

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
 SAN DIEGO REGION**

**TENTATIVE  
 ORDER NO. R9-2013-0001  
 NPDES NO. CAS0109266**

**NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT  
 AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
 DISCHARGES FROM THE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (MS4s)  
 DRAINING THE WATERSHEDS WITHIN THE SAN DIEGO REGION**

The San Diego County Copermittees in [Table 1a](#) are subject to waste discharge requirements set forth in this Order.

**Table 1a. San Diego County Copermittees**

City of Carlsbad	City of Oceanside
City of Chula Vista	City of Poway
City of Coronado	City of San Diego
City of Del Mar	City of San Marcos
City of El Cajon	City of Santee
City of Encinitas	City of Solana Beach
City of Escondido	City of Vista
City of Imperial Beach	County of San Diego
City of La Mesa	San Diego County Regional Airport Authority
City of Lemon Grove	San Diego Unified Port District
City of National City	

After the San Diego Water Board receives and considers the Orange County Copermittees' Report of Waste Discharge and makes any necessary changes to the Order, the Orange County Copermittees in [Table 1b](#) will become subject to waste discharge requirements set forth in this Order after expiration of Order No. R9-2009-0002, NPDES No. CAS0108740 on or after December 16, 2014.

**Table 1b. Orange County Copermittees**

City of Aliso Viejo	City of Rancho Santa Margarita
City of Dana Point	City of San Clemente
City of Laguna Beach	City of San Juan Capistrano
City of Laguna Hills	City of Laguna Woods
City of Laguna Niguel	County of Orange
City of Lake Forest	Orange County Flood Control District
City of Mission Viejo	

After the San Diego Water Board receives and considers the Riverside County Copermittees' Report of Waste Discharge and makes any necessary changes to this Order, the Riverside County Copermittees in [Table 1c](#) will become subject to waste discharge requirements set forth in this Order after expiration of Order No. R9-2010-0016, NPDES No. CAS0108766 on or after November 10, 2015.

**Table 1c. Riverside County Copermittees**

City of Murrieta	County of Riverside
City of Temecula	Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District
City of Wildomar	

The Orange County Copermittees and Riverside County Copermittees may become subject to the requirements of this Order at a date earlier than the expiration date of their current Orders subject to the conditions described in Provision [F.6](#) of this Order if the Copermittees in the respective county receive a notification of coverage from the San Diego Water Board.

The term Copermittee in this Order refers to any San Diego County, Orange County, or Riverside County Copermittee covered under this Order, unless specified otherwise.

This Order provides permit coverage for the Copermittee discharges described in [Table 2](#).

**Table 2. Discharge Locations and Receiving Waters**

Discharge Points	Locations throughout San Diego Region
Discharge Description	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Discharges
Receiving Waters	Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays and Estuaries, and Coastal Ocean Waters of the San Diego Region

**Table 3. Administrative Information**

This Order was adopted by the San Diego Water Board on:	<b>Month Day, 2013</b>
This Order will become effective on:	<b>Month Day, 2013</b>
This Order will expire on:	<b>Month Day, 2018</b>
The Copermittees must file a Report of Waste Discharge in accordance with Title 23, California Code of Regulations, as application for issuance of new waste discharge requirements no later than 180 days in advance of the Order expiration date.	

I, David W. Gibson, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that this Order with all attachments is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region, on Month Day, 2013.

**TENTATIVE**

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David W. Gibson  
 Executive Officer

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## I. FINDINGS

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board), finds that:

### *JURISDICTION*

- 1. MS4 Ownership or Operation.** Each of the Copermitees owns or operates an MS4, through which it discharges storm water and non-storm water into waters of the U.S. within the San Diego Region. These MS4s fall into one or more of the following categories: (1) a medium or large MS4 that services a population of greater than 100,000 or 250,000 respectively; or (2) a small MS4 that is "interrelated" to a medium or large MS4; or (3) an MS4 which contributes to a violation of a water quality standard; or (4) an MS4 which is a significant contributor of pollutants to waters of the U.S.
- 2. Legal and Regulatory Authority.** This Order is issued pursuant to section 402 of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) and implementing regulations (Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Title 40, Part 122 [40 CFR 122]) adopted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the California Water Code (CWC) (commencing with section 13370). This Order serves as an NPDES permit for discharges from MS4s to surface waters. This Order also serves as waste discharge requirements (WDRs) pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the CWC (commencing with section 13260).

The San Diego Water Board has the legal authority to issue a regional MS4 permit pursuant to its authority under CWA section 402(p)(3)(B) and 40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v). The USEPA also made it clear that the permitting authority, in this case the San Diego Water Board, has the flexibility to establish system- or region-wide permits (55 Federal Register [FR] 47990, 48039-48042). The regional nature of this Order will ensure consistency of regulation within watersheds and is expected to result in overall cost savings for the Copermitees and San Diego Water Board.

The federal regulations make it clear that the Copermitees need only comply with permit conditions relating to discharges from the MS4s for which they are operators (40 CFR 122.26(a)(3)(vi)). This Order does not require the Copermitees to manage storm water outside of their jurisdictional boundaries, but rather to work collectively to improve storm water management within watersheds.

- 3. CWA NPDES Permit Conditions.** Pursuant to CWA section 402(p)(3)(B), NPDES permits for storm water discharges from MS4s must include requirements to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into MS4s, and require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the maximum extent practicable (MEP), and to require other provisions as the San Diego Water Board determines are appropriate to control such pollutants. This Order prescribes conditions to assure

compliance with the CWA requirements for owners and operators of MS4s to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges in to the MS4s, and require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from the MS4s to the MEP.

**4. CWA and CWC Monitoring Requirements.** CWA section 308(a) and 40 CFR 122.41(h),(j)-(l) and 122.48 require that NPDES permits must specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Federal regulations applicable to large and medium MS4s also specify additional monitoring and reporting requirements in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D), 122.26(d)(1)(v)(B), 122.26(d)(2)(i)(F), 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(D), 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(2) and 122.42(c). CWC section 13383 authorizes the San Diego Water Board to establish monitoring, inspection, entry, reporting and recordkeeping requirements. This Order establishes monitoring and reporting requirements to implement federal and State requirements.

**5. Total Maximum Daily Loads.** CWA section 303(d)(1)(A) requires that “[e]ach state shall identify those waters within its boundaries for which the effluent limitations...are not stringent enough to implement any water quality standard applicable to such waters.” The CWA also requires states to establish a priority ranking of impaired water bodies known as Water Quality Limited Segments and to establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for such waters. This priority list of impaired water bodies is called the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments, commonly referred to as the 303(d) List. The CWA requires the 303(d) List to be updated every two years.

TMDLs are numerical calculations of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can assimilate and still meet water quality standards. A TMDL is the sum of the allowable loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point sources (waste load allocations or WLAs) and non-point sources (load allocations or LAs), background contribution, plus a margin of safety. Discharges from MS4s are point source discharges. The federal regulations (40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)) require that NPDES permits to incorporate water quality based effluent limitations (WQBELs) developed to protect a narrative water quality criterion, a numeric water quality criterion, or both, consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any available WLA for the discharge. Requirements of this Order implement the TMDLs adopted by the San Diego Water Board and approved by USEPA.

**6. Non-Storm Water Discharges.** Pursuant to CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii), this Order requires each Copermittee to effectively prohibit discharges of non-storm water into its MS4. Nevertheless, non-storm water discharges into and from the MS4s continue to be reported to the San Diego Water Board by the Copermittees and other persons. Monitoring conducted by the Copermittees, as well as the 303(d) List, have identified dry weather, non-storm water discharges from the MS4s as a source of pollutants causing or contributing to receiving water quality impairments in the San Diego Region. The federal regulations (40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1)) require the Copermittees to have a program to prevent illicit discharges to the MS4. The federal regulations, however, allow for specific categories of non-storm water discharges or flows to be addressed as illicit discharges only where such discharges

are identified as sources of pollutants to waters of the U.S.

- 7. In-Stream Treatment Systems.** Pursuant to federal regulations (40 CFR 131.10(a)), in no case shall a state adopt waste transport or waste assimilation as a designated use for any waters of the U.S. Authorizing the construction of a runoff treatment facility within a water of the U.S., or using the water body itself as a treatment system or for conveyance to a treatment system, would be tantamount to accepting waste assimilation as an appropriate use for that water body. Runoff treatment must occur prior to the discharge of runoff into receiving waters. Treatment control best management practices (BMPs) must not be constructed in waters of the U.S. Construction, operation, and maintenance of a pollution control facility in a water body can negatively impact the physical, chemical, and biological integrity, as well as the beneficial uses, of the water body.

#### *DISCHARGE CHARACTERISTICS AND RUNOFF MANAGEMENT*

- 8. Point Source Discharges of Pollutants.** Discharges from the MS4s contain waste, as defined in the CWC, and pollutants that adversely affect the quality of the waters of the state. A discharge from an MS4 is a “discharge of pollutants from a point source” into waters of the U.S. as defined in the CWA. Storm water and non-storm water discharges from the MS4s contain pollutants that cause or threaten to cause a violation of surface water quality standards, as outlined in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan). Storm water and non-storm water discharges from the MS4s are subject to the conditions and requirements established in the Basin Plan for point source discharges.
- 9. Potential Beneficial Use Impairment.** The discharge of pollutants and/or increased flows from MS4s may cause or threaten to cause the concentration of pollutants to exceed applicable receiving water quality objectives and impair or threaten to impair designated beneficial uses resulting in a condition of pollution, contamination, or nuisance.
- 10. Pollutants Generated by Land Development.** Land development has created and continues to create new sources of non-storm water discharges and pollutants in storm water discharges as human population density increases. This brings higher levels of car emissions, car maintenance wastes, municipal sewage, pesticides, household hazardous wastes, pet wastes, and trash. Pollutants from these sources are dumped or washed off the surface by non-storm water or storm water flows into and from the MS4s. When development converts natural vegetated pervious ground cover to impervious surfaces such as paved highways, streets, rooftops, and parking lots, the natural absorption and infiltration abilities of the land are lost. Therefore, runoff leaving a developed area without BMPs that can maintain pre-development conditions will contain greater pollutant loads and have significantly greater runoff volume, velocity, and peak flow rate than pre-development runoff from the same area.

- 11. Runoff Discharges to Receiving Waters.** The MS4s discharge runoff into lakes, drinking water reservoirs, rivers, streams, creeks, bays, estuaries, coastal lagoons, the Pacific Ocean, and tributaries thereto within the eleven hydrologic units comprising the San Diego Region. Historic and current development makes use of natural drainage patterns and features as conveyances for runoff. Rivers, streams and creeks in developed areas used in this manner are part of the Copermittees' MS4s regardless of whether they are natural, anthropogenic, or partially modified features. In these cases, the rivers, streams and creeks in the developed areas of the Copermittees' jurisdictions are both an MS4 and receiving water. Numerous receiving water bodies and water body segments have been designated as impaired by the San Diego Water Board pursuant to CWA section 303(d).
- 12. Pollutants in Runoff.** The most common pollutants in runoff discharged from the MS4s include total suspended solids, sediment, pathogens (e.g., bacteria, viruses, protozoa), heavy metals (e.g., cadmium, copper, lead, and zinc), petroleum products and polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons, synthetic organics (e.g., pesticides, herbicides, and PCBs), nutrients (e.g., nitrogen and phosphorus), oxygen-demanding substances (e.g., decaying vegetation, animal waste), detergents, and trash. As operators of the MS4s, the Copermittees cannot passively receive and discharge pollutants from third parties. By providing free and open access to an MS4 that conveys discharges to waters of the U.S., the operator essentially accepts responsibility for discharges into the MS4 that it does not prohibit or otherwise control. These discharges may cause or contribute to a condition of pollution or a violation of water quality standards.
- 13. Human Health and Aquatic Life Impairment.** Pollutants in runoff discharged from the MS4s can threaten and adversely affect human health and aquatic organisms. Adverse responses of organisms to chemicals or physical agents in runoff range from physiological responses such as impaired reproduction or growth anomalies to mortality. Increased volume, velocity, rate, and duration of storm water runoff greatly accelerate the erosion of downstream natural channels. This alters stream channels and habitats and can adversely affect aquatic and terrestrial organisms.
- 14. Water Quality Effects.** The Copermittees' water quality monitoring data submitted to date documents persistent exceedances of Basin Plan water quality objectives for runoff-related pollutants at various watershed monitoring stations. Persistent toxicity has also been observed at several watershed monitoring stations. In addition, bioassessment data indicate that the majority of the monitored receiving waters have Poor to Very Poor Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) ratings. These findings indicate that runoff discharges are causing or contributing to water quality impairments, and are a leading cause of such impairments in the San Diego Region. Non-storm water discharges from the MS4s have been shown to contribute significant levels of pollutants and flow in arid, developed Southern California watersheds, and contribute significantly to exceedances of applicable receiving water quality objectives.



- 15. Non-Storm Water and Storm Water Discharges.** Non-storm water discharges from the MS4s are not considered storm water discharges and therefore are not subject to the MEP standard of CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii), which is explicitly for “Municipal ... *Stormwater Discharges* (emphasis added)” from the MS4s. Pursuant to CWA 402(p)(3)(B)(ii), non-storm water discharges into the MS4s must be effectively prohibited.
- 16. Best Management Practices.** Waste and pollutants which are deposited and accumulate in MS4 drainage structures will be discharged from these structures to waters of the U.S. unless they are removed. These discharges may cause or contribute to, or threaten to cause or contribute to, a condition of pollution in receiving waters. For this reason, pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s can be and must be effectively reduced in runoff by the application of a combination of pollution prevention, source control, and treatment control BMPs. Pollution prevention is the reduction or elimination of pollutant generation at its source and is the best “first line of defense”. Source control BMPs (both structural and non-structural) minimize the contact between pollutants and runoff, therefore keeping pollutants onsite and out of receiving waters. Treatment control BMPs remove pollutants that have been mobilized by storm water or non-storm water flows.
- 17. BMP Implementation.** Runoff needs to be addressed during the three major phases of development (planning, construction, and use) in order to reduce the discharge of storm water pollutants to the MEP, effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges, and protect receiving waters. Development which is not guided by water quality planning policies and principles can result in increased pollutant load discharges, flow rates, and flow durations which can negatively affect receiving water beneficial uses. Construction sites without adequate BMP implementation result in sediment runoff rates which greatly exceed natural erosion rates of undisturbed lands, causing siltation and impairment of receiving waters. Existing development can generate substantial pollutant loads which are discharged in runoff to receiving waters. Retrofitting areas of existing development with storm water pollutant control and hydromodification management BMPs is necessary to address storm water discharges from existing development that may cause or contribute to a condition of pollution or a violation of water quality standards.
- 18. Long Term Planning and Implementation.** Federal regulations require municipal storm water permits to expire 5 years from adoption, after which the permit must be renewed and reissued. The San Diego Water Board recognizes that the degradation of water quality and impacts to beneficial uses of the waters in the San Diego Region occurred over several decades. The San Diego Water Board further recognizes that a decade or more may be necessary to realize demonstrable improvement to the quality of waters in the Region. This Order includes a long term planning and implementation approach that will require more than a single permit term to complete.

## *WATER QUALITY STANDARDS*

**19. Basin Plan.** The San Diego Water Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) on September 8, 1994 that designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for receiving waters addressed through the plan. The Basin Plan was subsequently approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) on December 13, 1994. Subsequent revisions to the Basin Plan have also been adopted by the San Diego Water Board and approved by the State Water Board. Requirements of this Order implement the Basin Plan.

The Basin Plan identifies the following existing and potential beneficial uses for inland surface waters in the San Diego Region: Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN), Agricultural Supply (AGR), Industrial Process Supply (PROC), Industrial Service Supply (IND), Ground Water Recharge (GWR), Contact Water Recreation (REC1), Non-contact Water Recreation (REC2), Warm Freshwater Habitat (WARM), Cold Freshwater Habitat (COLD), Wildlife Habitat (WILD), Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE), Freshwater Replenishment (FRSH), Hydropower Generation (POW), and Preservation of Biological Habitats of Special Significance (BIOL). The following additional existing and potential beneficial uses are identified for coastal waters of the San Diego Region: Navigation (NAV), Commercial and Sport Fishing (COMM), Estuarine Habitat (EST), Marine Habitat (MAR), Aquaculture (AQUA), Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR), Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development (SPWN), and Shellfish Harvesting (SHELL).

**20. Ocean Plan.** The State Water Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California, California Ocean Plan (Ocean Plan) in 1972 and amended it in 1978, 1983, 1988, 1990, 1997, 2000, and 2005. The State Water Board adopted the latest amendment on April 21, 2005 and it became effective on February 14, 2006. The Ocean Plan is applicable, in its entirety, to point source discharges to the ocean. Requirements of this Order implement the Ocean Plan.

The Ocean Plan identifies the following beneficial uses of ocean waters of the state to be protected: Industrial water supply; water contact and non-contact recreation, including aesthetic enjoyment; navigation; commercial and sport fishing; mariculture; preservation and enhancement of designated Areas of Special Biological Significance; rare and endangered species; marine habitat; fish spawning and shellfish harvesting

**21. Sediment Quality Control Plan.** On September 16, 2008, the State Water Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries – Part 1 Sediment Quality (Sediment Quality Control Plan). The Sediment Quality Control Plan became effective on August 25, 2009. The Sediment Quality Control Plan establishes: 1) narrative sediment quality objectives for benthic community protection from exposure to contaminants in sediment and to protect human health,

and 2) a program of implementation using a multiple lines of evidence approach to interpret the narrative sediment quality objectives. Requirements of this Order implement the Sediment Quality Control Plan.

**22. National Toxics Rule and California Toxics Rule.** USEPA adopted the National Toxics Rule (NTR) on December 22, 1992, and later amended it on May 4, 1995 and November 9, 1999. About forty criteria in the NTR applied in California. On May 18, 2000, USEPA adopted the California Toxics Rule (CTR). The CTR promulgated new toxics criteria for California and, in addition, incorporated the previously adopted NTR criteria that were applicable in the state. The CTR was amended on February 13, 2001. These rules contain water quality criteria for priority pollutants.

**23. Antidegradation Policy.** This Order is in conformance with the federal Antidegradation Policy described in 40 CFR 131.12, and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California*. Federal regulations at 40 CFR 131.12 require that the State water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law. State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 requires that existing quality of waters be maintained unless degradation is justified based on specific findings. The Basin Plan implements, and incorporates by reference, both the State and federal antidegradation policies.

#### CONSIDERATIONS UNDER FEDERAL AND STATE LAW

**24. Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments.** Section 6217(g) of the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 (CZARA) requires coastal states with approved coastal zone management programs to address non-point source pollution impacting or threatening coastal water quality. CZARA addresses five sources of non-point source pollution: agriculture, silviculture, urban, marinas, and hydromodification. This Order addresses the management measures required for the urban category, with the exception of septic systems. The runoff management programs developed pursuant to this Order fulfills the need for coastal cities to develop a runoff non-point source plan identified in the Non-Point Source Program Strategy and Implementation Plan. The San Diego Water Board addresses septic systems through the administration of other programs.

**25. Endangered Species Act.** This Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code sections 2050 to 2097) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 USC sections 1531 to 1544). This Order requires compliance with receiving water limits, and other requirements to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the State. The Copermitttees are responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.

**26. Report of Waste Discharge Process.** The waste discharge requirements set forth in this Order are based upon the Report of Waste Discharge submitted by the San Diego County Copermittees prior to the expiration of Order No. R9-2007-0001 (NPDES No. CAS0109266). The Orange County and Riverside County Copermittees are not immediately covered by the waste discharge requirements in this Order. The San Diego Water Board understands that each municipality is unique although the Counties share watersheds and geographical boundaries. The Order will continue to use the Report of Waste Discharge process prior to initially making Orange County or Riverside County Copermittees subject to the requirements of this Order.

The federal regulations (40 CFR 122.21(d)(2)) and CWC section 13376 impose a duty on the Copermittees to reapply for continued coverage through submittal of a Report of Waste Discharge no later than 180 days prior to expiration of a currently effective permit. This requirement is set forth in the Orange County Copermittees' and Riverside County Copermittees' currently effective permits at Provisions K.2.b and K.2.c, respectively. The Orange County Permit, Order No. R9-2009-0002 (NPDES No. CAS0108740) expires on December 16, 2014 and the Riverside County MS4 Permit, Order No. R9-2010-0016 (NPDES No. CAS0108766) expires on November 10, 2015.

Unless the Orange County or Riverside County Copermittees apply for and receive early coverage under this Order, the Orange County Copermittees' and the Riverside County Copermittees' respective permits will be superseded by this Order upon expiration of their respective permits, subject to any necessary revisions to the requirements of this Order made after the San Diego Water Board considers their respective Reports of Waste Discharge through the public process provided in 40 CFR 124.

**27. Integrated Report and Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List.** The San Diego Water Board and State Water Board submit an Integrated Report to USEPA to comply with the reporting requirements of CWA sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314, which lists the attainment status of water quality standards for water bodies in the San Diego Region. USEPA issued its *Guidance for 2006 Assessment, Listing and Reporting Requirements Pursuant to Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 of the Clean Water Act* on July 29, 2005, which advocates the use of a five category approach for classifying the attainment status of water quality standards for water bodies in the Integrated Report. Water bodies included in Category 5 in the Integrated Report indicate at least one beneficial use is not being supported or is threatened, and a TMDL is required. Water bodies included in Category 5 in the Integrated Report are placed on the 303(d) List.

Water bodies with available data and/or information that indicate at least one beneficial use is not being supported or is threatened, but a TMDL is not required, are included in Category 4 in the Integrated Report. Impaired surface water bodies may be included in Category 4 if a TMDL has been adopted and approved (Category 4a); if other pollution control requirements required by a local, state or federal

authority are stringent enough to implement applicable water quality standards within a reasonable period of time (Category 4b); or, if the failure to meet an applicable water quality standard is not caused by a pollutant, but caused by other types of pollution (Category 4c).

Implementation of the requirements of this Order may allow the San Diego Water Board to include surface waters impaired by discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s in Category 4 in the Integrated Report for consideration during the next 303(d) List submittal by the State to USEPA.

**28. Economic Considerations.** The California Supreme Court has ruled that although CWC section 13263 requires the State and Regional Water Boards (collectively Water Boards) to consider factors set forth in CWC section 13241 when issuing an NPDES permit, the Water Board may not consider the factors to justify imposing pollutant restrictions that are less stringent than the applicable federal regulations require. (*City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2005) 35 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 613, 618, 626-627.) However, when pollutant restrictions in an NPDES permit are more stringent than federal law requires, CWC section 13263 requires that the Water Boards consider the factors described in CWC section 13241 as they apply to those specific restrictions.

As noted in the following finding, the San Diego Water Board finds that the requirements in this permit are not more stringent than the minimum federal requirements. Therefore, a CWC section 13241 analysis is not required for permit requirements that implement the effective prohibition on the discharge of non-storm water into the MS4 or for controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the MEP, or other provisions that the San Diego Water Board has determined appropriate to control such pollutants, as those requirements are mandated by federal law. Notwithstanding the above, the San Diego Water Board has developed an economic analysis of the requirements in this Order. The economic analysis is provided in the Fact Sheet.

**29. Unfunded Mandates.** This Order does not constitute an unfunded local government mandate subject to subvention under Article XIIB, Section (6) of the California Constitution for several reasons, including, but not limited to, the following:

- a. This Order implements federally mandated requirements under CWA section 402 (33 USC section 1342(p)(3)(B)).
- b. The local agency Copermittees' obligations under this Order are similar to, and in many respects less stringent than, the obligations of non-governmental and new dischargers who are issued NPDES permits for storm water and non-storm water discharges.
- c. The local agency Copermittees have the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for compliance with this Order.
- d. The Copermittees have requested permit coverage in lieu of compliance with the complete prohibition against the discharge of pollutants contained in CWA section 301(a) (33 USC section 1311(a)) and in lieu of numeric restrictions on

their MS4 discharges (i.e. effluent limitations).

- e. The local agencies' responsibility for preventing discharges of waste that can create conditions of pollution or nuisance from conveyances that are within their ownership or control under State law predates the enactment of Article XIII B, Section (6) of the California Constitution.
- f. The provisions of this Order to implement TMDLs are federal mandates. The CWA requires TMDLs to be developed for water bodies that do not meet federal water quality standards (33 USC section 1313(d)). Once the USEPA or a state develops a TMDL, federal law requires that permits must contain water quality based effluent limitations consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any applicable wasteload allocation (40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)).

See the Fact Sheet for further discussion of unfunded mandates.

**30. California Environmental Quality Act.** The issuance of waste discharge requirements and an NPDES permit for the discharge of runoff from MS4s to waters of the U.S. is exempt from the requirement for preparation of environmental documents under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code, Division 13, Chapter 3, section 21000 et seq.) in accordance with CWC section 13389.

#### STATE WATER BOARD DECISIONS

**31. Compliance with Prohibitions and Limitations.** The receiving water limitation language specified in this Order is consistent with language recommended by the USEPA and established in State Water Board Order WQ 99-05, *Own Motion Review of the Petition of Environmental Health Coalition to Review Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. 96-03, NPDES Permit No. CAS0108740*, adopted by the State Water Board on June 17, 1999. The receiving water limitation language in this Order requires storm water discharges from MS4s to not cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards, which is to be achieved through an iterative approach requiring the implementation of improved and better-tailored BMPs over time. Implementation of the iterative approach to comply with receiving water limitations based on applicable water quality standards is necessary to ensure that storm water discharges from the MS4 will not ultimately cause or contribute to violations of water quality standards and will not create conditions of pollution, contamination, or nuisance.

**32. Special Conditions for Areas of Special Biological Significance.** On March 20, 2012, the State Water Board approved Resolution No. 2012-0012 approving an exception to the Ocean Plan prohibition against discharges to Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) for certain nonpoint source discharges and NPDES permitted municipal storm water discharges. State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 requires monitoring and testing of marine aquatic life and water quality in several ASBS to protect California's coastline during storms when rain water overflows into coastal waters. Specific terms, prohibitions, and special conditions

were adopted to provide special protections for marine aquatic life and natural water quality in ASBS. The City of San Diego's municipal storm water discharges to the San Diego Marine Life Refuge in La Jolla, and the City of Laguna Beach's municipal storm water discharges to the Heisler Park ASBS are subject terms and conditions of State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012. The Special Protections contained in Attachment B to Resolution No. 2012-0012, applicable to these discharges, are hereby incorporated into this Order as if fully set forth herein.

### *ADMINISTRATIVE FINDINGS*

- 33. Executive Officer Delegation of Authority.** The San Diego Water Board by prior resolution has delegated all matters that may legally be delegated to its Executive Officer to act on its behalf pursuant to CWC section 13223. Therefore, the Executive Officer is authorized to act on the San Diego Water Board's behalf on any matter within this Order unless such delegation is unlawful under CWC section 13223 or this Order explicitly states otherwise.
- 34. Standard Provisions.** Standard Provisions, which apply to all NPDES permits in accordance with 40 CFR 122.41, and additional conditions applicable to specified categories of permits in accordance with 40 CFR 122.42, are provided in [Attachment B](#) to this Order.
- 35. Fact Sheet.** The Fact Sheet for this Order contains background information, regulatory and legal citations, references and additional explanatory information and data in support of the requirements of this Order. The Fact Sheet is hereby incorporated into this Order and constitutes part of the Findings of this Order.
- 36. Public Notice.** In accordance with State and federal laws and regulations, the San Diego Water Board notified the Copermitees, and interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the control of discharges into and from the MS4s to waters of the U.S. and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written comments and recommendations. Details of notification are provided in the Fact Sheet.
- 37. Public Hearing.** The San Diego Water Board held a public hearing on Month Day, 2013 and heard and considered all comments pertaining to the terms and conditions of this Order. Details of the public hearing are provided in the Fact Sheet.
- 38. Effective Date.** This Order serves as an NPDES permit pursuant to CWA section 401 or amendments thereto, and becomes effective fifty (50) days after the date of its adoption, provided that the Regional Administrator, USEPA, Region IX, does not object to this Order.
- 39. Review by the State Water Board.** Any person aggrieved by this action of the San Diego Water Board may petition the State Water Board to review the action in accordance with CWC section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23,

sections 2050, et seq. The State Water Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after the San Diego Water Board action, except that if the thirtieth day following the action falls on a Saturday, Sunday or State holiday, the petition must be received by the State Water Board by 5:00 p.m. on the next business day. Copies of the law and regulations applicable to filing petitions may be found on the Internet at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public\\_notices/petitions/water\\_quality](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality) or will be provided upon request.



**THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Copermittees, in order to meet the provisions contained in division 7 of the CWC and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the CWA and regulations adopted thereunder, must each comply with the following:

## **II. PROVISIONS**

### **A. PROHIBITIONS AND LIMITATIONS**

The purpose of this provision is to describe the conditions under which storm water and non-storm water discharges into and from MS4s are prohibited or limited. The goal of the prohibitions and limitations is to protect the water quality and designated beneficial uses of waters of the state from adverse impacts caused or contributed to by MS4 discharges. This goal will be accomplished through the implementation of water quality improvement strategies and runoff management programs that effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the Copermittees' MS4s, and reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s to the MEP.

#### **1. Discharge Prohibitions**

- a. Discharges from MS4s in a manner causing, or threatening to cause, a condition of pollution, contamination, or nuisance in receiving waters of the state are prohibited.
- b. Non-storm water discharges into MS4s are to be effectively prohibited, unless such discharges are either authorized by a separate NPDES permit, or the discharge is a category of non-storm water discharges or flows that must be addressed pursuant to Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)-\(5\)](#) of this Order.
- c. Discharges from MS4s are subject to all waste discharge prohibitions in the Basin Plan, included in [Attachment A](#) to this Order.
- d. Storm water discharges from the City of San Diego's MS4 to the San Diego Marine Life Refuge in La Jolla, and the City of Laguna Beach's MS4 to the Heisler Park ASBS are authorized under this Order subject to the Special Protections contained in Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 applicable to these discharges, included in [Attachment A](#) to this Order. All other discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s to ASBS are prohibited.

#### **2. Receiving Water Limitations**

- a. Discharges from MS4s must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards in any receiving waters, including but not limited to all applicable provisions contained in:

- (1) The San Diego Water Board's Basin Plan, including beneficial uses, water quality objectives, and implementation plans;
  - (2) State Water Board plans for water quality control including the following:
    - (a) Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries (Thermal Plan), and
    - (b) The Ocean Plan, including beneficial uses, water quality objectives, and implementation plans;
  - (3) State Water Board policies for water and sediment quality control including the following:
    - (a) Water Quality Control Policy for the Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California,
    - (b) Sediment Quality Control Plan which includes the following narrative objectives for bays and estuaries:
      - (i) Pollutants in sediments shall not be present in quantities that, alone or in combination, are toxic to benthic communities, and
      - (ii) Pollutants shall not be present in sediments at levels that will bioaccumulate in aquatic life to levels that are harmful to human health,
    - (c) The Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California;<sup>1</sup>
  - (4) Priority pollutant criteria promulgated by the USEPA through the following:
    - (a) National Toxics Rule (NTR)<sup>2</sup> (promulgated on December 22, 1992 and amended on May 4, 1995), and
    - (b) California Toxics Rule (CTR).<sup>3,4</sup>
- b.** Discharges from MS4s composed of storm water runoff must not alter natural ocean water quality in an ASBS.

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<sup>1</sup> State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16

<sup>2</sup> 40 CFR 131.36

<sup>3</sup> 65 Federal Register 31682-31719 (May 18, 2000), adding Section 131.38 to 40 CFR

<sup>4</sup> If a water quality objective and a CTR criterion are in effect for the same priority pollutant, the more stringent of the two applies.

### 3. Effluent Limitations

#### a. TECHNOLOGY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

Pollutants in storm water discharges from MS4s must be reduced to the MEP.<sup>5</sup>

#### b. WATER QUALITY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

This Order establishes water quality based effluent limitations (WQBELs) consistent with the assumptions and requirements of all available TMDL waste load allocations (WLAs) assigned to discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s. Each Copermittee must comply with applicable WQBELs established for the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order, pursuant to the applicable TMDL compliance schedules.

### 4. Compliance with Discharge Prohibitions and Receiving Water Limitations

Each Copermittee must achieve compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#) and [A.2.a](#) of this Order through timely implementation of control measures and other actions as specified in Provisions [B](#) and [E](#) of this Order, including any modifications. The Water Quality Improvement Plans required under Provision [B](#) must be designed and adapted to ultimately achieve compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#) and [A.2.a](#).

- a. If exceedance(s) of water quality standards persist in receiving waters notwithstanding implementation of this Order, the Copermittees must comply with the following procedures:
  - (1) For exceedance(s) of a water quality standard in the process of being addressed by the Water Quality Improvement Plan, the Copermittee(s) must implement the Water Quality Improvement Plan as accepted by the San Diego Water Board, and update the Water Quality Improvement Plan, as necessary, pursuant to Provision [F.2.c](#);
  - (2) Upon a determination by either the Copermittees or the San Diego Water Board that discharges from the MS4 are causing or contributing to a new exceedance of an applicable water quality standard not addressed by the Water Quality Improvement Plan, the Copermittees must submit the following updates to the Water Quality Improvement Plan pursuant to Provision [F.2.c](#) or as part of the Annual Report required under Provision [F.3.b](#), unless the San Diego Water Board directs an earlier submittal:

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<sup>5</sup> This does not apply to MS4 discharges which receive subsequent treatment to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP prior to entering receiving waters (e.g., low flow diversions to the sanitary sewer). Runoff treatment must occur prior to the discharge of runoff into receiving waters per Finding [7](#).

- (a) The water quality improvement strategies being implemented that are effective and will continue to be implemented,
  - (b) Water quality improvement strategies (i.e. BMPs, retrofitting projects, stream and/or habitat rehabilitation or restoration projects, adjustments to jurisdictional runoff management programs, etc.) that will be implemented to reduce or eliminate any pollutants or conditions that are causing or contributing to the exceedance of water quality standards,
  - (c) Updates to the schedule for implementation of the existing and additional water quality improvement strategies, and
  - (d) Updates to the monitoring and assessment program to track progress toward achieving compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#) and [A.2.a](#) of this Order;
- (3) The San Diego Water Board may require the incorporation of additional modifications to the Water Quality Improvement Plan required under Provision [B](#). The applicable Copermittees must submit any modifications to the update to the Water Quality Improvement Plan within 90 days of notification that additional modifications are required by the San Diego Water Board, or as otherwise directed;
- (4) Within 90 days of the San Diego Water Board determination that the update to the Water Quality Improvement Plan meets the requirements of this Order, the applicable Copermittees must revise the jurisdictional runoff management program documents to incorporate the updated water quality improvement strategies that have been and will be implemented, the implementation schedule, and any additional monitoring required; and
- (5) Each Copermittee must implement the updated Water Quality Improvement Plan.
- b.** The procedure set forth above to achieve compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#) and [A.2.a](#) of this Order do not have to be repeated for continuing or recurring exceedances of the same water quality standard(s) following implementation of scheduled actions unless directed to do otherwise by the San Diego Water Board.
  - c.** Nothing in Provisions [A.4.a](#) and [A.4.b](#) prevents the San Diego Water Board from enforcing any provision of this Order while the applicable Copermittees prepare and implement the above update to the Water Quality Improvement Plan and jurisdictional runoff management programs.

PROVISION A: PROHIBITIONS AND LIMITATIONS

A.4. Compliance with Discharge Prohibitions and Receiving Water Limitations

## B. WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLANS

The purpose of this provision is to develop Water Quality Improvement Plans that guide the Copermittees' jurisdictional runoff management programs towards achieving the outcome of improved water quality in MS4 discharges and receiving waters. The goal of the Water Quality Improvement Plans is to protect, preserve, enhance, and restore the water quality and designated beneficial uses of waters of the state. This goal will be accomplished through an adaptive planning and management process that identifies the highest priority water quality conditions within a watershed and implements strategies through the jurisdictional runoff management programs to achieve improvements in the quality of discharges from the MS4s and receiving waters.

### 1. Watershed Management Areas

The Copermittees must develop a Water Quality Improvement Plan for each of the Watershed Management Areas in [Table B-1](#). A total of ten Water Quality Improvement Plans must be developed for the San Diego Region.

**Table B-1. Watershed Management Areas**

Hydrologic Unit(s)	Watershed Management Area	Major Surface Water Bodies	Responsible Copermittees
San Juan (901.00)	South Orange County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Aliso Creek</li> <li>- San Juan Creek</li> <li>- San Mateo Creek</li> <li>- Pacific Ocean</li> <li>- Heisler Park ASBS</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- City of Aliso Viejo<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of Dana Point<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of Laguna Beach<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of Laguna Hills<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of Laguna Niguel<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of Laguna Woods<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of Lake Forest<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of Mission Viejo<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of Rancho Santa Margarita<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of San Clemente<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- City of San Juan Capistrano<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- County of Orange<sup>1</sup></li> <li>- Orange County Flood Control District<sup>1</sup></li> </ul>
Santa Margarita (902.00)	Santa Margarita River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Murrieta Creek</li> <li>- Temecula Creek</li> <li>- Santa Margarita River</li> <li>- Santa Margarita Lagoon</li> <li>- Pacific Ocean</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- City of Murrieta<sup>2</sup></li> <li>- City of Temecula<sup>2</sup></li> <li>- City of Wildomar<sup>2</sup></li> <li>- County of Riverside<sup>2</sup></li> <li>- County of San Diego<sup>3</sup></li> <li>- Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District<sup>2</sup></li> </ul>
San Luis Rey (903.00)	San Luis Rey River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- San Luis Rey River</li> <li>- San Luis Rey Estuary</li> <li>- Pacific Ocean</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- City of Oceanside</li> <li>- City of Vista</li> <li>- County of San Diego</li> </ul>

**Table B-1. Watershed Management Areas**

Hydrologic Unit(s)	Watershed Management Area	Major Surface Water Bodies	Responsible Copermittees
Carlsbad (904.00)	Carlsbad	- Loma Alta Slough - Buena Vista Lagoon - Agua Hedionda Lagoon - Batiquitos Lagoon - San Elijo Lagoon - Pacific Ocean	- City of Carlsbad - City of Encinitas - City of Escondido - City of Oceanside - City of San Marcos - City of Solana Beach - City of Vista - County of San Diego
San Dieguito (905.00)	San Dieguito River	- San Dieguito River - San Dieguito Lagoon - Pacific Ocean	- City of Del Mar - City of Escondido - City of Poway - City of San Diego - City of Solana Beach - County of San Diego
Penasquitos (906.00)	Penasquitos	- Los Penasquitos Lagoon - Pacific Ocean	- City of Del Mar - City of Poway - City of San Diego - County of San Diego
	Mission Bay	- Mission Bay - Pacific Ocean - San Diego Marine Life Refuge ASBS	- City of San Diego
San Diego (907.00)	San Diego River	- San Diego River - Pacific Ocean	- City of El Cajon - City of La Mesa - City of San Diego - City of Santee - County of San Diego
Pueblo San Diego (908.00) Sweetwater (909.00) Otay (910.00)	San Diego Bay	- Sweetwater River - Otay River - San Diego Bay - Pacific Ocean	- City of Chula Vista - City of Coronado - City of Imperial Beach - City of La Mesa - City of Lemon Grove - City of National City - City of San Diego - County of San Diego - San Diego County Regional Airport Authority - San Diego Unified Port District
Tijuana (911.00)	Tijuana River	- Tijuana River - Tijuana Estuary - Pacific Ocean	- City of Imperial Beach - City of San Diego - County of San Diego

Notes:

1. The Orange County Copermittees will be covered under this Order after expiration of Order No. R9-2009-0002, or earlier if the Orange County Copermittees meet the conditions in Provision F.6.
2. The Riverside County Copermittees will be covered under this Order after expiration of Order No. R9-2010-0016, or earlier if the Riverside County Copermittees meet the conditions in Provision F.6.
3. The County of San Diego is required to implement the requirements of Provision B for its jurisdiction within the Santa Margarita River Watershed Management Area until the Riverside County Copermittees have been notified of coverage under this Order.

## 2. Priority Water Quality Conditions

The Copermittees must identify the water quality priorities within each Watershed Management Area that will be addressed by the Water Quality Improvement Plan. Where appropriate, Watershed Management Areas may be separated into subwatersheds to focus water quality prioritization and jurisdictional runoff management program implementation efforts by receiving water.

### a. ASSESSMENT OF RECEIVING WATER CONDITIONS

The Copermittees must consider the following, at a minimum, to identify water quality priorities based on impacts of MS4 discharges on receiving water beneficial uses:

- (1) Receiving waters listed as impaired on the CWA Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments (303(d) List);
- (2) TMDLs adopted and under development by the San Diego Water Board;
- (3) Receiving waters recognized as sensitive or highly valued by the Copermittees, including estuaries designated under the National Estuary Program under CWA section 320, wetlands defined by the State or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's National Wetlands Inventory as wetlands, and receiving waters identified as ASBS subject to the provisions of Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 ([Attachment A](#));
- (4) The receiving water limitations of Provision [A.2](#);
- (5) Known historical versus current physical, chemical, and biological water quality conditions;
- (6) Available, relevant, and appropriately collected and analyzed physical, chemical, and biological receiving water monitoring data, including, but not limited to, data describing:
  - (a) Chemical constituents,
  - (b) Water quality parameters (i.e. pH, temperature, conductivity, etc.),
  - (c) Toxicity Identification Evaluations for both receiving water column and sediment,
  - (d) Trash impacts,
  - (e) Bioassessments, and
  - (f) Physical habitat;

- (7) Available evidence of erosional impacts in receiving waters due to accelerated flows (i.e. hydromodification);
- (8) Available evidence of adverse impacts to the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of receiving waters; and
- (9) The potential improvements in the overall condition of the Watershed Management Area that can be achieved.

**b. ASSESSMENT OF IMPACTS FROM MS4 DISCHARGES**

The Copermittees must consider the following, at a minimum, to identify the potential impacts to receiving waters that may be caused or contributed to by discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s:

- (1) The discharge prohibitions of Provision [A.1](#) and effluent limitations of Provision [A.3](#); and
- (2) Available, relevant, and appropriately collected and analyzed storm water and non-storm water monitoring data from the Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;
- (3) Locations of each Copermittee's MS4 outfalls that discharge to receiving waters;
- (4) Locations of MS4 outfalls that are known to persistently discharge non-storm water to receiving waters likely causing or contributing to impacts on receiving water beneficial uses;
- (5) Locations of MS4 outfalls that are known to discharge pollutants in storm water causing or contributing to impacts on receiving water beneficial uses; and
- (6) The potential improvements in the quality of discharges from the MS4 that can be achieved.

**c. IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS**

- (1) The Copermittees must use the information gathered for Provisions [B.2.a](#) and [B.2.b](#) to develop a list of priority water quality conditions as pollutants, stressors and/or receiving water conditions that are the highest threat to receiving water quality or that most adversely affect the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of receiving waters. The list must include the following information for each priority water quality condition:



- (a) The beneficial use(s) associated with the priority water quality condition;
  - (b) The geographic extent of the priority water quality condition within the Watershed Management Area, if known;
  - (c) The temporal extent of the priority water quality condition (e.g., dry weather and/or wet weather);
  - (d) The Copermittees with MS4s discharges that may cause or contribute to the priority water quality condition; and
  - (e) An assessment of the adequacy of and data gaps in the monitoring data to characterize the conditions causing or contributing to the priority water quality condition, including a consideration of spatial and temporal variation.
- (2) The Copermittees must identify the highest priority water quality conditions to be addressed by the Water Quality Improvement Plan, and provide a rationale for selecting a subset of the water quality conditions identified pursuant to Provision [B.2.c.\(1\)](#) as the highest priorities.

**d. IDENTIFICATION OF MS4 SOURCES OF POLLUTANTS AND/OR STRESSORS**

The Copermittees must identify and prioritize known and suspected sources of storm water and non-storm water pollutants and/or other stressors associated with MS4 discharges that cause or contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions identified under Provision [B.2.c](#). The identification of known and suspected sources of pollutants and/or stressors that cause or contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions as identified for Provision [B.2.c](#) must consider the following:

- (1) Pollutant generating facilities, areas, and/or activities within the Watershed Management Area, including:
  - (a) Each Copermittee's inventory of construction sites, commercial facilities or areas, industrial facilities, municipal facilities, and residential areas,
  - (b) Publicly owned parks and/or recreational areas,
  - (c) Open space areas,
  - (d) All currently operating or closed municipal landfills or other treatment, storage or disposal facilities for municipal waste, and
  - (e) Areas not within the Copermittees' jurisdictions (e.g., Phase II MS4s, tribal lands, state lands, federal lands) that are known or suspected to be discharging to the Copermittees' MS4s;

- (2) Locations of the Copermittees' MS4s, including the following:
  - (a) All MS4 outfalls that discharge to receiving waters, and
  - (b) Locations of major structural controls for storm water and non-storm water (e.g., retention basins, detention basins, major infiltration devices, etc.);
- (3) Other known and suspected sources of non-storm water or pollutants in storm water discharges to receiving waters within the Watershed Management Area, including the following:
  - (a) Other MS4 outfalls (e.g., Phase II Municipal and Caltrans),
  - (b) Other NPDES permitted discharges,
  - (c) Any other discharges that may be considered point sources (e.g., private outfalls), and
  - (d) Any other discharges that may be considered non-point sources (e.g., agriculture, wildlife or other natural sources);
- (4) Review of available data, including but not limited to:
  - (a) Findings from the Copermittees' illicit discharge detection and elimination programs,
  - (b) Findings from the Copermittees' MS4 outfall discharge monitoring,
  - (c) Findings from the Copermittees' receiving water monitoring,
  - (d) Findings from the Copermittees' MS4 outfall discharge and receiving water assessments, and
  - (e) Other available, relevant, and appropriately collected data, information, or studies related to pollutant sources and/or stressors that contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions as identified for Provision [B.2.c](#).
- (5) The adequacy of the available data to identify and prioritize sources and/or stressors associated with MS4 discharges that cause or contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions identified under Provision [B.2.c](#).

**e. NUMERIC GOALS AND SCHEDULES**

The Copermittees must develop and incorporate interim and final numeric goals<sup>6</sup> and schedules into the Water Quality Improvement Plan. Numeric goals must be used to support Water Quality Improvement Plan implementation and measure progress towards addressing the highest priority water quality conditions identified under Provision [B.2.c](#). When establishing numeric goals and corresponding schedules, the Copermittees must consider the following:

- (1) Final numeric goals must be based on measureable criteria or indicators, to be achieved in the receiving waters and/or MS4 discharges for the highest priority water quality conditions which will be capable of demonstrating the achievement of the restoration and/or protection of water quality standards in receiving waters;
- (2) Interim numeric goals must be based on measureable criteria or indicators capable of demonstrating incremental progress toward achieving the final numeric goals in the receiving waters and/or MS4 discharges; and
- (3) Schedules must be adequate for measuring progress toward achieving the interim and final numeric goals required for Provisions [B.2.e.\(1\)](#) and [B.2.e.\(2\)](#). Schedules must incorporate the following:
  - (a) Interim dates for achieving the interim numeric goals,
  - (b) Compliance schedules for any applicable TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order,
  - (c) Compliance schedules for any ASBS subject to the provisions of Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 (see [Attachment A](#)),
  - (d) Achievement of the final numeric goals in the receiving waters and/or MS4 discharges for the highest water quality priorities must be as soon as possible, and
  - (e) Final dates for achieving the final numeric goals must not initially extend more than 10 years beyond the effective date of this Order, unless a longer period of time is authorized by the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer or the schedule includes an applicable TMDL in [Attachment E](#) to this Order.

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<sup>6</sup> Interim and final numeric goals may take a variety of forms such as TMDL established WQBELs, action levels, pollutant concentration, load reductions, number of impaired water bodies delisted from the List of Water Quality Impaired Segments, Index of Biotic Integrity (IBI) scores, or other appropriate metrics. Interim and final numeric goals are not necessarily limited to one criterion or indicator, but may include multiple criteria and/or indicators. Except for TMDL established WQBELs, interim and final numeric goals and corresponding schedules may be revised through the adaptive management process under Provision [B.5](#).

### 3. Water Quality Improvement Strategies and Schedules

The Copermittees must develop specific water quality improvement strategies to address the highest priority water quality conditions identified within a Watershed Management Area. The water quality improvement strategies must address the highest priority water quality conditions by preventing or eliminating non-storm water discharges to and from the MS4, reducing pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4 to the MEP, and restoring and/or protecting the water quality standards of receiving waters.

#### a. WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT STRATEGIES

The Copermittees must identify and prioritize water quality improvement strategies based on their likely effectiveness and efficiency, and implement strategies to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4, reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4 to the MEP, improve the physical, chemical, and biological receiving water conditions, and achieve the interim and final numeric goals in accordance with the schedules required for Provision B.2.e.(3). The following water quality improvement strategies must be included and described in the Water Quality Improvement Plan:

- (1) Specific strategies and/or activities that may be implemented by one or more Copermittees within their jurisdictions through the jurisdictional runoff management programs that will address the highest priority water quality conditions within the Watershed Management Area, in accordance with the following requirements:
  - (a) Strategies and/or activities must, at a minimum, be described for each jurisdictional runoff management program component where strategies to address the highest priority water quality conditions are required under Provision E;
  - (b) The Water Quality Improvement Plan must describe the circumstances or conditions when and where the strategies or/activities should be or will be implemented, but specific details about how each Copermittee will implement the strategies and/or activities within its jurisdiction are not required; and
  - (c) Descriptions of strategies and/or activities must include any monitoring, information collection, special studies, and/or data analysis that is necessary to assess the effectiveness of the strategy and/or activity toward addressing the highest priority water quality conditions.
- (2) Additional strategies and/or activities that may be implemented within the Watershed Management Area on a jurisdictional, sub-watershed, or watershed scale by one or more Copermittees, not specifically required under Provision E, which are designed to achieve the interim and final numeric goals identified in Provisions B.2.e.(1) and B.2.e.(2);

## **b. IMPLEMENTATION SCHEDULES**

- (1) The Copermittees must develop schedules for implementing the water quality improvement strategies identified under Provision [B.3.a](#) to achieve the interim and final numeric goals identified under Provision [B.2.e.\(1\)](#) and [B.2.e.\(2\)](#). Schedules must be developed for both the water quality improvement strategies implemented by each Copermittee within its jurisdiction and for strategies that the Copermittees choose to implement on a collaborative basis.
- (2) The Copermittees must incorporate the implementation compliance schedules for any ASBS subject to the provisions of Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 (see [Attachment A](#)).

## **4. Water Quality Improvement Monitoring and Assessment Program**

- a. The Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area must develop and incorporate an integrated monitoring and assessment program into the Water Quality Improvement Plan that assesses: 1) the progress toward achieving the numeric goals and schedules, 2) the progress toward addressing the highest priority water quality conditions for each Watershed Management Area, and 3) each Copermittee's overall efforts to implement the Water Quality Improvement Plan.
- b. The monitoring and assessment program must incorporate the monitoring and assessment requirements of Provision [D](#), which may allow the Copermittees to modify the program to be consistent with and focus on the highest priority water quality conditions for each Watershed Management Area.
- c. For Watershed Management Areas with applicable TMDLs, the monitoring and assessment program must incorporate the specific monitoring and assessment requirements of [Attachment E](#).
- d. For Watershed Management Areas with any ASBS, the water quality monitoring and assessment program must incorporate the monitoring requirements of Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 (see [Attachment A](#)).

## **5. Iterative Approach and Adaptive Management Process**

The Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area must implement the iterative approach pursuant to Provision [A.4](#) to adapt the Water Quality Improvement Plan, monitoring and assessment program, and jurisdictional runoff management programs to become more effective toward achieving compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#) and [A.2.a](#), and must include the following:

- PROVISION B: WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLANS
- B.3. Water Quality Improvement Strategies and Schedules
- B.4. Water Quality Improvement Monitoring and Assessment Program
- B.5. Iterative Approach and Adaptive Management Process

**a. RE-EVALUATION OF PRIORITY WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS**

The priority water quality conditions, and numeric goals and corresponding schedules, included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan pursuant to Provisions [B.2.c](#) and [B.2.e](#), may be re-evaluated by the Copermittees as needed during the term of this Order as part of the Annual Report. Re-evaluation and recommendations for modifications to the priority water quality conditions, and numeric goals and corresponding schedules must be provided in the Report of Waste Discharge, and must consider the following:

- (1) Achieving the outcome of improved water quality in MS4 discharges and receiving waters through implementation of the water quality improvement strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
- (2) Progress toward achieving interim and final numeric goals in receiving waters and/or MS4 discharges for the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area,
- (3) Progress toward achieving outcomes according to established schedules;
- (4) New information developed when the requirements of Provisions [B.2.a-c](#) have been re-evaluated;
- (5) New policies or regulations that may affect identified numeric goals;
- (6) Spatial and temporal accuracy of monitoring data collected to inform prioritization of water quality conditions and implementation strategies to address the highest priority water quality conditions;
- (7) Availability of new information and data from sources other than the jurisdictional runoff management programs within the Watershed Management Area that informs the effectiveness of the actions implemented by the Copermittees;
- (8) San Diego Water Board recommendations; and
- (9) Recommendations for modifications solicited through a public participation process.

**b. ADAPTATION OF STRATEGIES AND SCHEDULES**

The water quality improvement strategies and schedules, included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan pursuant to Provisions [B.3](#), must be re-evaluated and adapted as new information becomes available to result in more effective and efficient measures to achieve the numeric goals established pursuant to Provision [B.2.e](#). Re-evaluation of and modifications to the water quality improvement strategies must be provided in the Annual Report, and must consider the following:

- (1) Modifications to the priority water quality conditions, and numeric goals and corresponding schedules based on Provision [B.5.a](#);
- (2) Measurable or demonstrable reductions of non-storm water discharges to and from each Copermitttee's MS4;
- (3) Measurable or demonstrable reductions of pollutants in storm water discharges from each Copermitttee's MS4 to the MEP;
- (4) New information developed when the requirements of Provisions [B.2.b](#) and [B.2.d](#) have been re-evaluated;
- (5) Efficiency in implementing the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
- (6) San Diego Water Board recommendations; and
- (7) Recommendations for modifications solicited through a public participation process.

**c. ADAPTATION OF MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM**

The water quality improvement monitoring and assessment program, included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan pursuant to Provisions [B.4](#), must be re-evaluated and adapted when new information becomes available. Re-evaluation and recommendations for modifications to the monitoring and assessment program, pursuant to the requirements of Provision [D](#), may be provided in the Annual Report, but must be provided in the Report of Waste Discharge.

**6. Water Quality Improvement Plan Submittal, Updates, and Implementation**

- a. The Copermitttees must submit the Water Quality Improvement Plans in accordance with the requirements of Provision [F.1](#).
- b. The Copermitttees must submit proposed updates to the Water Quality Improvement Plan for acceptance by the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer in accordance with the requirements of Provision [F.2.c](#).
- c. The Copermitttees must commence with implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plans immediately after acceptance by the San Diego Water Board, in accordance with the schedules, or subsequently updated schedules, within the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

## C. ACTION LEVELS

The purpose of this provision is for the Copermittees to incorporate numeric action levels in the Water Quality Improvement Plans. The goal of the action levels is to guide Water Quality Improvement Plan implementation efforts and measure progress towards the protection of water quality and designated beneficial uses of waters of the state from adverse impacts caused or contributed to by MS4 discharges. This goal will be accomplished through monitoring and assessing the quality of the MS4 discharges during the implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

### 1. Non-Storm Water Action Levels<sup>7</sup>

The Copermittees must develop and incorporate numeric non-storm water action levels (NALs) into the Water Quality Improvement Plan to: 1) support the development and prioritization of water quality improvement strategies for addressing non-storm water discharges to and from the MS4s, 2) assess the effectiveness of the water quality improvement strategies toward addressing MS4 non-storm water discharges, required pursuant to Provision [D.4.b.\(1\)](#), and 3) support the detection and elimination of non-storm water and illicit discharges to and from the MS4, required pursuant to Provision [E.2](#).<sup>8</sup>

a. The following NALs must be incorporated:

(1) Non-Storm Water Discharges from MS4s to Ocean Surf Zone

**Table C-1. Non-Storm Water Action Levels for Discharges from MS4s to Ocean Surf Zone**

Parameter	Units	AMAL	MDAL	Instantaneous Maximum	Basis
Total Coliform	MPN/100 ml	1,000	-	10,000/1,000 <sup>1</sup>	OP
Fecal Coliform	MPN/100 ml	200 <sup>2</sup>	-	400	OP
<i>Enterococci</i>	MPN/100 ml	35	-	104 <sup>3</sup>	OP

Abbreviations/Acronyms

AMAL – average monthly action level  
 OP – Ocean Plan water quality objective

MDAL – maximum daily action level  
 MPN/100 ml – most probable number per 100 milliliters

Notes:

- Total coliform density NAL is 1,000 MPN/100 ml when the fecal/total coliform ratio exceeds 0.1.
- Fecal coliform density NAL is 200 MPN per 100 ml during any 30 day period.
- This value has been set to the Basin Plan water quality objective for saltwater “designated beach areas.”

<sup>7</sup> NALs are not considered by the San Diego Water Board to be enforceable limitations.

<sup>8</sup> The Copermittees may utilize NALs or other benchmarks currently established by the Copermittees as interim NALs until the Water Quality Improvement Plans are accepted by the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer.



(2) Non-Storm Water Discharges from MS4s to Bays, Harbors, and Lagoons/Estuaries

**Table C-2. Non-Storm Water Action Levels for Discharges from MS4s to Bays, Harbors, and Lagoons/Estuaries**

Parameter	Units	AMAL	MDAL	Instantaneous Maximum	Basis
Turbidity	NTU	75	-	225	OP
pH	Units	Within limit of 6.0 to 9.0 at all times			OP
Fecal Coliform	MPN/100 ml	200 <sup>1</sup>	-	400 <sup>2</sup>	BP
<i>Enterococci</i>	MPN/100 ml	35	-	104 <sup>3</sup>	BP
Priority Pollutants	ug/L	See <a href="#">Table C-3</a>			

Abbreviations/Acronyms:

AMAL – average monthly action level  
 OP – Ocean Plan water quality objective  
 NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units  
 ug/L – micrograms per liter

MDAL – maximum daily action level  
 BP – Basin Plan water quality objective  
 MPN/100 ml – most probable number per 100 milliliters

Notes:

1. Based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period.
2. The NAL is reached if more than 10 percent of total samples exceed 400 MPN per 100 ml during any 30 day period.
3. This value has been set to the Basin Plan water quality objective for saltwater “designated beach areas” and is not applicable to waterbodies that are not designated with the water contact recreation (REC-1) beneficial use.

**Table C-3. Non-Storm Water Action Levels for Priority Pollutants**

Parameter	Units	Freshwater (CTR)		Saltwater (CTR)	
		MDAL	AMAL	MDAL	AMAL
Cadmium	ug/L	**	**	16	8
Copper	ug/L	*	*	5.8	2.9
Chromium III	ug/L	**	**	-	-
Chromium VI	ug/L	16	8.1	83	41
Lead	ug/L	*	*	14	2.9
Nickel	ug/L	**	**	14	6.8
Silver	ug/L	*	*	2.2	1.1
Zinc	ug/L	*	*	95	47

Abbreviations/Acronyms:

CTR – California Toxic Rule  
 AMAL – average monthly action level  
 ug/L – micrograms per liter  
 MDAL – maximum daily action level

Notes:

- \* Action levels developed on a case-by-case basis (see below)
- \*\* Action levels developed on a case-by-case basis (see below), but calculated criteria are not to exceed Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) under the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 4, Section 64431

The Cadmium, Copper, Chromium (III), Lead, Nickel, Silver and Zinc NALs for MS4 discharges to freshwater receiving waters will be developed on a case-by-case basis because the freshwater criteria are based on site-specific water quality data (receiving water hardness). For these priority pollutants, the following equations (40 CFR 131.38.b.2) will be required:

Cadmium (Total Recoverable) =  $\exp(0.7852[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 2.715)$   
 Chromium III (Total Recoverable) =  $\exp(0.8190[\ln(\text{hardness})] + 0.6848)$   
 Copper (Total Recoverable) =  $\exp(0.8545[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 1.702)$   
 Lead (Total Recoverable) =  $\exp(1.273[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 4.705)$   
 Nickel (Total Recoverable) =  $\exp(.8460[\ln(\text{hardness})] + 0.0584)$   
 Silver (Total Recoverable) =  $\exp(1.72[\ln(\text{hardness})] - 6.52)$   
 Zinc (Total Recoverable) =  $\exp(0.8473[\ln(\text{hardness})] + 0.884)$

(3) Non-Storm Water Discharges from MS4s to Inland Surface Waters

**Table C-4. Non-Storm Water Action Levels for Discharges from MS4s to Inland Surface Waters**

Parameter	Units	AMAL	MDAL	Instantaneous Maximum	Basis
Dissolved Oxygen	mg/L	Not less than 5.0 in WARM waters and not less than 6.0 in COLD waters			BP
Turbidity	NTU	-	20	See MDAL	BP
pH	Units	Within limit of 6.5 to 8.5 at all times			BP
Fecal Coliform	MPN/100 ml	200 <sup>1</sup>	-	400 <sup>2</sup>	BP
<i>Enterococci</i>	MPN/100 ml	33	-	61 <sup>3</sup>	BP
Total Nitrogen	mg/L	-	1.0	See MDAL	BP
Total Phosphorus	mg/L	-	0.1	See MDAL	BP
MBAS	mg/L	-	0.5	See MDAL	BP
Iron	mg/L	-	0.3	See MDAL	BP
Manganese	mg/L	-	0.05	See MDAL	BP
Priority Pollutants	ug/L	See <a href="#">Table C-3</a>			

Abbreviations/Acronyms:

AMAL – average monthly action level	MDAL – maximum daily action level
BP – Basin Plan water quality objective	WARM – warm freshwater habitat beneficial use
COLD – cold freshwater habitat beneficial use	MBAS – Methylene Blue Active Substances
NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units	MPN/100 ml – most probable number per 100 milliliters
mg/L – milligrams per liter	ug/L – micrograms per liter

Notes:

1. Based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period.
2. The NAL is reached if more than 10 percent of total samples exceed 400 MPN per 100 ml during any 30 day period.
3. This value has been set to the Basin Plan water quality objective for freshwater “designated beach areas” and is not applicable to waterbodies that are not designated with the water contact recreation (REC-1) beneficial use.

- b. If not identified in Provision [C.1.a](#), NALs must be identified, developed and incorporated in the Water Quality Improvement Plan for any pollutants or waste constituents that cause or contribute, or are threatening to cause or contribute to a condition of pollution or nuisance in waters of the state associated with the highest priority water quality conditions related to non-storm water discharges from the MS4s. NALs must be based on:

- (1) Applicable water quality standards which may be dependent upon site-specific or receiving water-specific conditions or assumptions to be identified by the Copermittees; or
- (2) Applicable numeric WQBELs required to meet the WLAs established for the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order.

- c. For the NALs incorporated into the Water Quality Improvement Plan, the Copermittees may develop and incorporate secondary NALs specific to the Watershed Management Area at levels greater than the NALs required by Provisions [C.1.a](#) and [C.1.b](#) which can be utilized to further refine the prioritization and assessment of water quality improvement strategies for addressing non-storm water discharges to and from the MS4s, as well as the detection and

elimination of non-storm water and illicit discharges to and from the MS4. The secondary NALs may be developed using an approach acceptable to the San Diego Water Board.

- d. Dry weather monitoring data from MS4 outfalls collected in accordance with Provision D.2.b may be utilized to develop or revise NALs based on watershed-specific data, subject to San Diego Water Board Executive Officer approval.

**2. Storm Water Action Levels<sup>9</sup>**

The Copermittees must develop and incorporate numeric storm water action levels (SALs) in the Water Quality Improvement Plans to: 1) support the development and prioritization of water quality improvement strategies for reducing pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s, and 2) assess the effectiveness of the water quality improvement strategies toward reducing pollutants in storm water discharges, required pursuant to Provision D.4.b.(2).<sup>10</sup>

- a. The following SALs for discharges of storm water from the MS4 must be incorporated:

**Table C-5. Storm Water Action Levels for Discharges from MS4s to Receiving Waters**

Parameter	Units	Action Level
Turbidity	NTU	126
Nitrate & Nitrite (Total)	mg/L	2.6
Phosphorus (Total P)	mg/L	1.46
Cadmium (Total Cd)*	µg/L	3.0
Copper (Total Cu)*	µg/L	127
Lead (Total Pb)*	µg/L	250
Zinc (Total Zn)*	µg/L	976

Abbreviations/Acronyms:  
 NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Units  
 mg/L – milligrams per liter  
 ug/L – micrograms per liter

Notes:

\* The sampling must include a measure of receiving water hardness at each MS4 outfall. If a total metal concentration exceeds the corresponding metals SAL in Table C-5, that concentration must be compared to the California Toxics Rule criteria and the USEPA 1-hour maximum concentration for the detected level of receiving water hardness associated with that sample. If it is determined that the sample's total metal concentration for that specific metal exceeds that SAL, but does not exceed the applicable USEPA 1-hour maximum concentration criterion for the measured level of hardness, then the sample result will not be considered above the SAL for that measurement.

<sup>9</sup> SALs are not considered by the San Diego Water Board to be enforceable limitations.

<sup>10</sup> The Copermittees may utilize SALs or other benchmarks currently established by the Copermittees as interim SALs until the Water Quality Improvement Plans are accepted by the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer.

- b.** If not identified in Provision [C.2.a](#), SALs must be identified, developed and incorporated in the Water Quality Improvement Plan for pollutants or waste constituents that cause or contribute, or are threatening to cause or contribute to a condition of pollution or nuisance in waters of the state associated with the highest water quality priorities related to storm water discharges from the MS4s. SALs must be based on:
- (1) Federal and State water quality guidance and/or water quality standards; and
  - (2) Site-specific or receiving water-specific conditions; or
  - (3) Applicable numeric WQBELs required to meet the WLAs established for the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order.
- c.** For the SALs incorporated into the Water Quality Improvement Plan, the Copermitees may develop and incorporate secondary SALs specific to the Watershed Management Area at levels greater than the SALs required by Provisions [C.2.a](#) and [C.2.b](#) which can be utilized to further refine the prioritization and assessment of water quality improvement strategies for reducing pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s. The secondary SALs may be developed based on the approaches recommended by the State Water Board's Storm Water Panel<sup>11</sup> or using an approach acceptable to the San Diego Water Board.
- d.** Wet weather monitoring data from MS4 outfalls collected in accordance with Provision [D.2.c](#) may be used to develop or revise SALs based upon watershed-specific data, subject to San Diego Water Board Executive Officer approval.

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<sup>11</sup> Storm Water Panel Recommendations to the California State Water Resources Control Board: The Feasibility of Numeric Effluent Limits Applicable to Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Municipal, Industrial and Construction Activities (June 2006)

## **D. MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS**

The purpose of this provision is for the Copermitees to monitor and assess the impact on the chemical, physical, and biological conditions of receiving waters caused by discharges from the Copermitees' MS4s under wet weather and dry weather conditions. The goal of the monitoring and assessment program is to inform the Copermitees about the nexus between the health of receiving waters and the water quality condition of the discharges from their MS4s. This goal will be accomplished through monitoring and assessing the conditions of the receiving waters, discharges from the MS4s, pollutant sources and/or stressors, and effectiveness of the water quality improvement strategies implemented as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

### **1. Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements**

The Copermitees must develop and conduct a program to monitor the condition of the receiving waters in each Watershed Management Area during dry weather and wet weather. Following acceptance of the Water Quality Improvement Plans for each Watershed Management Area, the Copermitees must conduct long-term receiving water monitoring during implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan to assess the long term trends and determine if conditions in receiving waters are improving. Any available monitoring data not collected specifically for this Order that meet the quality assurance criteria of the Copermitees and the monitoring requirements of this Order may be utilized by the Copermitees. The Copermitees must conduct the following receiving water monitoring procedures:

#### **a. TRANSITIONAL RECEIVING WATER MONITORING**

Until the monitoring requirements of Provisions [D.1.b-e](#) are incorporated into a Water Quality Improvement Plan that is accepted by the San Diego Water Board pursuant to Provision [F.1](#), the Copermitees must conduct the following receiving water monitoring in the Watershed Management Area:

- (1) Continue the receiving water monitoring programs required in Order Nos. R9-2007-0001, R9-2009-0002, and R9-2010-0016;
- (2) Continue the monitoring in the Hydromodification Management Plans approved by the San Diego Water Board;
- (3) Participate in the following regional receiving water monitoring programs, as applicable to the Watershed Management Area:
  - (a) Storm Water Monitoring Coalition Regional Monitoring,
  - (b) Southern California Bight Regional Monitoring, and

- (c) Sediment Quality Monitoring;
- (4) Implement the monitoring programs developed as part of any implementation plans or load reduction plans (e.g. Bacteria Load Reduction Plans, Comprehensive Load Reduction Plans) for the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order; and
- (5) For Watershed Management Areas with ASBS, implement the monitoring requirements of Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012, included in [Attachment A](#) to this Order.

**b. LONG-TERM RECEIVING WATER MONITORING STATIONS**

The Copermittees must select at least one long-term receiving water monitoring station from among the existing mass loading stations, temporary watershed assessment stations, bioassessment stations, and stream assessment stations previously established by the Copermittees to be representative of the receiving water quality in the Watershed Management Area. Additional long-term receiving water monitoring stations must be selected where necessary to support the implementation and adaptation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

**c. DRY WEATHER RECEIVING WATER MONITORING**

During the term of the Order, the Copermittees must perform monitoring during at least three dry weather monitoring events at each of the long-term receiving water monitoring stations. At least one monitoring event must be conducted during the dry season (May 1 – September 30) and at least one monitoring event must be conducted during a dry weather period during the wet season (October 1 – April 30), after the first wet weather event of the season, with an antecedent dry period of at least 72 hours following a storm event producing measureable rainfall of greater than 0.1 inch.

(1) Dry Weather Receiving Water Field Observations

For each dry weather monitoring event, the Copermittees must record field observations consistent with [Table D-1](#) at each long-term receiving water monitoring station.

**Table D-1. Field Observations for Receiving Water Monitoring Stations**

Field Observations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Station identification and location</li><li>• Presence of flow, or pooled or ponded water</li><li>• If flow is present:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Flow estimation (i.e. width of water surface, approximate depth of water, approximate flow velocity, flow rate)</li><li>- Flow characteristics (i.e. presence of floatables, surface scum, sheens, odor, color)</li></ul></li><li>• If pooled or ponded water is present:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Characteristics of pooled or ponded water (i.e. presence of floatables, surface scum, sheens, odor, color)</li></ul></li><li>• Station description (i.e. deposits or stains, vegetation condition, structural condition, and observable biology)</li><li>• Presence and assessment of trash in and around station</li></ul>

**(2) Dry Weather Receiving Water Field Monitoring**

For each dry weather monitoring event, if conditions allow the collection of the data, the Copermittees must monitor and record the parameters in [Table D-2](#) at each long-term receiving water monitoring station.

**Table D-2. Field Monitoring Parameters for Receiving Water Monitoring Stations**

Parameters
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• pH</li><li>• Temperature</li><li>• Specific conductivity</li><li>• Dissolved oxygen</li><li>• Turbidity</li></ul>

**(3) Dry Weather Receiving Water Analytical Monitoring**

For each dry weather monitoring event, the Copermittees must collect and analyze samples from each long-term receiving water monitoring station as follows:

- (a) Analytes that are field measured are not required to be analyzed by a laboratory;
- (b) The Copermittees must implement consistent sample collection methods for regional comparability of data, unless site-specific conditions indicate the need for alternate methods;
- (c) Grab samples may be collected for pH, temperature, specific conductivity, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, hardness, and indicator bacteria;

- (d) For all other constituents, composite samples must be collected for a duration adequate to be representative of changes in pollutant concentrations and runoff flows using one of the following techniques:
- (i) Time-weighted composites composed of 24 discrete hourly samples, which may be collected through the use of automated equipment, or
  - (ii) Flow-weighted composites collected over a typical 24-hour period, which may be collected through the use of automated equipment;
- (e) Only one analysis of the composite of aliquots is required;
- (f) Analysis for the following constituents is required:
- (i) Constituents contributing to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan,
  - (ii) Constituents listed as a cause for impairment of receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area listed on the CWA section 303(d) List,
  - (iii) Constituents for implementation plans or load reduction plans (e.g. Bacteria Load Reduction Plans, Comprehensive Load Reduction Plans) developed for watersheds where the Copermitttees are listed responsible parties under the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order,
  - (iv) Applicable NAL constituents, and
  - (v) Constituents listed in [Table D-3](#).

**Table D-3. Analytical Monitoring Constituents for Receiving Water Monitoring Stations**

Conventionals, Nutrients	Metals (Total and Dissolved)	Pesticides	Indicator Bacteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Dissolved Solids</li> <li>• Total Suspended Solids</li> <li>• Turbidity</li> <li>• Total Hardness</li> <li>• Total Organic Carbon</li> <li>• Dissolved Organic Carbon</li> <li>• Sulfate</li> <li>• Methylene Blue Active Substances (MBAS)</li>   <li>• Total Phosphorus</li> <li>• Orthophosphate</li> <li>• Nitrite<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Nitrate<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Total Kjeldhal Nitrogen</li> <li>• Ammonia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arsenic</li> <li>• Cadmium</li> <li>• Chromium</li> <li>• Copper</li> <li>• Iron</li> <li>• Lead</li> <li>• Mercury</li> <li>• Nickel</li> <li>• Selenium</li> <li>• Thallium</li> <li>• Zinc</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Organophosphate Pesticides</li> <li>• Pyrethroid Pesticides</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Coliform</li> <li>• Fecal Coliform<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• <i>Enterococcus</i></li> </ul>

Notes:

1. Nitrite and nitrate may be combined and reported as nitrite+nitrate.

2. *E. Coli* may be substituted for Fecal Coliform.



(4) Dry Weather Receiving Water Toxicity Monitoring

For each dry weather monitoring event, the Copermitees must collect grab or composite samples from each long-term receiving water monitoring station to be analyzed for toxicity in accordance with [Table D-4](#):

**Table D-4. Dry Weather Toxicity Testing for Receiving Water Monitoring Stations**

Freshwater Organism	Test Approach	USEPA Protocol <sup>2</sup>
<i>Pimephales promelas</i>	1 acute 1 chronic <sup>1</sup>	EPA-821-R-02-012
<i>Hyalella Azteca</i>	1 acute 1 chronic <sup>1</sup>	EPA-821-R-02-012
<i>Psuedokirchneriella subcapitata</i>	1 acute 1 chronic <sup>1</sup>	EPA-821-R-02-013

Notes:

1. Chronic toxicity testing is not required at receiving water monitoring stations located at mass loading stations if the channel flows are diverted year-round during dry weather conditions to the sanitary sewer for treatment.
2. USEPA protocols must be utilized for toxicity testing unless alternate toxicity testing protocols have been approved by the San Diego Water Board.

