No.	Proposed Project Name	Organization Name	Organization Address	Contact Person and Information	Project Summary	Project Category	Location of Project	Estimated Cost (in $)	Expected Benefits	Status
1	Assessing the Water Quality, Riparian and Aquatic Habitat impacts of Homelessness in the Upper Santa Ana River Watershed	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	The project would develop a monitoring plan and then implement the program to evaluate and quantify the potential negative impacts of homeless encampments on water quality, riparian and aquatic habitat within or alongside streams or in proximity to waterbodies assessing the magnitude of impacts determining appropriate needed actions, if any	Environmental	County of Riverside	$200,000	Address negative impacts from Homeless encampments on or adjacent Surface water Bodies	AVAILABLE
2	Santa Ana River Trail and Parkway Completion	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	Multi-Stakeholder project to connect the San Bernardino Mountains and the Pacific Crest Trail to the already completed portions of the Orange County Trail.	Environmental, Public Assess to outdoors	San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange Counties	TBD	Improved trails for walking and bikes along the Santa Ana River	AVAILABLE
3	Monitoring Well in Reach 3 of Santa Ana River	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Erika Beyer (951) 354 4242	The project would involve the drilling and equipping of a monitoring well that would monitor groundwater quality in the Santa Ana River Reach 3 area.	Environmental	Santa Ana River Reach 3	$2,000,000	Monitoring of groundwater quality in a sensitive reach of the Santa Ana River	AVAILABLE
4	Water Energy Community Action Network (WECAN)	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Haley Gohari, (951) 354 4250	The project would continue with future phases of water and energy efficiency improvements on disadvantaged communities in the watershed including indoor retrofits that conserve water and energy. These projects will also include front yard turf replacement with drought tolerant landscaping and irrigation	Water Conservation, Energy Efficiency	County of Riverside	$100,000	Benefit Disadvantaged Communities, Water Conservation and Energy Efficiency	AVAILABLE
5	Watershed Planning, Modeling and Stakeholder Outreach	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	The project will provide the tools for data collection and planning for multipurpose projects within the Santa Ana Watershed.	Environmental	County of Riverside	$6,000,000	Provide Tools for data collection and planning for multipurpose water projects in the Santa Ana Watershed	AVAILABLE
6	In-line Phosphorus removal in San Jacinto River and Salt Creek	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	The project would develop project concepts and design engineering for a system to add low doses of alum to the two primary inflows to Canyon Lake. This would allow for more timely treatment of wet weather nutrients, allow for lower doses (less toxicity) to be applied relative to 2/yr surface spreading, and management of settled floc outside of the lake basin.	Environmental	County of Riverside	$100,000	Meeting the Canyon Lake TMDL	AVAILABLE
7	QMRA for estimating illness risk	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	E.coli exceeds REC1 water quality standards in Reach 3 of the Santa Ana River, but previous source studies have shown human fecal waste to be a negligible relative to other sources. To support alternative water quality criteria based on illness risk, more rigorous data is needed. The project would involve collection of samples for analysis of a full suite of pathogens and microbial source tracking markers from multiple frequently used swimming locations in Reach 3 of the Santa Ana River.	Environmental	Santa Ana River Reach 3	$500,000	Increased confidence in illness risk to large population of swimmers in Reach 3. Alternative WQ criteria that may allow for TMDL compliance to focus on the highest risk sources	AVAILABLE
8	Feasibility Study to Remove TDS from Lake Elsinore	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	Numerous studies have concluded that salinity plays an important role in water quality in Lake Elsinore because of its impact upon aquatic food webs. The project would conduct an alternative analysis for salt removal in Lake Elsinore, considering projects such as reverse osmosis or dredging by drying out sections of the lake (e.g. Party Cove) or Back Basin to then remove salts and nutrients from lake bottom	Environmental	Lake Elsinore	$75,000	Improved aquatic ecosystem health and water quality in Lake Elsinore	AVAILABLE
