

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
LOS ANGELES REGION**

**ORDER NO. R4-2011-XXX  
NPDES PERMIT NO. CAS004001  
WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS  
FOR**

**MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) DISCHARGES WITHIN  
THE  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, AND THE INCORPORATED CITIES THEREIN,  
EXCEPT THE CITY OF LONG BEACH**

**April 7, 2011**

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The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (hereinafter referred to as the Regional Board) finds:

**A. Existing Permit**

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the County of Los Angeles, and 84 incorporated cities within the Los Angeles County Flood Control District with the exception of the City of Long Beach (see Attachment A, List of Permittees), hereinafter referred to separately as Permittees and jointly as the Discharger, discharge or contribute to discharges of storm water and urban runoff from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s), also called storm drain systems. The discharges flow to water courses within the Los Angeles County Flood Control District and into surface water bodies of the Los Angeles Region. These discharges were previously regulated under county-wide (except the City of Long Beach) waste discharge requirements contained in Order No. 01-182 adopted by this Regional Board on December 13, 2001, which replaced Order No. 96-054 adopted by this Regional Board on July 15, 1996. The first county-wide storm water permit for the County of Los Angeles was Order No. 90-079, adopted on June 18, 1990. Order No. 01-182 also served as a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit for MS4 discharges. Order No. 01-182 was subsequently amended by this Regional Board on September 14, 2006 by Order No. R4-2006-0074 to incorporate conditions consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL wasteload allocations (WLA) (SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL), on August 9, 2007 by Order No. R4-2007-0042 to incorporate conditions consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the Marina del Rey Harbor Mothers' Beach and Back Basins Bacteria TMDL, and December 10, 2009 by Order No. R4-2009-0130 to incorporate conditions consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the Los Angeles River Watershed Trash

TMDL. As described below, as a result of a legal challenge to Order No. R4-2006-0074, the Los Angeles Superior Court issued a peremptory writ of mandate on July 23, 2010 requiring the Regional Board to void and set aside Order No. R4-2006-0074 in Order No. 01-182.

## **B. Purpose**

This permit is issued for a limited-term of 18 months. (See 40 CFR §122.46(c)). The purpose of issuing this limited-term permit is to reincorporate the previously voided provisions implementing the SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL summer dry weather WLA that were required to be voided and set aside in Order No. 01-182 by the Los Angeles Superior Court, as described below. While federal law requires permits to contain effluent limitations consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any available wasteload allocation (40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)), the Regional Board does not believe it is appropriate to delay reincorporation of the SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL related provisions until such time as an updated MS4 permit is developed and adopted. Rather, it is imperative that the SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL provisions are immediately reincorporated into this Order prior to the start of this upcoming summer season. Compliance with the SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL was supposed to have been achieved by July 15, 2006. Over four years later, compliance has not been achieved. As a result, exceedances of bacteria objectives continue at Santa Monica beaches posing health risks to millions of beachgoers.

With the exception of certain modified or new findings to reflect existing facts or law, and new findings or definitions to support provisions related to TMDL implementation, this Order contains the same substantive requirements that this Regional Board imposed in 2001 when it adopted Order No. 01-182, as well as amendments to Order No. 01-182 adopted in 2006, 2007, and 2009. While Order No. R4-2006-0074 was ultimately voided and set aside, the Permittees in the Santa Monica Bay watershed were required to comply with the requirements of that amendment for approximately 4 years until such time as those provisions were voided. Thus, this Order does not require the Permittees to comply with any new requirements that it has not already been required to comply with in the past.

During the length of this permit, staff of the Regional Board will continue to diligently work on development of an updated MS4 permit(s), which will incorporate conditions consistent with the assumptions and requirements of all available and applicable Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) adopted by this Regional Board or by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). In this Order, the Regional Board is requiring that the Permittees submit updated Reports of Waste Discharge (ROWD) well in advance of the expiration date of this Order so that staff of the Regional Board have adequate time to review the submitted ROWDs, as well as be able to use the information in the new ROWDs to develop the updated MS4 permit(s). Regional Board adoption of an updated MS4 permit(s) is expected to occur in late 2012.

**C. Nature of Discharges and Sources of Pollutant**

1. Storm water discharges consist of surface runoff generated from various land uses in all the hydrologic drainage basins that discharge into water bodies of the State. The quality of these discharges varies considerably and is affected by the hydrology, geology, land use, season, and sequence and duration of hydrologic events. The primary constituents of concern currently identified by the Los Angeles County Flood Control District Integrated Receiving Water Impacts Report (1994-2000) are cyanide, indicator bacteria, total dissolved solids, turbidity, total suspended solids, nutrients, total aluminum, dissolved cadmium, copper, lead, total mercury, nickel, zinc, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), diazinon, and chlorpyrifos.
2. Certain pollutants present in storm water and/or urban runoff may be derived from extraneous sources that Permittees have no or limited jurisdiction over. Examples of such pollutants and their respective sources are: PAHs which are products of internal combustion engine operation, nitrates, bis (2-ethylhexyl) phthalate and mercury from atmospheric deposition, lead from fuels, copper from brake pad wear, zinc from tire wear, dioxins as products of combustion, and natural-occurring minerals from local geology. However, the implementation of the measures set forth in this Order is intended to reduce the entry of these pollutants into storm water and their discharge to receiving waters.
3. Water quality assessments conducted by the Regional Board identified impairment, or threatened impairment, of beneficial uses of water bodies in the Los Angeles Region. The causes of impairments include pollutants of concern identified in municipal storm water discharges by the County of Los Angeles in the Integrated Receiving Water Impacts Report (1994-2000). Pollutants in storm water can have damaging effects on both human health and aquatic ecosystems.
4. The Los Angeles County Grand Jury, September 2000, completed an investigation into the health risks of swimming near beaches in Los Angeles County and made several recommendations to reduce public health risks (Final Report, Grand Jury, Los Angeles County, 1999-2000). The Grand Jury recommended that the Regional Board consider among other actions, (i) a focus on setting contaminant limits rather than programmatic evaluations, (ii) audit of MS4 Permittee programs; and (iii) clarifying enforcement responsibilities between the State and local governments.
5. Studies and research conducted by other Regional agencies, academic institutions, and universities have also identified storm water and urban runoff as significant sources of pollutants to surface waters in Southern California. See, e.g., [*Surface Runoff to the Southern California Bight*, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, (1992); *Impacts of Urban Runoff on Santa Monica Bay and Surrounding Ocean Waters* (Gersberg, R.M., 1995); *State of the Bay 1998*, Santa Monica Bay Restoration Project; *Storm Water Impact*, In, Southern California Environmental Report Card 1999, Institute of the Environment, University

of California, Los Angeles (Stenstrom, M.S., 1999); *Distribution of Anthropogenic and Natural Debris on the Mainland Shelf of Southern California Bight*, Shelly L. Moore and M. James Allen (1999); *The Health Effects of Swimming in Ocean Water Contaminated by Storm Drain Runoff*, Haile, R.W. et al. (1999); *Huntington Beach Closure Investigation: Technical Review* (University of Southern California, 2000); *A Regional Survey of the Microbiological Water Quality Along the Shoreline of the Southern California Bight*, Rachel T. Noble et al. (2001); *Integrated Receiving Water Impacts Report (1994-2000)*, County of Los Angeles (2001)].

6. Development and urbanization increase pollutant load, volume, and discharge velocity. First, natural vegetated pervious ground cover is converted to impervious surfaces such as paved highways, streets, rooftops and parking lots. Natural vegetated soil can both absorb rainwater and remove pollutants providing an effective natural purification process. In contrast, pavement and concrete can neither absorb water nor remove pollutants, and thus the natural purification characteristics are lost. Second, urban development creates new pollution sources as the increased density of human population brings proportionately higher levels of vehicle emissions, vehicle maintenance wastes, municipal sewage waste, pesticides, household hazardous wastes, pet wastes, trash, and other anthropogenic pollutants. Development and urbanization especially threaten environmentally sensitive areas. Such areas have a much lower capacity to withstand pollutant shocks than might be acceptable in the general circumstance. In essence, development that is ordinarily insignificant in its impact on the environment may in a particular sensitive environment become significant. These environmentally sensitive areas designated by the State and/or the County of Los Angeles include Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), water bodies designated as supporting a RARE beneficial use, Significant Natural Areas (SNAs), and Significant Ecological Areas (SEAs).
7. The increased volume, increased velocity, and discharge duration of storm water runoff from developed areas has the potential to greatly accelerate downstream erosion and impair stream habitat in natural drainages. Studies have demonstrated a direct correlation between the degree of imperviousness of an area and the degradation of its receiving waters. Significant declines in the biological integrity and physical habitat of streams and other receiving waters have been found to occur with as little as 10 percent conversion from natural to impervious surfaces. Percentage impervious cover is a reliable indicator and predictor of potential water quality degradation expected from new development. (*Impervious Cover as An Urban Stream Indicator and a Watershed Management Tool*, Schueler, T. and R. Claytor, In, *Effects of Water Development and Management on Aquatic Ecosystems* (1995), ASCE, New York; Leopold, L. B., (1973), *River Channel Change with Time: An Example*, Geological Society of America Bulletin, v. 84, p. 1845-1860; Hammer, T. R., (1972), *Stream Channel Enlargement Due to Urbanization: Water Resources Research*, v. 8, p. 1530-1540; Booth, D. B., (1991), *Urbanization and the Natural Drainage System--Impacts*,

*Solutions and Prognoses*: The Northwest Environmental Journal, v. 7, p. 93-118; Klein, R. D., (1979), *Urbanization and Stream Quality Impairment*: Water Resources Bulletin, v. 15, p. 948-963; May, C. W., Horner, R. R., Karr, J. R., Mar, B. W., and Welch, E. B., (1997), *Effects of Urbanization on Small Streams in the Puget Sound Lowland Ecoregion*: Watershed Protection Techniques, v. 2, p. 483-494; Morisawa, M. and LaFlure, E. *Hydraulic Geometry, Stream Equilibrium and Urbanization* In Rhodes, D. P. and Williams, G. P. *Adjustments to the Fluvial System* p.333-350. (1979); Dubuque, Iowa, Kendall/Hunt. Tenth Annual Geomorphology Symposia Series; and *The Importance of Imperviousness*: Watershed Protection Techniques, 1(3), Schueler, T. (1994.)

8. The County of Los Angeles has identified as the seven highest priority industrial and commercial critical source types, (i) wholesale trade (scrap recycling, auto dismantling); (ii) automotive repair/parking; (iii) fabricated metal products; (iv) motor freight; (v) chemical and allied products; (vi) automotive dealers/gas stations; (vii) primary metal products (*Critical Source Selection and Monitoring Report*, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works -Sept 1996). Monitoring conducted by Los Angeles County and the Regional Board demonstrates that the priority industrial sectors and auto repair facilities (one of the commercial sectors) on the list, contribute significant concentrations of heavy metals to storm water (*Los Angeles County 1999-2000 Storm Water Monitoring Report*, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works -July 2000; *Compliance Assessment of the Auto Dismantling Industry; Evaluation of the California General Industrial Storm Water Permit*, H. Chang, (2001), 70 pp., California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region).
9. The discharge of washwaters and contaminated storm water from industries and businesses specified in this Order for inspection by Permittees is an environmental threat and can also adversely impact public health and safety. For example, a review of industrial waste/pretreatment records performed in 1995 in the County of Los Angeles on illicit discharges indicates that automotive service facilities and food service facilities sometimes discharge polluted washwaters to the MS4. The pollutants of concern in such washwaters include food waste, oil and grease, and toxic chemicals. Other storm water/industrial waste programs in California have reported similar observations. Illicit discharges from automotive service facilities and food service facilities have been identified elsewhere as a major cause of widespread contamination and water quality problems (Washtenaw County Statutory Drainage Board - 1987 Huron River Pollution Abatement Program).
10. Studies indicate that facilities with paved surfaces subject to frequent motor vehicular traffic (such as parking lots and fast food restaurants), or facilities that perform vehicle repair, maintenance, or fueling (automotive service facilities) are potential sources of pollutants of concern in storm water. [References: Pitt *et al.*, *Urban Storm Water Toxic Pollutants: Assessment, Sources, and Treatability*, Water Environment Res., 67, 260



(1995); *Results of Retail Gas Outlet and Commercial Parking Lot Storm Water Runoff Study*, Western States Petroleum Association and American Petroleum Institute, (1994); *Action Plan Demonstration Project, Demonstration of Gasoline Fueling Station Best Management Practices*, Final Report, County of Sacramento (1993); *Source Characterization*, R. Pitt, In *Innovative Urban Wet-Weather Flow Management Systems* (2000) Technomic Press, Field, R *et al.* editors; *Characteristics of Parking Lot Runoff Produced by Simulated Rainfall*, L.L. Tiefenthaler *et al.* Technical Report 343, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (2001).]

11. Retail Gasoline Outlets (RGOs) are points of convergence for vehicular traffic and are similar to parking lots and urban roads. Studies indicate that storm water discharges from RGOs have high concentrations of hydrocarbons and heavy metals. [*The Quality of Trapped Sediments and Poor Water within Oil Grit Separators in Suburban MD*, Schueler T. and Shepp D. (1992), and *Concentrations of Selected Constituents in Runoff from Impervious Surfaces in Four Urban Catchments of Different Landuse*, Ranabal, F.I., and T.J. Gizzard (1995), In *Proceedings of the Fourth Biennial Stormwater Research Conference*, Florida, pp-42-52]. Pilot studies indicate that treatment control best management practices installed at retail gasoline stations are effective in removing pollutants, reasonable in capital cost, easy to operate, and do not present safety risks [*Rouge River National Wet Weather Demonstration Project, Task Product Memorandum – Evaluation of On-line Media Filters RPO-NPS-TPM59.00*, Wayne County, MI, March 1999]. The Regional Board and the San Diego Regional Board have jointly prepared a Technical Report on the applicability of new development BMP design criteria for retail gasoline outlets, (*Retail Gasoline Outlets: New Development Design Standards for Mitigation of Storm Water Impacts*, (June 2001)). Retail Gasoline Outlets in Western U.S. States (such as Washington and Oregon) are already subject to numerical BMP design criteria, as well in other U.S. States.

#### **D. Permit Background**

1. The essential components of the Storm Water Management Program, as established by federal regulations [40 CFR 122.26(d)] are: (i) Adequate Legal Authority, (ii) Fiscal Resources, (iii) Storm Water Quality Management Program (SQMP) - (Public Information and Participation Program, Industrial/Commercial Facilities Program, Development Planning Program, Development Construction Program, Public Agency Activities Program, Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharges Elimination Program), and (iv) Monitoring and Reporting Program.
2. On June 12, 2006, prior to the expiration date of Order No. 01-182, the Permittees filed four separate Reports of Waste Discharge (ROWD) applying for renewal of their waste discharge requirements that serve as an NPDES permit to discharge wastes to surface waters. Specifically, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District submitted a ROWD application on behalf of itself, the County of Los Angeles, and 78 other Permittees. Several Permittees under Order No. 01-182 elected to not

be included as part of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District's ROWD. The City of Downey submitted an individual ROWD application requesting a separate MS4 Permit. The City of Signal Hill also submitted an individual ROWD application requesting a separate MS4 Permit. Lastly, the Upper San Gabriel River Watershed Coalition, comprised of the cities of Azusa, Claremont, Glendora, Irwindale, and Whittier also submitted a ROWD application requesting a separate MS4 Permit for these cities. Though four separate ROWDs were submitted, the Regional Board retains discretion as the permitting authority to determine whether to issue permits for discharges from MS4s on a system-wide or jurisdiction-wide basis (40 CFR 122.26(a)(1)(v)). Because of the complexity and networking of the MS4 within Los Angeles County, the Regional Board has previously adopted a system-wide approach to permitting MS4 discharges within Los Angeles County. Since this Order is a limited-term permit, with the purpose of reincorporating provisions implementing one TMDL prior to the summer season, the Regional Board is continuing the system-wide approach in this Order. The Regional Board will evaluate the merits and appropriateness of permitting discharges from MS4s within Los Angeles County on a system-wide or jurisdiction-wide basis or a combination as it develops an updated MS4 permit(s).

3. The County of Los Angeles has previously conducted source identification and pollutant characterization consistent with 40 CFR 122.26(d)(1)(ii) and (iii) under its storm water Monitoring Program. The Monitoring Program submitted with the ROWD proposes to advance the assessment of receiving water impacts, identification of sources of pollution, evaluation of Best Management Practices (BMPs), and measurement of long term trends in mass emissions.
4. The Regional Board reviewed the four ROWDs filed on June 12, 2006 by the Permittees. On July 12, 2006, the Regional Board notified all of the Permittees that their ROWDs did not satisfy federal storm water regulations contained in the USEPA Interpretive Policy Memorandum on Reapplication Requirements for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems; Final Rule, August 9, 1996 (61 Fed Reg. 41697). Because each ROWD did not satisfy federal requirements, the Regional Board deemed all four ROWDs incomplete. This Order is, therefore, based on permit requirements, the SQMP, and monitoring program adopted as part of Order No. 01-182 and the 2007 and 2009 amendments thereto.
5. The City of Los Angeles has conducted shoreline and nearshore water quality monitoring off the Santa Monica Bay since the 1950s under the monitoring program for the Hyperion Waste Water Treatment Plant (NPDES No. CA0109991). The monitoring results indicate that effluent from Hyperion's 5-Mile Outfall does not impinge the shoreline, and that elevated bacterial counts are associated with runoff from storm drains and discharges from piers. In 1994, the Regional Board approved the relocation of Hyperion's shoreline stations to implement a bay-wide, regional shoreline-monitoring program associated with storm drain

outfalls in the Santa Monica Bay. The City of Los Angeles requested that the shoreline-monitoring requirement be incorporated in this Order. The shoreline pathogen monitoring requirements are outlined in the Monitoring Program for this Order.

#### **E. Permit Coverage**

1. The requirements in this Order cover all areas within the boundaries of the Permittee municipalities (see Attachment A) over which they have regulatory jurisdiction as well as unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County within the jurisdiction of the Regional Board. The Permittees serve a population of about 9.5 million [Reference: *2000 Census of Population and Housing*, Bureau of the Census, U.S. Department of Commerce (2001)] in an area of approximately 3,100 square miles.
2. Federal, state, regional or local entities within the Permittees' boundaries or in jurisdictions outside the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, and not currently named in this Order, may operate storm drain facilities and/or discharge storm water to storm drains and watercourses covered by this Order. The Permittees may lack legal jurisdiction over these entities under state and federal constitutions. The Regional Board will coordinate with these entities to implement programs that are consistent with the requirements of this Order. The Regional Board will consider such facilities for coverage under its NPDES permitting scheme pursuant to USEPA Phase II storm water regulations.
3. Sources of discharges into receiving waters in the County of Los Angeles but in jurisdictions outside its boundary include the following:

About 34 square miles of unincorporated area in Ventura County, which drain into Malibu Creek and then to Santa Monica Bay,

About 9 square miles of the City of Thousand Oaks, which also drain into Malibu Creek and then to Santa Monica Bay, and

About 86 square miles of area in Orange County, which drain into Coyote Creek and then into the San Gabriel River.

The Regional Board will ensure that storm water management programs for the areas in Ventura County and the City of Thousand Oaks that drain into Santa Monica Bay are consistent with the requirements of this Order. The Regional Board will coordinate with the Santa Ana Regional Board so that storm water management programs for the areas in Orange County that drain into Coyote Creek are consistent with the requirements of this Order.

4. This permit is intended to develop, achieve, and implement a timely, comprehensive, cost-effective storm water pollution control program to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) (through the use of management practices, control techniques, system, design, and engineering methods) and through such

other provisions as the Regional Board determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants (including numeric effluent limitations where feasible) from the permitted areas in the County of Los Angeles to the waters of the U.S. subject to the Permittees' jurisdiction.

5. Permittees have expressed their intention to work cooperatively to control the contribution of pollutants from one portion of the MS4 to another portion of the system. Permittees may control the contribution of pollutants to the MS4 from non-permittee dischargers such as the U.S. Department of Defense, and other state and federal facilities, through interagency agreements.