(5) Dry Weather Receiving Water Bioassessment Monitoring

Bioassessment monitoring for each long-term receiving water monitoring station is required at least once during the term of this Order. The Copermitees must conduct bioassessment monitoring during at least one dry weather monitoring event at each long-term receiving water monitoring station as follows:

- (a) The following bioassessment samples and measurements must be collected:
  - (i) Macroinvertebrate samples must be collected in accordance with the “Reachwide Benthos (Multihabitat) Procedure” in the most current Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) Bioassessment Standard Operating Procedures (SOP), and amendments, as applicable;<sup>12</sup>
  - (ii) The “Full” suite of physical habitat characterization measurements must be collected in accordance with the most current SWAMP Bioassessment SOP, and as summarized in the SWAMP Stream Habitat Characterization Form – Full Version;<sup>13</sup> and
  - (iii) Freshwater algae samples must be collected in accordance with the SWAMP Standard Operating Procedures for Collecting Algae

<sup>12</sup> Ode, P.R.. 2007. Standard operating procedures for collecting macroinvertebrate samples and associated physical and chemical data for ambient bioassessments in California. California State Water Resources Control Board Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) Bioassessment SOP 001. [http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/swamp/tools.shtml#monitoring](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/tools.shtml#monitoring)

<sup>13</sup> Available at: [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/swamp/docs/reports/fieldforms\\_fullversion052908.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/docs/reports/fieldforms_fullversion052908.pdf)

Samples.<sup>14</sup> Analysis of samples must include algal taxonomic composition (diatoms and soft algae) and algal biomass.

- (b) The bioassessment samples, measurements, and appropriate water chemistry data must be used to calculate the following:
- (i) An Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) for macroinvertebrates for each monitoring station where bioassessment monitoring was conducted, based on the most current calculation method;<sup>15</sup> and
  - (ii) An IBI for algae for each monitoring station where bioassessment monitoring was conducted, when a calculation method is developed.<sup>16</sup>
- (c) In lieu of the requirements of Provision [D.1.c.\(5\)\(a\)](#), the Copermittees may conduct the bioassessment monitoring in accordance with the “Triad” assessment approach<sup>17</sup> to calculate the IBIs required for Provision [D.1.c.\(5\)\(b\)](#). The Copermittees must conduct sampling, analysis, and reporting of specified in-stream biological and habitat data according to the protocols specified in the SCCWRP Technical Report No. 539, or subsequent protocols, if developed.

#### (6) Dry Weather Receiving Water Hydromodification Monitoring

In addition to the hydromodification monitoring conducted as part of the Copermittees’ Hydromodification Management Plans, hydromodification monitoring for each long-term receiving water monitoring station is required at least once during the term of this Order. The Copermittees must collect the following hydromodification monitoring observations and measurements within an appropriate domain of analysis during at least one dry weather monitoring event for each long-term receiving water monitoring station:

- (a) Channel conditions, including:
- (i) Channel dimensions,

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<sup>14</sup> Fetscher et al. 2009. Standard Operating Procedures for Collecting Stream Algae Samples and Associated Physical Habitat and Chemical Data for Ambient Bioassessments in California.

<sup>15</sup> The most current calculation method at the time the Order was adopted is outlined in “A Quantitative Tool for Assessing the Integrity of Southern California Coastal Streams” (Ode, et al. 2005. Environmental Management. Vol. 35, No. 1, pp. 1-13). If an updated or new calculation method is developed, either both (i.e. current and updated/new) methods must be used, or historical IBIs must be recalculated with the updated or new calculation method.

<sup>16</sup> When a calculation method is developed, IBIs must be calculated for all available and appropriate historical data.

<sup>17</sup> Stormwater Monitoring Coalition Model Monitoring Technical Committee, 2004. Model Monitoring Program for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems in Southern California. Technical Report #419. August 2004.

- (ii) Hydrologic and geomorphic conditions, and
  - (iii) Presence and condition of vegetation and habitat;
- (b) Location of discharge points;
- (c) Habitat integrity;
- (d) Photo documentation of existing erosion and habitat impacts, with location (i.e. latitude and longitude coordinates) where photos were taken;
- (e) Measurement or estimate of dimensions of any existing channel bed or bank eroded areas, including length, width, and depth of any incisions; and
- (f) Known or suspected cause(s) of existing downstream erosion or habitat impact, including flow, soil, slope, and vegetation conditions, as well as upstream land uses and contributing new and existing development.

**d. WET WEATHER RECEIVING WATER MONITORING**

During the term of the Order, the Copermitees must perform monitoring during at least three wet weather monitoring events at each long-term receiving water monitoring station. At least one wet weather monitoring event must be conducted during the first wet weather event of the wet season (October 1 – April 30), and at least one wet weather monitoring event during a wet weather event that occurs after February 1.

(1) Wet Weather Receiving Water Field Observations

For each wet weather monitoring event, the following narrative descriptions and observations must be recorded at each long-term receiving water monitoring station:

- (a) A narrative description of the station that includes the location, date and duration of the storm event(s) sampled, rainfall estimates of the storm event, and the duration between the storm event sampled and the end of the previous measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event;
- (b) The flow rates and volumes measured or estimated (data from nearby USGS gauging stations may be utilized, or flow rates may be measured or estimated in accordance with the [USEPA Storm Water Sampling Guidance Document](#) (EPA-833-B-92-001), section 3.2.1, or other method proposed by the Copermitees that is acceptable to the San Diego Water Board);
- (c) Station condition (i.e. deposits or stains, vegetation condition, structural condition, observable biology); and

(d) Presence and assessment of trash in and around station.

(2) Wet Weather Receiving Water Field Monitoring

For each wet weather monitoring event, the Copermitees must monitor and record the parameters in [Table D-2](#) at each long-term receiving water monitoring station.

(3) Wet Weather Receiving Water Analytical Monitoring

For each wet weather monitoring event, the Copermitees must collect and analyze samples from each long-term receiving water monitoring station as follows:

- (a) Analytes that are field measured are not required to be analyzed by a laboratory;
- (b) The Copermitees must implement consistent sample collection methods for regional comparability of data, unless site-specific conditions indicate the need for alternate methods;
- (c) Grab samples may be collected for pH, temperature, specific conductivity, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, hardness, and indicator bacteria;
- (d) For all other constituents, composite samples must be collected for a duration adequate to be representative of changes in pollutant concentrations and runoff flows using one of the following techniques:
  - (i) Time-weighted composites composed of 24 discrete hourly samples, which may be collected through the use of automated equipment, or
  - (ii) Flow-weighted composites collected over the length of the storm event or a typical 24-hour period, which may be collected through the use of automated equipment;
- (e) Only one analysis of the composite of aliquots is required;
- (f) Analysis for the following constituents is required:
  - (i) Constituents contributing to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan,
  - (ii) Constituents listed as a cause for impairment of receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area listed on the CWA section 303(d) List,

- (iii) Constituents for implementation plans or load reduction plans (e.g. Bacteria Load Reduction Plans, Comprehensive Load Reduction Plans) developed for watersheds where the Copermittees are listed responsible parties under the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order,
- (iv) Applicable SAL constituents, and
- (v) Constituents listed in [Table D-3](#).

(4) Wet Weather Receiving Water Toxicity Monitoring

For each wet weather monitoring event, the Copermittees must collect grab or composite samples from each long-term receiving water monitoring station to be analyzed for toxicity in accordance with [Table D-5](#):

**Table D-5. Wet Weather Toxicity Testing for Receiving Water Monitoring Stations**

Freshwater Organism	Test Approach	USEPA Protocol <sup>1</sup>
<i>Pimephales promelas</i>	1 acute	EPA-821-R-02-012
<i>Hyalella Azteca</i>	1 acute	EPA-821-R-02-012
<i>Psuedokirchneriella subcapitata</i>	1 acute	EPA-821-R-02-013

Notes:

1. USEPA protocols must be utilized for toxicity testing unless alternate toxicity testing protocols have been approved by the San Diego Water Board.

**e. OTHER RECEIVING WATER MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

(1) Regional Monitoring

The Copermittees must participate in the following regional receiving waters monitoring programs, as applicable to the Watershed Management Area:

- (a) Storm Water Monitoring Coalition Regional Monitoring; and
- (b) Southern California Bight Regional Monitoring.

(2) Sediment Quality Monitoring

The Copermittees must perform sediment monitoring to assess compliance with sediment quality receiving water limits applicable to MS4 discharges to enclosed bays and estuaries. The monitoring may be performed either by individual or multiple Copermittees to assess compliance with receiving water limits, or through participation in a water body monitoring coalition. The Copermittees must identify sediment sampling stations that are spatially representative of the sediment within the water body segment or region of interest. Sediment quality monitoring must be conducted in conformance with the monitoring requirements set forth in the State Water Board Sediment Quality Control Plan.

(3) ASBS Monitoring

For Watershed Management Areas with ASBS, the Copermittees must implement the monitoring requirements of Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012, included in [Attachment A](#) to this Order.

**f. ALTERNATIVE WATERSHED MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

The San Diego Water Board may direct the Copermittees to participate in an effort to develop alternative watershed monitoring with other regulated entities, other interested parties, and the San Diego Water Board to refine, coordinate, and implement regional monitoring and assessment programs to determine the status and trends of water quality conditions in 1) coastal waters, 2) enclosed bays, harbors, estuaries, and lagoons, and 3) streams.

**2. MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Requirements**

The Copermittees must develop and conduct a program to monitor the discharges from the MS4 outfalls in each Watershed Management Area during dry weather and wet weather. Following acceptance of the Water Quality Improvement Plans for each Watershed Management Area, the Copermittees must conduct MS4 outfall discharge monitoring during implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan to assess the effectiveness of their jurisdictional runoff management programs toward effectively prohibiting non-storm water discharges and reducing pollutants in storm water discharges to and from their MS4s. Any available monitoring data not collected specifically for this Order that meet the quality assurance criteria of the Copermittees and the monitoring requirements of this Order may be utilized by the Copermittees. The Copermittees must conduct the following MS4 outfall monitoring procedures:

**a. TRANSITIONAL MS4 OUTFALL DISCHARGE MONITORING**

Until the monitoring requirements of Provisions [D.2.b-c](#) are incorporated into a Water Quality Improvement Plan that is accepted by the San Diego Water Board pursuant to Provision [F.1](#), the Copermittees must conduct the following MS4 outfall discharge monitoring in the Watershed Management Area:

(1) MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Station Inventory

Each Copermittee must identify all major MS4 outfalls that discharge directly to receiving waters within its jurisdiction and geo-locate those outfalls on a map of the MS4 pursuant to Provision [E.2.b.\(1\)](#). This information must be compiled into a MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station inventory, and must include the following information:

(a) Latitude and longitude of MS4 outfall point of discharge;

- (b) Watershed Management Area;
- (c) Hydrologic subarea;
- (d) Outlet size;
- (e) Accessibility (i.e. safety and without disturbance of critical habitat);
- (f) Approximate drainage area; and
- (g) Classification of whether the MS4 outfall is known to have persistent dry weather flows, transient dry weather flows, no dry weather flows, or unknown dry weather flows.

(2) Transitional Dry Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Screening Monitoring

Until the monitoring requirements of Provision [D.2.b](#) are incorporated into a Water Quality Improvement Plan that is accepted by the San Diego Water Board pursuant to Provision [F.1](#), each Copermittee must perform dry weather MS4 outfall field screening monitoring to identify non-storm water and illicit discharges within its jurisdiction in accordance with Provision [E.2.c](#), to determine which discharges are transient flows and which are persistent flows, and prioritize the dry weather MS4 discharges that will be investigated and eliminated in accordance with Provision [E.2.d](#). Each Copermittee must conduct the following dry weather MS4 outfall discharge field screening monitoring within its jurisdiction:

(a) Transitional Dry Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Screening Monitoring Frequency

Each Copermittee must field screen the MS4 outfalls in its inventory developed pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(1\)](#) as follows:

- (i) For Copermittees with less than 125 major MS4 outfalls that discharge to receiving waters within a Watershed Management Area, at least 80 percent of the outfalls must be visually inspected two times per year during dry weather conditions.
- (ii) For Copermittees with 125 major MS4 outfalls or more, but less than or equal to 500, that discharge to receiving waters within a Watershed Management Area all the outfalls must be visually inspected at least annually during dry weather conditions.
- (iii) For Copermittees with more than 500 major MS4 outfalls that discharge to receiving waters within a Watershed Management Area, at least 500 outfalls must be visually inspected at least annually

during dry weather conditions. Copermittees with more than 500 major MS4 outfalls within a Watershed Management Area must identify and prioritize at least 500 outfalls to be inspected considering the following:

- [a] Assessment of connectivity of the discharge to a flowing receiving water;
- [b] Reported exceedances of NALs in water quality monitoring data;
- [c] Surrounding land uses;
- [d] Presence of constituents listed as a cause for impairment of receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area listed on the CWA section 303(d) List; and
- [e] Flow rate.

- (iv) For Copermittees with more than 500 major MS4 outfalls within its jurisdiction that are located in more than one Watershed Management Area, at least 500 major MS4 outfalls within its inventory must be visually inspected at least annually during dry weather conditions. Copermittees with more than 500 major MS4 outfalls in more than one Watershed Management Area must identify and prioritize at least 500 outfalls to be inspected considering the following:

- [a] Assessment of connectivity of the discharge to a flowing receiving water;
- [b] Reported exceedances of NALs in water quality monitoring data;
- [c] Surrounding land uses;
- [d] Presence of constituents listed as a cause for impairment of receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area listed on the CWA section 303(d) List; and
- [e] Flow rate.

- (v) Inspections of major MS4 outfalls conducted in response to public reports and staff or contractor reports and notifications may count toward the required visual inspections of MS4 outfall discharge monitoring stations.

(b) Transitional Dry Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Screening Visual Observations

- (i) An antecedent dry period of at least 72 hours following any storm event producing measurable rainfall greater than 0.1 inch is required prior to conducting field screening visual observations during a field screening monitoring event.
- (ii) During the field screening monitoring event, each Copermittee must record visual observations consistent with [Table D-6](#) at each MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station inspected.



**Table D-6. Field Screening Visual Observations for MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Stations**

Field Observations
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Station identification and location</li><li>• Presence of flow, or pooled or ponded water</li><li>• If flow is present:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Flow estimation (i.e. width of water surface, approximate depth of water, approximate flow velocity, flow rate)</li><li>- Flow characteristics (i.e. presence of floatables, surface scum, sheens, odor, color)</li><li>- Flow source(s) suspected or identified from non-storm water source investigation</li><li>- Flow source(s) eliminated during non-storm water source identification</li></ul></li><li>• If pooled or ponded water is present:<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Characteristics of pooled or ponded water (i.e. presence of floatables, surface scum, sheens, odor, color)</li><li>- Known or suspected source(s) of pooled or ponded water</li></ul></li><li>• Station description (i.e. deposits or stains, vegetation condition, structural condition, observable biology)</li><li>• Presence and assessment of trash in and around station</li><li>• Evidence or signs of illicit connections or illegal dumping</li></ul>

- (iii) Each Copermittee must implement the requirements of Provisions [E.2.d.\(2\)\(c\)-\(e\)](#) based on the field observations.
- (iv) Each Copermittee must evaluate field observations together with existing information available from prior reports, inspections and monitoring results to determine whether any observed flowing, pooled, or ponded waters are likely to be transient or persistent flow.<sup>18</sup>

(c) **Transitional Dry Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Screening Monitoring Records**

Based upon the results of the transitional dry weather MS4 outfall discharge field screening monitoring conducted pursuant to [Provisions D.2.a.\(2\)\(a\)-\(b\)](#), each Copermittee must update its MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station inventory, compiled pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(1\)](#), with any new information on the classification of whether the MS4 outfall produces persistent flow, transient flow, or no dry weather flow.

(3) **Transitional Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring**

Until the monitoring requirements of Provision [D.2.c](#) are incorporated into a Water Quality Improvement Plan that is accepted by the San Diego Water Board pursuant to Provision [F.1](#), the Copermittees must conduct the following

<sup>18</sup> Persistent flow is defined as the presence of flowing, pooled, or ponded water more than 72 hours after a measureable rainfall event of 0.1 inch or greater during three consecutive monitoring and/or inspection events. All other flowing, pooled, or ponded water is considered transient.

wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring within the Watershed Management Area:

(a) Transitional Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Stations

The Copermittees must select at least five wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring stations from the inventories developed pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(1\)](#) that are representative of storm water discharges from areas consisting primarily of residential, commercial, industrial, and typical mixed-use land uses present within the Watershed Management Area.

(b) Transitional Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Frequency

Each wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station selected pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(3\)\(a\)](#) must be monitored twice during the wet season (October 1 – April 30). One wet weather monitoring event must be conducted during the first wet weather event of the wet season, and one wet weather monitoring event at least a month after the first wet weather event of the wet season.

(c) Transitional Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Observations

For each wet weather monitoring event, the following narrative descriptions and observations must be recorded at each wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station:

- (i) A narrative description of the station that includes the location, date and duration of the storm event(s) sampled, rainfall estimates of the storm event, and the duration between the storm event sampled and the end of the previous measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event; and
- (ii) The flow rates and volumes measured or estimated (data from nearby USGS gauging stations may be utilized, or flow rates may be measured or estimated in accordance with the [USEPA Storm Water Sampling Guidance Document](#) (EPA-833-B-92-001), section 3.2.1, or other method proposed by the Copermittees that is acceptable to the San Diego Water Board);
- (iii) Station condition (i.e. deposits or stains, vegetation condition, structural condition, observable biology); and
- (iv) Presence and assessment of trash in and around station.

(d) Transitional Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Monitoring

For each wet weather monitoring event, the Copermittees must monitor and record the parameters in [Table D-2](#) at each wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station.

(e) Transitional Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Analytical Monitoring

For each wet weather monitoring event, the Copermittees must collect and analyze samples from each wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station as follows:

- (i) Analytes that are field measured are not required to be analyzed by a laboratory;
- (ii) The Copermittees must implement consistent sample collection methods for regional comparability of data, unless site-specific conditions indicate the need for alternate methods;
- (iii) Grab samples may be collected for pH, temperature, specific conductivity, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, and indicator bacteria;
- (iv) For all other constituents, composite samples must be collected for a duration adequate to be representative of changes in pollutant concentrations and runoff flows using one of the following techniques:
  - [a] Time-weighted composites composed of 24 discrete hourly samples, which may be collected through the use of automated equipment, or
  - [b] Flow-weighted composites collected over the length of the storm event or a typical 24 hour period, whichever is shorter, which may be collected through the use of automated equipment, or
  - [c] If automated compositing is not feasible, a composite sample may be collected using a minimum of 4 grab samples, collected during the first 24 hours of the storm water discharge, or for the entire storm water discharge if the storm event is less than 24 hours;
- (v) Only one analysis of the composite of aliquots is required;
- (vi) The samples must be analyzed for the following constituents:
  - [a] Constituents listed as a cause for impairment of receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area listed on the CWA section 303(d) List,
  - [b] Constituents for implementation plans or load reduction plans (e.g. Bacteria Load Reduction Plans, Comprehensive Load Reduction Plans) developed for watersheds where the Copermittees are listed responsible parties under the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order, and
  - [c] Constituents listed in in [Table D-7](#).

**Table D-7. Analytical Monitoring Constituents for Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Stations**

Conventionals, Nutrients	Metals (Total and Dissolved)	Indicator Bacteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Dissolved Solids</li> <li>• Total Suspended Solids</li> <li>• Turbidity</li> <li>• Total Hardness</li> <li>• Total Organic Carbon</li> <li>• Dissolved Organic Carbon</li> <li>• Sulfate</li> <li>• Methylene Blue Active Substances (MBAS)</li> <li>• Total Phosphorus</li> <li>• Orthophosphate</li> <li>• Nitrite<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Nitrate<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Total Kjeldhal Nitrogen</li> <li>• Ammonia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arsenic</li> <li>• Cadmium</li> <li>• Chromium</li> <li>• Copper</li> <li>• Iron</li> <li>• Lead</li> <li>• Nickel</li> <li>• Selenium</li> <li>• Thallium</li> <li>• Zinc</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Coliform</li> <li>• Fecal Coliform<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• <i>Enterococcus</i></li> </ul>

Notes:

1. Nitrite and nitrate may be combined and reported as nitrite+nitrate.
2. *E. Coli* may be substituted for Fecal Coliform.

(f) Other Transitional Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring

The San Diego County Copermittees must continue the wet weather MS4 outfall monitoring program developed under Order No. R9-2007-0001, as approved by the San Diego Water Board, through its planned completion.

**b. DRY WEATHER MS4 OUTFALL DISCHARGE MONITORING**

Each Copermittee must perform dry weather MS4 outfall monitoring to identify non-storm water and illicit discharges within its jurisdiction pursuant to Provision [E.2.c](#), and to prioritize the dry weather MS4 discharges that will be investigated and eliminated pursuant to Provision [E.2.d](#). Each Copermittee must conduct the following dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring within its jurisdiction:

(1) Dry Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Screening Monitoring

Each Copermittee must continue to perform the dry weather MS4 outfall discharge field screening monitoring in accordance with the requirements of Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)](#). The Copermittee may adjust the field screening monitoring frequencies and locations for the MS4 outfalls in its inventory, as needed, to identify and eliminate sources of persistent flow non-storm water discharges in accordance with the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, provided the number of visual inspections performed is equivalent to the number of visual inspections required under Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)\(a\)](#).

## (2) Non-Storm Water Persistent Flow MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring

Each Copermittee must perform non-storm water persistent flow MS4 outfall discharge monitoring to determine which persistent non-storm water discharges contain concentrations of pollutants below NALs, and which persistent non-storm water discharges impact receiving water quality during dry weather. Each Copermittee must conduct the following non-storm water persistent flow MS4 outfall discharge monitoring within its jurisdiction:

### (a) Prioritization of Non-Storm Water Persistent Flow MS4 Outfalls

Based upon the dry weather MS4 outfall discharge field screening monitoring records developed pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)\(c\)](#), each Copermittee must identify and prioritize the MS4 outfalls with persistent flows based on the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan and any additional criteria developed by the Copermittee, which may include historical data and data from sources other than what the Copermittee collects.

### (b) Non-Storm Water Persistent Flow MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Frequency

- (i) Based on the prioritization of major MS4 outfalls developed under Provision [D.2.b.\(2\)\(a\)](#), each Copermittee must identify, at a minimum, the 10 highest priority major MS4 outfalls with non-storm water persistent flows that the Copermittee will monitor within each Watershed Management Area within its jurisdiction. The location of the highest priority non-storm water persistent flow MS4 outfall monitoring stations must be identified on the map required pursuant to Provision [E.2.b.\(1\)](#).
- (ii) Each of the highest priority non-storm water persistent flow MS4 outfall monitoring stations identified pursuant to Provision [D.2.b.\(2\)\(b\)\(i\)](#) must be monitored under dry weather conditions at least semi-annually until one of the following occurs:
  - [a] The non-storm water discharges have been effectively eliminated (i.e. no flowing, pooled, or ponded water) for three consecutive dry weather monitoring events; or
  - [b] The source(s) of the persistent flows has been identified as a category of non-storm water discharges that does not require an NPDES permit and does not have to be addressed as an illicit discharge because it was not identified as a source of pollutants (i.e. constituents in non-storm water discharge do not exceed NALs), and the persistent flow can be re-prioritized to a lower priority; or

- [c] The constituents in the persistent flow non-storm water discharge do not exceed NALs, and the persistent flow can be re-prioritized to a lower priority; or
- [d] The source(s) of the persistent flows has been identified as a non-storm water discharge authorized by a separate NPDES permit.
- (iii) Where the criteria under Provision [D.2.b.\(2\)\(c\)\(ii\)](#) are not met, but the threat to water quality has been reduced by the Copermittee, the highest priority persistent flow MS4 outfall monitoring stations may be reprioritized accordingly for continued dry weather MS4 outfall discharge field screening monitoring required pursuant to Provision [D.2.b.\(1\)](#).
- (iv) Each Copermittee must document removal or re-prioritization of the highest priority persistent flow MS4 outfall monitoring stations identified under Provision [D.2.b.\(2\)\(b\)](#) in the Annual Report. Persistent flow MS4 outfall monitoring stations that have been removed must be replaced with the next highest prioritized MS4 major outfall in the Watershed Management Area within its jurisdiction, unless there are no remaining qualifying major MS4 outfalls within the Copermittee's jurisdiction in the Watershed Management Area.

(c) Non-Storm Water Persistent Flow MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Observations

During each semi-annual monitoring event, each Copermittee must record field observations consistent with [Table D-6](#) at each of the highest priority persistent flow MS4 outfall monitoring stations within its jurisdiction.

(d) Non-Storm Water Persistent Flow MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Monitoring

During each semi-annual monitoring event, if conditions allow the collection of the data, each Copermittee must monitor and record the parameters in [Table D-2](#) at each of the highest priority persistent flow MS4 outfall monitoring stations within its jurisdiction.

(e) Non-Storm Water Persistent Flow MS4 Outfall Discharge Analytical Monitoring

During each semi-annual monitoring event in which measurable flow is present, each Copermittee must collect and analyze samples from each of the highest priority persistent flow MS4 outfall monitoring stations within its jurisdiction as follows:

- (i) Analytes that are field measured are not required to be analyzed by a laboratory;

- (ii) The Copermittees must implement consistent sample collection methods for regional comparability of data, unless site-specific conditions indicate the need for alternate methods;
- (iii) Collect grab or composite samples to be analyzed for the following constituents:
  - [a] Constituents contributing to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan,
  - [b] Constituents listed as a cause for impairment of receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area listed on the CWA section 303(d) List,
  - [c] Constituents for implementation plans or load reduction plans (e.g. Bacteria Load Reduction Plans, Comprehensive Load Reduction Plans) developed for watersheds where the Copermittees are listed responsible parties under the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order,
  - [d] Applicable NAL constituents, and
  - [e] Constituents listed in [Table D-8](#), unless the Copermittee has historical data that can demonstrate or provide justification that the analysis of the constituent is not necessary.

**Table D-8. Analytical Monitoring Constituents for Persistent Flow MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Stations**

Conventionals, Nutrients	Metals (Total and Dissolved)	Indicator Bacteria
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Dissolved Solids</li> <li>• Total Suspended Solids</li> <li>• Total Hardness</li>   <li>• Total Phosphorus</li> <li>• Orthophosphate</li> <li>• Nitrite<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Nitrate<sup>1</sup></li> <li>• Total Kjeldhal Nitrogen</li> <li>• Ammonia</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cadmium</li> <li>• Copper</li> <li>• Lead</li> <li>• Zinc</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Total Coliform</li> <li>• Fecal Coliform<sup>2</sup></li> <li>• <i>Enterococcus</i></li> </ul>

Notes:

- 1. Nitrite and nitrate may be combined and reported as nitrite+nitrate.
- 2. *E. Coli* may be substituted for Fecal Coliform.

- (iv) If the Copermittee identifies and eliminates the source of the persistent flow non-storm water discharge, analysis of the sample is not required.

**C. WET WEATHER MS4 OUTFALL DISCHARGE MONITORING**

The Copermittees must perform wet weather MS4 outfall monitoring to identify sources of pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s in the Watershed Management Area. The Copermittees must conduct the following wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring within the Watershed Management Area:

(1) Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Stations

The Copermittees may adjust the wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring locations and frequencies in the Watershed Management Area, as needed, to identify sources of pollutants in storm water discharges from MS4s in the Watershed Management Area in accordance with the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, provided the number of stations is at least equivalent to the number of stations required under Provision [D.2.a.\(3\)\(a\)](#).

(2) Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Frequency

The Copermittees must monitor the wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring stations in the Watershed Management Area at an appropriate frequency to identify sources of pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s causing or contributing to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

(3) Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Observations

For each wet weather monitoring event, the following narrative descriptions and observations must be recorded at each wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station:

- (a) A narrative description of the station that includes the location, date and duration of the storm event(s) sampled, rainfall estimates of the storm event, and the duration between the storm event sampled and the end of the previous measurable (greater than 0.1 inch rainfall) storm event; and
- (b) The flow rates and volumes measured or estimated (data from nearby USGS gauging stations may be utilized, or flow rates may be measured or estimated in accordance with the [USEPA Storm Water Sampling Guidance Document](#) (EPA-833-B-92-001), section 3.2.1, or other method proposed by the Copermittees that is acceptable to the San Diego Water Board);
- (c) Station condition (i.e. deposits or stains, vegetation condition, structural condition, observable biology); and
- (d) Presence and assessment of trash in and around station.



(4) Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Field Monitoring

For each wet weather monitoring event, the Copermittees must monitor and record the parameters in [Table D-2](#) at each wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station.

(5) Wet Weather MS4 Outfall Discharge Analytical Monitoring

For each wet weather monitoring event, the Copermittees must collect and analyze samples from each wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station as follows:

- (a) Analytes that are field measured are not required to be analyzed by a laboratory;
- (b) The Copermittees must implement consistent sample collection methods for regional comparability of data, unless site-specific conditions indicate the need for alternate methods;
- (c) Grab samples may be collected for pH, temperature, specific conductivity, dissolved oxygen, turbidity, hardness, and indicator bacteria;
- (d) For all other constituents, composite samples must be collected for a duration adequate to be representative of changes in pollutant concentrations and runoff flows using one of the following techniques:
  - (i) Time-weighted composites composed of 24 discrete hourly samples, which may be collected through the use of automated equipment, or
  - (ii) Flow-weighted composites collected over the length of the storm event or a typical 24 hour period, whichever is shorter, which may be collected through the use of automated equipment, or
  - (iii) If automated compositing is not feasible, a composite sample may be collected using a minimum of 4 grab samples, collected during the first 24 hours of the storm water discharge, or for the entire storm water discharge if the storm event is less than 24 hours.
- (e) Only one analysis of the composite of aliquots is required;
- (f) Analysis for the following constituents is required:
  - (i) Constituents contributing to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan,
  - (ii) Constituents listed as a cause for impairment of receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area listed on the CWA section 303(d) List,

- (iii) Constituents for implementation plans or load reduction plans (e.g. Bacteria Load Reduction Plans, Comprehensive Load Reduction Plans) developed for watersheds where the Copermittees are listed responsible parties under the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) to this Order, and
- (iv) Applicable SAL constituents.

### 3. Special Studies

- a. Within the term of this Order, the Copermittees must develop and implement the following special studies:
  - (1) At least three special studies in each Watershed Management Area to address pollutant and/or stressor data gaps and/or develop information necessary to more effectively address the pollutants and/or stressors that cause or contribute to highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.
  - (2) At least two special studies for the San Diego Region to address pollutant and/or stressor data gaps and/or develop information necessary to more effectively address the pollutants and/or stressors that are impacting receiving waters on a regional basis in the San Diego Region.
  - (3) One of the three special studies in each Watershed Management Area may be replaced by a special study implemented pursuant to Provision [D.3.a.\(2\)](#).
- b. The special studies must, at a minimum, be in conformance with the following criteria:
  - (1) The special studies must be related to the highest priority water quality conditions identified by the Copermittees in the Watershed Management Area and/or for the entire San Diego Region;
  - (2) The special studies developed pursuant to Provision [D.3.a.\(1\)](#) must:
    - (a) Be implemented within the applicable Watershed Management Area, and
    - (b) Require some form of participation by all the Copermittees within the Watershed Management Area;
  - (3) The special studies developed pursuant to Provision [D.3.a.\(2\)](#) must:
    - (a) Be implemented within the San Diego Region, and
    - (b) Require some form of participation by all Copermittees covered under the requirements of this Order.

- c.** Special studies developed to identify sources of pollutants and/or stressors should be pollutant and/or stressor specific and based on historical monitoring data and monitoring performed pursuant to Provisions [D.1](#) and [D.2](#). Development of source identification special studies should include the following:
- (1) A compilation of known information on the specific pollutant and/or stressor, including data on potential sources and movement of the pollutant and/or stressor within the watershed. Data generated by the Copermittees and others, as well as information available from a literature research on the pollutant and/or stressor should be compiled and analyzed as appropriate.
  - (2) An identification of data gaps, based on the compiled information generated on the specific pollutant and/or stressor in Provision [D.3.d.\(1\)](#). Source identification special studies should be developed to fill identified data gaps.
  - (3) A monitoring plan that will collect and provide data the Copermittees can utilize to do the following:
    - (a) Quantify the relative loading or impact of a pollutant and/or stressor from a particular source or pollutant generating activity;
    - (b) Improve understanding of the fate of a pollutant and/or stressor in the environment;
    - (c) Develop an inventory of known and suspected sources of a pollutant and/or stressor in the Watershed Management Area; and/or
    - (d) Prioritize known and suspected sources of a pollutant and/or stressor based on relative magnitude in discharges, geographical distribution (i.e., regional or localized), frequency of occurrence in discharges, human health risk, and controllability.
- d.** Special studies initiated prior to the acceptance of the Water Quality Improvement Plan that meet the requirements of Provision [D.3.b](#) and are completed during the term of this Order may be utilized to fulfill the special study requirements of Provision [D.3.a](#).
- e.** The Copermittees must submit the monitoring plans for the special studies in the Water Quality Improvement Plans required pursuant to Provision [F.1](#).
- f.** The Copermittees are encouraged to share the results of the special studies regionally among the Copermittees to provide information useful in improving and adapting the management of non-storm water and storm water runoff through the implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

#### 4. Assessment Requirements

Each Copermittee must evaluate the data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.1](#), [D.2](#) and [D.3](#), and information collected during the implementation of the jurisdictional runoff management programs required pursuant to Provision [E](#), to assess the progress of the water quality improvement strategies in the Water Quality Improvement Plan toward achieving compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#) and [A.2.a](#). Assessments must be performed as described in the following provisions:

##### a. RECEIVING WATERS ASSESSMENTS

- (1) The Copermittees must assess and report the conditions of the receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area as follows:
  - (a) Based on data collected pursuant to Provision [D.1.a](#), the assessments under Provision [D.4.a.\(2\)](#) must be included in the first Annual Report required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b.\(1\)](#).
  - (b) Based on the data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.1.a-e](#), the assessments required under Provision [D.4.a.\(2\)](#) must be included in the Report of Waste Discharge required pursuant to Provision [F.5.b](#).
- (2) The Copermittees must assess the status and trends of receiving water quality conditions in 1) coastal waters, 2) enclosed bays, harbors, estuaries, and lagoons, and 3) streams under dry weather and wet weather conditions. For each of the three types of receiving waters in each Watershed Management Area the Copermittees must:
  - (a) Determine whether or not the conditions of the receiving waters are protective of the designated beneficial uses;
  - (b) Identify the most critical beneficial uses that must be protected or restored to ensure overall health of the receiving water;
  - (c) Determine whether or not those critical beneficial uses are being protected and where those beneficial used must be restored;
  - (d) Identify short-term and/or long-term improvements or degradation of those critical beneficial uses;
  - (e) Identify data gaps in the monitoring data necessary to assess Provisions [D.4.a.\(2\)\(a\)-\(d\)](#).

## **b. MS4 OUTFALL DISCHARGES ASSESSMENTS**

### **(1) Non-Storm Water Discharges Reduction Assessments**

- (a) Each Copermittee must assess and report the progress of its illicit discharge detection and elimination program, required to be implemented pursuant to Provision [E.2](#), toward reducing and effectively prohibiting non-storm water and illicit discharges into the MS4 within its jurisdiction as follows:
- (i) Based on data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.2.a.\(2\)](#), the assessments under Provision [D.4.b.\(1\)\(b\)](#) must be included in the first Annual Report required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b.\(1\)](#).
  - (ii) Based on the data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.2.b](#), the assessments required under Provision [D.4.b.\(1\)\(c\)](#) must be included in the first Annual Report required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b.\(1\)](#), and annually thereafter.
  - (iii) Based on the data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.2.b](#), the assessment required under Provision [D.4.b.\(1\)\(c\)](#) must be included in the Report of Waste Discharge required pursuant to [F.5.b](#).
- (b) Based on the transitional dry weather MS4 outfall discharge field screening monitoring required pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)](#), each Copermittee must assess and report the following:
- (i) Identify the known and suspected controllable sources (e.g. facilities, areas, land uses, pollutant generating activities) of transient and persistent flows within the Copermittee's jurisdiction in the Watershed Management Area;
  - (ii) Identify sources of transient and persistent flows within the Copermittee's jurisdiction in the Watershed Management Area that have been reduced or eliminated; and
  - (iii) Identify modifications to the field screening monitoring locations and frequencies for the MS4 outfalls in its inventory necessary to identify and eliminate sources of persistent flow non-storm water discharges pursuant to Provision [D.2.b.\(1\)](#).
- (c) Based on the dry weather MS4 outfall discharge field screening monitoring required pursuant to Provision [D.2.b](#), each Copermittee must assess and report the following:
- (i) The assessments required pursuant to Provision [D.4.b.\(1\)\(b\)](#);
  - (ii) Based on the data collected and applicable NALs in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, rank the MS4 outfalls in the Copermittee's

jurisdiction according to potential threat to receiving water quality, and produce a prioritized list of major MS4 outfalls for follow-up action to update the Water Quality Improvement Plan, with the goal of eliminating persistent flow non-storm water discharges and/or pollutant loads in order of the ranked priority list through targeted programmatic actions and source investigations;

- (iii) For the highest priority major MS4 outfalls with persistent flows that are in exceedance of NALs, identify the known and suspected sources within the Copermittee's jurisdiction in the Watershed Management Area that may cause or contribute to the NAL exceedances;
- (iv) Each Copermittee must analyze the data collected pursuant to Provision [D.2.b](#), and utilize a model or other method, to calculate or estimate the non-storm water volumes and pollutant loads discharged from all the major MS4s outfalls in its jurisdiction identified as having persistent dry weather flows during the monitoring year. These calculations or estimates must be updated annually. Each Copermittee must calculate or estimate:
  - [a] Annual non-storm water volumes and pollutant loads discharged from the Copermittee's major MS4 outfalls to receiving waters within the Copermittee's jurisdiction, with an estimate of the percent contribution from each known and suspected source for each MS4 outfall;
  - [b] Annual non-storm water volumes and pollutant loads from areas or facilities subject to the Copermittee's legal authority that are discharged from the Copermittee's major MS4 outfalls to downstream receiving waters.
- (v) Each Copermittee must review the data collected pursuant to Provision [D.2.b](#) and findings from the assessments required pursuant to Provision [D.4.b.\(1\)\(c\)\(i\)-\(iv\)](#) on an annual basis to:
  - [a] Identify reductions and progress in achieving reductions in non-storm water and illicit discharges to the Copermittee's MS4 in the Watershed Management Area;
  - [b] Assess the effectiveness of water quality improvement strategies being implemented by the Copermittees within the Watershed Management Area toward reducing or eliminating non-storm water and pollutant loads discharging from the MS4 to receiving waters within its jurisdiction, with an estimate, if possible, of the non-storm water volume and/or pollutant load reductions attributable to specific water quality strategies implemented by the Copermittee; and
  - [c] Identify modifications necessary to increase the effectiveness of the water quality improvement strategies implemented by the Copermittee in the Watershed Management Area toward reducing

or eliminating non-storm water and pollutant loads discharging from the MS4 to receiving waters within its jurisdiction.

- (vi) Identify data gaps in the monitoring data necessary to assess Provisions [D.4.b.\(2\)\(c\)\(i\)-\(v\)](#).

## (2) Storm Water Pollutant Discharges Reduction Assessments

(a) The Copermittees must assess and report the progress of the water quality improvement strategies, required to be implemented pursuant to Provisions [B](#) and [E](#), toward reducing pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s within the Watershed Management Area as follows:

- (i) Based on data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.2.a.\(3\)](#), the assessments under Provision [D.4.b.\(2\)\(b\)](#) must be included in the first Annual Report required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b.\(1\)](#).
- (ii) Based on the data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.2.c](#), the assessments required under Provision [D.4.b.\(2\)\(c\)](#) must be included in the first Annual Report required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b.\(1\)](#), and annually thereafter.
- (iii) Based on the data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.2.c](#), the assessment required under Provisions [D.4.b.\(2\)\(c\)-\(d\)](#) must be included in the Report of Waste Discharge required pursuant to [F.5.b](#).

(b) Based on the transitional wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring required pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(3\)](#) the Copermittees must assess and report the following:

- (i) The Copermittees must analyze the monitoring data collected pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(3\)](#), and utilize a watershed model or other method, to calculate or estimate storm water volumes and pollutant loads discharged from the MS4s in each Copermittee's jurisdiction within the Watershed Management Area. The Copermittees must calculate or estimate the following for each monitoring year:
  - [a] The average storm water runoff coefficient for each land use type within the Watershed Management Area;
  - [b] The volume of storm water discharged from each of the Copermittee's major MS4 outfalls in its jurisdiction to receiving waters within the Watershed Management Area for each storm event with measurable rainfall greater than 0.1 inch;
  - [c] The pollutant loads discharged from each of the Copermittee's major MS4 outfalls in its jurisdiction to receiving waters within the Watershed Management Area for each storm event with measurable rainfall greater than 0.1 inch; and

- [d] The percent contribution of storm water volumes and pollutant loads discharged from each land use type within the drainage basin to each of the Copermittee's major MS4 outfalls in its jurisdiction to receiving waters within the Watershed Management Area for each storm event with measurable rainfall greater than 0.1 inch.
- (ii) Identify modifications to the wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring locations and frequencies necessary to identify sources pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s in the Watershed Management Area pursuant to Provision [D.2.c.\(1\)](#).
- (c) Based on the wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring required pursuant to Provision [D.2.c](#) the Copermittees must assess and report the following:
  - (i) The assessments required pursuant to Provision [D.4.b.\(2\)\(b\)](#);
  - (ii) Based on the data collected and applicable SALs in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, rank the MS4 outfalls in the Watershed Management Area according to potential threat to receiving water quality, and produce a prioritized list of major MS4 outfalls for follow-up action to update the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
  - (iii) The Copermittees must review the data collected pursuant to Provision [D.2.c](#) and findings from the assessments required pursuant to Provisions [D.4.b.\(2\)\(c\)\(i\)-\(ii\)](#) on an annual basis to:
    - [a] Identify reductions and progress in achieving reductions in pollutant concentrations and/or pollutant loads from different land uses and/or drainage areas discharging from the Copermittees' MS4s in the Watershed Management Area;
    - [b] Assess the effectiveness of water quality improvement strategies being implemented by the Copermittees within the Watershed Management Area toward reducing pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s to receiving waters within the Watershed Management Area to the MEP, with an estimate, if possible, of the pollutant load reductions attributable to specific water quality strategies implemented by the Copermittees; and
    - [c] Identify modifications necessary to increase the effectiveness of the water quality improvement strategies implemented by the Copermittees in the Watershed Management Area toward reducing pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s to receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area to the MEP.
  - (iv) Identify data gaps in the monitoring data necessary to assess Provisions [D.4.b.\(2\)\(c\)\(i\)-\(iii\)](#).



- (d) The Copermittees must evaluate all the data collected pursuant to Provision [D.2.c](#), and incorporate new outfall monitoring data into time series plots for each long-term monitoring constituent for the Watershed Management Area, and perform statistical trends analysis on the cumulative long-term wet weather MS4 outfall discharge water quality data set.

#### **c. SPECIAL STUDIES ASSESSMENTS**

The Copermittees must annually evaluate the results and findings from the special studies developed and implemented pursuant to Provision [D.3](#), and assess their relevance to the Copermittees' efforts to characterize receiving water conditions, understand sources of pollutants and/or stressors, and control and reduce the discharges of pollutants from the MS4 outfalls to receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area. The Copermittees must report the results of the special studies assessments applicable to the Watershed Management Area, and identify any necessary modifications or updates to the Water Quality Improvement Plan based on the results in the Annual Reports required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b](#).

#### **d. INTEGRATED ASSESSMENT OF WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN**

As part of the iterative approach and adaptive management process required for the Water Quality Improvement Plan pursuant to Provision [B.5](#), the Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area must integrate the data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.1-D.3](#), the findings from the assessments required pursuant to Provisions [D.4.a-c](#), and information collected during the implementation of the jurisdictional runoff management programs required pursuant to Provision [E](#) to assess the effectiveness of, and identify necessary modifications to, the Water Quality Improvement Plan as follows:

- (1) The Copermittees must re-evaluate the priority water quality conditions and numeric goals for the Watershed Management Area, as needed, during the term of this Order pursuant to Provision [B.5.a](#). The re-evaluation and recommendations for modifications to the priority water quality conditions, and/or numeric goals and corresponding schedules may be provided in the Annual Reports required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b](#), but must at least be provided in the Report of Waste Discharge pursuant to Provision [F.5.b](#). The priority water quality conditions and numeric goals for the Watershed Management Area must be re-evaluated as follows:
  - (a) Re-evaluate the receiving water conditions in the Watershed Management Area in accordance with Provision [B.2.a](#);
  - (b) Re-evaluate the impacts on receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area from MS4 discharges in accordance with Provision [B.2.b](#);

- (c) Re-evaluate the identification of MS4 sources of pollutants and/or stressors in accordance with Provision [B.2.d](#);
  - (d) Identify beneficial uses of the receiving waters that are protected or must be restored in accordance with Provision [D.4.a](#);
  - (e) Evaluate the progress toward achieving the interim and final numeric goals for restoring impacted beneficial uses in the receiving waters.
- (2) The Copermittees must re-evaluate the water quality improvement strategies for the Watershed Management Area during the term of this Order pursuant to Provision [B.5.b](#). The re-evaluation and recommendations for modifications to the water quality improvement strategies and schedules must be provided in the Annual Reports required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b](#), and provided in the Report of Waste Discharge pursuant to Provision [F.5.b](#). The water quality improvement strategies for the Watershed Management Area must be re-evaluated as follows:
- (a) Identify the non-storm water and storm water pollutant loads from the Copermittees' MS4 outfalls in the Watershed Management Area, calculated or estimated pursuant to Provisions [D.4.b](#);
  - (b) Identify the non-storm water and storm water pollutant load reductions, or other improvements to receiving water or water quality conditions, that are necessary to attain the interim and final numeric goals for restoring impacted beneficial uses in the receiving waters;
  - (c) Identify the non-storm water and storm water pollutant load reductions, or other improvements to the quality of MS4 discharges, that are necessary for the Copermittees to demonstrate that non-storm water and storm water discharges from their MS4s are not causing or contributing to exceedances of receiving water limitations;
  - (d) Evaluate the progress of the water quality improvement strategies toward achieving the interim and final numeric goals for restoring impacted beneficial uses in the receiving waters.
- (3) The Copermittees must re-evaluate and adapt the water quality monitoring and assessment program for the Watershed Management Area when new information becomes available to improve the monitoring and assessment program pursuant to Provision [B.5.c](#). The re-evaluation and recommendations for modifications to the monitoring and assessment program may be provided in the Annual Reports required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b](#), but must at least be provided in the Report of Waste Discharge pursuant to Provision [F.5.b](#). Modifications to the water quality monitoring and assessment program must be consistent with the

requirements of Provision [D.1-D.3](#). The re-evaluation of the water quality monitoring and assessment program for the Watershed Management Area must consider the data gaps identified by the assessments required pursuant to Provisions [D.4.a-b](#), and results of the special studies implemented pursuant to Provision [D.4.c](#).

## **5. Monitoring Provisions**

Each Copermitttee must comply with all the monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping provisions of the Standard Permit Provisions and General Provisions contained in [Attachment B](#) to this Order.

## **E. JURISDICTIONAL RUNOFF MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS**

The purpose of this provision is for each Copermittee to implement a program to control the contribution of pollutants to and the discharges from the MS4 with its jurisdiction. The goal of the jurisdictional runoff management programs is to implement strategies that effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4 and reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the MEP. This goal will be accomplished through implementing the jurisdictional runoff management programs in accordance with the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

Each Copermittee must update its jurisdictional runoff management program document, in accordance with Provision [F.2.a](#), to incorporate all the requirements of Provision [E](#). Until the Copermittee has updated its jurisdictional runoff management program document with the requirements of Provision [E](#), the Copermittee must continue implementing its current jurisdictional runoff management program.

### **1. Legal Authority Establishment and Enforcement**

- a.** Each Copermittee must establish, maintain, and enforce adequate legal authority within its jurisdiction to control pollutant discharges into and from its MS4 through statute, ordinance, permit, contract, order, or similar means. This legal authority must, at a minimum, authorize the Copermittee to:
  - (1) Prohibit and eliminate all illicit discharges and illicit connections to its MS4;
  - (2) Control the contribution of pollutants in discharges of runoff associated with industrial and construction activity to its MS4 and control the quality of runoff from industrial and construction sites, including industrial and construction sites which have coverage under the statewide General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Industrial Activities (Industrial General Permit) or General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activities (Construction General Permit), as well as to those sites which do not;
  - (3) Control the discharge of spills, dumping, or disposal of materials other than storm water into its MS4;
  - (4) Control through interagency agreements among Copermittees the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the MS4 to another portion of the MS4;
  - (5) Control, by coordinating and cooperating with other owners of the MS4 such as Caltrans, the U.S. federal government, or sovereign Native American Tribes through interagency agreements, where possible, the contribution of pollutants from their portion of the MS4 to the portion of the MS4 within the Copermittee's jurisdiction;

- (6) Require compliance with conditions in its statutes, ordinances, permits, contracts, orders, or similar means to hold dischargers to its MS4 accountable for their contributions of pollutants and flows;
  - (7) Require the use of BMPs to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from its MS4 to the MEP;
  - (8) Require documentation on the effectiveness of BMPs implemented to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from its MS4 to the MEP;
  - (9) Utilize enforcement mechanisms to require compliance with its statutes, ordinances, permits, contracts, orders, or similar means; and
  - (10) Carry out all inspections, surveillance, and monitoring procedures necessary to determine compliance and noncompliance with its statutes, ordinances, permits, contracts, orders, or similar means and with the requirements of this Order, including the prohibition of illicit discharges and connections to its MS4; the Copermittee must also have authority to enter, monitor, inspect, take measurements, review and copy records, and require regular reports from industrial facilities, including construction sites, discharging into its MS4.
- b. With the first Annual Report required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b](#), each Copermittee must submit a statement certified by its Principal Executive Officer, Ranking Elected Official, or Duly Authorized Representative that the Copermittee has taken the necessary steps to obtain and maintain full legal authority within its jurisdiction to implement and enforce each of the requirements contained in this Order.

## 2. Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination

Each Copermittee must implement a program to actively detect and eliminate illicit discharges and improper disposal into the MS4, or otherwise require the discharger to apply for and obtain a separate NPDES permit. The illicit discharge detection and elimination program must be implemented in accordance with the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan and include, at a minimum, the following requirements:

### a. NON-STORM WATER DISCHARGES

Each Copermittee must address all non-storm water discharges as illicit discharges, unless a non-storm water discharge is either identified as a discharge authorized by a separate NPDES permit, or identified as a category of non-storm water discharges or flows that must be addressed pursuant to the following requirements:

- (1) Discharges of non-storm water to the MS4 from the following categories must be addressed as illicit discharges unless the discharge has coverage under NPDES Permit No. CAG919001 (Order No. R9-2007-0034, or subsequent order) for discharges to San Diego Bay, or NPDES Permit No. CAG919002 (Order No. R9-2008-0002, or subsequent order) for discharges to surface waters other than San Diego Bay:
  - (a) Uncontaminated pumped ground water;
  - (b) Discharges from foundation drains;<sup>19</sup>
  - (c) Water from crawl space pumps; and
  - (d) Water from footing drains.<sup>19</sup>
  
- (2) Discharges of non-storm water from water line flushing and water main breaks to the MS4 must be addressed as illicit discharges unless the discharge has coverage under NPDES Permit No. CAG 679001 (Order No. R9-2010-0003, or subsequent order). This category includes water line flushing and water main break discharges from water purveyors issued a water supply permit by the California Department of Public Health or federal military installations. Discharges from recycled or reclaimed water lines to the MS4 must be addressed as illicit discharges, unless the discharges have coverage under a separate NPDES permit.
  
- (3) Discharges of non-storm water to the MS4 from the following categories must be addressed by the Copermittee as illicit discharges only if the Copermittee or the San Diego Water Board identifies the discharge as a source of pollutants to receiving waters:
  - (a) Diverted stream flows;
  - (b) Rising ground waters;
  - (c) Uncontaminated ground water infiltration to MS4s;
  - (d) Springs;
  - (e) Flows from riparian habitats and wetlands;
  - (f) Discharges from potable water sources;

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<sup>19</sup> Provision [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) only applies to this category on non-storm water if the system is designed to be located at or below the highest historical groundwater table to actively or passively extract groundwater during any part of the year.

- (g) Discharges from foundation drains;<sup>20</sup> and
  - (h) Discharges from footing drains.<sup>20</sup>
- (4) Discharges of non-storm water to the MS4 from the following categories must be controlled by the requirements given below through statute, ordinance, permit, contract, order, or similar means. Discharges of non-storm water to the MS4 from the following categories not controlled by the requirements given below through statute, ordinance, permit, contract, order, or similar means must be addressed by the Copermittee as illicit discharges.
- (a) Air conditioning condensation
    - The discharge of air conditioning condensation must be directed to landscaped areas or other pervious surfaces where feasible.
  - (b) Individual residential vehicle washing
    - (i) The discharge of wash water must be directed to landscaped areas or other pervious surfaces where feasible; and
    - (ii) Minimize the use of water for vehicle washing, use as little washing detergent and other vehicle wash products as possible, wash vehicles at commercial wash facilities, and implement other practices or behaviors that will prevent the discharge of pollutants associated with individual residential vehicle washing from entering the MS4.
  - (c) Dechlorinated swimming pool discharges
    - (i) Eliminate residual chlorine, algaecide, filter backwash, or other pollutants from swimming pools prior to discharging to the MS4; and
    - (ii) The discharge of saline swimming pool water must be directed to the sanitary sewer, landscaped areas, or other pervious surfaces that can accommodate the volume of water, unless the saline swimming pool water can be discharged via a pipe or concrete channel directly to a naturally saline water body (e.g. Pacific Ocean).
- (5) Firefighting discharges to the MS4 must be addressed by the Copermittee as illicit discharges only if the Copermittee or the San Diego Water Board identifies the discharge as a significant source of pollutants to receiving waters. Firefighting discharges to the MS4 not identified as a significant source of pollutants to receiving waters, must be addressed, at a minimum, as follows:

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<sup>20</sup> Provision E.2.a.(3) only applies to this category of non-storm water discharge if the system is designed to be located above the highest historical groundwater table at all times of the year, and the system is only expected to discharge non-storm water under unusual circumstances.

(a) Non-emergency firefighting discharges

- (i) Building fire suppression system maintenance discharges (e.g. sprinkler line flushing) to the MS4 must be addressed as illicit discharges.
- (ii) Non-emergency firefighting discharges (i.e., discharges from controlled or practice blazes, firefighting training, and maintenance activities not associated with building fire suppression systems) must be addressed by a program, to be developed and implemented by the Copermittee, to reduce or eliminate pollutants in such discharges from entering the MS4.

(b) Emergency firefighting discharges

Each Copermittee should develop and encourage implementation of BMPs to reduce or eliminate pollutants in emergency firefighting discharges to the MS4s and receiving waters within its jurisdiction. During emergency situations, priority of efforts should be directed toward life, property, and the environment (in descending order). BMPs should not interfere with immediate emergency response operations or impact public health and safety.

- (6) If the Copermittee or San Diego Water Board identifies any category of non-storm water discharges listed under Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)-\(4\)](#) as a source of pollutants to receiving waters, the category must be prohibited through ordinance, order, or similar means and addressed as an illicit discharge.
- (7) Each Copermittee must, where feasible, reduce or eliminate non-storm water discharges listed under Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)-\(4\)](#) into its MS4 whether or not the non-storm water discharge has been identified as an illicit discharge, unless a non-storm water discharge is identified as a discharge authorized by a separate NPDES permit.

**b. PREVENT AND DETECT ILLICIT DISCHARGES AND CONNECTIONS**

Each Copermittee must include the following measures within its program to prevent and detect illicit discharges to the MS4:

- (1) Each Copermittee must maintain an updated map of its entire MS4 and the corresponding drainage areas. The accuracy of the MS4 map must be confirmed during the field screening required pursuant to Provision [E.2.c](#). The MS4 map must be included as part of the jurisdictional runoff management program document. Any geographic information system (GIS) layers or files used by the Copermittee to maintain the MS4 map must be made available to the San Diego Water Board upon request. The MS4 map must identify the following:



- (a) All segments of the MS4 owned, operated, and maintained by the Copermittee;
  - (b) All known locations of inlets that discharge and/or collect runoff into the Copermittee's MS4;
  - (c) All known locations of connections with other MS4s not owned or operated by the Copermittee (e.g. Caltrans MS4s);
  - (d) All known locations of MS4 outfalls and private outfalls that discharge runoff collected from areas within the Copermittee's jurisdiction;
  - (e) All segments of receiving waters within the Copermittee's jurisdiction that receive and convey runoff discharged from the Copermittee's MS4 outfalls;
  - (f) Locations of the MS4 outfalls, identified pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(1\)](#), within its jurisdiction; and
  - (g) Locations of the non-storm water persistent flow MS4 outfall discharge monitoring stations, identified pursuant to Provision [D.2.b.\(2\)\(b\)](#), within its jurisdiction.
- (2) Each Copermittee must use Copermittee personnel and contractors to assist in identifying and reporting illicit discharges and connections during their daily employment activities.
- (3) Each Copermittee must promote, publicize, and facilitate public reporting of the presence of illicit discharges or water quality impacts associated with discharges to or from the MS4, including the following methods for public reporting:
- (a) Operate a public hotline, which can be Copermittee-specific or shared by the Copermittees, and must be capable of receiving reports in both English and Spanish 24 hours per day and seven days per week; and
  - (b) Designate an e-mail address for receiving electronic reports from the public, which can be Copermittee-specific or shared by the Copermittees, and must be prominently displayed on the Copermittee's webpage and the Regional Clearinghouse required pursuant to Provision [F.4](#).
- (4) Each Copermittee must implement practices and procedures (including a notification mechanism) to prevent, respond to, contain, and clean up any spills that may discharge into the MS4 within its jurisdiction from any source. The Copermittee must coordinate, to the extent possible, with spill response teams to prevent entry of spills into the MS4, and prevent contamination of surface water, ground water, and soil. The Copermittee must coordinate spill

prevention, containment, and response activities throughout all appropriate Copermittee departments, programs, and agencies.

- (5) Each Copermittee must implement practices and procedures to prevent and limit infiltration of seepage from sanitary sewers (including private laterals and failing septic systems) to the MS4.
- (6) Each Copermittee must coordinate, when necessary, with upstream Copermittees and/or entities to prevent illicit discharges from upstream sources into the MS4 within its jurisdiction.

**c. FIELD SCREENING**

Each Copermittee must conduct field screening (i.e. visual observations, field testing, and/or analytical testing) of MS4 outfalls and other portions of its MS4 within its jurisdiction to detect non-storm water and illicit discharges and connections to the MS4 in accordance with the dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements in Provisions [D.2.a.\(2\)](#) and [D.2.b.\(1\)](#).

**d. INVESTIGATE AND ELIMINATE ILLICIT DISCHARGES AND CONNECTIONS**

Each Copermittee must include the following measures within its program to investigate and eliminate illicit discharges to the MS4:

- (1) Each Copermittee must prioritize and determine when follow-up investigations will be performed in response to visual observations and/or water quality monitoring data collected during an investigation of a detected non-storm water or illicit discharge to or from the MS4. The criteria for prioritizing investigations must consider the following:
  - (a) Pollutants identified as causing or contributing to the highest water quality priorities identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
  - (b) Pollutants identified as causing or contributing, or threatening to cause or contribute to impairments in water bodies on the 303(d) List and/or in environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs), located within its jurisdiction;
  - (c) Pollutants identified from sources or land uses known to exist within the area, drainage basin, or watershed that discharges to the portion of the MS4 within its jurisdiction included in the investigation;
  - (d) Pollutants identified as causing or contributing to an exceedance of a NAL in the Water Quality Improvement Plan; and
  - (e) Pollutants identified as a threat to human health or the environment.

- (2) Each Copermittee must implement procedures to investigate and inspect portions of its MS4 that, based on reports or notifications, field screening, or other appropriate information, indicate a reasonable potential of receiving, containing, or discharging pollutants due to illicit discharges, illicit connections, or other sources of non-storm water. The procedures must include the following:
- (a) Each Copermittee must develop criteria to:
    - (i) Assess the validity of each report or notification received; and
    - (ii) Prioritize the response to each report or notification received.
  - (b) Each Copermittee must prioritize and respond to each valid report or notification (e.g., public reports, staff or contractor reports and notifications, etc.) of an incident in a timely manner.
  - (c) Each Copermittee must investigate and seek to identify the source(s) of discharges of non-storm water where flows are observed in and from the MS4 during the field screening required pursuant to Provision [D.2.b.\(1\)](#) as follows:
    - (i) Obvious illicit discharges must be immediately investigated to identify the source(s) of non-storm water discharges;
    - (ii) The investigation must include field investigations to identify sources or potential sources for the discharge, unless the source or potential source has already been identified during previous investigations; and
    - (iii) The investigation may include follow-up field investigations and/or reviewing Copermittee inventories and other land use data to identify potential sources of the discharge.
  - (d) Each Copermittee must maintain records and a database of the following information:
    - (i) Location of incident, including hydrologic subarea, portion of MS4 receiving the non-storm water or illicit discharge, and point of discharge or potential discharge from MS4 to receiving water;
    - (ii) Source of information initiating the investigation (e.g., public reports, staff or contractor reports and notifications, field screening, etc.);
    - (iii) Date the information used to initiate the investigation was received;
    - (iv) Date the investigation was initiated;
    - (v) Dates of follow-up investigations;
    - (vi) Identified or suspected source of the illicit discharge or connection, if

- determined;
- (vii) Known or suspected related incidents, if any;
  - (viii) Result of the investigation; and
  - (ix) If a source cannot be identified and the investigation is not continued, a rationale for why a discharge does not pose a threat to water quality and/or does not require additional investigation.
- (e) Each Copermittee must track and seek to identify the source(s) of non-storm water discharges from the MS4 where there is evidence of non-storm water having been discharged into or from the MS4 (e.g., pooled water), in accordance with MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements in Provisions [D.2.a.\(2\)](#) and [D.2.b](#).
- (3) Each Copermittee must initiate the implementation of procedures, in a timely manner, to eliminate all detected and identified illicit discharges and connections within its jurisdiction. The procedures must include the following responses:
- (a) Each Copermittee must enforce its legal authority, as required under Provision [E.1](#), to eliminate illicit discharges and connections to the MS4.
  - (b) If the Copermittee identifies the source as a controllable source of non-storm water or illicit discharge or connection, the Copermittee must implement its Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision [E.6](#) and enforce its legal authority to prohibit and eliminate illicit discharges and connections to its MS4.
  - (c) If the Copermittee identifies the source of the discharge as a category of non-storm water discharges in Provision [E.2.a](#), and the discharge is in exceedance of NALs in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, then the Copermittee must determine if: (1) this is an isolated incident or set of circumstances that will be addressed through its Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision [E.6](#), or (2) the category of discharge must be addressed through the prohibition of that category of discharge as an illicit discharge pursuant to Provision [E.2.a.\(6\)](#).
  - (d) If the Copermittee suspects the source of the non-storm water discharge as natural in origin (i.e. non-anthropogenically influenced) and in conveyance into the MS4, then the Copermittee must document and provide the data and evidence necessary to demonstrate to the San Diego Water Board that it is natural in origin and does not require further investigation.
  - (e) If the Copermittee is unable to identify and document the source of a recurring non-storm water discharge to or from the MS4, then the Copermittee must address the discharge as an illicit discharge and update

its jurisdictional runoff management program to address the common and suspected sources of the non-storm water discharge within its jurisdiction in accordance with the Copermittee's priorities.

- (4) Each Copermittee must submit a summary of the non-storm water discharges and illicit discharges and connections investigated and eliminated within its jurisdiction with each Annual Report required under Provision [F.3.b](#) of this Order.

**e. STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS**

Each Copermittee must describe in its jurisdictional runoff management program document the strategies and/or activities that will be implemented as part of the illicit discharge detection and elimination program to address non-storm water and illicit discharges and connections that the Copermittee has identified as potential sources of pollutants and/or stressors that contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area as follows:

- (1) Provide specific details about how the strategies and/or activities will be implemented (e.g. designate additional BMPs, focus education, and/or increase/decrease frequency of inspections in specific areas); and
- (2) The strategies and/or activities must be consistent with the requirements of Provisions [E.2.a-d](#) and the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

**3. Development Planning**

Each Copermittee must use their land use and planning authorities to implement a development planning program in accordance with the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan and includes, at a minimum, the following requirements:

**a. BMP REQUIREMENTS FOR ALL DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

Each Copermittee must prescribe the following BMP requirements during the planning process (i.e. prior to project approval and issuance of local permits) for all development projects (regardless of project type or size), where local permits are issued, including unpaved roads and flood management projects:

(1) General Requirements

- (a) Onsite BMPs must be located so as to remove pollutants from runoff prior to its discharge to any receiving waters, and as close to the source as possible; and

- (b) Structural BMPs must not be constructed within a waters of the U.S. or waters of the state.

(2) Source Control BMP Requirements

The following source control BMPs must be implemented at all development projects where applicable and feasible:

- (a) Prevention of illicit discharges into the MS4;
- (b) Storm drain system stenciling or signage;
- (c) Properly designed outdoor material storage areas;
- (d) Properly designed outdoor work areas;
- (e) Properly designed trash storage areas; and
- (f) Any additional BMPs necessary to minimize pollutant generation at each project.

(3) Low Impact Development (LID) BMP Requirements

The following LID BMPs must be implemented at all development projects where applicable and feasible:

- (a) Maintenance or restoration of natural storage reservoirs and drainage corridors (including topographic depressions, areas of permeable soils, natural swales, and ephemeral and intermittent streams);<sup>21</sup>
- (b) Buffer zones for natural water bodies (where buffer zones are technically infeasible, require project applicant to include other buffers such as trees, access restrictions, etc.);
- (c) Conservation of natural areas within the project footprint including existing trees, other vegetation, and soils;
- (d) Construction of streets, sidewalks, or parking lot aisles to the minimum widths necessary, provided public safety is not compromised;
- (e) Minimization of the impervious footprint of the project;
- (f) Minimization of soil compaction to landscaped areas;

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<sup>21</sup> Development projects proposing to dredge or fill materials in waters of the U.S. must obtain a CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification. Projects proposing to dredge or fill waters of the state must obtain waste discharge requirements.

- (g) Disconnection of impervious surfaces through distributed pervious areas;
- (h) Landscaped or other pervious areas designed and constructed to effectively receive and infiltrate, retain and/or treat runoff from impervious areas, prior to discharging to the MS4;
- (i) Small collection strategies located at, or as close as possible to, the source (i.e. the point where storm water initially meets the ground) to minimize the transport of runoff and pollutants to the MS4 and receiving waters;
- (j) Use of permeable materials for projects with low traffic areas and appropriate soil conditions;
- (k) Landscaping with native or drought tolerant species; and
- (l) Harvesting and using precipitation.

**b. PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS**

(1) Definition of Priority Development Project

Priority Development Projects include the following:

- (a) All new development projects that fall under the Priority Development Project categories listed under Provision [E.3.b.\(2\)](#) (where a new development project feature, such as a parking lot, falls into a Priority Development Project category, the entire project footprint is subject to Priority Development Project requirements); and
- (b) Those redevelopment projects that create, add, or replace at least 5,000 square feet of impervious surfaces on an already developed site, and the redevelopment project is a Priority Development Project category listed under Provision [E.3.b.\(2\)](#) (where redevelopment results in an increase of less than fifty percent of the impervious surfaces of a previously existing development, and the existing development was not subject to Priority Development Project requirements, the performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) apply only to the addition or replacement, and not to the entire development; where redevelopment results in an increase of more than fifty percent of the impervious surfaces of a previously existing development, the performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) apply to the entire development).

(2) Priority Development Project Categories

- (a) New development projects that create 10,000 square feet or more of impervious surfaces (collectively over the entire project site). This category includes commercial, industrial, residential, mixed-use, and public development projects on public or private land which fall under the planning and building authority of the Copermittee.
- (b) Automotive repair shops. This category is defined as a facility that is categorized in any one of the following Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: 5013, 5014, 5541, 7532-7534, or 7536-7539.
- (c) Restaurants. This category is defined as a facility that sells prepared foods and drinks for consumption, including stationary lunch counters and refreshment stands selling prepared foods and drinks for immediate consumption (SIC code 5812), where the land area for development is 5,000 square feet or more.
- (d) Hillside development projects. This category includes any development which creates 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface which is located in an area with known erosive soil conditions, where the development will grade on any natural slope that is twenty-five percent or greater.
- (e) Environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs). This category includes any development located within, directly adjacent to, or discharging directly to an ESA, which either creates 2,500 square feet of impervious surface on a proposed project site or increases the area of imperviousness of a proposed project site to 10 percent or more of its naturally occurring condition. "Directly adjacent to" means situated within 200 feet of the ESA. "Discharging directly to" means outflow from a drainage conveyance system that collects runoff from the subject development or redevelopment site and terminates at or in receiving waters within the ESA.
- (f) Parking lots. This category is defined as a land area or facility for the temporary parking or storage of motor vehicles used personally, for business, or for commerce that has 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface.
- (g) Streets, roads, highways, freeways, and driveways. This category is defined as any paved impervious surface that is 5,000 square feet or more used for the transportation of automobiles, trucks, motorcycles, and other vehicles.
- (h) Retail gasoline outlets (RGOs). This category includes RGOs that meet the following criteria: (a) 5,000 square feet or more or (b) a projected Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 100 or more vehicles per day.



- (i) Large development projects. This category includes any post-construction pollutant-generating new development projects that result in the disturbance of one acre or more of land.

### (3) Priority Development Project Exemptions

Each Copermittee has the discretion to exempt the following projects from being defined as Priority Development Projects:

- (a) New paved sidewalks, bicycle lanes, or trails that meet the following criteria:
  - (i) Designed and constructed to direct storm water runoff to adjacent vegetated areas, or other non-erodible permeable areas; OR
  - (ii) Designed and constructed to be hydraulically disconnected from paved streets or roads; OR
  - (iii) Designed and constructed with permeable pavements or surfaces in accordance with USEPA Green Streets guidance.<sup>22</sup>
- (b) Retrofitting of existing paved alleys, streets or roads that meet the following criteria:
  - (i) Must be two lanes or less; AND
  - (ii) Must be a retrofitting project implemented as part of an alternative compliance project option under Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)\(b\)\(v\)](#) to achieve the performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and/or [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) for a Priority Development Project; AND
  - (iii) Designed and constructed in accordance with the USEPA Green Streets guidance.<sup>23</sup>
- (c) New single family residences that meet the following criteria:
  - (i) Must not be constructed as part of a larger development or proposed subdivision; AND
  - (ii) Designed and constructed to be certified under the U.S. Green Building Council (USGCB) Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) for Homes green building certification program, receiving at least four (4) Surface Water Management credits under the Sustainable Sites category;<sup>24</sup> OR

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<sup>22</sup> See "Managing Wet Weather with Green Infrastructure – Municipal Handbook: Green Streets" (USEPA, 2008).

<sup>23</sup> Ibid.

<sup>24</sup> See LEED for Homes rating system at <http://www.usgbc.org>

- (iii) Designed and constructed with structural BMPs that will achieve the performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) onsite.
- (d) Redevelopment of existing single family residences that meet the following criteria:
  - (i) Designed and constructed to be certified under the USGCB LEED for Homes green building certification program, receiving at least four (4) Surface Water Management credits under the Sustainable Sites category;<sup>25</sup> OR
  - (ii) Designed and constructed with structural BMPs that will achieve the performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) onsite.

### **C. PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT STRUCTURAL BMP PERFORMANCE REQUIREMENTS**

In addition to the BMP requirements listed for all development projects under Provision [E.3.a](#), Priority Development Projects must also implement structural BMPs that conform to performance requirements below.

#### **(1) Storm Water Pollutant Control BMP Requirements**

Each Copermittee must require each Priority Development Project to implement onsite structural BMPs to control pollutants in storm water that may be discharged from a project as follows:

- (a) Each Priority Development Project must be required to implement LID BMPs that are designed to retain (i.e. intercept, store, infiltrate, evaporate, and evapotranspire) onsite the pollutants contained in the design capture volume. The design capture volume is equivalent to:
  - (i) The volume of storm water produced from a 24-hour 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event;<sup>26</sup> OR
  - (ii) The volume of storm water that would be retained onsite if the site was fully undeveloped and naturally vegetated, as determined using continuous simulation modeling techniques based on site-specific soil conditions and typical native vegetative cover.

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<sup>25</sup> See LEED for Homes rating system at <http://www.usgbc.org>

<sup>26</sup> This volume is not a single volume to be applied to all areas covered by this Order. The size of the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event is different for various parts of the San Diego Region. The Copermittees are encouraged to calculate the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event for each of its jurisdictions using local rain data pertinent to its particular jurisdiction. In addition, isopluvial maps may be used to extrapolate rainfall data to areas where insufficient data exists in order to determine the volume of the local 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event in such areas. Where the Copermittees will use isopluvial maps to determine the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event in areas lacking rain data, the Copermittees must describe their method for using isopluvial maps in its BMP Design Manuals.

- (b) A Priority Development Project may be allowed to utilize alternative compliance under Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#) to comply with the storm water pollutant control BMP performance requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)\(a\)](#).
- (c) If a Priority Development project is allowed to utilize alternative compliance pursuant to Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)\(b\)](#), flow-thru conventional treatment control BMPs must be implemented to treat the portion of the design capture volume that is not retained onsite. Additionally, project applicants must mitigate for the portion of the pollutant load in the design capture volume that is not retained onsite through one or more alternative compliance options under Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#). Conventional treatment control BMPs must be sized and designed to:
  - (i) Remove pollutants from storm water to the MEP;
  - (ii) Filter or treat either: 1) the maximum flow rate of runoff produced from a rainfall intensity of 0.2 inch of rainfall per hour, for each hour of a storm event, or 2) the maximum flow rate of runoff produced by the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile hourly rainfall intensity (for each hour of a storm event), as determined from the local historical rainfall record, multiplied by a factor of two;
  - (iii) Be ranked with high or medium pollutant removal efficiency for the Priority Development Project's most significant pollutants of concern. Conventional treatment control BMPs with a low removal efficiency ranking must only be approved by a Copermittee when a feasibility analysis has been conducted which exhibits that implementation of conventional treatment control BMPs with high or medium removal efficiency rankings are infeasible for a Priority Development Project or portion of a Priority Development Project.

## (2) Hydromodification Management BMP Requirements

Each Copermittee must require each Priority Development Project to implement onsite structural BMPs to manage hydromodification that may be caused by storm water runoff discharged from a project as follows:

- (a) Post-project runoff flow rates and durations must not exceed pre-development (naturally occurring) runoff flow rates and durations by more than 10 percent (for the range of flows that result in increased potential for erosion, or degraded instream habitat conditions downstream of Priority Development Projects).
  - (i) In evaluating the range of flows that results in increased potential for erosion of natural (non-hardened) channels, the lower boundary must correspond with the critical channel flow that produces the critical shear stress that initiates channel bed movement or that erodes the toe of channel banks.