9	Multi-benefit wetland in Back Basin for dual treatment of recirculated lake water and dewatered stormwater	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	To provide treatment for recirculated lake water, a project is proposed within the Back Basin behind the Lake Elsinore levee. Wetland treatment for recirculating lake water would be hydraulically optimized, with a constant, daily water loading that is moved throughout the wetland system, minimizing short circuiting and dead zones and maximizing equal water distribution throughout the system. Planning level estimates suggest that wetland treatment could potentially remove 22,000 to 44,000 kg/yr of TN per year, depending upon sizing. This amount of nutrient removal would supplement an oxygenation project that the TMDL Task Force is currently supporting, and generate even greater water quality improvement that would allow for safer water contact recreation in Lake Elsinore by achieving better than natural conditions. A wetland project would also provide environmental education opportunities for the disadvantaged community around the lake. The proposed project would involve Phase 1 of feasibility assessment and preliminary design	Environmental	Lake Elsinore	$250,000	Reduced nutrients and frequency and magnitude of harmful algae blooms in Lake Elsinore	AVAILABLE
10	Statewide CSCI thresholds for benthic communities in modified channels	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	This project proposes a targeted monitoring study to evaluate the applicability and performance of the California Stream Condition Index (CSCI) thresholds for assessing benthic macroinvertebrate communities in modified and engineered channels within the Santa Ana River Watershed. While CSCI is widely used statewide to assess biological condition in wadeable streams, its thresholds were largely developed using data from natural or minimally disturbed channels and may not adequately reflect biological potential in highly altered systems common to Southern California.The study will involve field sampling of benthic macroinvertebrates and associated habitat parameters across a representative range of modified channel types, including concrete-lined, trapezoidal, and soft-bottom engineered reaches. Biological condition scores will be evaluated relative to existing statewide CSCI thresholds and compared against site-specific physical and hydrologic constraints. Results will be used to assess whether current thresholds are appropriate for these channel types or whether alternative interpretations or refined benchmarks are warranted.Findings will support improved regulatory consistency, defensible bioassessment outcomes, and more realistic biological expectations for modified channels in the Santa Ana River Watershed and similar urbanized watersheds statewide.	Environmental	Statewide	$100,000	Improved scientific validity of bioassessments: By evaluating how well statewide CSCI thresholds perform in modified and engineered channels, the study will help determine whether current biological expectations accurately reflect achievable conditions in these systems.	AVAILABLE
11	Reference watershed nutrient study in San Jacinto River watershed	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	The revised TMDL for nutrients in Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake used a reference watershed condition basis, whereby the load of nutrients from undeveloped lands provides the basis for allocations (or allowable external load), and is then input to a lake water quality model to simulate numeric targets (or the in-lake water quality response). The basis for the reference watershed condition involved 51 wet weather grab samples from a single station in the San Jacinto River at the Cranston Guard Station. Additional data from other undeveloped canyons is needed to validate the assumptions for reference conditions or support refinement to allow for adaptive policymaking with the goal of achieving nutrient loads to the downstream lakes that would occur naturally.	Environmental	County of Riverside	$150,000	Increased confidence in the basis for revised nutrient TMDL in Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore, dataset that could be used in TMDL development for other southern California lakes and reservoirs	AVAILABLE
12	Ecological effects of cyanotoxins on zooplankton in statewide lakes	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	This project proposes a monitoring study to evaluate the ecological effects of cyanotoxins on zooplankton communities in lakes and reservoirs within the Santa Ana River Watershed. Harmful algal blooms (HABs) producing cyanotoxins are an increasing concern in Southern California due to nutrient enrichment, warming temperatures, and altered hydrology. While cyanotoxins are known to pose risks to human and wildlife health, their impacts on lower trophic levels—particularly zooplankton that form a critical link between primary producers and higher consumers—are less well characterized at the watershed scale.The study will involve seasonal sampling of zooplankton community composition, abundance, and diversity across selected lakes representing a range of trophic conditions and bloom intensities. Concurrent measurements of cyanobacteria biomass, cyanotoxin concentrations, and key water quality parameters will be conducted to evaluate relationships between toxin exposure and zooplankton response. Results will be used to assess potential sublethal and community-level effects of cyanotoxins and to identify thresholds associated with ecological impairment.Findings will improve understanding of HAB-related ecological impacts, support more informed lake management strategies, and help guide monitoring and mitigation efforts within the Santa Ana River Watershed and similar inland waters.	