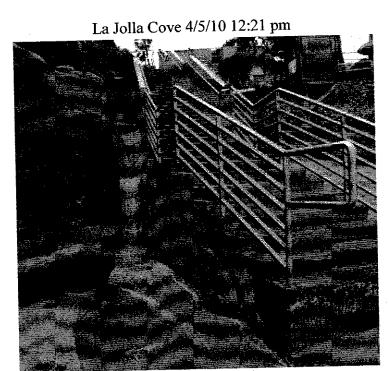
The San Diego Water Board studies undertaken by the Cit encourages and would like to develop region or watershed natural sources exclusion. Ide identifying anthropogenic and focused.

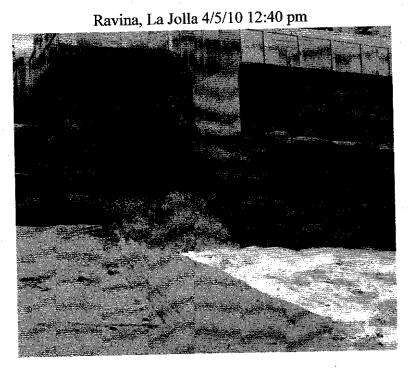
The resources available to the greatly reduced. Additionally TMDLs Project I can be applincluding Tecolote Creek as a use of the limited available re and the expectation to compliand one waterbody combinat. Creek into this project. Even not invalidate or nullify any of the work done by the City are the City Hopefully the City of and include their plans for fur please see the response in Second

Attachment 2 City of San Diego Photographs of Runoff from Rain Events with Less Than 0.2 inch of Rainfall

Rain Event 1: April 5, 2010 La Jolla with 0.11 inch of rainfall

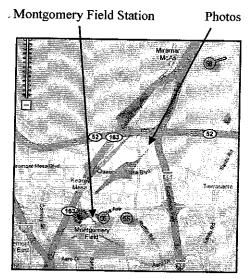
MON APR 5 2010 RAINFALL STORM TOTAL SUMMARY NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE SAN DIEGO CA SAN DIEGO LINDBERGH FIELD **0.11 INCH**

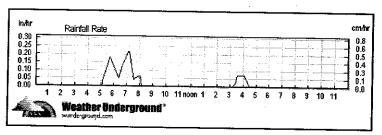




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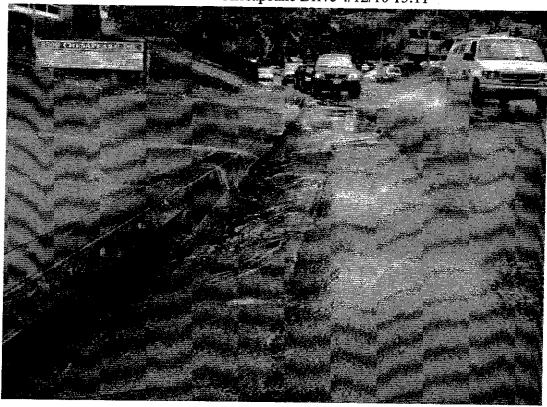
Rain Event 2: April 12, 2010 Kearny Mesa 15:00-16:00 pm 0.07 inch rainfall