- (ii) For artificially hardened channels, analysis to identify the lower boundary must use characteristics of a natural stream segment similar to that found in the watershed. The lower boundary must correspond with the critical channel flow that produces the critical shear stress that initiates channel bed movement or erodes the toe of the channel banks.
  - (iii) The Copermittees may use monitoring results collected pursuant to Provision [D.1.a.\(2\)](#) to re-define the range of flows resulting in increased potential for erosion, or degraded instream habitat conditions, as warranted by the data.
- (b) Post-project runoff flow rates and durations must compensate for the loss of sediment supply due to the development project, should loss of sediment supply occur as a result of the development project.
- (c) A Priority Development Project may be allowed to utilize alternative compliance under Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#) to comply with the performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(2\)\(a\)-\(b\)](#).

(d) Exemptions

Each Copermittee has the discretion to exempt a Priority Development Project from the hydromodification management BMP performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(2\)\(a\)-\(b\)](#) where the project:

- (i) Discharges storm water runoff into existing underground storm drains discharging directly to water storage reservoirs, lakes, enclosed embayments, or the Pacific Ocean;
- (ii) Is a redevelopment Priority Development Project that meets the alternative compliance requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)\(b\)\(ii\)](#); or
- (iii) Discharges storm water runoff into other areas identified by the San Diego Water Board as exempt from the requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(2\)\(a\)-\(b\)](#).

(3) Alternative Compliance to Onsite Structural BMP Performance Requirements

(a) Applicability

At the discretion of each Copermittee, Priority Development Projects may be allowed to utilize an alternative option to comply with the onsite structural BMP performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) under the following conditions:

- (i) The Copermittee must determine that implementation of the alternative compliance option will have a greater overall water quality

benefit for the Watershed Management Area than fully complying with the performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) onsite;

- (ii) The alternative compliance options must be designed by a registered professional engineer, geologist, architect, or landscape architect;
- (iii) The alternative compliance options must be implemented within the same hydrologic unit as the Priority Development Project, and preferably within the same hydrologic subarea;
- (iv) Receiving waters must not be utilized to convey storm water runoff to the alternative compliance options;
- (v) The pollutants in storm water runoff from the Priority Development Project must be treated to the MEP by the alternative compliance options prior to being discharged to receiving waters;
- (vi) Unless otherwise allowed by Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)\(b\)](#), the alternative compliance options must have a net result of at least the same level of pollutant removal as would have been achieved if the Priority Development Project had fully complied with the storm water pollutant control BMP performance requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) onsite;
- (vii) Unless otherwise allowed by Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)\(b\)](#), the alternative compliance options must have a net result of at least the same level of protection from potential downstream and upstream erosion in the receiving water as would have been achieved if the Priority Development Project had fully complied with the hydromodification management BMP performance requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) onsite; and
- (viii) The alternative compliance options utilized by the Priority Development Project to comply with the performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) must have reliable sources of funding for operation and maintenance.

(b) Alternative Compliance Project Options

The Copermittee may allow implementation of one or more of the following project options as part of an alternative approach to complying with the onsite structural BMP performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#):

(i) *Onsite LID Biofiltration Treatment Control BMPs*

The Copermittee may allow Priority Development Projects to utilize onsite LID biofiltration treatment control BMPs to comply with the storm water pollutant control BMP performance requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)](#). Onsite LID biofiltration treatment control BMPs must be sized and designed to:

- [a] Remove pollutants from storm water to the MEP; AND
- [b] Have an appropriate surface loading rate to prevent erosion, scour and channeling within the BMP; AND
- [c] Biofilter at least 1.5 times the design capture volume that is not reliably retained onsite; OR
- [d] Biofilter up to the design capture volume that is not reliably retained onsite, AND 1) treat the remaining portion of the design capture volume not retained onsite with conventional treatment control BMPs in accordance with Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)\(c\)](#), and 2) if necessary, mitigate for the portion of the pollutant load in the design capture volume not retained onsite through one or more alternative compliance project, in-lieu fee and/or water quality credit system options below.

(ii) *LEED Certified Redevelopment Projects*

The Copermittee may allow redevelopment Priority Development Projects to comply with the hydromodification management BMP performance requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) where the project is designed and constructed to be certified under the USGCB LEED for New Construction and Major Renovations green building certification program. The Priority Development Project must receive at least one (1) Site Design credit and two (2) Stormwater Design credits under the Sustainable Sites category.<sup>27</sup> In addition, the existing and future configuration of the receiving water must not be unnaturally altered or adversely impacted by storm water flow rates and durations discharged from the site.

(iii) *Watershed-Based Planned Development Projects*

The Copermittee may allow Priority Development Projects greater than 100 acres in total project size (or smaller than 100 acres in size yet part of a larger common plan of development that is over 100 acres) to comply with the onsite structural BMP performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#). The Priority Development Project must comply with the following conditions:

- [a] The Priority Development Project was planned utilizing watershed and/or subwatershed based water quality, hydrologic, and fluvial geomorphologic planning principles that implement regional LID BMPs in accordance with the performance and location criteria of this Order and acceptable to the San Diego Water Board;
- [b] Regional LID BMPs may be used provided that the BMPs capture and retain the volume of runoff produced from the design capture volume defined in Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)\(a\)\(i\)](#) and that such controls are located upstream of receiving waters;

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<sup>27</sup> See LEED for New Construction and Major Renovations rating system at <http://www.usgbc.org>

- [c] Regional LID BMPs must clearly exhibit that they will not result in a net impact from pollutant loadings over and above the impact caused by capture and retention of the design capture volume;
- [d] Any portion of the design capture volume that is not retained by the regional LID BMPs must be treated using biofiltration BMPs; and
- [e] Where regional LID BMPs are demonstrated to the Copermittee as technically infeasible to retain the entire design capture volume, any volume up to and including the design capture volume not retained by regional LID BMPs, nor treated by biofiltration BMPs, must be treated using conventional treatment control BMPs and the project applicant must implement additional alternative compliance project, in-lieu fee and/or water quality credit system options below.

(iv) *Offsite Regional BMPs*

- [a] The Copermittee may allow Priority Development Projects to utilize offsite regional BMPs to comply with the storm water pollutant control BMP performance requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) if the offsite regional BMPs have the capacity to receive and retain at least 1.1 times the design capture volume that is not reliably retained onsite.
- [b] The Copermittee may allow Priority Development Projects to utilize offsite regional BMPs to comply with the hydromodification management BMP performance requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) if the offsite regional BMPs have the capacity to manage the storm water flows rates and durations from the site such that the receiving waters are protected from the potential for increased erosion that would be caused if the unmanaged portion of the runoff was discharged from the site.

(v) *Offsite Retrofitting Projects*

The Copermittee may allow Priority Development Projects to utilize offsite retrofitting projects to comply with the storm water pollutant control and hydromodification management BMP performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) if the retrofitting projects have been identified within the strategies included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, or identified as potential retrofitting projects by the Copermittee pursuant to Provision [E.5](#).

(vi) *Offsite Channel, Stream, or Habitat Rehabilitation Projects*

The Copermittee may allow Priority Development Projects to utilize offsite channel, stream, or habitat rehabilitation projects to comply with the hydromodification management BMP performance requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) if the rehabilitation projects have been identified within the strategies included in the Water Quality

Improvement Plan, or identified as potential channel rehabilitation projects by the Copermittee pursuant to Provision E.5. The channel, stream, or habitat rehabilitation project cannot be utilized for pollutant treatment except where artificial wetlands are constructed and located upstream of receiving waters.

(vii) *Offsite Regional Water Supply Augmentation Projects*

The Copermittee may allow Priority Development Projects to utilize offsite regional water supply augmentation projects (i.e. groundwater recharge, recycled water, storm water harvesting) to comply with the storm water pollutant control and hydromodification management BMP performance requirements of Provisions E.3.c.(1) and E.3.c.(2) if the projects have been identified within the strategies included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

(viii) *Project Applicant Proposed Alternative Compliance Projects*

The Copermittee may allow one or more Priority Development Project applicant(s) to propose and implement alternative compliance projects to comply with the storm water pollutant control and hydromodification management BMP performance requirements of Provisions E.3.c.(1) and E.3.c.(2) if the alternative compliance projects are consistent with, and will address the highest water quality priorities of the Water Quality Improvement Plan, and comply with the requirements of Provision E.3.c.(3)(a).

(c) Alternative Compliance In-Lieu Fee Option

The Copermittee may develop and implement an alternative compliance in-lieu fee option, individually or with other Copermittees and/or entities, as a means for designing, developing, constructing, operating and maintaining offsite alternative compliance projects under Provision E.3.c.(3)(b). Priority Development Projects allowed to utilize the alternative compliance in-lieu fee option must comply with the following conditions:

- (i) The in-lieu fee must be transferred to the Copermittee (for public projects) or an escrow account (for private projects) prior to the date construction of the Priority Development Project is initiated.
- (ii) If the in-lieu fee is applied to the development, design and construction of offsite alternative compliance projects, the following conditions must be met:
  - [a] The offsite alternative compliance projects must allow the Priority Development Project to comply with the onsite BMP performance requirements of Provisions E.3.c.(1) and E.3.c.(2);



- [b] The offsite alternative compliance projects must be constructed as soon as possible, but no later than 4 years after the certificate of occupancy is granted for the first Priority Development Project that contributed funds toward the construction of the offsite alternative compliance projects, unless a longer period of time is authorized by the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer;
  - [c] The in-lieu fee for the Priority Development Project must include mitigation of the pollutant loads and increased storm water flow rates and durations that are allowed to discharge from the site before the offsite alternative compliance projects are constructed; and
  - [d] The in-lieu fee must also include the cost to operate and maintain the offsite alternative compliance projects.
- (iii) If the in-lieu fee is applied to the operation and maintenance of offsite alternative compliance projects that have already been constructed, the offsite alternative compliance projects must allow the Priority Development Project to comply with the onsite structural BMP performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#).
- (d) **Alternative Compliance Water Quality Credit System Option**

The Copermittee may develop and implement an alternative compliance water quality credit system option, individually or with other Copermittees and/or entities, provided that such a credit system clearly exhibits that it will not allow discharges from Priority Development Projects to cause or contribute to a net impact over and above the impact caused by projects meeting the onsite structural BMP performance requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#). Any credit system that a Copermittee chooses to implement must be submitted to the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer for review and acceptance as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

(4) **Long-Term Structural BMP Maintenance**

Each Copermittee must require the project applicant to submit proof of the mechanism under which ongoing long-term maintenance of all structural BMPs will be conducted.

(5) **Infiltration and Groundwater Protection**

- (a) Structural BMPs designed to primarily function as large, centralized infiltration devices (such as large infiltration trenches and infiltration basins) must not cause or contribute to an exceedance of an applicable groundwater quality objective. At a minimum, such infiltration BMPs must be in conformance with the design criteria listed below, unless the development project applicant demonstrates to the Copermittee that one

or more of the specific design criteria listed below are not necessary to protect groundwater quality. The design criteria listed below do not apply to small infiltration systems dispersed throughout a development project.

- (i) Runoff must undergo pretreatment such as sedimentation or filtration prior to infiltration;
  - (ii) Pollution prevention and source control BMPs must be implemented at a level appropriate to protect groundwater quality at sites where infiltration BMPs are to be used;
  - (iii) Infiltration BMPs must be adequately maintained to remove pollutants in storm water to the MEP;
  - (iv) The vertical distance from the base of any infiltration BMP to the seasonal high groundwater mark must be at least 10 feet. Where groundwater basins do not support beneficial uses, this vertical distance criteria may be reduced, provided groundwater quality is maintained;
  - (v) The soil through which infiltration is to occur must have physical and chemical characteristics (e.g., appropriate cation exchange capacity, organic content, clay content, and infiltration rate) which are adequate for proper infiltration durations and treatment of runoff for the protection of groundwater beneficial uses;
  - (vi) Infiltration BMPs must not be used for areas of industrial or light industrial activity, and other high threat to water quality land uses and activities as designated by each Copermittee, unless first treated or filtered to remove pollutants prior to infiltration; and
  - (vii) Infiltration BMPs must be located a minimum of 100 feet horizontally from any water supply wells.
- (b) The Copermittee may develop, individually or with other Copermittees, alternative mandatory design criteria to that listed above for infiltration BMPs which are designed to primarily function as centralized infiltration devices. Before implementing the alternative design criteria in the development planning process the Copermittee(s) must:
- (i) Notify the San Diego Water Board of the intent to implement the alternative design criteria submitted; and
  - (ii) Comply with any conditions set by the San Diego Water Board.

#### **d. BMP DESIGN MANUAL UPDATE**

Each Copermittee must update its BMP Design Manual<sup>28</sup> pursuant to Provision **F.2.b.** Until the Copermittee has updated its BMP Design Manual with the

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<sup>28</sup> The BMP Design Manual was formerly known as the Standard Storm Water Mitigation Plan under Order Nos. R9-2007-0001, R9-2009-0002, and R9-2010-0016.

requirements of Provisions [E.3.a-c](#), the Copermittee must continue implementing its current BMP Design Manual. Unless directed otherwise by the San Diego Water Board, the Copermittee must implement the BMP Design Manual within 180 days of completing the update. The update of the BMP Design Manual must include the following:

- (1) Updated procedures to determine the nature and extent of storm water requirements applicable to a potential development or redevelopment projects. These procedures must inform project applicants of the storm water management requirements applicable to their project including, but not limited to, general requirements for all development projects, structural BMP design procedures and requirements, hydromodification management requirements, requirements specific to phased projects, and procedures specific to private developments and public improvement projects;
- (2) Updated procedures to identify pollutants and conditions of concern for selecting the most appropriate structural BMPs that consider, at a minimum, the following:
  - (a) Receiving water quality (including pollutants for which receiving waters are listed as impaired under the CWA section 303(d) List);
  - (b) Pollutants, stressors, and/or receiving water conditions that cause or contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
  - (c) Land use type of the project and pollutants associated with that land use type; and
  - (d) Pollutants expected to be present onsite.
- (3) Updated procedures for designing structural BMPs, including any updated performance requirements to be consistent with the requirements of Provision [E.3.c](#) for all structural BMPs listed in the BMP Design Manual;
- (4) Long-term maintenance criteria for each structural BMP listed in the BMP Design Manual; and
- (5) Alternative compliance criteria, in accordance with the requirements under Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#), if the Copermittee elects to allow Priority Development Projects within its jurisdiction to utilize alternative compliance.

**e. PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT BMP IMPLEMENTATION AND OVERSIGHT**

Each Copermittee must implement a program that requires and confirms structural BMPs on all Priority Development Projects are designed, constructed, and maintained to remove pollutants in storm water to the MEP.

(1) Structural BMP Approval and Verification Process

- (a) Each Copermittee must require and confirm that for all Priority Development Project applications that have not received prior lawful approval by the Copermittee by 18 months after the commencement of coverage under this Order, the requirements of Provision E.3 are implemented. For project applications that have received prior lawful approval by 18 months after the commencement of coverage under this Order, the Copermittee may allow previous land development requirements to apply.
- (b) Each Copermittee must identify the roles and responsibilities of various municipal departments in implementing the structural BMP requirements, including each stage of a project from application review and approval through BMP maintenance and inspections.
- (c) Each Copermittee must require and confirm that appropriate easements and ownerships are properly recorded in public records and the information is conveyed to all appropriate parties when there is a change in project or site ownership.
- (d) Each Copermittee must require and confirm that prior to occupancy and/or intended use of any portion of the Priority Development Project, each structural BMP is inspected to verify that it has been constructed and is operating in compliance with all of its specifications, plans, permits, ordinances, and the requirements of this Order.

(2) Priority Development Project Inventory and Prioritization

- (a) Each Copermittee must develop, maintain, and update at least annually, a watershed-based database to track and inventory all Priority Development Projects and associated structural BMPs within its jurisdiction. Inventories must be accurate and complete beginning from January 2002 for the San Diego County Copermittees, February 2003 for the Orange County Copermittees, and July 2005 for the Riverside County Copermittees. The use of an automated database system, such as GIS, is highly recommended. The database must include, at a minimum, the following information:
  - (i) Priority Development Project location (address and hydrologic subarea);
  - (ii) Descriptions of structural BMP type(s);
  - (iii) Date(s) of construction;
  - (iv) Party responsible for structural BMP maintenance;
  - (v) Dates and findings of structural BMP maintenance verifications; and

(vi) Corrective actions and/or resolutions.

(b) Each Copermittee must prioritize the Priority Development Projects with structural BMPs within its jurisdiction. The designation of Priority Development Projects as high priority must consider the following:

- (i) The highest water quality priorities identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
- (ii) Receiving water quality;
- (iii) Number and sizes of structural BMPs;
- (iv) Recommended maintenance frequency of structural BMPs;
- (v) Likelihood of operation and maintenance issues of structural BMPs;
- (vi) Land use and expected pollutants generated; and
- (vii) Compliance record.

(3) Structural BMP Maintenance Verifications and Inspections

Each Copermittee is required to verify that structural BMPs on each Priority Development Project are adequately maintained, and continue to operate effectively to remove pollutants in storm water to the MEP through inspections, self-certifications, surveys, or other equally effective approaches.

- (a) All (100 percent) of the structural BMPs at Priority Development Projects that are designated as high priority must be inspected directly by the Copermittee annually prior to each rainy season;
- (b) For verifications performed through a means other than direct Copermittee inspection, adequate documentation must be required by the Copermittee to provide assurance that the required maintenance of structural BMPs at each Priority Development Project has been completed; and
- (c) Appropriate follow-up measures (including re-inspections, enforcement, etc.) must be conducted to ensure that structural BMPs at each Priority Development Project continue to reduce pollutants in storm water to the MEP as originally designed.

**f. DEVELOPMENT PROJECT ENFORCEMENT**

Each Copermittee must enforce its legal authority established pursuant to Provision [E.1](#) for all development projects, as necessary, to achieve compliance with the requirements of this Order, in accordance with its Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision [E.6](#).

**g. STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS**

Each Copermittee must describe in its jurisdictional runoff management program document the strategies and/or activities that will be implemented as part of the development planning program to address development and redevelopment projects that may become sources of pollutants and/or stressors that contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area as follows:

- (1) Provide specific details about how the strategies and/or activities will be implemented (e.g. designate additional BMPs, focus education, increase frequency of verifications and/or inspections, alternative compliance options);
- (2) Each Copermittee must identify areas within its jurisdiction where Priority Development Projects may be allowed or should be encouraged to implement or contribute toward the implementation of alternative compliance retrofitting and/or stream, channel, or habitat rehabilitation projects;
- (3) Each Copermittee should collaborate and cooperate with other Copermittees and/or entities in the Watershed Management Area to identify regional alternative compliance projects that Priority Development Projects may be allowed or should be encouraged to implement or participate in implementing; and
- (4) The strategies and/or activities must be consistent with the requirements of Provisions [E.3.a-c](#) and [E.3.e-f](#) and the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

**4. Construction Management**

Each Copermittee must implement a construction management program in accordance with the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan and includes, at a minimum, the following requirements:

**a. PROJECT APPROVAL PROCESS**

Prior to issuance of any local permit(s) that allows the commencement of construction projects that involve ground disturbance or soil disturbing activities that can potentially generate pollutants in storm water runoff, each Copermittee must:

- (1) Require a site-specific pollution control, construction BMP, and/or erosion and sediment control plan, to be submitted by the project applicant to the Copermittee;
- (2) Confirm the pollution control, construction BMP, and/or erosion and sediment control plan, complies with the local grading ordinance, other applicable local ordinances, and the requirements of this Order;

- (3) Confirm the pollution control, construction BMP, and/or erosion and sediment control plan, includes seasonally appropriate and effective BMPs and management measures described in Provision [E.4.c](#), as applicable to the project; and
- (4) Verify that the project applicant has obtained coverage under applicable permits, including, but not limited to the Construction General Permit, Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification and Section 404 Permit, and California Department of Fish and Game Streambed Alteration Agreement.

**b. CONSTRUCTION SITE INVENTORY AND TRACKING**

- (1) Each Copermittee must maintain, and update at least monthly, a watershed-based inventory of all construction projects issued a local permit that allows ground disturbance or soil disturbing activities that can potentially generate pollutants in storm water runoff. The use of an automated database system, such as GIS, is highly recommended. The inventory must include:
  - (a) Relevant contact information for each site (e.g., name, address, phone, and email for the owner and contractor);
  - (b) The basic site information including location (address and hydrologic subarea), Waste Discharge Identification (WDID) number (if applicable), size of the site, and approximate area of disturbance;
  - (c) Whether or not the site is considered a high threat to water quality, as defined in Provision [E.4.b.\(2\)](#) below;
  - (d) The project start and anticipated completion dates;
  - (e) Current construction phase;
  - (f) The required inspection frequency, as defined in the Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program document;
  - (g) The date the Copermittee accepted and/or approved the site-specific pollution control, construction BMP, and/or erosion and sediment control plan; and
  - (h) Whether or not there are ongoing enforcement actions administered to the site.
- (2) Each Copermittee must identify all construction sites within its jurisdiction that represent a high threat to downstream surface water quality. The designation of construction sites as high threat to water quality must consider the following:

- (a) Sites located within a hydrologic subarea where sediment is known or suspected to contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
- (b) Sites located within the same hydrologic subarea and tributary to a water body segment listed as impaired for sediment on the CWA section 303(d) List;
- (c) Sites located within, directly adjacent to, or discharging directly to a receiving water within an ESA; and
- (d) Other sites determined by the Copermittees or the San Diego Water Board as a high threat to water quality.

**c. CONSTRUCTION SITE BMP IMPLEMENTATION**

Each Copermittee must implement, or require the implementation of effective BMPs to reduce discharges of pollutants in storm water from construction sites to the MEP, and prevent non-storm water discharges from construction sites into the MS4. These BMPs must be site specific, seasonally appropriate, and construction phase appropriate. BMPs must be implemented at each construction site year round. Dry season BMP implementation must plan for and address unseasonal rain events that may occur during the dry season (May 1 through September 30). Copermittees must implement, or require the implementation of, BMPs in the following categories:

- (1) Project Planning;
- (2) Good Site Management “Housekeeping”, including waste management;
- (3) Non-storm Water Management;
- (4) Erosion Control;
- (5) Sediment Control;
- (6) Run-on and Run-off Control; and
- (7) Active/Passive Sediment Treatment Systems, where applicable.

**d. CONSTRUCTION SITE INSPECTIONS**

Each Copermittee must conduct construction site inspections to require and confirm compliance with its local permits and applicable local ordinances, and the requirements of this Order. Priority for site inspections must consider threat to water quality pursuant to Provision [E.4.b](#) as well as the nature of the construction activity, topography, and the characteristics of soils and receiving water quality.



(1) Inspection Frequency

- (a) Each Copermittee must conduct inspections at all inventoried sites, including high threat to water quality sites, at an appropriate frequency for each phase of construction to ensure the site reduces the discharge of pollutants in storm water from construction sites to the MEP, and prevents non-storm water discharges from entering the MS4.
- (b) Each Copermittee must establish appropriate inspection frequencies for high threat to water quality sites, and all other sites, for each phase of construction. Inspection frequencies appropriate for addressing the highest water quality priorities identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, and for complying with the requirements of this Order must be identified in each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program document.
- (c) Based upon inspection findings, each Copermittee must implement all follow-up actions (i.e., re-inspection, enforcement) necessary to require and confirm site compliance with its local permits and applicable local ordinances, and the requirements of this Order.

(2) Inspection Content

Inspections of construction sites by the Copermittee must include, at a minimum:

- (a) Verification of coverage under the Construction General Permit (Notice of Intent (NOI) and/or WDID number) during initial inspections, when applicable;
- (b) Assessment of compliance with its local permits and applicable local ordinances related to pollution prevention, including the implementation and maintenance of applicable BMPs;
- (c) Assessment of BMP adequacy and effectiveness;
- (d) Visual observations of actual non-storm water discharges;
- (e) Visual observations of actual or potential discharge of sediment and/or construction related materials from the site;
- (f) Visual observations of actual or potential illicit connections; and
- (g) If any violations are found and BMP corrections are needed, inspectors must take and document appropriate actions in accordance with the Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision [E.6](#).

### (3) Inspection Tracking and Records

Each Copermittee must track all inspections and re-inspections at all inventoried construction sites. The Copermittee must retain all inspection records in an electronic database or tabular format, which must be made available to the San Diego Water Board upon request. Inspection records must include, at a minimum:

- (a) Site name, location (address and hydrologic subarea), and WDID number (if applicable);
- (b) Inspection date;
- (c) Approximate amount of rainfall since last inspection;
- (d) Description of problems observed with BMPs and indication of need for BMP addition/repair/replacement and any scheduled re-inspection, and date of re-inspection;
- (e) Descriptions of any other specific inspection comments which must, at a minimum, include rationales for longer compliance time;
- (f) Description of enforcement actions issued in accordance with the Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision [E.6](#); and
- (g) Resolution of problems noted and date problems fixed.

#### **e. CONSTRUCTION SITE ENFORCEMENT**

Each Copermittee must enforce its legal authority established pursuant to Provision [E.1](#) for all its inventoried construction sites, as necessary, to achieve compliance with the requirements of this Order, in accordance with its Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision [E.6](#).

#### **f. STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS**

Each Copermittee must describe in its jurisdictional runoff management program document the strategies and/or activities that will be implemented as part of the construction management program to address construction sites that the Copermittee has identified as potential sources of pollutants and/or stressors that contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area as follows:

- (1) Provide specific details about how the strategies and/or activities will be implemented (e.g. designate additional BMPs, focus education, and/or increase/decrease frequency of inspections for specific types of sites and/or activities); and

- (2) The strategies and/or activities must be consistent with the requirements of Provisions [E.4.c-e](#) and the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

## 5. Existing Development Management

Each Copermittee must implement an existing development management program in accordance with the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan and includes, at a minimum, the following requirements:

### a. EXISTING DEVELOPMENT INVENTORY AND TRACKING

Each Copermittee must maintain, and update at least annually, a watershed-based inventory of the existing development within its jurisdiction that may discharge a pollutant load to and from the MS4. The use of an automated database system, such as GIS, is highly recommended. The inventory must, at a minimum, include:

- (1) Name, location (hydrological subarea and address, if applicable) of the following types of existing development with its jurisdiction:
  - (a) Commercial facilities or areas;
  - (b) Industrial facilities;
  - (c) Municipal facilities, including:
    - (i) MS4 and related structures,<sup>29</sup>
    - (ii) Roads, streets, and highways,
    - (iii) Parking facilities,
    - (iv) Municipal airfields,
    - (v) Parks and recreation facilities,
    - (vi) Flood management and flood control devices and structures,
    - (vii) Operating or closed municipal landfills,
    - (viii) Publicly owned treatment works (including water and wastewater treatment plants) and sanitary sewer collection systems,
    - (ix) Corporate yards, including maintenance and storage yards for materials, waste, equipment, and vehicles,
    - (x) Hazardous waste collection facilities,

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<sup>29</sup> The inventory may refer to the MS4 map required to be maintained pursuant to Provision [E.2.b.\(1\)](#).

- (xi) Other treatment, storage or disposal facilities for municipal waste, and
  - (xii) Other municipal facilities that the Copermittee determines may contribute a significant pollutant load to the MS4; and
- (d) Residential areas, which may be designated by one or more of the following:
- (i) Residential management area,
  - (ii) Drainage basin or area,
  - (iii) Land use (e.g., single family, multi-family, rural),
  - (iv) Neighborhood,
  - (v) Common Interest Area,
  - (vi) Home Owner Association,
  - (vii) Mobile home park, and/or
  - (viii) Other designations accepted by the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer.
- (2) A description of the facility or area, including the following information:
- (a) Classification as commercial, industrial, municipal, or residential;
  - (b) Status of facility or area as active or inactive;
  - (c) Identification if a business is a mobile business;
  - (d) SIC Code or NAICS Code, if applicable;
  - (e) Industrial General Permit NOI and/or WDID number, if applicable;
  - (f) Identification if a residential area is or includes a Common Interest Area / Home Owner Association, or mobile home park;
  - (g) Identification of pollutants generated and potentially generated by the facility or area;
  - (h) Whether the facility or area is adjacent to an ESA;
  - (i) Whether the facility or area is tributary to and within the same hydrologic subarea as a water body segment listed as impaired on the CWA section 303(d) List and generates pollutants for which the water body segment is impaired; and

- (j) Whether the facility or area contributes or potentially contributes to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.
- (3) An annually updated map showing the location of inventoried existing development, watershed boundaries, and water bodies.

**b. EXISTING DEVELOPMENT BMP IMPLEMENTATION AND MAINTENANCE**

Each Copermittee must designate a minimum set of BMPs required for all inventoried existing development, including special event venues. The designated minimum BMPs must be specific to facility or area types and pollutant generating activities, as appropriate.

(1) Commercial, Industrial, and Municipal Facilities and Areas

(a) Pollution Prevention

Each Copermittee must require the use of pollution prevention methods by the commercial, industrial, and municipal facilities and areas in its inventoried existing development.

(b) BMP Implementation

Each Copermittee must implement, or require the implementation of, designated BMPs at commercial facilities and areas, industrial facilities, and municipal facilities in its inventoried existing development.

(c) BMP Operation and Maintenance

- (i) Each Copermittee must properly operate and maintain, or require the proper operation and maintenance of designated BMPs at commercial facilities and areas, industrial facilities, and municipal facilities in its inventoried existing development.
- (ii) Each Copermittee must implement a schedule of operation and maintenance activities for its MS4 and related structures (including but not limited to catch basins, storm drain inlets, detention basins, etc.), and verify proper operation of all its municipal structural treatment controls designed to reduce pollutants (including floatables) in storm water discharges to or from its MS4s and related drainage structures. Operation and maintenance activities may include, but is not limited to, the following:
  - [a] Inspections of the MS4 and related structures;
  - [b] Cleaning of the MS4 and related structures; and
  - [c] Proper disposal of materials removed from cleaning of the MS4 and related structures.

- (iii) Each Copermittee must implement a schedule of operation and maintenance for public streets, unpaved roads, paved roads, and paved highways and freeways within its jurisdiction to minimize pollutants that can be discharged in storm water.
- (iv) Each Copermittee must implement controls to prevent infiltration of sewage into the MS4 from leaking sanitary sewers. Copermittees that operate both a municipal sanitary sewer system and a MS4 must implement controls and measures to prevent and eliminate seeping sewage from infiltrating the MS4. Copermittees that do not operate both a municipal sanitary sewer system and a MS4 must coordinate with sewerage agencies to keep themselves informed of relevant and appropriate maintenance activities and sanitary sewage projects in their jurisdiction that may cause or contribute to seepage of sewage into the MS4.

(d) Pesticides, Herbicides, and Fertilizers BMPs

Each Copermittee must implement BMPs, or require the implementation of BMPs, to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP and effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges associated with the application, storage, and disposal of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers from commercial facilities and areas, industrial facilities, and municipal facilities in its inventoried existing development. Such BMPs must include, as appropriate, educational activities, permits, certifications and other measures for applicators and distributors.

(2) Residential Areas

(a) Pollution Prevention

Each Copermittee must promote and encourage the use of pollution prevention methods, where appropriate, by the residential areas in its inventoried existing development.

(b) BMP Implementation

Each Copermittee must promote and encourage the implementation of designated BMPs at residential areas in its inventoried existing development.

(c) BMP Operation and Maintenance

Each Copermittee must properly operate and maintain, or require the proper operation and maintenance of designated BMPs at residential areas in its inventoried existing development.

(d) Pesticides, Herbicides, and Fertilizers BMPs

Each Copermittee must promote and encourage the implementation of BMPs to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP and effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges associated with the application, storage, and disposal of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizers from residential areas in its inventoried existing development.

**c. EXISTING DEVELOPMENT INSPECTIONS**

Each Copermittee must conduct inspections of inventoried existing development to ensure compliance with applicable local ordinances and permits, and the requirements of this Order.

(1) Inspection Frequency

- (a) Each Copermittee must establish appropriate inspection frequencies for inventoried existing development in accordance with the following requirements:
- (i) At a minimum, inventoried existing development must be inspected once every five years utilizing one or more of the following methods:
    - [a] Drive-by inspections by Copermittee municipal and contract staff,
    - [b] Onsite inspections by Copermittee municipal and contract staff, and/or
    - [c] Inspections by volunteer monitoring or patrol programs trained by the Copermittee;
  - (ii) The frequency of inspections must be appropriate to confirm that BMPs are being implemented to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from the MS4 to the MEP and effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4;
  - (iii) The frequency of inspections must be based on the potential for a facility or area to discharge non-storm water and pollutants in storm water, and should reflect the priorities set forth in the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
  - (iv) Each Copermittee must annually perform onsite inspections of an equivalent of at least 20 percent of the commercial facilities and areas, industrial facilities, and municipal facilities in its inventoried existing development;<sup>30</sup> and
  - (v) Inventoried existing development must be inspected by the Copermittee, as needed, in response to valid public complaints and

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<sup>30</sup> If any commercial, industrial, or municipal facilities or areas require multiple onsite inspections during any given year, those additional inspection may count toward the total annual inspection requirement. This requirement excludes linear municipal facilities (i.e., MS4, streets, roads and highways).

findings from the Copermittee's municipal and contract staff or volunteer monitoring or patrol program inspections.

- (b) Based upon inspection findings, each Copermittee must implement all follow-up actions (i.e. education and outreach, re-inspection, enforcement) necessary to require and confirm compliance with its applicable local ordinances and permits and the requirements of this Order, in accordance with its Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision [E.6](#).

## (2) Inspection Content

- (a) Inspections of existing development by the Copermittee or volunteer monitoring or patrol programs must include, at a minimum:
  - (i) Visual inspections for actual non-storm water discharges;
  - (ii) Visual inspections for actual or potential discharge of pollutants;
  - (iii) Visual inspections for actual or potential illicit connections; and
  - (iv) Verification that the description of the facility or area in the inventory, required pursuant to Provision [E.5.a.\(2\)](#), has not changed.
- (b) Onsite inspections of existing development by the Copermittee must include, at a minimum:
  - (i) Assessment of compliance with its applicable local ordinances and permits related to non-storm water and storm water discharges and runoff;
  - (ii) Assessment of the implementation of the designated BMPs;
  - (iii) Verification of coverage under the Industrial General Permit, when applicable; and
  - (iv) If any problems or violations are found, inspectors must take and document appropriate actions in accordance with the Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision [E.6](#).

## (3) Inspection Tracking and Records

Each Copermittee must track all inspections and re-inspections at all inventoried existing development. The Copermittee must retain all inspection records in an electronic database or tabular format, which must be made available to the San Diego Water Board upon request. Inspection records must include, at a minimum:

- (a) Name and location of facility or area (address and hydrologic subarea) consistent with the inventory name and location, pursuant to Provision [E.5.a.\(1\)](#);



- (b) Inspection and re-inspection date(s);
- (c) Inspection method(s) (i.e. drive-by, onsite);
- (d) Observations and findings from the inspection(s);
- (e) For onsite inspections of existing development by Copermittee municipal or contract staff, the records must also include, as applicable:
  - (i) Description of any problems or violations found during the inspection(s),
  - (ii) Description of enforcement actions issued in accordance with the Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision E.6, and
  - (iii) The date problems or violations were resolved.

**d. EXISTING DEVELOPMENT ENFORCEMENT**

Each Copermittee must enforce its legal authority established pursuant to Provision E.1 for all its inventoried existing development, as necessary, to achieve compliance with the requirements of this Order, in accordance with its Enforcement Response Plan pursuant to Provision E.6.

**e. STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS**

Each Copermittee must implement the water quality improvement strategies, where necessary, to address areas of existing development within its jurisdiction that are identified as sources of pollutants and/or stressors contributing to the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area. For the existing development management program, the following strategies must be implemented:

**(1) Specific Existing Development Management Program Strategies**

Each Copermittee must describe in its jurisdictional runoff management program document the strategies and/or activities that will be implemented within its jurisdiction to address areas of existing development that the Copermittee has identified as sources of pollutants and/or stressors that contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area as follows:

- (a) Provide specific details about how the strategies and/or activities will be implemented (e.g. designate additional BMPs, focus education, and/or increase/decrease frequency of inspections for specific types of facilities, areas and/or activities);

- (b) The facilities and/or areas within the Copermittee's jurisdiction where the strategies and/or activities will be implemented; and
- (c) The strategies and/or activities must be consistent with the requirements of Provisions [E.5.b-d](#) and the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

## (2) Retrofitting Areas of Existing Development

Each Copermittee must describe in its jurisdictional runoff management program document, a program to retrofit areas of existing development within its jurisdiction to address identified sources of pollutants and/or stressors that contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area. The program must be implemented as follows:

- (a) Each Copermittee must identify areas of existing development as candidates for retrofitting, focusing on areas where retrofitting will address pollutants and/or stressors that contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
- (b) Candidates for retrofitting projects may be utilized to reduce pollutants that may be discharged in storm water from areas of existing development, and/or address storm water runoff flows and durations from areas of existing development that cause or contribute to hydromodification in receiving waters;
- (c) Each Copermittee must develop a strategy to facilitate the implementation of retrofitting projects in areas of existing development identified as candidates;
- (d) Each Copermittee should identify areas of existing development where Priority Development Projects may be allowed or should be encouraged to implement or contribute toward the implementation of alternative compliance retrofitting projects; and
- (e) Where retrofitting projects within specific areas of existing development are determined to be infeasible to address the highest priority water quality conditions in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, the Copermittee should collaborate and cooperate with other Copermittees and/or entities in the Watershed Management Area to identify, develop, and implement regional retrofitting projects (i.e. projects that can receive and/or treat storm water from one or more areas of existing development and will result in a net benefit to water quality and the environment) adjacent to and/or downstream of the areas of existing development.

(3) Stream, Channel and/or Habitat Rehabilitation in Areas of Existing Development

Each Copermittee must describe in its jurisdictional runoff management program document, a program to rehabilitate streams, channels, and/or habitats in areas of existing development within its jurisdiction to address the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area. The program must be implemented as follows:

- (a) Each Copermittee must identify streams, channels, and/or habitats in areas of existing development as candidates for rehabilitation, focusing on areas where stream, channel, and/or habitat rehabilitation projects will address the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
- (b) Candidates for stream, channel, and/or habitat rehabilitation projects may be utilized to address storm water runoff flows and durations from areas of existing development that cause or contribute to hydromodification in receiving waters, rehabilitate channelized or hydromodified streams, restore wetland and riparian habitat, restore watershed functions, and/or restore beneficial uses of receiving waters;
- (c) Each Copermittee must develop a strategy to facilitate the implementation of stream, channel, and/or habitat rehabilitation projects in areas of existing development identified as candidates;
- (d) Each Copermittee should identify areas of existing development where Priority Development Projects may be allowed or should be encouraged to implement or contribute toward the implementation of alternative compliance stream, channel, and/or habitat rehabilitation projects; and
- (e) Where stream, channel, and/or habitat rehabilitation projects within specific areas of existing development are determined to be infeasible to address the highest priority water quality conditions in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, the Copermittee should collaborate and cooperate with other Copermittees and/or entities in the Watershed Management Area to identify, develop, and implement regional stream, channel, and/or habitat rehabilitation projects (i.e. projects that can receive storm water from one or more areas of existing development and will result in a net benefit to water quality and the environment).

## **6. Enforcement Response Plans**

Each Copermittee must develop and implement an Enforcement Response Plan as part of its jurisdictional runoff management program document. The Enforcement Response Plan must describe the applicable approaches and options to enforce its legal authority established pursuant to Provision E.1, as necessary, to achieve compliance with the requirements of this Order. The Enforcement Response Plan must include the following:

### **a. ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE PLAN COMPONENTS**

The Enforcement Response Plan must include the following individual components:

- (1) Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination Enforcement Component;
- (2) Development Planning Enforcement Component;
- (3) Construction Management Enforcement Component; and
- (4) Existing Development Enforcement Component.

### **b. ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE APPROACHES AND OPTIONS**

Each component of the Enforcement Response Plan must describe the enforcement response approaches that the Copermittee will implement to compel compliance with its statutes, ordinances, permits, contracts, orders, or similar means, and the requirements of this Order. The description must include the protocols for implementing progressively stricter enforcement responses. The enforcement response approaches must include appropriate sanctions to compel compliance, including, at a minimum, the following tools or their equivalent:

- (1) Verbal and written notices of violation;
- (2) Cleanup requirements;
- (3) Fines;
- (4) Bonding requirements;
- (5) Administrative and criminal penalties;
- (6) Liens;
- (7) Stop work orders; and
- (8) Permit and occupancy denials.

**c. CORRECTION OF VIOLATIONS**

- (1) Violations must be corrected in a timely manner with the goal of correcting the violations within 30 calendar days after the violations are discovered, or prior to the next predicted rain event, whichever is sooner.
- (2) If more than 30 calendar days are required to achieve compliance, then a rationale must be recorded in the applicable electronic database or tabular system used to track violations.

**d. ESCALATED ENFORCEMENT**

- (1) The Enforcement Response Plan must include a definition of “escalated enforcement.” Escalated enforcement must include any enforcement scenario where a violation or other non-compliance is determined to cause or contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan. Escalated enforcement may be defined differently for development planning, construction sites, commercial facilities or areas, industrial facilities, municipal facilities, and residential areas.
- (2) Where the Copermittee determines escalated enforcement is not required, a rationale must be recorded in the applicable electronic database or tabular system used to track violations.
- (3) Escalated enforcement actions must continue to increase in severity, as necessary, to compel compliance as soon as possible.

**e. REPORTING OF NON-COMPLIANT SITES**

- (1) Each Copermittee must notify the San Diego Water Board in writing within 2 working days of issuing escalated enforcement (as defined in the Copermittee’s Enforcement Response Plan) to a construction site that poses a significant threat to water quality as a result of violations or other non-compliance with its permits and applicable local ordinances, and the requirements of this Order. Written notification may be provided electronically by email.
- (2) Each Copermittee must notify the San Diego Water Board of non-filers under the Industrial General Permit and Construction General Permit by email to [Nonfilers\\_R9@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Nonfilers_R9@waterboards.ca.gov).

## **7. Public Education and Participation**

Each Copermittee must implement, individually or with other Copermittees, a public education and participation program in accordance with the strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan to promote and encourage the development of programs, management practices, and behaviors that reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the MEP, prevent controllable non-storm water discharges from entering the MS4, and protect water quality standards in receiving waters.

### **a. PUBLIC EDUCATION**

The public education program component implemented within the Copermittee's jurisdiction must include, at a minimum, the following:

- (1) Educational activities, public information activities, and other appropriate outreach activities intended to reduce pollutants associated with the application of pesticides, herbicides and fertilizer and other pollutants of concern in storm water discharges to and from its MS4 to the MEP, as determined and prioritized by the Copermittee(s) by jurisdiction and/or watershed to address the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan;
- (2) Educational activities, public information activities, and other appropriate outreach activities to facilitate the proper management and disposal of used oil and toxic materials; and
- (3) Appropriate education and training measures for specific target audiences, such as construction site operators, residents, underserved target audiences and school-aged children, as determined and prioritized by the Copermittee(s) by jurisdiction and/or watershed, based on high risk behaviors and pollutants of concern.

### **b. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

The public participation program component implemented within the Copermittee's jurisdiction must include, at a minimum, the following:

- (1) A process for members of the public to participate in updating the highest priority water quality conditions, numeric goals, and water quality improvement strategies in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.
- (2) Opportunities for members of the public to participate in providing the Copermittee recommendations for improving the effectiveness of the water quality improvement strategies implemented within its jurisdiction.

- (3) Opportunities for members of the public to participate in programs and/or activities that can result in the prevention or elimination of non-storm water discharges to the MS4, reduction of pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4, and/or restoration and protection of the quality of receiving waters.

**c. STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS THE HIGHEST PRIORITY WATER QUALITY CONDITIONS**

Each Copermittee must describe in its jurisdictional runoff management program document the strategies and/or activities that will be implemented within its jurisdiction, as applicable, to educate the public and encourage public participation to address potential sources of pollutants and/or stressors that contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area as follows:

- (1) The target audiences and/or areas within the Copermittee's jurisdiction where the strategies and/or activities will be implemented;
- (2) Provide specific details about how the strategies and/or activities will be implemented (e.g. educational topics, materials and/or activities, public outreach and participation programs and/or opportunities);
- (3) Each Copermittee should collaborate and cooperate with other Copermittees and/or entities in the Watershed Management Area to identify and implement regional public education and participation activities, programs and opportunities;
- (4) Each Copermittee must incorporate a mechanism for evaluating and assessing educational and other public outreach activities, as needed, to identify progress and incorporate modifications necessary to increase the effectiveness of the public education and participation program.

**8. Fiscal Analysis**

- a. Each Copermittee must secure the resources necessary to meet all the requirements of this Order.
- b. Each Copermittee must conduct an annual fiscal analysis of its jurisdictional runoff management program in its entirety. The fiscal analysis must include the following:
  - (1) Identification of the various categories of expenditures necessary to implement the requirements of this Order, including a description of the specific capital, operation and maintenance, and other expenditure items to be accounted for in each category of expenditures;

- (2) The staff resources needed and allocated to meet the requirements of this Order, including any development, implementation, and enforcement activities required;
  - (3) The estimated expenditures for Provisions [E.8.b.\(1\)](#) and [E.8.b.\(2\)](#) for the current fiscal year; and
  - (4) The source(s) of funds that are proposed to meet the necessary expenditures described in Provisions [E.8.b.\(1\)](#) and [E.8.b.\(2\)](#), including legal restrictions on the use of such funds, for the current fiscal year and next fiscal year.
- c. Each Copermittee must submit a summary of the annual fiscal analysis with each Annual Report required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b](#).
  - d. Each Copermittee must provide the documentation used to develop the summary of the annual fiscal analysis upon request by the San Diego Water Board.



## **F. REPORTING**

The purpose of this provision is to determine and document compliance with the requirements set forth in this Order. The goal of reporting is to communicate to the San Diego Water Board and the people of the State of California the implementation status of each jurisdictional runoff management program and compliance with the requirements of this Order. This goal is to be accomplished through the submittal of specific deliverables to the San Diego Water Board by the Copermittees.

### **1. Water Quality Improvement Plans**

The Copermittees for each Watershed Management Area must develop and submit the Water Quality Improvement Plan in accordance with the following requirements:

#### **a. WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN DEVELOPMENT**

Each Water Quality Improvement Plan must be developed in accordance with the following process:

##### **(1) Priority Water Quality Conditions and Numeric Goals**

- (a) The Copermittees must implement a public participation process to solicit data and information to be utilized in the development and identification of the priority water quality conditions for the Watershed Management Area.
- (b) The Copermittees are encouraged to involve the public and key stakeholders as early and often as possible during the development of the priority water quality conditions and numeric goals to be included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.
- (c) Within 6 months after the commencement of coverage under this Order, the Copermittees must develop and submit the Water Quality Improvement Plan requirements of Provision [B.2](#) to the San Diego Water Board. The San Diego Water Board will issue a public notice and solicit public comments on the Water Quality Improvement Plan for a minimum of 60 days.
- (d) The Copermittees must revise the priority water quality conditions and numeric goals based on comments received and/or recommendations or direction from the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer.

##### **(2) Water Quality Improvement Strategies and Schedules**

- (a) The Copermittees are encouraged to involve the public and key stakeholders as early and often as possible during the development of the water quality improvement strategies and schedules to be included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

- (b) Within 9 months after the commencement of coverage under this Order, the Copermittees must develop and submit the Water Quality Improvement Plan requirements of Provision B.3 to the San Diego Water Board. The San Diego Water Board will issue a public notice and solicit public comments on the Water Quality Improvement Plan for a minimum of 60 days.
- (c) The Copermittees must revise the water quality improvement strategies and schedules based on comments received and/or recommendations or direction from the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer.

**b. WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN SUBMITTAL**

- (1) Within 18 months after the commencement of coverage under this Order, the Copermittees for each Watershed Management Area must submit a complete Water Quality Improvement Plan in accordance with the requirements of Provision B to the San Diego Water Board. The San Diego Water Board will issue a public notice and solicit public comments on the Water Quality Improvement Plan for a minimum of 30 days.
- (2) Based on the comments received, the San Diego Water Board will determine whether to hold a public hearing or to limit public input to submittal of written comments. If no hearing is held the San Diego Water Board will notify the Copermittees within 6 months that the Water Quality Improvement Plan has been accepted as complete following its review and determination that the Water Quality Improvement Plan meets the requirements of this Order.
- (3) The Copermittees must revise the Water Quality Improvement Plan based on comments received and/or recommendations or direction from the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer.
- (4) The Water Quality Improvement Plan must be made available on the Regional Clearinghouse required pursuant to Provision F.4 within 30 days of acceptance by the San Diego Water Board.

**2. Updates**

**a. JURISDICTIONAL RUNOFF MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DOCUMENT UPDATES**

Each Copermittee must update its jurisdictional runoff management program document in accordance with the following requirements:

- (1) Each Copermittee is encouraged to involve the public and key stakeholders as early and often as possible to solicit recommendations for updates to its jurisdictional runoff management program document.

- (2) Each Copermittee must update its jurisdictional runoff management program document to incorporate the requirements of Provision E no later than 18 months after the commencement of coverage under this Order.
- (3) Each Copermittee must submit updates to its jurisdictional runoff management program, with a rationale for the modifications, either in the Annual Report required pursuant to Provision F.3.b, or as part of the Report of Waste Discharge required pursuant to Provision F.5.b.
- (4) The Copermittee must revise the modifications as directed by the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer.
- (5) Updated jurisdictional runoff management program documents must be made available on the Regional Clearinghouse required pursuant to Provision F.4 within 30 days of submitting the Annual Report.

**b. BMP DESIGN MANUAL UPDATES**

Each Copermittee must update its BMP Design Manual in accordance with the following requirements:

- (1) Each Copermittee must update its BMP Design Manual to incorporate the requirements of Provisions E.3.a-d no later than 18 months after the commencement of coverage under this Order.
- (2) Subsequent updates must be consistent with the requirements of Provisions E.3.a-d and must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required pursuant to Provision F.3.b, or as part of the Report of Waste Discharge required pursuant to Provision F.5.b.
- (3) Updated BMP Design Manuals must be made available on the Regional Clearinghouse required pursuant to Provision F.4 within 30 days of completing the update.

**c. WATER QUALITY IMPROVEMENT PLAN UPDATES**

The Water Quality Improvement Plans must be updated in accordance with the following process:

- (1) The Copermittees must implement a public participation process to solicit data and information to be utilized in updating the Water Quality Improvement Plan.
- (2) The Copermittees are encouraged to involve the public and key stakeholders as early and often as possible during the updates to the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

- (3) The Copermittees for each Watershed Management Area must submit requested updates to the Water Quality Improvement Plan, with the public input received and the rationale for the requested updates, either in the Annual Reports required pursuant to Provision [F.3.b](#), or as part of the Report of Waste Discharge required pursuant to Provision [F.5.b](#). The requested updates are considered accepted by the San Diego Water Board if no response is provided to the Copermittee after 3 months of submitting the request.
- (4) The Copermittees must revise the requested updates as directed by the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer.
- (5) Updated Water Quality Improvement Plans must be made available on the Regional Clearinghouse required pursuant to Provision [F.4](#) within 30 days of acceptance of the requested updates by the San Diego Water Board.

### **3. Progress Reporting**

#### **a. PROGRESS REPORT PRESENTATIONS**

The Copermittees for each Watershed Management Area must appear before the San Diego Water Board, as requested by the San Diego Water Board, to provide progress reports on the implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan and jurisdictional runoff management programs.

#### **b. ANNUAL REPORTS**

- (1) The Copermittees for each Watershed Management Area must submit an Annual Report for each reporting period no later than January 31 of the following year. The annual reporting period consists of two periods: 1) July 1 to June 30 of the following year for the jurisdictional runoff management programs, 2) October 1 to September 30 of the following year for the monitoring and assessment programs. The first Annual Report must be prepared for the reporting period beginning July 1 after commencement of coverage under this Order, and upon San Diego Water Board determination that the Water Quality Improvement Plan meets the requirements of this Order to June 30 in the following year for the jurisdictional runoff management programs, and September 30 in the following year for the monitoring and assessment programs. Annual Reports must be made available on the Regional Clearinghouse required pursuant to Provision [F.4](#). Each Annual Report must include the following:
  - (a) The receiving water and MS4 outfall discharge monitoring data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.1](#) and [D.2](#), summarized and presented in tabular and graphical form;

- (b) Progress of the special studies required pursuant to Provision [D.3](#), and the results or findings when a special study, or each phase of a special study, is completed;
  - (c) The findings from the assessments required pursuant to Provision [D.4](#);
  - (d) The progress of implementing the Water Quality Improvement Plan, including, but not limited to, the following:
    - (i) The progress toward achieving the interim and final numeric goals for the highest water quality priorities for the Watershed Management Area,
    - (ii) The water quality improvement strategies that were implemented and/or no longer implemented by each of the Copermittees during the reporting period and previous reporting periods, and are planned to be implemented during the next reporting period,
    - (iii) Proposed modifications to the water quality improvement strategies, with public input received and rationale for the proposed modifications,
    - (iv) Previously proposed modifications or updates incorporated into the Water Quality Improvement Plan and/or each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program document and implemented by the Copermittees in the Watershed Management Area, and
    - (v) Proposed modifications or updates to the Water Quality Improvement Plan and/or each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program document;
  - (e) A completed Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form ([Attachment D](#) or accepted revision) for each Copermittee in the Watershed Management Area, certified by a Principal Executive Officer, Ranking Elected Official, or Duly Authorized Representative.
- (2) Each Copermittee must complete and submit a Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form ([Attachment D](#) or accepted revision) no later than October 31 of each year until the first Annual Report is required to be submitted. Each Copermittee must submit the information on the Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form specific to the area within its jurisdiction in each Watershed Management Area.
- (3) Each Copermittee must provide any data or documentation utilized in developing the Annual Report upon request by the San Diego Water Board. Any monitoring data utilized in developing the Annual Report must be

uploaded to the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN).<sup>31</sup> Any monitoring and assessment data utilized in developing the Annual Report must be provided on the Regional Clearinghouse required pursuant to Provision F.4.

**C. REGIONAL MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT REPORT**

- (1) The Copermittees must submit a Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report no later than 180 days in advance of the expiration date of this Order. The Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report may be submitted as part of the Report of Waste Discharge required pursuant to Provision F.5.b. The Copermittees must review the receiving water and MS4 outfall discharge monitoring data collected pursuant to Provisions D.1 and D.2, and findings from the assessments required pursuant to Provision D.4, to assess the following:
  - (a) The beneficial uses of the receiving waters within the San Diego Region that are protected or must be restored;
  - (b) The progress toward restoring impacted beneficial uses in the receiving waters within the San Diego Region; and
  - (c) Pollutants or conditions of emerging concern that may impact beneficial uses in the receiving waters within the San Diego Region.
- (2) The Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report must include recommendations for improving the implementation and assessment of the Water Quality Improvement Plans and jurisdictional runoff management programs.
- (3) Each Copermittee must provide any data or documentation utilized in developing the Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report upon request by the San Diego Water Board. Any monitoring and assessment data utilized in developing the Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report must be provided on the Regional Clearinghouse required pursuant to Provision F.4.

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<sup>31</sup> Data must be uploaded to CEDEN Southern California Regional Data Center (<http://www.sccwrp.org/Data/DataSubmission/SouthernCaliforniaRegionalDataCenter.aspx>) using the templates provided on the CEDEN website.

#### 4. Regional Clearinghouse

The Copermittees must develop, update, and maintain an internet-based Regional Clearinghouse that is made available to the public no later than 18 months after the effective date of this Order.

- a. The Copermittees, through the Regional Clearinghouse, must make the following documents and data available, organized by Watershed Management Area, which may be linked to other internet-based data portals and databases where the original documents are stored:
  - (1) Water Quality Improvement Plan for the Watershed Management Area, and all updated versions with date of update;
  - (2) Annual Reports for the Watershed Management Area;
  - (3) Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program document for each Copermittee within the Watershed Management Area, and all updated versions with date of update;
  - (4) BMP Design Manual for each Copermittee within the Watershed Management Area, and all updated versions with date of update;
  - (5) Reports from special studies (e.g. source identification, BMP effectiveness assessment) conducted in the Watershed Management Area;
  - (6) Monitoring data collected pursuant to Provision D for each Watershed Management Area must be uploaded to CEDEN,<sup>32</sup> with links to the uploaded data; and
  - (7) Available GIS data, layers, and/or shapefiles used to develop the maps generated and maintained by the Copermittees for the Water Quality Improvement Plans, Annual Reports, and jurisdictional runoff management program documents.
- b. The Copermittees, through the Regional Clearinghouse, must make the following information and documents available:
  - (1) Contact information (point of contact, phone number, email address, and mailing address) for each Copermittee;
  - (2) Public hotline number for reporting non-storm water and illicit discharges for each Copermittee;

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<sup>32</sup> Data must be uploaded to CEDEN Southern California Regional Data Center (<http://www.sccwrp.org/Data/DataSubmission/SouthernCaliforniaRegionalDataCenter.aspx>) using the templates provided on the CEDEN website.

- (3) Email address for reporting non-storm water and illicit discharges for each Copermittee;
- (4) Link to each Copermittee's website, if available, where the public may find additional information about the Copermittee's storm water management program and for requesting records for the implementation of its program;
- (5) Information about opportunities for the public to participate in programs and/or activities that can result in the prevention or elimination of non-storm water discharges to the MS4, reduction of pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4, and/or restoration and protection of the quality of receiving waters; and
- (6) Reports from regional monitoring programs in which the Copermittees participate (e.g. Southern California Monitoring Coalition, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project Bight Monitoring);
- (7) Regional Monitoring and Assessment Reports; and
- (8) Any other information, data, and documents the Copermittees determine as appropriate for making available to the public.

## **5. Report of Waste Discharge**

- a. The Orange County Copermittees and the Riverside County Copermittees are required to submit a complete Report of Waste Discharge pursuant to the requirements of their current Orders. The San Diego Water Board will review and consider the Reports of Waste Discharge to determine whether modification to this Order, pursuant to the requirements of Provision H, will be required prior the Orange County Copermittees and/or Riverside County Copermittees becoming covered under this Order. The current Orders for the Orange County Copermittees and Riverside County Copermittees are rescinded upon notification of coverage under this Order except for enforcement purposes.
- b. The Copermittees subject to the requirements of this Order must submit to the San Diego Water Board a complete Report of Waste Discharge as an application for the re-issuance of this Order and NPDES permit. The Report of Waste Discharge must be submitted no later than 180 days in advance of the expiration date of this Order. The Report of Waste Discharge must contain the following minimum information:
  - (1) Names and addresses of the Copermittees;
  - (2) Names and titles of the primary contacts of the Copermittees;



- (3) Proposed changes to the Copermittees' Water Quality Improvement Plans and the supporting justification;
- (4) Proposed changes to the Copermittees' jurisdictional runoff management programs and the supporting justification;
- (5) Any other information necessary for the re-issuance of this Order;
- (6) Any information to be included as part of the Report of Waste Discharge pursuant to the requirements of this Order; and
- (7) Any other information required by federal regulations for NPDES permit reissuance.

## 6. Application for Early Coverage

- a. The Orange County Copermittees, collectively, or Riverside County Copermittees, collectively, may apply for early coverage under this Order by submitting a Report of Waste Discharge [Form 200](#), with a written request for early coverage under this Order.
- b. The San Diego Water Board will review the application for early coverage. A notification of coverage under this Order will be issued to the Copermittees in the respective county by the San Diego Water Board upon completion of the early coverage application requirements. The effective coverage date will be specified in the notification of coverage. The Copermittees in the respective county are authorized to have MS4 discharges pursuant to the requirements of this Order starting on the effective coverage date specified in the notification of coverage. The existing Order for the respective county is rescinded upon the effective coverage date specified in the notification of coverage except for enforcement purposes.

## 7. Reporting Provisions

Each Copermittee must comply with all the reporting and recordkeeping provisions of the Standard Permit Provisions and General Provisions contained in [Attachment B](#) to this Order.

## **G. PRINCIPAL WATERSHED COPERMITTEE RESPONSIBILITIES**

- 1.** The Copermittees within each Watershed Management Area must designate a Principal Watershed Copermittee and notify the San Diego Water Board of the name of the Principal Watershed Copermittee. An individual Copermittee should not be designated a Principal Watershed Copermittee for more than two Watershed Management Areas. The notification may be submitted with the Water Quality Improvement Plan required pursuant to Provision [F.1](#) of this Order.
- 2.** The Principal Watershed Copermittee is responsible for, at a minimum, the following:
  - a.** Serving as liaison between the Copermittees in the Watershed Management Area and the San Diego Water Board on general permit issues, and when necessary and appropriate, representing the Copermittees in the Watershed Management Area before the San Diego Water Board.
  - b.** Facilitating the development of the Water Quality Improvement Plan in accordance with the requirements of Provision [B](#) of this Order
  - c.** Coordinating the submittal of the deliverables required by Provisions [F.1](#), [F.2](#), [F.3.a](#), and [F.3.b](#) of this Order.
  - d.** Coordinating and developing, with the other Principal Watershed Copermittees, the requirements of Provisions [F.3.c](#), [F.4](#), and [F.5.b](#) of this Order.

## **H. MODIFICATION OF PROGRAMS**

- 1.** Modifications of the Order may be initiated by the San Diego Water Board or by the Copermittees. Requests by Copermittees must be made to the San Diego Water Board.
- 2.** Minor modifications to the Order may be made by the San Diego Water Board where the proposed modification complies with all the prohibitions and limitations, and other requirements of this Order.
- 3.** Proposed modifications to the Order that are not minor require amendment of this Order in accordance with this Order's rules, policies, and procedures.
- 4.** The San Diego Water Board may re-open and modify this Order at any time prior to its expiration, after opportunity for public comment and a public hearing, if the State Water Board determines that revisions are warranted to those provisions of the Order addressing compliance with water quality standards in the receiving water and/or those provisions of the Order establishing an iterative process for implementation of management practices to assure compliance with water quality standards in the receiving water.

## **I. STANDARD PERMIT PROVISIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS**

Each Copermittee must comply with all the Standard Permit Provisions and General Provisions contained in [Attachment B](#) to this Order.

## **ATTACHMENT A**

### **DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS AND SPECIAL PROTECTIONS**

#### **1. Basin Plan Waste Discharge Prohibitions**

California Water Code Section 13243 provides that a Regional Water Board, in a water quality control plan, may specify certain conditions or areas where the discharge of waste or certain types of waste is not permitted. The following waste discharge prohibitions in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan) are applicable to any person, as defined by Section 13050(c) of the California Water Code, who is a citizen, domiciliary, or political agency or entity of California whose activities in California could affect the quality of waters of the state within the boundaries of the San Diego Region.

1. The discharge of waste to waters of the state in a manner causing, or threatening to cause a condition of pollution, contamination or nuisance as defined in California Water Code Section 13050, is prohibited.
2. The discharge of waste to land, except as authorized by waste discharge requirements or the terms described in California Water Code Section 13264 is prohibited.
3. The discharge of pollutants or dredged or fill material to waters of the United States except as authorized by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit or a dredged or fill material permit (subject to the exemption described in California Water Code Section 13376) is prohibited.
4. Discharges of recycled water to lakes or reservoirs used for municipal water supply or to inland surface water tributaries thereto are prohibited, unless this San Diego Water Board issues a NPDES permit authorizing such a discharge; the proposed discharge has been approved by the State Department of Health Services (DHS) and the operating agency of the impacted reservoir; and the discharger has an approved fail-safe long-term disposal alternative.
5. The discharge of waste to inland surface waters, except in cases where the quality of the discharge complies with applicable receiving water quality objectives, is prohibited. Allowances for dilution may be made at the discretion of the San Diego Water Board. Consideration would include streamflow data, the degree of treatment provided and safety measures to ensure reliability of facility performance. As an example, discharge of secondary effluent would probably be permitted if streamflow provided 100:1 dilution capability.
6. The discharge of waste in a manner causing flow, ponding, or surfacing on lands not owned or under the control of the discharger is prohibited, unless the discharge is authorized by the San Diego Water Board.

7. The dumping, deposition, or discharge of waste directly into waters of the state, or adjacent to such waters in any manner which may permit its being transported into the waters, is prohibited unless authorized by the San Diego Water Board.
8. Any discharge to a storm water conveyance system that is not composed entirely of "*storm water*" is prohibited unless authorized by the San Diego Water Board. [The federal regulations, 40 CFR 122.26(b)(13), define storm water as storm water runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage. 40 CFR 122.26(b)(2) defines an illicit discharge as any discharge to a storm water conveyance system that is not composed entirely of storm water except discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities.] [§122.26 amended at 56 FR 56553, November 5, 1991; 57 FR 11412, April 2, 1992].
9. The unauthorized discharge of treated or untreated sewage to waters of the state or to a storm water conveyance system is prohibited.
10. The discharge of industrial wastes to conventional septic tank/subsurface disposal systems, except as authorized by the terms described in California Water Code Section 13264, is prohibited.
11. The discharge of radioactive wastes amenable to alternative methods of disposal into the waters of the state is prohibited.
12. The discharge of any radiological, chemical, or biological warfare agent into waters of the state is prohibited.
13. The discharge of waste into a natural or excavated site below historic water levels is prohibited unless the discharge is authorized by the San Diego Water Board.
14. The discharge of sand, silt, clay, or other earthen materials from any activity, including land grading and construction, in quantities which cause deleterious bottom deposits, turbidity or discoloration in waters of the state or which unreasonably affect, or threaten to affect, beneficial uses of such waters is prohibited.
15. The discharge of treated or untreated sewage from vessels to Mission Bay, Oceanside Harbor, Dana Point Harbor, or other small boat harbors is prohibited.
16. The discharge of untreated sewage from vessels to San Diego Bay is prohibited.
17. The discharge of treated sewage from vessels to portions of San Diego Bay that are less than 30 feet deep at mean lower low water (MLLW) is prohibited.
18. The discharge of treated sewage from vessels, which do not have a properly functioning US Coast Guard certified Type I or Type II marine sanitation device, to portions of San Diego Bay that are greater than 30 feet deep at mean lower low water (MLLW) is prohibited.

## **2. Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution 2012-0012**

### **Special Protections for Areas of Special Biological Significance, Governing Point Source Discharges of Storm Water and Nonpoint Source Waste Discharges**

#### **I. PROVISIONS FOR POINT SOURCE DISCHARGES OF STORM WATER AND NONPOINT SOURCE WASTE DISCHARGES**

The following terms, prohibitions, and special conditions (hereafter collectively referred to as special conditions) are established as limitations on point source storm water and nonpoint source discharges. These special conditions provide Special Protections for marine aquatic life and natural water quality in Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), as required for State Water Quality Protection Areas pursuant to California Public Resources Code Sections 36700(f) and 36710(f). These Special Protections are adopted by the State Water Board as part of the California Ocean Plan (Ocean Plan) General Exception.

The special conditions are organized by category of discharge. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) will determine categories and the means of regulation for those categories [e.g., Point Source Storm Water National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) or Nonpoint Source].

#### **A. PERMITTED POINT SOURCE DISCHARGES OF STORM WATER**

##### **1. General Provisions for Permitted Point Source Discharges of Storm Water**

- a. Existing storm water discharges into an ASBS are allowed only under the following conditions:
  - (1) The discharges are authorized by an NPDES permit issued by the State Water Board or Regional Water Board;
  - (2) The discharges comply with all of the applicable terms, prohibitions, and special conditions contained in these Special Protections; and
  - (3) The discharges:
    - (i) Are essential for flood control or slope stability, including roof, landscape, road, and parking lot drainage;
    - (ii) Are designed to prevent soil erosion;
    - (iii) Occur only during wet weather;
    - (iv) Are composed of only storm water runoff.
- b. Discharges composed of storm water runoff shall not alter natural ocean water quality in an ASBS.
- c. The discharge of trash is prohibited.

- d. Only discharges from existing storm water outfalls are allowed. Any proposed or new storm water runoff discharge shall be routed to existing storm water discharge outfalls and shall not result in any new contribution of waste to an ASBS (i.e., no additional pollutant loading). "Existing storm water outfalls" are those that were constructed or under construction prior to January 1, 2005. "New contribution of waste" is defined as any addition of waste beyond what would have occurred as of January 1, 2005. A change to an existing storm water outfall, in terms of re-location or alteration, in order to comply with these special conditions, is allowed and does not constitute a new discharge.
  - e. Non-storm water discharges are prohibited except as provided below:
    - (1) The term "non-storm water discharges" means any waste discharges from a municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4) or other NPDES permitted storm drain system to an ASBS that are not composed entirely of storm water.
    - (2) (i) The following non-storm water discharges are allowed, provided that the discharges are essential for emergency response purposes, structural stability, slope stability or occur naturally:
      - (a) Discharges associated with emergency fire fighting operations.
      - (b) Foundation and footing drains.
      - (c) Water from crawl space or basement pumps.
      - (d) Hillside dewatering.
      - (e) Naturally occurring groundwater seepage via a storm drain.
      - (f) Non-anthropogenic flows from a naturally occurring stream via a culvert or storm drain, as long as there are no contributions of anthropogenic runoff.
    - (ii) An NPDES permitting authority may authorize non-storm water discharges to an MS4 with a direct discharge to an ASBS only to the extent the NPDES permitting authority finds that the discharge does not alter natural ocean water quality in the ASBS.
  - (3) Authorized non-storm water discharges shall not cause or contribute to a violation of the water quality objectives in Chapter II of the Ocean Plan nor alter natural ocean water quality in an ASBS.
2. Compliance Plans for Inclusion in Storm Water Management Plans (SWMP) and Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plans (SWPPP).

The discharger shall specifically address the prohibition of non-storm water runoff and the requirement to maintain natural water quality for storm water discharges to an ASBS in an ASBS Compliance Plan to be included in its SWMP or a SWPPP, as appropriate to permit type. If a statewide permit includes a SWMP, then the discharger shall prepare a stand-alone compliance plan for ASBS discharges. The ASBS Compliance Plan is subject to approval by the Executive Director of the State Water Board (statewide permits) or Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board (for permits issued by Regional Water Boards).



- a. The Compliance Plan shall include a map of surface drainage of storm water runoff, showing areas of sheet runoff, prioritize discharges, and describe any structural Best Management Practices (BMPs) already employed and/or BMPs to be employed in the future. Priority discharges are those that pose the greatest water quality threat and which are identified to require installation of structural BMPs. The map shall also show the storm water conveyances in relation to other features such as service areas, sewage conveyances and treatment facilities, landslides, areas prone to erosion, and waste and hazardous material storage areas, if applicable. The SWMP or SWPPP shall also include a procedure for updating the map and plan when changes are made to the storm water conveyance facilities.
- b. The ASBS Compliance Plan shall describe the measures by which all non-authorized non-storm water runoff (e.g., dry weather flows) has been eliminated, how these measures will be maintained over time, and how these measures are monitored and documented.
- c. For Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4s), the ASBS Compliance Plan shall require minimum inspection frequencies as follows:
  - (1) The minimum inspection frequency for construction sites shall be weekly during rainy season;
  - (2) The minimum inspection frequency for industrial facilities shall be monthly during the rainy season;
  - (3) The minimum inspection frequency for commercial facilities (e.g., restaurants) shall be twice during the rainy season; and
  - (4) Storm water outfall drains equal to or greater than 18 inches (457 mm) in diameter or width shall be inspected once prior to the beginning of the rainy season and once during the rainy season and maintained to remove trash and other anthropogenic debris.
- d. The ASBS Compliance Plan shall address storm water discharges (wet weather flows) and, in particular, describe how pollutant reductions in storm water runoff, that are necessary to comply with these special conditions, will be achieved through BMPs. Structural BMPs need not be installed if the discharger can document to the satisfaction of the State Water Board Executive Director (statewide permits) or Regional Water Board Executive Officer (Regional Water Board permits) that such installation would pose a threat to health or safety. BMPs to control storm water runoff discharges (at the end-of-pipe) during a design storm shall be designed to achieve on average the following target levels:
  - (1) Table B Instantaneous Maximum Water Quality Objectives in Chapter II of the Ocean Plan; or
  - (2) A 90% reduction in pollutant loading during storm events, for the applicant's total discharges. The baseline for the reduction is the effective date of the Exception. The baseline for these determinations is the effective date of the Exception, and the

- reductions must be achieved and documented within four (4) years of the effective date.
- e. The ASBS Compliance Plan shall address erosion control and the prevention of anthropogenic sedimentation in ASBS. The natural habitat conditions in the ASBS shall not be altered as a result of anthropogenic sedimentation.
  - f. The ASBS Compliance Plan shall describe the non-structural BMPs currently employed and planned in the future (including those for construction activities), and include an implementation schedule. The ASBS Compliance Plan shall include non-structural BMPs that address public education and outreach. Education and outreach efforts must adequately inform the public that direct discharges of pollutants from private property not entering an MS4 are prohibited. The ASBS Compliance Plan shall also describe the structural BMPs, including any low impact development (LID) measures, currently employed and planned for higher threat discharges and include an implementation schedule. To control storm water runoff discharges (at the end-of-pipe) during a design storm, permittees must first consider using LID practices to infiltrate, use, or evapotranspire storm water runoff on-site.
  - g. The BMPs and implementation schedule shall be designed to ensure that natural water quality conditions in the receiving water are achieved and maintained by either reducing flows from impervious surfaces or reducing pollutant loading, or some combination thereof.
  - h. If the results of the receiving water monitoring described in IV.B. of these special conditions indicate that the storm water runoff is causing or contributing to an alteration of natural ocean water quality in the ASBS, the discharger shall submit a report to the State Water Board and Regional Water Board within 30 days of receiving the results.
    - (1) The report shall identify the constituents in storm water runoff that alter natural ocean water quality and the sources of these constituents.
    - (2) The report shall describe BMPs that are currently being implemented, BMPs that are identified in the SWMP or SWPPP for future implementation, and any additional BMPs that may be added to the SWMP or SWPPP to address the alteration of natural water quality. The report shall include a new or modified implementation schedule for the BMPs.
    - (3) Within 30 days of the approval of the report by the State Water Board Executive Director (statewide permits) or Regional Water Board Executive Officer (Regional Water Board permits), the discharger shall revise its ASBS Compliance Plan to incorporate any new or modified BMPs that have been or will be implemented, the implementation schedule, and any additional monitoring required.
    - (4) As long as the discharger has complied with the procedures described above and is implementing the revised SWMP or SWPPP, the discharger does not have to repeat the same procedure for continuing or recurring exceedances of natural ocean water quality conditions due to the same constituent.
    - (5) Compliance with this section does not excuse violations of any term, prohibition, or condition contained in these Special Protections.