Environmental	Statewide	$175,000	The key expected benefit of this work is an improved understanding of how cyanotoxins from harmful algal blooms affect aquatic food webs, enabling more effective and ecologically grounded lake management decisions.Specifically, the study will provide data linking cyanotoxin occurrence and concentration to measurable changes in zooplankton community structure, abundance, and function. Because zooplankton are a critical intermediary between phytoplankton and higher trophic levels (including fish), understanding these impacts helps clarify how HABs can alter ecosystem productivity, resilience, and recovery. This knowledge can inform early-warning indicators of ecological impairment, beyond human-health–based thresholds alone.	AVAILABLE
13	Defining maximum extent practicable for MS4 watershed scale retrofits to meet downstream TMDLs	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	MS4 permittees in San Bernardino and Riverside Counties have completed economic analyses showing that the cost to retrofit drainage systems to incorporate water quality controls needed to meet downstream TMDLs exceeds $10 billion in construction cost and annual O&M in excess of $1 billion/yr in the future. This amount is beyond the financial capability for the watershed cities and surpasses thresholds used in developing long-term control plans for combined sewer overflow financial capability (a much more dangerous source of fecal bacteria than stormwater runoff). Conversely, fecal bacteria in receiving waters during, and 1-2 days following, wet weather consistently exceed water quality standards. No guidance exists to quantify the maximum extent practicable (MEP) for municipal stormwater retrofit projects at a watershed scale. This project would aim to determine achievable rates for retrofitting of MS4 systems to incorporate water quality controls.	Environmental	San Bernardino, Riverside and Orange Counties	$160,000	Implementation of MS4 retrofits to improve water quality	AVAILABLE

14	Stream Restoration for Benthic Macroinvertebrate Communities	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Rick Whetsel (951) 354 4222	This project proposes a monitoring study to evaluate the potential benefits of stream restoration actions on benthic macroinvertebrate communities within the Santa Ana River Watershed. Benthic macroinvertebrates are widely used indicators of stream ecological condition and provide a direct measure of habitat quality, hydrologic stability, and water quality. While restoration projects are increasingly implemented to improve channel form and function, there is a need for locally relevant data that quantify the biological gains that may reasonably be achieved under watershed-specific constraints.The study will assess benthic community responses at restored, unrestored, and reference stream reaches representing a range of geomorphic settings and restoration strategies, including channel naturalization, habitat enhancement, and flow or substrate improvements. Biological data will be collected alongside physical habitat and water quality metrics to evaluate relationships between restoration actions and benthic community condition.Results will help identify which restoration approaches are most effective at supporting benthic recovery, the magnitude and timeframe of biological response, and realistic expectations for ecological improvement. Findings will support more effective restoration planning, performance evaluation, and adaptive management in the Santa Ana River Watershed and similar urbanized watersheds.	Environmental	Statewide	$225,000	The main key expected benefit of this work is the ability to set realistic, science-based expectations for biological improvement from stream restoration within the Santa Ana River Watershed.By directly measuring how benthic macroinvertebrate communities respond to different restoration actions and site conditions, the study will clarify which restoration strategies produce meaningful ecological gains, and under what circumstances. This helps distinguish achievable biological improvements from limitations imposed by watershed-scale constraints such as altered hydrology, land use, and water quality.	AVAILABLE
15	Removal of Arundo Donax	SAWPA	11615 Sterling Ave., Riverside CA	Ian Achimore,(951) 354-4233	The project would involve the initial removal of Arundo Donax in the Santa Ana River Reach 3 area by utilizing aquatic-approved herbicide and mechanical removal. Property access and permitting would be involved in the project.	Environmental	County of Riverside	$500,000	Water supply to Reach 3	AVAILABLE
16	Baseline Water Quality Data for Temescal Wash	Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District	4500 Glenwood Dr., #A, Riverside CA 92501	Kerwin Russel (951) 683-7691 X203;	To establish baseline water quality data for 3 linear miles of Temescal Wash under the control of RCRCD. The data would be used to track changes in water quality from restoration activities	Environmental	Temescal Wash	$12,500	Track Water Quality restoration activities	Waiting to hear from RCCD.
