

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

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT
SEPTEMBER 12, 2018**

ITEM 5

SUBJECT

Informational Item: Water Board Cannabis Program - Implementation Status in Southern California Regions 4, 8, and 9.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

This is an information item and the Board will not take an action.

KEY ISSUE

The Water Boards Cannabis Cultivation Program, put into effect December 2017, addresses potential water quality and quantity issues related to cannabis cultivation.

PRACTICAL VISION

This item is consistent with the mission of the Healthy Waters and Water Supply chapters of the Practical Vision.

DISCUSSION

The State Water Board adopted the *Cannabis Cultivation Policy – Principles and Guidelines for Cannabis Cultivation* (Cannabis Policy) on October 17, 2017. The Cannabis Policy establishes principles and guidelines (requirements) for land disturbances, diversion and use of water, and activities related to cannabis cultivation. The requirements protect water quantity and quality by minimizing the effects of cannabis cultivation on fisheries, wildlife, and water quality; while maintaining healthy riparian corridors and protecting springs, wetlands, and aquatic habitat.

Mr. Eric Lindberg, Senior Engineering Geologist in charge of the South Coast Regional Cannabis Cultivation Unit, will update the Board on the cannabis program and policy, the role of the cannabis unit, and the effects of illegal cannabis operations on water quality.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice was provided in the Meeting Notice and Agenda for the September 12, 2018 meeting.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

None