### 3. Compliance Schedule

- a. On the effective date of the Exception, all non-authorized non-storm water discharges (e.g., dry weather flow) are effectively prohibited.
- b. Within one year from the effective date of the Exception, the discharger shall submit a written ASBS Compliance Plan to the State Water Board Executive Director (statewide permits) or Regional Water Board Executive Officer (Regional Water Board permits) that describes its strategy to comply with these special conditions, including the requirement to maintain natural water quality in the affected ASBS. The ASBS Compliance Plan shall include a time schedule to implement appropriate non-structural and structural controls (implementation schedule) to comply with these special conditions for inclusion in the discharger's SWMP or SWPPP, as appropriate to permit type.
- c. Within 18 months of the effective date of the Exception, any non-structural controls that are necessary to comply with these special conditions shall be implemented.
- d. Within four (4) years of the effective date of the Exception, any structural controls identified in the ASBS Compliance Plan that are necessary to comply with these special conditions shall be operational.
- e. Within four (4) years of the effective date of the Exception, all dischargers must comply with the requirement that their discharges into the affected ASBS maintain natural ocean water quality. If the initial results of post-storm receiving water quality testing indicate levels higher than the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile threshold of reference water quality data and the pre-storm receiving water levels, then the discharger must re-sample the receiving water, pre- and post-storm. If after re-sampling the post-storm levels are still higher than the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile threshold of reference water quality data, and the pre-storm receiving water levels, for any constituent, then natural ocean water quality is exceeded. See attached Flowchart.
- f. The Executive Director of the State Water Board (statewide permits) or Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board (Regional Water Board permits) may only authorize additional time to comply with the special conditions d. and e., above if good cause exists to do so. Good cause means a physical impossibility or lack of funding.

If a discharger claims physical impossibility, it shall notify the Board in writing within thirty (30) days of the date that the discharger first knew of the event or circumstance that caused or would cause it to fail to meet the deadline in d. or e. The notice shall describe the reason for the noncompliance or anticipated noncompliance and specifically refer to this Section of this Exception. It shall describe the anticipated length of time the delay in compliance may persist, the cause or causes of the delay as well as measures to minimize the impact of the delay on water quality, the measures taken or to be taken by the discharger to prevent or minimize the delay, the schedule by which the measures will be implemented, and the anticipated date of compliance. The discharger shall adopt all reasonable measures to avoid and minimize such delays and their impact on water quality.

The discharger may request an extension of time for compliance based on lack of funding. The request for an extension shall require:

- (1) for municipalities, a demonstration of significant hardship to discharger ratepayers, by showing the relationship of storm water fees to annual household income for residents within the discharger's jurisdictional area, and the discharger has made timely and complete applications for all available bond and grant funding, and either no bond or grant funding is available, or bond and/or grant funding is inadequate; or
- (2) for other governmental agencies, a demonstration and documentation of a good faith effort to acquire funding through that agency's budgetary process.

## **B. NONPOINT SOURCE DISCHARGES**

*[NOT INCLUDED]*

*[PROVISIONS FOR NONPOINT SOURCE DISCHARGES NOT APPLICABLE]*

## **II. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES**

*[NOT INCLUDED]*

*[ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PARKS AND RECREATION FACILITIES NOT APPLICABLE]*

## **III. ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS – WATERFRONT AND MARINE OPERATIONS**

*[NOT INCLUDED]*

*[ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR WATERFRONT AND MARINE OPERATIONS NOT APPLICABLE]*

## **IV. MONITORING REQUIREMENTS**

Monitoring is mandatory for all dischargers to assure compliance with the Ocean Plan. Monitoring requirements include both: (A) core discharge monitoring, and (B) ocean receiving water monitoring. The State and Regional Water Boards must approve sampling site locations and any adjustments to the monitoring programs. All ocean receiving water and reference area monitoring must be comparable with the Water Boards' Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP).

Safety concerns: Sample locations and sampling periods must be determined considering safety issues. Sampling may be postponed upon notification to the State and Regional Water Boards if hazardous conditions prevail.

Analytical Chemistry Methods: All constituents must be analyzed using the lowest minimum detection limits comparable to the Ocean Plan water quality objectives. For metal analysis, all samples, including storm water effluent, reference samples, and ocean receiving water samples, must be analyzed by the approved analytical method with the lowest minimum detection limits (currently Inductively Coupled Plasma/Mass Spectrometry) described in the Ocean Plan.

## **A. CORE DISCHARGE MONITORING PROGRAM**

### **1. General sampling requirements for timing and storm size:**

Runoff must be collected during a storm event that is greater than 0.1 inch and generates runoff, and at least 72 hours from the previously measurable storm event. Runoff samples shall be collected when post-storm receiving water is sampled, and analyzed for the same constituents as receiving water and reference site samples (see section IV B) as described below.

### **2. Runoff flow measurements**

- a. For municipal/industrial storm water outfalls in existence as of December 31, 2007, 18 inches (457mm) or greater in diameter/width (including multiple outfall pipes in combination having a width of 18 inches, runoff flows must be measured or calculated, using a method acceptable to and approved by the State and Regional Water Boards.
- b. This will be reported annually for each precipitation season to the State and Regional Water Boards.

### **3. Runoff samples – storm events**

- a. For outfalls equal to or greater than 18 inches (0.46m) in diameter or width:
  - (1) samples of storm water runoff shall be analyzed during the same storm as receiving water samples for oil and grease, total suspended solids, and, within the range of the southern sea otter indicator bacteria or some other measure of fecal contamination, ; and
  - (2) samples of storm water runoff shall be analyzed for critical life stage chronic toxicity (one invertebrate or algal species) at least once during each storm season when receiving water is sampled in the ASBS
  - (3) If an applicant has no outfall greater than 36 inches, then storm water runoff from the applicant's largest outfall shall be further analyzed during the same storm as receiving water samples for Ocean Plan Table B metals for protection of marine life, Ocean Plan polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), current use pesticides (pyrethroids and OP pesticides), and nutrients (ammonia, nitrate and phosphates).
- b. For outfalls equal to or greater than 36 inches (0.91m) in diameter or width:
  - (1) samples of storm water runoff shall be analyzed during the same storm as receiving water samples for oil and grease, total suspended solids, and, within the range of the southern sea otter indicator bacteria or some other measure of fecal contamination; and
  - (2) samples of storm water runoff shall be further analyzed during the same storm as receiving water samples for Ocean Plan Table B metals for protection of marine life, Ocean Plan polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), current use pesticides (pyrethroids and OP pesticides), and nutrients (ammonia, nitrate and phosphates) and

- (3) samples of storm water runoff shall be analyzed for critical life stage chronic toxicity (one invertebrate or algal species) at least once during each storm season when receiving water is sampled in the ASBS.
  - c. For an applicant not participating in a regional monitoring program [see below in Section IV (B)] in addition to (a.) and (b.) above, a minimum of the two largest outfalls or 20 percent of the larger outfalls, whichever is greater, shall be sampled (flow weighted composite samples) at least three times annually during wet weather (storm event) and analyzed for all Ocean Plan Table A constituents, Table B constituents for marine aquatic life protection (except for toxicity, only chronic toxicity for three species shall be required), DDT, PCBs, Ocean Plan PAHs, OP pesticides, pyrethroids, nitrates, phosphates, and Ocean Plan indicator bacteria. For parties discharging to ASBS in more than one Regional Water Board region, at a minimum, one (the largest) such discharge shall be sampled annually in each Region.
4. The Executive Director of the State Water Board (statewide permits) or Executive Officer of the Regional Water Board (Regional Water Board permits) may reduce or suspend core monitoring once the storm runoff is fully characterized. This determination may be made at any point after the discharge is fully characterized, but is best made after the monitoring results from the first permit cycle are assessed.

## **B. OCEAN RECEIVING WATER AND REFERENCE AREA MONITORING PROGRAM**

In addition to performing the Core Discharge Monitoring Program in Section II.A above, all applicants having authorized discharges must perform ocean receiving water monitoring. In order to fulfill the requirements for monitoring the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the ocean receiving waters within their ASBS, dischargers may choose either (1) an individual monitoring program, or (2) participation in a regional integrated monitoring program.

1. Individual Monitoring Program: The requirements listed below are for those dischargers who elect to perform an individual monitoring program to fulfill the requirements for monitoring the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the ocean receiving waters within the affected ASBS. In addition to Core Discharge Monitoring, the following additional monitoring requirements shall be met:
  - a. Three times annually, during wet weather (storm events), the receiving water at the point of discharge from the outfalls described in section (IV)(A)(3)(c) above shall be sampled and analyzed for Ocean Plan Table A constituents, Table B constituents for marine aquatic life, DDT, PCBs, Ocean Plan PAHs, OP pesticides, pyrethroids, nitrates, phosphates, salinity, chronic toxicity (three species), and Ocean Plan indicator bacteria.

The sample location for the ocean receiving water shall be in the surf zone at the point of discharges; this must be at the same location where storm water runoff is sampled. Receiving water shall be sampled at approximately the same time prior to (pre-storm) and during (or immediately after) the same storm (post storm). Reference water quality shall also be sampled and analyzed for the same constituents pre-storm and post-storm, during the same storms when receiving water is sampled. Reference stations will be determined by the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality and the applicable Regional Water Board(s).

- b. Sediment sampling shall occur at least three times during every five (5) year period. The subtidal sediment (sand or finer, if present) at the discharge shall be sampled and analyzed for Ocean Plan Table B constituents for marine aquatic life, DDT, PCBs, PAHs, pyrethroids, and OP pesticides. For sediment toxicity testing, only an acute toxicity test using the amphipod *Eohaustorius estuarius* must be performed.
  - c. A quantitative survey of intertidal benthic marine life shall be performed at the discharge and at a reference site. The survey shall be performed at least once every five (5) year period. The survey design is subject to approval by the Regional Water Board and the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality. The results of the survey shall be completed and submitted to the State Water Board and Regional Water Board at least six months prior to the end of the permit cycle.
  - d. Once during each five (5) year period, a bioaccumulation study shall be conducted to determine the concentrations of metals and synthetic organic pollutants at representative discharge sites and at representative reference sites. The study design is subject to approval by the Regional Water Board and the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality. The bioaccumulation study may include California mussels (*Mytilus californianus*) and/or sand crabs (*Emerita analoga* or *Blepharipoda occidentalis*). Based on the study results, the Regional Water Board and the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality, may adjust the study design in subsequent permits, or add or modify additional test organisms (such as shore crabs or fish), or modify the study design appropriate for the area and best available sensitive measures of contaminant exposure.
  - e. Marine Debris: Representative quantitative observations for trash by type and source shall be performed along the coast of the ASBS within the influence of the discharger's outfalls. The design, including locations and frequency, of the marine debris observations is subject to approval by the Regional Water Board and State Water Board's Division of Water Quality.
  - f. The monitoring requirements of the Individual Monitoring Program in this section are minimum requirements. After a minimum of one (1) year of continuous water quality monitoring of the discharges and ocean receiving waters, the Executive Director of the State Water Board (statewide permits) or Executive officer of the Regional Water Board (Regional Water Board permits) may require additional monitoring, or adjust, reduce or suspend receiving water and reference station monitoring. This determination may be made at any point after the discharge and receiving water is fully characterized, but is best made after the monitoring results from the first permit cycle are assessed.
2. Regional Integrated Monitoring Program: Dischargers may elect to participate in a regional integrated monitoring program, in lieu of an individual monitoring program, to fulfill the requirements for monitoring the physical, chemical, and biological characteristics of the ocean receiving waters within their ASBS. This regional approach shall characterize natural water quality, pre- and post-storm, in ocean reference areas near the mouths of identified open space watersheds and the effects of the discharges on natural water quality (physical, chemical, and toxicity) in the ASBS receiving waters, and should include benthic marine aquatic life and bioaccumulation components. The design of the ASBS stratum of a regional integrated monitoring program may deviate from the otherwise prescribed individual monitoring approach (in Section IV.B.1) if approved by the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality and the Regional Water Boards.

- a. Ocean reference areas shall be located at the drainages of flowing watersheds with minimal development (in no instance more than 10% development), and shall not be located in CWA Section 303(d) listed waterbodies or have tributaries that are 303(d) listed. Reference areas shall be free of wastewater discharges and anthropogenic non-storm water runoff. A minimum of low threat storm runoff discharges (e.g. stream highway overpasses and campgrounds) may be allowed on a case-by-case basis. Reference areas shall be located in the same region as the ASBS receiving water monitoring occurs. The reference areas for each Region are subject to approval by the participants in the regional monitoring program and the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality and the applicable Regional Water Board(s). A minimum of three ocean reference water samples must be collected from each station, each from a separate storm. A minimum of one reference location shall be sampled for each ASBS receiving water site sampled per responsible party. For parties discharging to ASBS in more than one Regional Water Board region, at a minimum, one reference station and one receiving water station shall be sampled in each region.
  - b. ASBS ocean receiving water must be sampled in the surf zone at the location where the runoff makes contact with ocean water (i.e. at "point zero"). Ocean receiving water stations must be representative of worst-case discharge conditions (i.e. co-located at a large drain greater than 36 inches, or if drains greater than 36 inches are not present in the ASBS then the largest drain greater than 18 inches.) Ocean receiving water stations are subject to approval by the participants in the regional monitoring program and the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality and the applicable Regional Water Board(s). A minimum of three ocean receiving water samples must be collected during each storm season from each station, each from a separate storm. A minimum of one receiving water location shall be sampled in each ASBS per responsible party in that ASBS. For parties discharging to ASBS in more than one Regional Water Board region, at a minimum, one reference station and one receiving water station shall be sampled in each region.
  - c. Reference and receiving water sampling shall commence during the first full storm season following the adoption of these special conditions, and post-storm samples shall be collected when annual storm water runoff is sampled. Sampling shall occur in a minimum of two storm seasons. For those ASBS dischargers that have already participated in the Southern California Bight 2008 ASBS regional monitoring effort, sampling may be limited to only one storm season.
  - d. Receiving water and reference samples shall be analyzed for the same constituents as storm water runoff samples. At a minimum, constituents to be sampled and analyzed in reference and discharge receiving waters must include oil and grease, total suspended solids, Ocean Plan Table B metals for protection of marine life, Ocean Plan PAHs, pyrethroids, OP pesticides, ammonia, nitrate, phosphates, and critical life stage chronic toxicity for three species. In addition, within the range of the southern sea otter, indicator bacteria or some other measure of fecal contamination shall be analyzed.
3. Waterfront and Marine Operations: In addition to the above requirements for ocean receiving water monitoring, additional monitoring must be performed for marinas and boat launch and pier facilities:
    - a. For all marina or mooring field operators, in mooring fields with 10 or more occupied moorings, the ocean receiving water must be sampled for Ocean Plan indicator bacteria,



residual chlorine, copper, zinc, grease and oil, methylene blue active substances (MBAS), and ammonia nitrogen.

- (1) For mooring field operators opting for an individual monitoring program (Section IV.B.1 above), this sampling must occur weekly (on the weekend) from May through October.
  - (2) For mooring field operators opting to participate in a regional integrated monitoring program (Section IV.B.2 above), this sampling must occur monthly from May through October on a high use weekend in each month. The Water Boards may allow a reduction in the frequency of sampling, through the regional monitoring program, after the first year of monitoring.
- b. For all mooring field operators, the subtidal sediment (sand or finer, if present) within mooring fields and below piers shall be sampled and analyzed for Ocean Plan Table B metals (for marine aquatic life beneficial use), acute toxicity, PAHs, and tributyltin. For sediment toxicity testing, only an acute toxicity test using the amphipod *Eohaustorius estuarius* must be performed. This sampling shall occur at least three times during a five (5) year period. For mooring field operators opting to participate in a regional integrated monitoring program, the Water Boards may allow a reduction in the frequency of sampling after the first sampling effort's results are assessed.

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## ATTACHMENT B

### STANDARD PERMIT PROVISIONS AND GENERAL PROVISIONS

#### 1. Standard Permit Provisions

Code of Federal Regulations Title 40 Section 122.41 (40 CFR 122.41) includes conditions, or provisions, that apply to all National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits. Additional provisions applicable to NPDES permits are in 40 CFR 122.42. All applicable provisions in 40 CFR 122.41 and 40 CFR 122.42 must be incorporated into this Order and NPDES permit. The applicable 40 CFR 122.41 and 40 CFR 122.42 provisions are as follows:

**a. DUTY TO COMPLY** [40 CFR 122.41(a)]

The Copermitttee must comply with all of the provisions of this permit. Any permit noncompliance constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and is grounds for enforcement action; for permit termination, revocation and reissuance, or modification; or denial of a permit renewal application.

- (1) The Copermitttee must comply with effluent standards or prohibitions established under Section 307(a) of the CWA for toxic pollutants and with standards for sewage sludge use or disposal established under Section 405(d) of the CWA within the time provided in the regulations that establish these standards or prohibitions or standards for sewage sludge use or disposal, even if the permit has not yet been modified to incorporate the requirement. [40 CFR 122.41(a)(1)]
- (2) The CWA provides that any person who violates Section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the CWA, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any such sections in a permit issued under Section 402, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under Section 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the CWA, is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$25,000 per day for each violation. The CWA provides that any person who *negligently* violates Section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 of the CWA, or any condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under Section 402 of the CWA, or any requirement imposed in a pretreatment program approved under Section 402(a)(3) or 402(b)(8) of the CWA, is subject to criminal penalties of \$2,500 to \$25,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 1 year, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a negligent violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 2 years, or both. Any person who *knowingly* violates such sections, or such conditions or limitations is subject to criminal penalties of \$5,000 to \$50,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing violation, a person shall be subject to criminal penalties of not more than \$100,000 per day of violation, or imprisonment of not more than 6 years, or both. Any person who knowingly violates Section 301, 302, 303, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the CWA, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under Section 402 of the CWA, and who knows at that time that he thereby places another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury, shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of

not more than \$250,000 or imprisonment of not more than 15 years, or both. In the case of a second or subsequent conviction for a knowing endangerment violation, a person shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$500,000 or by imprisonment of not more than 30 years, or both. An organization, as defined in Section 309(c)(3)(B)(iii) of the CWA, shall, upon conviction of violating the imminent danger provision, be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000 and can be fined up to \$2,000,000 for second or subsequent convictions.

[40 CFR 122.41(a)(2)]

(3) Any person may be assessed an administrative penalty by the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (San Diego Water Board), State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), or United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for violating Section 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318 or 405 of the CWA, or any permit condition or limitation implementing any of such sections in a permit issued under section 402 of this Act. Administrative penalties for Class I violations are not to exceed \$10,000 per violation, with the maximum amount of any Class I penalty assessed not to exceed \$25,000. Penalties for Class II violations are not to exceed \$10,000 per day for each day during which the violation continues, with the maximum amount of any Class II penalty not to exceed \$125,000.

[40 CFR 122.41(a)(3)]

**b. DUTY TO REAPPLY** [40 CFR 122.41(b)]

If a Copermittee wishes to continue an activity regulated by this permit after the expiration date of this permit, the Copermittee must apply for and obtain a new permit.

**c. NEED TO HALT OR REDUCE ACTIVITY NOT A DEFENSE** [40 CFR 122.41(c)]

It shall not be a defense for a Copermittee in an enforcement action that it would have been necessary to halt or reduce the permitted activity in order to maintain compliance with the conditions of this permit.

**d. DUTY TO MITIGATE** [40 CFR 122.41(d)]

The Copermittee must take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge or prevent any discharge or sludge use or disposal in violation of this permit that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

**e. PROPER OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE** [40 CFR 122.41(e)]

The Copermittee must at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment and control (and related appurtenances) which are installed or used by the Copermittee to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit. Proper operation and maintenance also includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of back-up or auxiliary facilities or similar systems that are installed by a Copermittee only when the operation is necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this permit.

**f. PERMIT ACTIONS** [40 CFR 122.41(f)]

This permit may be modified, revoked and reissued, or terminated for cause. The filing of a request by the Copermittee for a permit modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any permit condition.

**g. PROPERTY RIGHTS** [40 CFR 122.41(g)]

This permit does not convey any property rights of any sort, or any exclusive privilege.

**h. DUTY TO PROVIDE INFORMATION** [40 CFR 122.41(h)]

The Copermittee must furnish to the San Diego Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA within a reasonable time, any information which the San Diego Water Board, State Water Board, or USPEA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this permit or to determine compliance with this permit. The Copermittee must also furnish to the San Diego Water Board, State Water Board, or USPEA upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this permit.

**i. INSPECTION AND ENTRY** [40 CFR 122.41(i)]

The Copermittee must allow the San Diego Water Board, State Water Board, USEPA, and/or their authorized representative (including an authorized contractor acting as their representative), upon presentation of credentials and other documents as may be required by law, to:

- (1) Enter upon the Copermittee's premises where a regulated facility or activity is located or conducted, or where records must be kept under the conditions of this permit; [40 CFR 122.41(i)(1)]
- (2) Have access to and copy, at reasonable times, any records that must be kept under the conditions of this permit; [40 CFR 122.41(i)(2)]
- (3) Inspect and photograph at reasonable times any facilities, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this permit; [40 CFR 122.41(i)(3)] and
- (4) Sample or monitor at reasonable times, for the purpose of assuring permit compliance or as otherwise authorized by the CWA, any substances or parameters at any location. [40 CFR 122.41(i)(4)]

**j. MONITORING AND RECORDS** [40 CFR 122.41(j)]

- (1) Samples and measurements taken for the purpose of monitoring must be representative of the monitored activity. [40 CFR 122.41(j)(1)]
- (2) Except for records of monitoring information required by this permit related to the Copermittee's sewage sludge use and disposal activities, which shall be retained for a period of at least five (5) years (or longer as required by 40 CFR Part 503), the

Copermittee must retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least three (3) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the San Diego Water Board at any time. [40 CFR 122.41(j)(2)]

- (3) Records for monitoring information must include: [40 CFR 122.41(j)(3)]
- (a) The date, exact place, and time of sampling or measurements; [40 CFR 122.41(j)(3)(i)]
  - (b) The individual(s) who performed the sampling or measurements; [40 CFR 122.41(j)(3)(ii)]
  - (c) The date(s) analyses were performed; [40 CFR 122.41(j)(3)(iii)]
  - (d) The individual(s) who performed the analyses; [40 CFR 122.41(j)(3)(iv)]
  - (e) The analytical techniques or methods used; [40 CFR 122.41(j)(3)(v)] and
  - (f) The results of such analyses. [40 CFR 122.41(j)(3)(vi)]
- (4) Monitoring must be conducted according to test procedures under 40 CFR Part 136 unless another method is required under 40 CFR Subchapters N or O. [40 CFR 122.41(j)(4)]

In the case of pollutants for which there are no approved methods under 40 CFR Part 136 or otherwise required under 40 CFR Subchapters N and O, monitoring must be conducted according to a test procedure specified in the permit for such pollutants. [40 CFR 122.44(i)(1)(iv)]

- (5) The CWA provides that any person who falsifies, tampers with, or knowingly renders inaccurate any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under this permit shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 2 years, or both. If a conviction of a person is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment is a fine of not more than \$20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than 4 years, or both. [40 CFR 122.41(j)(5)]

**k. SIGNATORY REQUIREMENT** [40 CFR 122.41(k)]

- (1) All applications, reports, or information submitted to the San Diego Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA must be signed and certified. (See 40 CFR 122.22) [40 CFR 122.41(k)(1)]
- (a) *For a municipality, State, Federal, or other public agency.* [All applications must be signed] [b]y either a principal executive officer or ranking elected official. [40 CFR 122.22(a)(3)]
  - (b) All reports required by permits, and other information requested by the San Diego Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA must be signed by a person described in paragraph (a) of this section, or by a duly authorized representative of that person. A person is a duly authorized representative only if: [40 CFR 122.22(b)]

- (i) The authorization is made in writing by a person described in paragraph (a) of this section; [40 CFR 122.22(b)(1)]
  - (ii) The authorization specifies either an individual or a position having responsibility for the overall operation of the regulated facility or activity such as the position of plant manager, operator of a well or a well field, superintendent, position of equivalent responsibility, or an individual or position having overall responsibility for environmental matters for the company, (A duly authorized representative may thus be either a named individual or any individual occupying a named position.) [40 CFR 122.22(b)(2)] and,
  - (iii) The written authorization is submitted to the San Diego Water Board and State Water Board. [40 CFR 122.22(b)(3)]
- (c) *Changes to authorization.* If an authorization under paragraph (b) of this section is no longer accurate because a different individual or position has responsibility for the overall operation of the facility, a new authorization satisfying the requirements of paragraph (b) of this section must be submitted to the San Diego Water Board prior to or together with any reports, information, or applications to be signed by an authorized representative. [40 CFR 122.22(c)]
- (d) *Certification.* Any person signing a document under paragraph (a) or (b) of this section shall make the following certification:
- “I certify under penalty of law that this document and all attachments were prepared under my direction or supervision in accordance with a system designed to assure that qualified personnel properly gather and evaluate the information submitted. Based on my inquiry of the person or persons who manage the system, or those persons directly responsible for gathering the information, the information submitted is, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment for knowing violations.” [40 CFR 122.22(d)]
- (2) The CWA provides that any person who knowingly makes any false statement, representation, or certification in any record or other document submitted or required to be maintained under this permit, including monitoring reports or reports of compliance or non-compliance shall, upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 per violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 6 months per violation, or by both. [40 CFR 122.41(k)(2)]

**I. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS** [40 CFR 122.41(l)]

- (1) *Planned changes.* The Copermittee must give notice to the San Diego Water Board as soon as possible of any planned physical alterations or additions to the permitted facility. Notice is required only when: [40 CFR 122.41(l)(1)]
- (a) The alteration or addition to a permitted facility may meet one of the criteria for determining whether a facility is a new source in 40 CFR 122.29(b); [40 CFR 122.41(l)(1)(i)] or
  - (b) The alteration or addition could significantly change the nature or increase the quantity of pollutants discharged. This notification applies to pollutants which

are subject neither to effluent limitations in the permit, nor to notification requirements under 40 CFR 122.42(a)(1).  
[40 CFR 122.41(l)(1)(ii)]

- (c) The alteration or addition results in a significant change in the Copermitttee's sludge use or disposal practices, and such alteration, addition, or change may justify the application of permit conditions that are different from or absent in the existing permit, including notification of additional use or disposal sites not reported during the permit application process or not reported pursuant to an approved land application plan. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(1)(iii)]
- (2) *Anticipated noncompliance.* The Copermitttee must give advance notice to the San Diego Water Board or State Water Board of any planned changes in the permitted facility or activity which may result in noncompliance with permit requirements. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(2)]
- (3) *Transfers.* This permit is not transferable to any person except after notice to the San Diego Water Board. The San Diego Water Board may require modification or revocation and reissuance of the permit to change the name of the Copermitttee and incorporate such other requirements as may be necessary under the CWA. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(3)]
- (4) *Monitoring reports.* Monitoring results must be reported at the intervals specified elsewhere in this permit. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(4)]
  - (a) Monitoring results must be reported on a Discharge Monitoring Report (DMR) form or forms provided or specified by the San Diego Water Board or State Water Board for reporting results of monitoring of sludge use or disposal practices. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(4)(i)]
  - (b) If the Copermitttee monitors any pollutant more frequently than required by the permit using test procedures approved under 40 CFR Part 136 or another method required for an industry-specific waste stream under 40 CFR Subchapters N or O, the results of this monitoring must be included in the calculation and reporting of the data submitted in the DMR or sludge reporting form specified by the San Diego Water Board or State Water Board. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(4)(ii)]
  - (c) Calculations for all limitations which require averaging of measurements must utilize an arithmetic mean unless otherwise specified in the permit. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(4)(iii)]
- (5) *Compliance schedules.* Reports of compliance or noncompliance with, or any progress reports on, interim and final requirements contained in any compliance schedule of this permit must be submitted no later than 14 days following each schedule date. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(5)]



(6) *Twenty-four hour reporting.*

- (a) The Copermittee must report any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment. Any information must be provided orally within 24 hours from the time the Copermittee becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission must also be provided within five (5) days of the time the Copermittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission must contain a description of the noncompliance and its cause; the period of noncompliance, including exact dates and times, and if the noncompliance has not been corrected, the anticipated time it is expected to continue; and steps taken or planned to reduce, eliminate, and prevent reoccurrence of the noncompliance. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)(i)]
- (b) The following must be included as information which must be reported within 24 hours under this paragraph: [40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)(ii)]
  - (i) Any unanticipated bypass that exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit (See 40 CFR 122.41(g)). [40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(A)]
  - (ii) Any upset which exceeds any effluent limitation in the permit. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B)] and,
  - (iii) Violation of a maximum daily discharge limitation for any of the pollutants listed by the San Diego Water Board in the permit to be reported within 24 hours. (See 40 CFR 122.44(g)) [40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(C)]
- (c) The San Diego Water Board may waive the above-required written report on a case-by-case basis if the oral report has been received within 24 hours. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)(iii)]

(7) *Other noncompliance.* The Copermittee must report all instances of noncompliance not reported in accordance with the standard provisions required under 40 CFR 122.41(l)(4), (5), and (6), at the time monitoring reports are submitted. The reports must contain the information listed in the standard provisions required under 40 CFR 122.41(l)(6). [40 CFR 122.41(l)(7)]

(8) *Other information.* When the Copermittee becomes aware that it failed to submit any relevant facts in a permit application, or submitted incorrect information in a permit application or in any report to the San Diego Water Board, State Water Board, or USEPA, the Copermittee must promptly submit such facts or information. [40 CFR 122.41(l)(8)]

**m. BYPASS** [40 CFR 122.41(m)]

(1) *Definitions.*

- (a) "Bypass" means the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility. [40 CFR 122.41(m)(1)(i)] or
- (b) "Severe property damage" means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities which causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources which can reasonably be

expected to occur in the absence of a bypass. Severe property damage does not mean economic loss caused by delays in production.  
[40 CFR 122.41(m)(1)(ii)]

(2) *Bypass not exceeding limitations.* The Copermittee may allow any bypass to occur which does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it also is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. These bypasses are not subject to the standard provisions required under 40 CFR 122.41(m)(3) and (4).  
[40 CFR 122.41(m)(2)]

(3) *Notice.*

(a) *Anticipated bypass.* If the Copermittee knows in advance of the need for a bypass, it must submit a notice, if possible at least ten days before the date of the bypass. [40 CFR 122.41(m)(3)(i)] or

(b) *Unanticipated bypass.* The Copermittee must submit notice of an unanticipated bypass in accordance with the standard provisions required under 40 CFR 122.41(l)(6) (24-hour notice).  
[40 CFR 122.41(m)(3)(ii)]

(4) *Prohibition of Bypass.*

(a) Bypass is prohibited, and the San Diego Water Board may take enforcement action against a Copermittee for bypass, unless:  
[40 CFR 122.41(m)(4)(i)]

(i) Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury, or severe property damage; [40 CFR 122.41(m)(4)(i)(A)]

(ii) There were no feasible alternatives to the bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated wastes, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment downtime. This condition is not satisfied if adequate back-up equipment should have been installed in the exercise of reasonable engineering judgment to prevent a bypass which occurred during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance;  
[40 CFR 122.41(m)(4)(i)(B)] and,

(iii) The Copermittee submitted notice in accordance with the standard provisions required under 40 CFR 122.41(m)(3).  
[40 CFR 122.41(m)(4)(i)(C)]

(b) The San Diego Water Board may approve an anticipated bypass, after considering its adverse effects, if the San Diego Water Board determines that it will meet the three conditions listed above.  
[40 CFR 122.41(m)(4)(ii)]

**n. UPSET** [40 CFR 122.41(n)]

(1) *Definition.* "Upset" means an exceptional incident in which there is unintentional and temporary noncompliance with technology based permit effluent limitations because of factors beyond the reasonable control of the Copermittee. An upset does not

include noncompliance to the extent caused by operational error, improperly designed treatment facilities, inadequate treatment facilities, lack of preventive maintenance, or careless or improper operation. [40 CFR 122.41(n)(1)]

- (2) *Effect of an upset.* An upset constitutes an affirmative defense to an action brought for noncompliance with such technology based permit effluent limitations if the standard provisions required under 40 CFR 122.41(n)(3) are met. No determination made during administrative review of claims that noncompliance was caused by upset, and before an action for noncompliance, is final administrative action subject to judicial review. [40 CFR 122.41(n)(2)]
- (3) *Conditions necessary for a demonstration of upset.* A Copermittee who wishes to establish the affirmative defense of upset must demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:  
[40 CFR 122.41(n)(3)]
  - (a) An upset occurred and that the Copermittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset; [40 CFR 122.41(n)(3)(i)]
  - (b) The permitted facility was at the time being properly operated;  
[40 CFR 122.41(n)(3)(ii)] and
  - (c) The Copermittee submitted notice of the upset in accordance with the standard provisions required under 40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)(ii)(B) (24-hour notice).  
[40 CFR 122.41(n)(3)(iii)]
  - (d) The Copermittee complied with any remedial measures pursuant to the standard provisions required under 40 CFR 122.41(d).  
[40 CFR 122.41(n)(3)(iii)]
- (4) *Burden of proof.* In any enforcement proceeding, the Copermittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.  
[40 CFR 122.41(n)(4)]

**o. STANDARD PERMIT PROVISIONS FOR MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS**  
[40 CFR 122.42(c)]

The operator of a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system or a municipal separate storm sewer that has been designated by the San Diego Water Board or State Water Board under 40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v) must submit an annual report by the anniversary of the date of the issuance of the permit for such system. The report must include:

- (1) The status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions; [40 CFR 122.42(c)(1)]
- (2) Proposed changes to the storm water management programs that are established as permit conditions. Such proposed changes must be consistent with 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iii); [40 CFR 122.42(c)(2)] and
- (3) Revisions, if necessary, to the assessment of controls and the fiscal analysis reported in the permit application under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv) and (v);  
[40 CFR 122.42(c)(3)]

- (4) A summary of data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year; [40 CFR 122.42(c)(4)]
- (5) Annual expenditures and budget for year following each annual report; [40 CFR 122.42(c)(5)]
- (6) A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs; [40 CFR 122.42(c)(6)]
- (7) Identification of water quality improvements or degradation. [40 CFR 122.42(c)(7)]

**p. STANDARD PERMIT PROVISIONS FOR STORM WATER DISCHARGES** [40 CFR 122.42(d)]

The initial permits for discharges composed entirely of storm water issued pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(e)(7) must require compliance with the conditions of the permit as expeditiously as practicable, but in no event later than three years after the date of issuance of the permit.

## **2. General Provisions**

In addition to the standard provisions required to be incorporated into the Order and NPDES permit pursuant to 40 CFR 122.41 and 40 CFR 122.42, several other general provisions apply to this Order. The general provisions applicable to this Order and NPDES permit are as follows:

**a. DISCHARGE OF WASTE IS A PRIVILEGE**

No discharge of waste into the waters of the State, whether or not such discharge is made pursuant to waste discharge requirements, shall create a vested right to continue such discharge. All discharges of waste into waters of the State are privileges, not rights. [CWC Section 13263(g)]

**b. DURATION OF ORDER AND NPDES PERMIT**

- (1) *Effective date.* This Order and NPDES permit becomes effective on the 50<sup>th</sup> day after its adoption provided the USEPA has no objection. If the USEPA objects to its issuance, this Order shall not become effective until such objection is withdrawn. This Order supersedes Order No. R9-2007-0001 upon the effective date of this Order, and supersedes Order Nos. R9-2009-0002 and R9-2010-0016 upon their expiration or earlier notice of coverage.
- (2) *Expiration.* This Order and NPDES permit expires five years after its effective date. [40 CFR 122.46(a)]
- (3) *Continuation of expired order.* After this Order and NPDES permit expires, the terms and conditions of this Order and NPDES permit are automatically continued pending issuance of a new permit if all requirements of the federal NPDES regulations on the continuation of expired permits (40 CFR 122.6) are complied with.

**c. AVAILABILITY**

A copy of this Order must be kept at a readily accessible location and must be available to on-site personnel at all times.

**d. CONFIDENTIALITY OF INFORMATION**

Except as provided for in 40 CFR 122.7, no information or documents submitted in accordance with or in application for this Order will be considered confidential, and all such information and documents shall be available for review by the public at the San Diego Water Board office.

Claims of confidentiality for the following information will be denied:  
[40 CFR 122.7(b)]

- (1) The name and address of any permit applicant or Copermittee;  
[40 CFR 122.7(b)(1)] and
- (2) Permit applications and attachments, permits, and effluent data.  
[40 CFR 122.7(b)(2)]

**e. EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

- (1) *Interim effluent limitations.* The Copermittee must comply with any interim effluent limitations as established by addendum, enforcement action, or revised waste discharge requirements which have been, or may be, adopted by the San Diego Water Board.
- (2) *Other effluent limitations and standards.* If any applicable toxic effluent standard or prohibition (including any schedule of compliance specified in such effluent standard or prohibition) is promulgated under Section 307(a) of the CWA for a toxic pollutant and that standard or prohibition is more stringent than any limitation on the pollutant in the permit, the San Diego Water Board shall institute proceedings under these regulations to modify or revoke and reissue the permit to conform to the toxic effluent standard or prohibition. [40 CFR 122.44(b)(1)]

**f. DUTY TO MINIMIZE OR CORRECT ADVERSE IMPACTS**

The Copermittee must take all reasonable steps to minimize or correct any adverse impact on the environment resulting from noncompliance with this Order, including such accelerated or additional monitoring as may be necessary to determine the nature and impact of the noncompliance.

**g. PERMIT ACTIONS**

The filing of a request by the Copermittee for modification, revocation and reissuance, or termination of this Order, or a notification of planned change in or anticipated noncompliance with this Order does not stay any condition of this Order. (See 40 CFR 122.41(f)) In addition, the following provisions apply to this Order:

- (1) Upon application by any affected person, or on its own motion, the San Diego Water Board may review and revise the requirements in this Order. All requirements must be reviewed periodically. [CWC Section 13263(e)]
- (2) This Order may be terminated or modified for cause, including, but not limited to, all of the following: [CWC Section 13381]
  - (a) Violation of any condition contained in the requirements of this Order. [CWC Section 13381(a)]
  - (b) Obtaining the requirements in this Order by misrepresentation, or failure to disclose fully all relevant facts. [CWC Section 13381(b)]
  - (c) A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the permitted discharge. [CWC Section 13381(c)]
- (3) When this Order is transferred to a new owner or operator, such requirements as may be necessary under the CWC may be incorporated into this Order.

#### **h. NPDES PERMITTED NON-STORM WATER DISCHARGES**

The San Diego Water Board has, in prior years, issued a limited number of individual NPDES permits for non-storm water discharges to MS4s. The San Diego Water Board or State Water Board may in the future, upon prior notice to the Copermittee(s), issue an NPDES permit for any non-storm water discharge (or class of non-storm water discharges) to an MS4.

#### **i. MONITORING**

In addition to the standard provisions required under 40 CFR 122.41(j) and (l)(4), the following general monitoring provisions apply to this Order:

- (1) Where procedures are not otherwise specified in Order, sampling, analysis and quality assurance/quality control must be conducted in accordance with the Quality Assurance Management Plan (QAMP) for the State of California's Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board).
- (2) Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.41(j)(2) and CWC Section 13383(a), each Copermittee must retain records of all monitoring information, including all calibration and maintenance records and all original strip chart recordings for continuous monitoring instrumentation, copies of all reports required by this permit, and records of all data used to complete the application for this permit, for a period of at least five (5) years from the date of the sample, measurement, report or application. This period may be extended by request of the San Diego Water Board at any time.
- (3) All chemical, bacteriological, and toxicity analyses must be conducted at a laboratory certified for such analyses by the California Department of Public Health or a laboratory approved by the San Diego Water Board.

- (4) For priority toxic pollutants that are identified in the California Toxics Rule (CTR) (65 Fed. Reg. 31682), the Copermittees must instruct their laboratories to establish calibration standards that are equivalent to or lower than the Minimum Levels (MLs) published in Appendix 4 of the Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (SIP). If a Copermittee can demonstrate that a particular ML is not attainable, in accordance with procedures set forth in 40 CFR Part 136, the lowest quantifiable concentration of the lowest calibration standard analyzed by a specific analytical procedure (assuming that all the method specified sample weights, volumes, and processing steps have been followed) may be used instead of the ML listed in Appendix 4 of the SIP. The Copermittee must submit documentation from the laboratory to the San Diego Water Board for approval prior to raising the ML for any priority toxic pollutant.

**j. ENFORCEMENT**

- (1) The San Diego Water Board is authorized to enforce the terms of this Order under several provisions of the CWC, including, but not limited to, CWC Sections 13385, 13386, and 13387.
- (2) Nothing in this Order shall be construed to protect the Copermittee from its liabilities under federal, state, or local laws.
- (3) The CWC provides for civil and criminal penalties comparable to, and in some cases greater than, those provided for under the CWA.
- (4) Except as provided in the standard conditions required under 40 CFR 122.41(m) and (n), nothing in this Order shall be construed to relieve the Copermittee from civil or criminal penalties for noncompliance.
- (5) Nothing in this Order shall be construed to preclude the institution of any legal action or relieve the Copermittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties to which the Copermittee is or may be subject to under Section 311 of the CWA.
- (6) Nothing in this Order shall be construed to preclude institution of any legal action or relieve the Copermittee from any responsibilities, liabilities, or penalties established pursuant to any applicable state law or regulation under authoring preserved by Section 510 of the CWA.

**k. SEVERABILITY**

The provisions of this Order are severable, and if any provision of this Order, or the application of any provisions of this Order to any circumstance, is held invalid, the application of such provision to other circumstances and the remainder of this Order shall not be affected thereby.

**l. APPLICATIONS**

Any application submitted by a Copermittee for reissuance or modification of this Order must satisfy all applicable requirements specified in federal regulations as well as any additional requirements for submittal of a Report of Waste Discharge specified in the CWC and the California Code of Regulations.

**m. IMPLEMENTATION**

All plans, reports and subsequent amendments submitted in compliance with this Order must be implemented immediately (or as otherwise specified). All submittals by Copermittees must be adequate to implement the requirements of this Order.

**n. REPORT SUBMITTALS**

- (1) All report submittals must include an executive summary, introduction, conclusion, recommendations, and signed certified statement.
- (2) Each Copermittee must submit a signed certified statement covering its responsibilities for each applicable submittal.
- (3) The Principal Watershed Copermittee(s) must submit a signed certified statement covering its responsibilities for each applicable submittal and the sections of the submittals for which it is responsible.
- (4) Unless otherwise directed, the Copermittees must submit one hard copy and one electronic copy of each report required under this Order to the San Diego Water Board, and one electronic copy to the USEPA.
- (5) The Copermittees must submit reports and provide notifications as required by this Order to the following:

EXECUTIVE OFFICER  
CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION  
9174 SKY PARK COURT, SUITE 100  
SAN DIEGO CA 92123-4340  
Telephone: (858) 467-2952 Fax: (858) 571-6972

EUGENE BROMLEY  
US ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION IX  
PERMITS ISSUANCE SECTION (W-5-1)  
75 HAWTHORNE STREET  
SAN FRANCISCO CA 94105



## ATTACHMENT C

### ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

AMAL	Average Monthly Action Level
ASBS	Area(s) of Special Biological Significance
BMP	Best Management Practice
Basin Plan	Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin
CEQA	California Environmental Quality Act
CCR	California Code of Regulations
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWC	California Water Code
CZARA	Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990
ESAs	Environmentally Sensitive Areas
GIS	Geographic Information System
IBI	Index of Biological Integrity
LID	Low Impact Development
MDAL	Maximum Daily Action Level
MEP	Maximum Extent Practicable
MS4	Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System
NAL	Non-Storm Water Action Level
NAICS	North American Industry Classification System
NOI	Notice of Intent
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
ROWD	Report of Waste Discharge (application for NPDES reissuance)
SAL	Storm Water Action Level
San Diego Water Board	California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region
SIC	Standard Industrial Classification Code
State Water Board	State Water Resources Control Board
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
USEPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
WDID	Waste Discharge Identification Number
WLA	Waste Load Allocation
WQBEL	Water Quality Based Effluent Limitation

## DEFINITIONS

**Active/Passive Sediment Treatment** - Using mechanical, electrical or chemical means to flocculate or coagulate suspended sediment for removal from runoff from construction sites prior to discharge.

**Anthropogenic Litter** – Trash generated from human activities, not including sediment.

**Average Monthly Action Level** – The highest allowable average of daily discharges over a calendar month.

**Beneficial Uses** - The uses of water necessary for the survival or wellbeing of man, plants, and wildlife. These uses of water serve to promote tangible and intangible economic, social, and environmental goals. “Beneficial Uses” of the waters of the State that may be protected include, but are not limited to, domestic, municipal, agricultural and industrial supply; power generation; recreation; aesthetic enjoyment; navigation; and preservation and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and other aquatic resources or preserves. Existing beneficial uses are uses that were attained in the surface or ground water on or after November 28, 1975; and potential beneficial uses are uses that would probably develop in future years through the implementation of various control measures. “Beneficial Uses” are equivalent to “Designated Uses” under federal law. [California Water Code Section 13050(f)].

**Best Management Practices (BMPs)** - Defined in 40 CFR 122.2 as schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the United States. BMPs also include treatment requirements, operating procedures and practices to control plant site runoff, spillage or leaks, sludge or waste disposal, or drainage from raw material storage.

**Bioassessment** - The use of biological community information to evaluate the biological integrity of a water body and its watershed. With respect to aquatic ecosystems, bioassessment is the collection and analysis of samples of the benthic macroinvertebrate community together with physical/habitat quality measurements associated with the sampling site and the watershed to evaluate the biological condition (i.e. biotic integrity) of a water body.

**Biofiltration** - Practices that use vegetation and amended soils to detain and treat runoff from impervious areas. Treatment is through filtration, infiltration, adsorption, ion exchange, and biological uptake of pollutants.

**Biological Integrity** - Defined in Karr J.R. and D.R. Dudley. 1981. Ecological perspective on water quality goals. *Environmental Management* 5:55-68 as: “A balanced, integrated, adaptive community of organisms having a species composition, diversity, and functional organization comparable to that of natural habitat of the region.” Also referred to as ecosystem health.

**BMP Design Manual** – A plan developed to eliminate, reduce, or mitigate the impacts of runoff from development projects, including Priority Development Projects.

**Clean Water Act Section 303(d) Water Body** - An impaired water body in which water quality does not meet applicable water quality standards and/or is not expected to meet water quality standards, even after the application of technology based pollution controls required by the

CWA. The discharge of runoff to these water bodies by the Copermitees is significant because these discharges can cause or contribute to violations of applicable water quality standards.

**Construction Site** – Any project, including projects requiring coverage under the Construction General Permit, that involves soil disturbing activities including, but not limited to, clearing, grading, disturbances to ground such as stockpiling, and excavation.

**Contamination** - As defined in the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, contamination is “an impairment of the quality of waters of the State by waste to a degree which creates a hazard to the public health through poisoning or through the spread of disease. ‘Contamination’ includes any equivalent effect resulting from the disposal of waste whether or not waters of the State are affected.”

**Copermittee** – An incorporated city within the County of Orange, County of Riverside, or County of San Diego in the San Diego Region, the County of Orange, the County of Riverside, the County of San Diego, the Orange County Flood Control District, the Riverside County Water Conservation and Flood Control District, the San Diego Regional Airport Authority, or the San Diego Unified Port District.

**Copermittees** – All of the individual Copermittees, collectively.

**Critical Channel Flow (Qc)** – The channel flow that produces the critical shear stress that initiates bed movement or that erodes the toe of channel banks. When measuring Qc, it should be based on the weakest boundary material – either bed or bank.

**Daily Discharge** – Defined as either: (1) the total mass of the constituent discharged over the calendar day or any 24 hour period that reasonably represents a calendar day for purposes of sampling (as specified in the permit), for a constituent with limitations expressed in units of mass or; (2) the unweighted arithmetic mean measurement of the constituent over the day for a constituent with limitations expressed in other units of measurement (e.g. concentration.)

The Daily Discharge may be determined by the analytical results of a composite sample taken over the course of one day (a calendar day, or other 24 hour period other than a day), or by the arithmetic mean of analytical results from one or more grab samples taken over the course of a day.

**Development Projects** - Construction, rehabilitation, redevelopment, or reconstruction of any public or private residential project, industrial, commercial, or any other projects.

**Dry Season** –May 1 to September 30.

**Dry Weather** – Weather is considered dry if the preceding 72 hours has been without measurable precipitation (>0.1 inch).

**Enclosed Bays** – Enclosed bays are indentations along the coast that enclose an area of oceanic water within distinct headlands or harbor works. Enclosed bays include all bays where the narrowest distance between the headlands or outermost bay works is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay. Enclosed bays do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

**Erosion** – When land is diminished or worn away due to wind, water, or glacial ice. Often the eroded debris (silt or sediment) becomes a pollutant via storm water runoff. Erosion occurs naturally but can be intensified by land clearing activities such as farming, development, road building, and timber harvesting.

**Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs)** - Areas that include but are not limited to all Clean Water Act Section 303(d) impaired water bodies; areas designated as Areas of Special Biological Significance by the State Water Board and San Diego Water Board; State Water Quality Protected Areas; water bodies designated with the RARE beneficial use by the State Water Board and San Diego Water Board; areas designated as preserves or their equivalent under the Natural Communities Conservation Program within the Cities and County of Orange; and any other equivalent environmentally sensitive areas which have been identified by the Copermitees.

**Estuaries** – Waters, including coastal lagoons, located at the mouth of streams that serve as areas of mixing fresh and ocean waters. Coastal lagoons and mouths of streams that are temporarily separated from the ocean by sandbars shall be considered estuaries. Estuarine waters shall be considered to extend from a bay or the open ocean to a point upstream where there is no significant mixing of fresh water and ocean water. Estuaries do not include inland surface waters or ocean waters.

**Existing Development** – Any area that has been developed and exists for municipal, commercial, industrial, or residential purposes, uses, or activities. May include areas that are not actively used for its originally developed purpose, but may be re-purposed or redeveloped for another use or activity.

**Flow Duration** – The long-term period of time that flows occur above a threshold that causes significant sediment transport and may cause excessive erosion damage to creeks and streams (not a single storm event duration). The simplest way to visualize this is to consider a histogram of pre- and post-project flows using long-term records of hourly data. To maintain pre-development flow duration means that the total number of hours (counts) within each range of flows in a flow-duration histogram cannot increase between the pre- and post-development condition. Flow duration within the range of geomorphologically significant flows is important for managing erosion.

**Grading** - The cutting and/or filling of the land surface to a desired slope or elevation.

**Hazardous Material** – Any substance that poses a threat to human health or the environment due to its toxicity, corrosiveness, ignitability, explosive nature or chemical reactivity. These also include materials named by the USEPA in 40 CFR 116 to be reported if a designated quantity of the material is spilled into the waters of the U.S. or emitted into the environment.

**Hazardous Waste** - Hazardous waste is defined as “any waste which, under Section 600 of Title 22 of this code, is required to be managed according to Chapter 30 of Division 4.5 of Title 22 of this code” [CCR Title 22, Division 4.5, Chapter 11, Article 1].

**Household Hazardous Waste** – Paints, cleaning products, and other wastes generated during home improvement or maintenance activities.

**Hydromodification** – The change in the natural watershed hydrologic processes and runoff characteristics (i.e., interception, infiltration, overland flow, and groundwater flow) caused by urbanization or other land use changes that result in increased stream flows and sediment transport. In addition, alteration of stream and river channels, such as stream channelization, concrete lining, installation of dams and water impoundments, and excessive streambank and shoreline erosion are also considered hydromodification, due to their disruption of natural watershed hydrologic processes.

**Illicit Connection** – Any connection to the MS4 that conveys an illicit discharge.

**Illicit Discharge** - Any discharge to the MS4 that is not composed entirely of storm water except discharges pursuant to a NPDES permit and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities [40 CFR 122.26(b)(2)].

**Inactive Areas** – Areas of construction activity that are not active and those that have been active and are not scheduled to be re-disturbed for at least 14 days.

**Infiltration** – Water other than wastewater that enters a sewer system (including sewer service connections and foundation drains) from the ground through such means as defective pipes, pipe joints, connections, or manholes. Infiltration does not include, and is distinguished from, inflow [40 CFR 35.2005(20)].

**Inland Surface Waters** – Includes all surface waters of the State that do not include the ocean, enclosed bays, or estuaries.

**Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Document** – A written description of the specific jurisdictional runoff management measures and programs that each Copermittee will implement to comply with this Order and ensure that storm water pollutant discharges in runoff are reduced to the MEP and do not cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards.

**Low Impact Development (LID)** – A storm water management and land development strategy that emphasizes conservation and the use of on-site natural features integrated with engineered, small-scale hydrologic controls to more closely reflect pre-development hydrologic functions.

**Low Impact Development Best Management Practices (LID BMPs)** – LID BMPs include schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, and other management practices to prevent or reduce the pollution of waters of the United States through storm water management and land development strategies that emphasize conservation and the use of on-site natural features integrated with engineered, small-scale hydrologic controls to more closely reflect pre-development hydrologic functions. LID BMPs include retention practices that do not allow runoff, such as infiltration, rain water harvesting and reuse, and evapotranspiration. LID BMPs also include flow-through practices such as biofiltration that may have some discharge of storm water following pollutant reduction.

**Major Outfall** – As defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, a major outfall is a MS4 outfall that discharges from a single pipe with an inside diameter of 36 inches or more or its equivalent (i.e. discharge from a single conveyance other than a circular pipe which is associated with a drainage area of more than 50 acres); or, for MS4s that receive storm water from lands zoned for industrial activity (based on comprehensive zoning plans or equivalent), a MS4 outfall that discharges from a single pipe with an inside diameter of 12 inches or more or from its equivalent

(i.e. discharge from other than a circular pipe associated with a drainage area of 2 acres or more).

**Maximum Daily Action Level (MDAL)** –The highest allowable daily discharge of a pollutant, over a calendar day (or 24 hour period). For pollutants with action levels expressed in units of mass, the daily discharge is calculated as the total mass of the pollutant discharged over the day. For pollutants with action levels expressed in other units of measurement, the daily discharge is calculated as the arithmetic mean measurement of the pollutant over the day.

**Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP)** – The technology-based standard established by Congress in CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) for storm water that operators of MS4s must meet. Technology-based standards establish the level of pollutant reductions that dischargers must achieve, typically by treatment or by a combination of source control and treatment control BMPs. MEP generally emphasizes pollution prevention and source control BMPs primarily (as the first line of defense) in combination with treatment methods serving as a backup (additional line of defense). MEP considers economics and is generally, but not necessarily, less stringent than BAT. A definition for MEP is not provided either in the statute or in the regulations. Instead the definition of MEP is dynamic and will be defined by the following process over time: municipalities propose their definition of MEP by way of their runoff management programs. Their total collective and individual activities conducted pursuant to the runoff management programs becomes their proposal for MEP as it applies both to their overall effort, as well as to specific activities (e.g., MEP for street sweeping, or MEP for MS4 maintenance). In the absence of a proposal acceptable to the San Diego Water Board, the San Diego Water Board defines MEP.

In a memo dated February 11, 1993, entitled "Definition of Maximum Extent Practicable," Elizabeth Jennings, Senior Staff Counsel, SWRCB addressed the achievement of the MEP standard as follows:

*"To achieve the MEP standard, municipalities must employ whatever Best Management Practices (BMPs) are technically feasible (i.e., are likely to be effective) and are not cost prohibitive. The major emphasis is on technical feasibility. Reducing pollutants to the MEP means choosing effective BMPs, and rejecting applicable BMPs only where other effective BMPs will serve the same purpose, or the BMPs would not be technically feasible, or the cost would be prohibitive. In selecting BMPs to achieve the MEP standard, the following factors may be useful to consider:*

- a. Effectiveness: Will the BMPs address a pollutant (or pollutant source) of concern?*
- b. Regulatory Compliance: Is the BMP in compliance with storm water regulations as well as other environmental regulations?*
- c. Public Acceptance: Does the BMP have public support?*
- d. Cost: Will the cost of implementing the BMP have a reasonable relationship to the pollution control benefits to be achieved?*
- e. Technical Feasibility: Is the BMP technically feasible considering soils, geography, water resources, etc.?*

*The final determination regarding whether a municipality has reduced pollutants to the maximum extent practicable can only be made by the Regional or State Water Boards, and not by the municipal discharger. If a municipality reviews a lengthy menu of BMPs and chooses to select only a few of the least expensive, it is likely that MEP has not been met. On the other hand, if a municipal discharger employs all applicable BMPs except those where it can show that they are not technically feasible in the locality, or whose cost would*

*exceed any benefit derived, it would have met the standard. Where a choice may be made between two BMPs that should provide generally comparable effectiveness, the discharger may choose the least expensive alternative and exclude the more expensive BMP. However, it would not be acceptable either to reject all BMPs that would address a pollutant source, or to pick a BMP based solely on cost, which would be clearly less effective. In selecting BMPs the municipality must make a serious attempt to comply and practical solutions may not be lightly rejected. In any case, the burden would be on the municipal discharger to show compliance with its permit. After selecting a menu of BMPs, it is the responsibility of the discharger to ensure that all BMPs are implemented.”*

**Monitoring Year** – October 1 to September 30

**Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)** – A conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, man-made channels, or storm drains): (i) Owned or operated by a State, city, town, borough, county, parish, district, association, or other public body (created by or pursuant to State law) having jurisdiction over disposal of sewage, industrial wastes, storm water, or other wastes, including special districts under State law such as a sewer district, flood control district or drainage district, or similar entity, or an Indian tribe or an authorized Indian tribal organization, or designated and approved management agency under section 208 of the CWA that discharges to waters of the United States; (ii) Designated or used for collecting or conveying storm water; (iii) Which is not a combined sewer; (iv) Which is not part of the Publicly Owned Treatment Works (POTW) as defined at 40 CFR 122.26.

**National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)** - The national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under Sections 307, 318, 402, and 405 of the CWA.

**Non-Storm Water** - All discharges to and from a MS4 that do not originate from precipitation events (i.e., all discharges from a MS4 other than storm water). Non-storm water includes illicit discharges and NPDES permitted discharges.

**Nuisance** - As defined in the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, a nuisance is “anything which meets all of the following requirements: 1) Is injurious to health, or is indecent, or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property. 2) Affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be unequal. 3) Occurs during, or as a result of, the treatment or disposal of wastes.”

**Ocean Waters** – the territorial marine waters of the State as defined by California law to the extent these waters are outside of enclosed bays, estuaries, and coastal lagoons. Discharges to ocean waters are regulated in accordance with the State Board’s California Ocean Plan.

**Order** – Unless otherwise specified, refers to this Order, Order No. R9-2013-0001 (NPDES No. CAS0109266)

**Persistent Flow** - Persistent flow is defined as the presence of flowing, pooled, or ponded water more than 72 hours after a measureable rainfall event of 0.1 inch or greater during three consecutive monitoring and/or inspection events. All other flowing, pooled, or ponded water is considered transient.

**Person** - A person is defined as an individual, association, partnership, corporation, municipality, State or Federal agency, or an agent or employee thereof [40 CFR 122.2].

**Point Source** - Any discernible, confined, and discrete conveyance, including, but not limited to, any pipe, ditch, channel, tunnel, conduit, well, discrete fissure, container, rolling stock, concentrated animal feeding operations, landfill leachate collection systems, vessel, or other floating craft from which pollutants are or may be discharged. This term does not include return flows from irrigated agriculture or agricultural storm water runoff.

**Pollutant** - Any agent that may cause or contribute to the degradation of water quality such that a condition of pollution or contamination is created or aggravated.

**Pollution** - As defined in the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, pollution is “the alteration of the quality of the waters of the State by waste, to a degree that unreasonably affects the either of the following: 1) The waters for beneficial uses; or 2) Facilities that serve these beneficial uses.” Pollution may include contamination.

**Pollution Prevention** - Pollution prevention is defined as practices and processes that reduce or eliminate the generation of pollutants, in contrast to source control BMPs, treatment control BMPs, or disposal.

**Pre-Development Runoff Conditions** – Runoff conditions that existed onsite before the existing development was constructed, or exists onsite before planned development activities occur.

**Priority Development Projects** - New development and redevelopment projects defined under Provision [E.3.b](#) of Order No. R9-2012-0011.

**Rainy Season (aka Wet Season)** –October 1 to April 30

**Receiving Waters** – Waters of the United States.

**Receiving Water Limitations** - Waste discharge requirements issued by the San Diego Water Board typically include both: (1) “Effluent Limitations” (or “Discharge Limitations”) that specify the technology-based or water-quality-based effluent limitations; and (2) “Receiving Water Limitations” that specify the water quality objectives in the Basin Plan as well as any other limitations necessary to attain those objectives. In summary, the “Receiving Water Limitations” provision is the provision used to implement the requirements of CWA section 402(p)(3)(B).

**Redevelopment** - The creation, addition, and or replacement of impervious surface on an already developed site. Examples include the expansion of a building footprint, road widening, the addition to or replacement of a structure, and creation or addition of impervious surfaces. Replacement of impervious surfaces includes any activity that is not part of a routine maintenance activity where impervious material(s) are removed, exposing underlying soil during construction. Redevelopment does not include trenching and resurfacing associated with utility work; resurfacing existing roadways; new sidewalk construction, pedestrian ramps, or bike lane on existing roads; and routine replacement of damaged pavement, such as pothole repair.



**Reporting Period** – The period of information that is reported in the Annual Report. The reporting period consists of two components: 1) July 1 to June 30, consistent with the fiscal year, for the implementation of the jurisdictional runoff management programs, and 2) October 1 to September 30, consistent with the monitoring year for the monitoring and assessment programs. Together, these two time periods constitute the reporting year for the Annual Report due January 31 following the end of the monitoring year.

**Retain** – Keep or hold in a particular place, condition, or position without discharge to surface waters.

**Retrofitting** – Storm water management practice put into place after development has occurred in watersheds where the practices previously did not exist. Retrofitting of developed areas is intended to improve water quality, protect downstream channels, reduce flooding, or meet other specific objectives. Retrofitting developed areas may include, but is not limited to replacing roofs with green roofs, disconnecting downspouts or impervious surfaces to drain to pervious surfaces, replacing impervious surfaces with pervious surfaces, installing rain barrels, installing rain gardens, and trash area enclosures.

**Runoff** - All flows in a storm water conveyance system that consists of the following components: (1) storm water (wet weather flows) and (2) non-storm water including dry weather flows.

**San Diego Water Board** – As used in this document the term "San Diego Water Board" is synonymous with the term "Regional Board" as defined in Water Code section 13050(b) and is intended to refer to the California Regional Water Quality Control Board for the San Diego Region as specified in Water Code Section 13200.

**Sediment** - Soil, sand, and minerals washed from land into water. Sediment resulting from anthropogenic sources (i.e. human induced land disturbance activities) is considered a pollutant. This Order regulates only the discharges of sediment from anthropogenic sources and does not regulate naturally occurring sources of sediment. Sediment can destroy fish-nesting areas, clog animal habitats, and cloud waters so that sunlight does not reach aquatic plants.

**Source Control BMP** – Land use or site planning practices, or structural or nonstructural measures that aim to prevent runoff pollution by reducing the potential for contamination at the source of pollution. Source control BMPs minimize the contact between pollutants and runoff.

**Storm Water** – Per 40 CFR 122.26(b)(13), means storm water runoff, snowmelt runoff and surface runoff and drainage. Surface runoff and drainage pertains to runoff and drainage resulting from precipitation events.

**Stream, Channel, or Habitat Rehabilitation** – Measures or activities for the purpose of improving or restoring the environmental health (i.e. physical, chemical and biological integrity) of streams, channels, or river systems. Rehabilitation techniques may include, but are not limited to, riparian zone restoration, constructed wetlands, bank stabilization, channel reconfiguration, and daylighting drainage systems.

**Structural BMPs** - A subset of BMPs which detains, retains, filters, removes, or prevents the release of pollutants to surface waters from development projects in perpetuity, after construction of a project is completed.

**Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)** - The maximum amount of a pollutant that can be discharged into a water body from all sources (point and non-point) and still maintain water quality standards. Under CWA section 303(d), TMDLs must be developed for all water bodies that do not meet water quality standards after application of technology-based controls.

**Toxicity** - Adverse responses of organisms to chemicals or physical agents ranging from mortality to physiological responses such as impaired reproduction or growth anomalies). The water quality objectives for toxicity provided in the Basin Plan, state in part...“All waters shall be free of toxic substances in concentrations that are toxic to, or that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life...The survival of aquatic life in surface waters subjected to a waste discharge or other controllable water quality factors, shall not be less than that for the same water body in areas unaffected by the waste discharge”.

**Treatment Control BMP** – Any engineered system designed to remove pollutants by simple gravity settling of particulate pollutants, filtration, biological uptake, media absorption or any other physical, biological, or chemical process.

**Unpaved Road** – Any long, narrow stretch without pavement used for traveling by motor passenger vehicles between two or more points. Unpaved roads are generally constructed of dirt, gravel, aggregate or macadam and may be improved or unimproved.

**Waste** - As defined in CWC Section 13050(d), “waste includes sewage and any and all other waste substances, liquid, solid, gaseous, or radioactive, associated with human habitation, or of human or animal origin, or from any producing, manufacturing, or processing operation, including waste placed within containers of whatever nature prior to, and for purposes of, disposal.”

Article 2 of CCR Title 23, Chapter 15 (Chapter 15) contains a waste classification system that applies to solid and semi-solid waste, which cannot be discharged directly or indirectly to water of the state and which therefore must be discharged to land for treatment, storage, or disposal in accordance with Chapter 15. There are four classifications of waste (listed in order of highest to lowest threat to water quality): hazardous waste, designated waste, non-hazardous solid waste, and inert waste.

**Water Quality Objective** - Numerical or narrative limits on constituents or characteristics of water designated to protect designated beneficial uses of the water. [California Water Code Section 13050 (h)]. California’s water quality objectives are established by the State and Regional Water Boards in the Water Quality Control Plans. Numeric or narrative limits for pollutants or characteristics of water designed to protect the beneficial uses of the water. In other words, a water quality objective is the maximum concentration of a pollutant that can exist in a receiving water and still generally ensure that the beneficial uses of the receiving water remain protected (i.e., not impaired). Since water quality objectives are designed specifically to protect the beneficial uses, when the objectives are violated the beneficial uses are, by definition, no longer protected and become impaired. This is a fundamental concept under the Porter Cologne Act. Equally fundamental is Porter Cologne’s definition of pollution. A condition of pollution exists when the water quality needed to support designated beneficial uses has become unreasonably affected or impaired; in other words, when the water quality objectives

have been violated. These underlying definitions (regarding beneficial use protection) are the reason why all waste discharge requirements implementing the federal NPDES regulations require compliance with water quality objectives. (Water quality objectives are also called water quality criteria in the CWA.)

**Water Quality Standards** - Water quality standards, as defined in Clean Water Act section 303(c) consist of the beneficial uses (e.g., swimming, fishing, municipal drinking water supply, etc.,) of a water body and criteria (referred to as water quality objectives in the California Water Code) necessary to protect those uses. Under the Water Code, the water boards establish beneficial uses and water quality objectives in water quality control or basin plans. Together with an anti-degradation policy, these beneficial uses and water quality objectives serve as water quality standards under the Clean Water Act. In Clean Water Act parlance, state beneficial uses are called “designated uses” and state water quality objectives are called “criteria.” Throughout this Order, the relevant term is used depending on the statutory scheme.

**Waters of the State** - Any water, surface or underground, including saline waters within the boundaries of the State [CWC section 13050 (e)]. The definition of the Waters of the State is broader than that for the Waters of the United States in that all water in the State is considered to be a Waters of the State regardless of circumstances or condition.

**Waters of the United States** - As defined in the 40 CFR 122.2, the Waters of the U.S. are defined as: “(a) All waters, which are currently used, were used in the past, or may be susceptible to use in interstate or foreign commerce, including all waters which are subject to the ebb and flow of the tide; (b) All interstate waters, including interstate “wetlands;” (c) All other waters such as intrastate lakes, rivers, streams (including intermittent streams), mudflats, sandflats, “wetlands,” sloughs, prairie potholes, wet meadows, playa lakes, or natural ponds the use, degradation or destruction of which would affect or could affect interstate or foreign commerce including any such waters: (1) Which are or could be used by interstate or foreign travelers for recreational or other purposes; (2) From which fish or shellfish are or could be taken and sold in interstate or foreign commerce; or (3) Which are used or could be used for industrial purposes by industries in interstate commerce; (d) All impoundments of waters otherwise defined as waters of the United States under this definition; (e) Tributaries of waters identified in paragraphs (a) through (d) of this definition; (f) The territorial seas; and (g) “Wetlands” adjacent to waters (other than waters that are themselves wetlands) identified in paragraphs (a) through (f) of this definition. Waters of the United States do not include prior converted cropland. Notwithstanding the determination of an area’s status as prior converted cropland by any other federal agency, for the purposes of the Clean Water Act, the final authority regarding Clean Water Act jurisdiction remains with the EPA.”

**Watershed** - That geographical area which drains to a specified point on a water course, usually a confluence of streams or rivers (also known as drainage area, catchment, or river basin).

**Wet Season (aka Rainy Season)** –October 1 to April 30

**Wet Weather** – Weather is considered wet if there is a storm event of 0.1 inches and greater and the following 72 hours, unless otherwise defined by another regulatory mechanism.

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**ATTACHMENT D**

**JURISDICTIONAL RUNOFF MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**  
**ANNUAL REPORT FORM**

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**JURISDICTIONAL RUNOFF MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
 ANNUAL REPORT FORM  
 FY \_\_\_\_\_**

<b>I. COPERMITTEE INFORMATION</b>	
Copermittee Name:	
Copermittee Primary Contact Name:	
Copermittee Primary Contact Information:	
Address:	
City:	County:
State:	Zip:
Telephone:	Fax:
Email:	
<b>II. LEGAL AUTHORITY</b>	
Has the Copermittee established adequate legal authority within its jurisdiction to control pollutant discharges into and from its MS4 that complies with Order No. R9-2013-0001?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
A Principal Executive Officer, Ranking Elected Official, or Duly Authorized Representative has certified that the Copermittee obtained and maintains adequate legal authority?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>III. JURISDICTIONAL RUNOFF MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DOCUMENT UPDATE</b>	
Was an update of the jurisdictional runoff management program document required or recommended by the San Diego Water Board?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
If YES to the question above, did the Copermittee update its jurisdictional runoff management program document and make it available on the Regional Clearinghouse?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>IV. ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION PROGRAM</b>	
Has the Copermittee implemented a program to actively detect and eliminate illicit discharges and connections to its MS4 that complies with Order No. R9-2013-0001?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Number of non-storm water discharges reported by the public	
Number of non-storm water discharges detected by Copermittee staff or contractors	
Number of non-storm water discharges investigated by the Copermittee	
Number of sources of non-storm water discharges identified	
Number of non-storm water discharges eliminated	
Number of sources of illicit discharges or connections identified	
Number of illicit discharges or connections eliminated	
Number of enforcement actions issued	
Number of escalated enforcement actions issued	
<b>V. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROGRAM</b>	
Has the Copermittee implemented a development planning program that complies with Order No. R9-2013-0001?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Was an update to the BMP Design Manual required or recommended by the San Diego Water Board?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
If YES to the question above, did the Copermittee update its BMP Design Manual and make it available on the Regional Clearinghouse?	YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Number of proposed development projects in review	
Number of Priority Development Projects in review	
Number of Priority Development Projects approved	
Number of approved Priority Development Projects exempt from any BMP requirements	
Number of approved Priority Development Projects allowed alternative compliance	
Number of Priority Development Projects granted occupancy	
Number of completed Priority Development Projects in inventory	
Number of high priority Priority Development Project structural BMP inspections	
Number of Priority Development Project structural BMP violations	
Number of enforcement actions issued	
Number of escalated enforcement actions issued	

**JURISDICTIONAL RUNOFF MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
 ANNUAL REPORT FORM  
 FY \_\_\_\_\_**

**VI. CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Has the Copermittee implemented a construction management program that complies with Order No. R9-2013-0001? YES   
NO

Number of construction sites in inventory	
Number of active construction sites in inventory	
Number of inactive construction sites in inventory	
Number of construction sites closed/completed during reporting period	
Number of construction site inspections	
Number of construction site violations	
Number of enforcement actions issued	
Number of escalated enforcement actions issued	

**VII. EXISTING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM**

Has the Copermittee implemented an existing development management program that complies with Order No. R9-2013-0001? YES   
NO

	Municipal	Commercial	Industrial	Residential
Number of facilities or areas in inventory				
Number of existing development inspections				
Number of follow-up inspections				
Number of violations				
Number of enforcement actions issued				
Number of escalated enforcement actions issued				

**VIII. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION**

Has the Copermittee implemented a public education program component that complies with Order No. R9-2013-0001? YES   
NO

Has the Copermittee implemented a public participation program component that complies with Order No. R9-2013-0001? YES   
NO

**IX. FISCAL ANALYSIS**

Has the Copermittee attached to this form a summary of its fiscal analysis that complies with Order No. R9-2013-0001? YES   
NO

**X. CERTIFICATION**

I [ Principal Executive Officer  Ranking Elected Official  Duly Authorized Representative] certify under penalty of law that I have personally examined and am familiar with the information submitted in this document and all attachments and that, based on my inquiry of those individuals immediately responsible for obtaining the information, I believe that the information is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for submitting false information, including the possibility of fine and imprisonment.

_____ Signature	_____ Date
_____ Print Name	_____ Title
_____ Telephone Number	_____ Email



**ATTACHMENT E****SPECIFIC PROVISIONS FOR TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS  
APPLICABLE TO ORDER NO. R9-2013-0001**

These provisions implement Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), adopted by the San Diego Water Board and approved by USEPA under Clean Water Act section 303(c), which are applicable to discharges regulated under this Order. The provisions and schedules for implementation of the TMDLs described below must be incorporated into the Water Quality Improvement Plans, required pursuant to Provision B of this Order, for the specified Watershed Management Areas.

