

INTRODUCTION

On October 25, 2002 the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (SARWQCB) issued a "third-round" area-wide National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Stormwater Permit (MS4 Permit) to the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District (District), the County of Riverside (County) and the Cities of Beaumont, Calimesa, Canyon Lake, Corona, Hemet, Lake Elsinore, Moreno Valley, Murrieta, Norco, Perris, Riverside, and San Jacinto (Cities), for the portion of the Santa Ana River watershed located within Riverside County (Order No.R8-2002-0011). The City of Murrieta was included in this third-round MS4 Permit since approximately 325 acres of city property drains to the Santa Ana River Watershed via the San Jacinto River Watershed. The MS4 Permit designates the District as the Principal Permittee. The County and incorporated Cities are designated as Co-Permittees. **Figure I-1** shows the portion of Riverside County that is within the jurisdiction of the SARWQCB.

Previous MS4 Permits were adopted by the SARWQCB on July 13, 1990 (Order No. 90-04) and on March 8, 1996 (Order No. 96-30). Throughout this Annual Report, the MS4 Permits adopted by the SARWQCB for Riverside County will be identified as follows:

- Order No. 90-04 referred to as the 1990 MS4 Permit
- Order No. 96-30 referred to as the 1996 MS4 Permit
- Order No. R8-2002-0011 referred to as the 2002 MS4 Permit

Pursuant to the 1990 MS4 Permit, the Permittees developed a Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP) for the Santa Ana permit area in February 1993. The 1993 Santa Ana Regional DAMP (1993 SAR-DAMP) described 34 BMPs to be implemented by the Permittees in the effort to control stormwater pollution to the maximum extent practicable.

The 2002 MS4 Permit requires the continued implementation of control measures (BMPs) in the 1993 SAR-DAMP, and development of a revised DAMP to be submitted to the SARWQCB by January 1, 2005. The Permittees developed a revised DAMP, circulated it for public review and comment, and submitted it to the SARWQCB on December 30, 2004. Thus, the Permittees operated under the 1993 SAR-DAMP up to December 31, 2004 and transitioned to the 2005 DAMP beginning in January 2005.

While the 2005 DAMP provides an outline for the implementation of specific BMPs, the actual process of implementing the overall municipal stormwater program is comprised of a series of actions and ongoing activities carried out by the Permittees over the duration of the MS4 Permit. This report summarizes these actions and chronicles the Santa Ana Permittees' progress in implementing BMPs and the other provisions of the 2002 MS4 Permit during the period from July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.

Recent Permittee activities have been focused on addressing TMDL impaired waterbodies such as Canyon Lake, Lake Elsinore, and the Middle Santa Ana River. The Permittees are developing Task Forces, pursuing grants, and re-evaluation their compliance programs as necessary to ensure that urban runoff does not contribute to these impairments.

REPORTING FORMAT

The current MS4 Permit requires the Permittees to report on the progress and status of their stormwater program activities in an Annual Report. This document is intended to comply with that requirement. The primary purpose of the Annual Report is to chronicle the Permittees' progress in implementing the provisions of the MS4 Permit. In addition, the Annual Report serves to identify potential problem areas.

As lead Permittee, the District has attempted to focus attention on the principal components of the Permittees' municipal stormwater management programs and convey relevant information to the SARWQCB in a clear and concise manner. To facilitate the reporting process, District staff prepared the annual reporting forms and summary Tables that appear throughout this report. These forms are intended to focus to the reporting effort, summarize the information pertaining to the various program activities, and facilitate a consistent annual reporting process. While the District strives to ensure the accuracy of the information presented in the summary Tables, readers of this report should always verify the summarized information by referring to the individual Permittee reporting forms provided in **Appendix G** – Permittee Reports.

The remainder of this report reviews the Permittees' accomplishments over the course of the reporting period and presents the status of the Permittees' ongoing efforts and planned activities to implement their respective municipal stormwater programs and comply with the provisions of the current MS4 Permit.

Major program updates and accomplishments described in this report include:

- Formation of a workgroup that developed a comprehensive Report Of Waste Discharge (ROWD) submittal, including a redline proposal for the next permit that identified

enhancements for each program element and additional text that addressed TMDL compliance. In addition, the workgroup developed a proposed new section in the Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP) that addressed TMDLs;

- Participation in a SCCWRP effort to develop hydromodification guidance for Southern California;
- Participation in the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) effort to develop a Low Impact Development (LID) guidance for Southern California, Regional Watershed Monitoring Program (RWMP), Model Monitoring Program, and a Peak Flow Study that will evaluate how stream erosion impacts natural stream habitat;
- Participation in the Lake Elsinore TMDL Taskforce. For the TMDL, the Permittees developed a draft Septic System Management Plan, lake monitoring plans, and revised schedule the TMDL schedule to help identify the appropriate BMPs for the TMDL;
- Participation in the Lake Elsinore and San Jacinto Watersheds Authority (LESJWA). Through LESJWA, the Permittees have funded activities that will improve Lake Elsinore such as fish removal and disposal; Lake Elsinore island well improvements; and the installation and operation of a Lake Elsinore aeration system;
- The Permittees are coordinating with the San Jacinto River Watershed Council (SJRWC) to collect data on Canyon Lake and within the San Jacinto River watershed;
- Participation in the Middle Santa Ana River (MSAR) TMDL Taskforce, helped to develop a Bacterial Source Identification Study for the Santa Ana River, and helped to identify BMP testing locations for a pilot study for the TMDL;
- The Permittees have actively participated in the Storm Water Quality Standards Taskforce (SWQSTF);
- Permittees are participating in the Southern California Coastal Water Resource Project's (SCCWRP) Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) study;
- Developed guidance tools and material to address Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP) help improve implementation;
- The District continued to develop an enhanced BMP guidance manual, focused on low impact development, and landscape based BMPs capable of addressing the water quality impairments affecting the Santa Ana watershed;
- Participated in workshops discussing the Draft General Construction Permit and provided comments to the State Water Quality Control Board (SWQCB);
- Providing comments on SWRCB Numeric Effluent Limits Blue Ribbon Panel Report;
- Identified the need and initiated the effort to develop an on-line database to track allowable 3rd party discharges into Permittee MS4 systems for complaint calls.
- Update of the complaint call database to increase its utility for District staff;
- Participation in the SCCWRP Bacti Reference Study;
- Developed an on-line website to register students;