## F. Litigation History

1. On December 13, 2001, this Regional Board issued waste discharge requirements in Order No. 01-182. Seven petitions for review were filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) challenging Order No. 01-182. In 2002, those petitions were dismissed by operation of law. In January 2003, six Petitions for Writ of Mandate were filed in Los Angeles Superior Court challenging Order No. 01-182. The City of Los Angeles dismissed its petition in September 2003. The remaining five cases were designated as *In re Los Angeles County Municipal Storm Water Permit Litigation* [*Cities of Arcadia, et al. v. RWQCB*, LASC Case No. BS 080548; *City of Los Angeles v. RWQCB*, LASC Case No. BS080753; *County of Los Angeles v. RWQCB*, LASC Case No. BS080758; *City of Alhambra v. RWQCB*, LASC Case No. BS080791; *Los Angeles County EDC v. RWQCB*, LASC Case No. BS080792; and *City of Monrovia, et al. v. RWQCB*, LASC Case No. BS080807]. Natural Resources Defense Council, Heal the Bay, and Santa Monica BayKeeper joined the litigation as Intervenor on behalf of the Regional Board and State Board, who was also named as a defendant in some of the actions. The five cases proceeded to a two-phased trial. On March 24, 2005, judgments upholding Order No. 01-182 were entered in favor of the Regional Board, State Board, and the Intervenor in all five cases.

Thirty-three cities, the County of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the Building Industry Legal Defense Fund, and the Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality appealed the March 24, 2005 judgments to the Second District Court of Appeal. In an October 5, 2006 opinion and a November 6, 2006 order modifying the opinion, the Court of Appeal unanimously affirmed the judgment in its entirety rejecting all challenges to the permit. (*County of Los Angeles et al. v. California State Water Resources Control Board et al.* (2006) 143 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 985). The County of Los Angeles, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, twenty-two cities, the Building Industry Legal Defense Foundation, and the Construction Industry Coalition on Water Quality filed two petitions for review with the California Supreme Court seeking to overturn the Court of Appeal's decision. The California Supreme Court declined to review either appeal.

2. In 2003 and 2007, the County of Los Angeles and fourteen cities submitted test claims (03-TC-04, 03-TC-19, 03-TC-20, and 03-TC-21) to the Commission on State Mandates (“Commission”). The test claims asserted that provisions of Order No. 01-182 constitute reimbursable state mandates, specifically the permit provisions that required the Permittees to install and maintain trash receptacles at specified transit stops and to inspect certain industrial, construction, and commercial facilities for compliance with local and/or state storm water requirements. On September 3, 2009, the Commission issued a final decision that partially approved the test claims. The Commission found that only the requirement for placement of trash receptacles at transit stops was a reimbursable state mandate. While the Commission found that the inspection requirements were state mandates, the Permittees have sufficient fee authority to carry out the mandated activities. (*In re Test Claim on: Los Angeles Regional Quality Control Board Order No. 01-182, Case Nos.: 03-TC-04, 03-TC-19, 03-TC-20, 03-TC-21*).

On July 20, 2010, the State of California Department of Finance, the State Board, and the Regional Board filed a petition for writ of mandate in Sacramento Superior Court seeking a writ directing the Commission to set aside, in part, its final decision and to issue a new decision. (*State of California Department of Finance et al., v. Commission on State Mandates*, Sacramento County Superior Court Case No. 34-2010-80000605). The Regional Board continues to believe that the Commission wrongly applied existing court decisions to conclude that the exercise of discretion mandated by federal law established a reimbursable state mandate. The matter is currently awaiting a trial date.

During the pendency of this litigation, the Permittees must continue to comply with all provisions of this Order as the Commission’s decision only concerns funding of the mandated activities and not the validity of Order No. 01-182 or any provisions contained therein, or this Order or any provisions contained herein.

3. On September 14, 2006, the Regional Board issued Order No. R4-2006-0074, which amended Order No. 01-182 by incorporating requirements to implement the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Summer Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL (SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL). The next month, the County of Los Angeles and the Los Angeles County Flood Control District (collectively, the “County”) filed a petition for review with the State Board, but asked that it be held in abeyance. At the request of the County, it remained in abeyance until 2008. In 2009, the State Board issued Order WQ-2009-0008, which upheld the Regional Board’s amendments.

On September 10, 2009, the County filed a petition for a writ of mandate with the Los Angeles County Superior Court seeking to set aside Order No. R4-2006-0074. They alleged that the process used in the Regional Board permit proceeding violated the Administrative Procedure Act, and that the permit provisions themselves are not supported by the weight of the evidence. On July 16, 2010, the Court concluded that the permit proceeding at which Order No. R4-2006-0074 was adopted was procedurally deficient. The Court did not

address the substantive merits of the amendments themselves, and thus made no determination about the substantive validity of Order No. R4-2006-0074. As a result of the Court's judgment, the Court issued a peremptory writ of mandate directing the Regional Board to set aside and void Order No. R4-2006-0074 amending Order No. 01-182. The Court also required the State Board to void and set aside Order WQ-2009-0008. (*County of Los Angeles and Los Angeles County Flood Control District v. State Water Resources Control Board and Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board*, Los Angeles Superior Court Case No. BS122724).

#### **G. Federal, State, and Regional Regulations**

1. The Water Quality Act of 1987 added Section 402(p) to the federal Clean Water Act (CWA) (33 U.S.C. § 1251-1387). This section requires the USEPA to establish regulations setting forth NPDES requirements for storm water discharges in two phases.
  - The USEPA Phase I storm water regulations were directed at MS4s serving a population of 100,000 or more, including interconnected systems and storm water discharges associated with industrial activities, including construction activities. The Phase I Final Rule was published on November 16, 1990 (55 *Fed. Reg.* 47990).
  - The USEPA Phase II storm water regulations are directed at storm water discharges not covered in Phase I, including small MS4s (serving a population of less than 100,000), small construction projects (one to five acres), municipal facilities with delayed coverage under the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act of 1991, and other discharges for which the USEPA Administrator or the State determines that the storm water discharge contributes to a violation of a water quality standard, or is a significant contributor of pollutants to waters of the United States. The Phase II Final Rule was published on December 8, 1999 (64 *Fed. Reg.* 68722).
2. On November 12, 2010, the USEPA published a memorandum "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 WLAs'". This policy discusses the appropriate kinds of water quality-based effluent limitations to be included in NPDES storm water permits to provide for the attainment of water quality standards and to implement TMDL wasteload allocations for MS4 discharges.
3. The USEPA published an 'Interpretative Policy Memorandum on Reapplication Requirements' for MS4 permits on August 9, 1996 (61 *Fed. Reg.* 41697). This policy requires that MS4 reapplication for reissuance for a subsequent five-year permit term contain certain basic information and information for proposed changes and improvements to the storm water management program and monitoring program.
4. The USEPA has entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries

Service for enhancing coordination regarding the protection of endangered and threatened species under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act and the CWA's Water Quality Standards and NPDES programs. Among other actions, the MOA establishes a framework for coordination of actions by the USEPA, the Services, and CWA delegated States on CWA permit issuance under Section 402 of the CWA [66 *Fed. Reg.* 11202 – 11217].

5. USEPA regulations at 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(A) and 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C) require that MS4 permittees implement a program to monitor and control pollutants in discharges to the municipal system from industrial and commercial facilities that contribute a substantial pollutant load to the MS4. The regulations require that permittees establish priorities and procedures for inspection of industrial facilities and priority commercial establishments. This permit, consistent with the USEPA policy, incorporates a cooperative partnership, including the specifications of minimum expectations, between the Regional Board and the Permittees for the inspection of industrial facilities and priority commercial establishments to control pollutants in storm water discharges (58 *Fed. Reg.* 61157).
6. Section 402 (p) of the CWA (33 U.S.C. § 1342(p) provides that MS4 permits must “require controls to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, including management practices, control techniques and system, design engineering method and such other provisions as the [EPA] Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants.” The State Board's Office of Chief Counsel (OCC) has issued a memorandum interpreting the meaning of MEP to include technical feasibility, cost, and benefit derived with the burden being on the municipality to demonstrate compliance with MEP by showing that a BMP is not technically feasible in the locality or that BMPs costs would exceed any benefit to be derived (dated February 11, 1993).
7. The CWA authorizes the USEPA to permit a state to serve as the NPDES permitting authority in lieu of the USEPA. The State of California has in-lieu authority for an NPDES program. The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act authorizes the State Board, through the Regional Boards, to regulate and control the discharge of pollutants into waters of the State. The State Board entered into a MOA with the USEPA, on September 22, 1989, to administer the NPDES Program governing discharges to waters of the U.S.
8. Section 303(d) of the CWA requires that the State identify a list of impaired water-bodies and develop and implement Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for these waterbodies (33 U.S.C. §1313(d)(1)). A TMDL specifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive, still meet applicable water quality standards and protect beneficial uses. The USEPA entered into a consent decree with the Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC), Heal the Bay, and the Santa Monica BayKeeper on March 22, 1999, under which the Regional Board must adopt all TMDLs for the Los Angeles Region within 13 years from that date, or the USEPA will adopt the TMDLs in the Regional

Board's stead. This permit incorporates provisions to implement and enforce approved wasteload allocations for MS4 discharges and requires amending the SQMP after pollutants loads have been allocated and approved.

9. 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 pollution impacting or threatening coastal water quality. CZARA (16 U.S.C. § 1451-1465) amends the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972, to address five sources of non-point pollution: agriculture, silviculture, urban, marinas, and hydromodification. This NPDES permit addresses the management measures required for the urban category, with the exception of septic systems. The Regional Board addresses septic systems through the administration of other programs.
10. On May 18, 2000, the USEPA established numeric criteria for priority toxic pollutants for the State of California (California Toxics Rule (CTR)) 65 *Fed. Reg.* 31682 (40 CFR 131.38), for the protection of human health and aquatic life. These apply as ambient water quality criteria for inland surface waters, enclosed bays, and estuaries. The State Board adopted the *Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (SIP) – 2000*, on March 2, 2000, for implementation of the CTR (State Board Resolution No. 2000-15 as amended by Board Resolution No. 2000-030). This policy requires that discharges comply with TMDL-derived load allocations as soon as possible but no later than 20 years from the effective date of the policy.
11. The State Board adopted a revised Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan) on September 15, 2009. The Ocean Plan contains water quality objectives which apply to all discharges to the coastal waters of California.
12. The State Board in *In Re: California Department of Transportation* (State Board Order WQ 2001-08), determined that the discharge of storm water to ASBS is subject to the prohibition in the Ocean Plan against the discharge of wastes to an ASBS.
13. The Regional Board adopted an updated Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Los Angeles Region on June 13, 1994, *Water Quality Control Plan, Los Angeles Region: Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties*, (1994). The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses of receiving waters and specifies both narrative and numerical water quality objectives for the receiving waters in Los Angeles County.
14. The Regional Board on September 19, 2001, adopted amendments to the Basin Plan, to incorporate TMDLs for trash in the Los Angeles River Watershed (Resolution No. R01-013) and Ballona Creek Watershed (Resolution No. R01-014). The amendments were subsequently approved by the State Board, the Office of Administrative Law, and the



United States Environmental Protection Agency. Twenty-two cities<sup>1</sup> (“Cities”) sued the Regional Board and State Board to set aside the Los Angeles River Trash TMDL. The trial court entered an order deciding some claims in favor of the Water Boards and some in favor of the Cities. Both sides appealed, and on January 26, 2006, the Court of Appeal decided every one of the Cities’ claims in favor of the Water Boards, except with respect to California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance (*City of Arcadia et al. v. Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board et al.* (2006) 135 Cal.App.4th 1392). The Court therefore declared the Los Angeles River Trash TMDL void, and issued a writ of mandate that ordered the Water Boards to set aside and not implement the TMDL, until it had been brought into compliance with CEQA. As a result of the appellate court’s decision, in 2006, the Regional Board set aside its 2001 action incorporating the TMDL into the Basin Plan (Resolution R06-013) (*City of Arcadia et al. v. Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board et al.* (2006) 135 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> 1392). After conducting the required CEQA analysis, the Regional Board readopted the Los Angeles River Watershed Trash TMDL on August 9, 2007 (Resolution No. R07-012). This TMDL was subsequently approved by the State Board (Resolution No. 2008-0024), the Office of Administrative Law (File No. 2008-0519-02 S), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency, and became effective on September 23, 2008. The Water Boards filed their final return to the writ of mandate on August 6, 2008, and on August 26, 2008, the superior court entered an order discharging the writ, and dismissing the case, thus concluding the legal challenges to the Trash TMDL.

15. The Regional Board on April 13, 1998, approved BMPs for sidewalk rinsing to minimize the discharge of wash waters to the storm drain system (Resolution No. 98-08). By the same resolution, the Regional Board prohibited the discharge of municipal street wash waters to the storm drain system.
16. The Regional Board on April 13, 1998, approved recommended BMPs for industrial/commercial facilities (Resolution No. 98-08).
17. The Regional Board on April 22, 1999, approved a list of BMPs for use in development planning and development construction (Resolution No. 99-03)
18. The Regional Board adopted and approved requirements for new development and significant redevelopment projects in Los Angeles County to control the discharge of storm water pollutants in post-construction storm water, on January 26, 2000, in Board Resolution No. R-00-02. The Regional Board Executive Officer issued the approved Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans (SUSMPs) on March 8, 2000. The State

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<sup>1</sup> The cities include Arcadia, Baldwin Park, Bellflower, Cerritos, Commerce, Diamond Bar, Downey, Irwindale, Lawndale, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, Pico Rivera, Rosemead, San Gabriel, Santa Fe Springs, Sierra Madre, Signal Hill, South Pasadena, Vernon, West Covina, and Whittier.

Board in large part affirmed the Regional Board action and SUSMPs in State Board Order No. WQ 2000-11 issued on October 5, 2000.

- The State Board's OCC issued a statewide policy memorandum (dated December 26, 2000), which interprets the Order to provide broad discretion to Regional Boards and identifies potential future areas for inclusion in SUSMPs and the types of evidence and findings necessary. Such areas include ministerial projects, projects in environmentally sensitive areas, and water quality design criteria for RGOs.
  - The State Board's OCC interpreted the Order to encourage regional solutions and endorses a mitigation fund or "bank" that may be funded by developers who obtain waivers from the numerical design standards for new development and significant redevelopment.
19. 40 CFR 131.10(a) prohibits states from designating waste transport or waste assimilation as a use for any water of the U.S. Authorizing the construction of a storm water/ urban runoff treatment facility in a jurisdictional water body would be tantamount to accepting waste assimilation as an appropriate use for that water body. Furthermore, the construction and operation of a pollution control facility in a water body can impact the physical, chemical, and biological integrity as well as the beneficial uses of the water body. Therefore, storm water treatment and/or mitigation in accordance with SUSMPs and any other requirements of this Order must occur prior to the discharge of storm water into a water of the U.S.
20. The Regional Board supports a Watershed Management Approach to address water quality protection in the region. The objective of the Watershed Management Approach should be to provide a comprehensive and integrated strategy towards water resource protection, enhancement, and restoration while balancing economic and environmental impacts within a hydrologically defined drainage basin or watershed. It emphasizes cooperative relationships between regulatory agencies, the regulated community, environmental groups, and other stakeholders in the watershed to achieve the greatest environmental improvements with available resources.
21. To promote a watershed management approach, the County of Los Angeles is divided into six Watershed Management Areas (WMAs) as follows:
- Malibu Creek and Rural Santa Monica Bay WMA
  - Ballona Creek and Urban Santa Monica Bay WMA
  - Los Angeles River WMA
  - San Gabriel River WMA
  - Dominguez Channel/Los Angeles Harbor WMA, and
  - Santa Clara River WMA

Attachment A shows the list of Permittees under each WMA and some Permittees have expressed an intent to form sub-watershed groups within

the WMA to promote regional solutions for the mitigation of storm water discharge pollution.

22. To facilitate compliance with federal regulations, the State Board has issued two statewide general NPDES permits for storm water discharges: one for storm water from industrial sites [NPDES No. CAS000001, General Industrial Activity Storm Water Permit (GIASP)] and the other for storm water from construction sites [NPDES No. CAS000002, General Permit for Discharges of Storm Water Associated with Construction Activities (CGP)]. The CGP was reissued on September 2, 2009 (Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ). The GIASP was reissued on April 17, 1997 (Order 97-03-DWQ). Facilities discharging storm water associated with industrial activities and construction projects with a disturbed area of five acres or more are required to obtain individual NPDES permits for storm water discharges, or to be covered by a statewide general permit by completing and filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) with the State Board. The USEPA guidance anticipates coordination of the state-administered programs for industrial and construction activities with the local agency program to reduce pollutants in storm water discharges to the MS4. The Regional Board is the enforcement authority in the Los Angeles Region for the two statewide general permits regulating discharges from industrial facilities and construction sites, and all NPDES storm water and non-storm water permits issued by the Regional Board. These industrial and construction sites and discharges are also regulated under local laws and regulations.
23. The State Board, on October 28, 1968, adopted Resolution No. 68-16, which established an anti-degradation policy for the State and Regional Boards. This policy restricts the degradation of surface waters and protects waterbodies where existing water quality is higher than is necessary for the protection of beneficial uses.
24. The State Board, on June 17, 1999, adopted Order No. WQ 99-05, which, in a precedential decision, identifies acceptable receiving water limitations language to be included in municipal storm water permits issued by the State and Regional Boards. The receiving water limitations included herein are consistent with the State Board Order, USEPA Policy, and the U.S. Appellate court decision in, *Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner* (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999). The State Board's OCC has determined that the federal court decision did not conflict with State Board Order No. WQ 99-05 (memorandum dated October 14, 1999)

25. California Water Code (CWC) § 13263(a) requires that waste discharge requirements issued by the Regional Board shall implement any relevant water quality control plans that have been adopted; shall take into consideration the beneficial uses to be protected and the water quality objectives reasonably required for that purpose; other waste discharges; the need to prevent nuisance; and provisions of CWC § 13241. The Regional Board has considered the requirements of § 13263 and § 13241, and applicable plans, policies, rules, and regulations in developing these waste discharge requirements.
26. CWC § 13370 *et seq.* requires that waste discharge requirements issued by the Regional Boards be consistent with provisions of the federal CWA and its amendments.
27. On March 12, 2001, the U.S. Court of Appeals ruled that it is necessary to obtain a NPDES permit for application of aquatic pesticides to waterways. (*Headwaters, Inc. vs. Talent Irrigation District*, 243 F.3d 526 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir., 2001)) This decision is controlling in California for nonagricultural applications of pesticides to waterways. The State Board reissued general NPDES permits (Order No. 2004-0008-DWQ and 2004-0009-DWQ) on May 20, 2004, for public entities that discharge pollutants to waters of the U.S. associated with the application of aquatic pesticides for resource or pest management. Public entities that conduct such activities must seek coverage under the general permit.
28. This Order does not constitute an unfunded local government mandate subject to subvention under Article XIIB, Section (6) of the California Constitution. This Order implements federally mandated requirements under CWA § 402, subdivision (p)(3)(B)(33 U.S.C. § 1342(p)(3)(B)). This includes federal requirements to effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges, to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable, and to include such other provisions as the Administrator or the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. 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. U.S. E.P.A.* (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 Clean Water Act's savings clause (cf. *Burbank v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2005) 35 Cal.4th 613, 627-628 [relying on 33 U.S.C. § 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 Bd.-Santa Ana Region* (2006) 135 Cal.App.4th 1377, 1389; *Building Industry Ass'n of San Diego County v. State Water Resources Control Bd.* (2004) 124 Cal.App.4th 866, 882-883.)

Likewise, the provisions of this Order to implement TMDLs are federal mandates. The CWA requires TMDLs to be developed for waterbodies that do not meet federal water quality standards (33 U.S.C. § 1313(d)). Once the U.S. EPA or a state establishes or adopts a TMDL, federal law requires that permits must contain effluent limitations consistent with the assumptions of any applicable wasteload allocation. (40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B)).

Second, the local agency Permittees 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 California Constitution XIII D, section 6, subdivision (c); see also *Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Association 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 municipal separate storm sewer system. 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.4th 830, 842 [upholding inspection fees associated with renting property].) The 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. (*County of Fresno v. State of California* (1991) 53 Cal.3d 482, 487-488.)