1. Total Maximum Daily Load for Diazinon in Chollas Creek Watershed
2. Total Maximum Daily Loads for Dissolved Copper in Shelter Island Yacht Basin
3. Total Maximum Daily Loads for Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus in Rainbow Creek Watershed
4. Total Maximum Daily Loads for Dissolved Copper, Lead, and Zinc in Chollas Creek
5. Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria, Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor and Shelter Island Shoreline Park in San Diego Bay
6. Revised Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria, Project I – Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (Including Tecolote Creek)

## 1. Total Maximum Daily Load for Diazinon in Chollas Creek Watershed

### a. APPLICABILITY

- (1) TMDL Basin Plan Amendment: Resolution No. R9-2002-0123
- (2) TMDL Adoption and Approval Dates:
 

San Diego Water Board Adoption Date:	August 14, 2002
State Water Board Approval Date:	July 16, 2003
Office of Administrative Law Approval Date:	September 11, 2003
US EPA Approval Date:	November 3, 2003
- (3) TMDL Effective Date: September 11, 2003
- (4) Watershed Management Area: San Diego Bay
- (5) Water Body: Chollas Creek
- (6) Responsible Copermittees: City of La Mesa, City of Lemon Grove, City of San Diego, County of San Diego, San Diego Unified Port District

### b. WATER QUALITY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The WQBELs for Chollas Creek consist of the following:

#### (1) Receiving Water Limitations

Discharges from the MS4s must not cause or contribute to the violation of the following receiving water limitations by the end of the compliance schedule under Specific Provision 1.c:

**Table 1.1**

*Receiving Water Limitations as Concentrations in Chollas Creek*

Constituent	Exposure Duration	Receiving Water Limitation	Averaging Period
Diazinon	Acute	0.08 µg/L	1 hour
	Chronic	0.05 µg/L	4 days

#### (2) Effluent Limitations

Discharges from the MS4s must not contain concentrations that exceed the following effluent limitations by the end of the compliance schedule under Specific Provision 1.c:

**Table 1.2**

*Effluent Limitations as Concentrations in MS4 Discharges to Chollas Creek*

Constituent	Exposure Duration	Effluent Limitation	Averaging Period
Diazinon	Acute	0.072 µg/L	1 hour
	Chronic	0.045 µg/L	4 days

**(3) Best Management Practices**

The following BMPs for Chollas Creek must be incorporated into the Water Quality Improvement Plan for the San Diego Bay Watershed Management Area and implemented by the Responsible Copermittees:

- (a) The Responsible Copermittees must implement BMPs to support the achievement of the WQBELs under Specific Provision 1.b for Chollas Creek.
- (b) The Responsible Copermittees must implement the Diazinon Toxicity Control Plan and Diazinon Public Outreach/Education Program as described in the report titled, *Technical Report for Total Maximum Daily Load for Diazinon in Chollas Creek Watershed, San Diego County*, dated August 14, 2002, including subsequent modifications, in order to achieve the WQBELs under Specific Provision 1.b.
- (c) The Responsible Copermittees should coordinate any BMPs implemented to address this TMDL with Caltrans as possible.

**c. COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE**

The Responsible Copermittees are required to achieve their respective WLAs by December 31, 2010. The Responsible Copermittees must be in compliance with the WQBELs under Specific Provision 1.b.

**d. SPECIFIC MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

- (1) The Responsible Copermittees must implement the monitoring and assessment requirements issued under Investigation Order No. R9-2004-0277, *California Department of Transportation and San Diego Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Copermittees Responsible for the Discharge of Diazinon into the Chollas Creek Watershed*. The monitoring reports required under Investigation Order No. R9-2004-0277 must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision F.3.b of this Order.
- (2) The Responsible Copermittees must monitor the effluent of the MS4 outfalls for diazinon within the Chollas Creek watershed, and calculate or estimate the annual diazinon loads, in accordance with the requirements of Provisions D.2, D.4.b.(1), and D.4.b.(2) of this Order. The monitoring and assessment results must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision F.3.b of this Order.

**e. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

Compliance with WQBELs of Specific Provision 1.b may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:

- (1) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermitees' MS4s to the receiving water;
- (2) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 1.b.(1) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermitees' MS4 outfalls; OR
- (3) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision 1.b.(2) at the Responsible Copermitees' MS4 outfalls.

## 2. Total Maximum Daily Loads for Dissolved Copper in Shelter Island Yacht Basin

### a. APPLICABILITY

(1) TMDL Basin Plan Amendment: Resolution No. R9-2005-0019

(2) TMDL Adoption and Approval Dates:

San Diego Water Board Adoption Date:	February 9, 2005
State Water Board Approval Date:	September 22, 2005
Office of Administrative Law Approval Date:	December 2, 2005
US EPA Approval Date:	February 8, 2006

(3) TMDL Effective Date: December 2, 2005

(4) Watershed Management Area: San Diego Bay

(5) Water Body: Shelter Island Yacht Basin

(6) Responsible Copermittee: City of San Diegot

### b. WATER QUALITY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The WQBELs for Shelter Island Yacht Basin consist of the following:

(1) Receiving Water Limitations

Discharges from the MS4s must not cause or contribute to the violation of the following receiving water limitations by the end of the compliance schedule under Specific Provision 2.c:

**Table 2.1**

*Receiving Water Limitations as Concentrations in Shelter Island Yacht Basin*

Constituent	Exposure Duration	Receiving Water Limitation	Averaging Period
Dissolved Copper	Acute	4.8 µg/L	1 hour
	Chronic	3.1 µg/L	4 days

**(2) Effluent Limitations**

Discharges from the MS4s must not contain pollutant loads that exceed the following effluent limitations by the end of the compliance schedule under Specific Provision [2.c](#):

**Table 2.2**

*Effluent Limitations as Annual Loads in MS4 Discharges to Shelter Island Yacht Basin*

Constituent	Effluent Limitation
Dissolved Copper	30 kg/yr

**(3) Best Management Practices**

The Responsible Copermittee must implement BMPs to support the achievement of the WQBELs under Specific Provision [2.b](#) for Shelter Island Yacht Basin

**c. COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE**

The Responsible Copermittee is required to achieve the MS4 WLA by December 2, 2005. The Responsible Copermittee must be in compliance with the WQBELs under Specific Provision [2.b](#).

**d. SPECIFIC MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

The Responsible Copermittee must monitor the effluent of its MS4 outfalls for dissolved copper, and calculate or estimate the monthly and annual dissolved copper loads, in accordance with the requirements of Provisions [D.2](#), [D.4.b.\(1\)](#), and [D.4.\(b\)\(2\)](#) of this Order. The monitoring and assessment results must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision [F.3.b](#) of this Order.

**e. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

Compliance with WQBELs of Specific Provision [2.b](#) may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:

- (1) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermittee's MS4s to the receiving water;
- (2) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision [2.b.\(1\)](#) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittee's MS4 outfalls; OR
- (3) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision [2.b.\(2\)](#) at the Responsible Copermittee's MS4 outfalls.

### 3. Total Maximum Daily Loads for Total Nitrogen and Total Phosphorus in Rainbow Creek Watershed

#### a. APPLICABILITY

(1) TMDL Basin Plan Amendment: Resolution No. R9-2005-0036

(2) TMDL Adoption and Approval Dates:

San Diego Water Board Adoption Date:	February 9, 2005
State Water Board Approval Date:	November 16, 2005
Office of Administrative Law Approval Date:	February 1, 2006
US EPA Approval Date:	March 22, 2006

(3) TMDL Effective Date: February 1, 2006

(4) Watershed Management Area: Santa Margarita River

(5) Water Body: Rainbow Creek

(6) Responsible Copermittee: County of San Diego

#### b. WATER QUALITY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS

The WQBELs for Rainbow Creek consist of the following

(1) Receiving Water Limitations

Discharges from the MS4s must not cause or contribute to the violation of the following receiving water limitations by the end of the compliance schedule under Specific Provision [3.c.\(1\)](#):

**Table 3.1**  
*Receiving Water Limitations as Concentrations in Rainbow Creek*

Constituent	Receiving Water Limitation
Nitrate (as N)	10 mg/L
Total Nitrogen	1 mg/L
Total Phosphorus	0.1 mg/L

(2) Effluent Limitations

- (a) Discharges from the MS4s must not contain concentrations that exceed the following effluent limitations by the end of the compliance schedule under Specific Provision 3.c.(1):

**Table 3.2**

*Effluent Limitations as Concentrations in MS4 Discharges to Rainbow Creek*

<b>Constituent</b>	<b>Effluent Limitation</b>
Nitrate (as N)	10 mg/L
Total Nitrogen	1 mg/L
Total Phosphorus	0.1 mg/L

- (b) Pollutant loads from given land uses discharging to and from the MS4s must not exceed the following effluent limitations by the end of the compliance schedule under Specific Provision 3.c.(1):

**Table 3.3**

*Effluent Limitations as Annual Loads in MS4 Discharges to Rainbow Creek*

<b>Land Use</b>	<b>Total N</b>	<b>Total P</b>
Commercial nurseries	116 kg/yr	3 kg/yr
Park	3 kg/yr	0.1 kg/yr
Residential areas	149 kg/yr	12 kg/yr
Urban areas	27 kg/yr	6 kg/yr

Interim effluent limitations expressed as pollutant loads are given in the compliance schedule under Specific Provision 3.0.

(3) Best Management Practices

- (a) The Responsible Copermittee must implement BMPs to support the achievement of the WQBELs under Specific Provision 3.b for Rainbow Creek.
- (b) The Responsible Copermittee should coordinate any BMPs implemented to address this TMDL with Caltrans and other sources as possible.



**c. COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE**

(1) Compliance Date

The Responsible Copermittee must be in compliance with the WQBELs under Specific Provision 3.b, by December 31, 2021.

(2) Interim Compliance Requirements

**Table 3.4**

*Interim Effluent Limitations as Annual Loads in MS4 Discharges from Specific Land Uses to Rainbow Creek*

Land Use	Total N Interim Effluent Limitations (kg/yr)			Total P Interim Effluent Limitations (kg/yr)		
	Interim Compliance Date			Interim Compliance Date		
	2009	2013	2017	2009	2013	2017
Commercial nurseries	390	299	196	20	16	10
Park	5	3	3	0.15	0.10	0.10
Residential areas	507	390	260	99	74	47
Urban areas	40	27	27	9	6	6

**d. SPECIFIC MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

The Responsible Copermittee must implement the Sampling and Analysis Plan for Rainbow Creek Nutrient Reduction TMDL Implementation Water Quality Monitoring, dated January 2010. The results of any monitoring conducted during the reporting period, and assessment of whether the interim and final WQBELs have been achieved must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision F.3.b of this Order.

**e. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

(1) Compliance with interim compliance requirements of Specific Provision 3.c.(2) may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:

- (a) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermittee’s MS4s to the receiving water;
- (b) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 3.b.(1) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittee’s MS4 outfalls;
- (c) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision 3.b.(2)(a) at the Responsible Copermittee’s MS4 outfalls;
- (d) The pollutant loads from given land uses discharging to and from the MS4s do not exceed the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision 3.b.(2)(b); OR

- (e) The Responsible Copermittee has submitted and is fully implementing a Water Quality Improvement Plan, accepted by the San Diego Water Board, which provides reasonable assurance that the interim compliance requirements will be achieved by the interim compliance dates.
- (2) Compliance with WQBELs of Specific Provision 3.b may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:
- (a) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermittee's MS4s to the receiving water;
  - (b) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 3.b.(1) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittee's MS4 outfalls;
  - (c) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision 3.b.(2)(a) at the Responsible Copermittee's MS4 outfalls; OR
  - (d) The pollutant loads from given land uses discharging to and from the MS4s do not exceed the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision 3.b.(2)(b).

**4. Total Maximum Daily Loads for Dissolved Copper, Lead, and Zinc in Chollas Creek**

**a. APPLICABILITY**

(1) TMDL Basin Plan Amendment: Resolution No. R9-2007-0043

(2) TMDL Adoption and Approval Dates:

San Diego Water Board Adoption Date: June 13, 2007  
 State Water Board Approval Date: July 15, 2008  
 Office of Administrative Law Approval Date: October 22, 2008  
 US EPA Approval Date: December 18, 2008

(3) TMDL Effective Date: October 22, 2008

(4) Watershed Management Area: San Diego Bay

(5) Water Body: Chollas Creek

(6) Responsible Copermittees: City of La Mesa, City of Lemon Grove, City of San Diego, County of San Diego, San Diego Unified Port District

**b. WATER QUALITY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

The WQBELs for Chollas Creek consist of the following:

(1) Receiving Water Limitations

Discharges from the MS4s must not cause or contribute to the violation of the following receiving water limitations by the end of the compliance schedule under Specific Provision 4.c.(1):

**Table 4.1**  
*Receiving Water Limitations as Concentrations in Chollas Creek*

Constituent	Exposure Duration	Receiving Water Limitation (µg/L)	Averaging Period
Dissolved Copper	Acute	$(0.96) \times e^{[0.9422 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 1.700]} \times \text{WER}^*$	1 hour
	Chronic	$(0.96) \times e^{[0.8545 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 1.702]} \times \text{WER}^*$	4 days
Dissolved Lead	Acute	$[1.46203 - 0.145712 \times \ln(\text{hardness})] \times e^{[1.273 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 1.460]} \times \text{WER}^*$	1 hour
	Chronic	$[1.46203 - 0.145712 \times \ln(\text{hardness})] \times e^{[1.273 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 4.705]} \times \text{WER}^*$	4 days
Dissolved Zinc	Acute	$(0.978) \times e^{[0.8473 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) + 0.884]} \times \text{WER}^*$	1 hour
	Chronic	$(0.986) \times e^{[0.8473 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) + 0.884]} \times \text{WER}^*$	4 days

Notes:

\* The Water Effect Ratio (WER) is assumed to be 1.0 unless there is a site-specific and chemical-specific WER.

**(2) Effluent Limitations**

Discharges from the MS4s must not contain pollutant loads that exceed the following effluent limitations by the end of the compliance schedule under Specific Provision 4.c.(1):

**Table 4.2**

*Effluent Limitations as Concentrations in MS4 Discharges to Chollas Creek*

Constituent	Exposure Duration	Effluent Limitation (µg/L)	Averaging Period
Dissolved Copper	Acute	$90\% \times (0.96) \times e^{[0.9422 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 1.700]} \times \text{WER}^*$	1 hour
	Chronic	$90\% \times (0.96) \times e^{[0.8545 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 1.702]} \times \text{WER}^*$	4 days
Dissolved Lead	Acute	$90\% \times [1.46203 - 0.145712 \times \ln(\text{hardness})] \times e^{[1.273 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 1.460]} \times \text{WER}^*$	1 hour
	Chronic	$90\% \times [1.46203 - 0.145712 \times \ln(\text{hardness})] \times e^{[1.273 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 4.705]} \times \text{WER}^*$	4 days
Dissolved Zinc	Acute	$90\% \times (0.978) \times e^{[0.8473 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) + 0.884]} \times \text{WER}^*$	1 hour
	Chronic	$90\% \times (0.986) \times e^{[0.8473 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) + 0.884]} \times \text{WER}^*$	4 days

Notes:

\* The Water Effect Ratio (WER) is assumed to be 1.0 unless there is a site-specific and chemical-specific WER.

**(3) Best Management Practices**

- (a) The Responsible Copermittees must implement BMPs to support the achievement of the WQBELs under Specific Provision 4.b for Chollas Creek.
- (b) The Responsible Copermittees should coordinate any BMPs implemented to address this TMDL with Caltrans and the U.S. Navy as possible.

**c. COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE**

**(1) WLA Compliance Date**

The Responsible Copermittees are required to achieve the WLA, thus must be in compliance with the WQBELs under Specific Provision 4.b, by October 22, 2028.

**(2) Interim Compliance Requirements**

The Responsible Copermittee must comply with the following interim WQBELs by the interim compliance date:

**Table 4.3**

*Interim Effluent Limitations as Concentrations in MS4 Discharges to Chollas Creek*

Interim Compliance Date	Constituent	Exposure Duration	Effluent Limitation (µg/L)	Averaging Period
October 22, 2018	Dissolved Copper	Acute	$1.2 \times 90\% \times (0.96) \times e^{[0.9422 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 1.700]} \times \text{WER}^*$	1 hour
		Chronic	$1.2 \times 90\% \times (0.96) \times e^{[0.8545 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 1.702]} \times \text{WER}^*$	4 days
	Dissolved Lead	Acute	$1.2 \times 90\% \times [1.46203 - 0.145712 \times \ln(\text{hardness})] \times e^{[1.273 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 1.460]} \times \text{WER}^*$	1 hour
		Chronic	$1.2 \times 90\% \times [1.46203 - 0.145712 \times \ln(\text{hardness})] \times e^{[1.273 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) - 4.705]} \times \text{WER}^*$	4 days
	Dissolved Zinc	Acute	$1.2 \times 90\% \times (0.978) \times e^{[0.8473 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) + 0.884]} \times \text{WER}^*$	1 hour
		Chronic	$1.2 \times 90\% \times (0.986) \times e^{[0.8473 \times \ln(\text{hardness}) + 0.884]} \times \text{WER}^*$	4 days

Notes:

\* The Water Effect Ratio (WER) is assumed to be 1.0 unless there is a site-specific and chemical-specific WER.

**d. SPECIFIC MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

- (1) The Responsible Copermittees must implement the monitoring and assessment requirements issued under Investigation Order No. R9-2004-0277, *California Department of Transportation and San Diego Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Copermittees Responsible for the Discharge of Diazinon into the Chollas Creek Watershed*, when it is amended to include monitoring requirements for the Total Maximum Daily Loads for Dissolved Copper, Lead, and Zinc in Chollas Creek. The monitoring reports required under Investigation Order No. R9-2004-0277 must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision [F.3.b](#) of this Order.
- (2) The Responsible Copermittees must monitor the effluent of the MS4 outfalls discharging to Chollas Creek for dissolved copper, lead, and zinc, and calculate or estimate the monthly and annual dissolved copper, lead, and zinc loads, in accordance with the requirements of Provisions [D.2](#), [D.4.b.\(1\)](#), and [D.4.b.\(2\)](#) of this Order. The monitoring and assessment results must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision [F.3.b](#) of this Order.

**e. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

- (1) Compliance with interim compliance requirements of Specific Provision 4.c.(2) may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:
  - (a) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermittees' MS4s to the receiving water;
  - (b) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 4.b.(1) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;
  - (c) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision 4.b.(2) at the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls; OR
  - (d) The Responsible Copermittees have submitted and is fully implementing a Water Quality Improvement Plan, accepted by the San Diego Water Board, which provides reasonable assurance that the interim compliance requirements will be achieved by the interim compliance dates.
- (2) Compliance with WQBELs of Specific Provision 4.b may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:
  - (a) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermittees' MS4s to the receiving water;
  - (b) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 4.b.(1) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls; OR
  - (c) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision 4.b.(2) at the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls.

**5. Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria, Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor and Shelter Island Shoreline Park in San Diego Bay**

**a. APPLICABILITY**

(1) TMDL Basin Plan Amendment: Resolution No. R9-2008-0027

(2) TMDL Adoption and Approval Dates:

San Diego Water Board Adoption Date:	June 11, 2008
State Water Board Approval Date:	June 16, 2009
Office of Administrative Law Approval Date:	September 15, 2009
US EPA Approval Date:	October 26, 2009

(3) TMDL Effective Date: September 15, 2009

(4) Watershed Management Areas: See [Table 5.0](#)

(5) Water Bodies: See [Table 5.0](#)

(6) Responsible Copermittees: See [Table 5.0](#)

**Table 5.0**

*Applicability of Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria  
 Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor and Shelter Island Shoreline Park in San Diego Bay*

<b>Watershed Management Area</b>	<b>Water Body</b>	<b>Segment or Area</b>	<b>Responsible Copermittees</b>
South Orange County	Dana Point Harbor	Baby Beach	-City of Dana Point -County of Orange
San Diego Bay	San Diego Bay	Shelter Island Shoreline Park	- San Diego Unified Port District

**b. WATER QUALITY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

The WQBELs for segments or areas of the water bodies listed in [Table 5.0](#) consist of the following:

(1) Receiving Water Limitations

- (a) Discharges from the MS4s must not cause or contribute to the violation of the following receiving water limitations by the end of the compliance schedules under Specific Provisions [5.c.\(1\)\(a\)](#) and [5.c.\(2\)](#):

**Table 5.1**

*Receiving Water Limitations as Bacteria Densities in the Water Body*

<b>Receiving Water Limitations</b>		
<b>Constituent</b>	<b>Single Sample Maximum<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>30-Day Geometric Mean<sup>2</sup></b>
Total Coliform	10,000 MPN/100mL	1,000 MPN/100mL
Fecal Coliform	400 MPN/100mL	200 MPN/100mL
<i>Enterococcus</i>	104 MPN/100mL	35 MPN/100mL

Notes:

1. During wet weather days, only the single sample maximum receiving water limitations are required to be achieved.
2. During dry weather days, the single sample maximum and 30-day geometric mean receiving water limitations are required to be achieved.

- (b) If the above receiving water limitations are not met in the receiving water, the Responsible Copermittees must demonstrate that the discharges from the MS4s are not causing or contributing to the exceedance of receiving water limitations.

(2) Effluent Limitations

Discharges from the MS4s must not contain densities that exceed the following effluent limitations by the end of the compliance schedules under Specific Provisions [5.c.\(1\)\(a\)](#) and [5.c.\(2\)](#) to demonstrate the discharge is not causing or contributing to a violation of receiving water quality standards:

**Table 5.2**

*Effluent Limitations as Bacteria Densities in MS4 Discharges to the Water Body*

<b>Effluent Limitations</b>		
<b>Constituent</b>	<b>Single Sample Maximum<sup>1,2</sup></b>	<b>30-Day Geometric Mean<sup>2</sup></b>
Total Coliform	10,000 MPN/100mL	1,000 MPN/100mL
Fecal Coliform	400 MPN/100mL	200 MPN/100mL
<i>Enterococcus</i>	104 MPN/100mL	35 MPN/100mL

Notes:

1. During wet weather days, only the single sample maximum effluent limitations are required to be achieved.
2. During dry weather days, the single sample maximum and 30-day geometric mean effluent limitations are required to be achieved.

Interim effluent limitations expressed as pollutant loads are given in the compliance schedule under Specific Provision [5.c.](#)



(3) Best Management Practices

- (a) The Water Quality Improvement Plans for the applicable Watershed Management Areas in [Table 5.0](#) must incorporate the Bacteria Load Reduction Plan (BLRP) required to be developed pursuant to Resolution No. R9-2008-0027.
- (b) The Responsible Copermittee must implement BMPs to support the achievement of the WQBELs under Specific Provision [5.0](#) for the segments or areas of the water bodies listed in [Table 5.0](#)

**c. COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE**

(1) Baby Beach in Dana Point Harbor

(a) WLA Compliance Dates

The Responsible Copermittees for MS4 discharges to Baby Beach are required to achieve the WLA, thus must be in compliance with the WQBELs under Specific Provision [5.0](#), according to the following compliance schedule:

**Table 5.3**

*Compliance Schedule Dates to Achieve Baby Beach WLAs*

Constituent	Dry Weather WLA Compliance Date	Wet Weather WLA Compliance Date
Total Coliform	September 15, 2014	September 15, 2009
Fecal Coliform		September 15, 2009
<i>Enterococcus</i>		September 15, 2019

(b) Interim Compliance Requirements

The Responsible Copermittees for MS4 discharges to Baby Beach must comply with the following interim WQBELs by the interim compliance date:

**Table 5.4**

*Interim Effluent Limitations as Loads in MS4 Discharges to Baby Beach*

Constituent	Interim Compliance Date	Dry Weather Interim Effluent Limitation	Wet Weather Interim Effluent Limitation
Total Coliform	September 15, 2012	4.93x10 <sup>9</sup> MPN/day	NA*
Fecal Coliform	September 15, 2012	0.59x10 <sup>9</sup> MPN/day	NA*
<i>Enterococcus</i>	September 15, 2012	0.42x10 <sup>9</sup> MPN/day	NA**
	September 15, 2016	NA*	207x10 <sup>9</sup> MPN/30days

Notes:

\* The WQBELs under Specific Provision [5.b](#) must already be achieved by the given interim compliance date.

\*\* There is no corresponding interim WQBEL for the given interim compliance date.

(2) Shelter Island Shoreline Park in San Diego Bay

The Responsible Copermittee for MS4 discharges to Shelter Island Shoreline Park is required to achieve the WLA, thus must be in compliance with the WQBELs under Specific Provision [5.0](#), by December 31, 2012.

#### **d. SPECIFIC MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

##### **(1) Monitoring Stations**

Monitoring locations should consist of, at a minimum, the same locations used to collect data required pursuant to Order Nos. R9-2007-0001 and R9-2009-0002, and beach monitoring for Health and Safety Code section 115880.<sup>33</sup> If exceedances of the applicable interim or final receiving water limitations are observed in the monitoring data, additional monitoring locations and/or other source identification methods must be implemented to identify the sources causing the exceedances. The additional monitoring locations must also be used to demonstrate that the bacteria loads from the identified anthropogenic sources have been addressed and are no longer causing exceedances in the receiving waters.

##### **(2) Monitoring Procedures**

- (a) The Responsible Copermittees must collect dry weather monitoring samples from the receiving water monitoring stations at least monthly. Dry weather samples collected from additional monitoring stations established to identify sources must be collected at an appropriate frequency to demonstrate bacteria loads from the identified anthropogenic sources have been addressed and are no longer causing exceedances in the receiving waters.
- (b) The Responsible Copermittees must collect wet weather monitoring samples within the first 24 hours of the first storm event<sup>34</sup> of the rainy season (i.e. October 1 through April 30). Wet weather samples collected from receiving water stations and any additional monitoring stations established to identify sources must be collected at an appropriate frequency to demonstrate bacteria loads from the identified sources have been addressed and are no longer causing exceedances in the receiving waters.
- (c) Samples must be analyzed for total coliform, fecal coliform, and *Enterococcus* indicator bacteria.

##### **(3) Assessment and Reporting Requirements**

- (a) The Responsible Copermittees must analyze the dry weather and wet weather monitoring data to assess whether the interim and final WQBELs have been achieved.

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<sup>33</sup> Commonly referred to as AB 411 monitoring

<sup>34</sup> Wet weather days are defined by the TMDL as storm events of 0.2 inches or greater and the following 72 hours. The Responsible Copermittees may choose to limit their wet weather sampling requirements to storm events of 0.2 inches or greater, or also include storm events of 0.1 inches or greater as defined by the federal regulations [40CFR122.26(d)(2)(iii)(A)(2)].

- (b) The monitoring and assessment results must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision [F.3.b](#) of this Order.

**e. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

- (1) Compliance with interim compliance requirements of Specific Provision [5.c.\(1\)\(b\)](#) may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:
  - (a) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermittees' MS4s to the receiving water;
  - (b) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision [5.b.\(1\)\(a\)](#) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;
  - (c) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision [5.b.\(2\)](#) at the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;
  - (d) The pollutant loads discharging from the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls do not exceed the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision [5.c.\(1\)\(b\)](#);
  - (e) The Responsible Copermittees can demonstrate that exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision [5.b.\(1\)\(a\)](#) in the receiving water are due to loads from natural sources, AND pollutant loads from the Copermittees' MS4 are not causing or contributing to the exceedances; OR
  - (f) The Responsible Copermittees have submitted and are fully implementing a Water Quality Improvement Plan, accepted by the San Diego Water Board, which provides reasonable assurance that the interim compliance requirements will be achieved by the interim compliance dates.
- (2) Compliance with WQBELs of Specific Provision [5.b](#) may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:
  - (a) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermittees' MS4s to the receiving water;
  - (b) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision [5.b.\(1\)\(a\)](#) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;
  - (c) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision [5.b.\(2\)](#) at the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;

- (d) The pollutant loads discharging from the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls do not exceed the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision [5.c.\(1\)\(b\)](#); OR
- (e) The Responsible Copermittees can demonstrate that exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision [5.b.\(1\)\(a\)](#) in the receiving water are due to loads from natural sources, AND pollutant loads from the Copermittees' MS4 are not causing or contributing to the exceedances.

**6. Revised Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria, Project I – Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (Including Tecolote Creek)**

**a. APPLICABILITY**

(1) TMDL Basin Plan Amendment: Resolution No. R9-2010-0001

(2) TMDL Adoption and Approval Dates:

San Diego Water Board Adoption Date:	February 10, 2010
State Water Board Approval Date:	December 14, 2010
Office of Administrative Law Approval Date:	April 4, 2011
US EPA Approval Date:	June 22, 2011

(3) TMDL Effective Date: April 4, 2011

(4) Watershed Management Areas: See [Table 6.0](#)

(5) Water Bodies: See [Table 6.0](#)

(6) Responsible Copermittees: See [Table 6.0](#)

**Table 6.0**

*Applicability of Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria  
 Project I - Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (including Tecolote Creek)*

Watershed Management Area	Water Body	Segment or Area	Responsible Copermittees
South Orange County	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Cameo Cove at Irvine Cove Drive – Riviera Way	-City of Laguna Beach -County of Orange -Orange County Flood Control District
		at Heisler Park - North	
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at Main Laguna Beach	-City of Aliso Viejo -City of Laguna Beach -City of Laguna Woods -County of Orange -Orange County Flood Control District
		Laguna Beach at Ocean Avenue	
		Laguna Beach at Cleo Street	
		Arch Cove at Bluebird Canyon Road	
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Laguna Beach at Dumond Drive	-City of Aliso Viejo -City of Laguna Beach -City of Laguna Hills -City of Laguna Niguel -City of Laguna Woods -City of Lake Forest -City of Mission Viejo -County of Orange -Orange County Flood Control District
Laguna Beach at Lagunita Place / Blue Lagoon Place at Aliso Beach			
Aliso Creek	Entire reach (7.2 miles) and associated tributaries: - Aliso Hills Channel - English Canyon Creek - Dairy Fork Creek - Sulfur Creek - Wood Canyon Creek	at mouth	
			Aliso Creek Mouth

**Table 6.0 (Cont'd)**

*Applicability of Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria*

*Project I - Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (including Tecolote Creek)*

<b>Watershed Management Area</b>	<b>Water Body</b>	<b>Segment or Area</b>	<b>Responsible Copermittees</b>
South Orange County (cont'd)	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Aliso Beach at West Street	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-City of Dana Point</li> <li>-City of Laguna Beach</li> <li>-City of Laguna Niguel</li> <li>-County of Orange</li> <li>-Orange County Flood Control District</li> </ul>
		Aliso Beach at Table Rock Drive	
		100 Steps Beach at Pacific Coast Hwy at hospital (9 <sup>th</sup> Avenue)	
		at Salt Creek (large outlet)	
		Salt Creek Beach at Salt Creek service road	
		Salt Creek Beach at Strand Road	
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Juan Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-City of Dana Point</li> <li>-City of Laguna Hills</li> <li>-City of Laguna Niguel</li> <li>-City of Mission Viejo</li> <li>-City of Rancho Santa Margarita</li> <li>-City of San Juan Capistrano</li> <li>-County of Orange</li> <li>-Orange County Flood Control District</li> </ul>
	San Juan Creek	lower 1 mile	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-City of San Juan Capistrano</li> <li>-County of Orange</li> <li>-Orange County Flood Control District</li> </ul>
	San Juan Creek Mouth	at mouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-City of Dana Point</li> <li>-City of San Clemente</li> <li>-County of Orange</li> <li>-Orange County Flood Control District</li> </ul>
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at Poche Beach	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-City of Dana Point</li> <li>-City of San Clemente</li> <li>-County of Orange</li> <li>-Orange County Flood Control District</li> </ul>
		Ole Hanson Beach Club Beach at Pico Drain	
		San Clemente City Beach at El Portal Street Stairs	
		San Clemente City Beach at Mariposa Street	
		San Clemente City Beach at Linda Lane	
		San Clemente City Beach at South Linda Lane	
San Clemente City Beach at Lifeguard Headquarters			
under San Clemente Municipal Pier			
San Clemente City Beach at Trafalgar Canyon (Trafalgar Lane)			
San Clemente State Beach at Riviera Beach			
Can Clemente State Beach at Cypress Shores			
San Luis Rey River	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Luis Rey River mouth	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>-City of Oceanside</li> <li>-City of Vista</li> <li>-County of San Diego</li> </ul>

**Table 6.0 (Cont'd)**

*Applicability of Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria  
 Project I - Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (including Tecolote Creek)*

<b>Watershed Management Area</b>	<b>Water Body</b>	<b>Segment or Area</b>	<b>Responsible Copermittees</b>
Carlsbad	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at Moonlight State Beach	-City of Carlsbad -City of Encinitas -City of Escondido -City of San Marcos -County of San Diego
San Dieguito River	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Dieguito Lagoon mouth	-City of Del Mar -City of Escondido -City of Poway -City of San Diego -City of Solana Beach -County of San Diego
Penasquitos	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Torrey Pines State Beach at Del Mar (Anderson Canyon)	-City of Del Mar -City of Poway -City of San Diego -County of San Diego
Mission Bay	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	La Jolla Shores Beach at El Paseo Grande	-City of San Diego
		La Jolla Shores Beach at Caminito del Oro	
		La Jolla Shores Beach at Vallecitos	
		La Jolla Shores Beach at Avenida de la Playa	
		at Casa Beach, Children's Pool	
		South Casa Beach at Coast Boulevard	
		Whispering Sands Beach at Ravina Street	
		Windansea Beach at Vista de la Playa	
		Windansea Beach at Bonair Street	
		Windansea Beach at Playa del Norte	
		Windansea Beach at Palomar Avenue	
		at Tourmaline Surf Park	
		Pacific Beach at Grand Avenue	
	Tecolote Creek	Entire reach and tributaries	

**Table 6.0 (Cont'd)**

*Applicability of Total Maximum Daily Loads for Indicator Bacteria*

*Project I- Twenty Beaches and Creeks in the San Diego Region (including Tecolote Creek)*

Watershed Management Area	Water Body	Segment or Area	Responsible Copermittees
San Diego River	Forrester Creek	lower 1 mile	-City of El Cajon -City of Santee -County of San Diego
	San Diego River	lower 6 miles	-City of El Cajon -City of La Mesa
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Diego River mouth at Dog Beach	-City of San Diego -City of Santee -County of San Diego
San Diego Bay	Chollas Creek	lower 1.2 miles	-City of La Mesa -City of Lemon Grove -City of San Diego -County of San Diego - San Diego Unified Port District

**b. WATER QUALITY BASED EFFLUENT LIMITATIONS**

The WQBELs for segments or areas of the water bodies listed in [Table 6.0](#) consist of the following:

**(1) Receiving Water Limitations**

- (a) Discharges from the MS4s must not cause or contribute to the violation of the following receiving water limitations by the end of the compliance schedules under Specific Provision [6.c.\(1\)](#):

**Table 6.1**

*Receiving Water Limitations as Bacteria Densities and Allowable Exceedance Frequencies in the Water Body*

Constituent	Receiving Water Limitations			
	Single Sample Maximum <sup>1,2</sup> (MPN/100mL)	Single Sample Maximum Allowable Exceedance Frequency <sup>3</sup>	30-Day Geometric Mean <sup>2</sup> (MPN/100mL)	30-Day Geometric Mean Allowable Exceedance Frequency
Total Coliform	10,000	22% / 0%	1,000	0%
Fecal Coliform	400	22% / 0%	200	0%
<i>Enterococcus</i>	10 <sup>4</sup> / 61 <sup>5</sup>	22% / 0%	35 <sup>4</sup> / 33 <sup>5</sup>	0%

Notes:

1. During wet weather days, only the single sample maximum receiving water limitations are required to be achieved.
2. During dry weather days, the single sample maximum and 30-day geometric mean receiving water limitations are required to be achieved.
3. The 22% single sample maximum allowable exceedance frequency only applies to wet weather days. The 0% single sample maximum allowable exceedance frequency applies to dry weather days.
4. This *Enterococcus* receiving water limitation applies to segments of areas of Pacific Ocean Shoreline listed in [Table 6.0](#).
5. This *Enterococcus* receiving water limitations applies to segments or areas of creeks or creek mouths listed in [Table 6.0](#).

Interim receiving water limitations expressed as allowable exceedance frequencies are given in the compliance schedule under Specific Provision [6.c](#).



(b) If the above receiving water limitations are not met in the receiving water, the Responsible Copermittees must demonstrate that the discharges from the MS4s are not causing or contributing to the violation of receiving water limitations. The Copermittee must provide data that demonstrate the discharges from the MS4s are meeting the effluent limitations under Specific Provision 6.b.(2).

**(2) Effluent Limitations**

Discharges from the MS4s must not contain densities that exceed the following effluent limitations by the end of the compliance schedules under Specific Provision 6.c.(1) to demonstrate the discharge is not causing or contributing to a violation of receiving water quality standards:

**Table 6.2**

*Effluent Limitations as Bacteria Densities and Allowable Exceedance Frequencies in MS4 Discharges to the Water Body*

Effluent Limitations				
Constituent	Single Sample Maximum <sup>1,2</sup> (MPN/100mL)	Single Sample Maximum Allowable Exceedance Frequency <sup>3</sup>	30-Day Geometric Mean <sup>2</sup> (MPN/100mL)	30-Day Geometric Mean Allowable Exceedance Frequency
Total Coliform	10,000	22% / 0%	1,000	0%
Fecal Coliform	400	22% / 0%	200	0%
<i>Enterococcus</i>	104 <sup>4</sup> / 61 <sup>5</sup>	22% / 0%	35 <sup>4</sup> / 33 <sup>5</sup>	0%

Notes:

1. During wet weather days, only the single sample maximum effluent limitations are required to be achieved.
2. During dry weather days, the single sample maximum and 30-day geometric mean effluent limitations are required to be achieved.
3. The 22% single sample maximum allowable exceedance frequency only applies to wet weather days. The 0% single sample maximum allowable exceedance frequency applies to dry weather days.
4. This *Enterococcus* effluent limitation applies to MS4 discharges to segments of areas of Pacific Ocean Shoreline listed in Table 6.0.
5. This *Enterococcus* effluent limitation applies to MS4 discharges to segments or areas of creeks or creek mouths listed in Table 6.0.

Interim effluent limitations expressed as allowable exceedance frequencies are given in the compliance schedule under Specific Provision 6.c.

**(3) Best Management Practices**

- (a) The Water Quality Improvement Plans for the applicable Watershed Management Areas in Table 6.0 must incorporate the Comprehensive Load Reduction Plans (CLRPs) required to be developed pursuant to Resolution No. R9-2010-0001. For segments or areas in Table 6.0 that have been delisted from the Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments, a CLRP is not required.
- (b) The Responsible Copermittee must implement BMPs to support the achievement of the WQBELs under Specific Provision 6.b for the segments or areas of the water bodies listed in Table 6.0.
- (c) The Responsible Copermittees should coordinate any BMPs implemented to address this TMDL with Caltrans and owners/operators of small MS4s as possible.

**c. COMPLIANCE SCHEDULE**

**(1) WLA Compliance Dates**

The Responsible Copermittees for MS4 discharges to a segment or area of the water bodies listed in [Table 6.0](#) are required to achieve the WLA, thus must be in compliance with the WQBELs under Specific Provision [6.b](#), according to the following compliance schedule:

**Table 6.3**

*Compliance Schedule Dates to Achieve Indicator Bacteria WLAs*

Constituent	Dry Weather WLA Compliance Date	Wet Weather WLA Compliance Date
Total Coliform*	April 4, 2021	April 4, 2031
Fecal Coliform		
<i>Enterococcus</i>		

\* Total coliform receiving water limitations only apply to segments or areas of Pacific Ocean Shoreline listed in [Table 6.0](#).

**(2) Interim Compliance Requirements**

The Responsible Copermittees must comply with the following interim WQBELs by the interim compliance dates:

**(a) Interim Dry Weather Receiving Water Limitations**

The Responsible Copermittee must calculate the “existing” exceedance frequencies of the 30-day geometric mean water quality objectives for each of the indicator bacteria by analyzing the available monitoring data collected between January 1, 1996 and December 31, 2002. “Existing” exceedance frequencies may be calculated by segment or area of a water body, or by water body, and/or by Watershed Management Area listed in [Table 6.0](#). Separate “existing” exceedance frequencies must be calculated for beaches and creeks/creek mouths.

The Responsible Copermittees must achieve a 50 percent reduction in the “existing” exceedance frequency of the 30-day geometric mean WQBELs for the segments or areas of the water bodies listed in [Table 6.0](#) by the interim compliance dates for achieving the interim dry weather WQBELs given in [Table 6.5](#). A 50 percent reduction in the “existing” exceedance frequency is equivalent to half of the “existing” exceedance frequency of the 30-day geometric mean WQBELs.

The “existing” exceedance frequencies and the interim dry weather allowable exceedance frequencies (i.e. interim dry weather WQBELs) calculated by the Responsible Copermittees must be included in the Water Quality Improvement Plans for the applicable Watershed Management Areas.

(b) Interim Wet Weather Receiving Water Limitations

The Responsible Copermittees must achieve the interim wet weather receiving water limitations in [Table 6.4](#), expressed as interim allowable exceedance frequencies, by the interim compliance dates for achieving the interim wet weather WQBELs given in [Table 6.5](#).

**Table 6.4**

*Interim Wet Weather Receiving Water Limitations Expressed as Interim Wet Weather Allowable Exceedance Frequencies*

Watershed Management Area	Water Body	Segment or Area	Interim Wet Weather Allowable Exceedance Frequencies					
			Total Coliform	Fecal Coliform	Enterococcus			
South Orange County	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Cameo Cove at Irvine Cove Drive – Riviera Way	38%	37%	39%			
		at Heisler Park - North						
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at Main Laguna Beach						
		Laguna Beach at Ocean Avenue						
		Laguna Beach at Cleo Street						
		Arch Cove at Bluebird Canyon Road						
		Laguna Beach at Dumond Drive						
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Laguna Beach at Lagunita Place / Blue Lagoon Place at Aliso Beach				41%	41%	42%
	Aliso Creek	Entire reach (7.2 miles) and associated tributaries: - Aliso Hills Channel - English Canyon Creek - Dairy Fork Creek - Sulfur Creek - Wood Canyon Creek				41%	41%	42%
	Aliso Creek Mouth	at mouth				41%	41%	42%
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Aliso Beach at West Street				36%	36%	36%
		Aliso Beach at Table Rock Drive						
		100 Steps Beach at Pacific Coast Hwy at hospital (9 <sup>th</sup> Avenue)						
at Salt Creek (large outlet)								
Salt Creek Beach at Salt Creek service road								
	Salt Creek Beach at Strand Road							

**Table 6.4 (Cont'd)**  
*Interim Wet Weather Receiving Water Limitations Expressed as  
Interim Wet Weather Allowable Exceedance Frequencies*

Watershed Management Area	Water Body	Segment or Area	Interim Wet Weather Allowable Exceedance Frequencies			
			Total Coliform	Fecal Coliform	Enterococcus	
South Orange County (cont'd)	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Juan Creek	44%	44%	48%	
	San Juan Creek	lower 1 mile	44%	44%	47%	
	San Juan Creek Mouth	at mouth	44%	44%	47%	
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at Poche Beach		35%	35%	36%
		Ole Hanson Beach Club Beach at Pico Drain				
		San Clemente City Beach at El Portal Street Stairs				
		San Clemente City Beach at Mariposa Street				
		San Clemente City Beach at Linda Lane				
		San Clemente City Beach at South Linda Lane				
		San Clemente City Beach at Lifeguard Headquarters				
		under San Clemente Municipal Pier				
		San Clemente City Beach at Trafalgar Canyon (Trafalgar Lane)				
		San Clemente State Beach at Riviera Beach				
San Clemente State Beach at Cypress Shores						
San Luis Rey River	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Luis Rey River mouth	45%	44%	47%	
Carlsbad	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at Moonlight State Beach	40%	40%	41%	
San Dieguito River	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Dieguito Lagoon mouth	33%	33%	36%	

**Table 6.4 (Cont'd)**

*Interim Wet Weather Receiving Water Limitations Expressed as Interim Wet Weather Allowable Exceedance Frequencies*

Watershed Management Area	Water Body	Segment or Area	Interim Wet Weather Allowable Exceedance Frequencies		
			Total Coliform	Fecal Coliform	Enterococcus
Penasquitos	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Torrey Pines State Beach at Del Mar (Anderson Canyon)	26%	26%	26%
Mission Bay	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	La Jolla Shores Beach at El Paseo Grande	37%	37%	37%
		La Jolla Shores Beach at Caminito del Oro			
		La Jolla Shores Beach at Vallecitos			
		La Jolla Shores Beach at Avenida de la Playa			
		at Casa Beach, Children's Pool			
		South Casa Beach at Coast Boulevard			
		Whispering Sands Beach at Ravina Street			
		Windansea Beach at Vista de la Playa			
		Windansea Beach at Bonair Street			
		Windansea Beach at Playa del Norte			
		Windansea Beach at Palomar Avenue			
at Tourmaline Surf Park					
	Tecolote Creek	Entire reach and tributaries	49%	49%	51%
San Diego River	Forrester Creek	lower 1 mile	46%	43%	49%
	San Diego River	lower 6 miles	46%	43%	49%
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Diego River mouth at Dog Beach	46%	43%	51%
San Diego Bay	Chollas Creek	lower 1.2 miles	41%	41%	43%

(c) Interim Compliance Dates

The Responsible Copermittees must achieve the interim receiving water limitations under Specific Provisions 6.c.(2)(a) and 6.c.(2)(b) by the interim compliance dates given in Table 6.5.

**Table 6.5**

*Interim Compliance Dates to Achieve Interim WQBELs*

Watershed Management Area	Water Body	Segment or Area	Interim Compliance Dates	
			Interim Dry Weather WQBELs	Interim Wet Weather WQBELs
South Orange County	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Cameo Cove at Irvine Cove Drive – Riviera Way	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
		at Heisler Park - North		
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at Main Laguna Beach	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
		Laguna Beach at Ocean Avenue		
		Laguna Beach at Cleo Street		
		Arch Cove at Bluebird Canyon Road		
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Laguna Beach at Dumond Drive	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
		Laguna Beach at Lagunita Place / Blue Lagoon Place at Aliso Beach		
	Aliso Creek	Entire reach (7.2 miles) and associated tributaries: - Aliso Hills Channel - English Canyon Creek - Dairy Fork Creek - Sulfur Creek - Wood Canyon Creek	April 4, 2018	April 4, 2021
	Aliso Creek Mouth	at mouth	April 4, 2018	April 4, 2021
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Aliso Beach at West Street	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
		Aliso Beach at Table Rock Drive		
		100 Steps Beach at Pacific Coast Hwy at hospital (9 <sup>th</sup> Avenue)		
at Salt Creek (large outlet)				
Salt Creek Beach at Salt Creek service road		April 4, 2017		
	Salt Creek Beach at Strand Road	April 4, 2017	April 4, 2021	

**Table 6.5 (Cont'd)**  
*Interim Compliance Dates to Achieve Interim WQBELs*

Watershed Management Area	Water Body	Segment or Area	Interim Compliance Dates		
			Interim Dry Weather WQBELs	Interim Wet Weather WQBELs	
South Orange County (cont'd)	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Juan Creek	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021	
	San Juan Creek	lower 1 mile	April 4, 2018	April 4, 2021	
	San Juan Creek Mouth	at mouth	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021	
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline		at Poche Beach	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
			Ole Hanson Beach Club Beach at Pico Drain	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
			San Clemente City Beach at El Portal Street Stairs	April 4, 2017	April 4, 2021
			San Clemente City Beach at Mariposa Street		
			San Clemente City Beach at Linda Lane	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
			San Clemente City Beach at South Linda Lane	April 4, 2018	April 4, 2021
			San Clemente City Beach at Lifeguard Headquarters	April 4, 2017	April 4, 2021
			under San Clemente Municipal Pier		
			San Clemente City Beach at Trafalgar Canyon (Trafalgar Lane)	April 4, 2018	April 4, 2021
			San Clemente State Beach at Riviera Beach	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
	San Clemente State Beach at Cypress Shores	April 4, 2017	April 4, 2021		
San Luis Rey River	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Luis Rey River mouth	April 4, 2017	April 4, 2021	
Carlsbad	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at Moonlight State Beach	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021	
San Dieguito River	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Dieguito Lagoon mouth	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021	

**Table 6.5 (Cont'd)**  
*Interim Compliance Dates to Achieve Interim WQBELs*

Watershed Management Area	Water Body	Segment or Area	Interim Compliance Dates	
			Interim Dry Weather WQBELs	Interim Wet Weather WQBELs
Penasquitos	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	Torrey Pines State Beach at Del Mar (Anderson Canyon)	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
Mission Bay	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	La Jolla Shores Beach at El Paseo Grande	April 4, 2016	April 4, 2021
		La Jolla Shores Beach at Caminito del Oro		
		La Jolla Shores Beach at Vallecitos		
		La Jolla Shores Beach at Avenida de la Playa		
		at Casa Beach, Children's Pool		
		South Casa Beach at Coast Boulevard		
		Whispering Sands Beach at Ravina Street		
		Windansea Beach at Vista de la Playa		
		Windansea Beach at Bonair Street		
		Windansea Beach at Playa del Norte		
		Windansea Beach at Palomar Avenue		
		at Tourmaline Surf Park		
		Pacific Beach at Grand Avenue		
	Tecolote Creek	Entire reach and tributaries		
San Diego River	Forrester Creek	lower 1 mile	April 4, 2018	April 4, 2021
	San Diego River	lower 6 miles		
	Pacific Ocean Shoreline	at San Diego River mouth at Dog Beach		
San Diego Bay	Chollas Creek	lower 1.2 miles	April 4, 2018	April 4, 2021

**d. SPECIFIC MONITORING AND ASSESSMENT REQUIREMENTS**

**(1) Monitoring and Assessment Requirements for Beaches**

**(a) Monitoring Stations**

For beaches addressed by the TMDL, monitoring locations should consist of, at a minimum, the same locations used to collect data required pursuant to Order Nos. R9-2007-0001 and R9-2009-0002, and beach monitoring for Health and Safety Code section 115880.<sup>35</sup> If exceedances

<sup>35</sup> Commonly referred to as AB 411 monitoring



of the applicable interim or final receiving water limitations are observed in the monitoring data, additional monitoring locations and/or other source identification methods must be implemented to identify the sources causing the exceedances. The additional monitoring locations must also be used to demonstrate that the bacteria loads from the identified anthropogenic sources have been addressed and are no longer causing exceedances in the receiving waters.

(b) Monitoring Procedures

- (i) The Responsible Copermittees must collect dry weather monitoring samples from the receiving water monitoring stations at least monthly. Dry weather samples collected from additional monitoring stations established to identify sources must be collected at an appropriate frequency to demonstrate bacteria loads from the identified sources have been addressed and are no longer causing exceedances in the receiving waters.
- (ii) The Responsible Copermittees must collect wet weather monitoring samples from the receiving water monitoring stations at least once within the first 24 hours of the first storm event<sup>36</sup> of the rainy season (i.e. October 1 through April 30). Wet weather samples collected from receiving water stations and any additional monitoring stations established to identify sources must be collected at an appropriate frequency to demonstrate bacteria loads from the identified sources have been addressed and are no longer in exceedance of the allowable exceedance frequencies in the receiving waters.
- (iii) Samples must be analyzed for total coliform, fecal coliform, and *Enterococcus* indicator bacteria.

(c) Assessment and Reporting Requirements

- (i) The Responsible Copermittees must analyze the dry weather and wet weather monitoring data to assess whether the interim and final WQBELs for the Pacific Ocean Shoreline segments or areas listed in [Table 6.0](#) have been achieved.
- (ii) The monitoring and assessment results must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision [F.3.b](#) of this Order.

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<sup>36</sup> Wet weather days are defined by the TMDL as storm events of 0.2 inches or greater and the following 72 hours. The Responsible Copermittees may choose to limit their wet weather sampling requirements to storm events of 0.2 inches or greater, or also include storm events of 0.1 inches or greater as defined by the federal regulations [40CFR122.26(d)(2)(iii)(A)(2)].

## (2) Monitoring and Assessment Requirements for Creeks and Creek Mouths

### (a) Monitoring Stations

For creeks addressed by the TMDL, monitoring locations should consist of, at a minimum, a location at or near the mouth of the creek (e.g. Mass Loading Station or Mass Emission Station) and one or more locations upstream of the mouth (e.g. Watershed Assessment Station). If exceedances of the applicable interim or final receiving water limitations are observed in the monitoring data, additional monitoring locations and/or other source identification methods must be implemented to identify the sources causing the exceedances. The additional monitoring locations must also be used to demonstrate that the bacteria loads from the identified sources have been addressed and are no longer causing exceedances in the receiving waters.

### (b) Monitoring Procedures

- (i) The Responsible Copermittees must collect dry weather monitoring samples from the receiving water monitoring stations in accordance with the requirements of Provision D.
- (ii) The Responsible Copermittees must collect wet weather monitoring samples from the receiving water monitoring stations within the first 24 hours of the first storm event<sup>37</sup> of the rainy season (i.e. October 1 through April 30).
- (iii) Samples collected from receiving water monitoring stations must be analyzed for fecal coliform and *Enterococcus* indicator bacteria.

### (c) Assessment and Reporting Requirements

- (i) The Responsible Copermittees must analyze the receiving water monitoring data to assess whether the interim and final receiving water WQBELs for the creeks and creek mouths listed in [Table 6.0](#) have been achieved.
- (ii) The Responsible Copermittee must identify and incorporate additional MS4 outfall and receiving water monitoring stations and/or adjust monitoring frequencies to identify sources causing exceedances of the receiving water WQBELs.
- (iii) The monitoring and assessment results must be submitted as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision [F.3.b](#) of this Order.

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<sup>37</sup> Wet weather days are defined by the TMDL as storm events of 0.2 inches or greater and the following 72 hours. The Responsible Copermittees may choose to limit their wet weather sampling requirements to storm events of 0.2 inches or greater, or also include storm events of 0.1 inches or greater as defined by the federal regulations [40CFR122.26(d)(2)(iii)(A)(2)].

**e. COMPLIANCE DETERMINATION**

- (1) Compliance with interim compliance requirements of Specific Provision 6.c.(2) may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:
  - (a) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermittees' MS4s to the receiving water;
  - (b) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 6.b.(1) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;
  - (c) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision 6.b.(2) at the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;
  - (d) There are no exceedances of the applicable interim receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 6.c.(2) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;
  - (e) The Responsible Copermittees can demonstrate that exceedances of the applicable interim or final receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 6.b.(1)(a) or 6.c.(2) in the receiving water are due to loads from natural sources, AND pollutant loads from the Copermittees' MS4 are not causing or contributing to the exceedances; OR
  - (f) The Responsible Copermittees have submitted and are fully implementing a Water Quality Improvement Plan, accepted by the San Diego Water Board, which provides reasonable assurance that the interim compliance requirements will be achieved by the interim compliance dates.
- (2) Compliance with WQBELs of Specific Provision 6.b may be demonstrated via one of the following methods:
  - (a) There is no direct or indirect discharge from the Responsible Copermittees' MS4s to the receiving water;
  - (b) There are no exceedances of the applicable receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 6.b.(1) in the receiving water at, or downstream of the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls;
  - (c) There are no violations of the applicable effluent limitations under Specific Provision 6.b.(2) at the Responsible Copermittees' MS4 outfalls; OR
  - (d) The Responsible Copermittees can demonstrate that exceedances of the applicable final receiving water limitations under Specific Provision 6.b.(1)(a) in the receiving water are due to loads from natural sources, AND pollutant loads from the Copermittees' MS4 are not causing or contributing to the exceedances.

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**ATTACHMENT F**

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
SAN DIEGO REGION**

**DRAFT  
FACT SHEET / TECHNICAL REPORT**

**FOR**

**TENTATIVE  
ORDER NO. R9-2013-0001  
NPDES NO. CAS0109266**

**NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PERMIT  
AND WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR  
DISCHARGES FROM THE MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEMS (MS4s)  
DRAINING THE WATERSHEDS WITHIN THE SAN DIEGO REGION**

**MONTH DAY, 2013**

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**I. FACT SHEET FORMAT**

This Fact Sheet briefly sets forth the principal facts and the significant factual, legal, methodological, and policy questions that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) considered in preparing Order No. R9-2013-0001 (Order). In accordance with the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Title 40 Parts 124.8 and 124.56 (40 CFR 124.8 and 40 CFR 124.56), this Fact Sheet includes, but is not limited to, the following information:

1. Contact information
2. Public process and notification procedures
3. Background of municipal storm water permits
4. Regional MS4 Permit approach
5. Economic considerations
6. Applicable statutes, regulations, plans and policies
7. Discussion of the provisions in the Order

Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001 was distributed for public review on October 31, 2012. The San Diego Water Board accepted written comments on the Tentative Order until January 11, 2013. A public hearing was subsequently held on Month Day, 2013 to receive oral comments from interested persons.

The San Diego Water Board files applicable to the issuance of Order No. R9-2013-0001 are incorporated into the administrative record in support of the findings and requirements of the Order.

## II. CONTACT INFORMATION

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The Order and other related documents can be downloaded from the San Diego Water Board website at

[http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/water\\_issues/programs/stormwater/index.shtml](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb9/water_issues/programs/stormwater/index.shtml)

The documents referenced in this Fact Sheet and in Order No. R9-2013-0001 are available for public review at the San Diego Water Board office, located at the address listed above. Public records are available for inspection during regular business hours, from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm Monday through Friday. To schedule an appointment to inspect public records, contact the San Diego Water Board Records Management Officer at 858-467-2952.

## **COPERMITTEES**

### **Orange County Copermittees**

- County of Orange
  - City of Aliso Viejo
  - City of Dana Point
  - City of Laguna Beach
  - City of Laguna Hills
  - City of Laguna Niguel
  - City of Laguna Woods
- City of Lake Forest
- City of Mission Viejo
- City of Ranch Santa Margarita
- City of San Clemente
- City of San Juan Capistrano
- Orange County Flood Control District

### **Riverside County Copermittees**

- County of Riverside
  - City of Murrieta
  - City of Temecula
  - City of Wildomar
- Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District

### **San Diego County Copermittees**

- County of San Diego
  - City of Carlsbad
  - City of Chula Vista
  - City of Coronado
  - City of Del Mar
  - City of El Cajon
  - City of Encinitas
  - City of Escondido
  - City of Imperial Beach
  - City of La Mesa
  - City of Lemon Grove
- City of National City
- City of Oceanside
- City of Poway
- City of San Diego
- City of San Marcos
- City of Santee
- City of Solana Beach
- City of Vista
- San Diego County Regional Airport Authority
- San Diego Unified Port District

### **III. PUBLIC PROCESS AND NOTIFICATION PROCEDURES**

The San Diego Water Board followed the schedule listed below for the preparation of Order No. R9-2013-0001:

1. On February 8, 2011, the San Diego Water Board met with the San Diego County Copermittees to discuss the Report of Waste Discharge required pursuant to Order No. R9-2007-0001.
2. Between February and May 2011, the San Diego Water Board met with select San Diego County, Orange County, and Riverside County Copermittees, as well as representatives of the environmental community to discuss concepts and receive recommendations for elements to be incorporated in a Regional Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System Permit (Regional MS4 Permit).
3. On June 27, 2011 the San Diego Water Board received the Report of Waste Discharge from the San Diego County Copermittees for the renewal of their NPDES permit, Order No. R9-2007-0001.
4. On April 9, 2012, the San Diego Water Board released an administrative draft of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001 for preliminary informal comments and feedback.
5. On April 25, 2012, the San Diego Water Board held an informal public workshop to present the administrative draft of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001 and receive verbal comments.
6. Between June and August 2012, the San Diego Water Board held four (4) focused meetings with representatives of the principal stakeholders (the Copermittees, the environmental community, the development/business community, and USEPA) to discuss and receive preliminary comments and feedback about specific elements in the administrative draft of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001.
7. On September 5, 2012, the San Diego Water Board held an informal public workshop to present the modifications that were expected to be incorporated into the Tentative Order based on the preliminary comments and feedback received during the focused meetings held between June and August 2012.
8. Informal written comments on the administrative draft of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001 were accepted until September 14, 2012.
9. On October 12, 2012, the San Diego Water Board released a revised administrative draft of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001.

10. On October 24, 2012, the San Diego Water Board held a focused meeting with representatives of the principal stakeholders (the Copermitees, the environmental community, the development/business community, and USEPA) to discuss modifications incorporated into the administrative draft of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001.
11. On October 31, 2012, the San Diego Water Board released Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001 for formal public review and comment.
12. On November 13, 2012, the San Diego Water Board held a formal public Board workshop to present the public draft of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001 and receive verbal comments.
13. Formal written comments on the public draft of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001 were accepted until January 11, 2013.
14. A public hearing of Tentative Order No. R9-2013-0001 was conducted on Month Day, 2013.

#### **IV. BACKGROUND OF THE SAN DIEGO REGION MUNICIPAL STORM WATER PERMITS**

In developed and developing areas, storm water runoff is commonly transported through municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) and discharged into local receiving water bodies. As the storm water runs off and flows over the land or impervious surfaces (e.g., paved streets, parking lots, and building rooftops), it accumulates debris, chemicals, sediment, and other pollutants that can adversely affect receiving water quality if discharged untreated. The United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) recognizes wet weather flows from urban areas as the number one source of estuarine pollution in coastal communities,<sup>1</sup> such as those within the San Diego Region.

The federal Clean Water Act (CWA) was amended in 1987 to address and regulate discharges of storm water associated with industrial activities and from municipal storm sewers. With the amendments, many municipalities throughout the United States were obligated for the first time to obtain National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for discharges of storm water from their MS4s.

In response to the CWA 1987 amendment, as well as the pending federal NPDES regulations which would implement the amendment, the San Diego Water Board issued “early” MS4 permits. The San Diego Water Board adopted and issued Order Nos. 90-38, 90-42, and 90-46 to regulate storm water discharges from the MS4s in Orange County, San Diego County, and Riverside County, respectively, within the San Diego Region on July 16, 1990.

The “early” MS4 permits, or First Term Permits, were issued prior to the November 1990 promulgation of the final federal NPDES storm water regulations. By issuing these First Term Permits before the federal regulations took effect, the San Diego Water Board was able to provide the Copermitees additional flexibility in addressing and managing storm water discharges. The First Term Permits contained the essentials of the 1990 regulations, and required the Copermitees to develop and implement runoff management programs, but provided little specificity about what was required to be included in or actually achieved by those programs.

The flexibility provided in the First Term Permits was generally continued through the Second Term Permits. The combination of the lack of specificity in the First and Second Term Permits, a general lack of meaningful action by the Copermitees and a general lack of corresponding reaction (i.e. enforcement) by the San Diego Water Board during the first ten years of the storm water program, resulted in few substantive steps towards achieving improvements in the quality of receiving waters or storm water discharges from the MS4s.

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<sup>1</sup> US EPA. 1999. 40 CFR Parts 9, 122, 123, and 124. National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System – Regulations for Revision of the Water Pollution Control Program Addressing Storm Water Discharges; Final Rule. 64 FR 68727.

From 2001, the regulatory approach incorporated into Third Term Permits was a significant departure from the regulatory approach of the First and Second Term Permits. The Third Term Permits issued by the San Diego Water Board included more detailed requirements that outlined the minimum level of implementation required for the Copermittees' programs to meet the maximum extent practicable (MEP) standard for storm water. The Third Term Permits included more detail to emphasize and enhance the jurisdictional runoff management programs developed by the Copermittees and introduced requirements for developing and implementing watershed-based programs.

The Third Term Permits also incorporated two precedent setting decisions by the State Water Board. In Order WQ 99-05, the State Water Board established receiving water limitation language to be included in all MS4 permits. The State Water Board's precedential language clarified that municipal storm water permits must include provisions requiring discharges to be controlled to attain water quality standards in receiving waters. Unlike previously adopted versions of the receiving water limitation language in the First and Second Term Permits, the language no longer stated that "*violations of water quality standards are not violations of the municipal storm water permit under certain conditions.*" In addition, the receiving water limitation language no longer indicated that the "*implementation of best management practices is the 'functional equivalent' of meeting water quality standards.*" State Water Board Order WQ 99-05 specifically requires language in MS4 permits for the Copermittees to comply with water quality standards based discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations through timely implementation of control measures and other actions to reduce pollutants in discharges. (See State Water Board Order WQ 99-05 (*Environmental Health Coalition*)).

In Order WQ 2000-11, also a precedential decision, the State Water Board addressed design standards for structural post-construction best management practices (BMPs) for new development and significant redevelopment. The State Water Board found that the design standards, which require that runoff generated by 85 percent of storm events from specific development categories be infiltrated or treated, reflect the MEP standard. State Water Board Order WQ 2000-11 also found that the post-construction BMP provisions, or Standard Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SSMP) provisions, constitute MEP for addressing storm water pollutant discharges resulting from specific development categories.

The Third Term San Diego County and Orange County Permits (Order Nos. 2001-01 and R9-2002-0001, respectively) were appealed to the State Water Board. Minor modifications were made by the State Water Board, but the requirements were largely upheld. In State Water Board Order WQ 2001-15, the State Water Board upheld the Third Term San Diego County Permit requirements with certain modifications. The State Water Board removed the prohibition of storm water discharges *into* the MS4 that cause or contribute to exceedances of water quality objectives. The revision allows for treatment of pollutants in storm water runoff after the pollutants have entered the MS4. State Water Board Order WQ 2001-15 otherwise upheld all the other requirements of the permit.

In addition to the modification to the discharge prohibition in Order WQ 2001-15, the State Water Board refined Order WQ 99-05 by making clear that the Copermittees may use an iterative approach to achieving compliance with water quality standards that involves ongoing assessments and revisions. Thus, the language for the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations was revised to explicitly require the Copermittees to implement an iterative process of assessments and revisions to comply with the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations. The San Diego Water Board retained the authority to enforce receiving water limitations and discharge prohibitions even if the Copermittee is engaged in the iterative process.

The Third Term San Diego County Permit was subsequently challenged in the Superior Court of the State of California and the Court of Appeal, Fourth Appellate District. The Court of Appeals, Fourth Appellate District, found that the approach of the Third Term San Diego County Permit to regulating discharges into the MS4 was appropriate (*Building Industry Ass'n. v. State Water Resources Control Bd., et al.*, 124 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 866 (2004)). The State of California Supreme Court denied review sought by the Building Industry Association in March 2005.

The Fourth Term Permits, or current MS4 permits, began with the adoption of Order No. R9-2007-0001 issued to the Copermittees of San Diego County in January 2007. Order Nos. R9-2009-0002 and R9-2010-0016 were subsequently issued to the Copermittees of Orange County and Riverside County. The Fourth Term Permits continued to include more detailed requirements to be implemented by each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program. The Fourth Term Permits also include requirements to further emphasize a watershed management approach and for more coordination among jurisdictional runoff management programs. In addition, the Fourth Term Permits included more requirements for assessing the effectiveness of the runoff management programs being implemented by the Copermittees. The intent of the inclusion of additional requirements was to enhance and better define elements of the permit that were expected to be incorporated into the iterative process for managing runoff from each Copermittee's jurisdiction and within the watersheds of the San Diego Region.

The Fourth Term Permits include several new and emerging approaches for managing storm water runoff and discharges. Low impact development (LID) requirements are included for development and significant redevelopment to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff from sites through more natural processes such as infiltration and biofiltration closer to the source, rather than utilizing conventional mechanical end-of-pipe treatment systems. Hydrograph modification (hydromodification) management requirements also are included to mitigate the potential for increased erosion in receiving waters due to increased runoff rates and durations often caused by development and increased impervious surfaces. The Fourth Term Orange County and Riverside County Permits introduced requirements to identify areas of existing development where retrofitting with LID projects would be feasible and could be implemented to reduce storm water runoff and pollutants in storm water discharges.



The Fourth Term Orange County and Riverside County Permits included a clearer distinction between storm water and non-storm water discharges. The term “urban runoff” was completely removed, and a distinction between storm water (wet weather) runoff and non-storm water (dry weather) runoff was emphasized. This clarification was made to prevent any potential misunderstanding that regulation under the MS4 permits is limited only to urbanized areas, and to prevent non-storm water runoff from being managed in the same manner as storm water runoff. The term “urban runoff” is not defined in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) or Federal Register (FR) in the regulation of MS4 discharges. According to the CWA 402(p)(3)(B)(ii), MS4 permits must include a requirement to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the MS4s.

Finally, for the Fourth Term Orange County and Riverside County Permits the San Diego Water Board found that non-storm water discharges to the MS4 from over application of irrigation water are sources of pollutants. The San Diego Water Board found that non-storm water discharges resulting from over-irrigation must be prohibited from entering the MS4 in accordance with the requirements of the CWA and pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1).

The requirements of the Fourth Term Permits issued to the Copermittees in each county within the San Diego Region now have substantively the same core requirements such as discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, jurisdictional runoff management program components, and monitoring program requirements. There are, however, several inconsistencies that exist among the three Fourth Term Permits which complicate oversight and implementation of the permits by the San Diego Water Board.

The Fourth Term San Diego County Permit expired in January 2012. The Fourth Term Orange County and Riverside County Permits will expire in December 2014 and November 2015, respectively. Issuing the Fifth Term Permits within five years for three counties under three different permits would require the San Diego Water Board to expend significant time and resources for the issuance of the permits through three separate public proceedings, thereby greatly reducing the time and resources available to oversee implementation and compliance. Multiple permits also create confusion for determining compliance among regulated entities, especially for the land development community.

The San Diego Water Board has acknowledged that issuing a single MS4 permit for all the Copermittees in the San Diego Region can and is expected to result in more consistent implementation, improve communication among agencies within watersheds crossing multiple jurisdictions, and minimize resources spent with each permit renewal process. Within the findings of the Fourth Term Riverside County Permit issued in November 2010, the San Diego Water Board notified the public of its intent to develop and issue a single Regional MS4 Permit.

## **V. REGIONAL MS4 PERMIT APPROACH**

The Fifth Term Permit, or Regional MS4 Permit, shifts the focus of the permit requirements from a minimum level of actions to be implemented by the Copermittees to identifying outcomes to be achieved by those actions. Order No. R9-2013-0001 represents an important paradigm shift in the approach for MS4 permits within the San Diego Region.

### **Historical Permitting Approach**

The First and Second Term Permits were very broad and provided little specificity about what was required to be developed and implemented by the Copermittees. The Third Term Permits began to become more specific about the minimum level of implementation required by the Copermittees. The Fourth Term Permits, or current permits, subsequently increased in specificity. The MS4 permits have progressively become more detailed and focused on specifying the minimum level of actions expected to be implemented by the Copermittees. As detailed and specific as the MS4 permits have become, however, they include very little detail about what the desired outcomes of the required actions are expected to achieve. Compliance with the permit requirements has essentially been tracking numbers of actions and reporting, not tracking progress or actual improvements in the quality of receiving waters or discharges from the MS4s. The result has been an increase in actions being implemented by the Copermittees with little or no ability or expectations to determine whether or not improvements in water quality are being achieved.

The Fourth Term Permits result in significant resource expenditure by the Copermittees to report permit compliance information to the San Diego Water Board in the form of annual jurisdictional runoff management program, watershed program, and monitoring program reports. The San Diego Water Board must then expend much of its limited resources on reviewing more than 50 voluminous reports submitted annually by the Copermittees. The information currently reported by the Copermittees is of limited value when trying to measure progress toward achieving improvements in the quality of receiving waters or discharges from the MS4s. Oversight of the MS4 permits is further complicated by the inconsistencies among the requirements issued to the Orange County, San Diego County, and Riverside County Copermittees under three separate MS4 permits.

Under the Fourth Term Permits, the Copermittees must expend a significant portion of their limited resources collecting data of limited value, and putting together reports to submit that information to the San Diego Water Board. Likewise, the San Diego Water Board must expend most of its limited resources reviewing reports, and developing permits instead of working directly with the Copermittees to identify solutions to problems causing impacts to water quality. This is an unsustainable course that will continue to demand more resources from the Copermittees and the San Diego Water Board, and would continue to result in unknown water quality benefits.

## **New Permitting Approach**

The goal of the Regional MS4 Permit is twofold: 1) bring a consistent set of MS4 permit requirements to all of the Copermitees within the San Diego Region; and, 2) provide a MS4 permit with requirements that will allow the Copermitees to focus their efforts and resources on achieving goals and desired outcomes toward the improvement of water quality rather than completing specific actions.

The overall approach included in the Regional MS4 Permit with respect to the jurisdictional runoff management programs will not differ significantly from the current permits. The general requirements for the jurisdictional runoff management program components and compliance with those requirements will remain and be applied consistently throughout the San Diego Region under the Regional MS4 Permit.

The most significant difference in the new permitting approach is the specific manner of implementation for those jurisdictional runoff management programs. Implementation will be based on decisions made by the Copermitees in accordance with what they have identified as their highest priority water quality conditions. In other words, the Copermitees will have significant control in how to implement the jurisdictional runoff management programs to best utilize their available resources in addressing a specific set of priorities effectively, instead of trying to address all the water quality priorities ineffectively.

The Copermitees are given the responsibility of identifying their highest priority water quality conditions that they intend to address. The Copermitees will develop goals that can be used to measure and demonstrate progress or improvements toward addressing those priorities. In addition to the goals, the Copermitees will provide a schedule for achieving the goals for those highest priorities. The measurement of progress toward achieving the goals for those highest priorities requires a better defined and more focused program of monitoring and assessment than under the Fourth Term Permits.

The monitoring and assessment program must be designed to inform the Copermitees of their progress, and the need for modifications in their jurisdictional runoff management programs and schedules to achieve their goals to improve water quality. The monitoring and assessment program requirements will have a more central role in the Regional MS4 Permit than in earlier permits. The monitoring and assessment requirements must also be designed to enable the Copermitees to focus and direct their efforts in implementing their jurisdictional runoff management programs toward their stated desired outcomes to improve the quality of receiving waters and/or discharges from the MS4s.

By providing a MS4 permit that allows the Copermitees to make more decisions about how to utilize and focus their resources, along with a better defined monitoring and assessment program to inform their water quality management decisions, the Copermitees will have the opportunity to:

- 1) *Plan strategically.* The Copermittees must have the ability to identify their available resources and develop and implement long term plans that can organize, collect, and use those resources in the most strategically advantageous and efficient manner possible. This ability to develop long term plans will allow the Copermittees to focus and utilize their resources in a more concerted way over the short term and long term to address specific water quality priorities through stated desired outcomes.
- 2) *Manage adaptively.* The Copermittees must be given the ability to modify their plans as additional information and data are collected from the monitoring and assessment programs. The Copermittees' plans may require modifications to the programs, priorities, goals, strategies, and/or schedules in order for the Copermittees to achieve a stated desired outcome.
- 3) *Identify synergies.* The Copermittees must be given more flexibility to identify efficiencies within and among their jurisdictional runoff management programs as the strategies are developed and implemented to increase the Copermittees' collective effectiveness. The Copermittees must also be able to identify and utilize resources available from other agencies and entities to further augment and enhance their jurisdictional runoff management programs and/or to collectively work with those other agencies and entities toward achieving a stated desired outcome.

The Regional MS4 Permit requirements will provide the Copermittees the flexibility and responsibility to decide what actions will be necessary to achieve an outcome that is tailored and designed by the Copermittees to improve specific prioritized water quality conditions. The San Diego Water Board expects the approach of the Regional MS4 Permit to give the Copermittees a greater sense of ownership for restoring the quality of receiving waters in the San Diego Region by becoming an integral part of the decision making process in identifying water quality conditions to be addressed, as well as determining the best use of their resources.

## **VI. ECONOMIC CONSIDERATIONS**

### **Statutory Considerations**

California Water Code (CWC) section 13241 requires the San Diego Water Board to consider certain factors, including economic considerations, in the adoption of water quality objectives. CWC section 13263 requires the San Diego Water Board to take into consideration the provisions of CWC section 13241 in adopting waste discharge requirements.