17	Deleo Conservation Easement	Riverside-Corona Resource Conservation District	4500 Glenwood Dr., #A, Riverside CA 92501	Kerwin Russel (951) 683-7691 X203;	To secure riparian habitat lands in a long- term conservation easement and to assist with the protection of the hydrologic and habitat values of the Temescal Wash	Environmental. Raparian Restoration	Santa Ana Watershed	$163,000	Restoration of Raparian habitat and hydrologic contiuity	Waiting to hear from RCCD.
18	Living Shorelines	Orange County CoastKeeper	3151 Airway Ave F#110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Ray Heimstra (714) 850-1965 ext. 1003 . Ray@coastkeeper.org	The Living Shorelines Project aims to respond to the critical issues of Harmful Algal Blooms and coastal erosionby using recycled restaurant oyster shells to restore native oyster reefs in Southern California. This program involves collecting recycled oyster shells, constructing recruitment devices and deploying them in water bodies for larval recruitment, deployment of the oyster shells for development of living shoreline structures, and post project surveying/monitoring. This project hopes toreduce nutrient loads, absorb demoic acid, protect against coastal erosion, enhance biodiversity and contribute to climate resiliency.	Environmental, Habitat Restoration	Alamitos Bay/Seal Beach Wildlife Refuge/Huntington Harbor/Newport Harbor/Dana Point Harbo	Total Cost: $ 150,000 per site ($750,000)	Orange County Shoreline restoration	AVAILABLE
19	Cleanup Orange County and Inland Empire	Orange County CoastKeeper	3151 Airway Ave F#110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Ives Tajeda (714) 850-1965; ives@coastkeeper.org	Orange County Coastkeeper and Inland Empire Waterkeeper will be hosting four public cleanups, two at each region.We'll be working with our volunteers to prevent trash from entering our oceans starting in the Inland Empire and the creekcleanups that we host, and then preventing any trash that made it through to our beaches from entering our oceansthrough our beach cleanups with Orange County Coastkeeper. We will be using trash pickers, bags for trash, and glovesto keep our volunteers safe . This project will prevent thousands of trash from entering our oceans with over 10,000 pounds of trash prevented from the previous year, with over 5,000 volunteers.	Environmental	Beaches and inland (creeks and rivers) locations all throughout Orange County and Inland Empire	$120,000 for 1 year	Preventing trash from Santa Ana Watershed entering the Ocean.	AVAILABLE
20	Quail Valley 2020 Septic to Sewer Water Quality Improvement Project.	Eastern Municipal Water District	2270 Trumble Road, Perris, CA 92570	Anthony Budicin, Director of Envieonmental Compliance; (951) 928-3777, etc. 6252; budicina@emwd.org	Septic systems in Quail Valley area are failing at an alarming rate adversely impacting public health and water quality. Eastern and other agencies are proposing to provide sewer service to the area to eliminate septic systems. The area has a significant number of low-income and/or fixed income families and the SEP money will help low income residents with sewer connection expenses once the sewer is built	Environmental	Quail Valley, Riverside County	Up to $5 Million for engineering and design/up to $65 Million total cost. Project can be broken into smaller subprojects.	Septic to sewer conversion	Recommending for EMWD monetary penalty in phases.