29. On November 12, 2010, USEPA revised its November 22, 2002 guidance memorandum entitled "Establishing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Wasteload Allocations (WLAs) for Storm Water Sources and NPDES Permit Requirements Based on Those WLAs." In the revised memorandum, USEPA recognized that where MS4 discharges and/or small construction stormwater discharges have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to water quality standards excursions, permits for MS4s and/or small construction stormwater discharges should contain numeric effluent limitations where feasible to do so. Additionally, where a TMDL includes WLAs for stormwater sources that provide numeric pollutant load objectives, the WLA should, where feasible, be translated into numeric effluent limitations.

#### **H. Findings Related to the Incorporation of the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL**

1. The Regional Board adopted the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Dry Weather TMDL for Bacteria (hereinafter "SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL") on January 24, 2002. The TMDL was subsequently approved by the State Board, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), and the USEPA and became effective on July 15, 2003. Dischargers were required to comply with the summer dry weather WLA by July 15, 2006.
2. The Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) in the SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL are expressed as the number of allowable days that the Santa

Monica Bay beaches may exceed the Basin Plan water quality objectives for protection of Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) in marine waters, specifically the water quality objectives for bacteria. Appropriate requirements consistent with this TMDL are therefore included in Parts 1 (Discharge Prohibitions) and 2 (Receiving Water Limitations), pursuant to 40 CFR 122.41(f) and 122.62. Additionally, 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B) requires that NPDES permits be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any available waste load allocation. Tables 7-4.1, 7-4.2a, and 7-4.3 of the Basin Plan set forth the pertinent provisions of the SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL. They require that during Summer Dry Weather there shall be no exceedances in the Wave Wash of the single sample or the geometric mean bacteria objectives set to protect the Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) beneficial use in marine waters. Accordingly, a prohibition is included in this Order barring discharges from a MS4 to Santa Monica Bay that result in exceedance of these objectives. Since the TMDL and the WLAs contained therein are expressed as receiving water conditions, Receiving Water Limitations have been included in this Order that are consistent with and implement the zero exceedance day WLAs.

3. Pursuant to federal regulations at 40 CFR sections 124.8 and 125.56, a Fact Sheet was prepared to provide the basis for incorporating the SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL into this Order. This Fact Sheet, included as Attachment A to this Permit's Fact Sheet, is hereby incorporated by reference into these findings.
4. The iterative approach to regulating municipal storm water is not an appropriate means of implementing the Santa Monica Bay beaches Summer Dry Weather WLAs for any and all of the following reasons: (a) The WLAs do not regulate the discharge of storm water; (b) The harm to the public from violating the WLAs is dramatic both in terms of health impacts to exposed beachgoers, and the economic cost to the region associated with related illnesses; (c) Under the iterative approach over three permit cycles, required elements of the MS4 permit (e.g., elimination of illicit connections/illicit discharges (IC/ID) into their MS4s, revisions to their SQMP, etc.) have not resulted in the elimination of exceedances of water quality standards at the Santa Monica Bay beaches.

5. The Receiving Water Limitations have been revised to implement the Summer Dry Weather WLAs set forth in Basin Plan Table 7-4.1. These Receiving Water Limitations apply at the compliance monitoring sites identified in the *Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacterial TMDLs Coordinated Shoreline Monitoring Plan* dated April 7, 2004<sup>2</sup>. Compliance with the Receiving Water Limitations shall be determined using monitoring data obtained in conformance with the *Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacterial TMDLs Coordinated Shoreline Monitoring Plan* dated April 7, 2004 and the Monitoring and Reporting Program CI 6948.
  
6. If the Receiving Water Limitations are exceeded at a compliance monitoring site, the Regional Board will generally issue an appropriate investigative order pursuant to Cal. Water Code § 13267 or § 13225 to the Permittees and other responsible agencies or jurisdictions within the relevant subwatershed to determine the source of the exceedance. Following these actions, Regional Board staff will generally evaluate the need for further enforcement as follows:
  - a) If the Regional Board determines that the exceedance did not result from discharges from the MS4, then the MS4 Permittees would not be responsible for violations of these provisions.
  - b) If the Regional Board determines that Permittees in the relevant subwatershed have demonstrated that their MS4 does not discharge dry weather flow into Santa Monica Bay, those Permittees would not be responsible for violations of these provisions even if the Receiving Water Limitations are exceeded at an associated compliance monitoring site.
  - c) If the Regional Board determines that Permittees in the relevant subwatershed have demonstrated that their MS4 summer dry weather discharge into Santa Monica Bay is treated to a level that does not exceed either the single sample or the geometric mean bacteria objectives, those Permittees shall not be responsible for violations of these provisions even if the Receiving Water Limitations are exceeded at an associated compliance monitoring site.
  - d) If the Regional Board determines that one or more Permittees have caused or contributed to violations of these Receiving Water Limitations, the Regional Board will consider appropriate enforcement action, including a cease and desist order with or without a time schedule for compliance, or other appropriate enforcement action depending upon the circumstances and the

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<sup>2</sup> If the Regional Board determines that publicly owned storm drains that flow during dry weather are situated at additional shoreline locations, the *Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacterial TMDLs Coordinated Shoreline Monitoring Plan* may be revised by the Regional Board Executive Officer approval, after providing the opportunity for public comment, to include these locations as compliance monitoring sites.

extent to which the Permittee(s) has endeavored to comply with these provisions.

7. A Permittee would not be responsible for violations of these provisions if the Regional Board Executive Officer determines that the Permittee has adequately documented through a source investigation of the subwatershed, pursuant to protocols established under Cal. Water Code section 13178, that bacterial sources originating within the jurisdiction of the Permittee have not caused or contributed to the exceedance of the Receiving Water Limitations.
8. Cal. Water Code section 13389 exempts the Regional Board from compliance with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code prior to the adoption of waste discharge requirements. Therefore, the Regional Board is not required to prepare environmental documents to evaluate reissuance of this permit. Nevertheless, the Regional Board has considered the policies and requirements set forth in Chapters 1 through 2.6 of CEQA, and further, has considered the final substitute environmental documents for the SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL.

**I. Findings Related to the Incorporation of the Marina Del Rey Harbor Mothers' Beach and Back Basins Bacteria TMDL**

1. The Regional Board adopted the Marina del Rey Harbor Mothers' Beach and Back Basins Bacteria TMDL (hereinafter "MDR Bacteria TMDL") on August 7, 2003. The TMDL was subsequently approved by the SWRCB, the OAL, and the USEPA and became effective on March 18, 2004. Dischargers were required to comply with the summer dry weather WLA by April 1, 2007.
2. The Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) in the MDR Bacteria TMDL are expressed as the number of allowable days that Mothers' Beach and Basins D, E, and F in Marina del Rey Harbor may exceed the Basin Plan water quality objectives for protection of Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) in marine waters, specifically the water quality objectives for bacteria. Additionally, 40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B) requires that NPDES permits be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any available waste load allocation. Appropriate requirements consistent with this TMDL are therefore included in Parts 1 (Discharge Prohibitions) and 2 (Receiving Water Limitations). Tables 7-5.1, 7-5.2, and 7-5.3 of the Basin Plan set forth the pertinent provisions of the MDR Bacteria TMDL. They require that during Summer Dry Weather there shall be no exceedances in the Wave Wash of the single sample or the geometric mean bacteria objectives set to protect the Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) beneficial use in marine waters. Accordingly, a prohibition is included in this Order barring discharges from a MS4 to Marina del Rey Harbor that result in exceedance of these objectives. Since the TMDL and the WLAs contained therein are expressed as receiving water conditions, Receiving



Water Limitations have been included in this Order that are consistent with and implement the zero exceedance day WLAs.

3. Pursuant to federal regulations at 40 CFR sections 124.8 and 125.56, a Fact Sheet was prepared in 2007 for the Regional Board's adoption of Order No. R4-2007-0042 amending Order No. 01-182, and updated in 2011, which provides the basis for incorporating the MDR Bacteria TMDL into this Order. This MDR Bacteria TMDL Fact Sheet, included as Attachment B to this Permit's Fact Sheet, is hereby incorporated by reference into these findings.
4. The iterative approach to regulating municipal storm water is not an appropriate means of implementing the MDR Summer Dry Weather WLAs for any and all of the following reasons: (a) The WLAs do not regulate the discharge of storm water; (b) The harm to the public from violating the WLAs is dramatic both in terms of health impacts to exposed beachgoers, and the economic cost to the region associated with related illnesses; (c) Under the iterative approach over three permit cycles, required elements of the MS4 permit (e.g., elimination of illicit connections/illicit discharges (IC/ID) into their MS4s, revisions to their SQMP, etc.) have not resulted in the elimination of exceedances of water quality standards at Mothers' Beach or in Basins D, E, and F of Marina del Rey Harbor.
5. On January 8, 2007, as required by the MDR Bacteria TMDL, Marina del Rey watershed responsible agencies submitted to the Regional Board an implementation plan describing the strategy by which they intend to comply with the MDR Bacteria TMDL. This implementation plan was developed through a process that included both Regional Board staff and representatives from Heal the Bay and Santa Monica Baykeeper.
6. The Regional Board acknowledges the County's timely submittals of reports required by the TMDL and implementation measures initiated thus far towards meeting water quality standards for bacteria in Marina del Rey. As a result of the adoption of the MDR Bacteria TMDL in 2003, the County has funded or received grants to initiate the following activities:
  - Marina Beach Water Quality Improvement Project, Phase I and Phase II through a CBI grant;
  - Mothers' Beach and Back Basins Bacterial TMDL Non-point Source Study;
  - Marina del Rey Harbor Mothers Beach and Back Basins Report of Small Drain Identification;
  - Marina del Rey Vessel Discharge Report;
  - Marina del Rey Harbor Mothers' Beach and Back Basins Bacterial TMDL Coordinated Monitoring Plan; and
  - Three low-flow diversion projects, which were partially funded by a grant, two of which have been completed.

In addition to participation in the above studies, the County and other Marina del Rey watershed responsible agencies continue to implement BMPs proposed in the January 8, 2007, Implementation Plan.

7. The Receiving Water Limitations implement the Summer Dry Weather WLAs set forth in Basin Plan Table 7-5.1. These Receiving Water Limitations apply at the compliance monitoring sites identified in the *Marina del Rey Harbor Mothers' Beach and Back Basins Bacterial TMDL Coordinated Monitoring Plan* dated April 13, 2007. Compliance with the Receiving Water Limitations shall be determined using monitoring data obtained in conformance with the *Marina del Rey Harbor Mothers' Beach and Back Basins Bacterial TMDL Coordinated Monitoring Plan* dated April 13, 2007; and the Monitoring and Reporting Program CI 6948.
  
8. If the Receiving Water Limitations are exceeded at a compliance monitoring site, the Regional Board will generally issue an appropriate investigative order pursuant to Cal. Water Code § 13267 or § 13225 to the Permittees and other responsible agencies or jurisdictions within the relevant subwatershed to determine the source of the exceedance. Following these actions, Regional Board staff will generally evaluate the need for further enforcement as follows:
  - e) If the Regional Board determines that the exceedance did not result from discharges from the MS4, then the MS4 Permittees would not be responsible for violations of these provisions.
  - f) If the Regional Board determines that Permittees in the relevant subwatershed have demonstrated that their MS4 does not discharge dry weather flow into Basins D, E, or F in Marina del Rey Harbor, those Permittees would not be responsible for violations of these provisions even if the Receiving Water Limitations are exceeded at an associated compliance monitoring site.
  - g) If the Regional Board determines that Permittees in the relevant subwatershed have demonstrated that their MS4 summer dry weather discharge into Basins D, E, or F in Marina del Rey Harbor is treated to a level that does not exceed either the single sample or the geometric mean bacteria objectives, those Permittees shall not be responsible for violations of these provisions even if the Receiving Water Limitations are exceeded at an associated compliance monitoring site.
  - h) If the Regional Board determines that one or more Permittees have caused or contributed to violations of these Receiving Water Limitations, the Regional Board will consider appropriate enforcement action, including a cease and desist order with or without a time schedule for compliance, or other appropriate enforcement action depending upon the circumstances and the

extent to which the Permittee(s) has endeavored to comply with these provisions.

9. A Permittee would not be responsible for violations of these provisions if the Regional Board Executive Officer determines that the Permittee has adequately documented through a source investigation of the subwatershed, pursuant to protocols established under Cal. Water Code section 13178, that bacterial sources originating within the jurisdiction of the Permittee have not caused or contributed to the exceedance of the Receiving Water Limitations.
10. Cal. Water Code section 13389 exempts the Regional Board from compliance with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code prior to the adoption of waste discharge requirements. Therefore, the Regional Board is not required to prepare environmental documents to evaluate reissuance of this permit. Nevertheless, the Regional Board has considered the policies and requirements set forth in Chapters 1 through 2.6 of CEQA, and further, has considered the final substitute environmental documents for the MDR Bacteria TMDL.

**J. Findings Related to the Incorporation of the Los Angeles River Watershed Trash TMDL**

1. The Regional Board adopted the Los Angeles River Trash Total Maximum Daily Load (LA River Trash TMDL) on August 9, 2007 as an amendment to the region's Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) to address water quality impairments due to trash in the Los Angeles River Watershed that were identified in 1998 on the State's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List. This TMDL was subsequently approved by the State Board, the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), and the USEPA, and it became effective on September 23, 2008. Dischargers were required to comply with the interim WLAs beginning September 30, 2008.
2. By its adoption of the LA River Trash TMDL, the Regional Board determined that trash discharged to the Los Angeles River and its tributaries discourages recreational activity, degrades aquatic habitat, threatens wildlife through ingestion and entanglement, and also poses risks to human health. Existing beneficial uses impaired by trash in the Los Angeles River are contact recreation (REC-1) and non-contact recreation (REC-2); warm fresh water habitat (WARM); wildlife habitat (WILD); estuarine habitat (EST) and marine habitat (MAR); rare, threatened or endangered species (RARE); migration of aquatic organisms (MIGR) and spawning, reproduction and early development of fish (SPWN); commercial and sport fishing (COMM); wetland habitat (WET); and cold freshwater habitat (COLD).
3. The LA River Trash TMDL identifies discharges from the municipal separate storm sewer system as the principal source of trash to the Los Angeles River and its tributaries. As such, WLAs were assigned to MS4 Permittees that discharge to the MS4 in the watershed. The WLAs are expressed as progressively decreasing allowable

amounts of trash discharges from jurisdictional areas within the watershed. The LA River Trash TMDL requires MS4 Permittees to make annual reductions of their discharges of trash to the Los Angeles River Watershed over a 9-year period, until the numeric target of zero trash discharged from the MS4 is achieved for the 2013-2014 storm year. The Basin Plan assigns MS4 Permittees within the Los Angeles River Watershed baseline Waste Load Allocations from which annual reductions are to be made. (See Basin Plan, Table 7-2.2.) The Basin Plan also specifies interim and final Waste Load Allocations as decreasing percentages of the Table 7-2.2 baseline WLAs, and specifies the corresponding "Compliance Points". (See Basin Plan, Table 7-2.3.)

4. The LA River Trash TMDL specifies that the WLAs shall be implemented through MS4 permits. Federal regulations require that NPDES permits be consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any available waste load allocation. (40 CFR 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B).) State law requires both that the Regional Board implement its Basin Plan when adopting waste discharge requirements (WDRs) and that NPDES permits apply "any more stringent effluent standards or limitations necessary to implement water quality control plans..." (Wat. Code §§ 13263, 13377).
5. The Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals in *Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner* ruled that the Clean Water Act grants the permitting agency discretion either to require "strict compliance" with water quality standards through the imposition of numeric effluent limitations, or to employ an iterative approach toward compliance with water quality standards, by requiring improved BMPs over time (*Defenders of Wildlife v. Browner* (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999) 191 F.3d 1159). In a precedential decision, the State Board acknowledged that the holding in *Browner* allows the issuance of MS4 permits that limit their provisions to BMPs that control pollutants to the MEP, and which do not require compliance with water quality standards. However, the Water Boards have declined to adopt that approach in light of the impacts of discharges from MS4s on waters throughout the State and Los Angeles region (see Order WQ 2001-15 and Part 2 of the LA County MS4 Permit). The State Board concluded and the Regional Board agrees that "where urban runoff is causing or contributing to exceedances of water quality standards, it is appropriate to require improvements to BMPs that address those exceedances" (Order WQ 2001-15, p. 8).
6. As referenced in G.29. above, USEPA revised its November 22, 2002 guidance memorandum entitled "Establishing Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Wasteload Allocations (WLAs) for Storm Water Sources and NPDES Permit Requirements Based on Those WLAs." In the revised memorandum dated November 12, 2010, USEPA recognized that where MS4 discharges and/or small construction stormwater discharges have the reasonable potential to cause or contribute to water quality standards excursions, permits for MS4s and/or small construction stormwater discharges should contain numeric effluent limitations where feasible to do so. Additionally, where a TMDL includes WLAs for stormwater sources that provide numeric pollutant load objectives, the WLA should, where feasible, be translated into numeric effluent limitations. The following paragraphs support the Regional Board's determination to implement the Trash TMDL with numeric effluent limitations.
7. The Trash TMDL specified a specific formula for calculating and allocating annual reductions in trash discharges from each jurisdiction. The formula results in specified

annual amounts of trash that may be discharged from each jurisdiction into the receiving waters. Translation of the compliance points described in the TMDL into jurisdiction-specific load reductions from the baseline levels, as specified in the TMDL, logically results in the articulation of an annual limit on the amount of a pollutant that may be discharged. The specification of allowable annual trash discharge amounts meets the definition of an “effluent limitation”, as that term is defined in subdivision (c) of section 13385.1 of the California Water Code. Specifically, the trash discharge limitations constitute a “numeric restriction ... on the quantity [or] discharge rate ... of a pollutant or pollutants that may be discharged from an authorized location.” While there may be other ways to incorporate the compliance points from the TMDL into permit conditions, the Regional Board is not aware of any other mechanisms that would result in actual compliance with the requirements of the TMDL as it was intended.

8. The process to establish the LA River Trash TMDL was exceedingly lengthy, heavily litigated and scrutinized, and contained extensive analysis. The essence of this TMDL has been twice adopted by the Regional Board, and approved by the State Board, OAL, and the US EPA, and has been subject to considerable judicial review. Therefore, the assumptions underlying this TMDL have been thoroughly vetted by staff, stakeholders, other agencies, and the courts over a significant period of time.
9. In its resolution establishing the LA River Trash TMDL, the Regional Board already determined that the implementation schedule was reasonable and feasible, and noted that the MS4 Permittees had notice of the trash impairment since at least 1998 (with its listing on the 1998 303(d) list) and had been required to attain water quality standards for trash in the receiving waters since this order was first adopted in December of 2001. (See e.g., Resolution R07-012, finding 14.) The Court of Appeal affirmed the Regional Board’s determination that the final waste load allocations were attainable and not inordinately expensive. (*Cities of Arcadia*, 135 Cal.App.4<sup>th</sup> at 1413 and 1427-1430.) Full capture systems, partial capture devices, and institutional controls are presently available to feasibly and practicably attain the interim and final effluent limitations, and it is anticipated that this Order will further precipitate additional innovations in control strategies and technologies, just as the adoption of the LA River Trash TMDL resulted in the proffering and certification of seven full capture systems.
10. The LA River Trash TMDL and this Order include provisions that allow Permittees to be deemed in compliance with their effluent limitations through the installation of certain best management practices (certified full capture systems). Any Permittee that is deemed in compliance through the use of certified full capture systems would not be in violation of the effluent limitations even if some trash is discharged in excess of the annual limitations.
11. The LA River Trash TMDL includes provisions requiring its reconsideration after a trash reduction of 50% has been achieved and sustained in the watershed, which provides an opportunity to reexamine some of the assumptions of the TMDL after tangible and meaningful progress has been made in the watershed. (See Basin Plan, Table 7-2.3, fn. 2.) Should this reconsideration result in a modification to the final waste load allocations, the permit will be reopened pursuant to Part 6., paragraph I.1.b, to ensure the effluent limitations contained in Tables 1a and 1b of Appendix 7-1 are consistent with the assumptions and requirements of any revised waste load allocations. (40 CFR § 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B).)

