

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

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
SEPTEMBER 8, 2021**

**ITEM 8**

**SUBJECT**

Update on San Diego River Conservancy and San Diego Water Board Coordination.  
(*David Gibson*)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

Informational item only; no recommendation.

**KEY ISSUE**

This item will provide the San Diego Water Board with an update regarding coordination between the San Diego River Conservancy and the Board on various water quality projects in the San Diego River Watershed. The Board may consider an informal affirmation of a (uncompensated) Board Member Liaison to represent the San Diego Water Board in a non-voting capacity on the San Diego River Conservancy Governing Board of Directors.

**PRACTICAL VISION**

Chapter 4 of the 2013 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 and the public to learn about program coordination between the San Diego River Conservancy, on which Board Member Gary Strawn serves as the Board representative, and the San Diego Water Board.

**DISCUSSION**

The San Diego River Conservancy (SDRC) was established in 2002 by an act of the California Legislature (AB 2156, Kehoe) to preserve, restore and enhance the San Diego River Area. The SDRC is an independent, non-regulatory state agency established to preserve, restore, and enhance the San Diego River Area. The Conservancy's 17-member Governing Board consists of both state and local representatives, creating a diverse partnership dedicated to conserving this highly valued resource of statewide significance.

The Mission of the SDRC is focused on: 1) acquiring, managing and conserving land; and 2) protecting or providing recreational opportunities, open space, wildlife species and habitat, wetlands, water quality, natural flood conveyance, historical/cultural resources, and educational opportunities. For example, one important Conservancy goal is to build, in conjunction with our partners, a River-long park and hiking trail stretching fifty-two miles from the River's headwaters near Julian to the Pacific Ocean.

The Conservancy's presentation will focus on the status of the Wildfire Early Action Plan (Supporting Document No. 1). The presentation will provide an overview of the funding mechanism, the need, and program activities supported by the State's Wildfire Early Action Plan to identify local investments to better prepare our communities for wildfire and promote healthy forest initiatives.

**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**

1. San Diego River Conservancy Wildfire Early Action Plan