21	Santa Ana River Mouth Monitoring and Community Outreach	Orange County CoastKeeper	3151 Airway Ave F#110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Ray Heimstra (714) 850-1965 ext. 1003 . Ray@coastkeeper.org	SAR is a science-driven, community-focused project working to protect endangered wildlife and improve water quality at the mouth of the Santa Ana River in Newport Beach, CA. The Santa Ana River drains the largest watershed in Southern California and empties into the ocean at the mouth between Newport Beach and Huntington Beach. Hundreds of daily visitors, including fishermen, surfers, beachgoers, and their dogs, use the area, just feet from one of the largest California Least Tern breeding colonies on the West Coast and habitat for the threatened Western Snowy Plover. The Santa Ana River Mouth also serves as a critical stopover along the Pacific Flyway, providing essential resting and foraging habitat for migratory seabirds.Off-leash dogs frequently disturb these sensitive bird species, and uncollected dog waste poses a threat to both water quality and the fragile habitats of shorebirds. Our project addresses these issues through data collection, public education, and engagement with land managers.The data we collect is analyzed and presented in biannual reports widely used by state and local agencies to inform decisions that balance human activity with ecological resilience. This shared, transparent dataset helps agencies balance public access with habitat protection and has directly influenced management actions at the site.By empowering governmental agencies and the local community with information and active participation, we're working toward cleaner water and a more conducive and safe environment for the species that depend on this unique habitat.	Environmental, Public Outreach	Santa Ana River Mouth in Orange County, CA; bottom of Santa Ana River Watershed	$20,000 for 13 months	Habitat protection and restoration for protected birds.	AVAILABLE
22	Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project	California State Coastal Conservancy	1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612	Annie Frankel (415) 687-9953	To acquire, restore, and enhance coastal wetlands in Southern California	Environmental, Habitat Restoration	Coastal Wetlands Southern California	TBD	Coatsal Wetands Restoration	AVAILABLE
23	Upper Newport Bay Restoration.Marine Education Project	California State Coastal Conservancy	1515 Clay Street, 10th Floor, Oakland, CA 94612	Annie Frankel (415) 687-9953	Marine Education Project is proposing a Community-Based Restoration and Education Program for Upper Newport Bay. The project will foster community involvement and volunteer labor for restoration activities (removal of invasive species, planting of native species, restoration of buffer zones for breeding, foraging, etc.) and for monitoring of the restored areas.	Habitat Restoration and Education	Upper Newport Bay	$189K/$250K The SEP money is to cover a portion of program expenses and personnel costs for 1 year.	Newport Upper Bay Habitat Restoration and community involvement	AVAILABLE
24	Orange County/Inland Empire Water Monitoring	Orange County CoastKeeper	3151 Airway Ave F#110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Ray Heimstra (714) 850-1965 ext. 1003 . Ray@coastkeeper.org	This project is designed to collect ambient water quality and other data from surface streams throughout the Santa Ana River Watershed. This data would be collected by Orange County Coastkeeper staff assisted by trained volunteers. Orange County Coastkeeper has decades of experience in this type of data collection in Orange County and the Inland Empire, and currently runs a water monitoring program focused on indicator bacteria at water recreation sites in the Inland Empire. The data collected will vary by need and funding but could include pH, dissolved oxygen, conductivity, flow, Indicator bacteria, metals, nutrients, pesticides, DDT, PCBs, toxicity testing, Environmental DNA, and benthic macroinvertebrates along with trash, habitat, and human use monitoring.All sample/data collection will be done using EPA or State approved methods by contract labs or Coastkeeper staff, and will be guided by a project Quality Assurance Project Plan. This project is flexible and scalable to meet the funding of the discharger and needs of the Regional Board. Therefore, the specifics of the monitoring components, timeline, methods, and location and number of monitoring sites will be determined in coordination with Regional Board staff when funding is acquired.	Environemtnal Monitoring	Santa Ana River Watershed.	$48,000 for monitoring 4 sites once a year	Water Quality Protection and Restoration	AVAILABLE