12. Depending upon the compliance strategy selected by each Permittee, compliance with the effluent limitations set forth in Appendix 7-1 may require a demonstration that the Permittee is in strict compliance with water quality standards. It remains the Permittee's choice, however, to comply via certified full capture systems (which do not require a demonstration of strict compliance with water quality standards), or partial capture devices and/or institutional controls.
13. Section 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) of the Clean Water Act, requires MS4 Permittees to reduce the pollutants in their storm water discharges to the "maximum extent practicable" (MEP). As set forth herein, "practicable" options presently exist to achieve compliance with the effluent limitations. Since the effluent limitations can be practicably achieved, their imposition is within the federally mandated MEP standard, and no analysis contemplated by *City of Burbank v. SWRCB* (2005) 35 Cal.4th 613 pursuant to Water Code section 13241 is necessary to support these effluent limitations.
14. In its discretion, the Regional Board may administratively impose civil liability of up to \$10,000 for "each day in which the violation [of waste discharge requirements] occurs." (Water Code § 13385, subd (c).) Not every storm event may result in trash discharges. The LA River Trash TMDL adopted by the Regional Board states that improperly deposited trash is mobilized during storm events of greater than 0.25 inches of precipitation. Therefore, violations of the effluent limitations are limited to the days of a storm event of greater than 0.25 inches. Once a Permittee has violated the annual effluent limitation, any subsequent discharges of trash during any day of a storm event of greater than 0.25 inches during the same storm year constitutes an additional "day in which the violation [of the effluent limitation] occurs".
15. Unlike subdivision (c) of Water Code section 13385 where violations of effluent limitations are assessed on a per day basis, the mandatory minimum penalties subdivisions (Wat. Code § 13385, subd. (h) and (i)) require the Regional Board to assess mandatory minimum penalties for "each violation" of an effluent limitation. The effluent limitations in Appendix 7-1 are expressed as annual limitations. Therefore, there can be no more than one violation of each interim or final effluent limitation per year. Trash is considered a Group I pollutant, as specified in Appendix A to section 123.45 of Title 40 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Therefore, each annual violation of an effluent limitation in Appendix 7-1 by forty percent or more would be considered a "serious violation" under subdivision (h). With respect to the final effluent limitation of zero trash, any detectable discharge of trash necessarily is a serious violation, in accordance with the State Board's Enforcement Policy. Violations of the effluent limitations in Appendix 7-1 would not constitute "chronic" violations that would give rise to mandatory liability under subdivision (i) because four or more violations of the effluent limitations subject to a mandatory penalty cannot occur in a period of six consecutive months.
16. Therefore, this Order includes effluent limitations in a manner consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the WLAs from which they are derived as well as an allowance to comply with these effluent limitations [*i.e.* WLAs] through proper installation and maintenance of certified full capture systems.

17. Requirements consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the TMDL are therefore included in Parts 4 (Special Provisions) and 5 (Definitions) of this Order. Part 7 (Total Maximum Daily Load Provisions) contains provisions to assure that Los Angeles County MS4 Permittees achieve the Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) and comply with other requirements of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) covering impaired waters impacted by the Permittees' discharges. These requirements are made pursuant to 40 CFR sections 122.41(f), 122.44(d)(1)(vii)(B), and 122.62. Tables 7-2.1, 7-2.2, and 7-2.3 of the Basin Plan set forth the pertinent provisions of the LA River Trash TMDL. The interim and final effluent limitations consistent with the assumptions and requirements of the waste load allocations, and related provisions required of Permittees within the watershed are provided in Part 7 of this Order.
18. Permittees identified as responsible agencies in the LA River Trash TMDL may achieve compliance with interim and final effluent limitations through progressive installation of BMPs meeting the definition of "full capture" throughout their jurisdictions' drainage areas. Alternatively, Permittees may install "partial capture" devices and/or implement institutional controls to meet their respective interim and final effluent limitations. Where partial capture devices are utilized as the sole trash control measure, the degree of compliance may be demonstrated based upon performance data specific to the jurisdictional area. However, compliance with the final effluent limitation cannot be achieved through the exclusive use of partial capture devices. Where a combination of partial capture devices and institutional controls are used, compliance shall be determined based on the approximation of jurisdiction-specific trash discharges.
19. The Executive Officer will develop a standard reporting form, consistent with these provisions, which shall be used by Permittees to report compliance with the effluent limitations on an annual basis.
20. Pursuant to federal regulations at 40 CFR sections 124.8 and 125.56, a Fact Sheet was prepared in 2009 for the Regional Board's adoption of Order No. R4-2009-0130 amending Order No. 01-182, and updated in 2011, which provides the basis for incorporating the LA River Trash TMDL into this Order. This LA River Trash TMDL Fact Sheet, included as Attachment C to this Permit's Fact Sheet, is hereby incorporated by reference into these findings.
21. Cal. Water Code section 13389 exempts the Regional Board from compliance with Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21100) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code prior to the adoption of waste discharge requirements. Therefore, the Regional Board is not required to prepare environmental documents to evaluate reissuance of this permit. Nevertheless, the Regional Board has considered the policies and requirements set forth in Chapters 1 through 2.6 of CEQA, and further, has considered the final substitute environmental documents for the LA River Trash TMDL.

## **K. Implementation**

1. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Cal. Pub. Resources Code § 21000 *et seq.*) requires that public agencies consider the environmental impacts of the projects they approve for development. CEQA applies to projects that are considered discretionary and does not apply to ministerial projects, which involve the use of established

standards or objective measurements. A ministerial project may be made discretionary by adopting local ordinance provisions or imposing conditions to create decision-making discretion in approving the project. In the alternative, Permittees may establish standards and objective criteria administratively for storm water mitigation for ministerial projects. For water quality purposes, the Regional Board considers that all new development and significant redevelopment activity in specified categories, that receive approval or permits from a municipality, are subject to storm water mitigation requirements.

2. The objective of this Order is to protect the beneficial uses of receiving waters in Los Angeles County. To meet this objective, this Order requires that the SQMP specify BMPs that will be implemented to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the maximum extent practicable. Further, Permittees are to assure that storm water discharges from the MS4 shall neither cause nor contribute to the exceedance of water quality standards and objectives nor create conditions of nuisance in the receiving waters, and that the discharge of non-storm water to the MS4 has been effectively prohibited.
3. The SQMP required in this Order builds upon the programs established in Order Nos. 90-079, 96-054, and 01-182, and consists of the components recommended in the USEPA guidance manual, and was developed with the cooperation of representatives from the regulated community and environmental groups. The SQMP includes provisions that promote customized initiatives, both on a countywide and watershed basis, in developing and implementing cost-effective measures to minimize discharge of pollutants to the receiving water. The various components of the SQMP, taken as a whole rather than individually, are expected to reduce pollutants in storm water and urban runoff to the maximum extent practicable. Provisions of the SQMP are fully enforceable under provisions of this Order.
4. The emphasis of the SQMP is pollution prevention through education, public outreach, planning, and implementation as source control BMPs first and then Structural and Treatment Control BMPs next. Successful implementation of the provisions of the SQMP will require cooperation and coordination of all public agencies in each Permittee's organization, among Permittees, and with the regulated community.
5. The implementation of a Public Information and Participation Program is a critical component of a storm water management program. An informed and knowledgeable community is critical to the success of a storm water management program since it helps insure the following: (i) greater support for the program as the public gains a greater understanding of the reasons why it is necessary and important, and (ii) greater compliance with the program as the public becomes aware of the personal responsibilities expected of them and others in the community, including the individual actions they can take to protect or improve the quality of area waters.



6. This Order includes a Monitoring Program that incorporates Minimum Levels (MLs) established under the SIP. The SIP's MLs represent the lowest quantifiable concentration for priority toxic pollutants that is measurable with the use of proper method-based analytical procedures and factoring out matrix interference. The SIP's MLs therefore represent the best available science for determining MLs and are appropriate for a storm water monitoring program. The use of MLs allows the detection of toxic priority pollutants at concentrations of concern using recent advances in chemical analytical methods.
7. This Order provides flexibility for Permittees to petition the Regional Board Executive Officer to substitute a BMP under the SQMP with an alternative BMP, if they can provide information and documentation on the effectiveness of the alternative, equal to or greater than the prescribed BMP in meeting the objectives of this Order.
8. This Order contemplates that the Permittees are responsible for considering potential storm water impacts when making planning decisions in order to fulfill the Permittees' CWA requirement to reduce the discharge of pollutants in municipal storm water to the MEP from new development and redevelopment activities. However, the Permittees retain authority to make the final land-use decisions and retain full statutory authority for deciding what land uses are appropriate at specific locations within each Permittee's jurisdiction. This Order and its requirements are not intended to restrict or control local land use decision-making authority.
9. This Order is not intended to prohibit the inspection for or abatement of vectors by the State Department of Health Services or local vector agencies in accordance with Cal. Health and Safety Code § 2270 *et seq.* and §116110 *et seq.* Certain Treatment Control BMPs if not properly designed, operated or maintained may create habitats for vectors (e.g. mosquito and rodents). This Order contemplates that the Permittees will closely cooperate and collaborate with local vector control agencies and the State Department of Health Services for the implementation, operation, and maintenance of Treatment Control BMPs in order to minimize the risk to public health from vector borne diseases.

#### **L. Public Process**

1. The Regional Board has notified the Permittees and interested agencies and persons of its intent to issue waste discharge requirements for this discharge, and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written view and recommendations.
2. The Regional Board, in a public hearing, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge and to the tentative requirements.
3. The Regional Board conducted public workshops to discuss drafts of Order No. 01-182, the permit issued to the Permittees in 2001. On April 24, 2001, Regional Board staff conducted a workshop outlining the reasoning behind the changes proposed for the new permit and received

input from the Permittees and the public regarding those proposed changes. On July 26, 2001, a second public workshop was held at a special Regional Board meeting. The Permittees and the public had another opportunity to express their opinions regarding the proposed changes to the permit in front of the Regional Board members. A significant number of working meetings with the Permittees and other interested parties occurred throughout the period from the submittal of the ROWD and completion of the tentative draft in 2001, in an attempt to incorporate and address all the comments presented. The Regional Board also conducted workshops in 2006 and 2009 regarding the proposed incorporation of provisions to implement the SMB Dry Weather Bacteria TMDL and LA River Trash TMDL.

4. The Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the County of Los Angeles and the other municipalities are co-permittees as defined in 40 CFR 122.26 (b)(1). Los Angeles County Flood Control District will coordinate with the other municipalities and facilitate program implementation. Each Permittee is responsible only for a discharge for which it is the operator.
5. This Order shall serve as a NPDES Permit, pursuant to CWA § 402, or amendments thereto, and shall take effect upon adoption of this Order provided the Regional Administrator of the USEPA has no objections.
6. The action to adopt an NPDES permit is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 of CEQA (Cal. Pub. Resources Code § 21100 *et seq.*), in accordance with CWC § 13389.
7. Any person aggrieved by this action of the Regional Board may petition the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations, title 23, sections 2050 and following. The State Water Board must *receive* the petition by 5:00 p.m., 30 days after this Regional 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 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.
8. This Order may be modified or alternatively revoked or reissued prior to its expiration date, in accordance with the procedural requirements of the NPDES program, and the CWC for the issuance of waste discharge requirements.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED** that the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Los Angeles County, and the Cities of Agoura Hills, Alhambra, Arcadia, Artesia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bell, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Beverly Hills, Bradbury, Burbank, Calabasas, Carson, Cerritos, Claremont, Commerce, Compton, Covina, Cudahy, Culver City, Diamond Bar, Downey, Duarte, El

Monte, El Segundo, Gardena, Glendale, Glendora, Hawaiian Gardens, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Hidden Hills, Huntington Park, Industry, Inglewood, Irwindale, La Cañada Flintridge, La Habra Heights, Lakewood, La Mirada, La Puente, La Verne, Lawndale, Lomita, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Malibu, Manhattan Beach, Maywood, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, Norwalk, Palos Verdes Estates, Paramount, Pasadena, Pico Rivera, Pomona, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Fernando, San Gabriel, San Marino, Santa Clarita, Santa Fe Springs, Santa Monica, Sierra Madre, Signal Hill, South El Monte, South Gate, South Pasadena, Temple City, Torrance, Vernon, Walnut, West Covina, West Hollywood, Westlake Village, and Whittier, in order to meet the provisions contained in Division 7 of the CWC and regulations adopted thereunder, and the provisions of the CWA, as amended, and regulations and guidelines adopted thereunder, shall comply with the following:

### **Part 1. DISCHARGE PROHIBITIONS**

- Part 1. A. The Permittees shall effectively prohibit non-storm water discharges into the MS4 and watercourses, except where such discharges:
1. Are covered by a separate individual or general NPDES permit for non-storm water discharges; or
  2. Fall within one of the categories below, and meet all conditions when specified by the Regional Board Executive Officer:
    - a) Category A - Natural flow:
      - (1) Natural springs and rising ground water;
      - (2) Flows from riparian habitats or wetlands;
      - (3) Stream diversions, permitted by the State Board; and
      - (4) Uncontaminated ground water infiltration [as defined by 40 CFR 35.2005(20)].
    - b) Category B - Flows from emergency fire fighting activity.
    - c) Category C - Flows incidental to urban activities:
      - (1) Reclaimed and potable landscape irrigation runoff;
      - (2) Potable drinking water supply and distribution system releases (consistent with American Water Works Association guidelines for dechlorination and suspended solids reduction practices);
      - (3) Drains for foundations, footings, and crawl spaces;
      - (4) Air conditioning condensate;
      - (5) Dechlorinated/debrominated swimming pool discharges;

- (6) Dewatering of lakes and decorative fountains;
- (7) Non-commercial car washing by residents or by non-profit organizations; and
- (8) Sidewalk rinsing.

The Regional Board Executive Officer may add or remove categories of non-storm water discharges above. Furthermore, in the event that any of the above categories of non-storm water discharges are determined to be a source of pollutants by the Regional Board Executive Officer, the discharge will no longer be exempt from this prohibition unless the Permittee implements conditions approved by the Regional Board Executive Officer to ensure that the discharge is not a source of pollutants. Notwithstanding the above, the Regional Board Executive Officer may impose additional prohibitions of non-storm water discharges in consideration of antidegradation policies and TMDLs.

Part 1. B. Discharges of Summer Dry Weather flows from MS4s into Santa Monica Bay<sup>3</sup> that cause or contribute to exceedances of the bacteria Receiving Water Limitations in Part 2.5 below, are prohibited.<sup>4</sup>

Part 1. C. Discharges of Summer Dry Weather flows from MS4s into Marina del Rey Harbor Basins D, E, or F, including Mothers' Beach, that cause or contribute to exceedances of the bacteria Receiving Water Limitations in Part 2.6 below, are prohibited.<sup>5</sup>

## **Part 2. RECEIVING WATER LIMITATIONS**

1. Except as provided in Part 2.5 and 2.6 below, discharges from the MS4 that cause or contribute to the violation of Water Quality Standards or water quality objectives are prohibited.
2. Discharges from the MS4 of storm water, or non-storm water, for which a Permittee is responsible for, shall not cause or contribute to a condition of nuisance.
3. The Permittees shall comply with Part 2.1. and 2.2. through timely implementation of control measures and other actions to reduce pollutants in the discharges in accordance with the SQMP and its components and other

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<sup>3</sup> Santa Monica Bay encompasses the coastal waters from Point Dume to Point Fermin and seaward to the 500-meter depth contour. It includes all beaches from the Los Angeles/Ventura County line south to the Outer Cabrillo Beach located just south of the Palos Verdes Peninsula.

<sup>4</sup> Responsibility for such prohibited discharges is determined as indicated in Footnote 3 part (2) of Table 7-4.1 of the Basin Plan. All Permittees within a subwatershed of the Santa Monica Bay Watershed Management Area are jointly responsible for compliance with the limitations imposed in Table 7-4.1 of the Basin Plan.

<sup>5</sup> Responsibility for such prohibited discharges is determined as indicated in Footnote 2 part (1) of Table 7-5.1 of the Basin Plan. All Permittees within the Marina del Rey subwatershed of the Santa Monica Bay Watershed Management Area are jointly responsible for compliance with the limitations imposed in Table 7-5.1 of the Basin Plan.

requirements of this Order including any modifications. The SQMP and its components shall be designed to achieve compliance with receiving water limitations. If exceedances of Water Quality Objectives or Water Quality Standards (collectively, Water Quality Standards) persist, notwithstanding implementation of the SQMP and its components and other requirements of this permit, the Permittee shall assure compliance with discharge prohibitions and receiving water limitations by complying with the following procedure:

- a) Upon a determination by either the Permittee or the Regional Board that discharges are causing or contributing to an exceedance of an applicable Water Quality Standard, the Permittee shall promptly notify and thereafter submit a Receiving Water Limitations (RWL) Compliance Report (as described in the Program Reporting Requirements, Section I of the Monitoring and Reporting Program) to the Regional Board that describes BMPs that are currently being implemented and additional BMPs that will be implemented to prevent or reduce any pollutants that are causing or contributing to the exceedances of Water Quality Standards. This RWL Compliance Report may be incorporated in the annual Storm Water Report and Assessment unless the Regional Board directs an earlier submittal. The RWL Compliance Report shall include an implementation schedule. The Regional Board may require modifications to the RWL Compliance Report.
  - b) Submit any modifications to the RWL Compliance Report required by the Regional Board within 30 days of notification.
  - c) Within 30 days following the approval of the RWL Compliance Report, the Permittee shall revise the SQMP and its components and monitoring program to incorporate the approved modified BMPs that have been and will be implemented, an implementation schedule, and any additional monitoring required.
  - d) Implement the revised SQMP and its components and monitoring program according to the approved schedule.
4. So long as the Permittee has complied with the procedures set forth above and is implementing the revised SQMP and its components, the Permittee does not have to repeat the same procedure for continuing or recurring exceedances of the same receiving water limitations unless directed by the Regional Board to develop additional BMPs.
  5. During Summer Dry Weather there shall be no discharges of bacteria from MS4s into the Santa Monica Bay that cause or contribute to exceedances in the Wave Wash, of the applicable bacteria objectives. The applicable bacteria objectives include both the single sample and geometric mean bacteria objectives set to protect the Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) beneficial use, as set forth in the Basin Plan.<sup>6</sup>

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<sup>6</sup> Samples collected for determining compliance with the receiving water limitations of Part 2.5 shall be processed in accordance with the sampling procedures and analytical methodology set forth in the *Santa Monica Bay Beaches*

6. During Summer Dry Weather there shall be no discharges of bacteria from MS4s into Marina del Rey Harbor Basins D, E, or F, including Mothers' Beach that cause or contribute to exceedances of the applicable bacteria objectives. The applicable bacteria objectives include both the single sample and geometric mean bacteria objectives set to protect the Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) beneficial use, as set forth in the Basin Plan.<sup>7</sup>

**Part 3. STORM WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PROGRAM (SQMP)  
IMPLEMENTATION**

**A. General Requirements**

1. Each Permittee shall, at a minimum, implement the SQMP. The SQMP is an enforceable element of this Order.
2. The SQMP shall, at a minimum, comply with the applicable storm water program requirements of 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2). The SQMP and its components shall be implemented so as to reduce the discharges of pollutants in storm water to the MEP.
3. Each Permittee shall implement additional controls, where necessary, to reduce the discharges of pollutants in storm water to the MEP.

**B. Best Management Practice Implementation**

The Permittees shall implement or require the implementation of the most effective combination of BMPs for storm water/urban runoff pollution control. When implemented, BMPs are intended to result in the reduction of pollutants in storm water to the MEP.

**C. Revision of the Storm Water Quality Management Program**

The Permittees shall revise the SQMP, at the direction of the Regional Board Executive Officer, to incorporate program implementation amendments so as to comply with regional, watershed specific requirements, and/or waste load allocations developed and approved pursuant to the process for the designation and implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for impaired water bodies.

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*Bacterial TMDLs Coordinated Shoreline Monitoring Plan* dated April 7, 2004 and the Monitoring and Reporting Program CI 6948.