In *City of Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2005) 35 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 613, the California Supreme Court considered whether Regional Water Boards must comply with CWC section 13241 when issuing waste discharge requirements under CWC section 13263(a) by taking into account the costs a permittee will incur in complying with the permit requirements. The Court concluded that whether it is necessary to consider such cost information “*depends on whether those restrictions meet or exceed the requirements of the federal Clean Water Act.*” (*Id.* at p. 627.) The Court ruled that Regional Water Boards may not consider the factors in CWC section 13241, including economics, to justify imposing pollutant restrictions that are less stringent than applicable federal law requires. (*Id.* At pp. 618, 626-627 [“*[Water Code section 13377 specifies that [] discharge permits issued by California’s regional boards must meet the federal standards set by federal law. In effect, section 13377 forbids a regional board’s consideration of any economic hardship on the part of the permit holder if doing so would result in the dilution of the requirements set by Congress in the Clean Water Act...Because CWC section 13263 cannot authorize what federal law forbids, it cannot authorize a regional board, when issuing a [] discharge permit, to use compliance costs to justify pollutant restrictions that do not comply with federal clean water standards.]*”). However, when pollutant restrictions in an NPDES permit are more stringent than federal law requires, CWC section 13263 requires that the Regional Water Boards consider the factors described in CWC section 13241 as they apply to those specific restrictions.

As discussed in Section VII.F, Unfunded State Mandates, the San Diego Water Board finds that the requirements in this Order are not more stringent than the minimum federal requirements. Among other requirements, federal law requires MS4 permits to include requirements to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the MS4s, in addition to requiring controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the MEP, and other provisions as USEPA or the State determines are appropriate for the control of pollutants in MS4 discharges.

The requirements in this Order may be more specific or detailed than those enumerated in federal regulations under 40 CFR 122.26 or in the USEPA guidance. However, the requirements have been designed to be consistent with and within the federal statutory mandates described in CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii) and (iii) and the related federal regulations and guidance. Consistent with federal law, all of the

conditions in this Order could have been included in a permit adopted by USEPA in the absence of the in lieu authority of California to issue NPDES permits.

Moreover, the inclusion of numeric WQBELs in this Order does not cause this Order to be more stringent than federal law. Federal law authorizes both narrative and numeric effluent limitations to meet state water quality standards. The inclusion of WQBELs as discharge specifications in an NPDES permit in order to achieve compliance with water quality standards is not a more stringent requirement than the inclusion of BMP based permit limitations to achieve water quality standards (State Water Board Order No. WQ 2006-0012 (*Boeing*)). Therefore, consideration of the factors set forth in CWC section 13241 is not required for permit requirements to implement the effective prohibition on the discharge of non-storm water discharges into the MS4 or for controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the MEP, or other provisions that the San Diego Water Board has determine appropriate to control such pollutants, as those requirements are mandated by federal law.

Included in the provisions of the Order are monitoring and reporting requirements that are designed to demonstrate that the Copermittees are implementing programs to comply with the CWA municipal storm water requirements. CWA section 308(a) and 40 CFR 122.41(h), (j)-(l), 122.44(i) and 122.48 require that all NPDES permits specify monitoring and reporting requirements. Federal regulations applicable to large and medium MS4s (40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D), 122.26(d)(1)(v)(B), 122.26(d)(2)(i)(F), 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(D), 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(2) and 122.42(c)) also specify additional monitoring and reporting requirements. In addition to the federal requirements of the CWA, the San Diego Water Board also has the authority in CWC 13383 to establish monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements that implement federal and state laws and regulations through NPDES permits. .

The monitoring and assessment information that will be reported to the San Diego Water Board is necessary to determine if the Copermittees are making progress toward achieving compliance with the discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, and effluent limitations under Provision A of the Order. The monitoring and assessment information that will be reported is also expected to be key to the iterative approach and adaptive management process that is required to be implemented by the Copermittees if they cannot meet the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations under the present conditions, which is also part of the requirements under Provision A of the Order.

Notwithstanding the above, the San Diego Water Board has considered cost information in issuing this Order, as discussed below. The San Diego Water Board has also considered all of the evidence that has been presented to the San Diego Water Board regarding the CWC section 13241 factors in adopting this Order. The San Diego Water Board finds that the requirements in this Order are reasonably necessary to protect beneficial uses identified in the Basin Plan and the economic information related to costs of compliance and other CWC section 13241 factors are not sufficient to justify failing to protect those beneficial uses. Where appropriate, the

San Diego Water Board has provided or will consider providing the Copermittees with additional time to implement control measures to achieve final WQBELs and/or water quality standards.

### **Cost Information**

Discussions of the financial and economic ramifications of municipal storm water management programs tend to focus on the significant costs incurred by municipalities in developing and implementing the programs. When considering the cost of implementing the programs, however, it is also important to consider the alternative costs that are incurred when programs are not fully implemented, as well as the economic benefits which result from effective program implementation.

The recent financial and economic conditions have amplified the concerns about the costs incurred by the municipalities in developing and implementing their programs. The reduction in resources resulting from the recent financial and economic conditions has been cited by many of the Copermittees as a justification for reducing the requirements that must be met by their programs. While the recent conditions are a cause for concern in the short term, these programs also have an opportunity to identify and implement improvements and efficiencies before the next period of growth and development, resulting in more effective and sustainable programs over the long term.

In addition, it is very difficult to ascertain the true cost of implementation of the Copermittees' management programs because of inconsistencies in reporting by the Copermittees. Reported costs of compliance for the same program element can vary widely from city to city, often by a very wide margin that is not easily explained.<sup>2</sup> Despite these problems, efforts have been made to identify management program costs, which can be helpful in understanding the costs of program implementation.

The San Diego Water Board recognizes that the Copermittees will incur costs in implementing this Order, potentially above and beyond the costs from the Copermittees' prior permits. The San Diego Water Board also recognizes that, due to California's current economic condition, many Copermittees currently have limited staff and resources to implement actions to address its MS4 discharges. Based on the economic considerations below, the San Diego Water Board has provided the Copermittees a significant amount of flexibility to choose how to implement the requirements of the Order.

The Order also allows the Copermittees to customize their plans, programs, and monitoring requirements. In the end, it is up to the Copermittees to determine the effective BMPs and measures necessary to comply with this Order. The Copermittees can choose to implement the least expensive measures that are effective in meeting the requirements of this Order. This Order also does not require the Copermittees to

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<sup>2</sup> LARWQCB, 2003. Review and Analysis of Budget Data Submitted by the Permittees for Fiscal Years 2000-2003. P. 2.

fully implement all requirements within a single permit term. Where appropriate, the Board has provided the Copermitees with additional time outside of the permit term to implement control measures to achieve final WQBELs and/or water quality standards.

The San Diego Water Board has considered cost information associated with compliance with this Order. It is not possible to predict accurately the cost impact of the requirements that involve an unknown level of implementation or that depend on environmental variables that are as yet undefined. Only general conclusions can be drawn from this information.

### **Estimated Municipal Storm Water Program Implementation Costs**

The USEPA, the State Water Board, and the California Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) have attempted to evaluate the costs of implementing municipal storm water programs. The assessments have demonstrated that the true costs are difficult to ascertain and reported costs vary widely. In addition, reported fiscal analyses tend to neglect the costs incurred to municipalities when storm water and non-storm water runoff is not effectively managed, which are incurred as a result of pollution, contamination, nuisance, and damage to ecosystems, property, and human health. Nonetheless, they provide a useful context for considering the costs of requirements within Order No. R9-2013-0001.

In 1999, the USEPA reported on multiple studies it conducted to determine the cost of management programs. A study of Phase II municipalities determined that the annual cost of the Phase II program was expected to be \$9.16 per household. The USEPA also studied 35 Phase I municipalities, finding costs to be \$9.08 per household annually, similar to those anticipated for Phase II municipalities.<sup>3</sup>

The State Water Board commissioned a study by the California State University, Sacramento to assess costs of the Phase I MS4 program. This study includes an assessment of costs incurred by Phase I MS4s throughout the state to implement their programs. Annual cost per household in the study ranged from \$18 to \$46, with the Fresno-Clovis Metropolitan Area representing the lower end of the range, and the City of Encinitas (in San Diego County) representing the upper end of the range.<sup>4</sup>

A study on Phase I MS4 program costs was also conducted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Los Angeles Water Board), where program costs reported in the municipalities' annual reports were assessed. The Los Angeles Water Board estimated that average per household cost to implement the MS4 program in Los Angeles County was \$12.50.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>3</sup> Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68791-68792.

<sup>4</sup> State Water Board, 2005. NPDES Stormwater Cost Survey. P. ii.

<sup>5</sup> Los Angeles Water Board, 2003. Review and Analysis of Budget Data Submitted by the Permittees for Fiscal Years 2000-2003. P. 2.



It is important to note that reported program costs are not all attributable to solely complying with MS4 permits. Many program components, and their associated costs, existed before any MS4 permits were ever issued. For example, street sweeping and trash collection costs cannot be solely or even principally attributable to MS4 permit compliance, since these practices have long been expected from and implemented by municipalities.

Therefore, true program cost resulting from MS4 permit requirements is some fraction of reported costs. The California State University, Sacramento study found that only 38 percent of program costs are new costs fully attributable to MS4 permits. The remainder of the program costs was either pre-existing or resulted from enhancement of pre-existing programs.<sup>6</sup> In 2000, the County of Orange found that even lower amounts of program costs are solely attributable to MS4 permit compliance, reporting that the amount attributable to implement the County of Orange Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP), was less than 20 percent of the total budget. The remaining 80 percent was attributable to pre-existing programs.<sup>7</sup> More current data from the County of Orange is not used in this discussion because the County of Orange no longer reports such information.

### **Estimated Value of Healthy Water Quality**

Economic considerations of municipal storm water management programs cannot be limited only to program costs. Evaluation of programs must also consider information on the benefits derived from environmental protection and improvement.<sup>8</sup> Attention is often focused on municipal storm water management program costs, but the programs must also be viewed in terms of their value to the public.

Placing a value on healthy receiving waters is very difficult. Often the value of receiving waters with good water quality manifests in other forms, such as tourism, recreational opportunities, and/or increased property values. When surface water bodies are degraded, thereby degrading the habitat within and adjacent to the water bodies, the public loses the value and benefits associated with being able to use the area in and around the water bodies. Surface waters that are able to support the beneficial uses designated in the Basin Plan can sustain plants and wildlife that can attract visitors and residents, providing aesthetic, recreational, as well as monetary value to the public. At this time, however, there have been no studies for the San Diego Region to quantify the added value that surface waters with healthy water quality can provide.

USEPA has estimated that household willingness to pay for improvements in fresh water quality for fishing and boating is approximately \$158-\$210.<sup>9</sup> This estimate can be considered conservative, since it does not include important considerations such as

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<sup>6</sup> State Water Board, 2005. NPDES Stormwater Cost Survey. P. 58.

<sup>7</sup> County of Orange, 2000. A NPDES Annual Progress Report. P. 60.

<sup>8</sup> Ribaud M.O. and D. Heelerstein. 1992, *Estimating Water Quality Benefits: Theoretical and Methodological Issues*. U.S. Department of Agriculture. Technical Bulletin No. 1808.

<sup>9</sup> Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68793.

marine waters benefits, wildlife benefits, or flood control benefits. Another study conducted by California State University, Sacramento reported that the annual household willingness to pay for statewide clean water is approximately \$180.<sup>10</sup>

A study conducted by the University of Southern California and University of California, Los Angeles assessed the costs and benefits of implementing various approaches for achieving compliance with the MS4 permits in the Los Angeles region. The study found that non-structural systems would cost \$2.8 billion but provide \$5.6 billion in benefit. If structural systems were determined to be needed, the study found that total costs would be \$5.7 to \$7.4 billion, while benefits could reach \$18 billion.<sup>11</sup> Costs are anticipated to be borne over many years, probably at least ten years.

As can be seen, the benefits of the municipal storm water management programs are expected to considerably exceed their costs. Such findings are corroborated by USEPA, which found that the benefits of implementation of its Phase II storm water rule would also outweigh the costs.<sup>12</sup>

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<sup>10</sup> State Water Board, 2005. NPDES Stormwater Cost Survey. P. iv.

<sup>11</sup> Los Angeles Water Board, 2004. Alternative Approaches to Stormwater Control.

<sup>12</sup> Federal Register / Vol. 64, No. 235 / Wednesday, December 8, 1999 / Rules and Regulations. P. 68791.

## **VII. APPLICABLE STATUTES, REGULATIONS, PLANS AND POLICIES**

### **A. Legal Authorities – Federal Clean Water Act and California Water Code**

This Order is issued pursuant to section 402 of the CWA and implementing regulations adopted by the USEPA and chapter 5.5, division 7 of the CWC (commencing with section 13370). This Order serves as an NPDES permit for point source discharges to surface waters. This Order also serves as waste discharge requirements pursuant to article 4, chapter 4, division 7 of the CWC (commencing with section 13260).

The objective of the CWA is “*to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters.*” To carry out this objective, the CWA requires the implementation of permit programs to regulate the discharge of pollutants and dredged or fill material to the navigable waters of the U.S. and to regulate the use and disposal of sewage sludge. CWA section 402 provides the legal authority to issue a permit for the discharge of pollutants to waters of the U.S. under the NPDES. The CWA provides that NPDES permits may be issued by states which are authorized to implement the provisions of that act. California became authorized to implement the NPDES permit program on May 14, 1973.

The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Division 7, commencing with CWC section 13000) established the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) as the principal state agencies with primary responsibility for the coordination and control of water quality. CWC section 13200(f) established the San Diego Water Board, which has the primary responsibility for the coordination and control of water quality in the San Diego Region, which includes all the basins draining into the Pacific Ocean between the southern boundary of the Santa Ana Region and the California-Mexico boundary. The San Diego Water Board implements the CWA through Chapter 5.5 of the CWC, commencing with section 13370. CWC section 13377 provides the San Diego Water Board the legal authority to issue waste discharge requirements to ensure compliance with all applicable provisions of the CWA and acts amendatory thereof or supplementary, thereto, to implement water quality control plans, or for the protection of beneficial uses, or to prevent nuisance.

CWA section 402(p) requires the USEPA or authorized state to issue NPDES permits for storm water discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) to waters of the U.S. CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii) requires that NPDES permits for storm water discharges from MS4s “*effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges*” into the MS4s. CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) requires that NPDES permits for storm water discharges from MS4s to “*require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants [in storm water] to the maximum extent practicable [MEP], including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control*

*of such pollutants.”*

The USEPA published implementing regulations (Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Title 40, Part 122 [40 CFR 122]), which prescribe permit application requirements for storm water discharges from MS4s pursuant to CWA 402(p), on November 16, 1990. The USEPA published an Interpretive Policy Memorandum on Reapplication Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems, which provided guidance on permit application requirements for regulated MS4s, on May 17, 1996. The federal regulations in 40 CFR 122 and guidance issued by USEPA serve as the foundation for the provisions of Order No. R9-2013-0001. The legal authorities provided by the above statutes and regulations are included as part of the discussions in Section VIII of this Fact Sheet.

## **B. Legal Authority for the Permit Issued on a Region-wide Basis**

CWA section 402(p)(3)(B) provides the San Diego Water Board the legal authority to issue an NPDES permit for the San Diego Region as compared to separate MS4 permits based upon County- and partial County-wide boundaries as they exist within the San Diego Region. CWA section 402(p)(3)(B) states that *“Permits for discharges from municipal storm sewers- (i) may be issued on a system- or jurisdiction-wide basis ....”* The federal regulations in 40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v) also state that the San Diego Water Board *“may designate dischargers from municipal separate storm sewers on a system-wide or jurisdiction-wide basis. In making this determination, the [San Diego Water Board] may consider the following factors: (A) the location of the discharge with respect to waters of the United States; (B) the size of the discharge; (C) the quantity and nature of the pollutants discharged to waters of the United States; and (D) other relevant factors.”*

More specifically, the federal regulations provide that for large and medium MS4 systems, the San Diego Water Board may issue a regional permit. Specifically, the federal regulation in 40 CFR 122.26(a)(3) provide:

- “(ii) The Director may either issue one system-wide permit covering all discharges from municipal separate storm sewers within a large or medium municipal storm sewer system or issue distinct permits for appropriate categories of discharges within a large or municipal separate storm sewer system including, but not limited to: all discharges owned or operated by the same municipality; located within the same jurisdiction; all discharges within a system that discharge to the same watershed; discharges within a system that are similar in nature; or for individual discharges from municipal separate storm sewers within the system.*
- “(iii) The operator of a discharge from a municipal separate storm sewer which is part of a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system must either: (A) Participate in a permit application (to be a permittee or a co-permittee) with one or more other operator of discharges from the large or medium municipal storm sewer system which covers all, or a portion of all, discharges from the*

*municipal separate storm sewer system; (B) Submit a distinct permit application which only covers discharges from the municipal separate storm sewers for which the operator is responsible; or (C) A regional authority may be responsible for submitting a permit application under the following guidelines....*

- (iv) One permit application may be submitted for all or a portion of all municipal separate storm sewers within adjacent or interconnected large or medium municipal separate storm sewer systems. The Director may issue one systemwide permit covering all, or a portion of all municipal separate storm sewers in adjacent or interconnected large or medium municipal separate storm sewer systems.*
- (v) Permits for all or a portion of all discharges from large or medium municipal separate storm sewer systems that are issued on a system-wide, jurisdiction-wide, watershed or other basis may specify different conditions relating to different discharges covered by the permit, including different management programs for different drainage areas which contribute storm water to the system."*

Based on these regulations, the San Diego Water Board may issue a region-wide MS4 permit. The regulations also clarify that the permit may include different conditions for separate discharges covered by the permit. This allows the San Diego Water Board to ensure that suitable water quality conditions and provisions are identified for each watershed.

The USEPA's responses to comments in the Final Rule for the above-mentioned regulations also make it clear that the permitting authority, in this case the San Diego Water Board, has the flexibility to establish system- or region-wide, permits. In the Final Rule published in the Federal Register and containing the responses to comments, USEPA notes that 40 CFR 122.26(a)(3)(iv) would allow an entire system in a geographical region under the purview of a State agency to be designated under a permit.<sup>13</sup> USEPA also states that many commenters wanted to allow the permitting authority broad discretion to establish system-wide permits, and that EPA believes that paragraphs 40 CFR 122.26 (a)(1)(v) and (a)(3)(ii) allow for such broad discretion.<sup>14</sup>

This Order creates watershed requirements that apply to multiple counties. The regional nature of this Order will ensure consistency of regulation within watersheds and is expected to result in overall cost savings for the Copermittees. Managing storm water on a regional and watershed basis is expected to result in improved water quality, as the Order focuses on monitoring and management practices necessary to improve each watershed rather than political boundaries. A single permit also allows the San Diego Water Board staff to expend fewer resources developing successive multiple permits and allows more resources to be devoted to working cooperatively with all three current groups of Copermittees to ensure implementation of this Order results in improved water quality.

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<sup>13</sup> 55 Federal Register 47990-01, 48042

<sup>14</sup> Ibid

### **C. Federal and California Endangered Species Acts**

This Order does not authorize any act that results in the taking of a threatened or endangered species or any act that is now prohibited, or becomes prohibited in the future, under either the California Endangered Species Act (Fish and Game Code sections 2050 to 2115.5) or the Federal Endangered Species Act (16 United States Code [USC] sections 1531 to 1544). This Order requires compliance with requirements to protect the beneficial uses of waters of the U.S. The Copermittees are responsible for meeting all requirements of the applicable Endangered Species Act.

### **D. California Environmental Quality Act**

The action to adopt an NPDES Permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Public Resources Code section 21100, et seq.) pursuant to CWC section 13389. (*County of Los Angeles v. Cal. Water Boards* (2006) 143 Cal.App.4th 985.)

### **E. State and Federal Regulations, Plans and Policies**

The legal authority provided by the following regulations, plans, and policies are also included as part of the discussions in Section VIII of this Fact Sheet.

#### Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin

The CWA requires the San Diego Water Board to establish water quality standards for each water body in its region. Water quality standards include beneficial uses, water quality objectives and criteria that are established at levels sufficient to protect beneficial uses, and an antidegradation policy to prevent degrading of waters. On September 8, 1994, the San Diego Water Board adopted the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin* (Basin Plan). The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses, establishes water quality objectives, and contains implementation programs and policies to achieve those objectives for all waters in the San Diego Region. The San Diego Water Board has amended the Basin Plan on multiple occasions since 1994. In addition, the Basin Plan implements State Water Water Board Resolution No. 88-63, which established state policy that all waters, with certain exceptions, should be considered suitable or potentially suitable for municipal or domestic supply. Beneficial uses applicable to the surface water bodies that receive discharges from the MS4s within the San Diego Region generally include those listed below:

The Basin Plan identifies the following existing and potential beneficial uses for inland surface waters in the San Diego Region:

- Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN)
- Agricultural Supply (AGR)
- Industrial Process Supply (PROC)
- Industrial Service Supply (IND)
- Ground Water Recharge (GWR)
- Contact Water Recreation (REC1)
- Non-contact Water Recreation (REC2)
- Warm Freshwater Habitat (WARM)
- Cold Freshwater Habitat (COLD)
- Wildlife Habitat (WILD)
- Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE)
- Freshwater Replenishment (FRSH)
- Hydropower Generation (POW)
- Preservation of Biological Habitats of Special Significance (BIOL)

The following additional existing and potential beneficial uses are identified for coastal waters of the San Diego Region:

- Navigation (NAV)
- Commercial and Sport Fishing (COMM)
- Estuarine Habitat (EST)
- Marine Habitat (MAR)
- Aquaculture (AQUA)
- Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR)
- Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development (SPWN)
- Shellfish Harvesting (SHELL)

Pursuant to Water Code sections 13263 and 13377, the requirements of this Order implement the Basin Plan.

#### Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California, California Ocean Plan

In 1972, the State Water Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California, California Ocean Plan (Ocean Plan). The State Water Board adopted the most recent amended Ocean Plan on September 15, 2009. The Office of Administrative Law approved it on March 10, 2010. On October 8, 2010, USEPA approved the 2009 Ocean Plan. The Ocean Plan is applicable, in its entirety, to ocean waters of the State. In order to protect beneficial uses, the Ocean Plan establishes water quality objectives and a program of implementation. Pursuant to Water Code sections 13263 and 13377, the requirements of this Order implement the Ocean Plan. The Ocean Plan identifies the beneficial uses of ocean waters of the State to be protected as summarized below:

- Industrial water supply
- Water contact and non-contact recreation, including aesthetic enjoyment;

- navigation
- Commercial and sport fishing
  - Mariculture
  - Preservation and enhancement of designated Areas of Special Biological Significance
  - Rare and endangered species
  - Marine habitat
  - Fish spawning and shellfish harvesting

On March 20, 2012, the State Water Board approved Resolution No. 2012-0012 approving an exception to the Ocean Plan prohibition against discharges to Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS) for certain nonpoint source discharges and NPDES permitted municipal storm water discharges. The State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 requires monitoring and testing of marine aquatic life and water quality in several ASBS to protect California's coastline during storms when rain water overflows into coastal waters. Specific terms, prohibitions, and special conditions were adopted to provide special protections for marine aquatic life and natural water quality in ASBS. The City of San Diego's municipal storm water discharges to the San Diego Marine Life Refuge in La Jolla, and the City of Laguna Beach's municipal storm water discharges to the Heisler Park ASBS are subject terms and conditions of State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012. The Special Protections contained in Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 applicable to these discharges are hereby incorporated in this Order as if fully set forth herein. Requirements of this Order implement the Ocean Plan.

#### Water Quality Control Plan for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries – Part 1 Sediment Quality

On September 16, 2008, the State Water Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries – Part 1 Sediment Quality (Sediment Quality Control Plan). The Sediment Quality Control Plan became effective on August 25, 2009. The Sediment Quality Control Plan establishes 1) narrative sediment quality objectives for benthic community protection from exposure to contaminants in sediment and to protect human health, and 2) a program of implementation using a multiple lines of evidence approach to interpret the narrative sediment quality objectives. Requirements of this Order implement the Sediment Quality Control Plan.

#### Antidegradation Policy

Federal regulations (40 CFR 131.12) require that the state water quality standards include an antidegradation policy consistent with the federal antidegradation policy. The State Water Board established California's antidegradation policy in State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 ("Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining the Quality of the Waters of the State"). State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 incorporates the federal antidegradation policy where the federal policy applies under federal law.

The San Diego Water Board's Basin Plan implements and incorporates by reference



both the State and federal antidegradation policies. State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 and 40 CFR 131.12 require the San Diego Water Board to maintain high quality waters of the State until it is demonstrated that any change in quality will be consistent with maximum benefit to the people of the State, will not unreasonably affect beneficial uses, and will not result in water quality less than that described in the San Diego Water Boards' policies. State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16 requires that discharges of waste be regulated to meet best practicable treatment or control to assure that pollution or nuisance will not occur and the highest water quality consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the State be maintained.

The discharges permitted in this Order are consistent with the antidegradation provisions of 40 CFR 131.12 and State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16. Many of the water bodies within the area covered by this Order are of high quality. The Order requires the Copermittees to meet best practicable treatment or control to meet water quality standards. As required by 40 CFR 122.44(a), the Copermittees must comply with the "maximum extent practicable" technology-based standard set forth in CWA section 402(p) for discharges of pollutants in storm water from the MS4s.

Many of the waters within the area covered by this Order are impaired and listed on the State's CWA Section 303(d) List and the San Diego Water Board has established TMDLs to address the impairments. This Order requires the Copermittees to comply with permit provisions to implement the WLAs set forth in the TMDLs in order to restore the beneficial uses of the impaired water bodies consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the TMDLs. This Order includes requirements to develop and implement storm water management programs, achieve WQBELs, and effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the MS4. The issuance of this Order does not authorize an increase in the amount of discharge of waste.

#### Anti-Backsliding Requirements

CWA sections 402(o) and 303(d)(4) and 40 CFR 122.44(l) prohibit backsliding in NPDES permits. These anti-backsliding provisions require effluent limitations in a reissued permit to be as stringent as those in the previous permit, with some exceptions where limitations or conditions may be relaxed. All effluent limitations and other conditions in this Order are at least as stringent as the effluent limitations in the previous permits issued to the San Diego County Copermittees, the Orange County Copermittees and the Riverside County Copermittees.

#### Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List

CWA section 303(d)(1) requires each State to identify specific water bodies within its boundaries where water quality standards are not being met or are not expected to be met after implementation of technology-based effluent limitations on point sources. Water bodies that do not meet water quality standards are considered impaired and are placed on the state's "303(d) List." Periodically, USEPA approves the State's 303(d) List.

Most recently, USEPA approved the State's 2010 303(d) List of impaired water bodies on October 11, 2011, which includes certain receiving waters in the San Diego Region. For each listed water body, the state or USEPA is required to establish a TMDL of each pollutant impairing the water quality standards in that water body. A TMDL is a tool for implementing water quality standards and is based on the relationship between pollution sources and in-stream water quality conditions. The TMDL establishes the allowable pollutant loadings for a water body and thereby provides the basis to establish water quality-based controls. These controls should provide the pollution reduction necessary for a water body to meet water quality standards.

A TMDL is the sum of the allowable pollutant loads of a single pollutant from all contributing point sources (the waste load allocations or WLAs) and non-point sources (load allocations of LAs) plus the contribution from background sources and a margin of safety (40 CFR 130.2(i)). MS4 discharges are considered point source discharges. For 303(d)-listed water bodies and pollutants in the San Diego Region, the San Diego Water Board or USEPA develops and adopts TMDLs that specify these requirements.

Since 2002, the San Diego Water Board has established six (6) TMDLs to remedy water quality impairments in various water bodies within the San Diego Region (see Attachment E to the Order). These TMDLs identify MS4 discharges as a source of pollutants to these water bodies, and, as required, establish WLAs for MS4 discharges to reduce the amount of pollutant discharged to receiving waters. CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) requires the San Diego Water Board to impose permit conditions, including: "management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and *such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.*" (Emphasis added.) CWA section 402(a)(1) also requires states to issue permits with conditions necessary to carry out the provisions of the CWA. Federal regulations also require that NPDES permits contain WQBELs consistent with the assumptions and requirements of all available WLAs (40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)). CWC section 13377 also requires that NPDES permits include limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans. Therefore, this Order includes WQBELs and other provisions to implement the TMDL WLAs assigned to Copermitttees regulated by this Order.

#### Other Regulations, Plans and Policies

This Order implements all other applicable federal regulations and State regulations, plans and policies, including the California Toxics Rule at 40 CFR 131.38 (Water Quality Standards; Establishment of Numeric Criteria for Priority Toxic Pollutants for the State of California Rule [California Toxics Rule or CTR]), and State Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP).

## **F. Unfunded State Mandates**

Article XIII B, Section 6(a) of the California Constitution provides that whenever “*any state agency mandates a new program or higher level of service on any local government, the state shall provide a subvention of funds to reimburse that local government for the costs of the program or increased level of service.*” The requirements of this Order do not constitute state mandates that are subject to a subvention of funds for several reasons, including, but not limited to, the following.

First, the requirements of this Order do not constitute a new program or a higher level of service as compared to the requirements contained in the previous Fourth Term Permits. The overarching requirement to impose controls to reduce the pollutants in discharges from MS4s is dictated by the CWA and is not new to this permit cycle (33 USC section 1342(p)(3)(B)). The inclusion of new and advanced measures as the MS4 programs evolve and mature over time is anticipated under the CWA (55 FR 47990, 48052 (Nov. 16, 1990)), and to the extent requirements in this Order are interpreted as new advanced measures, they do not constitute a new program or higher level of service.

Second, and more broadly, mandates imposed by federal law, rather than by a state agency, are exempt from the requirement that the local agency’s expenditures be reimbursed (Cal. Const., art. XIII B, section 9, subd. (b)). This Order implements federally mandated requirements under the CWA and its requirements are therefore not subject to subvention of funds. This includes federal requirements to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges, to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the MEP, and to include such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants (33 USC section 1342(p)(3)(B)). Federal cases have held these provisions require the development of permits and permit provisions on a case-by-case basis to satisfy federal requirements. (*Natural Resources Defense Council, Inc., v. USEPA* (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1992) 966 F.2d 1292, 1308, fn. 17.)

The authority exercised under this Order is not reserved state authority under the CWA’s savings clause (cf. *Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2005) 35 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 613, 627-628 [relying on 33 USC section 1370, which allows a state to develop requirements which are not “less stringent” than federal requirements]), but instead is part of a federal mandate to develop pollutant reduction requirements for municipal separate storm sewer systems. To this extent, it is entirely federal authority that forms the legal basis to establish the permit provisions. (See, *City of Rancho Cucamonga v. Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region* (2006) 135 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1377, 1389; *Building Industry Ass’n of San Diego Co. v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 866, 882-883.)

The MEP standard is a flexible standard that balances a number of considerations, including technical feasibility, cost, public acceptance, regulatory compliance, and effectiveness. (*Building Ind. Ass’n., supra*, 124 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at pp. 873-874, 889.) Such considerations change over time with advances in technology and with experience

gained in storm water management (55 FR 47990, 48052 (Nov. 16, 1990)). Accordingly, a determination of whether the conditions contained in this Order exceed the requirements of federal law cannot be based on a point by point comparison of the permit conditions and the sic minimum control measures that are required “at a minimum” to reduce pollutants to the maximum extent practicable and to protect water quality (40 CFR 122.34). Rather, the appropriate focus is whether the permit conditions, as a whole, exceed the MEP standard.

In recent months, the County of Los Angeles and County of Sacramento Superior Courts have granted writs setting aside decisions of the Commission on State Mandates that held certain requirements in Phase I permits constituted unfunded mandates. In both cases, the courts have found that the correct analysis in determining whether an MS4 permit constituted a state mandate was to evaluate whether the permit as a whole – and not a specific permit provision – exceeds the MEP standard. (*State of Cal. V. Comm. on State Mandates* (Super. Ct. Sacramento County, 2012, No. 34-2010-80000604), *State of California v. County of Los Angeles* (Super. Ct. Los Angeles County, 2011, No. BS130730.) Both cases are currently pending appeal.

The requirements of the Order, taken as a whole rather than individually, are necessary to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP and to protect water quality. The San Diego Water Board finds that the requirements of the Order are practicable, do not exceed federal law, and thus do not constitute an unfunded mandate. These findings are the expert conclusions of the principal state agency charged with implementing the NPDES program in California (CWC sections 13001, 13370).

It should also be noted that the provisions in this Order to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges are also mandated by the CWA (33 USC section 1342(p)(3)(B)(ii)). Likewise, the provisions of this Order to implement TMDLs are federal mandates. The CWA requires TMDLs to be developed for water bodies that do not meet federal water quality standards (33 USC section 1313(d)). Once the USEPA or a state establishes or adopts a TMDL, federal law requires that permits must contain effluent limitations consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any applicable waste load allocation in a TMDL (40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)).

Third, the local agency Copermittees’ obligations under this Order are similar to, and in many respects less stringent than, the obligations of non-governmental dischargers who are issued NPDES permits for storm water discharges. With a few inapplicable exceptions, the CWA regulates the discharge of pollutants from point sources (33 USC section 1342) and the Porter-Cologne Act regulates the discharge of waste (CWC section 13263), both without regard to the source of the pollutant or waste. As a result, the “costs incurred by local agencies” to protect water quality reflect an overarching regulatory scheme that places similar requirements on governmental and non-governmental dischargers. (See *County of Los Angeles v. State of California* (1987) 43 Cal.3d 46, 57-58 [finding comprehensive workers’ compensation scheme did not create a cost for local agencies that was subject to state subvention].)

The CWA and the Porter-Cologne Act largely regulate storm water with an even hand, but to the extent there is any relaxation of this even-handed regulation, it is in favor of the local agencies. Generally, the CWA requires point source dischargers, including dischargers of storm water associated with industrial or construction activity, to comply strictly with water quality standards (33 USC section 1311(b)(1)(C); *Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner* (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999) 191 F.3d 1159, 1164-1165 [noting that industrial discharges must strictly comply with water quality standards]). As discussed in prior State Water Board decisions, certain provisions of this Order do not require strict compliance with water quality standards (State Water Board Order No. WQ 2001-0015, p. 7). Those provisions of this Order regulate the discharge of waste in municipal storm water under the CWA's MEP standard, not the BAT/BCT standard that applies to other types of discharges. These provisions, therefore, regulate the discharge of waste in municipal storm water more leniently than the discharge of waste from non-governmental sources.

Fourth, the Copermittees have requested permit coverage in lieu of compliance with the complete prohibition against the discharge of pollutants contained in CWA section 301(a) (33 USC section 1311(a)). To the extent that the local agency Copermittees have voluntarily availed themselves of the permit, the program is not a state mandate. (*Accord, County of San Diego v. State of California* (1997) 15 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 68, 107-108.)

Fifth, the local agency Copermittees' responsibility for preventing discharges of waste that can create conditions of pollution or nuisance from conveyances that are within their ownership or control under state law predates the enactment of Article XIII B, Section (6) of the California Constitution.

Finally, even if any of the permit provisions could be considered unfunded mandates, under Government Code section 17556, subdivision (d), a state mandate is not subject to reimbursement if the local agency has the authority to charge a fee. The local agency Copermittees have the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for compliance with this Order, subject to certain voting requirements contained in the California Constitution. (See Cal. Const., Art. XIII D, section 6, subd. (c); see also *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Ass'n v. City of Salinas* (2002) 98 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1351, 1358-1359.) The Fact Sheet demonstrates that numerous activities contribute to the pollutant loading in the MS4. Local agencies can levy service charges, fees, or assessments on these activities, independent of real property ownership. (See, e.g., *Apartment Ass'n of Los Angeles County, Inc., v. City of Los Angeles* (2001) 24 Cal.4<sup>th</sup> 830, 842 [upholding inspection fees associated with renting property].) The authority and ability of a local agency to defray the cost of a program without raising taxes indicates that a program does not entail a cost subject to subvention. (*Clovis Unified School Dist. V. Chiang* (2010) 188 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 794, 812, citing *Connell v. Sup. Ct.* (1997) 59 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 382, 401; *County of Fresno v. State of California* (1991) 53 Cal. 3d. 482, 487-488.)

## VIII. PROVISIONS

The provisions (i.e. NPDES permit requirements) of the Order are discussed below.

### A. Prohibitions and Limitations

**Purpose:** Provision A includes the prohibitions and limitations requirements that are the foundation of all the subsequent requirements included in the Order. Compliance with the prohibitions and limitations will restore and protect receiving waters from impacts that may be caused by discharges into and from the Copermittees' MS4s and ultimately achieve the objective of the CWA.

In meeting the requirements set forth in the Order, the Copermittees must be cognizant that the prohibitions and limitations exist and will be the standard by which the San Diego Water Board will be measuring the progress and success of their implementation of the NPDES permit requirements.

**Discussion:** The objective of the CWA is to “*restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters.*” The CWA requires the implementation of NPDES permit programs to regulate discharges of pollutants and dredged or fill material to the navigable waters of the U.S. For discharges into and from MS4s, the CWA requires the NPDES permits to “*effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers*” and “*require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants [in storm water] to the maximum extent practicable.*”

Provision A includes limitations, consistent with the requirements of the CWA for discharges from MS4s. Provision A expresses these limitations as discharge prohibitions, receiving water limitations, and effluent limitations. Compliance with the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations is also explicitly described, in conformance with precedential State Water Board Orders.

More specific and detailed discussions of the requirements of Provision A are provided below.

Provision A.1 (Discharge Prohibitions) prohibits the discharge of specific types of waste into and/or from the Copermittees' MS4s.

Provision A.1.a restates and reiterates Basin Plan Waste Discharge Prohibition 1, by prohibiting discharges into and from MS4s in a manner causing, or threatening to cause, a condition of pollution, contamination, or nuisance in receiving waters of the

state. The terms pollution,<sup>15</sup> contamination,<sup>16</sup> and nuisance<sup>17</sup> are defined under CWC 13050. Provision [A.1.c](#) incorporates all the waste discharge prohibitions of the Basin Plan into the requirements of the Order. The waste discharge prohibitions from the Basin Plan have been reproduced and provided in [Attachment A](#) to the Order.

Provision [A.1.b](#) requires non-storm water discharges into the MS4s to be effectively prohibited, consistent with the requirements of the CWA for MS4 permits to “*effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers.*” The prohibition does not apply to NPDES permitted discharges into the Copermittees’ MS4s. The prohibition also refers to the requirements of Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)-\(5\)](#), which has specific requirements for the Copermittees to address certain types of non-storm water discharges if they enter the MS4.

The CWA employs the strategy of prohibiting the discharge of any pollutant from a point source into waters of the United States unless the discharger of the pollutant(s) obtains an NPDES permit pursuant to CWA Section 402. The 1987 amendment to the CWA includes provision 402(p) that specifically addresses NPDES permitting requirements for storm water discharges from MS4s. CWA section 402(p) prohibits the discharge of pollutants from specified MS4s to waters of the U.S. except as authorized by an NPDES permit and identifies two substantive standards for MS4 storm water permits. MS4 permits (1) “*shall include a requirement to effectively prohibit nonstormwater discharges into the storm sewers*” and (2) “*shall require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to, the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.*” (CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii-iii).)

In November 1990, the USEPA published regulations addressing storm water discharges from MS4s (55 FR 47990 and following (Nov. 16, 1990) (Phase I Final Rule)). The regulations establish minimum requirements for MS4 permits, and generally focus on the requirement that MS4s implement programs to reduce the amount of pollutants found in storm water discharges to the MEP. The CWA’s municipal storm water MEP standard does not require storm water discharges to strictly meet water quality standards, as is required for other NPDES permitted discharges. Compliance is achieved through an iterative approach of continuous implementation of improved BMPs. This distinction reflects Congress’s recognition that

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<sup>15</sup> CWC 13050(l): “(1) ‘Pollution’ means an alteration of the quality of waters of the state by waste to a degree which unreasonably affects either of the following: (A) The water for beneficial uses. (B) Facilities which serve beneficial uses. (2) ‘Pollution’ may include “contamination.

<sup>16</sup> CWC 13050(k): “Contamination’ means an impairment of the quality of waters of the state by waste to a degree which creates a hazard to public health through poisoning or through the spread of disease. ‘Contamination’ includes any equivalent effect resulting from the disposal of waste, whether or not waters of the state are affected.”

<sup>17</sup> CWC 13050(m): “Nuisance’ means anything which meets all of the following requirements: (1) Is injurious to health, or is indecent or offensive to the senses, or an obstruction to the free use of property, so as to interfere with the comfortable enjoyment of life or property. (2) Affects at the same time an entire community or neighborhood, or any considerable number of persons, although the extent of the annoyance or damage inflicted upon individuals may be unequal. (3) Occurs during, or as a result of, the treatment or disposal of wastes.”

variability in flow and intensity of storm events render difficult strict compliance with water quality standards by MS4 permittees. In describing the controls that permits must include to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP, the statute (CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii)) states that the controls shall include: "*management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the [permit writer] determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.*"

In contrast, non-storm water discharges from the MS4 that are not authorized by separate NPDES permits, nor specifically included in a category of non-storm water discharges only required to be addressed if identified as a source of pollutants (see 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)), are subject to requirements under the NPDES program, including discharge prohibitions, technology based effluent limitations and water quality-based effluent limitations (40 CFR 122.44). The regulations also require the Copermitee's program to include an element to detect and remove illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer (40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)).

While "non-storm water" is not defined in the CWA or federal regulations, the federal regulations (at 40 CFR 122.26(b)(2)) define "*illicit discharge*" as "*any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer that is not composed entirely of storm water and that is not covered by an NPDES permit (other than the NPDES permit for discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer and discharges resulting from fire fighting activities).*" This definition is the most closely applicable definition of "non-storm water" contained in federal law. As stated in the Phase I Final Rule, USEPA added the illicit discharge program requirement to begin implementation of the 'effective prohibition' requirement to detect and control non-storm water discharges to their municipal system.

Thus, federal law mandates that permits issued to MS4s must require management practices that will result in reducing storm water pollutants to the MEP yet at the same time requires that non-storm water discharges be effectively prohibited from entering the MS4. "Effectively" prohibit does not mean that non-storm water discharges are authorized to be discharged into and from the Copermitees' MS4s. The Phase I Final Rule clarifies what "effectively prohibit" means (55 FR 47995):

*"Section 402(p)(3)(B) requires that permits for discharges from municipal separate storm sewers require the municipality to "effectively prohibit" non-storm water discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer...Ultimately, such non-storm water discharges through a municipal separate storm sewer must either be removed from the system or become subject to an NPDES permit (other than the permit for the discharge from the municipal separate storm sewer)."*

Consistent with federal law, unless non-storm water discharges to the MS4 are authorized by a separate NPDES permit or are specifically included in a category of non-storm water discharges only required to be addressed if identified as a source of pollutants under federal regulations, non-storm water discharges are appropriately



subject to the effective prohibition requirement in the CWA and Regional Water Boards are not limited by the iterative MEP approach to storm water regulation in crafting appropriate regulations for non-storm water discharges.

The federal regulations (40 CFR 122.26(d)(vi)(B)(1)) require the Copermitttees to “*implement and enforce an ordinance, order or similar means*” to prevent non-storm water discharges to their MS4s. Thus, the Copermitttees are required to “*effectively*” prohibit non-storm water discharges to their MS4s through enforcing their “*ordinance, order or similar means*” and remove those discharges to their MS4s, or require those discharges to obtain coverage under a separate NPDES permit. More detail about the program that must be implemented to “*effectively*” prohibit non-storm water discharges to the Copermitttees’ MS4s is provided under the discussion for Provision [E.2](#).

Provision [A.1.d](#) was included to be consistent Resolution No. 2012-0012, adopted by the State Water Board on March 20, 2012. Provision [A.1.d](#) prohibits discharges from MS4s to Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), except for storm water discharges from the City of San Diego’s MS4 to the San Diego Marine Life Refuge in La Jolla, and the City of Laguna Beach to the Heisler Park ASBS subject to the Special Protections contained in Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012. The pertinent Special Protections contained in Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 are provided in [Attachment A](#) to the Order.

Provision A.2 (Receiving Water Limitations) specifies the condition of the receiving waters that must be achieved when there are discharges from the Copermitttees’ MS4s. Receiving water limitations are included in all NPDES permits issued pursuant to the CWA section 402. CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) authorizes the inclusion of “*such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of [] pollutants.*” This requirement gives USEPA or the State permitting authority, in this case the San Diego Water Board, discretion to determine what permit conditions are necessary to control pollutants.

In its Phase I Final Rule (see 55 FR 47990, 47994 (Nov. 16, 1990)), USEPA elaborated on these requirements, stating that, “*permits for discharges from municipal separate storm sewer systems must require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, and where necessary water quality-based controls.*” USEPA reiterated in its Phase II Final Rule (64 FR 68722, 68737), that MS4 “*permit conditions must provide for attainment of applicable water quality standards (including designated uses), allocations of pollutant loads established by a TMDL, and timing requirements for implementation of a TMDL.*” CWC section 13377 also requires that NPDES permits include limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans. Both the State Water Board and the San Diego Water Board have previously concluded that discharges from the MS4 contain pollutants that have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to excursions above water quality standards. As such, inclusion of receiving water limitations is appropriate to control MS4 discharges.

The inclusion of receiving water limitations is also consistent with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals' ruling in *Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner* (191 F.3d 1159, 1166 (1999)) that the permitting authority has discretion regarding the nature and timing of requirements that it includes as MS4 permit conditions to attain water quality standards. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals recently explained that, “[w]ater quality standards are used as a supplementary basis for effluent limitations [guidelines] so that numerous dischargers, despite their individual compliance with technology based effluent limitations, can be regulated to prevent water quality from falling below acceptable levels.” (*Natural Resources Defense Council v. County of Los Angeles* (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2011) 673 F.3d 880, 886 (review granted by the Supreme Court on other grounds).)

The receiving water limitations included in this Order consist of all applicable numeric or narrative water quality objectives or criteria, or limitations to implement the applicable water quality objectives or criteria, for receiving waters as contained in the Basin Plan or in water quality control plans or policies adopted by the State Water Board, including State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16, or in federal regulations, including but not limited to 40 CFR 131.12 and 131.38. The water quality objectives in the Basin Plan and other State Water Board plans and policies have been approved by USEPA and combined with designated beneficial uses constitute the water quality standards required under federal law.

Provision [A.2.a](#) requires that discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards in receiving waters. The water quality standards of the receiving waters must be protected from the impacts that may be caused by the Copermittees' MS4 discharges. Water quality standards applicable to the surface waters in the San Diego Region must be achieved through meeting the technology based standard of MEP through an iterative process of improved management actions. Provision [A.2.a](#) is also consistent with State Water Board Order WQ 99-05 precedent-setting language requiring discharges from MS4s to attain receiving water quality standards. The water quality control plans and policies with water quality standards applicable to the waters in the San Diego Region are included under Provision [A.2.a](#).

Provisions [A.2.b](#) was included to be consistent with the requirements of State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012, adopted on March 20, 2012.

Provision A.3 (Effluent Limitations) specifies the condition of the discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s that must be achieved if and when there are discharges.

Consistent with CWA section 301(b)(1)(A) and 40 CFR 122.44(a), Provision [A.3.a](#) includes the technology-based effluent limitations that must be included in the Order. The technology-based effluent limits, representing the minimum level of control that must be imposed in a permit under CWA section 402, requires that pollutants in discharges of storm water from the Copermittees' MS4s be reduced to the MEP. This provision applies specifically to storm water discharges. Non-storm water discharges

must be effectively prohibited, as required under Provision [A.1.b](#). Non-storm water (dry weather) discharges from the MS4 are not considered storm water (wet weather) discharges and therefore are not subject to the MEP standard.

The technology-based MEP standard is an ever-evolving, flexible, and advancing concept. Neither Congress nor USEPA has specifically defined the term “maximum extent practicable.” Congress established this flexible MEP standard so that the administrative bodies would have “*the tools to meet the fundamental goals of the Clean Water Act in the context of storm water pollution.*” (*Building Industry Ass’n of San Diego County v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 866, 884.) As knowledge about controlling storm water runoff and discharges continues to evolve, so does the knowledge which constitutes MEP. Reducing the discharge of pollutants in storm water from the MS4 to the MEP requires the Copermittees to assess each program component and revise activities, control measures, BMPs, and measurable goals, as necessary to meet MEP.

The San Diego Water Board or the State Water Board ultimately define MEP, and may include requirements that provide specific guidance on what is expected to demonstrate MEP. It is the responsibility of the Copermittees to propose actions that implement BMPs to reduce storm water pollution to the MEP. In other words, the Copermittees’ runoff management programs developed and implemented under the Order are the Copermittees’ proposals of achieving MEP. Their total collective and individual activities conducted pursuant to their runoff management programs become their proposal for achieving MEP as it applies both to their overall effort, as well as to specific activities. Provisions [B](#) through [E](#) of the Order provides a minimum framework to guide the Copermittees in achieving the MEP standard for discharges of pollutants in storm water.

Provision [A.3.b](#) incorporates any water quality based effluent limitations (WQBELs) applicable to the MS4s established for TMDLs adopted and approved for the San Diego Region and requires the Copermittees to comply with those WQBELs. This is consistent with 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B), which requires that NPDES permits to incorporate WQBELs “*developed to protect a narrative water quality criterion, a numeric water quality criterion, or both...consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any available wasteload allocation for the discharge...*”

Pursuant to CWA section 303(d), for surface water bodies identified as impaired by one or more pollutants, the San Diego Water Board is required to establish TMDLs “*at a level necessary to implement the applicable water quality standards with seasonal variations and a margin of safety which takes into account any lack of knowledge concerning the relationship between effluent limitations and water quality.*” The TMDLs identify sources of the pollutants causing the impairments and assign portions of the TMDL as WLAs to point sources, which include MS4s.

WLAs must be expressed in NPDES permits as WQBELs, which may include one or more numeric components such as numeric effluent limits, and/or receiving water

limitations, and/or BMP requirements. Because numeric targets for TMDLs typically include a component that will be protective of water quality standards, a TMDL will likely include one or more numeric receiving water limitations and/or effluent limitations as part of the assumptions or requirements of the TMDL. Any numeric receiving water limitations and/or effluent limitations developed as part of the assumptions or requirements of a TMDL must be incorporated and included as part of a WQBELs for the MS4s.

Because the development and approval of new TMDLs, or modification of existing TMDLs, may occur during the term of this Order, the specific provisions of those TMDLs, including effluent limitations applicable to MS4s are provided within Attachment E to the Order. Attachment E will be updated with new TMDLs and modifications to existing TMDLs in a timely manner as they occur.

Provision A.4 (Compliance with Discharge Prohibitions and Receiving Water Limitations) describes the process required to be implemented by the Copermittees if compliance with the discharge prohibitions of Provisions A.1.a and A.1.c and receiving water limitations of Provision A.2.a are not being achieved under current conditions.

In its Phase II Stormwater Regulations, Final Rule, USEPA states that MS4 “*permit conditions must provide for attainment of applicable water quality standards (including designated uses), allocations of pollutant loads established by a TMDL, and timing requirements for implementation of a TMDL.*”<sup>18</sup> In a series of comment letters on MS4 permits issued by various Regional Water Boards, USEPA has also reiterated that MS4 discharges must meet water quality standards.<sup>19</sup> In addition, the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals explained in a recent ruling that, “[w]ater quality standards are used as a supplementary basis for effluent limitations [guidelines] so that numerous dischargers, despite their individual compliance with technology based effluent limitations, can be regulated to prevent water quality from falling below acceptable levels.”<sup>20</sup>

Water quality standards for the San Diego Region are established in the Basin Plan. The water quality standards of the Basin Plan are incorporated into this Order as the discharge prohibitions under Provisions A.1.a and A.1.c and receiving water limitations under Provision A.2.a. The discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations in this Order consist of all applicable numeric or narrative water quality objectives or criteria, or limitations or prohibitions to implement the applicable water quality objectives or criteria, for receiving waters as contained in the Basin Plan, water quality control plans or policies adopted by the State Water Board, including Resolution No.

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<sup>18</sup> Phase II Stormwater Regulations, Final Rule, 64 Fed. Reg. 68722, 68737.

<sup>19</sup> Letter from Alexis Strauss, Acting Director, Water Division, USEPA Region IX, to Walt Pettit, Executive Director, State Water Board, re: SWRCB/OCC File A-1041 for Orange County, dated January 21, 1998.

<sup>20</sup> NRDC v. County of Los Angeles (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2011), 673 F.3d 880, 886. On July 13, 2012, the United States Supreme Court granted review of this case on other grounds. See also, *Building Industry Ass’n of San Diego County v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 866, 884-886, citing *Defenders of Wildlife v. Browning*, (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999) 191 F.3d 1159.)

68-16, or federal regulations, including but not limited to, 40 CFR 131.12 and 131.38. The waste discharge prohibitions and water quality objectives in the Basin Plan have been approved by USEPA and combined with the designated beneficial uses constitute the water quality standards required under federal law.

Under federal law (CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii)), an MS4 permit must include “*controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable...and such other provision as...the State determines appropriate for control of such pollutants.*” The State Water Board has previously determined that limitations necessary to meet water quality standards are appropriate for the control of pollutants discharged by MS4s and must be included in MS4 permits. (State Water Board Orders WQ 91-03, 98-01, 99-05, 2001-15; see also *Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner* (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999) 191 F.3d 1159.) This Order prohibits discharges that cause or contribute to violations of water quality standards.

The discharge prohibitions under Provisions [A.1.a](#) and [A.1.c](#) and receiving water limitations under Provision [A.2.a](#) are included in this Order to ensure that discharges from the MS4s do not cause or contribute to exceedances of water quality objectives necessary to protect the beneficial uses of the receiving waters.

Provision [A.4](#) is consistent with the precedent-setting language in State Water Board Order WQ 99-05 required to be included in municipal storm water permits. State Water Board Order WQ 2001-15 refined Order WQ 99-05 by requiring an iterative approach to compliance with water quality standards involving ongoing assessments and revisions, as referred to as the “iterative process.” The “iterative process” is a fundamental NPDES requirement for municipal storm water permits to achieve the objectives of the CWA.

The State Water Board and Regional Water Boards have stated that the provisions under Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#), [A.2.a](#), and [A.4](#) are independently applicable, meaning that compliance with one provision does not provide a “safe harbor” where there is non-compliance with another provision (i.e., compliance with the Provision [A.4](#) does not shield a Copermitee who may have violated Provision [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#), or [A.2.a](#) from an enforcement action). The intent of Provision [A.4](#) is to ensure that the Copermitees have the necessary storm water management programs and controls in place, and that they are modified by the Copermitees in a timely fashion when necessary, so that compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#), and/or [A.2.a](#) is achieved as soon as possible. USEPA expressed the importance of this independent applicability in a series of comment letters on MS4 permits proposed by various Regional Water Boards. At that time, USEPA expressly objected to certain MS4 permits that included language stating, “*permittees will not be in violation of this [receiving water limitation] provision ... [if certain steps are taken to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of the*

*jurisdictional runoff management programs],” concluding that this phrase would not comply with the CWA.<sup>21</sup>*

The Ninth Circuit held in *Natural Resources Defense Council v. County of Los Angeles* (2011) 673 F3d. 880, 886 (certiorari granted on other grounds) that engagement in the iterative process does not provide a safe harbor from liability for violations of permit terms prohibiting exceedances of water quality standards. The Ninth Circuit holding is consistent with the position of the State and Regional Water Boards that exceedances of water quality standards in an MS4 permit constitute violations of permit terms subject to enforcement by the Water Boards or through a citizen suit. While the Water Boards have generally directed dischargers to achieve compliance by improving control measures through the iterative process, the San Diego Water Board retains the discretion to take other appropriate enforcement and the iterative process does not shield dischargers from citizen suits under the CWA.

The requirements of Provision A.4, therefore, are required to be implemented until the water quality standards expressed under Provisions A.1.a, A.1.c, and A.2.a are achieved. The CWA requires MS4 permits to “*require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.*” The requirements of this Order have been deemed or determined to be “appropriate” to achieve water quality standards in receiving waters.

Part of the “*controls*” required by the Order is the process described in Provision A.4. Provision A.4 includes the process that is ultimately expected to achieve compliance with the requirement that discharges from the MS4 do not cause or contribute to violations of water quality standards in the receiving waters. The implementation of Provision A.4 is required when the Copermittees or the San Diego Water Board have determined that discharges from the MS4 are causing or contributing to violations of water quality standards in the receiving waters.

The Copermittees must effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the MS4s, reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from the MS4s to the MEP, and ensure that their MS4 discharges do not cause or contribute to violations of water quality standards. If the Copermittees have effectively prohibited non-storm water discharges and reduced storm water pollutant discharges to the MEP, but their discharges are still causing or contributing to violations of water quality standards, Provision A.4 provides a clear “iterative process” for the Copermittees to follow.

Provision A.4 essentially requires the Copermittees to implement additional BMPs until MS4 discharges no longer cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards.

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<sup>21</sup> Letter from Alexis Strauss, Acting Director, Water Division, USEPA Region IX, to Walt Pettit, Executive Director, State Water Board, re: SWRCB/OCC File A-1041 for Orange County, dated January 21, 1998.

In assessing compliance and potential enforcement actions, the San Diego Water Board looks at the Copermittees' efforts in total to meet the requirements of Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#), [A.2.a](#) and Provision [A.4](#). The Copermittees need to demonstrate that they are making improvements to their programs and making progress toward achieving the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations in Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#), and [A.2.a](#) by implementing the requirements of Provision [A.4](#). The San Diego Water Board would consider these efforts prior to strictly enforcing the requirements of Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#), and [A.2.a](#). Causes of exceedances of the receiving water limitations can often be more difficult to identify and attribute solely to the Copermittees' MS4s. The intent of the Order is to provide the Copermittees more clarity and flexibility in addressing these exceedances through the iterative approach and adaptive management process until the requirements under Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#), and [A.2.a](#) are fully achieved.

An exception to the iterative approach and adaptive management process would be in receiving waters subject to adopted and approved TMDLs. For TMDLs that are incorporated into the Order, there is a specific date for compliance to be achieved, after which the iterative approach and adaptive management process required under Provision [A.4](#) no longer provides the flexibility to achieve compliance. Where compliance dates for a TMDL have passed, compliance with the WQBELs incorporated into the Order to be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of a WLA established by a TMDL to protect water quality standards is required. Thus, after the interim or final compliance dates for a TMDL have passed, if the discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s are causing or contributing to a violation of WQBELs, exceedances of WQBELs must be strictly enforced by the San Diego Water Board.

## **B. Water Quality Improvement Plans**

**Purpose:** Provision B includes requirements for the Copermittees to develop and implement Water Quality Improvement Plans to ultimately comply with the prohibitions and limitations under Provision A. The Water Quality Improvement Plans will provide the Copermittees a comprehensive program that can achieve the requirements of the CWA. Implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plans will also improve the quality of the receiving waters in the San Diego Region.

The Water Quality Improvement Plan is the backbone of the Regional MS4 Permit requirements. Provision B provides the guidance, criteria, and minimum expectations and requirements for the elements of the Water Quality Improvement Plan to be developed and implemented by the Copermittees. The Water Quality Improvement Plans will be implemented in the Watershed Management Area by the Copermittees within their jurisdictions through their jurisdictional runoff management programs.

The Water Quality Improvement Plan also incorporates a program to monitor and assess the progress of the Copermittees' jurisdictional runoff management programs toward improving the quality of discharges from the MS4s, as well as tracking improvements to the quality of receiving waters. A process to adapt and improve the effectiveness of the Water Quality Improvement Plans has also been incorporated into the requirements of Provision B to be consistent with the "iterative approach" required to achieve compliance with discharge prohibitions of Provisions A.1.a and A.1.c and receiving water limitations of Provision A.2.a, pursuant to the requirements of Provision A.4.

The Water Quality Improvement Plans have also been structured to incorporate the requirements of any TMDLs that have been adopted for the San Diego Region. Incorporating the requirements of the TMDLs into the requirements of Provision B allows the Copermittees to develop a single plan, instead of separate plans, to coordinate their non-storm water and storm water runoff management programs. The Water Quality Improvement Plans allow the Copermittees to meet the requirements of this Order, as well as fulfill the requirements of the WLAs that have been assigned to discharges from the MS4s.

As an added benefit, if the Copermittees demonstrate that impaired water bodies within the Watershed Management Area listed on the 303(d) List will be addressed with their Water Quality Improvement Plans in a reasonable period of time, the San Diego Water Board may be able to remove the water bodies from the 303(d) List, which would greatly reduce the need for the San Diego Water Board to develop additional TMDLs that would have to be incorporated into the Order.

**Discussion:** The federal NPDES regulations require the Copermittees to develop a proposed management program (40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)). The proposed management program must include "a *comprehensive planning process*" and "where



*necessary intergovernmental coordination*” for the “*duration of the permit.*” The Water Quality Improvement Plan is the Copermittees’ “*comprehensive planning process*” document for the proposed management program that will be implemented within a Watershed Management Area. Implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan requires “*intergovernmental coordination*” among the Copermittees for at least the “*duration of the permit,*” and likely into and beyond the next iteration of the permit.

Developing Water Quality Improvement Plans based upon watersheds is consistent with federal regulations that support the development of permit conditions, as well as implementation of storm water management programs, at a watershed scale (40 CFR 122.26(a)(3)(ii), 122.26(a)(3)(v), and 122.26(d)(2)(iv)). In 2003, USEPA issued a Watershed-Based NPDES Permitting Policy Statement (USEPA, 2003) that defines watershed-based permitting as an approach that produces NPDES permits that are issued to point sources on a geographic or watershed basis. In this policy statement, USEPA explains that “[*t*]he utility of this tool relies heavily on a detailed, integrated, and inclusive watershed planning process.” USEPA identifies a number of important benefits of watershed permitting, including more environmentally effective results, the ability to emphasize measuring the effectiveness of targeted actions on improvements in water quality, reduced cost of improving the quality of the nation’s waters and more effective implementation of watershed plans, including TMDLs, among others.

An emphasis on watersheds is appropriate at this stage in the San Diego Region’s MS4 program to shift the focus to more targeted, water quality driven planning and implementation. Addressing discharges on a watershed scale focuses on water quality results by emphasizing the receiving waters in the watershed. The conditions of the receiving waters drive management actions, which in turn focus measures to address pollutant contributions from MS4 discharges.

The Water Quality Improvement Plan gives the Copermittees the responsibility of developing a comprehensive plan to coordinate the efforts of their jurisdictional runoff management programs for addressing the problems related to MS4 discharges causing impacts to water quality in the Watershed Management Area. The development of the plan provides the Copermittees the opportunity to provide significant input on how to implement their jurisdictional runoff management programs, and how to best utilize their available resources in addressing a focused set of priorities that they believe will result in measureable improvements to water quality within the Watershed Management Area.

The Copermittees are encouraged to separate the Watershed Management Area into subwatersheds, as appropriate. This allows the Copermittees to identify priorities applicable to a subset of the Copermittees or specific water bodies or areas within the Watershed Management Area.

Included in the requirements for the elements to be included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan are monitoring and assessment requirements that are necessary to implement, as well as ensure the Copermittees are in compliance with, the

requirements of the Order. In addition to the federal requirements of the CWA section 308(a) and 40 CFR 122.26(d), the San Diego Water Board has the authority to establish monitoring, reporting, and recordkeeping requirements for NPDES permits under CWC 13383.

More specific and detailed discussions of the requirements of Provision B are provided below.

Provision B.1 (Watershed Management Areas) requires the Copermittees to develop a Water Quality Improvement Plan for each of the Watershed Management Areas defined by the San Diego Water Board.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv), proposed management programs “*may impose controls on a...watershed basis...*” The Water Quality Improvement Plan is the Copermittees’ proposed management program. A Water Quality Improvement Plan must be developed for each Watershed Management Area identified in the Order.

The Watershed Management Areas are identified in Table B-1. Table B-1 establishes ten (10) Watershed Management Areas, and identifies the Copermittees that are responsible for developing and implementing the Water Quality Improvement Plan for each Watershed Management Area.

The Copermittees from each of the three counties within the San Diego Region are expected to be phased in as their respective NPDES municipal storm water permits expire. Because Order No. R9-2007-0001 expired in January 2012, the San Diego County Copermittees are covered under the Regional MS4 Permit on the effective date of the Order.

After San Diego Water Board receives and considers the Reports of Waste Discharge required to be submitted by the Orange County Copermittees and Riverside County Copermittees pursuant to the requirements of their current permits, and make any necessary changes to the Order, the Orange County Copermittees and Riverside County Copermittees will be covered under the Regional MS4 Permit after Order No. R9-2009-0002 expires in November 2014, and Order No. R9-2010-0016 expires in December 2015, respectively.

The Orange County Copermittees and Riverside County Copermittees also have the option to obtain coverage under the Regional MS4 Permit earlier than their respective permit expiration dates. The process to apply for early coverage is described Provision F.6.

Because the Santa Margarita River Watershed Management Area includes Copermittees from both San Diego County and Riverside County, a footnote to Table B-1 has been included to specify that the requirements of Provision B must be implemented by the County of San Diego until the Riverside County Copermittees have received a notice of coverage under the Regional MS4 Permit.

Provision B.2 (Priority Water Quality Conditions) requires the Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area to identify the highest priority water quality conditions which will be the focus of the Water Quality Improvement Plan implementation.

Provisions [B.2.a](#) and [B.2.b](#) provide the criteria that must be assessed when characterizing the receiving water quality and potential impacts from MS4 discharges of the receiving waters within the Watershed Management Area. The criteria are based primarily on the requirements in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(C) and (C)(1)-(9). Characterizing the receiving water quality and identifying the potential impacts caused by MS4 discharges to receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area is necessary to identify the impacts to receiving waters associated with MS4 discharges that are of the most concern to the Copermittees.

Based on the information required to be considered under Provisions [B.2.a](#) and [B.2.b](#), Provision [B.2.c](#) requires to Copermittees to identify the highest priority water quality conditions related to discharges from the MS4s that will be the primary focus of the Water Quality Improvement Plan in the Watershed Management Area. Addressing and improving these highest priority water quality conditions will become the focus of each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program as the Water Quality Improvement Plan is implemented in the Watershed Management Area. The highest priority water quality conditions are expected to include source of pollutants and/or stressors, and/or receiving water conditions, that the Copermittees consider the highest threats or most likely to have adverse impacts on the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of receiving waters. Addressing these threats and/or adverse impacts should restore the physical, chemical, and biological integrity of receiving waters, and result in the restoration and protection of the beneficial uses of the receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area.

Provision [B.2.d](#) requires the Copermittees to identify known and suspected sources of pollutants and/or stressors contributing to the highest priority water quality conditions. The requirements of Provision [B.2.d](#) are based primarily on the requirements in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iii)(B)(1)-(6). The Copermittees are required to evaluate several factors in the identification of those sources. The Copermittees must consider and evaluate the following: (1) the land uses that may contribute toward impacts to receiving waters, (2) the locations of the Copermittees' MS4s that can convey and discharge runoff and pollutants to receiving waters, (3) other sources that discharge into the Copermittees' MS4s and receiving waters, and (4) other information and data that can help the Copermittees to evaluate the relative importance of or contribution from those sources toward the highest priority water quality conditions. Identifying the known and suspected sources, and their relative contribution toward the highest priority water quality conditions, will help the Copermittees to focus, direct, and prioritize their resources and implementation efforts within their jurisdictions.

Provision [B.2.e](#) requires the Copermittees to identify interim and final numeric goals, and schedules to achieve those goals as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

Provision B.2.e requires the Copermittees to identify two types of numeric goals to be achieved:

- (1) Final numeric goals in the receiving waters and/or MS4 discharges that will be able to restore and protect the water quality standards of the receiving waters for the highest priority water quality conditions identified by the Copermittees for Provision B.2.c. These final numeric goals are the ultimate goals for the Water Quality Improvement Plan, and the achievement and maintenance of these final numeric goals will indicate that one or more beneficial uses have been successfully restored and/or protected.
- (2) Interim numeric goals that can be used by the Copermittees to demonstrate progress toward achieving the final numeric goals in the receiving waters and/or MS4 discharges for the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area. Achievement of the interim numeric goals will demonstrate to the San Diego Water Board that the Copermittees' implementation efforts are progressing toward achieving the final numeric goals.

Provision B.2.e does not specify what the interim and final numeric goals must be based on. The numeric goals must be designed to achieve compliance with water quality standards in the receiving waters. To that end, the interim goals must be based on measureable criteria or indicators capable of demonstrating progress toward achieving the numeric goals.”

The interim and final numeric goals can be based on the water quality objectives in the Basin Plan. The water quality objectives in the Basin Plan, however, consist of numeric and narrative water quality objectives. Numeric water quality objectives can be directly used as numeric goals. Narrative water quality objectives, on the other hand, will require some interpretation to identify numeric goals. The achievement of multiple numeric goals based on the water quality objectives, used in combination, may be necessary to demonstrate that beneficial uses have been restored and/or protected.

The Copermittees could also propose other numeric goals that are not necessarily water quality objectives from the Basin Plan. For example, the Copermittees could propose a numeric goal that consists of achieving some percent improvement of a measureable indicator, such as acreage of a specific habitat or increase in a specific plant or animal species population. Other examples may include pollutant load reductions, number of impaired waterbodies delisted from the List of Water Quality Impaired Segments, Index of Biological Integrity (IBI) scores, etc.

The Copermittees may choose to develop interim numeric goals based on the final numeric goals they develop, such as incremental steps toward ultimately achieving the final numeric goals. The Copermittees may also choose to develop interim numeric goals that are based on other measureable indicators that can indirectly indicate improvements and progress toward the final numeric goals.

There are no limits to the types of interim numeric goals that could be proposed by the Copermittees, other than the goals must be based on measureable criteria or indicators capable of demonstrating progress toward achieving the numeric goals. Likewise, there are no limits to the types of final numeric goals that could be proposed by the Copermittees, other than the goals must “*restore and protect the water quality standards of the receiving waters.*”

Finally, Provision [B.2.e](#) also requires the Copermittees to develop schedules for measuring progress and achieving the interim and final numeric goals. Several criteria are included for the development of the schedules, but the Copermittees are required to achieve the numeric goals as soon as possible, consistent with federal NPDES regulations (40 CFR 122.47(a)(1)).

The Copermittees are also required by to incorporate any compliance schedules that are included in any applicable TMDLs. Applicable TMDL compliance schedules are set forth in [Attachment E](#) to the Order. The information provided by the Copermittees under Provision [B.2.e](#) will be used by the Copermittees and the San Diego Water Board to gauge and track the progress of the Copermittees’ efforts in addressing the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

Provision B.3 (Water Quality Improvement Strategies) requires the Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area to identify the strategies which will be implemented by the Copermittees’ jurisdictional runoff management programs to address and improve the highest priority water quality conditions identified under Provision [B.2](#). The element of the Water Quality Improvement Plan required under Provision [B.3](#) is where the “*comprehensive planning*” and “*intergovernmental coordination*” [40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)] of the Copermittees’ actions for the proposed management programs within the Watershed Management Area is expected to be described.

Provision [B.3](#) requires the Copermittees to identify the water quality improvement strategies that will be implemented within the Watershed Management Area to 1) reduce of pollutants in storm water discharged from the MS4 to the MEP, 2) prevent or eliminate controllable non-storm water discharges from entering the MS4, 3) achieve of demonstrable improvements in the physical, chemical, and biological receiving water conditions, 4) restore and protect water quality standards in receiving waters by controlling discharges so that they do not cause or contribute to exceedances of receiving water limitations, and 5) achieve applicable WQBELs that implement TMDLs.

The Copermittees are expected to provide a description of all the actions and potential actions that they will implement over the course of a schedule that they develop. The implementation actions may include, but are not limited to, inspection and enforcement strategies, resource identification and development efforts, non-structural and structural controls, retrofitting projects, stream and habitat rehabilitation/restoration

projects, and agency and department coordination efforts. Water quality improvement strategies that will be implemented within the Watershed Management Area may need to be different within each Copermittees' jurisdiction. The descriptions in the Water Quality Improvement Plan are not expected to specify exactly what strategies each Copermittee will implement within its jurisdiction, but enough information to allow the San Diego Water Board to determine when and where the strategies may be or should be implemented. Specific information about how those strategies will be implemented will be provided in each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program document.

The Copermittees must also develop and include schedules in the Water Quality Improvement Plan for implementing the water quality improvement strategies. The schedule for implementing the water quality improvement strategies will be used by the Copermittees and San Diego Water Board to measure and demonstrate the progress of the Copermittees' implementation efforts toward reducing pollutants in storm water discharged from the MS4 to the MEP, and eliminating non-storm water discharges from entering the MS4.

Provision B.4 (Water Quality Improvement Monitoring and Assessment) requires the Copermittees to develop an integrated monitoring and assessment program to track the progress of the Water Quality Improvement Plan toward meeting the implementation goals and schedules, and improving the water quality of the Watershed Management Area. Provision B.4 is the part of the Water Quality Improvement Plan where the Copermittees describe the monitoring data that will be collected, which is not only necessary to implement the "iterative approach" required by Provision A.4, but inform the adaptive management and "*comprehensive planning process*" that allows the Copermittees to make adjustments and modifications to the Water Quality Improvement Plans and the jurisdictional runoff management programs.

Provision B.4 requires the Copermittees, at a minimum, to include the requirements of Provision D as part of the water quality improvement monitoring and assessment program for the Water Quality Improvement Plan. The Copermittees, however, are not limited to the requirements of Provision D and may include additional monitoring and assessment methods to track progress toward improving water quality in the Watershed Management Area.

In addition to incorporating the requirements of Provision D, the water quality improvement monitoring and assessment program must incorporate any monitoring and assessment requirements specified for any applicable TMDLs included in Attachment E to the Order, and the monitoring requirements of Attachment B to State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 for Watershed Management Areas with ASBS.

The monitoring and assessments required to be incorporated into the Water Quality Improvement Plan are necessary to implement, as well as ensure the Copermittees are in compliance with, the requirements of the Order.

Provision B.5 (Iterative Approach and Adaptive Management Process) requires the Copermittees to implement the iterative approach pursuant to Provision [A.4](#) to adapt the Water Quality Improvement Plan, monitoring and assessment program, and jurisdictional runoff management programs to become more effective toward achieving compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#) and [A.2.a](#).

Provision [B.5](#) requires the Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area to re-evaluate the highest priority water quality conditions and numeric goals, the water quality improvement strategies, and the water quality improvement monitoring and assessment program and provide recommendations for modifying those elements to improve the effectiveness of the Water Quality Improvement Plan. The re-evaluation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan is part of the assessment requirements of Provision [D](#).