25	An Evaluation Framework to Capture Ecological, Social, and Economic Impacts of Water Quality Management for the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board Jurisdictional Area	Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project (SCCWRP)	3535 Harbor Blvd. Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Eric Stein; 714-755-3233; erics@sccwrp.org	This project will fill this critical gap by developing a systematic, transparent, and replicable framework that allows evaluation of ecological, social, and economic impacts and benefits contextualized for local priorities and data considerations. The framework will enable the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Water Board) to more comprehensively understand the value that past and future pollution reduction actions, environmental restoration, and other management practices have achieved for local communities and to communicate these values to key constituencies across their jurisdictional area.	Environmental Restoration, Public Health, Pollution reduction	Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board jurisdictional area	$311,127	Will provide a way to more efficiently and systematically assess impacts to human/social beneficial uses, generating insights which can be used to inform interventions aimed at reducing these effects.	AVAILABLE
26	Development of an environmental DNA approach for invasive Caulerpa macroalgae	Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project (SCCWRP)	3535 Harbor Blvd. Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Susanna Theroux; 714-755-3244; susannat@sccwrp.org@sccwrp.org	SCCWRP has recently partnered with the Southern California Caulerpa Action Team (SCCAT) to pilot the use of environmental DNA (eDNA) techniques to enable more cost-effective, sensitive, and scalable Caulerpa surveys. We now have a novel eDNA digital polymerase chain reaction (dPCR) assay for Caulerpa species, including both *C. prolifera* and *C. taxifolia* . This assay detects and quantifies gene copies of Caulerpa present in the water column at very low concentrations (< 10 gene copies per liter).	Environmental Restoration, Assessment and Audits	City of Newport Beach	$261,135	By improving tools for Caulerpa detection and monitoring, we will facilitate the timely eradication of this invasive species, therefore reducing the likelihood of future large outbreaks and protecting native eelgrass beds in Newport Bay.	AVAILABLE

27	Exploring the potential of PFAS occurrence as a cause of impairment in Newport Bay	Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project (SCCWRP)	3535 Harbor Blvd. Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Alvina Mehinto; 714-755-3210; alvinam@sccwrp.org	The proposed study will aim to improve the regional board's understanding of PFAS (PFOA, PFOS) contamination in surface water and their bioaccumulative potential in aquatic biota (e.g. fish and invertebrates). These datasets will be compared to the US EPA aquatic life criteria released in 2024 to determine whether PFAS may have toxic effects on aquatic organisms. The findings will also be useful as part of follow-up studies where causal assessment (including bioaccumulation) or Tier II indirect effects of the SQO program may need to be investigated.	Environmental Restoration, Public Health, Assessment and Audits	Newport Bay, Orange County	$165,000	The project will inform the Regional Board and other local stakeholders on the extent and severity of PFAS contamination exposure and potential for impacts in Newport Bay. The data generated will help refine the scope of future causal assessment by identifying or eliminating PFAS as a potential cause of aquatic life impairments. The findings may also assist in assessing water quality standards to support the recreational fishing designation.	AVAILABLE
28	Hydrologic assessment of reference sites in the Santa Ana region	Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project (SCCWRP)	3535 Harbor Blvd. Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Raphael Mazor; 714-755-3235; raphaelm@sccwrp.org	A key challenge complicating the assessment of aquatic life uses in California streams is uncertainty around the ability to measure the ecological conditions of non-perennial streams. The California Stream Condition Index (CSCI), and more recently, the Algal Stream Condition Indices (ASCIs) have become standard tools to assess ecological conditions in streams in California.	Environmental Restoration, Public Health, Assessment and Audits	Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board jurisdictional area	$149,835	This study will increase confidence in evaluating the impacts of management actions on improving or protecting support for aquatic life.	AVAILABLE