<sup>7</sup> Samples collected for determining compliance with the receiving water limitations of Part 2.6 shall be processed in accordance with the sampling procedures and analytical methodology set forth in the *Marina del Rey Harbor Mothers' Beach and Back Basins Bacterial TMDL Coordinated Shoreline Monitoring Plan* dated April 13, 2007 and the Monitoring and Reporting Program CI 6948.

**D. Designation and Responsibilities of the Principal Permittee**

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District is hereby designated as the Principal Permittee. As such, the Principal Permittee shall:

1. Coordinate and facilitate activities necessary to comply with the requirements of this Order, but is not responsible for ensuring compliance of any individual Permittee;
2. Coordinate permit activities among Permittees and act as liaison between Permittees and the Regional Board on permitting issues;
3. Provide personnel and fiscal resources for the necessary updates of the SQMP and its components;
4. Provide technical and administrative support for committees that will be organized to implement the SQMP and its components;
5. Convene the Watershed Management Committees (WMCs) constituted pursuant to Part F, below, upon designation of representatives;
6. Implement the Countywide Monitoring Program required under this Order and evaluate, assess and synthesize the results of the monitoring program;
7. Provide personnel and fiscal resources for the collection, processing and submittal to the Regional Board of annual reports and summaries of other reports required under the SQMP; and
8. Comply with the "Responsibilities of the Permittees" in Part 3.E., below.

**E. Responsibilities of the Permittees**

Each Permittee is required to comply with the requirements of this Order applicable to discharges within its boundaries (see Findings E.1, E.2. and E.3.) and not for the implementation of the provisions applicable to the Principal Permittee or other Permittees. Each Permittee shall, within its geographic jurisdiction:

1. Comply with the requirements of the SQMP and any modifications thereto;
2. Coordinate among its internal departments and agencies, as appropriate, to facilitate the implementation of the requirements of the SQMP applicable to such Permittee in an efficient and cost-effective manner;
3. Designate a technically knowledgeable representative to the appropriate WMC;
4. Participate in intra-agency coordination (e.g. Fire Department, Building and Safety, Code Enforcement, Public Health, etc.) necessary to successfully implement the provisions of this Order and the SQMP.
5. Prepare an annual Budget Summary of expenditures applied to the storm water management program. This summary shall identify the storm

water budget for the following year, using estimated percentages and written explanations where necessary, for the specific categories noted below:

- a) Program management
    - Administrative costs
  - b) Program Implementation

Where information is available, provide an estimated percent breakdown of expenditures for the categories below:

    - Illicit connection/illicit discharge
    - Development planning
    - Development construction
    - Construction inspection activities
    - Industrial/Commercial inspection activities
    - Public Agency Activities
      - Maintenance of Structural BMPs and Treatment Control BMPs
      - Municipal Street Sweeping
      - Catch basin clean-up
      - Trash collection
      - Capital costs
  - c) Public Information and Participation
  - d) Monitoring Program
  - e) Miscellaneous Expenditures
6. Each Permittee, in addition to the Budget Summary, shall report any supplemental dedicated budgets for the same categories.

**F. Watershed Management Committees (WMCs)**

1. Each WMC shall be comprised of a voting representative from each Permittee in the WMA.
2. The WMC's chair and secretary shall be chosen by the WMC upon Order adoption and on an annual basis, thereafter. In the absence of volunteer Permittee(s) for the positions, the Principal Permittee shall assume those roles until the WMC chooses members of the committee for the positions.
3. Each WMC shall:
  - a) Facilitate cooperation and exchange of information among Permittees;
  - b) Establish additional goals and objectives and associated deadlines for the WMA, as the program implementation progresses;



- c) Prioritize pollution control efforts based on beneficial use impairment(s), watershed characteristics and analysis of results from studies and the monitoring program;
- d) Develop and/or update and monitor the adequate implementation, on an annual basis, of the tasks identified for the WMA;
- e) Assess the effectiveness of, prepare revisions for, and recommend appropriate changes to the SQMP and its components;
- f) Continue to prioritize the Industrial/Commercial critical sources for investigation, outreach and follow-up; and
- g) Meet four times per year and, as necessary.

#### **G. Legal Authority**

1. Permittees shall possess the necessary legal authority to prohibit non-storm water discharges to the storm drain system, including, but not limited to:
  - a) Illicit discharges and illicit connections and require removal of illicit connections;
  - b) The discharge of wash waters to the MS4 from the cleaning of gas stations, auto repair garages, or other types of automotive service facilities;
  - c) The discharge of runoff to the MS4 from mobile auto washing, steam cleaning, mobile carpet cleaning, and other such mobile commercial and industrial operations;
  - d) The discharge of runoff to the MS4 from areas where repair of machinery and equipment which are visibly leaking oil, fluid or antifreeze, is undertaken;
  - e) The discharge of runoff to the MS4 from storage areas of materials containing grease, oil, or other hazardous substances, and uncovered receptacles containing hazardous materials;
  - f) The discharge of chlorinated/ brominated swimming pool water and filter backwash to the MS4;
  - g) The discharge of runoff from the washing of toxic materials from paved or unpaved areas to the MS4;
  - h) Washing impervious surfaces in industrial/commercial areas that results in a discharge of runoff to the MS4;
  - i) The discharge of concrete or cement laden wash water from concrete trucks, pumps, tools, and equipment to the MS4; and
  - j) Dumping or disposal of materials into the MS4 other than storm water, such as:

- (1) Litter, landscape debris and construction debris;
  - (2) Any state or federally banned or unregistered pesticides;
  - (3) Food and food processing wastes; and
  - (4) Fuel and chemical wastes, animal wastes, garbage, batteries, and other materials that have potential adverse impacts on water quality.
2. The Permittees shall possess adequate legal authority to:
- a) Require persons within their jurisdiction to comply with conditions in Permittees' ordinances, permits, contracts, model programs, or orders (i.e. hold dischargers to its MS4 accountable for their contributions of pollutants and flows);
  - b) Utilize enforcement mechanisms to require compliance with Permittees ordinances, permits, contracts, or orders;
  - c) Control pollutants, including potential contribution, in discharges of storm water runoff associated with industrial activities (including construction activities) to its MS4 and control the quality of storm water runoff from industrial sites (including construction sites). This requirement applies to Source Control, and Treatment Control BMPs;
  - d) Carry out all inspection, surveillance and monitoring procedures necessary to determine compliance and non-compliance with permit conditions, including the prohibition of illicit discharges to the MS4. Permittees must possess authority to enter, sample, inspect, review and copy records, and require regular reports from industrial facilities (including construction sites) discharging polluted or with the potential to discharge polluted storm water runoff into its MS4;
  - e) Require the use of BMPs to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to MS4s to MEP; and
  - f) Require that Treatment Control BMPs be properly operated and maintained to prevent the breeding of vectors.
3. Each Permittee shall submit no later than October 7, 2011, a new or updated statement by its legal counsel that the Permittee has obtained all necessary legal authority to comply with this Order through adoption of ordinances and/or municipal code modifications.

#### **Part 4. SPECIAL PROVISIONS**

##### **Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP) Standard**

This permit, and the provisions herein, are intended to develop, achieve, and implement a timely, comprehensive, cost-effective storm water pollution control program to reduce

the discharge of pollutants in storm water to the MEP (through the use of management practices, control techniques, system, design, and engineering methods) and through such other provisions as the Regional Board determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants (including numeric effluent limitations where feasible) from the permitted areas in the County of Los Angeles to the waters of the U.S. subject to the Permittees' jurisdiction.

**A. General Requirements**

1. Best Management Practice Substitution

The Regional Board Executive Officer may approve any site-specific BMP substitution upon petition by a Permittee(s), if the Permittee can document that:

- a) The proposed alternative BMP or program will meet or exceed the objective of the original BMP or program in the reduction of storm water pollutants; or
- b) The fiscal burden of the original BMP or program is substantially greater than the proposed alternative and does not achieve a substantially greater improvement in storm water quality; and,
- c) The proposed alternative BMP or program will be implemented within a similar period of time.

**B. Public Information and Participation Program (PIPP)**

The Principal Permittee shall implement a Public Information and Participation Program (PIPP) that includes, but is not limited to, the requirements listed in this section. The Principal Permittee shall be responsible for developing and implementing the Public Education Program, as described in the SQMP, and shall coordinate with Permittees to implement specific requirements.

The objectives of the PIPP are as follows:

- To measurably increase the knowledge of the target audiences regarding the MS4, the impacts of storm water pollution on receiving waters, and potential solutions to mitigate the problems caused;
- To measurably change the waste disposal and runoff pollution generation behavior of target audiences by encouraging implementation of appropriate solutions; and
- To involve and engage socio-economic groups and ethnic communities in Los Angeles County to participate in mitigating the impacts of storm water pollution.

The Principal Permittee shall convene an advisory committee to provide input and assistance in meeting the goals and objectives of the public education campaign. The advisory committee shall be consulted during the process of developing the PIPP campaign, and shall provide comments and advice during the process of preparing a Request For Proposals for a storm water public education contractor. The committee may participate as a part of a working

group that evaluates contractor proposals and other tasks as appropriate. The committee shall be comprised of representatives of the environmental community, Permittee cities, Regional Board staff, and experts in the fields of public education and marketing. The Principal Permittee shall ensure that the committee meets at least once a year.

1. Residential Program

a) "No Dumping" Message

Each Permittee shall mark all storm drain inlets that they own with a legible "no dumping" message. In addition, signs with prohibitive language discouraging illegal dumping must be posted at designated public access points to creeks, other relevant water bodies, and channels. Signage and storm drain messages shall be legible and maintained as necessary during the term of the permit.

b) Countywide Hotline

The 888-CLEAN-LA hotline will serve as the general public reporting contact for reporting clogged catch basin inlets and illicit discharges/dumping, faded or lack of catch basin stencils, and general storm water management information. Each Permittee may establish its own hotline if preferred. Permittees shall include this information, updated when necessary, in public information, and the government pages of the telephone book, as they are developed or published. The Principal Permittee shall compile a list of the general public reporting contacts from all Permittees and make this information available on the web site (888CleanLA.com) and upon request. Permittees are responsible for providing current, updated information to the Principal Permittee.

c) Outreach and Education

(1) The Principal Permittee shall continue to implement the following activities that were components of the first five-year PIPP:

- (i) Advertising;
- (ii) Media relations;
- (iii) Public service announcements;
- (iv) "How To" instructional material distributed in a targeted and activity-related manner;
- (v) Corporate, community association, environmental organization and entertainment industry tie-ins; and
- (vi) Events targeted to specific activities and population subgroups.

- (2) The Principal Permittee shall develop and implement a strategy to educate ethnic communities and businesses through culturally effective methods. Details of this strategy should be incorporated into the Public Education Program.
- (3) The Principal Permittee shall enhance the existing outreach efforts to residents and businesses related to the proper disposal of cigarette butts.
- (4) Each Permittee shall conduct educational activities within its jurisdiction and participate in countywide events.
- (5) The Principal Permittee shall organize Public Outreach Strategy meetings for Permittees on a quarterly basis. The Principal Permittee shall provide guidance for Permittees to augment the countywide outreach and education program. Permittees shall coordinate regional and local outreach and education to reduce duplication of efforts. Permittees are encouraged to include other interested parties in the outreach strategy to strengthen and coordinate educational efforts.
- (6) The Principal Permittee shall ensure that a minimum of 35 million impressions per year are made on the general public about storm water quality via print, local TV access, local radio, or other appropriate media.
- (7) The Principal Permittee, in cooperation with the Permittees, shall provide schools within each School District in the County with materials, including, but not limited to, videos, live presentations, and other information necessary to educate a minimum of 50 percent of all school children (K-12) every 2 years on storm water pollution.
- (8) Permittees shall provide the contact information for their appropriate staff responsible for storm water public education activities to the Principal Permittee, and changes to contact information no later than 30 days after a change occurs.
- (9) The Principal Permittee shall develop and implement a strategy to measure the effectiveness of in-school educational programs. The protocol shall include assessment of students' knowledge of storm water pollution problems and solutions before and after educational efforts are conducted.
- (10) In order to ensure that the PIPP is demonstrably effective in changing the behavior of the public, the Principal Permittee shall develop and conduct a behavioral change assessment. The strategy shall be developed based on

sociological data and studies (such as the County Segmentation Study).

d) Pollutant-Specific Outreach

The Principal Permittee, in cooperation with Permittees, shall coordinate to develop outreach programs that focus on the watershed-specific pollutants listed in Table 1. Metals may be appropriately addressed through the Industrial/Commercial Facilities Program (e.g. distribute education materials on appropriate BMPs for metal waste management to facilities that have been identified as a potential source, such as metal fabricating facilities). Region-wide pollutants may be included in the Principal Permittee's mass media outreach efforts.

<b>Table 1.</b>	
<b>Watershed</b>	<b>Target Pollutants for Outreach</b>
Ballona Creek	Trash, Indicator Bacteria, Metals, PAHs
Malibu Creek	Trash, Nutrients (Nitrogen), Indicator Bacteria, Sediments
Los Angeles River	Trash, Nutrients (Nitrogen), Indicator Bacteria, Metals, Pesticides, PAHs
San Gabriel River	Trash, Nutrients (Nitrogen), Indicator Bacteria, Metals
Santa Clara River	Nutrients (Nitrogen), Coliform
Dominguez Channel	Trash, Indicator Bacteria, PAHs

Each Permittee shall make outreach materials available to the general public and target audiences, such as schools, community groups, contractors and developers, and at appropriate public counters and events. Outreach material shall include information on pollutants, sources of concern, and source abatement measures.

2. Businesses Program

a) Corporate Outreach

The Principal Permittee shall develop and implement a Corporate Outreach program to educate and inform corporate managers about storm water regulations. The program shall target RGOs and restaurant chains. At a minimum, this program shall include:

- (1) Conferring with corporate management to explain storm water regulations;
- (2) Distribution and discussion of educational material regarding storm water pollution and BMPs, and provide managers with suggestions to facilitate employee compliance with storm water regulations.

Corporate Outreach for all RGOs and restaurant chain corporations shall be conducted not less than once during the 18-month permit term.

b) **Business Assistance Program**

The Principal Permittee and Permittees may implement a Business Assistance Program to provide technical resource assistance to small businesses to advise them on BMPs implementation to reduce the discharge of pollutants in storm water runoff. Programs may include:

- (1) On-site technical assistance or consultation via telephone to identify and implement storm water pollution prevention methods and best management practices; and
- (2) Making available, distributing, and discussing of applicable BMP and educational materials.

**C. Industrial/Commercial Facilities Control Program**

Each Permittee shall require implementation of pollutant reduction and control measures at industrial and commercial facilities, with the objective of reducing pollutants in storm water runoff. Except as specified in other sections of this Order, pollutant reduction and control measures can be used alone or in combination, and can include Structural and Source Control BMPs, and operation and maintenance procedures, which can be applied before, during, and/or after pollution generating activities. At a minimum, the Industrial/Commercial Facilities Control Program shall include requirements to: (1) track, (2) inspect, and (3) ensure compliance at industrial and commercial facilities that are critical sources of pollutants in storm water.

**1. Track Critical Sources**

- a) Each Permittee shall maintain a watershed-based inventory or database of all facilities within its jurisdiction that are critical sources of storm water pollution. Critical sources to be tracked are summarized below, and also specified in Attachment B:
  - (1) **Commercial Facilities**
    - restaurants;
    - automotive service facilities; and
    - RGOs and automotive dealerships.
  - (2) **USEPA Phase I Facilities (Tier 1 and 2)**
  - (3) **Other Federally-mandated Facilities [as specified in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C)]**
    - municipal landfills;
    - hazardous waste treatment, disposal, and recovery facilities; and

- facilities subject to SARA Title III (also known as EPCRA).
- b) Each Permittee shall include the following minimum fields of information for each industrial and commercial facility:
- name of facility and name of owner/operator;
  - address;
  - coverage under the GIASP or other individual or general NPDES permits; and
  - a narrative description including SIC codes that best reflects the industrial activities at and principal products of each facility.

The Regional Board encourages Permittees to add other fields of information, such as material usage and/or industrial output, and discrepancies between SIC Code designations (as reported by facility operators) and the actual type of industrial activity has the potential to pollute storm water. In addition, the Regional Board recommends use of an automated database system, such as a Geographical Information System (GIS) or Internet-based system; however, this is not required.

- c) Each Permittee shall update its inventory of critical sources at least annually. The update may be accomplished through collection of new information obtained through field activities or through other readily available intra-agency informational databases (e.g. business licenses, pretreatment permits, sanitary sewer hook-up permits).

## **2. Inspect Critical Sources**

Each Permittee shall inspect all facilities in the categories and at a level and frequency as specified in the following subsections.

- a) Commercial Facilities
- (1) Restaurants

Frequency of Inspection: Once during the 18-month term of the Order.

Level of inspections: Each Permittee, in cooperation with its appropriate department (such as health or public works), shall inspect all restaurants within its jurisdiction to confirm that storm water BMPs are being effectively implemented in compliance with State law, County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP. At each restaurant, inspectors shall verify that the restaurant operator:



- has received educational materials on storm water pollution prevention practices;
- does not pour oil and grease or oil and grease residue onto a parking lot, street or adjacent catch basin;
- keeps the trash bin area clean and trash bin lids closed, and does not fill trash bins with washout water or any other liquid;
- does not allow illicit discharges, such as discharge of washwater from floormats, floors, porches, parking lots, alleys, sidewalks and street areas (in the immediate vicinity of the establishment), filters or garbage/trash containers;
- removes food waste, rubbish or other materials from parking lot areas in a sanitary manner that does not create a nuisance or discharge to the storm drain.

(2) Automotive Service Facilities

Frequency of Inspection: Once during the 18-month term of the Order.

Level of inspections: Each Permittee shall inspect all automotive service facilities within its jurisdiction to confirm that storm water BMPs are effectively implemented in compliance with County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP. At each automotive service facility, inspectors shall verify that each operator:

- maintains the facility area so that it is clean and dry and without evidence of excessive staining;
- implements housekeeping BMPs to prevent spills and leaks;
- properly discharges wastewaters to a sanitary sewer and/or contains wastewaters for transfer to a legal point of disposal;
- is aware of the prohibition on discharge of non-storm water to the storm drain;
- properly manages raw and waste materials including proper disposal of hazardous waste;
- protects outdoor work and storage areas to prevent contact of pollutants with rainfall and runoff;
- labels, inspects, and routinely cleans storm drain inlets that are located on the facility's property; and
- trains employees to implement storm water pollution prevention practices.

(3) Retail Gasoline Outlets and Automotive Dealerships

Frequency of Inspection: Once during the 18-month term of the Order.

Level of Inspection: Each Permittee shall confirm that BMPs are being effectively implemented at each RGO and automotive dealership within its jurisdiction, in compliance with the SQMP, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the Stormwater Quality Task Force Best Management Practice Guide for RGOs. At each RGO and automotive dealership, inspectors shall verify that each operator:

- routinely sweeps fuel-dispensing areas for removal of litter and debris, and keeps rags and absorbents ready for use in case of leaks and spills;
- is aware that washdown of facility area to the storm drain is prohibited;
- is aware of design flaws (such as grading that doesn't prevent run-on, or inadequate roof covers and berms), and that equivalent BMPs are implemented;
- inspects and cleans storm drain inlets and catch basins within each facility's boundaries no later than October 1<sup>st</sup> of each year;
- posts signs close to fuel dispensers, which warn vehicle owners/operators against "topping off" of vehicle fuel tanks and installation of automatic shutoff fuel dispensing nozzles;
- routinely checks outdoor waste receptacle and air/water supply areas, cleans leaks and drips, and ensures that only watertight waste receptacles are used and that lids are closed; and
- trains employees to properly manage hazardous materials and wastes as well as to implement other storm water pollution prevention practices.

b) Phase I Facilities

Permittees need not inspect facilities that have been inspected by the Regional Board within the past 18 months. For the remaining Phase I facilities that the Regional Board has not inspected, each Permittee shall conduct compliance inspections as specified below.

**Frequency of Inspection**

**Facilities in Tier 1 Categories:** Once during the 18-month term of the Order.

**Facilities in Tier 2 Categories:** Once during the 18-month term of the Order. Permittees need not perform inspections of those facilities determined to have no risk of exposure of industrial activity to storm water during the last two years preceding this Order.