Provision B.6 (Water Quality Improvement Plan Submittal, Updates, and Implementation) requires to Copermittees to submit, update, and implement the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

The requirements for the process to develop and submit the Water Quality Improvement Plans is described in more detail under the discussion for Provision [F.1](#). The process will include several opportunities for the public to provide input during the development of the Water Quality Improvement Plans. The process for updating the Water Quality Improvement Plans is described in more detail under the discussion for Provision [F.3.c](#). Upon acceptance of the Water Quality Improvement Plan and updates, the Copermittees are required to immediately begin implementing the Water Quality Improvement Plan and subsequent updates.

The Water Quality Improvement Plan is expected to be a dynamic document that will evolve over time. The Water Quality Improvement Plan is also expected to be a long term plan that focuses the Copermittees' efforts and resources on a limited set of priority water quality conditions, with the ultimate goal of protecting all the beneficial uses of the receiving waters within the Watershed Management Area from impacts that may be caused or contributed to by MS4 discharges. As the Copermittees collect data, implement their jurisdictional runoff management programs, and review the results from their water quality improvement monitoring and assessment program, the Water Quality Improvement Plan is expected to be continually reviewed and updated until compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.b](#), and [A.2.a](#) is achieved.

Implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plans may also demonstrate that TMDLs are not required for impaired water bodies within the Watershed Management Area. Impaired water bodies are not required to be placed on the 303(d) List, thus do not require a TMDL, if technology-based effluent limitations required by the CWA, more stringent effluent limitations required by state, local, or federal authority, or other pollution control requirements (e.g., best management practices) required by local, state or federal authority are stringent enough to implement applicable water quality

standards within a reasonable period of time.<sup>22</sup>

The San Diego Water Board submits an Integrated Report to USEPA to comply with the reporting requirements of CWA sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314, which lists the attainment status of water quality standards for water bodies in the San Diego Region. According to USEPA guidance for the Integrated Report,<sup>23</sup> water bodies are placed in one of five categories. Water bodies included in Category 5 in the Integrated Report indicate at least one beneficial use is not being supported or is threatened, and a TMDL is required. Water bodies included in Category 5 are placed on the 303(d) List.

Category 4 in the Integrated Report is for water bodies where available data and/or information indicate that at least one beneficial use is not being supported or is threatened, but a TMDL is not needed.<sup>24</sup> Impaired surface water bodies may be included in Category 4 if a TMDL has been adopted and approved (Category 4a); if other pollution control requirements required by a local, state or federal authority are stringent enough to implement applicable water quality standards within a reasonable period of time (Category 4b); or, if the failure to meet an applicable water quality standard is not caused by a pollutant, but caused by other types of pollution (Category 4c).

Impaired water bodies can be included in Category 4a if a TMDL has been adopted and approved. The TMDLs in Attachment E to the Order implement the requirements of the TMDLs adopted by the San Diego Water Board, and approved by the State Water Board and USEPA. The water bodies in [Attachment E](#) will be included in Category 4a in the Integrated Report and removed from the 303(d) List.

Impaired water bodies can be included in Category 4b if there are *acceptable* “pollution control requirements” required by a local, state or federal authority stringent enough to implement applicable water quality standards within a reasonable period of time (e.g., a compliance date is set). When evaluating whether a particular set of pollution controls are “requirements,” the USEPA considers a number of factors, including: (1) the authority (local, state, federal) under which the controls are required and will be implemented with respect to sources contributing to the water quality impairment (examples may include: self-executing state or local regulations, permits, and contracts and grant/funding agreements that require implementation of necessary controls), (2) existing commitments made by the sources and completion or soon to be completed implementation of the controls (including an analysis of the amount of actual implementation that has already occurred), (3) the certainty of dedicated funding for the implementation of the controls, and (4) other relevant factors as determined by USEPA depending on case-specific circumstances.<sup>25</sup>

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<sup>22</sup> 40 CFR 130.7(b)(1)

<sup>23</sup> USEPA, 2005. *Guidance for 2006 Assessment, Listing and Reporting Requirements Pursuant to Sections 303(d), 305(b) and 314 of the Clean Water Act*

<sup>24</sup> Ibid

<sup>25</sup> Ibid



Impaired water bodies can be included in Category 4c if the failure to meet an applicable water quality standard is not caused by a pollutant, but caused by other types of pollution. Pollution, as defined by the CWA is “the man-made or man-induced alteration of the chemical, physical, biological, and radiological integrity of water.”<sup>26</sup> In other cases, pollution does not result from a pollutant and a TMDL is not required. Examples of circumstances where an impaired segment may be placed in Category 4c include segments impaired solely due to lack of adequate flow, stream channelization, or hydromodification. In these situations, there may be water quality management actions that can address the cause(s) of the impairment, but a TMDL may not be required to implement the actions.

The Water Quality Improvement Plans will require the implementation of pollution controls and water quality management actions (i.e. water quality improvement strategies) which can result in the attainment of water quality standards in water bodies impaired by discharges from the Copermitees’ MS4s. The Water Quality Improvement Plans also include requirements that are expected to attain water quality standards in a reasonable period of time. The San Diego Water Board considers the Water Quality Improvement Plans to be a commitment by the Copermitees to develop, plan, budget for, and implement pollution controls that will attain water quality standards in receiving waters in a reasonable period of time, or as soon as possible. The results of the Copermitees’ efforts in implementing the Water Quality Improvement Plans can be used to re-evaluate the condition of the impaired water bodies during the next update to the 303(d) List.

After the Copermitees submit the Water Quality Improvement Plans and demonstrate that water quality standards are being attained or will be attained in a reasonable period of time, the San Diego Water Board may re-evaluate the water bodies on the 303(d) List. These water bodies on the 303(d) List may be re-evaluated and placed into Category 4b or Category 4c in the Integrated Report. The water bodies placed in Category 4b or Category 4c in the Integrated Report must show a record that the water bodies are attaining water quality standards or supporting the identified beneficial uses, or will attain water quality standards or support identified beneficial uses in a reasonable period of time, in order for the water bodies to be appropriately removed from the 303(d) List.

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<sup>26</sup> CWA section 502(19)

## **C. Action Levels**

**Purpose:** Provision C includes requirements for the Copermittees to identify and include numeric action levels in the Water Quality Improvement Plan to direct and focus the Copermittees' jurisdictional runoff management program implementation efforts for controlling MS4 discharges to receiving waters.

**Discussion:** Under Provision C, the numeric action levels required are for non-storm water discharges and storm water discharges. The non-storm water action levels (NALs) are applicable to non-storm water discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s, which can occur year-round. The storm water action levels (SALs) are applicable to storm water discharges from the Copermittees' MS4s, which occur during the rainy season defined as the period between October 1 and April 30.

The action levels required by Provision C are based on the action level requirements that were developed and incorporated into Order Nos. R9-2009-0002 and R9-2010-0016, the Orange County and Riverside County MS4 Permits, respectively. The Fact Sheets for these Orders provide detailed discussions about the development of the numeric NALs and SALs included in this Order.

Order Nos. R9-2009-0002 and R9-2010-0016 required the Copermittees to perform prescribed actions if the NALs or SALs are exceeded. The actions required under Order Nos. R9-2009-0002 and R9-2010-0016 generally included conducting additional monitoring and source investigations when a discharge from the MS4 is observed to exceed one or more NALs and/or SALs.

For this Order, however, the action levels of Provision C are to be used by the Copermittees to prioritize the actions to be implemented as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plan. Monitoring data collected by the Copermittees from MS4 outfalls will be compared with the NALs and SALs. Exceedances of the NALs and SALs will not require the Copermittees to immediately identify sources causing exceedances, but will provide some numeric indicator levels that can give the Copermittees a way to measure the relative severity of a pollutant contributing to receiving water quality impacts.

NALs and SALs must be included in the Water Quality Improvement Plans to be used by the Copermittees in directing and focusing their water quality improvement strategies. The Copermittees are expected to utilize the NALs and SALs to help focus their implementation efforts on addressing pollutants that have the most significant potential or observed impacts to receiving waters. The NALs and SALs will be used as part of the MS4 discharges assessments required under Provision D.4.b. The NALs and SALs may also be used by the Copermittees as the numeric goals to be achieved in MS4 discharges and/or receiving waters as the Water Quality Improvement Plans are implemented.

More specific and detailed discussions of the requirements of Provision C are provided below.

Provision C.1 (Non-storm Water Action Levels) requires the Copermittees to incorporate NALs into the Water Quality Improvement Plan for pollutants and/or constituents that are causing or contributing, or may be causing or contributing, to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan related to non-storm water discharges from the MS4s. NALs generally must be consistent with the water quality objectives found within the Basin Plan.

The NALs have been included to ensure that the Copermittees are implementing and complying with several requirements of the MS4 permit. The federal CWA requires permits for municipal storm sewer systems to “*effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the storm sewers.*” The federal NPDES regulations, which were promulgated to implement the CWA requirements for discharges from municipal storm sewers, require a program to address illicit discharges, which are non-storm water discharges. Provision A.1.b prohibits “[*n*]on-storm water discharges into MS4s” unless the non-storm water discharge authorized by a separate NPDES permit, or is a category of non-storm water specified in Provisions E.2.a.(1)-(5) that does not need to be addressed through ordinance, order or similar means and is not a source of pollutants. The NALs will be used as part of the illicit discharge detection and elimination program required pursuant to Provision E.2, as well as part of the MS4 discharges assessments required pursuant to Provision D.4.b.

Provision A.1.a prohibits non-storm water discharges from the MS4 from “*causing, or threatening to cause, a condition of pollution, contamination, or nuisance (as defined in CWC section 13050), in waters of the state.*” In addition, pursuant to Provision A.2.a, non-storm water discharges “*must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards in any receiving waters.*”

Ideally, the Copermittees’ jurisdictional runoff management programs will eliminate all non-storm water discharges entering the MS4s within their jurisdictions. The complete elimination of non-storm water discharges to the Copermittees’ MS4s would be in compliance with the CWA requirements for non-storm water discharges, as well as the prohibitions and limitations of Provisions A.1.a and A.2.a.

The federal regulations, however, also refer to several non-storm water discharge categories that must be addressed as illicit discharges if they are found to be a source of pollutants. The federal regulations thus identify some non-storm water discharges that are not required to be addressed as illicit discharges if they are not a source of pollutants (e.g. non-storm water discharges specified in Provisions E.2.a.(1)-(5)). Thus, these regulations imply that some non-storm water discharges into and from the MS4 may occur even if non-storm water discharges are “effectively” prohibited by the Copermittees.

If the source of a non-storm water discharge is identified as a category of non-storm water specified in Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)-\(5\)](#), the NALs can be used to determine the category of non-storm water discharges is a source of pollutants. For other non-storm water discharges not specified in Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)-\(5\)](#), the CWA requires those discharges to be “*effectively*” prohibited by removing the discharge to the MS4 through enforcement of “*ordinance, order or similar means.*”

If there are non-storm water discharges, however, those discharges must comply, at a minimum, with the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations of Provision [A](#). Thus, the non-storm water discharges from the MS4 must be at levels that will not cause or contribute to a condition of pollution, contamination, or nuisance (Provision [A.1.a](#)), and must not cause or contribute to a violation of water quality standards in receiving waters (Provision [A.2.a](#)) to be consistent with the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations of Provisions [A.1.a](#) and [A.2.a](#).

Furthermore, the San Diego Region has predominantly intermittent and ephemeral rivers and streams which vary in flow volume and duration at spatial and temporal scales. For most of these river and stream systems, non-storm water discharges from the MS4 are likely to be the most significant or the only source contributing to surface flows present within the receiving water, especially during the dry season.

Therefore, because of the prohibitions and limitations of Provision [A.1.a](#) and [A.2.a](#), and the likelihood that non-storm water discharges from the MS4 are the most significant or only source contributing to surface flows present within the receiving water, NALs generally must be consistent with the water quality objectives found within the Basin Plan. Non-storm water discharges that are meeting the NALs would not be expected to cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives in receiving waters, which would be consistent with the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations of Provisions [A.1.a](#) and [A.2.a](#).

Exceedances of the NALs would then provide an indication of the relative severity of a pollutant in non-storm water discharges from the MS4 contributing to potential or observed receiving water quality impacts. The relative severity or significance of a pollutant in non-storm water discharges from the MS4 will provide the Copermittees a valuable source of information that can be used to identify priority water quality conditions within a Watershed Management Area and within each Copermittee’s jurisdiction.

Tables [C-1](#) through [C-4](#) under Provision [C.1.a](#) specify numeric NALs for several parameters or pollutant constituents for non-storm water discharges from the MS4 to several water body types. The NALs for MS4 discharges given under Provision [C.1.a](#) are based on the water quality objectives for inland surface waters in the Basin Plan, and the water quality objectives for ocean waters in the Ocean Plan. The NALs for most of the metals were calculated based on the State Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (State Implementation Policy or SIP). The NALs provided in Tables [C-1](#)

through C-4 must be included in the Water Quality Improvement Plans required to be developed pursuant to Provision B.

Provision C.1.b requires the Copermittees to identify NALs for pollutants and/or constituents, not specified in Provision C.1.a, which are causing or contributing, or may be causing or contributing, to the highest priority water quality conditions of the Watershed Management Area related to non-storm water discharges from the MS4s. The NALs must be based on the water quality objectives in the Basin Plan. The NALs identified under Provision C.1.b must be included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

The San Diego Water Board recognizes that some of the NALs required pursuant to Provisions C.1.a and C.1.b may be exceeded more frequently than not. Thus, Provision C.1.c has been included in the Order to provide the Copermittees the option to develop secondary NALs that are set at levels greater than the levels required pursuant to Provisions C.1.a and C.1.b to further refine the prioritization and assessment of water quality improvement strategies for addressing non-storm water discharges to and from the MS4s, as well as the detection and elimination of non-storm water and illicit discharges to and from the MS4.

Provision C.2 (Storm Water Action Levels) requires the Copermittees to incorporate SALs into the Water Quality Improvement Plan for pollutants and/or constituents causing or contributing, or may be causing or contributing, to the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan related to storm water discharges from the MS4s.

The SALs have been included to ensure that the Copermittees are implementing and complying with several requirements of the MS4 permit. Provision A.1.a prohibits storm water discharges from the MS4 from *“causing, or threatening to cause, a condition of pollution, contamination, or nuisance (as defined in CWC section 13050), in waters of the state.”* In addition, pursuant to Provision A.2.a, storm water discharges *“must not cause or contribute to the violation of water quality standards in any receiving waters.”*

Provision A.3.a, however, implicitly acknowledges that compliance with Provisions A.1.a and A.2.a cannot be achieved immediately for discharges of storm water from the MS4 by applying the MEP standard. Thus, Provision A.4 requires the Copermittees to implement an iterative approach to demonstrate that MEP is being achieved. This approach is supported by USEPA.

The federal CWA requires permits for municipal storm sewer systems to *“require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants [in storm water] to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.”* MEP is an ever-evolving, flexible, and advancing concept. As knowledge about controlling storm water runoff

and discharges evolves, so does the knowledge which constitutes MEP. Reducing the discharge of storm water pollutants from the MS4 to the MEP requires the Copermittees to assess their jurisdictional runoff management programs and revise activities, control measures, BMPs, and measurable goals, as necessary to meet MEP. The SALs provide the Copermittees measurable goals that may be used to demonstrate the achievement of MEP for reducing pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4. The SALs will be used as part of the MS4 discharges assessments required under Provision [D.4.a](#).

In June of 2006, the State Water Board's Blue Ribbon Storm Water Panel released its report titled "*The Feasibility of Numerical Effluent Limits Applicable to Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Municipal, Industrial and Construction Activities.*" In the recommendations, the Blue Ribbon panel proposed storm water effluent limitations which are computed using statistical based population approaches. The SALs specified in Table [C-5](#) under Provision [C.2.a](#) were developed from a regional subset of nationwide Phase I MS4 data by using USEPA Rain Zone 6 (arid west) data.<sup>27</sup> Additionally, utilization of regional data is appropriate due to the addition of data into the nationwide Phase I MS4 monitoring dataset in February 2008. This additional data increased the number of USEPA Rain Zone 6 samples to more than 400, and included additional monitoring events within Southern California.

Utilizing data from USEPA Rain Zone 6 resulted in SALs which closely reflect the environmental conditions experienced in the San Diego Region. The localized subset of data includes sampling events from multiple Southern California locations including Orange, San Diego, Riverside, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties. The dataset includes samples taken from highly built-out impervious areas and from storm events representative of Southern California conditions.

The SALs for cadmium, copper, lead and zinc require the measurement of hardness and to provide more specificity in the assessment of samples with SALs for total metal concentrations. While USEPA Rain Zone 6 data include a large sample size for concentrations of total metals, the impact the concentration will have on receiving waters will vary with receiving water hardness. Since it is the goal of the SALs, through the iterative process and MEP standard, to have MS4 storm water discharges meet all applicable water quality objectives, the hardness of the receiving water should be used when assessing the total metal concentration of a sample.

Thus, when there is an exceedance of a SAL for a metal, the Copermittee must determine if that exceedance is above the existing applicable water quality objectives based upon the hardness of the receiving water. The water quality objectives Copermittees must use to assess total metal SAL exceedances are the California Toxic Rule (CTR) and USEPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria for Freshwater Aquatic Life 1 hour maximum concentrations. The 1 hour maximum

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<sup>27</sup> Data used to develop SAL were obtained from <http://rpitt.eng.ua.edu/Research/ms4/mainms4.shtml>

concentration is to be used for comparison since it is expected to most replicate the impacts to waters of the State from the first flush following a precipitation event.

The statistically calculated SALs given in Table C-5 are at levels greater than the water quality objectives in the Basin Plan or Ocean Plan. Because the objective of the CWA is to “*to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters*”, meaning eventually pollutants in storm water discharges must be reduced to a level that cannot cause or contribute to an exceedance of water quality objectives in receiving waters, over time the SALs are expected to be reduced to a level that is based on the water quality objectives rather than statistical calculations. The San Diego Water Board will review the SALs as more data for discharges of storm water from the MS4s are collected, and revise them as conditions improve and the MEP standard advances. For the Water Quality Improvement Plans required under this Order, the SALs identified under Provision C.2.a must be included.

Provision C.2.b requires the Copermittees to identify SALs for pollutants and/or constituents, not specified in Provision C.2.a, which are causing or contributing, or may be causing or contributing, to the highest priority water quality conditions of the Watershed Management Area related to storm water discharges from the MS4s. The SALs identified under Provision C.2.b must be included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

The San Diego Water Board recognizes that some of the SALs required pursuant to Provisions C.2.a and C.2.b may be exceeded more frequently than not. Thus, Provision C.2.c has been included in the Order to provide the Copermittees the option to develop secondary SALs that are set at levels greater than the levels required pursuant to Provisions C.2.a and C.2.b to further refine the prioritization and assessment of water quality improvement strategies for reducing pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s.

## **D. Monitoring and Assessment Program Requirements**

**Purpose:** Provision D includes minimum monitoring and assessment requirements that must be developed and implemented by the Copermittees as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plans. Implementation of the monitoring and assessment requirements of Provision D will allow the Copermittees to demonstrate that the requirements of the CWA to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4 and reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4 to the MEP are being achieved. Implementation of the monitoring and assessment requirements of Provision D will also allow the Copermittees and the San Diego Water Board to track improvements to the water quality in the San Diego Region. The monitoring and assessment program requirements are necessary to implement, as well as ensure the Copermittees are in compliance with, the requirements of the Order.

**Discussion:** The San Diego Water Board recognized that changes to the monitoring and assessment requirements of the Fourth Term Permit were necessary to improve the usefulness and usability of monitoring data collected by the Copermittees to support their jurisdictional storm water programs more efficiently and with increased effectiveness. The data collected are needed to better inform the Copermittees' understanding of the physical, chemical, and biological condition of the receiving waters and the quality of the MS4 discharges. The monitoring program needs to provide opportunities for the Copermittees to integrate regional monitoring efforts into municipal storm water monitoring requirements to provide a cost-effective approach to monitoring and avoid duplication of efforts.

The requirements in Provision D were largely recommended by the Copermittees as an outcome of the San Diego Water Boards Focused Meeting process. The monitoring and assessment program requirements now require collection of more specific information necessary for each Copermittee to adapt its jurisdictional runoff management program in such a way that focuses resources on a watershed's highest priority water quality conditions. The monitoring and assessment program will require the Copermittees to collect data that can be utilized to answer both watershed level management questions (e.g. Are the chemical, physical, and biological conditions of a receiving water protective, or likely protective of beneficial uses?), and specific jurisdictional runoff management program activity questions (e.g. Are the water quality improvement strategies of the jurisdictional program effectively eliminating non-storm water discharges to the MS4?).

The monitoring data collected and assessment information that will be reported to the San Diego Water Board are necessary to determine if the Copermittees are complying with the prohibitions and limitations of Provision A. The required monitoring and assessments that must be reported to the San Diego Water Board will be utilized for three purposes:

- (1) Inform the Copermittees, San Diego Water Board, and the public on the progress



of the Copermitees' efforts to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4 and reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4 to the MEP;

- (2) Inform the Copermitees, San Diego Water Board, and the public on the condition of water bodies receiving discharges from the Copermitees' MS4, and the progress of the Copermitees' water quality improvement implementation efforts toward improving the receiving water quality; and
- (3) Inform the Copermitees, the San Diego Water Board, and the public on the effectiveness of the Water Quality Improvement Plan toward achieving (1) and (2).

The monitoring and assessment information reported pursuant to Provision F is also expected to be key to the iterative approach and adaptive management process required under Provision A.4 and implemented through the Water Quality Improvement Plan required under Provision B. As required by Provision A.4, the iterative approach and adaptive management process is required if the Copermitees cannot meet the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations of Provisions A.1.a, A.1.c, and/or A.2.a under the present conditions.

Provision D provides the minimum monitoring and assessment requirements that must be included in each Water Quality Improvement Plan to be developed and implemented by the Copermitees. The Copermitees, however, are not limited to the requirements of Provision D and may include additional methods to track progress toward improving water quality in a Watershed Management Area.

More specific and detailed discussions of the requirements of Provision D are provided below.

Provision D.1 (Receiving Water Monitoring Requirements) specifies the minimum receiving water monitoring that the Copermitees must conduct within the Watershed Management Area and include as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

Provision D.1 establishes minimum monitoring requirements that must be conducted by the Copermitees within each Watershed Management Area. Provision D.1 requires the Copermitees to collect and develop the data and information necessary to determine potential impacts to the beneficial uses in the receiving waters due to discharges from the MS4s. The monitoring required under Provision D.1 will also provide the data that will allow the Copermitees to gauge the effectiveness and progress of its Water Quality Improvement Plan implementation efforts toward improving the quality of receiving waters.

The receiving water monitoring requirements of Provision D.1 are focused primarily on monitoring the conditions and response of the receiving waters to the Copermitees' collective implementation efforts to reduce receiving water impacts that may be

caused by the discharges from the MS4s. The preference of the San Diego Water Board is for the Copermittees to spend their resources achieving tangible and observable improvements in receiving water conditions instead of collecting samples and analyzing data that has consistently indicated that receiving water conditions are degraded and require improvement. In general, the ability to measure potential improvements in receiving water conditions due to any actions implemented by the Copermittees as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plan may require several years before a response can be observed. Thus, the frequency of collecting receiving water monitoring data has been kept to a minimum.

During the transitional period between adoption of this Order and San Diego Water Board acceptance of a Water Quality Improvement Plan, the Copermittees must conduct receiving water monitoring in accordance with Provision [D.1.a](#). This approach to collecting receiving water data is different from what was required in the Fourth Term Permits, but one that truly embraces the concept of an integrated, cost-effective, streamlined receiving water monitoring approach.

Provision [D.1.a](#) requires Copermittees to continue performing the receiving water monitoring programs required in Order Nos. R-2007-0001, R9-2009-002, and R9-2010-0016; plus participation in: hydromodification management plan monitoring approved by the San Diego Water Board, monitoring plans as part of load reduction plans (either Bacteria Load Reduction Plans or Comprehensive Load Reduction Plans) for TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) of the Order, Storm Water Monitoring Coalition Regional Monitoring, Southern California Bight Regional Monitoring, Sediment Quality Monitoring, and ASBS Monitoring as applicable to a Watershed Management Area.

Provision [D.1.a](#) also provides an opportunity for the Copermittees to use third party data to meet receiving water monitoring requirements where feasible. Allowing the Copermittees to use the data currently collected through its participation in existing regional receiving water programs and that of third parties provides an efficiency of resources in obtaining the data necessary to inform the Copermittees and the San Diego Water Board about the physical, chemical, and biological conditions of the receiving waters, which can also help to focus the receiving water monitoring during the implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan. Once a Water Quality Improvement Plan is developed for a Watershed Management Area in compliance with Provision [B](#) of this Order, the transitional period is over and Copermittees are required to conduct receiving water monitoring according to the requirements of Provision [D.1.b-e](#).

Provision [D.1.b](#) requires each Copermittee to identify at least one long term receiving water monitoring station to be representative of receiving water quality within each Watershed Management Area. Long term receiving water monitoring stations can be located at any existing mass loading stations, temporary watershed assessment stations, bioassessment stations, and stream assessment stations previously established by the Copermittees. The requirements under Provision [D.1.b](#) are consistent with 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(D), which specifies that a “*monitoring program*

*for representative data collection for the term of the permit*” may include “*instream locations.*” For each Watershed Management Area, at least one long term watershed monitoring station is required to be established and monitored. The Copermittees may choose to establish additional long term monitoring stations where necessary to support the implementation and adaptation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

Provision [D.1.b](#) requires the Copermittees to locate the long term receiving water monitoring station at one of these existing receiving water monitoring stations to provide the Copermittees an opportunity to experience monitoring cost savings while continuing to collect the necessary data to assess the status and trends of receiving water quality conditions in 1) coastal water, 2) enclosed bays, harbors, estuaries, and lagoons, and 3) streams under both dry weather and wet weather conditions. Ideally these stations will continue to be monitored as part of the receiving water monitoring for each Watershed Management Area to maintain a consistent set of locations and a period of data that can be built upon with the monitoring required under this Order.

The receiving water monitoring requirements are separated into monitoring required during dry weather conditions pursuant to Provision [D.1.c](#), and wet weather conditions pursuant to Provision [D.1.d](#).

At each long term monitoring station the Copermittees must conduct at least three dry weather monitoring events as required pursuant to Provision [D.1.c](#) and at least three wet weather monitoring events as required pursuant to Provision [D.1.d](#) per permit term. Provision [D.1.c](#) and [D.1.d](#) require the Copermittees to monitor priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, constituents listed as causing impairment of receiving waters in the Watershed Management Area, applicable NALs, constituents listed in [Tables D-2](#) and [D-3](#), and constituents for implementation plans (e.g. Bacteria Load Reduction Plans and Comprehensive Load Reduction Plans). Receiving water monitoring efforts in this Order have been streamlined to redirect resources to monitoring efforts that better support pollutant reduction solutions with an increasing emphasis on MS4 outfall monitoring, source identification and source abatement activities.

In addition to the receiving water monitoring requirements under Provisions [D.1.b-d](#), Provision [D.1.e](#) requires the Copermittees participate in and/or conduct other types of receiving water monitoring. As recommended and requested by the Copermittees, Provision [D.1.e.\(1\)](#) requires the Copermittees to participate in existing regional monitoring, as applicable to each Watershed Management Area. Existing regional monitoring includes monitoring conducted by the Storm Water Monitoring Coalition and for the Southern California Bight. Participation in and use of monitoring data collected from these existing regional water quality monitoring programs provide the Copermittees a greater opportunity for efficiency in the use of their resources to manage their storm water programs and those controllable discharges under their authority.

The State Water Resources Control Board adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California – Part 1 Sediment Quality which became effective August 25, 2009 (Sediment Quality Monitoring Policy). Provision [D.1.e.\(2\)](#) requires any Copermittees with MS4 discharges to an enclosed bay or estuary to monitoring the sediments in the enclosed bay or estuary receiving water in accordance with the sediment quality monitoring procedures as prescribed in the Sediment Quality Monitoring Policy.

The State Water Board adopted Resolution No. 2012-0012 which approved exceptions to the California Ocean Plan for selected discharges into Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), including special protections for beneficial uses. State Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 became effective on March 20, 2012, and Attachment B to the Resolution established limitations on point source storm water discharges to ASBS. Copermittees with MS4s that discharge to an ASBS must monitor its discharge to assure compliance with State Board Resolution No. 2012-0012 as required pursuant to Provision [D.1.e.\(3\)](#).

The San Diego Water Board is currently developing a regional monitoring strategy to assess the conditions of receiving waters in the San Diego Region. The monitoring requirements of Provision D.1 are expected to be incorporated or serve as a foundation of this regional monitoring strategy, but may require some modifications. When the San Diego Water Board develops an alternative regional monitoring strategy, the Copermittees will be required to participate in the development and implementation of the alternative regional monitoring program pursuant to Provision [D.1.f](#).

Provision D.2 (MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring Requirements) specifies the minimum MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements that the Copermittees must incorporate and implement as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

The dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements are included under Provisions [D.2.a.\(2\)](#) and [D.2.b](#). The dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements are part of the “*program, including a schedule, to detect and remove (or require the discharger to the municipal separate storm sewer to obtain a separate NPDES permit for) illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer*” required by 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B), which is expected to achieve compliance with the CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii) statutory requirement for municipal storm water permits to require the Copermittees to “*effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the storm sewers.*” The dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring data collection requirements are based on requirements under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D) and 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(3).

The dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements are designed to provide wide spatial and temporal coverage of each jurisdiction to better understand the extent and magnitude of non-storm water discharges to receiving waters, and make a distinction between persistent and transient non-storm water flows. This

information is expected to allow each Copermittee to focus its resources on eliminating and controlling the highest priority threats to receiving water quality, as well as integrating other elements of the storm water programs (e.g. complaint call response) and third party data to efficiently and effectively assist in efforts to eliminate non-storm water discharges.

The dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements of Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)](#) and [D.2.b](#) are separated into monitoring required before and after the San Diego Water Board accepts the Copermittees' Water Quality Improvement Plan. Outfall monitoring conducted prior to acceptance of the Water Quality Improvement Plan is referred to in the Order as Transitional MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring. Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)](#) includes the transitional dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements.

The requirements under Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)](#) are based on the requirements under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D), (d)(1)(v)(B) and (d)(2)(iv)(B), which include the requirements for a monitoring program to identify, detect, and eliminate illicit connections and illegal discharges to the MS4s. The federal regulations (40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D)) require the monitoring program to include “*a field screening analysis for illicit connections and illegal dumping [that]...[a]t a minimum, include[s] a narrative description, for either each field screening point or major outfall, of visual observations made during dry weather periods.*” The federal regulations (40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(v)(B)) require the monitoring program to include “*inspection procedures and methods for detecting and preventing illicit discharges, and describe areas where this program has been implemented.*” Furthermore, the monitoring program is required by federal regulations (40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)) to include “*a schedule, to detect and remove (or require the discharger to the municipal separate storm sewer to obtain a separate NPDES permit for) illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer.*”

Dry weather transitional MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requires each Copermittee to field screen (inspect) its major MS4 outfalls to classify the MS4 outfall locations as having persistent dry weather flows, transient dry weather flows, or no dry weather flows. To account for the variance in size of the 39 jurisdictions covered under this Order, the Copermittees recommended a tiered approach to the number of major MS4 outfalls that must be inspected. Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)\(a\)](#) provides a tiered approach to the number of major MS4 outfalls that must be visually inspected per jurisdiction as well as a minimum frequency each Copermittee must inspect each major MS4 outfall per year. This tiered approach is based on the total number of major MS4 outfalls within a Copermittees jurisdiction within each Watershed Management Area.

Based on the field screening, each Copermittee is required to make a determination whether any observed flowing, pooled, or ponded waters are transient or persistent flows. Based on this field screening information, other jurisdictional program information, and third party information, each Copermittee is required to prioritize the MS4 outfalls within its jurisdiction for follow up investigation and elimination of the non-storm water discharge, as part of its illicit discharge detection and elimination program

required pursuant to Provision [E.2](#). In accordance with the requirements of Provision [E.2](#), each Copermittee is required to immediately investigate obvious illicit discharges (e.g. outfall discharges with unusual color, unusual odor, or high flows).

This approach allows a Copermittee to use all of its resources, as well as leverage resources and information provided by third parties, to effectively eliminate non-storm water discharges from its MS4 outfalls. If the source of the non-storm water discharge cannot be immediately eliminated, the Copermittee uses the persistent flow or transient flow classification along with other programmatic implementation data to prioritize the MS4 outfalls for future investigation. In accordance with the adaptive management approach deployed throughout this Order, Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)\(c\)](#) requires each Copermittee to update its MS4 outfall discharge monitoring station inventory, compiled pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(1\)](#), with any new information on the classification of whether the MS4 outfall produces persistent flow, transient flow, or no dry weather flow. The requirement of Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)\(c\)](#) assures that each Copermittee is collecting data that can be used to demonstrate compliance with the CWA requirement that each Copermittee must implement a program to “*effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the [MS4]*” and with the requirements under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D), (d)(1)(v)(B) and (d)(2)(iv)(B).

Provision [D.2.b](#) describes the dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring required to be incorporated and implemented as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plan. Dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring must be performed by each Copermittee to identify non-storm water and illicit discharges within its jurisdiction pursuant to Provision [E.2.c](#), and to prioritize the dry weather MS4 discharges that will be investigated and eliminated pursuant to [E.3](#). The emphasis of the dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring required pursuant to Provision [D.2.b](#) is consistent with the requirements under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D), (d)(1)(v)(B) and (d)(2)(iv)(B).

Provision [D.2.b.\(1\)](#) requires each Copermittee to continue field screening its major MS4 outfalls and identifying those with persistent flows and transient flows, as conducted during the transitional period (i.e. before the Water Quality Improvement Plan was developed). However, each Copermittee now has the flexibility to adjust the field screening monitoring frequencies and locations for the MS4 outfalls in its inventory, as needed, to identify and eliminate sources of non-storm water persistent flow discharges in accordance with the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan. In order to ensure a minimum number of outfalls are inspected, Provision [D.2.b.\(1\)](#) requires the number of visual inspections be equal to the number of visual inspections required in the tiered inspection program pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(2\)\(a\)](#).

Provision [D.2.b.\(2\)\(b\)](#) requires each Copermittee to monitor a minimum of 10 major MS4 outfalls with persistent flows identified as the highest priorities within a Copermittee’s jurisdiction, and within each Watershed Management Area. In other words, Copermittees located in more than one Watershed Management Area must identify at least 10 major MS4 outfalls with persistent flows per Watershed

Management Area. If a Copermittee is located in more than one Watershed Management Area, but there are less than 10 major MS4 outfalls with persistent flows within the area of its jurisdiction located in the Watershed Management Area, all the those major MS4 outfalls must be identified as the highest priority dry weather persistent flow MS4 outfalls.

Monitoring must occur at the highest priority outfall locations at least semi-annually until the non-storm water discharges have been eliminated for three consecutive dry weather monitoring events; identified to be authorized by a separate NPDES Permit; or reprioritized to a lower priority. Persistent flow MS4 outfall monitoring stations that have been removed must be replaced with the next highest prioritized MS4 major outfall in the Copermittee's jurisdiction within the Watershed Management Area, unless there are no remaining qualifying major MS4 outfalls within the Copermittees jurisdiction. The Copermittees must continually update their dry weather persistent flow MS4 outfall discharge monitoring locations with the next highest priority non-storm water flow that have yet to be eliminated until all persistent and transient flows are eliminated or its threat reduced.

Non-storm water persistent flow MS4 outfall discharge monitoring data collected during each semi-annual monitoring event, must be collected and analyzed according to the requirements of Provision [D.2.b.\(2\)\(b\)–\(e\)](#). These monitoring requirements are consistent with the requirements under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(iv)(D), (d)(1)(v)(B) and (d)(2)(iv)(B).

The wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements are included under Provisions [D.2.a.\(3\)](#) and [D.2.c](#). The wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements are necessary for the Copermittees to implement a “*management program...to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and such other provisions which are appropriate*” required by 40CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv), which is expected to achieve compliance with the CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) statutory requirement for municipal storm water permits to require “*controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants [in storm water] to the maximum extent practicable.*” The wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring data collection requirements are based on requirements under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iii), 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(A) and 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(A)(1)–(4), and 40 CFR 122.21(g)(7)(i)–(ii).

The wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements of Provision [D.2.a.\(3\)](#) and [D.2.c](#) are separated into monitoring required before and after the San Diego Water Board accepts the Copemittees' Water Quality Improvement Plan. Outfall monitoring conducted prior to acceptance of the Water Quality Improvement Plan is referred to in the Order as Transitional MS4 Outfall Discharge Monitoring. Provision [D.2.a.\(3\)](#) includes the transitional wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements.

Until the wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements of Provision [D.2.c](#) are incorporated into a Water Quality Improvement Plan that is accepted by the San Diego Water Board, the Copermittees must comply with the requirements of transitional wet weather MS4 outfall monitoring requirements pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(3\)](#). Provision [D.2.a.\(3\)](#) requires each Copermittee to sample, at least five of the major MS4 outfalls inventoried pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(1\)](#) twice per wet season for the monitoring data required to be collected pursuant to Provision [D.2.a.\(3\)\(c\)-\(e\)](#).

At a minimum, the five sampling locations chosen must be representative of storm water discharges from residential, commercial, industrial, and typical mixed-use land uses present within a Watershed Management Area. The San Diego Water Board expects the Copermittees to extrapolate from these data to similar land uses throughout the Watershed Management Area to better inform the Water Quality Improvement Plan development process by prioritizing drainages for implementation efforts required pursuant to Provision [E](#).

Provision [D.2.c](#) describes the wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring required to be included and implemented as part of the Water Quality Improvement Plan. Provision [D.2.c](#) provides the Copermittees the flexibility to adjust the wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring locations and frequencies in the Watershed Management Area, as needed, to identify sources of pollutants in storm water discharges from MS4s in accordance with the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

Although Provision [D.2.c.\(1\)](#) allows the Copermittees to adaptively manage the wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring locations and frequencies, the provision requires a minimum of at least five wet weather outfall stations to be monitored. Provision [D.2.c.\(2\)](#) further requires the Copermittees to modify the monitoring frequency at each wet weather MS4 outfall station at an appropriate frequency to identify sources of pollutants in storm water discharges.

The wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring requirements of Provisions [D.2.c.\(3\)](#) and [D.2.c.\(4\)](#) are the same as the transitional wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring. In contrast, the requirements of Provision [D.2.c.\(5\)](#) are focused on collecting analytical data specific to the highest priority water quality conditions in the Watershed Management Area identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan. The wet weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring data collection requirements are consistent with the requirements under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iii), 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(A) and 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(A)(1)-(4), and 40 CFR 122.21(g)(7)(i)-(ii).

Provision D.3 (Special Studies) requires the Copermittees to develop special studies that will be conducted for each Watershed Management Area and the entire San Diego Region. Data collected pursuant to Provision [D.3](#) is to be used by the Copermittees to improve the effectiveness of the strategies implemented by the jurisdictional runoff management programs toward achieving the numeric goals identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plans and ultimately achieve compliance



with the discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations of Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#), and [A.2.a](#), which is consistent with the requirements of Provision [A.4](#).

Special studies are often necessary to fill data gaps or provide more refined information that allow the Copermittees to better manage the generation or elimination of pollutants and discharges to and from the MS4. In the Fourth Term Permits, the Copermittees have been required to implement special studies as directed by the San Diego Water Board. The special studies required by this Order provide the Copermittees more flexibility to identify and implement special studies that will be most useful to improving the effectiveness of their jurisdictional runoff management programs.

Provision [D.3.a.\(1\)](#) requires the Copermittees to develop and conduct at least three special studies per Watershed Management Area, to be determined by the Copermittees. One of the three special studies may be accomplished through participation in a Regional Special Study required under Provision [D.3.a.\(2\)](#). The requirements provide the Copermittees great latitude in identifying and developing the special studies. Watershed Management Area special studies are required, at a minimum, to: (a) relate in some way to the highest water quality priorities identified by the Copermittees in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, (b) be conducted within the Watershed Management Area, and (c) include some form of participation (e.g. contribution of funds, personnel services, project management) by all the responsible Copermittees within the Watershed Management Area.

Examples of Watershed Management Area special studies might include, but are not limited to: (1) focused pollutant source identification studies, (2) BMP effectiveness and/or comparison studies, (3) pilot tests for new or emerging pollutant control methods, (4) receiving water pollutant or stressor source identification and/or mitigation studies, or (5) pollutant fate and transport studies. The Watershed Management Area special studies are expected to provide data that can be utilized by the Copermittees to improve the Water Quality Improvement Plan or implementation of the Copermittees' jurisdictional runoff management programs to address the highest priority water quality conditions.

Provision [D.3.a.\(2\)](#) requires the Copermittees to develop special studies that will be conducted for the entire San Diego region. The regional special studies are expected to provide data that can be utilized by the Copermittees to improve the Water Quality Improvement Plan or implementation of the Copermittees' jurisdictional runoff management programs to identify or address regional water quality concerns and priorities.

An example of a regional special study would be to develop and establish allowable exceedance frequencies of the bacteria water quality objectives for several types of water bodies, during different wet and dry weather conditions the San Diego region. The special study would be related to bacteria, which is a priority for the San Diego region due to the adoption of "*Bacteria TMDL Project I – Beaches and Creeks in the*

*San Diego Region.*” The study results could be used to inform the Copermittees and the San Diego Water Board about the indicator bacteria water quality objective exceedance frequencies that occur in natural or reference watersheds.

Provision D.4 (Assessment Requirements) specifies the assessments that the Copermittees are required to perform, based on the monitoring data collected, and will be reported as part of the Annual Report for the Water Quality Improvement Plan implementation. Provision [D.4](#) requires the Copermittees assess the progress of the water quality improvement strategies in the Water Quality Improvement Plan toward achieving compliance with Provisions [A.1.a](#), [A.1.c](#), and [A.2.a](#).

Provision [D.4](#) specifies the assessments that Copermittees must perform for each Watershed Management Area to assess the effectiveness of each Copermittee’s jurisdictional runoff management program and the Water Quality Improvement Plan. The effectiveness of each Copermittee’s jurisdictional runoff management program and Water Quality Improvement Plan is measured through these types of assessments: (a) Receiving Waters Assessments (b) MS4 Outfall Discharges Assessments, (c) Special Studies Assessments, and (d) Integrated Assessment of Water Quality Improvement Plan.

Provision [D.4.a](#) requires the Copermittees to assess the status of receiving water conditions. The monitoring data collected pursuant to Provision [D.1](#) will be evaluated, among other information, to assess the condition of a Watershed Management Area’s streams, coastal waters, enclosed bays, harbors, estuaries, and lagoons. The focus of the receiving waters assessments is to measure progress toward the objective of the CWA to “*restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation’s waters*” as the Water Quality Improvement Plan and each Copermittee’s jurisdictional runoff management program are implemented within a Watershed Management Area. Provision [D.4.a](#) is consistent with 40 CFR 122.42(c)(7) which requires the Copermittees to annually report the “[i]dentification of water quality improvements or degradation.”

Provision [D.4.b](#) includes the MS4 outfall discharges assessment requirements. The focus of MS4 outfall discharges assessments is to determine if the Copermittees’ are implementing programs that comply with the requirements of the CWA for MS4 permits to “*effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers*” and “*require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants [in storm water] to the maximum extent practicable.*” The monitoring data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.2](#) will be evaluated, among other information, to assess the effectiveness of the implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan and each Copermittee’s jurisdictional runoff management program. The MS4 outfall discharge assessments consist of Non-Storm Water Discharges Reduction Assessments and Storm Water Pollutant Discharges Reduction Assessments.

The Non-Storm Water Discharges Reduction Assessments are how each Copermittee will demonstrate that its jurisdictional runoff management program implementation

efforts are achieving the CWA requirement to “*effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers.*” Provision [D.4.b.\(1\)](#) requires each Copermittee to assess and report on its illicit discharge detection and elimination program required pursuant to Provision [E.2](#) to reduce and effectively prohibit non-storm water and illicit discharges into the MS4 within its jurisdiction. The Non-Storm Water Discharges Reduction Assessments include specific assessment requirements applicable to each Copermittee.

As each Copermittee collects and analyzes the data collected pursuant to dry weather MS4 outfall discharges monitoring requirements of Provisions [D.2.a.\(2\)](#) and [D.2.b](#), Provision [D.4.b.\(1\)](#) requires each Copermittee to assess the progress, assess the effectiveness of its current actions, and identify modifications necessary to increase the effectiveness of its actions toward reducing and eliminating non-storm water and illicit discharges to its MS4. The findings from these assessments are expected to be utilized by the Copermittee as part of its procedures to prioritize the non-storm water discharges that will be addressed by its Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination program required pursuant to Provision [E.2](#).

The assessment requirements of Provision [D.4.a.\(1\)](#) are consistent with 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B) and 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(3) which require “*procedures...to investigate portions of the separate storm sewer system that, based on the results of the field screen, or other appropriate information [emphasis added], indicate a reasonable potential of contain illicit discharges or other sources of non-storm water*” as part of a “*program...to detect and remove...illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer.*” The assessment requirements of Provision [D.4.a.\(1\)](#) are also consistent with 40 CFR 122.42(c)(1) requires the Copermittees to annually report the “*status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions.*”

The Storm Water Pollutant Discharges Reduction Assessment is how the Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area will demonstrate that their jurisdictional runoff management program implementation efforts are achieving the CWA requirement to “*reduce the discharge of pollutants [in storm water] to the maximum extent practicable.*” Provision [D.4.b.\(2\)](#) requires the Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area to assess and report the progress of the Copermittees’ efforts to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s to the MEP. The Storm Water Pollutant Discharges Reduction Assessments include specific assessment requirements applicable to the Watershed Management Area and each Copermittee.

As the Copermittees collect and analyze the data collected pursuant to wet weather MS4 outfall discharges monitoring requirements of Provisions [D.2.a.\(3\)](#) and [D.2.c](#), Provision [D.4.b.\(2\)](#) requires the Copermittees to assess the progress of the Water Quality Improvement Plan strategies toward reducing pollutants in storm water from the MS4 to the MEP. The findings from these assessments are expected to be utilized by the Copermittees to identify any modifications to the wet weather MS4 outfall

discharge monitoring locations and frequencies necessary to identify sources of pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4s, as well as focus, modify, and improve the water quality improvement strategies implemented by each Copermittee within its jurisdiction to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP.

The assessment requirements of Provision [D.4.a.\(1\)](#) are consistent with 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iii)(B) which requires “[e]stimates of the annual pollutant load of the cumulative discharges to waters of the United States from all identified municipal outfalls...during a storm event...accompanied by a description of the procedures for estimating constituent loads and concentrations, including any modeling, data analysis, and calculation methods.” The assessment requirements of Provision [D.4.a.\(2\)](#) are consistent with 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(v) which requires that each Copermittee assesses the “estimated reductions in loadings of pollutants from discharges of municipal storm sewer constituents from municipal storm sewer systems expected as the result of the municipal storm water quality management program.” The assessment requirements of Provision [D.4.a.\(2\)](#) are also consistent with 40 CFR 122.42(c)(1) which requires the Copermittees to annually report the “status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions.”

Provision [D.4.c](#) includes the special studies assessment requirements. Performing special studies are how the Copermittees will address data gaps identified during the development of and updates to the Water Quality Improvement Plan. The relevant findings from the special studies assessments are expected to be incorporated as part of the applicable receiving water assessments, MS4 outfall discharge assessments, and integrated water quality improvement assessments required in Provision [D.4.a](#), [D.4.b](#), and [D.4.d](#), respectively.

The assessment requirements in Provision [D.4.d](#) are part of the iterative approach and adaptive management process required by Provision [A.4](#). The Copermittees are required to integrate the data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.4.a-c](#), and information collected during the implementation of the jurisdictional runoff management programs required pursuant to Provision [D](#) to re-evaluate the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

The monitoring data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.1](#) and [D.2](#), and the results of the assessment required pursuant to Provisions [D.4.a-c](#), will be used to determine whether the Water Quality Improvement Plan and each Copermittee’s jurisdictional runoff management program are effective, or require modifications or improvements to become more effective to achieve the requirements of the CWA. The assessments required by Provision [D.4.d](#) are consistent with 40 CFR 122.42(c)(1) which requires that the Copermittees to report the “[t]he status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions.”

## **E. Jurisdictional Runoff Management Programs**

**Purpose:** Provision E includes the requirements for the jurisdictional runoff management programs to be implemented by each of the Copermittees. Compliance with the requirements for the jurisdictional runoff management programs will allow the Copermittees to demonstrate that they are implementing programs to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4 and reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4 to the MEP. The jurisdictional runoff management program document prepared by each Copermittee will also provide the details for implementing the water quality improvement strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan specifically within its jurisdiction.

**Discussion:** Implementation of the jurisdictional runoff management program requirements under Provision E is how the Copermittees “*effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers*”, and outlines the “*controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable*” consistent with the federal regulations under 40 CFR 122.26. The jurisdictional runoff management program is part of the “*comprehensive planning process*” that is required pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv). Where the Water Quality Improvement Plan is the “*comprehensive planning process*” on a Watershed Management Area scale, requiring “*intergovernmental coordination*”, the jurisdictional runoff management program document is the “*comprehensive planning process*” on a jurisdictional scale that should be coordinated with the other Copermittees in the Watershed Management Area to achieve the goals of the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

The jurisdictional runoff management program requirements are included to provide each Copermittee criteria that can be used to demonstrate that its storm water management program is implementing the “*comprehensive planning process*” within its jurisdiction to “*effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges into the storm sewers*”, and to identify and implement the most effective “*controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable*” in accordance with the performance standards given in the CWA.

Provision E includes the requirements for each of the components that must be included in the Copermittee’s jurisdictional runoff management program document that will be implemented by the Copermittee within its jurisdiction. Implementation of the components of each Copermittee’s jurisdictional runoff management program must be consistent with the water quality improvement strategies identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

More specific and detailed discussions of the requirements of Provision E are provided below.

Provision E.1 (Legal Authority Establishment and Enforcement) requires to each Copermitttee to establish and enforce sufficient legal authority to control discharges to the MS4 within its jurisdiction.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(ii) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i), each Copermitttee must have sufficient “*legal authority to control discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system*” and be able to demonstrate that it can “*operate pursuant to legal authority established by statute, ordinance or series of contracts.*” Provision [E.1.a](#) describes the minimum legal authorities each Copermitttee must establish for itself within its jurisdiction to control discharges to its MS4. The requirements of Provision [E.1.a](#) are consistent with the requirements set forth in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(A)-(F).

The certification statement required from each Copermitttee by Provision [E.1.b](#) is included to provide the San Diego Water Board additional documentation that each Copermitttee has established the legal authorities consistent with Provision [E.1.a](#) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(A)-(F), and the Copermitttee can “*operate pursuant to legal authority established by statute, ordinance or series of contracts.*”

Provision E.2 (Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination) requires each to Copermitttee to implement an illicit discharge detection and elimination program to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4 by actively detecting and eliminating illicit discharges and disposal into its MS4.

Provision [E.2](#) establishes the minimum requirements that each Copermitttee must implement within its jurisdiction to prevent and eliminate illicit discharges, and effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges, from entering its MS4. The federal CWA requires permits for municipal storm sewer systems to “*effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the storm sewers.*” Under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B), each Copermitttee must implement a “*program...to detect and remove...illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer.*” The federal NPDES regulations, under 40 CFR 122.26(b)(2), define illicit discharges as “*any discharge to a municipal separate storm sewer that is not composed entirely of storm water.*” Thus, non-storm water discharges are not authorized to enter the MS4 and are considered to be illicit discharges, unless authorized by a separate NPDES permit.

The Phase I Final Rule clarifies that non-storm water discharges through an MS4 are not authorized under the CWA (55 FR 47995):

*“Today’s rule defines the term “illicit discharge” to describe any discharge through a municipal separate storm sewer system that is not composed entirely of storm water and that is not covered by an NPDES permit. Such illicit discharges are not authorized under the Clean Water Act. Section 402(p)(3)(B) requires that permits for discharges from municipal separate storm sewers require the municipality to “effectively prohibit” non-storm water discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer...Ultimately, such non-storm water discharges through a municipal separate*

*storm sewer must either be removed from the system or become subject to an NPDES permit.”*

The federal NPDES requirements for the program to address illicit discharges must include “*inspections, to implement and enforce an ordinance, orders, or other similar means to prevent illicit discharges to the MS4.*” The federal NPDES regulations also reference several categories of “*non-storm water discharges or flows [which] shall be addressed where such discharges are identified...as sources of pollutants to waters of the United States.*” The Phase I Final Rule (55 FR 48037) further clarified the requirements of 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) as follows:

*“EPA is clarifying that section 402(p)(3)(B) of the CWA (which requires permits for municipal separate storm sewers to 'effectively' prohibit non-storm water discharges) does not require permits for municipalities to prohibit certain discharges or flows of nonstorm water to waters of the United States through municipal separate storm sewers in all cases.”*

In previous iterations of the municipal storm water permits for the San Diego Region, these categories were simply listed and referred to as categories of non-storm water discharges “not prohibited” unless identified as a source of pollutants. The Copermittees have often referred to these categories as “exempt” discharges. In both cases, however, the language is inconsistent with the federal CWA and NPDES regulations. And, the clarification provided in the Phase I Final Rule does not specifically state that such discharges are “not prohibited” or “exempt” or in any way authorized. The federal NPDES regulations do, however, state that specific categories of non-storm water discharges must be “*addressed*” if identified as “*sources of pollutants to waters of the United States.*”

The language of Provision [E.2.a](#) has been revised to be fully consistent with the language of the CWA and the requirements of the federal regulations under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1). Provision [E.2.a](#) requires each Copermittee to address all types of non-storm water discharges into its MS4 as illicit discharges, unless the discharge is authorized by a separate NPDES permit, or identified as a category of non-storm water discharges or flows that must be addressed pursuant to Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) through [E.2.a.\(5\)](#). Only non-NPDES-permitted non-storm water discharges identified as a category of non-storm water discharges under Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) through [E.2.a.\(5\)](#) and not identified as a source of pollutants do not have to be addressed as illicit discharges.

Several of the non-storm water categories listed in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) have not been included in Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) through [E.2.a.\(5\)](#), including: street wash water, landscape irrigation, irrigation water, and lawn watering. Because these are no longer included within the categories listed under Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) through [E.2.a.\(5\)](#), the Copermittees must prohibit these types of non-storm water discharges from entering the MS4. This is consistent with the clarification of 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) in the Phase I Final Rule (55 FR 48037), which states:

*“[T]he Director may include permit conditions that either require municipalities to prohibit or otherwise control any of these types of discharges where appropriate.”*

Street wash water is a category of non-storm water discharges that was removed when the Third Term Permits were issued. Street wash water is a source of several pollutants (e.g., metals, oil and grease, petroleum hydrocarbons, chlorinated solvents, sediment) which are generated during the street washing process. The removal of this category requires the Copermittees to prohibit this type of non-storm water discharge from entering the MS4.

The landscape irrigation, irrigation water, and lawn watering categories, collectively referred to hereafter as “over-irrigation” discharges, were removed from the list of non-storm water discharge categories in the Fourth Term Orange County and Riverside County Permits. Non-storm water discharges resulting from over-irrigation have been found to be a source of several types of pollutants (e.g., nutrients, bacteria, pesticides, sediment) in receiving waters. The San Diego Water Board and the Copermittees have identified categories of non-storm water discharges associated with over-irrigation as a source of pollutants and conveyance of pollutants to the MS4 and waters of the United States in the following documents:

- **SmartTimer/EdgescapE Evaluation Program (SEEP) Grant Application**

The State Water Board allocated grant funding to the SEEP project grant application submitted in 2006, which targeted irrigation runoff by retrofitting areas of existing development and documenting the conservation and runoff improvements. The basis of this grant project is that over-irrigation (landscape irrigation, irrigation water and lawn watering) into the MS4 is a source and conveyance of pollutants. In addition, the grant application indicated that this alteration of natural flows is impacting the beneficial uses of waters of the state and U.S. Results from the study indicate that that over-irrigation (landscape irrigation, irrigation water and lawn watering) into the MS4 *is* a source and conveyance of pollutants. The results of this study can be applied broadly to any area where over-irrigation takes place. The grant application included the following statements:

*“Irrigation runoff contributes flow & pollutant loads to creeks and beaches that are 303(d) listed for bacteria indicators.”*

*“Regional program managers agree that the reduction and/or elimination of irrigation-related urban flows and associated pollutant loads may be key to successful attainment of water quality and beneficial use goals as outlined in the San Diego Basin Plan and Bacteria TMDL over the long term.”*

*“Elevated dry-weather storm drain flows, composed primarily ... of landscape irrigation water wasted as runoff, carry pollutants that impair recreational use and aquatic habitats all along Southern California’s urbanized coastline. Storm*



*drain systems carry the wasted water, along with landscape derived pollutants such as bacteria, nutrients and pesticides, to local creeks and the ocean. Given the local Mediterranean climate, excessive perennial dry season stream flows are an unnatural hydrologic pattern, causing species shifts in local riparian communities and warm, unseasonal contaminated freshwater plumes in the near-shore marine environment.”*

- **2006-2007 Orange County Watershed Action Plan Annual Reports**

The Watershed Action Plan Annual Reports for the 2006-2007 reporting period were submitted by the County of Orange, Orange County Flood Control District and Copermittees within the San Juan Creek, Laguna Coastal Streams, Aliso Creek, and Dana Point Coastal Streams Watersheds. San Juan Creek, Laguna Coastal Streams, Aliso Creek and Dana Point Coastal Streams are all currently 303(d) listed as impaired for indicator bacteria within their watersheds and/or in the Pacific Ocean at the discharge points of their watersheds. The Orange County Copermittees, within their Watershed Action Strategy Table for fecal indicator bacteria included the following:

*“Support programs to reduce or eliminate the discharge of anthropogenic dry weather nuisance flow throughout the...watershed. Dry weather flow is the transport medium for bacteria and other 303(d) constituents of concern.”*

Additionally, they state that *“conditions in the MS4 contribute to high seasonal bacteria propagation in-pipe during warm weather. Landscape irrigation is a major contributor to dry weather flow, both as surface runoff due to over-irrigation and overspray onto pavements; and as subsurface seepage that finds its way into the MS4.”*

- **Fiscal Year 2008 Carlsbad Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program Annual Report**

The Carlsbad Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2008 was submitted by the Carlsbad Watershed Copermittees (Cities of Carlsbad, Encinitas, Escondido, Oceanside, San Marcos, Solana Beach, and Vista, and the County of San Diego). In the Annual Report, the Carlsbad Watershed Copermittees stated the following:

*“The Carlsbad Watershed Management Area (WMA) collective watershed strategy identifies bacteria, sediment, and nutrients as high priority water quality pollutants in the Agua Hedionda (904.3 – bacteria and sediment), Buena Vista (904.2 – bacteria), and San Marcos Creek (904.5 – nutrients) Hydrologic Areas. Bacteria, sediment, and nutrients have been identified as potential discharges from over-irrigation.”*

- **2007-2008 San Diego Bay Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program Annual Report**

The San Diego Bay Watershed Urban Runoff Management Program 2007-2008 Annual Report was submitted by the San Diego Bay Watershed Copermittees (Cities of Chula Vista, Coronado, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, and San Diego, the County of San Diego, the Port of San Diego, and the San Diego County Airport Authority). In Appendix D of the Annual Report, titled “Likely Sources of Pollutants”, the San Diego Bay Watershed Copermittees identified over-irrigation of lawns as a pollutant generating activity from business and/or residential land uses for bacteria, pesticides, and sediment.

- **Copermittee Public Education Materials**

The Orange County Public Works *Tips for Landscape & Gardening* public education brochure states: “*Fertilizers, pesticides and other chemicals that are left on yards or driveways can be blown or washed into storm drains that flow to the ocean. Overwatering lawns can also send materials into storm drains.*”

The Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District *Landscape and Garden* public education brochure states: “*Soil, yard wastes, over-watering and garden chemicals become part of the urban runoff mix that winds it way through streets, gutters and storm drains before entering lakes, rivers, streams, etc. Urban runoff pollution contaminates water and harms aquatic life!*”

- **Los Penasquitos Lagoon Sedimentation/Siltation TMDL Technical Report**

The Los Penasquitos Lagoon Sedimentation/Siltation TMDL technical report was prepared for the City of San Diego and USEPA in October 2010. The technical report was included as a technical supporting document attached to the Sediment TMDL for Los Penasquitos Lagoon staff report prepared by the San Diego Water Board, dated June 13, 2012. Under the Source Assessment section, the technical report states the following:

*“Dry weather loading is dominated by nuisance flows from urban land use activities such as car washing, sidewalk washing, and lawn over-irrigation, which pick up and transport sediment into receiving waters.”*

These documents confirm that non-storm water discharges associated with over-irrigation are a source of pollutants and should be addressed as illicit discharges to the MS4. Prohibiting non-storm water discharges associated with over-irrigation, however, is not a new requirement for the Copermittees because it is also consistent with and required by the Water Conservation in Landscaping Act (AB 1881, Laird).

The Water Conservation in Landscaping Act required the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to prepare a Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance for use by local agencies (e.g. the Copermittees). All local agencies were required to adopt a water efficient landscape ordinance by January 1, 2010. Local agencies could adopt the Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance developed by DWR, or an ordinance considered at least as effective as the Model Ordinance. The Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance includes a requirement that local agencies prohibit runoff from irrigation (§ 493.2):

*“Local agencies shall prevent water waste resulting from inefficient landscape irrigation by prohibiting runoff from leaving the target landscape [emphasis added] due to low head drainage, overspray, or other similar conditions where water flows onto adjacent property, non-irrigated areas, walks, roadways, parking lots, or structures. Penalties for violation of these prohibitions shall be established locally.”*

Furthermore, non-storm water discharges from over-irrigation not only transport and discharge pollutants to receiving waters, but are also a likely source of the dry weather flows causing changes to habitat within and along the receiving water bodies. Examples of habitat changes from the dry weather flows include perennialization of ephemeral streams, and conversion of saltwater and brackish water marsh habitats to freshwater marsh habitats (e.g. Los Penasquitos Lagoon). Both of these examples have resulted in the promotion of invasive species in several areas of the San Diego Region.

The removal of the over-irrigation discharges categories does not require the Copermittees to strictly prohibit lawn and landscape irrigation, but does require the prohibition of excessive irrigation water that results in non-storm water discharges to the MS4. Non-storm water discharges to the MS4 from over-irrigation must be addressed as illicit discharges by the Copermittees pursuant to the requirements of Provision [E.2](#).

The remaining non-storm water categories listed in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) are listed under Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) through [E.2.a.\(5\)](#) and generally fall into four categories: (1) non-storm water discharges subject to existing San Diego Water Board waste discharge requirements and NPDES permits; (2) non-storm water discharges generally not expected to be a source of pollutants to receiving waters; (3) non-storm water discharges likely to contain pollutants requiring some form of control to address the pollutants prior to discharging to the MS4; and (4) non-storm water discharges or flows associated with firefighting.

Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) and [E.2.a.\(2\)](#) include several categories of non-storm water discharges listed in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) for which the San Diego Water Board already has developed general waste discharge requirements and NPDES permits to address the discharges. The Copermittees are only required to address these types of non-storm water discharges as illicit discharges if the Copermittees or the San Diego Water Board identifies these non-storm water discharges not having

coverage under the applicable NPDES permit or as a source of pollutants to receiving waters. Generally, if these types of non-storm water discharges have coverage under an NPDES permit and are identified as a source of pollutants to receiving waters, the Copermittees would be expected to identify the responsible dischargers and report their identities to the San Diego Water Board. The San Diego Water Board would then have the responsibility to enforce the NPDES permit and/or waste discharge requirements.

Provision [E.2.a.\(3\)](#) includes several categories of non-storm water discharges listed in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) which are generally not expected to be a source of pollutants to receiving waters, many of which originate from what are typically natural, uncontrollable sources. The Copermittees are only required to address these types of non-storm water discharges as illicit discharges if the Copermittees or the San Diego Water Board identifies these non-storm water discharges as a source of pollutants to receiving waters. Because many of these sources are generally uncontrollable, enforcing a prohibition may not be a possibility for the Copermittees. The Copermittees would be able to address these non-storm water discharges by preventing these non-storm water discharges from entering the MS4. This could potentially be achieved by sealing their MS4 structures so the discharges cannot enter the MS4.

Provision [E.2.a.\(4\)](#) includes several categories of non-storm water discharges listed in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) that are likely to contain pollutants requiring some form of control to address the pollutants prior to discharging to the MS4. At this time, an outright prohibition of these types of non-storm water discharges does not yet appear to be warranted. Thus, Provision [E.2.a.\(4\)](#) includes several requirements for the Copermittees to control the pollutants from these types of non-storm water discharges. This is consistent with the clarification of the federal regulations in the Phase I Final Rule (55 FR 48037), which states the San Diego Water Board has the authority to require the Copermittees to “*control any of these types of discharges where appropriate.*”

Unlike non-storm water discharges from over-irrigation, these types of non-storm water discharges are not expected to occur in close proximity to each other or very frequently. Provided these types of non-storm water discharges are controlled as required in Provision [E.2.a.\(4\)](#), the Copermittees would only be required to address these types of non-storm water discharges as illicit discharges if the Copermittee or the San Diego Water Board identifies these non-storm water discharges as a source of pollutants to receiving waters.

Provision [E.2.a.\(5\)](#) includes specific requirements for fire fighting discharges and flows. The requirements for non-storm water discharges and flows associated with fire fighting have been separated into requirements for: a) non-emergency fire fighting discharges and flows, and b) emergency fire fighting discharges and flows.

The San Diego Water Board has found that discharges from building fire suppression system maintenance (e.g. fire sprinklers) contain waste and potentially a significant source of pollutants to receiving waters. As such, the San Diego Water Board is requiring these discharges be addressed as illicit discharges by the Copermittees. Thus, the discharges to the MS4 are to be prohibited via ordinance, order or similar means. For other non-emergency fire fighting discharges and flows (i.e., flows from controlled or practice blazes, fire fighting training, and maintenance activities not associated with building fire suppression systems), the Copermittees are required to develop and implement a program to address pollutants in these non-storm water discharges and flows. This is consistent with the clarification of the federal regulations in the Phase I Final Rule (55 FR 48037), which states the San Diego Water Board has the authority to require the Copermittees to “*control any of these types of discharges where appropriate.*”

For emergency fire fighting discharges and flows, the Phase I Final Rule (55 FR 48037) has clarified the requirements of 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) pertaining to emergency fire fighting flows and discharges, which states:

*“In the case of fire fighting it is not the intention of these rules to prohibit in any circumstances the protection of life and public or private property through the use of water or other fire retardants that flow into separate storm sewers.”*

Thus, the requirements have been made to be consistent with the guidance provided by the Phase I Final Rule. The Order recommends that the Copermittees develop and encourage implementation of BMPs to reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants from emergency fire fighting flows to the MS4s and receiving waters.

The Copermittees are expected to review the dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring data they collect to determine if and when there are non-storm water discharges to or from their MS4s that are a source of pollutants to receiving waters. If the Copermittees identify one of the types of non-storm water discharges listed in Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) through [E.2.a.\(4\)](#) as a source of pollutants to receiving waters based on the review and evaluation of monitoring data, Provision [E.2.a.\(6\)](#) requires the Copermittees to prohibit those categories of discharges from entering the MS4 through ordinance, order or similar means.

Provision [E.2.a.\(6\)](#) also clarifies that the San Diego Water Board may identify categories of non-storm water discharges or flows listed under Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) through [E.2.a.\(4\)](#) that must be prohibited. This is consistent with the clarification of 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1) in the Phase I Final Rule (55 FR 48037), which states the San Diego Water Board may “*require municipalities to prohibit or otherwise control any of these types of discharges where appropriate.*”

Finally, Provision [E.2.a.\(7\)](#) has been included in the requirements for non-storm water discharges to clarify that any non-storm water discharges to the Copermittee’s MS4, even those identified pursuant to Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)](#) through [E.2.a.\(4\)](#), must be

reduced or eliminated. Provision [E.2.a.\(7\)](#) is consistent with the requirements of CWA section 402(p)(3)(B)(ii) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(v)(B), as clarified in the Phase I Final Rule (55 FR 47995) that “[u]ltimately, such non-storm water discharges through a municipal separate storm sewer must either be removed from the system or become subject to an NPDES permit.”

Consistent with 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B) and 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(1), each Copermittee must implement a “program...to prevent illicit discharges to the municipal storm sewer system” and “detect...illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer.” Provision [E.2.b](#) requires each Copermittee to implement measures to prevent and detect illicit discharges and connections to its MS4 as part of its illicit discharge detection and elimination program.

As part of the program to prevent and detect illicit discharges to the MS4, 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(2) requires “procedures to conduct on-going field screening activities during the life of the permit, including areas or locations that will be evaluated by such field screens.” As part of the procedures, each Copermittee is required to maintain an updated map of its entire MS4 and the corresponding drainage areas within its jurisdiction. Having knowledge about where inlets, access points, connections with other MS4s, and outfalls are located is necessary for each Copermittees to track, identify, and eliminate illicit discharges and connections. Thus, Provision [E.2.b.\(1\)](#) of the Order specifies that the map must include the segments of the storm sewer system owned, operated, and maintained by the Copermittee, and include locations of all known inlets, connections with other MS4s, and outfalls to the Copermittee’s MS4. The remaining requirements of Provision [E.2.b](#) are consistent with the requirements of 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(3)-(7) related to implementing measures to prevent and detect illicit discharges and connections to the MS4.

Provision [E.2.c](#) requires each Copermittee to conduct field screening and monitoring of MS4 outfalls and other portions of its MS4 within its jurisdiction to detect non-storm water and illicit discharges and connections to the MS4. Field screening is a required element of the program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges and connections to the MS4, pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B)(2). The field screening requirement will be implemented through the dry weather MS4 outfall discharge monitoring required under Provisions [D.2.a.\(2\)](#) and [D.2.b.\(1\)](#).

Provision [E.2.d](#) specifies the measures each Copermittee must implement to eliminate illicit discharges and connections to its MS4. Elimination of illicit discharges and connections to the MS4 is consistent with the requirement of 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(B) “to detect and remove [emphasis added]...illicit discharges and improper disposal into the storm sewer” and will achieve the CWA requirement for MS4 permits to “effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the storm sewers.”

Generally, each Copermittee is responsible for prioritizing its efforts to eliminate non-storm water and illicit discharges or connections to its MS4 based on field screening and monitoring data, NALs, illicit discharge investigation records, and the known or

suspected sources. Sources of non-storm water and illicit discharges or connections must be eliminated by enforcing the legal authority established by each Copermitttee pursuant to Provision [E.1](#).

Finally, Provision [E.2.e](#) requires the Copermitttee to include the strategies and/or activities identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan that the Copermitttee will implement as part of the illicit discharge detection and elimination program within its jurisdiction. The Water Quality Improvement Plan is expected to include several strategies and options that the Copermitttee can and should implement within its jurisdiction. The Copermitttee is expected to describe and provide the details of when, where, and how those strategies will be implemented within its jurisdiction.

The San Diego Water Board will utilize the information provided in the jurisdictional runoff management program document pursuant to Provision [E.2.e](#) to gauge and assess the Copermitttee's efforts in trying to address the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan within its jurisdiction.

Provision E.3 (Development Planning) requires each Copermitttee to use its land use and planning authority to implement a development planning program to control and reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from new development and significant redevelopment to the MEP. Proper implementation of the development planning program will also contribute toward effectively prohibiting non-storm water discharges from development projects to the MS4.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv), each Copermitttee is required to implement a *“management program...to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and other such provisions where applicable.”* As part of the management program, 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2) requires *“planning procedures including a comprehensive master plan to develop, implement and enforce controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants from municipal storm sewers which receive discharges from areas of new development and significant redevelopment.”*

Development typically includes the construction of impervious surfaces such as sidewalks, driveways, roads, and rooftops. These impervious surfaces generate and concentrate pollutants (such as pesticides, petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, and pathogens) that are otherwise not found in high concentrations in the natural environment. Pollutants that accumulate on impervious surfaces are not easily biodegraded or not subject to natural treatment processes. When it rains, these pollutants are transported in storm water runoff from these impervious surfaces into receiving waters, resulting in poor water quality and degradation of beneficial uses.

In addition to the generation of pollutants, development generally alters the natural conditions of the land by removing vegetative cover, reducing the perviousness of the surface, and reducing the capacity of storm water that can be intercepted, captured, stored, infiltrated, evaporated, and/or evapotranspired. The alteration of the natural

conditions and addition of impervious surfaces associated with development causes water quality problems. Hydrograph modification, or hydromodification, is the change in the natural watershed hydrologic processes and runoff characteristics caused by development or other land use changes that result in increased stream flows, altered sediment transport, and morphological changes to channels receiving the runoff.

This is consistent with what USEPA has noted, that “[m]ost stormwater runoff is the result of the man-made hydrologic modifications that normally accompany development. The addition of impervious surfaces, soil compaction, and tree and vegetation removal result in alterations to the movement of water through the environment. As interception, evapotranspiration, and infiltration are reduced and precipitation is converted to overland flow, these modifications affect not only the characteristics of the developed site but also the watershed in which the development is located. Stormwater has been identified as one of the leading sources of pollution for all waterbody types in the United States. Furthermore, the impacts of stormwater pollution are not static; they usually increase with more development and urbanization.”<sup>28</sup>

Reducing the impact from the increased pollutant loads and flows generated by impervious surfaces added to a watershed is essential to protecting and restoring the integrity of the receiving waters. Provision E.3 includes the minimum “management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and other such provisions where applicable” to be included in the “planning procedures...to reduce the discharge of pollutants...from areas of new development and significant redevelopment.” The requirements of Provision E.3 will 1) minimize the generation and discharge of pollutants in storm water from the MS4, and 2) minimize the potential of storm water discharges from causing altered flow regimes and excessive downstream erosion in receiving waters.

Provision E.3 is based on the requirements of the Fourth Term Permits for Orange County and Riverside County, and do not differ significantly from the Fourth Term Permit for San Diego County. Provision E.3 has been modified to allow the more holistic, long-term planning approach of the Water Quality Improvement Plan to be incorporated into each Copermittee’s development planning. The result will be greater pollutant removal from storm water runoff, and improvements and/or rehabilitation of the functionality and hydrologic regimes of a Watershed Management Area. Alternative compliance options have been included in Provision E.3, which will result in multiple beneficial outcomes within a jurisdiction, a subwatershed, a receiving water body, and/or a Watershed Management Area.

Incorporating a holistic and long-term planning approach into each Copermittee’s development planning program is essential to reducing the impact of development on receiving waters. Development projects that convert natural open space areas into

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<sup>28</sup> USEPA, 2007. Reducing Stormwater Costs through Low Impact Development (LID) Strategies and Practices, December 2007.



urbanized areas result in the generation and discharge of pollutants associated with anthropogenic activities, and significant modifications to the hydrologic flow regimes. Both adversely affect the chemical, physical, and biological conditions of receiving waters. Redevelopment projects, on the other hand, are opportunities to reduce the generation of pollutants and restore more natural hydrologic flow regimes in areas of existing development, which can contribute toward restoring or rehabilitating the chemical, physical, and biological conditions of impacted and/or impaired receiving waters.