29	Causal Assessment for Enclosed Bay and Estuary Sites Failing CA SQO Aquatic Life Provisions	Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project (SCCWRP)	3535 Harbor Blvd. Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	David Gillett; 714-755-3249; davidg@sccwrp.org	This project will develop a suite of causal assessment tools to identify the responsible stressors in coastal embayments – building off of the framework and tools developed for California's freshwater bioassessment program. This new, SQO-focused causal assessment framework will then be applied at a case study location identified in collaboration with Regional Board staff. The results will identify the specific stressors impacting the case study site, thereby helping waterboard staff and local stakeholders to develop a targeted remediation plan for the case study location. Moreover, the case study would serve as guidance on conducting other causal assessments at other sites within the Santa Ana region with similar SQO-related problems.	Environmental Restoration, Assessment and Audits, Pollution Reduction	Estuaries and embayments including Anaheim Bay, Huntington Harbor, Bolsa Bay, Upper Newport Bay, Lower Newport Bay, Santa Ana River Mouth, and Huntington and Talbert marshes.	$250,000	The project will provide the Regional Board staff with quantitatively derived evidence on the causes of degraded biological communities and failing to meet CA SQO condition provisions.	AVAILABLE
30	Monitoring Emerging Bacterial Pathogens in Newport Bay	Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project (SCCWRP)	3535 Harbor Blvd. Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Susanna Theroux; 714-755-3244; susannat@sccwrp.org@sccwrp.org	Newport Bay is a dynamic estuarine system that supports significant recreational use, fishing, and high levels of human interaction, including consumption of shellfish which are known carriers for Vibrio species. Local monitoring programs track fecal indicator bacteria and other conventional pathogens, providing an established framework for expanding surveillance to *Vibrio* . Adding *Vibrio* monitoring to this existing monitoring network will help identify trends in pathogenic strains and improve our understanding of the environmental factors that drive Vibrio growth, critically setting this monitoring infrastructure in place before Vibrio conditions worsen.	Public Health, Assessment and Audits	Newport Beach, Orange County	$215,760	By integrating Vibrio monitoring into existing water quality programs, managers will gain actionable data to guide public health advisories, safeguard seafood safety, and maintain beneficial uses such as recreation, fishing, and aquaculture.	AVAILABLE
31	Evaluating Flow and Temperature Effects on Aquatic Life Uses for the Santa Ana River Watershed	Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project (SCCWRP)	3535 Harbor Blvd. Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Kris Taniguchi-Quan; 714-755-3221; kristintq@sccwrp.org	This project will develop tools and assessment approaches to evaluate the effects of thermal pollution on aquatic life uses and assess the potential benefits of restoration and management interventions. The ultimate project goal is to support water quality protection, beneficial use attainment, and watershed restoration by providing an assessment framework for decision making.	Environmental Restoration, Assessment and Audits, Pollution Reduction, Environmental Compliane Promotion	Santa Ana River Watershed.	$297,673	This project will directly support the protection and attainment of beneficial uses (COLD, WARM, SWN, WILD) within the Santa Ana River watershed by improving the understanding of thermal impairments and beneficial use support.	AVAILABLE
32	A rapid eelgrass response index for estuarine health bioassessment	Southern California Coastal Waters Research Project (SCCWRP)	3535 Harbor Blvd. Suite 110, Costa Mesa, CA 92626	Eric Stein; 714-755-3233; erics@sccwrp.org	We propose to develop a rapid, field-based index to evaluate eelgrass health as bioindicator for estuary condition. This rapid eelgrass health index will incorporate field-based metrics, such as the presence of wasting disease or invasive species such as *Caulerpa* , to facilitate the assessment of eelgrass habitat to inform timely management action in sensitive estuarine habitats.	Environmental Restoration, Assessment and Audits	Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board jurisdictional area	$311,226	The proposed rapid eelgrass health index would be well suited for the management community to identify problems and track the success of any protective, restoration, or remediation actions.	AVAILABLE