**Level of Inspection:** Each Permittee shall confirm that each operator:

- has a current Waste Discharge Identification (WDID) number for facilities discharging storm water associated with industrial activity, and that a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is available on-site, and
- is effectively implementing BMPs in compliance with County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP.

c) Other Federally-mandated Facilities

Frequency of Inspection: Once during the 18-month term of the Order

**Level of Inspection:** Each Permittee shall confirm that each operator:

- has a current Waste Discharge Identification (WDID) number for facilities discharging storm water associated with industrial activity, and that a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan is available on-site, and
- is effectively implementing BMPs in compliance with County and municipal ordinances, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and the SQMP.

3. Ensure Compliance of Critical Sources

- a) **BMP Implementation:** In the event that a Permittee determines that a BMP specified by the SQMP or Regional Board Resolution 98-08 is infeasible at any site, that Permittee shall require implementation of other BMPs that will achieve the equivalent reduction of pollutants in the storm water discharges. Likewise, for those BMPs that are not adequate to achieve water quality objectives, Permittees may require additional site-specific controls, such as Treatment Control BMPs.
- b) **Environmentally Sensitive Areas and Impaired Waters:** For critical sources that are in ESAs or that are tributary to CWA § 303(d) impaired water bodies, Permittees shall consider requiring operators to implement additional controls to reduce pollutants in

storm water runoff that are causing or contributing to the exceedences of Water Quality Objectives.

- c) **Progressive Enforcement:** Each Permittee shall implement a progressive enforcement policy to ensure that facilities are brought into compliance with all storm water requirements within a reasonable time period as specified below.
- (1) In the event that a Permittee determines, based on an inspection conducted above, that an operator has failed to adequately implement all necessary BMPs, that Permittee shall take progressive enforcement action which, at a minimum, shall include a follow-up inspection within 4 weeks from the date of the initial inspection.
  - (2) In the event that a Permittee determines that an operator has failed to adequately implement BMPs after a follow-up inspection, that Permittee shall take further enforcement action as established through authority in its municipal code and ordinances or through the judicial system.
  - (3) Each Permittee shall maintain records, including inspection reports, warning letters, notices of violations, and other enforcement records, demonstrating a good faith effort to bring facilities into compliance.
- d) Interagency Coordination
- (1) **Referral of Violations of the SQMP, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and Municipal Storm Water Ordinances:** A Permittee may refer a violation(s) to the Regional Board provided that that Permittee has made a good faith effort of progressive enforcement. At a minimum, a Permittee's good faith effort must include documentation of:
    - Two follow-up inspections, and
    - Two warning letters or notices of violation.
  - (2) **Referral of Violations of the GIASP, including Requirements to File a Notice of Intent:** For those facilities in violation of the GIASP, Permittees may escalate referral of such violations to the Regional Board after one inspection and one written notice to the operator regarding the violation. In making such referrals, Permittees shall include, at a minimum, the following documentation:
    - Name of the facility;
    - Operator of the facility;
    - Owner of the facility;

- Industrial activity being conducted at the facility that is subject to the GIASP; and
- Records of communication with the facility operator regarding the violation, which shall include at least an inspection report and one written notice of the violation.

Permittees shall, at a minimum, make such referrals on a quarterly basis.

- (3) **Investigation of Complaints Regarding Facilities – Transmitted by the Regional Board Staff:** Each Permittee shall initiate, within one business day, investigation of complaints (other than non-storm water discharges) regarding facilities within its jurisdiction. The initial investigation shall include, at a minimum, a limited inspection of the facility to confirm the complaint to determine if the facility is effectively complying with the SQMP and municipal storm water/urban runoff ordinances, and to oversee corrective action.
- (4) **Support of Regional Board Enforcement Actions:** As directed by the Regional Board Executive Officer, Permittees shall support Regional Board enforcement actions by: assisting in identification of current owners, operators, and lessees of facilities; providing staff, when available, for joint inspections with Regional Board inspectors; appearing as witnesses in Regional Board enforcement hearings; and providing copies of inspection reports and other progressive enforcement documentation.
- (5) **Participation in a Task Force:** The Permittees, Regional Board, and other stakeholders may form a Storm Water Task Force, the purpose of which is to communicate concerns regarding special cases of storm water violations by industrial and commercial facilities and to develop a coordinated approach to enforcement action.

#### **D. Development Planning Program**

The Permittees shall implement a development-planning program that will require all Planning Priority development and Redevelopment projects to:

- Minimize impacts from storm water and urban runoff on the biological integrity of Natural Drainage Systems and water bodies in accordance with requirements under CEQA (Cal. Pub. Resources Code § 21100), CWC § 13369, CWA § 319, CWA § 402(p), CWA § 404, CZARA § 6217(g), ESA § 7, and local government ordinances;
- Maximize the percentage of pervious surfaces to allow percolation of storm water into the ground;

- Minimize the quantity of storm water directed to impervious surfaces and the MS4;
- Minimize pollution emanating from parking lots through the use of appropriate Treatment Control BMPs and good housekeeping practices;
- Properly design and maintain Treatment Control BMPs in a manner that does not promote the breeding of vectors; and
- Provide for appropriate permanent measures to reduce storm water pollutant loads in storm water from the development site.

1. Peak Flow Control

The Permittees shall control post-development peak storm water runoff discharge rates, velocities, and duration (peak flow control) in Natural Drainage Systems (i.e., mimic pre-development hydrology) to prevent accelerated stream erosion and to protect stream habitat. Natural Drainage Systems are located in the following areas:

- a) Malibu Creek;
- b) Topanga Canyon Creek;
- c) Upper Los Angeles River;
- d) Upper San Gabriel River;
- e) Santa Clara River; and
- f) Los Angeles County Coastal streams (see Basin Plan Table 2-1).

The Principal Permittee in consultation with Permittees shall develop numerical criteria for peak flow control, based on the results of the Peak Discharge Impact Study (see Monitoring Program Section II.I).

Each Permittee shall implement numerical criteria for peak flow control.

A Permittee or group of Permittees may substitute for the countywide peak flow control criteria with a Hydromodification Control Plan (HCP), on approval by the Regional Board, in the following circumstances:

- (1) Stream or watershed-specific conditions indicate the need for a different peak flow control criteria, and the alternative numerical criteria is developed through the application of hydrologic modeling and supporting field observations; or
- (2) A watershed-wide plan has been developed for implementation of control measures to reduce erosion and stabilize drainage systems on a watershed basis.

2. Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plans (SUSMPs)
  - a) Each Permittee shall amend codes and ordinances to give legal effect to SUSMP changes contained in this Order.
  - b) Each Permittee shall require that a single-family hillside home:
    - (1) Conserve natural areas;
    - (2) Protect slopes and channels;
    - (3) Provide storm drain system stenciling and signage;
    - (4) Divert roof runoff to vegetated areas before discharge unless the diversion would result in slope instability; and
    - (5) Direct surface flow to vegetated areas before discharge unless the diversion would result in slope instability.
  - c) Each Permittee shall require that a SUSMP as approved by the Regional Board in Board Resolution No. R 00-02 be implemented for the following categories of developments:
    - (1) Ten or more unit homes (includes single family homes, multifamily homes, condominiums, and apartments);
    - (2) A 100,000 or more square feet of impervious surface area industrial/ commercial development;
    - (3) Automotive service facilities (SIC 5013, 5014, 5541, 7532-7534, and 7536-7539);
    - (4) Retail gasoline outlets;
    - (5) Restaurants (SIC 5812);
    - (6) Parking lots 5,000 square feet or more of surface area or with 25 or more parking spaces; and
    - (7) Redevelopment projects in subject categories that meet Redevelopment thresholds.
  - d) Each Permittee shall require the implementation of SUSMP provisions, for all projects located in or directly adjacent to or discharging directly to an ESA, where the development will:
    - (1) Discharge storm water and urban runoff that is likely to impact a sensitive biological species or habitat; and
    - (2) Create 2,500 square feet or more of impervious surface area.
3. Numerical Design Criteria

The Permittees shall require that post-construction Treatment Control BMPs incorporate, at a minimum, either a volumetric or flow based

treatment control design standard, or both, as identified below to mitigate (infiltrate, filter or treat) storm water runoff:

- a) Volumetric Treatment Control BMP
  - (1) The 85<sup>th</sup> percentile 24-hour runoff event determined as the maximized capture storm water volume for the area, from the formula recommended in *Urban Runoff Quality Management, WEF Manual of Practice No. 23/ ASCE Manual of Practice No. 87, (1998)*; or
  - (2) The volume of annual runoff based on unit basin storage water quality volume, to achieve 80 percent or more volume treatment by the method recommended in *California Stormwater Best Management Practices Handbook – Industrial/ Commercial, (1993)*; or
  - (3) The volume of runoff produced from a 0.75 inch storm event, prior to its discharge to a storm water conveyance system; or
  - (4) The volume of runoff produced from a historical-record based reference 24-hour rainfall criterion for “treatment” (0.75 inch average for the Los Angeles County area) that achieves approximately the same reduction in pollutant loads achieved by the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile 24-hour runoff event.
- b) Flow Based Treatment Control BMP
  - (1) The flow of runoff produced from a rain event equal to at least 0.2 inches per hour intensity; or
  - (2) The flow of runoff produced from a rain event equal to at least two times the 85<sup>th</sup> percentile hourly rainfall intensity for Los Angeles County; or
  - (3) The flow of runoff produced from a rain event that will result in treatment of the same portion of runoff as treated using volumetric standards above.

#### 4. Applicability of Numerical Design Criteria

The Permittees shall require the following categories of Planning Priority Projects to design and implement post-construction treatment controls to mitigate storm water pollution:

- a) Single-family hillside residential developments of one acre or more of surface area;
- b) Housing developments (includes single family homes, multifamily homes, condominiums, and apartments) of ten units or more;
- c) A 100,000 square feet or more impervious surface area industrial/commercial development;



- d) Automotive service facilities (SIC 5013, 5014, 5541, 7532-7534 and 7536-7539) [5,000 square feet or more of surface area];
  - e) Retail gasoline outlets [5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface area and with projected Average Daily Traffic (ADT) of 100 or more vehicles]. Subsurface Treatment Control BMPs which may endanger public safety (i.e., create an explosive environment) are considered not appropriate;
  - f) Restaurants (SIC 5812) [5,000 square feet or more of surface area];
  - g) Parking lots 5,000 square feet or more of surface area or with 25 or more parking spaces;
  - h) Projects located in, adjacent to or discharging directly to an ESA that meet threshold conditions identified above in 2.e; and
  - i) Redevelopment projects in subject categories that meet Redevelopment thresholds.
5. Each Permittee shall require the implementation of SUSMP and post-construction control requirements for the industrial/commercial development category to projects that disturb one acre or more of surface area.

6. Site Specific Mitigation

Each Permittee shall require the implementation of a site-specific plan to mitigate post-development storm water for new development and redevelopment not requiring a SUSMP but which may potentially have adverse impacts on post-development storm water quality, where one or more of the following project characteristics exist:

- a) Vehicle or equipment fueling areas;
  - b) Vehicle or equipment maintenance areas, including washing and repair;
  - c) Commercial or industrial waste handling or storage;
  - d) Outdoor handling or storage of hazardous materials;
  - e) Outdoor manufacturing areas;
  - f) Outdoor food handling or processing;
  - g) Outdoor animal care, confinement, or slaughter; or
  - h) Outdoor horticulture activities.
7. Redevelopment Projects

The Permittees shall apply the SUSMP, or site specific requirements including post-construction storm water mitigation to all Planning Priority

Projects that undergo significant Redevelopment in their respective categories.

- a) Significant Redevelopment means land-disturbing activity that results in the creation or addition or replacement of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface area on an already developed site.

Where Redevelopment results in an alteration to more than fifty percent of impervious surfaces of a previously existing development, and the existing development was not subject to post development storm water quality control requirements, the entire project must be mitigated. Where Redevelopment results in an alteration to less than fifty percent of impervious surfaces of a previously existing development, and the existing development was not subject to post development storm water quality control requirements, only the alteration must be mitigated, and not the entire development.

- b) Redevelopment does not include routine maintenance activities that are conducted to maintain original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, original purpose of facility or emergency redevelopment activity required to protect public health and safety.
- c) Existing single family structures are exempt from the Redevelopment requirements.

#### 8. Maintenance Agreement and Transfer

Each Permittee shall require that all developments subject to SUSMP and site specific plan requirements provide verification of maintenance provisions for Structural and Treatment Control BMPs, including but not limited to legal agreements, covenants, CEQA mitigation requirements, and or conditional use permits. Verification at a minimum shall include:

- a) The developer's signed statement accepting responsibility for maintenance until the responsibility is legally transferred; and either
- b) A signed statement from the public entity assuming responsibility for Structural or Treatment Control BMP maintenance and that it meets all local agency design standards; or
- c) Written conditions in the sales or lease agreement, which requires the recipient to assume responsibility for maintenance and conduct a maintenance inspection at least once a year; or
- d) Written text in project conditions, covenants and restrictions (CCRs) for residential properties assigning maintenance responsibilities to the Home Owners Association for maintenance of the Structural and Treatment Control BMPs; or

- e) Any other legally enforceable agreement that assigns responsibility for the maintenance of post-construction Structural or Treatment Control BMPs.

9. Regional Storm Water Mitigation Program

A Permittee or Permittee group may apply to the Regional Board for approval of a regional or sub-regional storm water mitigation program to substitute in part or wholly SUSMP requirements. Upon review and a determination by the Regional Board Executive Officer that the proposal is technically valid and appropriate, the Regional Board may consider for approval such a program if its implementation will:

- a) Result in equivalent or improved storm water quality;
- b) Protect stream habitat;
- c) Promote cooperative problem solving by diverse interests;
- d) Be fiscally sustainable and has secure funding; and
- e) Be completed in five years including the construction and start-up of treatment facilities.

Nothing in this provision shall be construed as to delay the implementation of SUSMP requirements, as approved in this Order.

10. Mitigation Funding

The Permittees may propose a management framework, for endorsement by the Regional Board Executive Officer, to support regional or sub-regional solutions to storm water pollution, where any of the following situations occur:

- a) A waiver for impracticability is granted;
- b) Legislative funds become available;
- c) Off-site mitigation is required because of loss of environmental habitat; or
- d) An approved watershed management plan or a regional storm water mitigation plan exists that incorporates an equivalent or improved strategy for storm water mitigation.

11. California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Document Update

Each Permittee shall incorporate into its CEQA process, with immediate effect, procedures for considering potential storm water quality impacts and providing for appropriate mitigation when preparing and reviewing CEQA documents. The procedures shall require consideration of the following:

- a) Potential impact of project construction on storm water runoff;

- b) Potential impact of project post-construction activity on storm water runoff;
- c) Potential for discharge of storm water from areas from material storage, vehicle or equipment fueling, vehicle or equipment maintenance (including washing), waste handling, hazardous materials handling or storage, delivery areas or loading docks, or other outdoor work areas;
- d) Potential for discharge of storm water to impair the beneficial uses of the receiving waters or areas that provide water quality benefit;
- e) Potential for the discharge of storm water to cause significant harm on the biological integrity of the waterways and water bodies;
- f) Potential for significant changes in the flow velocity or volume of storm water runoff that can cause environmental harm; and
- g) Potential for significant increases in erosion of the project site or surrounding areas.

12. General Plan Update

- a) Each Permittee shall amend, revise or update its General Plan to include watershed and storm water quality and quantity management considerations and policies when any of the following General Plan elements are updated or amended: (i) Land Use, (ii) Housing, (iii) Conservation, and (iv) Open Space.
- b) Each Permittee shall provide the Regional Board with the draft amendment or revision when a listed General Plan element or the General Plan is noticed for comment in accordance with Cal. Govt. Code § 65350 *et seq.*

13. Targeted Employee Training

Each Permittee shall train its employees in targeted positions (whose jobs or activities are engaged in development planning) regarding the development planning requirements on an annual basis, and more frequently if necessary.

14. Developer Technical Guidance and Information

- a) Each Permittee shall develop and make available to the developer community SUSMP (development planning) guidelines immediately.

**E. Development Construction Program**

1. Each Permittee shall implement a program to control runoff from construction activity at all construction sites within its jurisdiction. The program shall ensure the following minimum requirements are effectively implemented at all construction sites:
  - a) Sediments generated on the project site shall be retained using adequate Treatment Control or Structural BMPs;
  - b) Construction-related materials, wastes, spills, or residues shall be retained at the project site to avoid discharge to streets, drainage facilities, receiving waters, or adjacent properties by wind or runoff;
  - c) Non-storm water runoff from equipment and vehicle washing and any other activity shall be contained at the project site; and
  - d) Erosion from slopes and channels shall be controlled by implementing an effective combination of BMPs (as approved in Regional Board Resolution No. 99-03), such as the limiting of grading scheduled during the wet season; inspecting graded areas during rain events; planting and maintenance of vegetation on slopes; and covering erosion susceptible slopes.
2. For construction sites one acre and greater, each Permittee shall comply with all conditions in section E.1. above and shall:
  - a) Require the preparation and submittal of a Local Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (Local SWPPP), for approval prior to issuance of a grading permit for construction projects.

The Local SWPPP shall include appropriate construction site BMPs and maintenance schedules. (A Local SWPPP may substitute for the State SWPPP if the Local SWPPP is at least as inclusive in controls and BMPs as the State SWPPP). The Local SWPPP must include the rationale used for selecting or rejecting BMPs. The project architect, or engineer of record, or authorized qualified designee, must sign a statement on the Local SWPPP to the effect:

*“As the architect/engineer of record, I have selected appropriate BMPs to effectively minimize the negative impacts of this project’s construction activities on storm water quality. The project owner and contractor are aware that the selected BMPs must be installed, monitored, and maintained to ensure their effectiveness. The BMPs not selected for implementation are redundant or deemed not applicable to the proposed construction activity.”*

The landowner or the landowner’s agent shall sign a statement to the effect:

*“I certify 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, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the information submitted is true, accurate, and complete. I am aware that submitting false and/or inaccurate information, failing to update the Local SWPPP to reflect current conditions, or failing to properly and/or adequately implement the Local SWPPP may result in revocation of grading and/or other permits or other sanctions provided by law.”*

The Local SWPPP certification shall be signed by the landowner as follows, for a corporation: by a responsible corporate officer which means (a) a president, secretary, treasurer, or vice president of the corporation in charge of a principal business function, or any other person who performs similar policy or decision-making functions for the corporation, or (b) the manager of the construction activity if authority to sign documents has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with corporate procedures; for a partnership or sole proprietorship: by a general partner or the proprietor; or for a municipality or other public agency: by an elected official, a ranking management official (e.g., County Administrative Officer, City Manager, Director of Public Works, City Engineer, District Manager), or the manager of the construction activity if authority to sign Local SWPPPs has been assigned or delegated to the manager in accordance with established agency policy.

- b) Inspect all construction sites for storm water quality requirements during routine inspections a minimum of once during the wet season. The Local SWPPP shall be reviewed for compliance with local codes, ordinances, and permits. For inspected sites that have not adequately implemented their Local SWPPP, a follow-up inspection to ensure compliance will take place within 2 weeks. If compliance has not been attained, the Permittee will take additional actions to achieve compliance (as specified in municipal codes). If compliance has not been achieved, and the site is also covered under a statewide general construction storm water permit, each Permittee shall enforce their local ordinance requirements, and if non-compliance continues the Regional Board shall be notified for further joint enforcement actions.