To improve the health and functionality of the receiving waters in a Watershed Management Area, planning and land use practices must change to reduce the various impacts due to hydromodification and pollutants associated with storm water runoff from developing and developed areas. Planning principles to preserve, enhance, and restore the functionality and hydrologic regimes were incorporated into the development planning provisions of all the Third and Fourth Term Permits within the San Diego Region. Provision E.3 of this Order focuses on mitigating the effects of development by continuing to include these principles, as well as promote the concept of utilizing storm water as a resource. By doing so, pollutants in storm water runoff generated within developing and developed areas will be treated more naturally, and storm water will be discharged to receiving waters at discharge rates that are not unnaturally erosive, thereby resulting in conditions that are more supportive of healthy and sustainable water bodies.

The requirements of Provision E.3.a are the minimum “*management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and other such provisions where applicable*” to be included in the “*planning procedures...to reduce the discharge of pollutants...from areas of new development and significant redevelopment*” applicable to all development projects, regardless of size or purpose of development. These requirements are based on and consistent with the requirements for all development projects in the Fourth Term Permits for San Diego, Orange, and Riverside Counties (Order Nos. R9-2007-0001, R9-2009-0002, and R9-2010-0016, respectively). All development projects are required to implement source control BMPs that will minimize the generation of pollutants. Additionally, each development project must implement, where applicable and feasible, LID BMPs to mimic the natural hydrology of the site and retain and/or treat pollutants in storm water runoff prior to discharging to and from the MS4.

The LID Center defines LID as “*a comprehensive land planning and engineering design approach with a goal of maintaining and enhancing the pre-development hydrologic regime of urban and developing watersheds.*”<sup>29</sup> LID designs seek to control storm water at the source, using small-scale integrated site design and management practices to mimic the natural hydrology of a site, retain storm water runoff by

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<sup>29</sup> [www.lowimpactdevelopment.org](http://www.lowimpactdevelopment.org)

minimizing soil compaction and impervious surfaces, and disconnect storm water runoff from conveyances to the storm drain system.

LID BMPs may utilize interception, storage, evaporation, evapotranspiration, infiltration, and filtration processes to retain and/or treat pollutants in storm water before it is discharged from a site. Because of these numerous options, the San Diego Water Board expects that every development project will be able to implement some form of LID BMPs. Examples of LID BMPs include using permeable pavements, rain gardens, rain barrels, grassy swales, soil amendments, and native plants.

Provision [E.3.a](#) also includes requirements for all development projects to, where feasible, landscape with native and/or low water use plants to minimize the discharge of non-storm water discharges associated with excessive irrigation, as well as harvest (i.e., storage) and use precipitation to promote the concept of utilizing storm water as a resource.

While all development projects are subject to the requirements of Provision [E.3.a](#), Provision [E.3.b](#) identifies Priority Development Projects that exceed given size thresholds and/or fit under specific use categories. Priority Development Projects are required to incorporate specific performance criteria for structural BMPs incorporated into the project plan to reduce the generation of pollutants, and address potential impacts from hydromodification.

The Priority Development Project categories are based on the requirements of the Fourth Term Permits for Orange County and Riverside County (Order Nos. R9-2009-0002 and R9-2010-0016, respectively), and do not differ significantly from the Fourth Term Permit for San Diego County. Furthermore, the Priority Development Project categories are consistent with Santa Ana Water Board Order Nos. R8-2009-0030 and R8-2010-0033 (Orange County and Riverside County MS4 Permits, respectively), and Los Angeles Water Board Order No. R4-2010-0108 (Ventura County MS4 Permit).

Priority Development Projects generally include new development and significant redevelopment projects that can generate large amounts of pollutants, or have large areas of impervious surface that will contribute to adverse impacts in receiving waters. Placement of impervious surfaces within the environment not only generates and accumulates significant amounts of pollutants that will be transported in storm water runoff, but also drastically modifies the natural hydrologic processes within the watersheds.

Impervious surfaces do not allow natural infiltration and treatment of storm water runoff to take place. Instead, storm water runoff from impervious surfaces have typically been directed through pipes, curbs, gutters, and other hardscape into receiving waters, with little treatment at significantly increased volumes and accelerated flow rates over what would occur naturally. The increased pollutant loads, storm water volume, discharge rates and velocities, and discharge durations discharged from the MS4 adversely impacts the flora and fauna of receiving waters, and causes increased,

unnatural erosion and scouring within creek bed and banks. Placement of impervious surfaces also encapsulates “good” sediment (such as sand, gravel, rocks and cobbles) that would normally replenish creek beds and banks to help stabilize them.

This increased and unnatural erosion, which is caused by both altered storm water flow and altered sediment flow regimes, is largely responsible for degradation of creeks, streams, and associated habitats in the San Diego Region. In an ongoing study by the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition to assess the health of streams throughout Southern California, researchers found that three of the four highest risk stressors to creeks (percent sands and fines present, channel alteration, and riparian disturbance) were related to physical habitat.<sup>30</sup> Researchers studying flood frequencies in Riverside County have found that increases in watershed imperviousness of only 9-22 percent can result in increases in peak flow rates for the two-year storm event of up to 100 percent.<sup>31</sup> Such changes in runoff have significant impacts on channel morphology.

In addition, a technical report issued by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) stated that “[r]ecent studies indicate that California’s intermittent and ephemeral streams are more susceptible to the effects of hydromodification than streams from other parts of the United States. Physical degradation of stream channels in the central and eastern United States can initially be detected when watershed impervious cover approaches 10 percent, although biological effects (which may be more difficult to detect) may occur at lower levels. In contrast, initial response of streams in the semi-arid portions of California appears to occur between 3 and 5 percent impervious cover.”<sup>32</sup> These studies highlight the extent to which impacts originating from impervious surfaces created by development are responsible for the degradation and hydromodification of creeks and streams.

Because the impact relatively small increases in impervious surfaces in a watershed can have on receiving waters, Provision [E.3.b.\(2\)\(g\)](#) has been updated to include large driveways. Although they generally do not carry heavy traffic, paved, impervious driveways that are 5,000 square feet or more create significant areas of impervious surface that contribute to altered flow regimes, and are also sometimes used for storage of motor vehicles that can generate significant amounts of pollutants.

The Copermittees have identified several types of projects that they assert would be cost prohibitive if they were categorized as Priority Development Projects, and would discourage development or redevelopment within their jurisdictions. Many of these types of projects may not pose a threat when considered individually. However, collectively and cumulatively, several of these projects would likely cause significant impacts to receiving waters if they were all located within a subwatershed, watershed,

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<sup>30</sup> Assessing the Health of Southern California Streams, Stormwater Monitoring Coalition, Fact Sheet

<sup>31</sup> Schueler and Holland, 2000. Storm Water Strategies for Arid and Semi-Arid Watersheds (Article 66). The Practice of Watershed Protection.

<sup>32</sup> Stein, E. and Zaleski, S., 2005. Technical Report 475, Managing Runoff to Protect Natural Streams: The Latest Development on Investigation and Management of Hydromodification in California. December 30, 2005.

and/or Watershed Management Area. Thus, these types of development projects should be required to implement structural BMPs that Priority Development Projects are required to implement to be protective of water quality.

Provision [E.3.b.\(3\)](#), however, does provide exemptions for several of these types of development projects identified by the Copermittees from being defined as Priority Development Projects. Development projects that are not Priority Development Projects are not required to be included in the inventory of Priority Development Projects that must be maintained by each Copermittee pursuant to Provision [E.3.e.\(2\)](#). In addition, structural BMPs on development projects that are not Priority Development Projects are not required to be inspected pursuant to Provision [E.3.e.\(3\)](#). Inspections of development projects that are not Priority Development Projects, however, will be performed as part of the existing development inspections required pursuant to Provision [E.5.c](#).

The exemptions under Provision [E.3.b.\(3\)](#) are provided for development projects that meet certain conditions. The exemptions have been provided as an incentive for the Copermittees to encourage and promote the implementation of LID design concepts and green infrastructure and building principles. The conditions for allowing those exemptions have been included to provide an incentive for developers to implement LID design concepts and green infrastructure and building principles. Development projects that meet the conditions of Provision [E.3.b.\(3\)](#) are not expected to be cost prohibitive and also expected to be protective of water quality.

For development projects identified as Priority Development Projects, the requirements of Provision [E.3.c](#) are the minimum “*management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and other such provisions where applicable*” to be included in the “*planning procedures...to reduce the discharge of pollutants...from areas of new development and significant redevelopment.*” Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)-\(3\)](#) describe the performance criteria for the structural BMPs that must be implemented for each Priority Development Project defined by Provision [E.3.b](#).

Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)-\(3\)](#) and emphasize preserving natural watershed hydrology by requiring retention of storm water and management of flows to maintain or mimic the natural hydrology of a site. The holistic and long-term planning approach of the Water Quality Improvement Plans is incorporated into Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)-\(3\)](#) by encouraging the Copermittees to improve or rehabilitate watershed functionality and flow regimes with a combination of strategies.

Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) describes the storm water pollutant control BMP requirements that must be implemented by all Priority Development Projects. The purpose of Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) is to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff to the MEP from Priority Development Projects before it is discharged to the MS4. Of all the available treatment processes available, retention of storm water, and therefore capture of the pollutants in the storm water, will achieve 100 percent pollutant removal efficiency for

the volume of storm water retained. No other method of treatment can achieve 100 percent pollutant removal efficiency. Thus, retention of as much storm water onsite is the most effective way to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to and from the MS4, and controls pollutants in storm water discharges from a site to the MEP.

Under Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)\(a\)\(i\)](#), retention of the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event is the default design standard that Priority Development Projects must use to implement to mimic the pre-development retention volume (“design capture volume”). Since the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event has previously been used as the numeric design standard for treatment control BMPs, the same size storm event has been applied as the numeric design standard for the storm water pollutant control BMP requirements. This is consistent with the Fourth Term Permits for Orange County and Riverside County (Order Nos. R9-2009-0002 and R9-2010-0016, respectively), as well as Santa Ana Water Board Order Nos. R8-2009-0030 and R8-2010-0033 (Orange County and Riverside County MS4 Permits, respectively), and Los Angeles Water Board Order No. R4-2010-0108 (Ventura County MS4 Permit).

The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event is the event that has a precipitation total greater than or equal to 85 percent of all storm events over a given period of record in a specific area or location. For example, to determine what the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event is in a specific location, all 24 hour storms that have recorded values over a 30 year period would be tabulated and a 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm would be determined from this record (i.e., 15 percent of the storms would be greater than the number determined to be the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm). Most jurisdictions in the San Diego Region have already developed isopluvial maps that can provide this type of information. The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm might be determined to be a number such as 1.0 inch, and this would be multiplied by the total area of the project footprint to calculate the design capture volume. The Priority Development Project designer would then select a system of BMPs that would retain (i.e. intercept, infiltrate, store, evaporate, evapotranspire, or harvest and use) the design capture volume, based on the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event, onsite.

Retention of all storm water and all pollutants in storm water onsite for the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event, however, may not always mimic the natural pre-development retention volume. Retention of the volume generated by the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event also may not be practical, nor desirable, as storm water flows are a necessary component of the natural hydrologic processes in a watershed.

The optimum amount of storm water retained onsite would mimic the pre-development retention volume of the project site. Mimicking the pre-development retention volume is an approach USEPA allows for federal development projects. USEPA issued guidance on implementing storm water runoff requirements for federal projects that requires the retention of the 95<sup>th</sup> percentile storm event as the default design standard

to mimic the pre-development hydrology of a project site.<sup>33</sup> The USEPA guidance also provided an option to develop a site-specific design standard. Similar to the USEPA guidance for federal facilities, Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)\(a\)\(ii\)](#) provides an option to develop a site specific design capture volume that would mimic the pre-development retention volume of the project site.

Retention BMPs will be designed to capture a specific volume, and may take some time for the intercepted or captured storm water to infiltrate, evaporate, evapotranspire, or be used. Retention of the design capture volume, however, will capture and retain a significant portion of the pollutants generated and accumulated on a Priority Development Project. In a recent study performed by SCCWRP in the Los Angeles Region, they found *“that the magnitude of constituent load associated with storm water runoff depends, at least in part, on the amount of time available for pollutant build-up on land surfaces. The extended dry period that typically occurs in arid climates such as southern California maximizes the time for constituents to build-up on land surfaces, resulting in proportionally higher concentrations and loads during initial storms of the season.”*<sup>34</sup> This implies that the “first flush” of a rainy season and the first storm events after long antecedent dry periods tend to have the highest pollutant loads. Capturing and retaining the pollutant loads of the “first flush” of a rainy season and the first storm events after long antecedent dry periods will reduce a significant portion of the pollutants in storm water discharged to and from the MS4.

The San Diego Water Board, however, acknowledges that in some situations retaining the design capture volume fully onsite may not be technically feasible, may be cost prohibitive, or may not provide any overall water quality benefits to the Watershed Management Area. Thus, Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)\(b\)](#) allows for the use of a combination of onsite retention BMPs, and alternative compliance options described in Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#). Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#) is discussed in more detail below.

If the design capture volume is not retained onsite because the Priority Development Project is allowed to implement alternative compliance options, the pollutants in the portion of the design capture volume not reliably retained onsite must still be reduced to the MEP. Thus, flow-thru conventional treatment control BMPs are required to be implemented on Priority Development Projects in addition to the retention BMPs and/or biofiltration BMPs. The requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)\(c\)](#) include the performance standards for flow-thru conventional treatment control BMPs, consistent with the Fourth Term Permits in the San Diego Region.

Where the purpose of the requirements under Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) is to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff to the MEP, the purpose of the requirements under Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) is to maintain or restore more natural hydrologic flow regimes to

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<sup>33</sup> USEPA, 2009. Technical Guidance on Implementing the Stormwater Runoff Requirements for Federal Projects under Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act, EPA 841-B-09-001. December 2009.

<sup>34</sup> Stein, E.D., Tiefenthaler, L.L., and Schiff, K.C., 2007. Technical Report 510, Sources, Patterns and Mechanisms of Storm Water Pollutant Loading from Watershed and Land Uses of the Greater Los Angeles Area, California, USA. March 20, 2007.

prevent increased, unnatural erosion in downstream receiving waters to the MEP. Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) describes hydromodification management BMP requirements that must be implemented by all Priority Development Projects.

The development planning requirements under the Fourth Term Permits required the Copermittees in San Diego County, Orange County, and Riverside County to develop Hydromodification Management Plans (HMPs). Because the Copermittees have already developed HMPs, there is no longer a requirement to develop these plans. The Copermittees in each county, however, must update to their respective HMPs, as needed, to incorporate the hydromodification management BMP requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)](#).

The performance criteria for the implementation of hydromodification management BMPs on Priority Development Projects are consistent with the requirements in the Fourth Term Permits for Orange and Riverside Counties (Order Nos. R9-2009-0002 and R9-2010-0016, respectively). Modifications to the Orange County and Riverside County HMPs will likely be minor, or may not be necessary. The HMP for San Diego County, however, will likely require some modifications to incorporate the requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) and become consistent with the Orange County and Riverside County HMPs. The San Diego Water Board does not, however, expect that it will be necessary for the San Diego County Copermittees to develop a new approach or significantly re-write the San Diego County HMP.

Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)\(a\)](#) requires that post-project flow rates and durations mimic the *pre-development* condition, and not the *pre-project* condition of the Fourth Term San Diego County Permit. This includes assuming artificially hardened channels receiving storm water discharges from a Priority Development Project have the characteristics of a natural stream segment similar to that found in the watershed. Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)\(a\)](#) will primarily apply to redevelopment projects and artificially hardened channels, whose pre-project conditions have already significantly altered the natural hydrologic regime. This will allow more natural hydrologic flow regimes to eventually be restored in the developed areas of the Watershed Management Areas, which can in turn allow hydromodified streams and creeks to eventually be restored or rehabilitated.

Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)\(b\)](#) requires hydromodification management BMPs to compensate for sediment loss in cases where the development would cause loss of sediment supply as a result of the project. Maintaining the pre-development flows and durations from a Priority Development Project will significantly reduce the potential for increased erosion caused by development. Loss of natural sediment because pervious areas covered by the impervious surfaces on the Priority Development Project, however, can still cause increased, unnatural erosion in receiving waters. Runoff that is discharged from a Priority Development Project that lacks sediment becomes “sediment hungry” and can result in increased erosion upstream and downstream from the point of discharge.

The San Diego Water Board recognizes that in some situations implementing the hydromodification management BMP requirements fully onsite may not be technically feasible, may be cost prohibitive, or may not provide any overall water quality benefits to the Watershed Management Area. Thus, Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)\(c\)](#) allows for the use of a combination of onsite hydromodification management BMPs and alternative compliance options described in Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#). The San Diego County Copermittees may incorporate the alternative compliance options into their HMP. Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#) is discussed in more detail below.

Finally, Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)\(d\)](#) allows Priority Development Projects to be exempt from the hydromodification management BMP requirements under Provisions [E.3.c.\(3\)\(a\)-\(b\)](#) if a limited set of conditions are met.

Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#) describes the alternative compliance options that each Copermittee may allow Priority Development Projects within its jurisdiction to utilize to meet the structural BMP performance criteria of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#). Such allowances are not required and are at the discretion of each Copermittee. Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#) was included because the San Diego Water Board recognizes that various site specific conditions can make complying with the structural BMP performance criteria requirements fully onsite difficult or impractical, and implementing the alternative compliance options can potentially realize or achieve greater water quality benefits for the Watershed Management Area.

Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)\(a\)](#) includes the conditions that must be met for a Copermittee to allow a Priority Development Project to utilize the alternative compliance options to comply with the structural BMP performance criteria of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#). Priority Development Projects that cannot comply with the requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)\(a\)](#) must be required by the Copermittee to comply with the requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#) fully onsite.

Provisions [E.3.c.\(3\)\(b\)-\(d\)](#) describe the alternative compliance options that the Copermittee may develop and/or allow to be implemented by Priority Development Projects. The descriptions include the conditions that must be met for the alternative compliance option to be allowed to be utilized by a Priority Development Project. For the alternative compliance project options under Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)\(b\)](#), the descriptions also specify if the alternative compliance options may only be implemented to comply with the storm water pollutant control BMP requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(1\)](#), hydromodification management BMP requirements of Provision [E.3.c.\(2\)](#), or both.

Provisions [E.3.c.\(4\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(5\)](#) were included under the BMP requirements applicable to all development projects in the Fourth Term Permits for San Diego, Orange, and Riverside Counties (Order Nos. R9-2007-0001, R9-2009-0002, and R9-2010-0016, respectively). In this Order, the long-term BMP maintenance and infiltration and groundwater protection requirements were move under the structural



BMP performance requirements of Provision [E.3.c](#) and only apply to structural BMPs implemented by Priority Development Projects.

Provision [E.3.d](#) requires the Copermittees to update their BMP Design Manual as needed to incorporate the requirements of Provision [E.3](#). The BMP Design Manual is formerly known as the Standard Storm Water Mitigation Plan, or SSMP, and was renamed so that the title has a more accurate description of the document content. The contents of the BMP Design Manual are largely unchanged from the previous Standard Storm Water Mitigation Plans required under the Fourth Term Permits. The BMP Design Manual fulfills the 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2) requirement that the Copermittee's development planning program includes "*a comprehensive master plan to develop, implement and enforce controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants from municipal storm sewers which receive discharges from areas of new development and significant redevelopment.*"

As part of the "*planning procedures*", 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(2) requires the procedures to "*address controls to reduce pollutants in discharges from municipal separate storm sewers after construction is completed.*" The requirements applicable to the implementation and oversight of structural BMPs at Priority Development Projects are provided under Provision [E.3.e](#).

Proper installation of the structural BMPs approved for a Priority Development Project is necessary to ensure that pollutants in storm water discharges will be reduced to the MEP after the project is completed. In addition to the proper installation of structural BMPs, the maintenance of structural BMPs on Priority Development Projects is necessary to ensure that pollutants in storm water discharges will continue to be reduced to the MEP. Provision [E.3.e.\(1\)](#) includes the minimum requirements that each Copermittee must implement to ensure structural BMPs are properly installed and will be properly maintained.

The requirements under Provision [E.3.e.\(2\)-\(3\)](#) are necessary to demonstrate each Copermittee is implementing a program that complies with Provisions [E.3.b-c](#) and [E.3.e.\(1\)](#), and ensure structural BMPs at Priority Development Project will continue to be able to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(ii) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i), each Copermittee must have sufficient "*legal authority to control discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system.*" Where enforcement is necessary for any development projects to compel compliance with the requirements of Provision [E.3](#) and ensure the pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4 are reduced and continue to be reduced to the MEP, Provision [E.3.f](#) requires each Copermittee to enforce its legal authority established pursuant to Provision [E.1](#), and in accordance with its Enforcement Response Plan required to be developed pursuant to Provision [E.6](#).

Finally, Provision [E.3.g](#) requires the Copermittee to include the strategies and/or activities identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan that the Copermittee will

implement as part of the development planning program within its jurisdiction. The Water Quality Improvement Plan is expected to include several strategies and options that the Copermittee can and should implement within its jurisdiction. The Copermittee is expected to describe and provide the details of when, where, and how those strategies will be implemented within its jurisdiction.

Provision [E.3.g](#) specifically requires the Copermittee to identify areas within its jurisdiction where Priority Development Projects may be allowed or should be encouraged to implement or contribute toward the implementation of alternative compliance retrofitting and/or stream, channel, or habitat rehabilitation projects. This requirement has been included to promote and encourage cooperation between the Copermittees and the development community to implement projects that can reduce pollutants in storm water runoff from areas of existing development, and stabilize or rehabilitate channels, stream and/or habitats that have been hydromodified because of existing development.

Furthermore, Provision [E.3.g](#) encourages the Copermittee to collaborate and cooperate with other Copermittees and/or entities in the Watershed Management Area to identify regional alternative compliance projects that Priority Development Projects may be allowed or should be encouraged to implement or participate in implementing. This requirement has been included to promote and encourage more collaboration and coordination, as well as long term planning, among Copermittees and other entities in the Watershed Management Area.

The San Diego Water Board will utilize the information provided in the jurisdictional runoff management program document pursuant to Provision [E.3.g](#) to gauge and assess the Copermittee's efforts in trying to address the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan within its jurisdiction.

Provision E.4 (Construction Management) requires each Copermittee to implement a construction management program to control and reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from construction sites to the MEP. Proper implementation of the construction management program will also contribute toward effectively prohibiting non-storm water discharges from construction sites to the MS4.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv), each Copermittee is required to implement a *“management program...to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and other such provisions where applicable.”* As part of the management program, 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D) requires *“a program to implement and maintain structural and non-structural best management practices to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff from construction sites to the municipal storm sewer system.”*

Construction sites can be significant sources of sediment, trash, and other pollutants to receiving waters. Although sediment is naturally occurring in the natural

environment, the discharge of sediment under unnatural conditions is problematic to receiving waters. Fine sediment in creeks causes high turbidity that interferes with the functionality of native flora and fauna in local creeks. For example, turbidity interferes with both photosynthesis of water-philic plants, as well as successful foraging and reproduction of benthic macroinvertebrates. Sediment can also make it difficult for fish to breathe because it clogs fish gills. Other pollutants such as heavy metals or pesticides can adhere to sediment and are transported to receiving waters during storm events, where they dissolve in the water column and become bioavailable to aquatic organisms. Sediment is recognized as a major stressor to surface waters and is responsible for the impairment of several lagoons and creeks in the San Diego Region.

Provision [E.4](#) includes requirements that each Copermittee must implement to minimize the discharge of sediment and other pollutants from construction sites to the MS4 within its jurisdiction. The requirements under Provision [E.4](#) are consistent with the Fourth Term Permits for San Diego, Orange, and Riverside Counties. Therefore, Copermittees are expected to implement the requirements seamlessly, with minimal changes to their existing construction management programs. The Copermittees, however, are given more flexibility to run their programs as needed to maximize efficiency, and also to be consistent with the Water Quality Improvement Plan for the Watershed Management Area.

As part of the construction management program, 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D)(1) requires “*procedures for site planning which incorporate consideration of potential water quality impacts.*” Provision [E.4.a](#) describes the minimum elements each Copermittee is required to include as part of the construction site planning and project approval process. The construction site planning and approval process is based primarily on ensuring each project had an adequate site-specific pollution control, construction BMP, and/or erosion and sediment control plan that will be implemented to minimize the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the MEP, and minimize impacts to receiving waters.

The requirements under Provision [E.4.b](#) provide the data and information necessary to identify “*priorities for inspecting sites and enforcing control measures*” required pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D)(3). Under Provision [E.4.b](#), each Copermittee must identify construction sites that are considered a high threat to downstream surface waters. Designation of “high threat to water quality” construction sites will necessitate the Copermittees to develop criteria to identify such sites. Provision [E.4.b.\(2\)](#) describes a list of factors that must be considered when the Copermittee considers threat to water quality. For example, a Copermittee must identify sites as “high threat to water quality” if it is located within a hydrologic subarea where sediment is known or suspected to contribute to the highest priority water quality conditions, according to the Water Quality Improvement Plan. This ensures that construction management program implementation is compatible with the Copermittee’s identified highest priority water quality conditions.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(D)(2) each Copermittee is required describe “*requirements for nonstructural and structural best management practices*” at construction sites. Provision E.4.c includes the types of construction site BMPs that the Copermittees must implement, or require the implementation of, at each construction site to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP.

Each Copermittee is expected to require the implementation of appropriate BMPs given specific site conditions, the season and likelihood of rain events, and construction phase (i.e. grading vs. vertical construction). This means that throughout the life of the project construction, the appropriate BMPs will vary, especially if the construction of the project spans multiple wet seasons. As opposed to describing specific minimum BMPs that must be implemented, the Order describes major BMP categories that should be considered for each site.

Each Copermittee is expected to use its 20 years of storm water experience and knowledge to require implementation of appropriate BMPs from the various categories at each construction site within its jurisdiction. For example, the San Diego Water Board expects that each site will be required to implement erosion control and sediment control at each construction site. The San Diego Water Board also expects each Copermittee to require implementation of active/passive sediment treatment systems at sites where other BMPs have been tried and are known to be inadequate, and discharges of sediment are causing or contributing to water quality impairment downstream. Each Copermittee is granted flexibility in specifying the minimum level of BMP requirements at each site, but the San Diego Water Board expects each site to be capable of controlling pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP and preventing illicit discharges.

The requirements under Provision E.4.d are necessary to demonstrate that each Copermittee is implementing a program that complies with Provisions E.4.a and E.4.c and ensure BMPs at construction sites will reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP.

Provision E.4.d does not include minimum required inspection frequencies for construction sites. Each Copermittee must use its experience and knowledge to specify an appropriate inspection frequency for both high priority and lower priority sites in their jurisdictional runoff management program documents, and in accordance with the Water Quality Improvement Plan. Appropriate inspection frequencies may vary by Copermittee, but the San Diego Water Board expects that the stated frequency will be adequate for each Copermittee to properly oversee the construction sites within its jurisdiction, confirm BMPs are implemented to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from constructions sites to the MEP, and make needed changes to its program on an ongoing basis as necessary.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(ii) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i), each Copermittee must have sufficient “*legal authority to control discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system.*” Where enforcement is necessary for any development projects

to compel compliance with the requirements of Provision E.4 and ensure the pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4 are reduced and continue to be reduced to the MEP, Provision E.4.e requires each Copermittee to enforce its legal authority established pursuant to Provision E.1, and in accordance with its Enforcement Response Plan required to be developed pursuant to Provision E.6.

Finally, Provision E.4.f requires the Copermittee to include the strategies and/or activities identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan that the Copermittee will implement as part of the construction management program within its jurisdiction. The Water Quality Improvement Plan is expected to include several strategies and options that the Copermittee can and should implement within its jurisdiction. The Copermittee is expected to describe and provide the details of when, where, and how those strategies will be implemented within its jurisdiction.

The San Diego Water Board will utilize the information provided in the jurisdictional runoff management program document pursuant to Provision E.4.f to gauge and assess the Copermittee's efforts in trying to address the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan within its jurisdiction.

Provision E.5 (Existing Development Management) requires each Copermittee to implement an existing development management program to control and reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from areas of existing development to the MEP. Proper implementation of the existing development management program will also contribute toward effectively prohibiting non-storm water discharges from areas of existing development to the MS4.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv), each Copermittee is required to implement a "*management program...to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable using management practices, control techniques and system, design and engineering methods, and other such provisions where applicable.*" Within 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A) and (C), the management program is required to reduce impacts on receiving waters and reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP from commercial and residential areas, industrial facilities, and municipal facilities.

Commercial and residential areas, industrial facilities, and municipal facilities must be addressed by each Copermittee with the existing development management program required under Provision E.5. All other areas within each Copermittee's jurisdiction should be either undeveloped open space, or areas that are being developed or under construction. Areas being developed or under construction will be addressed by the Copermittee under the requirements of Provision E.3 (Development Planning) or Provision E.4 (Construction Management).

Areas of existing development typically include impervious surfaces such as sidewalks, driveways, roads, and rooftops, which generate and concentrate pollutants (such as pesticides, petroleum hydrocarbons, heavy metals, and pathogens) that are otherwise not found in high concentrations in the natural environment. Pollutants that

accumulate on impervious surfaces are not easily biodegraded or not subject to natural treatment processes. When it rains, these pollutants are transported in storm water runoff from these impervious surfaces into receiving waters, resulting in poor water quality and degradation of beneficial uses.

In addition to the generation of pollutants, areas of existing development have generally altered the natural conditions of the land and removed vegetative cover, reduced the perviousness of the surface, and reduced the capacity of storm water that can be intercepted, captured, stored, infiltrated, evaporated, and/or evapotranspired. The alteration of the natural conditions and the impervious surfaces associated with areas of existing development causes water quality problems due to the alteration of natural flow regimes within the watersheds, resulting in hydromodification of channels, streams and habitats that exist within or adjacent to areas of existing development.

Thus, storm water discharges from areas of existing development are responsible for poor water quality, degraded habitats, and hydromodified channels throughout the developed portions of the watersheds in the San Diego Region. To improve the health and functionality of the receiving waters in a Watershed Management Area, land use practices and the amount of impervious surfaces in areas of existing development must change to reduce the various impacts caused by hydromodification and pollutants from storm water runoff generated in developed areas. Each Copermittee must be aggressive in tackling pollutant sources and runoff from areas of existing development to be able to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4 to the MEP.

There is some overlap in the requirements under Provision [E.5](#) with the requirements under Provisions [E.2](#) (Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination), [E.3](#) (Development Planning), and [E.4](#) (Construction Management). Illicit discharges frequently originate from areas of existing development. New development projects, when completed will become some type of residential, commercial, industrial or municipal existing development. Redevelopment projects are, by definition, redeveloping areas of existing development. And, redevelopment projects become construction sites located in areas of existing development. Much of the data and information collected, inspections performed, and enforcement actions taken for the requirements under Provisions [E.2](#) to [E.4](#) may also be utilized by the existing development management program. The requirements under Provision [E.5](#), however, are focused primarily on reducing pollutants generated in areas of existing development that can be transported in storm water runoff and discharged to and from the MS4.

The requirements under Provision [E.5](#) build upon existing program elements being implemented by the Copermittees. Provision [E.5](#) is generally consistent with the existing development requirements of the Fourth Term Permits for Orange and Riverside Counties (Order Nos. R9-2009-0002 and R9-2010-0016, respectively), but modified to provide more flexibility to implement the programs so resources can be better focused toward addressing the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

For a Copermittee to properly manage areas of existing development, having knowledge of what development exists within its jurisdiction is essential. The requirements under Provision [E.5.a](#) for each Copermittee to maintain a watershed-based inventory of all the existing development within its jurisdiction are necessary for each Copermittee to implement the requirements of Provision [E.5.b-e](#).

As opposed to just maintaining separate inventories based on the type of site, each Copermittee must maintain a watershed-based inventory that includes all types of existing development within its jurisdiction. By utilizing a watershed-based inventory, the Copermittees within a Watershed Management Area can combine their inventories and review the inventories by watershed in addition to by jurisdiction. Pollutant sources and strategies for abatement can then be evaluated on a watershed level, as opposed to evaluating sources and strategies strictly by type of site.

Provision [E.5.a](#) includes the information that must be included in the inventory. Provision [E.5.a.\(1\)](#) specifies what facilities or areas must be included in the inventory. A commercial type of existing development may be identified in the inventory as a facility (e.g. individual building, individual business) or an area (e.g. shopping center, commercial zone). An industrial type of existing development must be identified in the inventory by facility (e.g. individual industrial entity). A municipal type of existing development must be identified in the inventory by facility, with a list of specific municipal facilities that must be included in the inventory. A residential type of existing development must be identified by areas to be designated by the Copermittee. For each of the facilities and areas identified in the Copermittee's inventory developed pursuant to Provision [E.5.a.\(1\)](#), Provision [E.5.a.\(2\)](#) specifies the information that must be included in the description for the facility or area.

Provision [E.5.a.\(3\)](#) requires each Copermittee to maintain an updated map showing the location of inventoried existing development, watershed boundaries, and water bodies. This requirement was included because this information is expected to help the Copermittees in a Watershed Management Area identify and prioritize sources of pollutants and/or stressors in areas of existing development that contribute toward the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

Knowledge of the sources of existing development likely contributing to the highest priority water quality conditions is expected to be a key element in the Copermittees' development of the water quality improvement strategies that will be included in the Water Quality Improvement Plans. The strategies described in the Water Quality Improvement Plans will direct the existing development management programs implemented by each Copermittee.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A) each Copermittee is required describe "*structural and source control measures to reduce pollutants*" in storm water runoff discharged from areas of existing development. Provision [E.5.b](#) includes the BMP

implementation and maintenance requirements that the each Copermittee must require at areas of existing development to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP. The San Diego Water Board, however, recognizes that BMP implementation and maintenance for residential areas will require much more education and encouragement through less authoritative measures than for commercial, industrial and municipal facilities and areas. Thus, the BMP implementation and maintenance requirements have been separated between requirements under Provision [E.5.b.\(1\)](#) for commercial, industrial and municipal facilities and areas, and Provision [E.5.b.\(2\)](#) for residential areas.

Most of the requirements in Provision [E.5.b](#) are consistent with the related requirements in the Fourth Term Permits. The level of specificity, however, has been changed to allow each Copermittee the flexibility to implement its program to achieve maximum efficiency, and to perform functions that will address the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

Each Copermittee is expected to require the implementation of appropriate BMPs to address the expected pollutants from each facility or area. The Third and Fourth Term Permits described specific minimum BMPs that must be implemented at various sites. This Order, however, requires each Copermittee to designate minimum BMPs themselves and require implementation. Consistent with the Fourth Term Permits, each Copermittee is required to maintain, or require the maintenance of, all BMPs as needed.

The BMP implementation and maintenance requirements include a schedule of operation and maintenance activities for the MS4 and related structures (such as catch basins, storm drain inlets, and detention basins), as well as public streets and roads. Public streets and roads specifically include public unpaved roads. The San Diego Water Board identified, through investigations and complaints, sediment discharges from unpaved roads as a significant source of water quality problems in the San Diego Region. Enforcement and inspection activities conducted by the San Diego Water Board since the Third Term Permits were issued have found a lack of source control for many unpaved roads within the jurisdiction of the Copermittees.

Unpaved roads are a source of sediment that can be discharged in runoff to receiving waters, especially during storm events. Erosion of unpaved roadways occurs when soil particles are loosened and carried away from the roadway base, ditch, or road bank by water, wind, traffic, or other transport means. Exposed soils, high runoff velocities and volumes, sandy or silty soil types, and poor compaction increase the potential for erosion.

Road construction, culvert installation, and other maintenance activities can disturb the soil and drainage patterns to streams in undeveloped areas, causing excess runoff and thereby erosion and the release of sediment. Poorly designed unpaved roads can act as preferential drainage pathways that carry runoff and sediment into natural streams, impacting water quality. In addition, other public works activities along



unpaved roads have the potential to significantly affect sediment discharge and transport within streams and other waterways, which can degrade the beneficial uses of those waterways.

USEPA also recognizes that discharges from unpaved roads pose a significant potential threat to water quality. USEPA guidance<sup>35</sup> emphasizes the threat of unpaved roads to water quality:

*“Dirt and gravel roads are a major potential source of these pollutants [sediment] and pollutants that bind to sediment such as oils, nutrients, pesticides, herbicides, and other toxic substances. Many roads have unstable surfaces and bases. Roads act like dams, concentrating flows that accelerate erosion of road materials and roadsides. Both unstable surfaces and accelerated erosion then lead to sediment and dust.”*

There are several guidance documents, developed by the USEPA,<sup>36</sup> the US Forest Service,<sup>37</sup> the University of California,<sup>38</sup> and others, that include design and construction specifications and BMPs that are readily available for implementation by public entities. Implementing design and other source control BMPs for unpaved roads in the region is necessary to reduce and minimize the impacts of sediment discharged during storm events from unpaved roads to the MS4s and receiving waters.

Provision E.5.c describes existing development site inspection frequency, content, and tracking that each Copermittee must incorporate into their existing development management programs. The requirements under Provision E.5.c are necessary to demonstrate each Copermittee is implementing a program that complies with Provision E.5.b and ensure BMPs implemented in areas of existing development will reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MEP. Provision E.5.c has been modified to include a minimum of once every 5 years for all inventoried facilities and areas of existing development, utilizing one or more methods of inspection.

In addition to onsite inspections, the methods of inspection have been expanded to include drive-by inspections. Inspections may be performed by the Copermittee’s municipal and contract staff, or by volunteer monitoring or patrol programs. Volunteer monitoring or patrol programs are not expected to enforce the Copermittee’s ordinances, or to inspect areas or facilities where members of the public are not allowed access. Volunteer monitoring or patrol programs must be trained by the Copermittee, and are only expected to collect visual observations. By utilizing drive-by inspections and volunteer monitoring or patrol programs, the Copermittees will be able

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<sup>35</sup> USEPA, 2006. Environmentally Sensitive Maintenance for Dirt and Gravel Roads. Gesford and Anderson, USEPA-PA-2005.

<sup>36</sup> Ibid

<sup>37</sup> US Forest Service, 1996. Forest Service Specifications for Construction of Roads & Bridges. EM-7720-100. Revised August 1996.

<sup>38</sup> University of California Division of Agriculture and Natural Resources, 2007. Rural Roads: A Construction and Maintenance Guide of California Landowners. Publication 8262.

to maximize and efficiently use their resources to identify and address sources of pollutants in areas of existing development.

The municipal and contract staff of each Copermittee must annually perform onsite inspections of an equivalent of at least 20 percent of the commercial, industrial, and municipal facilities and areas in its inventoried existing development pursuant to Provision [E.5.c.\(1\)\(a\)\(iv\)](#). An “equivalent” of at least 20 percent means if any commercial, industrial, or municipal facilities or areas require multiple onsite inspections during any given year, those additional inspection may count toward the total annual inspection requirement. Linear municipal facilities (i.e., MS4, streets, roads and highways) in the Copermittee’s existing development inventory are not subject to the inspection frequency requirement of Provision [E.5.c.\(1\)\(a\)\(iv\)](#).

The inspection content specified in Provision [E.5.c.\(2\)\(a\)](#) includes the information required to be collected during an inspection by any method. The inspection content specified in Provision [E.5.c.\(2\)\(a\)](#) includes additional information that must be collected when a Copermittee’s municipal or contract staff perform an onsite inspection. Provision [E.5.c.\(3\)](#) specifies the information that each Copermittee must maintain in its existing development inspection records.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(ii) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i), each Copermittee must have sufficient “*legal authority to control discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system.*” Where enforcement is necessary to compel compliance with the requirements of Provision [E.5](#) and ensure the pollutants in storm water discharges from the MS4 are reduced and continue to be reduced to the MEP, Provision [E.5.d](#) requires each Copermittee to enforce its legal authority established pursuant to Provision [E.1](#), and in accordance with its Enforcement Response Plan required to be developed pursuant to Provision [E.6](#).

Finally, Provision [E.5.e](#) requires the Copermittee to include the strategies and/or activities identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan that the Copermittee will implement as part of the existing development management program within its jurisdiction. The Water Quality Improvement Plan is expected to include several strategies and options that the Copermittee can and should implement within its jurisdiction. The Copermittee is expected to describe and provide the details of when, where, and how those strategies will be implemented within its jurisdiction.

Provisions [E.5.e.\(2\)-\(3\)](#) specifically require the Copermittee to identify areas of existing development as candidates for retrofitting, and streams, channels, and/or habitats as candidates for rehabilitation. Provisions [E.5.e.\(2\)-\(3\)](#) are based on the retrofitting requirements of the Fourth Term Permits for Orange and Riverside Counties, but modified to also include identifying projects to rehabilitate channels within areas of existing development. The requirements have also been modified to be more focused on utilizing these types of projects for addressing the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

Interest and opportunity to retrofit areas of existing development and rehabilitate channels located in areas of existing development has been observed in several programs the San Diego Water Board oversees (e.g., CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification program, supplemental environmental projects, and grant programs). Each jurisdiction has miles and miles of streets that could be retrofitted to become green streets. Reshaping landscaped areas from convex to concave configurations can detain storm water instead of directing runoff as quickly as possible to the MS4. Retrofit projects could also include simply replacing impervious surfaces with permeable surfaces.

Retrofitting projects do not necessarily have to be expensive. Retrofitting projects could be as simple as redirecting downspouts from roofs to pervious or landscaped areas instead of to hardscaped areas discharging directly to the MS4, providing rain barrels to harvest storm water from downspouts for use at a later time, or planting more trees in areas with little vegetation to provide canopy that can intercept storm water. The San Diego Water Board encourages the Copermittees to identify simple, low-cost retrofitting opportunities that can be easily implemented, in addition to other more expensive retrofitting and channel rehabilitation projects.

Rehabilitation of channels, streams, and/or habitat will require more significant planning and resources to implement. There are, however, also abundant opportunities to rehabilitate channels, streams and/or habitats in or adjacent to areas of existing development. Each Watershed Management Area likely has several creeks and stream reaches that have been undergrounded, artificially hardened, or hydromodified that could be rehabilitated to be more sustainably configured, which would slow down storm water flows and potentially have more assimilative capacity for pollutants while still being supportive of designated beneficial uses.

The San Diego Water Board recognizes that it may be infeasible to implement retrofitting or channel rehabilitation projects within certain areas of a Copermittee's jurisdictions. For such areas, the Copermittee must instead identify, develop, and implement regional retrofitting and channel rehabilitation projects (i.e. projects that can retain and/or treat storm water from one or more areas of existing development) adjacent to and/or downstream of the areas of existing development.

Provisions [E.5.e.\(2\)-\(3\)](#) do not require the implementation of retrofitting and rehabilitation projects, but do require the Copermittee to develop a strategy to facilitate the implementation of these types of projects in areas of existing development. The strategy is expected to include allowing and encouraging Priority Development Projects to implement these types of projects to comply with the structural BMP performance criteria requirements of Provisions [E.3.c.\(1\)](#) and [E.3.c.\(2\)](#).

The San Diego Water Board will utilize the information provided in the jurisdictional runoff management program document pursuant to Provision [E.5.e](#) to gauge and assess the Copermittee's efforts in trying to address the highest priority water quality conditions identified in the Water Quality Improvement Plan within its jurisdiction.

Provision E.6 (Enforcement Response Plans) requires each Copermittee to develop an Enforcement Response Plan as part of its jurisdictional runoff management program document. Proper implementation of the Enforcement Response Plans is necessary to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4, and reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water from the MS4 to the MEP.

Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(ii) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i), each Copermittee must have sufficient *“legal authority to control discharges to the municipal separate storm sewer system”* and be able to demonstrate that it can *“operate pursuant to legal authority established by statute, ordinance or series of contracts”* to control the discharge of non-storm water and pollutants in storm water to and from its MS4. Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(i)(E) each Copermittee is specifically required to have the legal authority to *“[r]equire compliance with conditions in ordinances, permits, contracts or orders.”*

The requirements under Provision E.6 are necessary to demonstrate that each Copermittee can enforce its legal authority to *“effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges”* and *“reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable”* as well as *“[r]equire compliance with conditions in ordinances, permits, contracts or order.”*

The Enforcement Response Plan required under Provision E.6 will serve as a reference for the Copermittee and the San Diego Water Board to determine if consistent enforcement actions are being implemented to achieve timely and effective compliance from all public and private entities that are not in compliance with the Copermittee’s ordinances, permits, or other requirements. The Enforcement Response Plan must contain clear direction for the Copermittee to take immediate enforcement action, when appropriate and necessary, in their illicit discharge detection and elimination, development planning, construction management, and existing development management programs.

If the entities subject to the Copermittee’s legal authority do not implement appropriate corrective actions in a timely manner, or if violations repeat, the Copermittee must take progressively stricter responses to enforce its legal authority and achieve compliance with its ordinances, permits, or other requirements to *“effectively prohibit non-stormwater discharges”* and *“reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable.”*

Provision E.7 (Public Education and Participation) requires each Copermittee to implement a public education and participation program. Proper implementation of the public education and participation program as part of its jurisdictional runoff management program will contribute toward effectively prohibiting non-storm water discharges to the MS4, and toward the reduction of pollutants in storm water from the MS4 to the MEP.

Provision E.7 establishes the minimum requirements that each Copermittee must implement to engage members of the public as part of its jurisdictional runoff management program. In the Fourth Term Permits, the public education program requirements and the public participation requirements were included as separate jurisdictional runoff management program components. In this Order, the public education requirements have been consolidated with the public participation requirements, as both sets of requirements are related to the engagement of the public by each Copermittee. Engagement of the public is critical for the success of each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program.

The Copermittees have been implementing public education programs for the last 20 years, which are now well established. The specificity of expected public education program elements of the Fourth Term Permits has been removed. For the most part, the public education program requirements in Provision E.7.a have been reduced to a set of requirements that are specifically included in the federal regulations under 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A)(6), 122.26(d)(2)(B)(6) and 122.26(d)(2)(D)(4), which should already be incorporated into each Copermittee's existing public education program. Each Copermittee is expected to utilize the information and data collected from the monitoring and assessments conducted within the Watershed Management Area, and from its inventories and inspections to best direct its public education program resources toward addressing the highest priority water quality conditions identified within the Water Quality Improvement Plan.

According to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv), public participation is required to be included as part of the "*comprehensive planning process*", which includes the development and implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plan and jurisdictional runoff management programs. The requirements under Provision E.7.b specify the opportunities that the public must be provided to be involved in the "*comprehensive planning process*", as required by to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv).

Provision E.8 (Fiscal Analysis) requires each Copermittee to secure the resources and provide an analysis of the resources that will be necessary to implement the requirements of the Order. Adequate fiscal resources are necessary for a jurisdictional runoff management program to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges to the MS4, and reduce pollutants in storm water from the MS4 to the MEP.

According to 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(vi), each Copermittee is responsible for providing "*a fiscal analysis of the necessary capital and operation and maintenance expenditures necessary to accomplish the activities*" required by this Order, including "*a description of the source of funds that are proposed to meet the necessary expenditures, including legal restrictions on the use of such funds.*" The fiscal analysis requirements of Provision E.8 are consistent with 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(vi).

The San Diego Water Board has chosen not to require a description of fiscal benefits realized from implementation of the jurisdictional runoff management programs. This

is a recommendation from the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies.<sup>39</sup> For instance, the fiscal analysis requirements do not address city-wide fiscal benefits of protection (e.g., public health, tourism, property values, economic activity, beneficial uses, etc.), even though many costs currently reported to the San Diego Water Board are for related activities. This type of assessment may help Copermittees improve the allocation of resources and it may help the Copermittees secure adequate funding for the program. Qualitative assessments, however, could be overly subjective and most Copermittees likely lack the ability to provide accurate quantitative assessments. The San Diego Water Board encourages the Copermittees to consider means for conducting assessments of fiscal benefits derived from the programs. Such assessments could be conducted on a regional scale similar to studies of program costs conducted by the State Water Board.<sup>40</sup>

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<sup>39</sup> National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies. 2006. *Guidance for Municipal Stormwater Funding*. Prepared under a grant provided by the USEPA.

<sup>40</sup> State Water Board, 2005. NPDES Stormwater Cost Survey.

## F. Reporting

**Purpose:** Provision F includes the requirements for the documents and reports that the Copermittees must prepare and provide to the San Diego Water Board. The documents prepared by the Copermittees and provided to the San Diego Water Board and made available to the public will provide the documentation that the Copermittees are complying with the requirements of the Order.

**Discussion:** Provision F requires the Copermittees to prepare several documents and reports that must be provided to the San Diego Water Board and made available to the public. The reporting requirements have been significantly reduced compared to the Fourth Term Permit reporting requirements. The reduction in reporting requirements was recommended by the San Diego County Copermittees in the Report of Water Discharge submitted in June 2011.

More specific and detailed discussions of the requirements of Provision F are provided below.

Provision F.1 (Water Quality Improvement Plans) requires the Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area to develop and submit a Water Quality Improvement Plan in accordance with the requirements of Provision B.

Of all the requirements of Provision F, the Water Quality Improvement Plans will likely be the documents requiring the most significant effort to develop. The content of the Water Quality Improvement Plans, however, is expected to include content that should already have been developed for the Watershed Plans and several elements that are included in the Monitoring and Reporting Programs required under the Fourth Term Permits.

Because the Water Quality Improvement Plan is part of the “*comprehensive planning process*” requiring public participation, Provision F.1 includes requirements to give multiple opportunities to the public to provide input on the content of the plans. The Water Quality Improvement Plans are required to be submitted by the Copermittees within 18 months after adoption of this Order.

Provision F.2 (Updates) requires the Copermittees to update specific documents that the Copermittees will utilize to implement the requirements of this Order.

Each Copermittee is required to continue implementing a jurisdictional runoff management program, as required under Provision E. Implementation of each Copermittee’s jurisdictional runoff management program is directed by its jurisdictional runoff management program document. Provision F.2.a requires each Copermittee to update its jurisdictional runoff management program document to be consistent with the requirements of Provision E within 18 months after the adoption of this Order.

Likewise, each Copermittee must continue to require new development and redevelopment projects to implement BMPs to control pollutants in storm water runoff. The control of pollutants in storm water runoff from development and redevelopment projects within each Copermittee's jurisdiction is guided and directed by its BMP Design Manual, formerly known as a Standard Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SSMP). Provision [F.2.b](#) requires each Copermittee to update its BMP Design Manual to be consistent with the requirements of Provision [E.3](#) within 18 months after the adoption of this Order.

In general, the requirements of the Order should not necessitate a complete rewrite of each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program document or BMP Design Manual, as was required by the Third Term Permits. The jurisdictional runoff management program and BMP Design Manual requirements of this Order are not significantly different than the requirements of the Fourth Term Permits. Thus, only sections of the Order which are new or have been significantly changed should warrant revisions to specific sections of the Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program document and BMP Design Manual.

Finally, the Water Quality Improvement Plans are expected to require updates as the iterative approach and adaptive management process included in the Water Quality Improvement Plan, as required under Provision [B.5](#), is implemented by the Copermittees. Provision [F.2.c](#) requires the Copermittees to submit the updates to the Water Quality Improvement Plan as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision [F.3.b](#).

Provision [F.3](#) (Progress Reporting) requires the Copermittees to report on the progress of implementing the Water Quality Improvement Plans.

The requirements of Provision [F.3](#) are to report the progress toward improving water quality that the Copermittees are achieving with the implementation of the Water Quality Improvement Plans and each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program. The Progress Report Presentations required under Provision [F.3.a](#) are included to provide the Copermittees an opportunity to communicate directly with the San Diego Water Board and the public. The Progress Report Presentations will also provide the members of the San Diego Water Board and members of the public an opportunity to become more acquainted with the Copermittees and their projects and programs to address non-storm water and storm water discharges into and from their MS4s.

The Annual Report requirements of Provision [F.3.b](#) are a consolidation of several reporting requirements from the Fourth Term Permits, including the Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Reports, the Watershed Annual Reports, and the Monitoring and Reporting Program Annual Reports. Furthermore, the Annual Report requirements are consistent with the requirements under 40 CFR 122.42(c).



Pursuant to 40 CFR 122.42(c), “[t]he operator of a large or medium municipal separate storm sewer system or a municipal separate storm sewer that has been designated by the Director...must submit an annual report”, which must include the following:

- (1) *The status of implementing the components of the storm water management program that are established as permit conditions [40 CFR 122.42(c)(1)];*
- (2) *Proposed changes to the storm water management programs that are established as permit conditions [40 CFR 122.42(c)(2)];*
- (3) *Revisions, if necessary, to the assessment of controls and fiscal analysis [40 CFR 122.42(c)(3)];*
- (4) *A summary of data, including monitoring data, that is accumulated throughout the reporting year [40 CFR 122.42(c)(4)];*
- (5) *Annual expenditures and budget for year following each annual report [40 CFR 122.42(c)(5)];*
- (6) *A summary describing the number and nature of enforcement actions, inspections, and public education programs [40 CFR 122.42(c)(6)];*
- (7) *Identification of water quality improvements or degradation [40 CFR 122.42(c)(7)].*

Under the Fourth Term Permits, each Copermittee is responsible for submitting a Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report; the Copermittees in each designated watershed are responsible for submitting a Watershed Annual Report; and the Copermittees from each county are responsible for submitting a Monitoring and Reporting Program Annual Report.

There are 39 Copermittees in the San Diego Region, each required to prepare and submit a Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report. There are 9 designated watersheds in San Diego County, 6 designated watersheds in Orange County, and 1 designated watershed in Riverside County for a total of 16 designated watersheds, each requiring a Watershed Annual Report. There are 3 sets of Copermittees in 3 counties in the San Diego Region, requiring Copermittees from each county to prepare and submit a Monitoring and Reporting Program Annual Report. Thus each Copermittee is currently required to prepare, or participate in the preparation of at least 3 annual reports. In addition, the San Diego County Copermittees are required to prepare and submit a Regional Urban Runoff Management Plan Annual Report.

In total, there are 59 annual reports that are prepared by the Copermittees and submitted to the San Diego Water Board for the Fourth Term Permits. The preparation of these annual reports requires significant time and resources from each Copermittee, which could otherwise be expended on actions that could improve water

quality within its jurisdiction. In turn, significant time and resources are required from the San Diego Water Board staff to review these reports, which could otherwise be expended on working directly with the Copermittees to improve their implementation efforts toward restoring and protecting water quality.

Provision [F.3.b](#) only requires one Annual Report for each of the 10 Watershed Management Areas designated under Provision [B.1](#), which is a significant reduction in the number of annual reports required to be prepared and submitted by the Copermittees. The Annual Report will document the Copermittees' efforts to implement the Water Quality Improvement Plan. Each Annual Report will be focused primarily on reporting the analysis of the monitoring data collected pursuant to Provisions [D.1-D.3](#) during the reporting period, and the assessments that are required pursuant to Provision [D.4](#) based on the data. The monitoring data analyses and the assessments that are provided in the Annual Report will be the core of the report. The reporting of the jurisdictional runoff management program implementation efforts have been reduced to a single 2-page form, and will no longer be the primary focus of the reporting requirements as in the Third and Fourth Term Permits.

The Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form (see [Attachment D](#) to the Order) will certify that each Copermittee has implemented its jurisdictional runoff management program in accordance with the requirements of Provision [E](#). Instead of reviewing a voluminous report from each Copermittee, as was required under the Third and Fourth Term Permits, the San Diego Water Board will conduct audits of each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program to investigate and confirm the information provided by each Copermittee on its Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form. The audits will allow the San Diego Water Board to become more familiar with the each Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management program, and each Copermittee will become more informed about the expectations of the San Diego Water Board.

The reduction in the number and content of the Annual Reports should result in significant time, cost and resource savings for the Copermittees, as well as the San Diego Water Board. Those savings should offset a significant portion of any additional costs that may be incurred to develop the Water Quality Improvement Plans and to implement the monitoring and assessment program requirements of Provision [D](#).

The reporting period for the Annual Reports consists of two periods. Because the jurisdictional runoff management programs are typically budgeted and implemented during a fiscal year, the information provided on the Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Forms will cover the period from July 1 to June 30 of the following year.

The Annual Reports, however, are focused primarily on the monitoring data and the assessments based on the monitoring data. The monitoring data is collected during the monitoring year, which begins October 1 and ends September 30 of the following year. The monitoring year begins after the beginning of the fiscal year and ends after

the end of the fiscal year. Therefore, to accommodate and capture the information collected during the fiscal year and the monitoring year, the Annual Report reporting period incorporates both periods.

Finally, Provision [F.3.c](#) requires the Copermittees to develop and submit a Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report. The Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report is similar to the Long Term Effectiveness Assessment required under the Fourth Term San Diego County Permit. The Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report is expected to utilize the entire body of data and information collected by the Copermittees during the term of this Order to assess improvements to water quality on a regional scale.

Provision F.4 (Regional Clearinghouse) requires the Copermittees to develop, update, and maintain an internet-based Regional Clearinghouse that can be used to store, disseminate, and share the Copermittees' documents, monitoring data, special studies, and any other data or information.

Most of the documents and data that are generated by the Copermittees can be provided in electronic format, and made available to the San Diego Water Board and the public on the internet. The San Diego Water Board has been gradually transitioning its document submittal requirements to electronic submittals. Provision [F.4](#) has been included to further these efforts.

Provision [F.4](#) has also been included to improve the exchange and availability of information among the Copermittees, as well as between the Copermittees and the San Diego Water Board. Provision [F.4](#) will also make the information generated during the implementation of the Order more accessible to the public.

Provision F.5 (Report of Waste Discharge) requires the Copermittees to submit a Report of Waste Discharge to reapply for renewal of the Order prior to its expiration, in accordance with 40 CFR 122.21(d)(2) and CWC section 13376.

Because the Orange County and Riverside County Copermittees will not be subject to the requirements of this Order until they are notified of coverage, Provision [F.5.a](#) describes the process of submitting their Reports of Waste Discharge pursuant to the requirements of their current permits to obtain coverage under this Order.

For the Copermittees subject to the requirements of this Order, Provision [F.5.b](#) requires the Copermittees to submit a Report of Waste Discharge 180 days in advance of the expiration of this Order. Provision [F.5.b](#) also describes the minimum information to be included in the Report of Waste Discharge, based on USEPA guidance "Interpretive Policy Memorandum on Reapplication Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems", dated May 17, 1996.

Provision F.6 (Application for Early Coverage) describes the process that would allow the Orange County and/or Riverside County Copermittees to obtain coverage under this Order earlier than the expiration of their current Orders.

If the Orange County and/or Riverside County Copermittees choose to obtain coverage under this Order earlier than the expiration of their current Orders, the preparation and submittal of a Report of Waste Discharge, as required by the Fourth Term Permits, will not be necessary. The existing Order for the respective county will be rescinded upon the effective coverage date under this Order, except for enforcement purposes.

## **G. Principal Watershed Copermittee Responsibilities**

**Purpose:** Provision **G** includes the requirements for the Principal Watershed Copermittee designated by the Copermittees in each Watershed Management Area.

**Discussion:** Unlike previous NPDES requirements, there will no longer be a single Principal Copermittee. Provision **G.1** requires the Copermittees to designate a Principal Watershed Copermittee for each Watershed Management Area. There are ten (10) Watershed Management Areas in the San Diego Region, as defined in **Table B-1** under Provision **B.1** of the Order. An individual Copermittee should not be the Principal Watershed Copermittee for more than two (2) Watershed Management Areas. There could be up to 10 Principal Water Copermittees designated for the Watershed Management Areas in the San Diego Region.

Provision **G.2** describes the minimum responsibilities of each Principal Watershed Copermittee. The primary responsibility of the Principal Watershed Copermittees is to serve as the liaison between the Copermittees in the Watershed Management Area and the San Diego Water Board on general permit issues. Ideally, the Principal Watershed Copermittee can represent the interests of all the Copermittees within a Watershed Management Area during discussions or meetings to facilitate communication with the San Diego Water Board. The Principal Watershed Copermittees are also responsible for facilitating and coordinating the implementation efforts of the Copermittees and submittals of required documents and reports.

The Principal Watershed Copermittee is responsible for facilitating the efforts of the Copermittees within the Watershed Management Area to develop the Water Quality Improvement Plan required under Provision **B**, and submit it for approval in accordance with Provision **F.1**. The Principal Watershed Copermittee is also responsible for coordinating the submittal of the document updates, Progress Report Presentations, and Annual Reports required from the Copermittees within each Watershed Management Area under Provisions **F.2**, **F.3.a**, and **F.3.b**. The Principal Watershed Copermittees are responsible for coordinating with each other to develop and submit the Regional Clearinghouse, Regional Monitoring and Assessment Report, and the Report of Waste Discharge required under Provisions **F.3.c**, **F.4**, and **F.5**.

The designated Principal Watershed Copermittee for each Watershed Management Area does not necessarily have to serve as the Principal Watershed Copermittee for the entire term of the Order. If the Copermittees in a Watershed Management Area choose to designate a new Principal Watershed Copermittee, the change may be submitted as part of the Annual Report required under Provision **F.3.b**, with an update to the Water Quality Improvement Plan in accordance with Provision **F.2.c**.

## **H. Modification of Programs**

**Purpose:** Provision H provides the conditions under which modifications to Order No. R9-2013-0001 may occur.

**Discussion:** Provision H allows for modifications to Order No. R9-2013-0001. Minor modifications may be made by the San Diego Water Board Executive Officer without a public notice or public hearing. Minor modifications are defined under 40 CFR 122.63. Minor modifications under 40 CFR 122.63 potentially applicable to this Order are the following:

- Correcting typographical errors;
- Requiring more frequent monitoring or reporting by the Copermittees;
- Changing an interim compliance date in a schedule of compliance, provided the new date is not more than 120 days after the date specified in the existing permit and does not interfere with attainment of the final compliance date requirement.

Modifications that are not one of the above minor modifications will require re-opening the Order, subject to the requirements of 40 CFR 122.62 and 124.5(c)(1)-(3), but only for the specific provisions subject to the modification. Modifications of the Order that are not minor require a draft Order with the proposed modifications made available for public review, a public notice and comment period, and a public hearing. Comments on the provisions not subject to the proposed modifications are not required to be considered in the San Diego Water Board's responses to comments or during the public hearing.

Provision H.4 was included specifically to allow for the Order to be re-opened to make modifications to the requirements of Provision A should new language addressing compliance with water quality standards in the receiving waters be developed and issued by the State Water Board.

**I. Standard Permit Provisions and General Provisions**

**Purpose:** Provision I incorporates the standard permit provisions required to be included in all NPDES permits, as well as several other general provisions.

**Discussion:** Provision I refers to [Attachment B](#) to the Order. [Attachment B](#) expressly incorporates the conditions applicable to all NPDES permits as provided under 40 CFR 122.41(a)-(n), as well as the applicable conditions for MS4s and storm water discharges provided under 40 CFR 122.42(c) and 40 CFR 122.42(d), respectively. [Attachment B](#) also includes several general provisions that are typically included in or applicable to waste discharge requirements issued by the San Diego Water Board.

**IX. ATTACHMENTS**

The attachments to the Order are discussed below. The discussions describe the content of the attachments.

**Attachment A – Discharge Prohibitions and Special Protections**

Section 1 of [Attachment A](#) includes the Waste Discharge Prohibitions from the Basin Plan. They have been provided verbatim in their entirety.

Section 2 of [Attachment A](#) includes the “*Special Protections for Areas of Special Biological Significance, Governing Point Source Discharges of Storm Water and Nonpoint Source Waste Discharges*” applicable to permitted point source discharges of storm water, adopted under State Water Board Resolution No. 2012-0012. The terms, prohibitions, and special conditions (collectively referred to as special conditions) are established as limitations on point source storm water discharges. These special conditions provide Special Protections for marine aquatic life and natural water quality in ASBS, as required for State Water Quality Protection Areas pursuant to California Public Resources Code sections 36700(f) and 36710(f). These Special Protections were adopted by the State Water Board as part of the Ocean Plan General Exception.



**Attachment B – Standard Permit Provisions and General Provisions**

Conditions applicable to all NPDES permits, as required under 40 CFR 122.41, and conditions applicable to MS4s and storm water discharges, as required under 40 CFR 122.42(c) and 122.42(d), respectively are provided in [Attachment B](#) to the Order. They have been provided expressly in their entirety.

In addition to the standard provisions required to be incorporated into the Order and NPDES permit pursuant to 40 CFR 122.41 and 40 CFR 122.42, several other general provisions apply to this Order. These general provisions are typically included in or applicable to waste discharge requirements issued by the San Diego Water Board. Many of the general provisions were developed by the State Water Board. Where a general provision is derived from statute or regulation, a citation of the statute or regulation section is provided. General provisions that do not provide a citation are included under the authority provided CWC 13377.

## **Attachment C – Acronyms, Abbreviations and Definitions**

The acronyms and abbreviations that are used in the Order are provided in [Attachment C](#). [Attachment C](#) also includes definitions that may provide an explanation or description of the meaning or intent of specific terms or phrases included in the Order.

## **Attachment D – Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form**

An example of the Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form required to be submitted by each Copermittee as part of the Annual Reports required under Provision [F.3.b.\(1\)\(e\)](#) is provided as [Attachment D](#) to the Order. An electronic version of the form will be available from the San Diego Water Board after the adoption of the Order.

The Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form includes the minimum information necessary to demonstrate that the Copermittee is implementing and in compliance with the requirements of Provision [E](#), and includes much of the information required to be reported pursuant to 40 CFR 122.42(c).

The information that must be provided on the Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form is limited to the fiscal year, which begins July 1 and ends June 30 of the following year. The information expected to be provided by the Copermittees in each section of the Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form is discussed below.

### **I. COPERMITTEE INFORMATION**

The name of the Copermittee (e.g. name of city, county, or special district) and the contact information for the storm water program manager are provided under this section.

### **II. LEGAL AUTHORITY**

The Copermittee must confirm whether or not the legal authorities under Provision [E.1.a](#) have been established for itself within its jurisdiction.

The Copermittee must also confirm whether or not a Principal Executive Officer, Ranking Elected Official, or Duly Authorized Representative has certified that the Copermittee obtained and maintains adequate legal authority, as required under Provision [E.1.b](#). The certification statement required by Provision [E.1.b](#) is only required to be submitted with the first Annual Report required under Provision [F.3.b](#).

### **III. JURISDICTIONAL RUNOFF MANAGEMENT PROGRAM DOCUMENT UPDATE**

The Copermittee must inform the San Diego Water Board whether or not an update to its jurisdictional runoff management program document was required or recommended by the San Diego Water Board during the reporting period. An update to the jurisdictional runoff management program is required under Provision [F.2.a](#). The San Diego Water Board may recommend modifications to the jurisdictional runoff management program as part of the iterative approach and adaptive management process required under Provision [B.5](#), which may result in an update that is necessary for the Copermittee's jurisdictional runoff management document.

If an update was required or recommended, the Copermittee must confirm whether or not the update was completed and made available on the Regional Clearinghouse within the reporting period. If no update was required or recommended, an answer is not required. If the answer is NO, meaning the required or recommended update was not completed and/or made available on the Regional Clearinghouse, the Copermittee must attach a schedule for the completion of the update and/or posting of the updated document on the Regional Clearinghouse.

#### IV. ILLICIT DISCHARGE DETECTION AND ELIMINATION PROGRAM

The Copermittee must confirm whether or not a program was implemented during the fiscal year to actively detect and eliminate illicit discharges and connections in accordance with the requirements under Provision [E.2](#).

In addition to confirming that a program to detect and eliminate illicit discharges was implemented during the reporting period, the Copermittee is also required to report on several items related to the program. The information that must be reported is limited to the fiscal year for the Annual Report.

All non-storm water discharges are considered illicit discharges unless the source is identified as one of the categories on non-storm water discharges under Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)-\(5\)](#). If a non-storm water discharge is identified as one of the categories on non-storm water discharges under Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)-\(5\)](#), the discharge is a non-storm water discharge, but not an illicit discharge. If a non-storm water discharge is identified but in not one of the categories on non-storm water discharges under Provisions [E.2.a.\(1\)-\(5\)](#), the discharge is both a non-storm water discharge and an illicit discharge.

#### V. DEVELOPMENT PLANNING PROGRAM

The Copermittee must confirm whether or not a development planning program was implemented during the fiscal year in accordance with the requirements under Provision [E.3](#).

The Copermittee must also inform the San Diego Water Board whether or not an update to its BMP Design Manual was required or recommended by the San Diego Water Board during the fiscal year. An update to the BMP Design Manual is required under Provision [F.2.b](#). The San Diego Water Board may recommend modifications to the BMP Design Manual, which may result in an update that is necessary for Copermittee's the BMP Design Manual.

If an update was required or recommended, the Copermittee must confirm whether or not the update was completed and made available on the Regional Clearinghouse within the reporting period. If no update was required or recommended, an answer is not required. If the answer is NO, meaning the required or recommended update was not completed and/or made available on the Regional Clearinghouse, the Copermittee must attach a schedule for the completion of the update and/or posting of the updated document on the Regional Clearinghouse.

The Copermittee is also required to report on several items related to the program. For the development and redevelopment projects that are reviewed under the program, the Copermittee must report the total number projects submitted for review during the fiscal year. Of those projects, the Copermittee must report the number that are Priority Development Projects, as defined under Provision [E.3.b.\(1\)](#). The Copermittee must also report the number of Priority Development Projects that were approved and/or granted occupancy during the fiscal year, regardless of when the project was originally submitted for review. Any projects that were approved during the fiscal year and granted any exemptions from the BMP Design Manual requirements and/or allowed to implement alternative compliance options in accordance with Provision [E.3.c.\(3\)](#) must be reported.

Finally, the Copermittee must also report on several items related to its oversight of permanent BMPs on Priority Development Projects within its jurisdiction, as required under Provision [E.3.e](#). The information that must be reported is limited to the fiscal year for the Annual Report.

#### VI. CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Copermittee must confirm whether or not a construction management program was implemented during the fiscal year in accordance with the requirements under Provision [E.4](#).

The Copermittee is also required to report on several items related to its oversight construction projects within its jurisdiction. The information that must be reported is limited to the fiscal year for the Annual Report.

#### VII. EXISTING DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Copermittee must confirm whether or not an existing development management program was implemented during the fiscal year in accordance with the requirements under Provision [E.5](#).

The Copermittee is also required to report on several items related to its oversight in areas of existing development within its jurisdiction. The information that must be reported is limited to the fiscal year for the Annual Report. The information must also be separated into four categories of existing development: municipal, commercial, industrial, and residential.

#### VIII. PUBLIC EDUCATION AND PARTICIPATION

The Copermittee must confirm whether or not a public education program component was implemented during the fiscal year in accordance with the requirements under Provision [E.7.a](#).

The Copermittee must also confirm whether or not a public participation program component was implemented during the fiscal year in accordance with the requirements under Provision [E.7.b](#).

#### IX. FISCAL ANALYSIS

The Copermittee must confirm a summary of its fiscal analysis, conducted in accordance with the requirements under Provision [E.8](#), has been attached to the form.

#### X. CERTIFICATION

A Principal Executive Officer, Ranking Elected Official, or Duly Authorized Representative must sign and certify the Jurisdictional Runoff Management Program Annual Report Form. The appropriate box must be checked to indicate the whether the a Principal Executive Officer, Ranking Elected Official, or Duly Authorized Representative is signing the form.

## **Attachment E – Specific Provisions for Total Maximum Daily Loads Applicable to Order No. R9-2013-0001**

[Attachment E](#) provides specific provisions for implementing the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) adopted by the San Diego Water Board and approved by USEPA in which the Copermittees are identified as responsible for meeting an assigned wasteload allocation (WLA). Federal regulations require that NPDES requirements incorporate water quality based effluent limitations (WQBELs) that must be consistent with the requirements and assumptions of any available WLAs,<sup>41</sup> which may be expressed as numeric effluent limitations, when feasible, and/or as a best management practice (BMP) program of expanded or better-tailored BMPs.<sup>42</sup> Where the TMDL includes WLAs that provide numeric pollutant load or pollutant parameter objectives, the WLA has been, where feasible, translated into numeric WQBELs.<sup>43</sup>

For each TMDL in [Attachment E](#), five sections are included:

- 1) **Applicability**: This section provides the resolution under which the TMDL Basin Plan amendment was adopted and approved, with the applicable adoption and approval dates. This section also gives the effective date of the TMDL and where the TMDL is applicable (i.e. Watershed Management Area and water body). The Copermittees that are responsible for implementing the specific provisions are also given in this section.
- 2) **Water Quality Based Effluent Limitations**: For each TMDL, the WQBELs are expressed in terms of receiving water limitations, effluent limitations, and/or best management practices (BMPs). The WQBELs for the TMDLs are incorporated by reference into Provision [A](#) of the Order. The WQBELs when the compliance dates have passed. Applicable BMPs within the WQBELs must be incorporated into the Water Quality Improvement Plans.
- 3) **Compliance Schedule**: The final date for compliance with the WLA assigned to the Copermittees is provided in this section. If there are interim compliance requirements, they are included in this section as well. The WQBELs become enforceable when the final compliance date has passed. If there are interim WQBELs with interim compliance dates, the interim WQBELs become enforceable when the corresponding interim compliance dates have passed.
- 4) **Specific Monitoring and Assessment Requirements**: If there are specific monitoring and assessment requirements that cannot be met with the monitoring and assessment program requirements under Provision [D](#) of the Order, the additional requirements are included in this section.
- 5) **Compliance Determination**: There may be several options to demonstrate compliance with the WQBELs. If there is more than one option to demonstrate compliance with the WQBELs, the options are provided in this section.

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<sup>41</sup> 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)

<sup>42</sup> 40 CFR 122.44(k)(2) and 40 CFR 122.44(k)(3)

<sup>43</sup> November 12, 2010 Memorandum from the USEPA, Revisions to the November 22, 2002 Memorandum "Establishing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Wasteload Allocations (WLAs) for Storm Water Sources and NPDES Permit Requirements Based on Those WLA"

The requirements of the TMDLs are based on the assumptions and requirements of any available WLAs for adopted and approved TMDLs that have been incorporated into the Basin Plan. Modifications to the requirements for the TMDLs in [Attachment E](#) cannot be made unless the TMDLs are modified in the Basin Plan.

A modification to any aspect of a TMDL in the Basin Plan requires a Basin Plan amendment. A Basin Plan amendment to modify a TMDL will require the San Diego Water Board to adopt a resolution to amend the Basin Plan, which includes a separate public process. When the San Diego Water Board adopts a Basin Plan amendment, it subsequently requires approval from the State Water Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and the USEPA before it becomes effective.

If and when the TMDLs are modified in the Basin Plan, the San Diego Water Board will revise the requirements of the TMDL in accordance with the Basin Plan amendment. When a Basin Plan amendment to modify a TMDL becomes effective, the San Diego Water Board will modify the requirements of the TMDL pursuant to the requirements of Provision H of the Order as soon as possible.