- Continued to track program effectiveness such as resident surveys, tracking hotline inquiries, and web counters;
- Participated in Watershed Modeling workshops hosted by the State Board and the City of Los Angeles;
- Actively participated in the Santa Ana and San Jacinto Watershed IRWM plan development process. The Permittees identified a number of potential projects that could lead to improving water quality and assist in dealing with TMDL impairments;
- Active participation with CASQA with leadership roles in the organization. Specifically: Steve Stump, Board Member since 2004; Jason Uhley, Legislative Chair since 2003; Linda Garcia, Monitoring Co-Chair 2004 – 2007;

One of the most important and challenging aspects of implementing a municipal stormwater program is coordinating the efforts and activities of the various agencies, organizations and stakeholder groups affected by the program. A broad range of responsibilities, priorities and viewpoints must be accommodated in order to maintain consensus and garner the support needed to achieve the overall objective – reducing stormwater pollution. The key underpinnings of a sound organizational structure, adequate legal authority and adequate program funding, play critical roles in program implementation and meeting the requirements of the MS4 Permit.

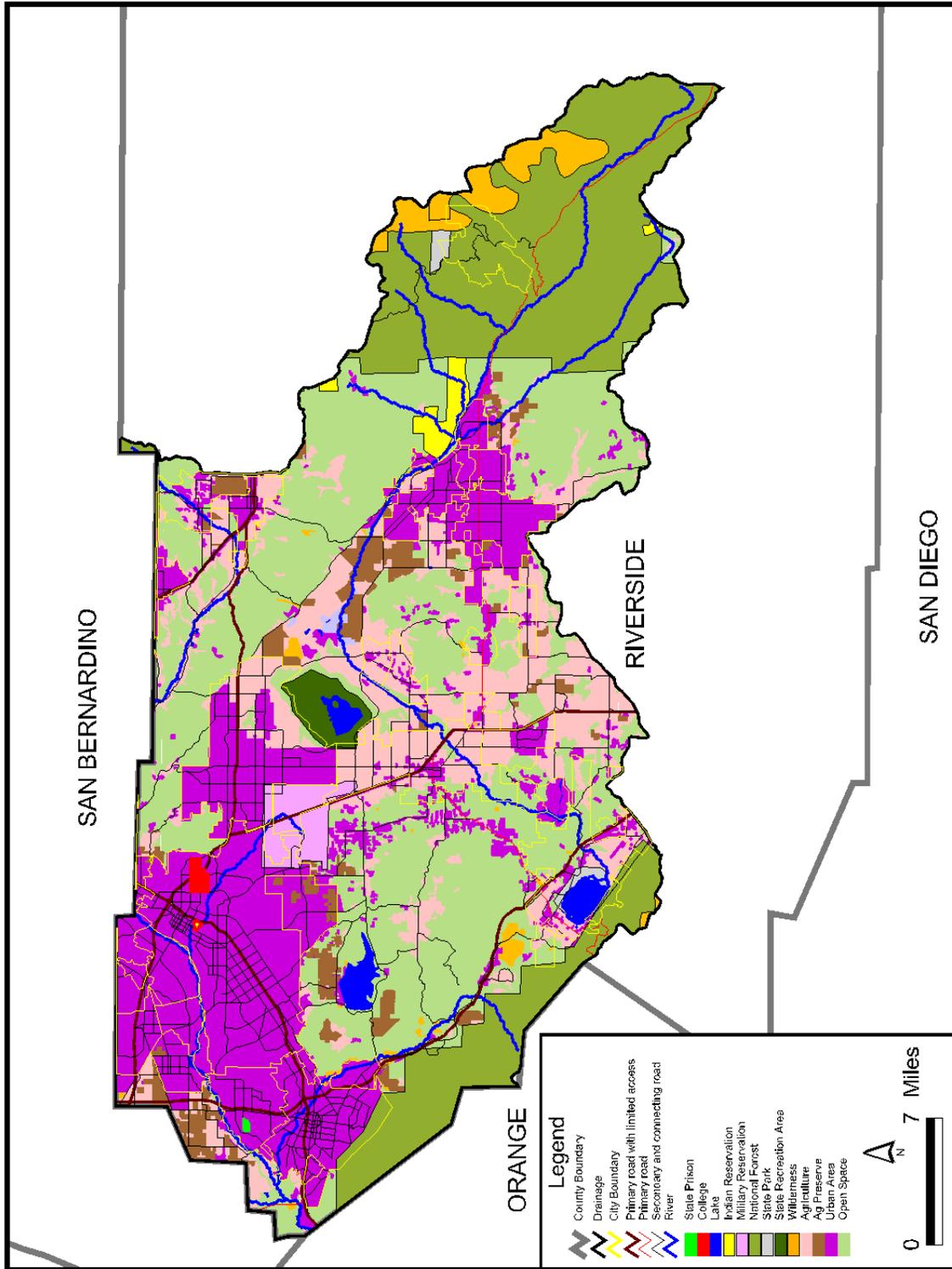


Figure I-1