- c) Require, prior to issuing a grading permit for all projects requiring coverage under a statewide general construction storm water permit, proof of a Waste Discharger Identification (WDID) Number for filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) for permit coverage and a certification that a SWPPP has been prepared by the project developer. A Local SWPPP may substitute for the State SWPPP if the Local SWPPP is at least as inclusive in controls and BMPs as the State SWPPP.
3. For sites one acre and greater, each Permittee shall comply with all conditions in Sections E.1. and E.2. and shall:
  - a) Require, prior to issuing a grading permit for all projects requiring coverage under the state general permit, proof of a Waste Discharger Identification (WDID) Number for filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the GCASP and a certification that a SWPPP has been prepared by the project developer. A Local SWPPP may substitute for the State SWPPP if the Local SWPPP is at least as inclusive in controls and BMPs as the State SWPPP.
  - b) Require proof of an NOI and a copy of the SWPPP at any time a transfer of ownership takes place for the entire development or portions of the common plan of development where construction activities are still on-going.
  - c) Use an effective system to track grading permits issued by each Permittee. To satisfy this requirement, the use of a database or GIS system is encouraged, but not required.
4. GCASP Violation Referrals
  - a) Referral of Violations of the SQMP, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, and municipal storm water ordinances:

A Permittee may refer a violation(s) to the Regional Board provided that the Permittee has made a good faith effort of progressive enforcement. At a minimum, a Permittee's good faith effort must include documentation of:

    - Two follow-up inspections within 3 months, and
    - Two warning letters or notices of violation.
  - b) Referral of Violations of GCASP Filing Requirements:

For those projects subject to the GCASP, Permittees shall refer non-filers (i.e., those projects which cannot demonstrate that they have a WDID number) to the Regional Board, within 15 days of making a determination. In making such referrals, Permittees shall include, at a minimum, the following documentation:

    - Project location;
    - Developer;
    - Estimated project size; and
    - Records of communication with the developer regarding filing requirements.

5. Each Permittee shall train employees in targeted positions (whose jobs or activities are engaged in construction activities including construction inspection staff) regarding the requirements of the storm water management program annually thereafter. Each Permittee shall maintain a list of trained employees.

**F. Public Agency Activities Program**

Each Permittee shall implement a Public Agency program to minimize storm water pollution impacts from public agency activities. Public Agency requirements consist of:

- Sewage Systems Maintenance, Overflow, and Spill Prevention
- Public Construction Activities Management
- Vehicle Maintenance/Material Storage Facilities/Corporation Yards Management
- Landscape and Recreational Facilities Management
- Storm Drain Operation and Management
- Streets and Roads Maintenance
- Parking Facilities Management
- Public Industrial Activities Management
- Emergency Procedures
- Treatment Feasibility Study

1. Sewage System Maintenance, Overflow, and Spill Prevention
  - a) Each Permittee shall implement a response plan for overflows of the sanitary sewer system within their respective jurisdiction, which shall consist at a minimum of the following:
    - (1) Investigation of any complaints received;
    - (2) Upon notification, immediate response to overflows for containment; and
    - (3) Notification to appropriate sewer and public health agencies when a sewer overflows to the MS4.
  - b) In addition to 1.a.1, 1.a.2, and 1.a.3 above, for those Permittees, which own and/or operate a sanitary sewer system, the Permittee shall also implement the following requirements:
    - (1) Procedures to prevent sewage spills or leaks from sewage facilities from entering the MS4; and
    - (2) Identify, repair, and remediate sanitary sewer blockages, exfiltration, overflow, and wet weather overflows from sanitary sewers to the MS4.



2. Public Construction Activities Management
  - a) Each Permittee shall implement the Development Planning Program requirements (Permit Part 4.D) at public construction projects.
  - b) Each Permittee shall implement the Development Construction Program requirements (Permit Part 4.E) at Permittee owned construction sites.
  - c) Each Permittee shall obtain coverage under the GCASP for public construction sites one acre or greater (or part of a larger area of development).
  
3. Vehicle Maintenance/Material Storage Facilities/Corporation Yards Management
  - a) Each Permittee, consistent with the SQMP, shall implement SWPPPs for public vehicle maintenance facilities, material storage facilities, and corporation yards which have the potential to discharge pollutants into storm water.
  - b) Each Permittee shall implement BMPs to minimize pollutant discharges in storm water including but not be limited to:
    - (1) Good housekeeping practices;
    - (2) Material storage control;
    - (3) Vehicle leaks and spill control; and
    - (4) Illicit discharge control.
  - c) Each Permittee shall implement the following measures to prevent the discharge of pollutants to the MS4:
    - (1) For existing facilities, that are not already plumbed to the sanitary sewer, all vehicle and equipment wash areas (except for fire stations) shall either be:
      - (i) Self-contained;
      - (ii) Equipped with a clarifier;
      - (iii) Equipped with an alternative pre-treatment device; or
      - (iv) Plumbed to the sanitary sewer.
    - (2) For new facilities, or during redevelopment of existing facilities (including fire stations), all vehicle and equipment wash areas shall be plumbed to the sanitary sewer and be

equipped with a pre-treatment device in accordance with requirements of the sewer agency.

4. Landscape and Recreational Facilities Management

Each Permittee shall implement the following requirements:

- a) A standardized protocol for the routine and non-routine application of pesticides, herbicides (including pre-emergents), and fertilizers;
- b) Consistency with State Board's guidelines and monitoring requirements for application of aquatic pesticides to surface waters (WQ Order No. 2001-12 DWQ);
- c) Ensure no application of pesticides or fertilizers immediately before, during, or immediately after a rain event or when water is flowing off the area to be applied;
- d) Ensure that no banned or unregistered pesticides are stored or applied;
- e) Ensure that staff applying pesticides are certified by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, or are under the direct supervision of a certified pesticide applicator;
- f) Implement procedures to encourage retention and planting of native vegetation and to reduce water, fertilizer, and pesticide needs;
- g) Store fertilizers and pesticides indoors or under cover on paved surfaces or use secondary containment;
- h) Reduce the use, storage, and handling of hazardous materials to reduce the potential for spills; and
- i) Regularly inspect storage areas.

5. Storm Drain Operation and Management

- a) Each Permittee shall designate catch basin inlets within its jurisdiction as one of the following:
  - Priority A: Catch basins that are designated as consistently generating the highest volumes of trash and/or debris.
  - Priority B: Catch basins that are designated as consistently generating moderate volumes of trash and/or debris.
  - Priority C: Catch basins that are designated as generating low volumes of trash and/or debris.
- b) Permittees subject to a trash TMDL (Ballona Creek WMA) shall continue to implement the requirements listed below until trash

TMDL implementation measures are adopted. Thereafter, the subject Permittees shall implement programs in conformance with the TMDL implementation schedule, which shall include an effective combination of measures such as street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, installation of treatment devices and trash receptacles, or other BMPs. Default requirements include:

- (1) Inspection and cleaning of catch basins between May 1 and September 30 of each year;
- (2) Additional cleaning of any catch basin that is at least 40% full of trash and/or debris;
- (3) Record keeping of catch basins cleaned; and
- (4) Recording of the overall quantity of catch basin waste collected.

Until requirements consistent with the Ballona Creek Trash TMDL are incorporated into this Order or future orders, subject Permittees shall implement the requirements described below in subsection 5(c).

Permittees subject to the Los Angeles River Watershed Trash TMDL shall implement the requirements set forth in Part 7. Total Maximum Daily Load Provisions, subsection 1 "TMDL for Trash in the Los Angeles River Watershed".

c) Permittees not subject to a trash TMDL shall:

- (1) Clean catch basins according to the following schedule:

Priority A: A minimum of three times during the wet season and once during the dry season every year.

Priority B: A minimum of once during the wet season and once during the dry season every year.

Priority C: A minimum of once per year.

In addition to the schedule above, Permittees shall ensure that any catch basin that is at least 25% full of trash and debris shall be cleaned out.

- (2) For any special event that can be reasonably expected to generate substantial quantities of trash and litter, include provisions that require for the proper management of trash and litter generated, as a condition of the special use permit issued for that event. At a minimum, the municipality who issues the permit for the special event shall arrange for either temporary screens to be placed on

catch basins or for catch basins in that area to be cleaned out subsequent to the event and prior to any rain event.

- (3) Place trash receptacles at all transit stops within its jurisdiction. All trash receptacles shall be maintained as necessary.
- d) Each Permittee shall inspect the legibility of the catch basin stencil or label nearest the inlet. Catch basins with illegible stencils shall be recorded and re-stenciled or re-labeled within 180 days of inspection.
- e) Each Permittee shall implement BMPs for Storm Drain Maintenance that include:
  - (1) A program to visually monitor Permittee-owned open channels and other drainage structures for debris at least annually and identify and prioritize problem areas of illicit discharge for regular inspection;
  - (2) A review of current maintenance activities to assure that appropriate storm water BMPs are being utilized to protect water quality;
  - (3) Removal of trash and debris from open channel storm drains shall occur a minimum of once per year before the storm season;
  - (4) Minimize the discharge of contaminants during MS4 maintenance and clean outs; and
  - (5) Proper disposal of material removed.

6. Streets and Roads Maintenance

- a) Each Permittee shall designate streets and/or street segments within its jurisdiction as one of the following:
  - Priority A: Streets and/or street segments that are designated as consistently generating the highest volumes of trash and/or debris.
  - Priority B: Streets and/or street segments that are designated as consistently generating moderate volumes of trash and/or debris.
  - Priority C: Streets and/or street segments that are designated as generating low volumes of trash and/or debris.
- b) Each Permittee shall perform street sweeping of curbed streets according to the following schedule:
  - Priority A: These streets and/or street segments shall be swept at least two times per month.

Priority B: Each Permittee shall ensure that each street and/or street segments is swept at least once per month.

Priority C: These streets and/or street segments shall be swept as necessary but in no case less than once per year.

c) Each Permittee shall require that:

- (1) Sawcutting wastes be recovered and disposed of properly and that in no case shall waste be left on a roadway or allowed to enter the storm drain;
- (2) Concrete and other street and road maintenance materials and wastes shall be managed to prevent discharge to the MS4; and
- (3) The washout of concrete trucks and chutes shall only occur in designated areas and never discharged to storm drains, open ditches, streets, or catch basins.

d) Each Permittee shall train their employees in targeted positions (whose interactions, jobs, and activities affect storm water quality) regarding the requirements of the storm water management program to:

- (1) Promote a clear understanding of the potential for maintenance activities to pollute storm water; and
- (2) Identify and select appropriate BMPs.

## 7. Parking Facilities Management

Permittee-owned parking lots exposed to storm water shall be kept clear of debris and excessive oil buildup and cleaned no less than 2 times per month and/or inspected no less than 2 times per month to determine if cleaning is necessary. In no case shall a Permittee-owned parking lot be cleaned less than once a month.

## 8. Public Industrial Activities Management

Each Permittee shall, for any municipal activity considered a discharge of storm water associated with industrial activity, obtain separate coverage under the GIASP.

## 9. Emergency Procedures

Each Permittee shall repair essential public services and infrastructure in a manner to minimize environmental damage in emergency situations

such as: earthquakes; fires; floods; landslides; or windstorms. BMPs shall be implemented to the extent that measures do not compromise public health and safety. After initial emergency response or emergency repair activities have been completed, each Permittee shall implement BMPs and programs as required under this Order.

## **G. Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges Elimination Program**

Permittees shall eliminate all illicit connections and illicit discharges to the storm drain system, and shall document, track, and report all such cases in accordance with the elements and performance measures specified in the following subsections.

### **1. General**

- a) **Implementation:** Each Permittee must develop an Implementation Program which specifies how each Permittee is implementing revisions to the IC/ID Program of the SQMP. This Implementation Program must be documented, and available for review and approval by the Regional Board Executive Officer, upon request.
- b) **Tracking:** All Permittees shall maintain a listing of all permitted connections to their storm drain system. All Permittees shall map at a scale and in a format specified by the Principal Permittee all illicit connections and discharges on their maps, and shall transmit this information to the Principal Permittee. The Principal Permittee shall use this information to evaluate patterns and trends of illicit connections and illicit discharges, with the objectives of identifying priority areas for elimination of illicit connections and illicit discharges.
- c) **Training:** All Permittees shall train all targeted employees who are responsible for identification, investigation, termination, cleanup, and reporting of illicit connections and discharges. Furthermore, all Permittees shall conduct refresher training on an annual basis thereafter.

### **2. Illicit Connections**

- a) **Screening for Illicit Connections**
  - (1) **Field Screening:** All Permittees shall field screen the storm drain system for illicit connections in accordance with the following schedule:
    - (i) **Open channels:** No later than 18 months after permit adoption; and
    - (ii) **Underground pipes in priority areas:** No later than 18 months after permit adoption.

Permittees shall report, to the Principal Permittee, on the location and length of open channels or underground pipes that have been screened *vis a vis* the entire storm drain network, and on the status of suspected, confirmed, and terminated illicit connections. Permittees shall maintain a list containing all permitted connections and the status of connections under investigation for possible illicit connection.

(2) Permit Screening: No later than 18 months after permit adoption, Permittees shall complete a review of all permitted connections to the storm drain system, to confirm compliance with Part 1 (Discharge Prohibition).

b) Response to Illicit Connections

(1) Investigation: Upon discovery or upon receiving a report of a suspected illicit connection, Permittees shall initiate an investigation within 21 days, to determine the source of the connection, the nature and volume of discharge through the connection, and the responsible party for the connection.

(2) Termination: Upon confirmation of the illicit nature of a storm drain connection, Permittees shall ensure termination of the connection within 180 days, using enforcement authority as needed.

3. Illicit Discharges

a) Abatement and Cleanup: Permittees shall respond, within one business day of discovery or a report of a suspected illicit discharge, with activities to abate, contain, and clean up all illicit discharges, including hazardous substances.

b) Investigation: Permittees shall investigate illicit discharges as soon as practicable (during or immediately following containment and cleanup activities), and shall take enforcement action as appropriate.

## Part 5. DEFINITIONS

The following are definitions for terms applicable to this Order:

**"Adverse Impact"** means a detrimental effect upon water quality or beneficial uses caused by a discharge or loading of a pollutant or pollutants.

**"Anti-degradation policies"** means the *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Water in California* (State Board Resolution No. 68-16) which protects surface and ground waters from degradation. In particular, this policy protects waterbodies where existing quality is higher than that necessary for the protection of beneficial uses including the protection of fish and wildlife propagation and recreation on and in the water.

**"Applicable Standards and Limitations"** means all State, interstate, and federal standards and limitations to which a "discharge" or a related activity is subject under the CWA, including "effluent limitations, "water quality standards, standards of performance, toxic effluent standards or prohibitions, "best management practices," and pretreatment standards under sections 301, 302, 303, 304, 306, 307, 308, 403 and 404 of CWA.

**"Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS)"** means all those areas of this state as ASBS, listed specifically within the California Ocean Plan or so designated by the State Board which, among other areas, includes the area from Mugu Lagoon to Latigo Point: Oceanwater within a line originating from Laguna Point at 34° 5' 40" north, 119° 6'30" west, thence southeasterly following the mean high tideline to a point at Latigo Point defined by the intersection of the meanhigh tide line and a line extending due south of Benchmark 24; thence due south to a distance of 1000 feet offshore or to the 100 foot isobath, whichever distance is greater; thence northwesterly following the 100 foot isobath or maintaining a 1,000-foot distance from shore, whichever maintains the greater distance from shore, to a point lying due south of Laguna Point, thence due north to Laguna Point.

**"Authorized Discharge"** means any discharge that is authorized pursuant to an NPDES permit or meets the conditions set forth in this Order.

**"Automotive Service Facilities"** means a facility that is categorized in any one of the following Standard Industrial Classification (SIC) codes: 5013, 5014, 5541, 5511, 7532-7534, or 7536-7539. For inspection purposes, Permittees need not inspect facilities with SIC codes 5013, 5014, 5541, 5511, provided that these facilities have no outside activities or materials that may be exposed to storm water.

**"Baseline Waste Load Allocation"** means the Waste Load Allocation assigned to a Permittee before reductions are required. The progressive reductions in the Waste Load Allocations are based on a percentage of the Baseline Waste Load Allocation. The Baseline Waste Load Allocation for each jurisdiction was calculated based on the annual average amount of trash discharged to the storm drain system from a representative sampling of land use areas, as determined during the Baseline Monitoring Program. The Baseline Waste Load Allocations are incorporated into the Basin Plan at Table 7-2.2.

**"Basin Plan"** means the Water Quality Control Plan, Los Angeles Region, Basin Plan for the Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles and Ventura Counties, adopted by the Regional Board on June 13, 1994 and subsequent amendments.

**"Beneficial Uses"** means the existing or potential uses of receiving waters in the permit area as designated by the Regional Board in the Basin Plan.

**"Best Management Practices (BMPs)"** means methods, measures, or practices designed and selected to reduce or eliminate the discharge of pollutants to surface waters from point and nonpoint source discharges including storm water. BMPs include structural and nonstructural controls, and operation and maintenance procedures, which can be applied before, during, and/or after pollution producing activities.

**"Commercial Development"** means any development on private land that is not heavy industrial or residential. The category includes, but is not limited to: hospitals, laboratories and



other medical facilities, educational institutions, recreational facilities, plant nurseries, car wash facilities, mini-malls and other business complexes, shopping malls, hotels, office buildings, public warehouses and other light industrial complexes.

**"Construction"** means constructing, clearing, grading, or excavation that results in soil disturbance. Construction includes structure teardown. It does not include routine maintenance to maintain original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of facility; emergency construction activities required to immediately protect public health and safety; interior remodeling with no outside exposure of construction material or construction waste to storm water; mechanical permit work; or sign permit work.

**"Control"** means to minimize, reduce, eliminate, or prohibit by technological, legal, contractual or other means, the discharge of pollutants from an activity or activities.

**"Daily Generation Rate (DGR)"** means the estimated amount of trash deposited within a representative drainage area during a 24-hour period, derived from the amount of trash collected from streets and catch basins in the area over a 30-day period.

**"Dechlorinated/Debrominated Swimming Pool Discharge"** means swimming pool discharges which have no measurable chlorine or bromine and do not contain any detergents, wastes, or additional chemicals not typically found in swimming pool water. The term does not include swimming pool filter backwash.

**"Development"** means any construction, rehabilitation, redevelopment or reconstruction of any public or private residential project (whether single-family, multi-unit or planned unit development); industrial, commercial, retail and other non-residential projects, including public agency projects; or mass grading for future construction. It does not include routine maintenance to maintain original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of facility, nor does it include emergency construction activities required to immediately protect public health and safety.

**"Directly Adjacent"** means situated within 200 feet of the contiguous zone required for the continued maintenance, function, and structural stability of the environmentally sensitive area.

**"Director"** means the Director of a municipality and Person(s) designated by and under the Director's instruction and supervision.

**"Discharge"** means when used without qualification the "discharge of a pollutant."

**"Discharging Directly"** means outflow from a drainage conveyance system that is composed entirely or predominantly of flows from the subject, property, development, subdivision, or industrial facility, and not commingled with the flows from adjacent lands.

**"Discharge of a Pollutant"** means: any addition of any "pollutant" or combination of pollutants to "waters of the United States" from any "point source" or, any addition of any pollutant or combination of pollutants to the waters of the "contiguous zone" or the ocean from any point source other than a vessel or other floating craft which is being used as a means of transportation. The term discharge includes additions of pollutants into waters of the United States from: surface runoff which is collected or channeled by man; discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances owned by a State, municipality, or other person which do not

lead to a treatment works; and discharges through pipes, sewers, or other conveyances, leading into privately owned treatment works.

**"Disturbed Area"** means an area that is altered as a result of clearing, grading, and/or excavation.

**"Dry Weather"** means those days with less than 0.1 inch of rainfall, and occurring more than three days after a Rain Day.

**"Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs)"** means an area in which plant or animal life or their habitats are either rare or especially valuable because of their special nature or role in an ecosystem and which would be easily disturbed or degraded by human activities and developments (California Public Resources Code § 30107.5). Areas subject to storm water mitigation requirements are: areas designated as Significant Ecological Areas by the County of Los Angeles (*Los Angeles County Significant Areas Study, Los Angeles County Department of Regional Planning (1976)* and amendments); an area designated as a Significant Natural Area by the California Department of Fish and Game's Significant Natural Areas Program, provided that area has been field verified by the Department of Fish and Game; an area listed in the Basin Plan as supporting the "Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE)" beneficial use; and an area identified by a Permittee as environmentally sensitive.