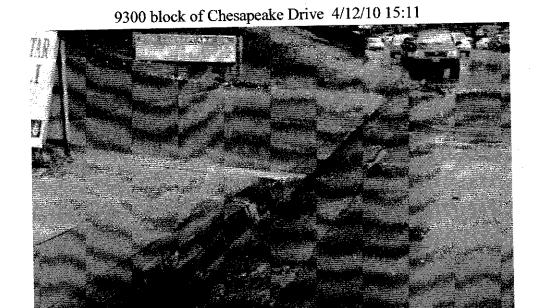


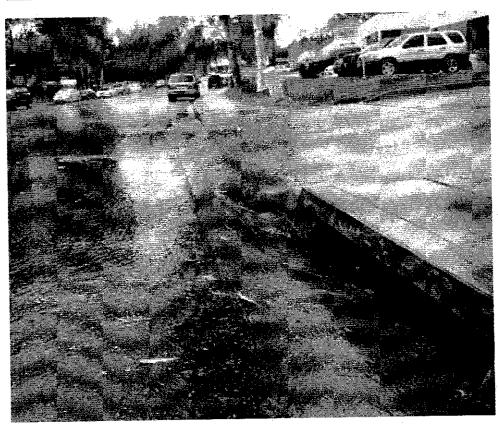




9300 block of Chesapeake Drive 4/12/10 15:11

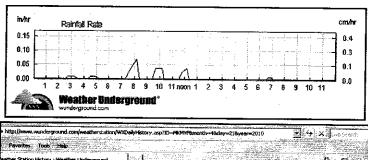






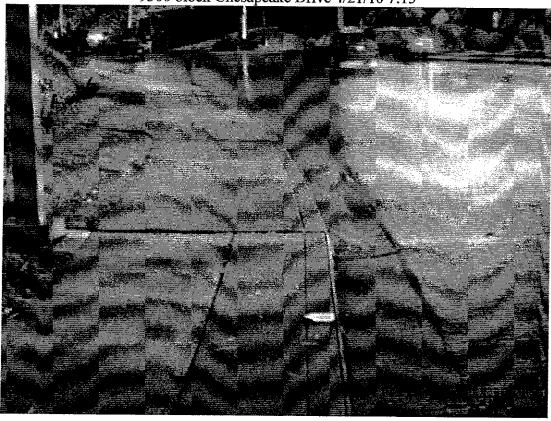
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Rain Event 3: April 21, 2010 Kearny Mesa 7:15 am 0.04-0.07 inch rainfall



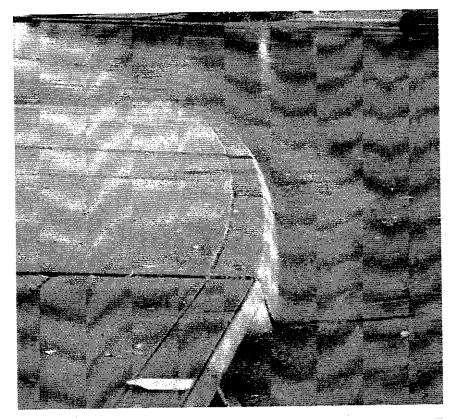
| avora | es Took | Halo | | | | | | | |
|-------|--------------|-------------|------------|----------------------|---------|--------------|---|-------|--------------|
| y Sta | tion History | : Weather U | nderground | la 1 | | -14.77.77.75 | 20 of Est / 10 of | | 4 - 6 |
| W. 1 | 03:03 | 52.0 17 | 45.0 °F | 29.91 | で主動 | 10.0mph | u.umph | /579 | 9.01 |
| 1 | 03:42 | 54.6 ** | 43.0 °F | 29.90in | where | 10.0mph | 9.9mph | 55% | 0.00 |
| | 93153 | 52.0 °F | 43.0 °F | 29.90m | WMW | 12.0mph | 0.0mph | 72% | 0.00 |
| | 04:22 | 54.0 °F | 43.0 °F | 29.89in | 945W | 14.0mph | 0.0mph | 56% | 0.00 |
| | 04:32 | 52.0 °F | 45.0 °F | 29.89in | ARK | 10.0mph | 9.9mph | 76% | 0.01a |
| | 04:43 | 52.0 °F | 43.0 °F | 29.89in | whet | 10.0mph | dqm0.0 | 71% | 6.01i |
| | 94:53 | 52.0 °F | 43.0 °F | 29.89m | 28eVF | 7.0mph | Q.Qmpfr | 71% | 0.010 |
| Ħ. | 05:22 | 52.6 °F | 43.0 °F | 29.88: | West | 9.0mph | 0.0mph | 71% | 0.00 |
| | 95:33 | 52.0 °F | 41.0 °F | 29.88in | West | 12.0mph | 0.0 mph | 86% | 0.00 |
| | 65:43 | 52.0 °F | 43.0 °F | 29.88in | West | 9.0mph | 0.0mph | 71% | 0.00 |
| | 05:53 | 52.0 % | 41.8 °F | 29.88m | West | 19.0mph | 0.0mph | 56% | 0.00 |
| 4 | 96:09 | 52.0 °F | 43.0 °F | 29.88in | West | 8.0mph | G.O mph | 71% | 0.00 |
| | 05:22 | 52.0 ℃ | 43.0 °F | 29.87m | West | 10.Gmph | 0.0mph | 71% | 9.00ir |
| | 06:32 | 52.0 °F | 39.0 °F | 29.87 in | West | 9.0mph | 0.0mph | 61% | 0.00ir |
| | 05:42 | 52.D °F | 39.0 °F | 29.87 in | West | 7.Gmph | 0.0 mph | 61% | 0.00ir |
| | 07:08 | 50.0 °F | 43.0 °F | 29.89 in | WNW | 21.0mph | 0.0mph | 76% | 0.00 |
| | 07.72 | 48.0 % | 43.6 45 | 29.88in | · West | 5.Cmph | 0.0mph | 81757 | 0.01in |
| | 97:42 | 48.0 °≓ | 45.0 °F | 29.88in | 1/4/ | S.Omph | 0.0mph | 87% | 0.04 |
| | 08:25 | 52.0 °F | 45.0 °F | 29. 9 0in | Willey. | 13.0mph | 9.9mph | 76% | 0.07in |
| 9 | 08:22 | 50.0 °F | 45.0 °F | 29.89in | WHW | 5.0mph | 0.0mph | 91% | 0.00m |

