

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 2022-0026**

AUTHORIZE THE DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
TO APPROVE AND FUND PROJECTS TO ADDRESS WATER QUALITY IN THE
RIVERS THAT COME ACROSS THE BORDER FROM MEXICO

WHEREAS:

1. The Budget Act of 2021 appropriated \$20,000,000 to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for water quality problems arising in the rivers that come across the border from Mexico;
2. The \$20,000,000 appropriated in Item 3940-106-0001, Provision 6(a) of the Budget Act of 2021 is available for encumbrance until June 30, 2024, and must be liquidated by June 30, 2026;
3. The Budget Act of 2022 appropriated \$15,000,000 to the State Water Board to address water quality problems arising in the rivers that come across the border from Mexico;
4. The \$15,000,000 appropriated in Item 3940-107-0001, Provision 1 of the Budget Act of 2022 is available for encumbrance until June 30, 2023, and must be liquidated by June 30, 2025;
5. Less the five percent (5%) authorized in the Budget Act of 2021 and the Budget Act of 2022 for administrative costs, there is \$33,250,000 available for eligible projects;
6. Staff from the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA), and the State Water Board and the Colorado River and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Water Boards) worked with border stakeholders to identify shovel-ready projects that meet the legislative intent and Budget Act requirements. Several projects were identified as shown in Attachment 1 that will address water quality problems in the Tijuana River and the New River;
7. The Water Boards and CalEPA have consulted with the Legislature; the California Department of Water Resources; California cities and counties near the border; the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; the International Boundary and Water Commission; the Secretary of Environment for Baja California; the Secretary of Water of Baja California; and representatives of the City of Tijuana, Water Francisco Bernal (Baja California), and the Government of Mexico; and

8. The Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) administers the implementation of the State Water Board's financial assistance programs, that include loan and grant funding for construction and implementation of a wide variety of drinking water and pollution control projects.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Authorizes the Deputy Director of DFA to execute and amend grant agreements, consistent with the encumbrance and liquidation deadlines identified in paragraphs 2 and 4 above, and do all things necessary and convenient to fund projects identified in Attachment 1 to the Resolution to address water quality in the rivers that come across the border from Mexico.
2. Directs the Deputy Director of DFA to continue to coordinate with CalEPA to fund projects in Attachment 1 consistent with the priorities identified in Item 3940-106-0001, Provision 6(a) of the Budget Act of 2021 (Priority Projects).
3. Allows the Deputy Director of DFA discretion, in coordination with CalEPA, to fund non-Priority Projects in Attachment 1 after accounting for funding required for Priority Projects.
4. Authorizes the Deputy Director of DFA, in coordination with CalEPA, to add new Projects to Attachment 1 and execute and amend grant agreements and do all things necessary and convenient consistent with funding Priority Projects in Resolved Nos. 2 and 3 above.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on July 19, 2022.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel
Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo
Board Member Laurel Firestone
Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None

ABSENT: Board Member Maguire

ABSTAIN: None

 for
Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board

Cross-Border (Mexico) Potential Projects

| Project Lead/Applicant | Estimated Cost | Estimated Grant | Project Description |
|---|----------------|-----------------|---|
| County of San Diego | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ 4,000,000 | Install trash boom in main channel and Matadero Canyon to address trash in Tijuana River and near by canyons |
| CESPT (Comisión Estatal de Servicios Públicos de Tijuana) | \$ 200,000 | \$ 200,000 | Install SmartCovers to identify sewage stoppages in Tijuana |
| County of San Diego | \$ 4,000,000 | \$ 4,000,000 | Construct basin and trash boom, restoration of grade to remove wastes and reduce flooding in Matadero Canon/Suggler's Gulch |
| County of San Diego | \$ 1,800,000 | \$ 1,800,000 | Remove historically placed fill and annually deposited sediment and trash in Tijuana River downstream of Hollister Avenue bridge to reopen a natural braided channel hydrology of the 25-year floodplain. |
| Sonoran Institute (binational non-profit) | \$ 5,000,000 | \$ 4,717,000 | Restoration of polluted drains that feed the New River. Planning Project started February 2022. |
| Imperial County | \$ 3,500,000 | \$ 3,500,000 | Study/Planning/Permits, removal of non-native species. Expand into the area for invasive species removal. |
| River Partners | \$ 1,500,000 | \$ 1,500,000 | Riparian habitat restoration implementation for nearby/cross-border Alamo River |

| | | | |
|------------------|---------------|--------------|--|
| City of Calexico | \$ 31,879,907 | \$ 6,500,000 | <p>Install trash screen and water diversion structure downstream from the US-Mexico Border, install underground bypass pipe to convey polluted New River water from the diversion structure to the bypass pipe outlet, installation of a 350 square-foot energy dissipater with adjacent riprap at the outlet of the bypass pipe to control erosion, and build a pump-back system to replace the polluted water in the river channel with clean, treated wastewater from the Calexico Wastewater Treatment Plant. The project is currently out to bid. The grant amount is to cover extra costs if bids came in higher than anticipated.</p> |
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