

**REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN DIEGO REGION
EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
MARCH 5, 2020**

ITEM 8

SUBJECT

Updates on San Diego Water Board Tribal Activities and Priorities. *(Cynthia Gorham)*

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Informational item only; no recommendation.

KEY ISSUE

This item is an opportunity for the Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) and members of the public to hear about the water quality concerns and activities of the Native American community within the San Diego Region and the recent San Diego Water Board Region Tribal Summit.

PRACTICAL VISION

Chapter 4 of the San Diego Water Board Practical Vision, *Proactive Public Outreach and Communication*, is focused on implementing the core values of leadership, communication and transparency. This item provides an excellent opportunity for the Board to hear from the tribes and begin a working relationship to designate water bodies for the Beneficial Uses that were established by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) in 2017 including Tribal Tradition and Culture (CUL), Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB), and Subsistence Fishing (SUB). Item 6c on today's agenda considers adding these designated beneficial uses to the San Diego Water Board's *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (9)*.

DISCUSSION

The State Water Board and San Diego Water Board have begun to work more closely with the San Diego Region Native American community by holding a Tribal Summit on February 6, 2020. To continue that process, the tribes were invited to present at the March 5, 2020, Board Meeting and provide the Board and public with their insights on water quality conditions and issues within our region. The Rincon Band of Luiseño Indians have confirmed they will provide a presentation regarding their water quality concerns at today's meeting.

The San Diego Water Board expects the adoption of the new Tribal Beneficial Uses, the future designation of water bodies for these uses, and the development and use of Biological Objectives within the San Diego Region to improve protection of waters throughout the region. The San Diego Water Board will work closely with the tribes to designate water bodies for Tribal Beneficial Uses during the next triennial review process, and will use various regulatory tools to help protect waters of interest to the tribes.

LEGAL CONCERNS

None.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The agenda notice for today's meeting was posted on the San Diego Water Board's website and sent to subscribers to the email list for Board meetings. This satisfies the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act requirements to publish the meeting notice and agenda.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

Supporting Document 1 - California Water Boards Basin Plans and Tribal Beneficial Uses Information.