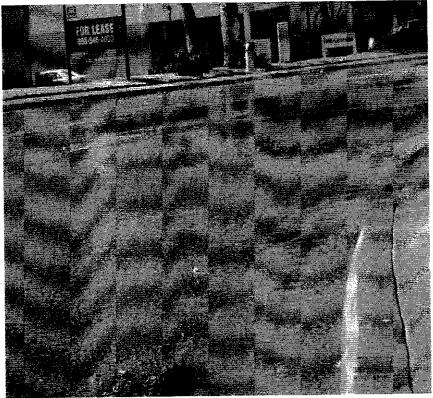
9300 block Chesapeake Drive 4/21/10 7:15



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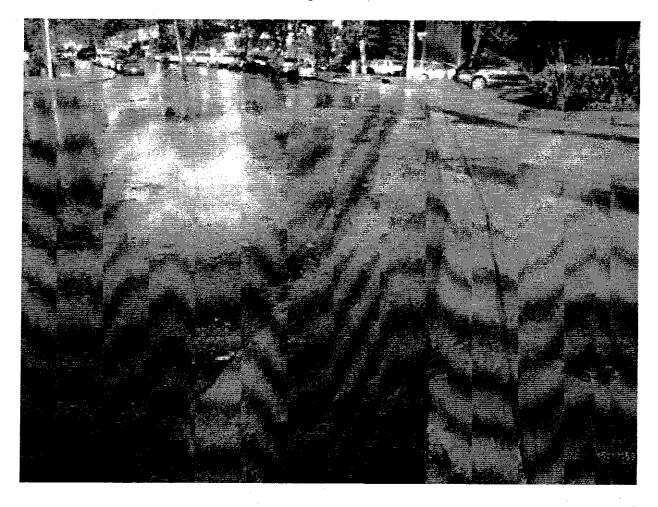
9300 block Chesapeake Drive 4/21/10 7:15





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9300 block Chesapeake Drive 4/21/10 7:15



| Rain | Difference | Wet Days llowing 72 hours) | Total | | | |
|----------------|------------------|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|-----------|--|
| | between Wet Days | 0.2 inch or greater | 0.1 inch or greater | Rainfall (inches) | | |
| Fashio | 16 | 47 | 63 | 8.23 | 1998-1999 | |
| Lir | 7 | 24 | 31 | 5.81 | 1999-2000 | |
| Lir | 8 | 45 | 53 | 8.54 | 2000-2001 | |
| Lir | 20 | 18 | 38 | 3.08 | 2001-2002 | |
| Combined (Fasl | 5 | 46 | 51 | 10.85 | 2002-2003 | |
| Fashi | 7 | 63 | 70 | 24.21 | 2004-2005 | |
| Fashi | 4 | 44 | 48 | 6.82 | 2005-2006 | |
| Fashi | 22 | 23 | 45 | 4.80 | 2006-2007 | |
| Weston Install | 14 | 38 | 52 | 9.07 | 2007-2008 | |
| Weston Install | 5 | 33 | 38 | 9.66 | 2008-2009 | |
| | 11 | 38 | 49 | 9.11 | Average | |