**"Full Capture System"** means any single device or series of devices, certified by the Executive Officer, that traps all particles retained by a 5 mm mesh screen and has a design treatment capacity of not less than the peak flow rate Q resulting from a one-year, one-hour storm in the sub-drainage area. The Rational Equation is used to compute the peak flow rate:

$$Q = C \times I \times A,$$

Where:

Q = design flow rate (cubic feet per second, cfs);

C = runoff coefficient (dimensionless);

I = design rainfall intensity (inches per hour, as determined per the Los Angeles County rainfall isohyetal maps relevant to the Los Angeles River watershed),<sup>8</sup> and

A = sub-drainage area (acres).

**"General Construction Activities Storm Water Permit (GCASP)"** means the general NPDES permit adopted by the State Board which authorizes the discharge of storm water from construction activities under certain conditions.

**"General Industrial Activities Storm Water Permit (GIASP)"** means the general NPDES permit adopted by the State Board which authorizes the discharge of storm water from certain industrial activities under certain conditions.

**"Hillside"** means property located in an area with known erosive soil conditions, where the development contemplates grading on any natural slope that is 25% or greater and where grading contemplates cut or fill slopes.

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<sup>8</sup> The isohyetal map may be updated annually by the Los Angeles County hydrologist to reflect additional rain data gathered during the previous year. Annual updates published by the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works are prospectively incorporated by reference into this Order.

**“Illicit Connection”** means any man-made conveyance that is connected to the storm drain system without a permit, excluding roof drains and other similar type connections. Examples include channels, pipelines, conduits, inlets, or outlets that are connected directly to the storm drain system.

**“Illicit Discharge”** means any discharge to the storm drain system that is prohibited under local, state, or federal statutes, ordinances, codes, or regulations. The term illicit discharge includes all non storm-water discharges except discharges pursuant to an NPDES permit, discharges that are identified in Part 1, “Discharge Prohibitions” of this order, and discharges authorized by the Regional Board Executive Officer.

**“Illicit Disposal”** means any disposal, either intentionally or unintentionally, of material(s) or waste(s) that can pollute storm water.

**“Industrial/Commercial Facility”** means any facility involved and/or used in the production, manufacture, storage, transportation, distribution, exchange or sale of goods and/or commodities, and any facility involved and/or used in providing professional and non-professional services. This category of facilities includes, but is not limited to, any facility defined by the Standard Industrial Classifications (SIC). Facility ownership (federal, state, municipal, private) and profit motive of the facility are not factors in this definition.

**“Infiltration”** means the downward entry of water into the surface of the soil.

**“Inspection”** means entry and the conduct of an on-site review of a facility and its operations, at reasonable times, to determine compliance with specific municipal or other legal requirements. The steps involved in performing an inspection, include, but are not limited to:

1. Pre-inspection documentation research.;
2. Request for entry;
3. Interview of facility personnel;
4. Facility walk-through.
5. Visual observation of the condition of facility premises;
6. Examination and copying of records as required;
7. Sample collection (if necessary or required);
8. Exit conference (to discuss preliminary evaluation); and,
9. Report preparation, and if appropriate, recommendations for coming into compliance.

In the case of restaurants, a Permittee may conduct an inspection from the curbside, provided that such "curbside" inspection provides the Permittee with adequate information to determine an operator's compliance with BMPs that must be implemented per requirements of this Order, Regional Board Resolution 98-08, County and municipal ordinances, and the SQMP.

**“Institutional Controls”** means programmatic trash control measures that do not require construction or structural modifications to the MS4. Examples include street sweeping, public education, and clean out of catch basins that discharge to storm drains.

**"Large Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)"** means all MS4s that serve a population greater than 250,000 (1990 Census) as defined in 40 CFR 122.26 (b)(4). The Regional Board designated Los Angeles County as a large MS4 in 1990, based on: (i) the U.S. Census Bureau 1990 population count of 8.9 million, and (ii) the interconnectivity of the MS4s in the incorporated and unincorporated areas within the County.

**"Local SWPPP"** means the Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan required by the local agency for a project that disturbs one or more acres of land.

**"Maximum Extent Practicable (MEP)"** means the standard for implementation of storm water management programs to reduce pollutants in storm water. CWA § 402(p)(3)(B)(iii) requires that municipal permits "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 the State determines appropriate for the control of such pollutants. See also State Board Order WQ 2000-11 at page 20.

**"Method Detection Limit (MDL)"** means the minimum concentration of a substance that can be measured and reported with 99 percent confidence that the analyte concentration is greater than zero, as defined in 40 CFR 136, Appendix B.

**"Minimum Level (ML)"** means the concentration at which the entire analytical system must give a recognizable signal and acceptable calibration point. The ML is the concentration in a sample that is equivalent to the 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.

**"Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4)"** means a conveyance or system of conveyances (including roads with drainage systems, municipal streets, alleys, catch basins, curbs, gutters, ditches, manmade channels, or storm drains) owned by a State, city, county, town or other public body, that is designed or used for collecting or conveying storm water, which is not a combined sewer, and which is not part of a publicly owned treatment works, and which discharges to Waters of the United States.

**"National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)"** means the national program for issuing, modifying, revoking and reissuing, terminating, monitoring and enforcing permits, and imposing and enforcing pretreatment requirements, under CWA §307, 402, 318, and 405. The term includes an "approved program."

**"Natural Drainage Systems"** means unlined or unimproved (not engineered) creeks, streams, rivers or similar waterways.

**"New Development"** means land disturbing activities; structural development, including construction or installation of a building or structure, creation of impervious surfaces; and land subdivision.

**"Non-Storm Water Discharge"** means any discharge to a storm drain that is not composed entirely of storm water.

**"Nuisance"** means anything that 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.

**"Parking Lot"** means land area or facility for the parking or storage of motor vehicles used for businesses, commerce, industry, or personal use, with a lot size of 5,000 square feet or more of surface area, or with 25 or more parking spaces.

**"Partial Capture Device"** means any structural trash control device that has not been certified by the Executive Officer as meeting the "full capture" performance requirements.

**"Permittee(s)"** means Co-Permittees and any agency named in this Order as being responsible for permit conditions within its jurisdiction. Permittees to this Order include the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, Los Angeles County, and the cities of Agoura Hills, Alhambra, Arcadia, Artesia, Azusa, Baldwin Park, Bellflower, Bell Gardens, Beverly Hills, Bradbury, Burbank, Calabasas, Carson, Cerritos, Claremont, Commerce, Compton, Covina, Cudahy, Culver City, Diamond Bar, Downey, Duarte, El Monte, El Segundo, Gardena, Glendale, Glendora, Hawaiian Gardens, Hawthorne, Hermosa Beach, Hidden Hills, Huntington Park, Industry, Inglewood, Irwindale, La Canada Flintridge, La Habra Heights, Lakewood, La Mirada, La Puente, La Verne, Lawndale, Lomita, Los Angeles, Lynwood, Malibu, Manhattan Beach, Maywood, Monrovia, Montebello, Monterey Park, Norwalk, Palos Verdes Estates, Paramount, Pasadena, Pico Rivera, Pomona, Rancho Palos Verdes, Redondo Beach, Rolling Hills, Rolling Hills Estates, Rosemead, San Dimas, San Fernando, San Gabriel, San Marino, Santa Clarita, Santa Fe Springs, Santa Monica, Sierra Madre, Signal Hill, South El Monte, South Gate, South Pasadena, Temple City, Torrance, Vernon, Walnut, West Covina, West Hollywood, Westlake Village, and Whittier.

**"Planning Priority Projects"** means those projects that are required to incorporate appropriate storm water mitigation measures into the design plan for their respective project. These types of projects include:

1. Ten or more unit homes (includes single family homes, multifamily homes, condominiums, and apartments)
2. A 100,000 or more square feet of impervious surface area industrial/commercial development (1 ac starting March 2003)
3. Automotive service facilities (SIC 5013, 5014, 5541, 7532-7534, and 7536-7539)
4. Retail gasoline outlets
5. Restaurants (SIC 5812)
6. Parking lots 5,000 square feet or more of surface area or with 25 or more parking spaces
7. Redevelopment projects in subject categories that meet Redevelopment thresholds
8. Projects located in or directly adjacent to or discharging directly to an ESA, which meet thresholds; and

9. Those projects that require the implementation of a site-specific plan to mitigate post-development storm water for new development not requiring a SUSMP but which may potentially have adverse impacts on post-development storm water quality, where the following project characteristics exist:
- a) Vehicle or equipment fueling areas;
  - b) Vehicle or equipment maintenance areas, including washing and repair;
  - c) Commercial or industrial waste handling or storage;
  - d) Outdoor handling or storage of hazardous materials;
  - e) Outdoor manufacturing areas;
  - f) Outdoor food handling or processing;
  - g) Outdoor animal care, confinement, or slaughter; or
  - h) Outdoor horticulture activities.

**"Pollutants"** means those "pollutants" defined in CWA §502(6) (33.U.S.C.§1362(6)), and incorporated by reference into California Water Code §13373.

**"Potable Water Distribution Systems Releases"** means sources of flows from drinking water storage, supply and distribution systems including flows from system failures, pressure releases, system maintenance, distribution line testing, fire hydrant flow testing; and flushing and dewatering of pipes, reservoirs, vaults, and minor non-invasive well maintenance activities not involving chemical addition(s). It does not include wastewater discharges from activities that occur at wellheads, such as well construction, well development (i.e., aquifer pumping tests, well purging, etc.), or major well maintenance.

**"Project"** means all development, redevelopment, and land disturbing activities. The term is not limited to "Project" as defined under CEQA (Pub. Resources Code §21065).

**"Rain Days"** are those days with greater than or equal to 0.1 inch of rainfall.

**"Rain Event"** means any rain event greater than 0.1 inch in 24 hours except where specifically stated otherwise.

**"Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE)"** means a beneficial use for waterbodies in the Los Angeles Region, as designated in the Basin Plan (Table 2-1), that supports habitats necessary, at least in part, for the survival and successful maintenance of plant or animal species established under state or federal law as rare, threatened, or endangered.

**"Receiving Waters"** means all surface water bodies in the Los Angeles Region that are identified in the Basin Plan.

**"Redevelopment"** means land-disturbing activity that results in the creation, addition, or replacement of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surface area on an already developed site. Redevelopment includes, but is not limited to: the expansion of a building footprint; addition or replacement of a structure; replacement of impervious surface area that is not part of a routine maintenance activity; and land disturbing activities related to structural or

impervious surfaces. It does not include routine maintenance to maintain original line and grade, hydraulic capacity, or original purpose of facility, nor does it include emergency construction activities required to immediately protect public health and safety.

**“Regional Administrator”** means the Regional Administrator of the Regional Office of the USEPA or the authorized representative of the Regional Administrator.

**“Restaurant”** means 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).

**“Retail Gasoline Outlet”** means any facility engaged in selling gasoline and lubricating oils.

**“Runoff”** means any runoff including storm water and dry weather flows from a drainage area that reaches a receiving water body or subsurface. During dry weather it is typically comprised of base flow either contaminated with pollutants or uncontaminated, and nuisance flows.

**“Screening”** means using proactive methods to identify illicit connections through a continuously narrowing process. The methods may include: performing baseline monitoring of open channels, conducting special investigations using a prioritization approach, analyzing maintenance records for catch basin and storm drain cleaning and operation, and verifying all permitted connections into the storm drains. Special investigation techniques may include: dye testing, visual inspection, smoke testing, flow monitoring, infrared, aerial and thermal photography, and remote control camera operation.

**“Sidewalk Rinsing”** means pressure washing of paved pedestrian walkways with average water usage of 0.006 gallons per square foot, with no cleaning agents, and properly disposing of all debris collected, as authorized under Regional Board Resolution No. 98-08.

**“Significant Ecological Area (SEA)”** means an area that is determined to possess an example of biotic resources that cumulatively represent biological diversity, for the purposes of protecting biotic diversity, as part of the Los Angeles County General Plan.<sup>9</sup> Areas are designated as SEAs, if they possess one or more of the following criteria:

1. The habitat of rare, endangered, and threatened plant and animal species.
2. Biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant and animal species that are either one of a kind, or are restricted in distribution on a regional basis.
3. Biotic communities, vegetative associations, and habitat of plant and animal species that are either one of a kind or are restricted in distribution in Los Angeles County.

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<sup>9</sup> The 61 existing SEAs represent the findings of a study that was completed in 1976 by England and Nelson, Environmental Consultants, as amended through the adoption of a revised Los Angeles County General Plan in 1980. The results of an update study to evaluate existing SEAs within unincorporated Los Angeles County is currently being proposed to the Los Angeles County Planning Commission (*Los Angeles County Significant Ecological Area Update Study 2000, Background Report*, PCR Services Corporation). The *Update Study 2000*, which contains existing and proposed SEA boundaries, can be downloaded from the Los Angeles County Department of Planning website at [http://planning.co.la.ca.us/drp\\_revww.html#SEA](http://planning.co.la.ca.us/drp_revww.html#SEA)

4. Habitat that at some point in the life cycle of a species or group of species, serves as a concentrated breeding, feeding, resting, migrating grounds and is limited in availability either regionally or within Los Angeles County.
5. Biotic resources that are of scientific interest because they are either an extreme in physical/geographical limitations, or represent an unusual variation in a population or community.
6. Areas important as game species habitat or as fisheries.
7. Areas that would provide for the preservation of relatively undisturbed examples of natural biotic communities in Los Angeles County.
8. Special areas.<sup>10</sup>

**"Significant Natural Area (SNA)"** means an area defined by the California Department of Fish and Game (DFG), Significant Natural Areas Program, as an area that contains an important example of California's biological diversity. The most current SNA maps, reports, and descriptions can be downloaded from the DFG website at <ftp://maphost.dfg.ca.gov/outgoing/whdab/sna/>. These areas are identified using the following biological criteria only, irrespective of any administrative or jurisdictional considerations:

1. Areas supporting extremely rare species or habitats.
2. Areas supporting associations or concentrations of rare species or habitats.
3. Areas exhibiting the best examples of rare species and habitats in the state.

**"Site"** means the land or water area where any "facility or activity" is physically located or conducted, including adjacent land used in connection with the facility or activity.

**"Source Control BMP"** means any schedules of activities, prohibitions of practices, maintenance procedures, managerial practices or operational practices that aim to prevent storm water pollution by reducing the potential for contamination at the source of pollution.

**"SQMP"** means the Los Angeles Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program.

**"State Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (State SWPPP)"** means a plan, as required by a State General Permit, identifying potential pollutant sources and describing the design, placement and implementation of BMPs, to effectively prevent non-stormwater Discharges and reduce Pollutants in Stormwater Discharges during activities covered by the General Permit.

**"Storm Water"** means storm water runoff, snow melt runoff, and surface runoff and drainage.

**"Storm Water Discharge Associated with Industrial Activity"** means industrial discharge as defined in 40 CFR 122.26(b)(14)

**"Stormwater Quality Management Program"** means the Los Angeles Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program, which includes descriptions of programs, collectively developed by the Permittees in accordance with provisions of the NPDES Permit, to comply with applicable federal and state law, as the same is amended from time to time.

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<sup>10</sup> These criteria from the 1976 study have been modified in the *Update Study 2000*.



**“Structural BMP”** means any structural facility designed and constructed to mitigate the adverse impacts of storm water and urban runoff pollution (e.g. canopy, structural enclosure). The category may include both Treatment Control BMPs and Source Control BMPs.

**“Summer Dry Weather”** means Dry Weather days occurring from April 1 through October 31 of each year.

**“SUSMP”** means the Los Angeles Countywide Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan. The SUSMP shall address conditions and requirements of new development.

**“Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)”** means the sum of the individual waste load allocations for point sources and load allocations for nonpoint sources and natural background.

**“Toxicity Identification Evaluation (TIE)”** means a set of procedures to identify the specific chemical(s) responsible for toxicity. These procedures are performed in three phases (characterization, identification, and confirmation) using aquatic organism toxicity tests.

**“Toxicity Reduction Evaluation (TRE)”** means a study conducted in a step-wise process to identify the causative agents of effluent or ambient toxicity, isolate the sources of toxicity, evaluate the effectiveness of toxicity control options, and then confirm the reduction in toxicity.

**“Treatment”** means the application of engineered systems that use physical, chemical, or biological processes to remove pollutants. Such processes include, but are not limited to, filtration, gravity settling, media absorption, biodegradation, biological uptake, chemical oxidation and UV radiation.

**“Treatment Control BMP”** means 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.

**“USEPA Phase I Facilities”** means facilities in specified industrial categories that are required to obtain an NPDES permit for storm water discharges, as required by 40 CFR 122.26(c). These categories include:

- i. facilities subject to storm water effluent limitation guidelines, new source performance standards, or toxic pollutant effluent standards (40 CFR N)
- ii. manufacturing facilities
- iii. oil and gas/mining facilities
- iv. hazardous waste treatment, storage, or disposal facilities
- v. landfills, land application sites, and open dumps
- vi. recycling facilities
- vii. steam electric power generating facilities
- viii. transportation facilities
- ix. sewage of wastewater treatment works
- x. light manufacturing facilities

**“Vehicle Maintenance/Material Storage Facilities/Corporation Yards”** means any Permittee owned or operated facility or portion thereof that:

- i. Conducts industrial activity, operates equipment, handles materials, and provides services similar to Federal Phase I facilities;
- ii. Performs fleet vehicle service/maintenance on ten or more vehicles per day including repair, maintenance, washing, and fueling;
- iii. Performs maintenance and/or repair of heavy industrial machinery/equipment ; and
- iv. Stores chemicals, raw materials, or waste materials in quantities that require a hazardous materials business plan or a Spill Prevention, Control , and Counter-measures (SPCC) plan.

**“Water Quality Standards and Water Quality Objectives”** means water quality criteria contained in the Basin Plan, the California Ocean Plan, the National Toxics Rule, the California Toxics Rule, and other state or federally approved surface water quality plans. Such plans are used by the Regional Board to regulate all discharges, including storm water discharges.

**“Waters of the State”** means any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within boundaries of the state.

**“Waters of the United States” or “Waters of the U.S.”** means:

- a. All waters that 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 sea; and
- g. “Wetlands” adjacent to waters (other than waters that are themselves wetlands) identified in paragraph (a) through (f) of this definition.

Waste treatment systems, including treatment ponds or lagoons designed to meet the requirements of CWA (other than cooling ponds as defined in 40 CFR 423.22(m), which also meet the criteria of this definition) are not waters of the United States. This exclusion applies only to man-made bodies of water, which neither were originally created in waters of the United States (such as disposal area in wetlands) nor resulted from the impoundment of waters of the United States. 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 CWA, the final authority regarding CWA jurisdiction remains with USEPA.

“**Wave Wash**” means the point at which a storm drain or creek empties and the effluent from the storm drain initially mixes with the receiving ocean water.

“**Wet Season**” means the calendar period beginning October 1 through April 15.

## **Part 6. STANDARD PROVISIONS**

### **A. Standard Requirements**

1. Each Permittee shall comply with all provisions and requirements of this permit.
2. Should a Permittee discover a failure to submit any relevant facts or that it submitted incorrect information in a report, it shall promptly submit the missing or correct information.
3. Each Permittee shall report all instances of non-compliance not otherwise reported at the time monitoring reports are submitted.
4. This Order includes the attached Monitoring and Reporting Program, and SUSMP (Regional Board Resolution No. R00-02), which are a part of the permit and must be complied with in the same manner as with the rest of the requirements in the permit.

### **B. Regional Board Review**

Any formal determination or approval made by the Regional Board Executive Officer pursuant to the provisions of this Order may be reviewed by the Regional Board. A Permittee(s) or a member of the public may request such review upon petition within 30 days of the effective date of the notification of such decision to the Permittee(s) and interested parties on file at the Regional Board.

### **C. Public Review**

1. All documents submitted to the Regional Board in compliance with the terms and conditions of this Order shall be made available to members of the public pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. § 552 (as amended) and the Public Records Act (Cal. Government Code § 6250 *et seq.*).
2. All documents submitted to the Regional Board Executive Officer for approval shall be made available to the public for a 30-day period to allow for public comment.

### **D. Duty to Comply**

1. Each Permittee must comply with all of the terms, requirements, and conditions of this Order. Any violation of this order constitutes a violation of the Clean Water Act, its regulations and the California Water Code, and is grounds for enforcement action, Order termination, Order revocation and reissuance, denial of an application for reissuance; or a

combination thereof [40 CFR 122.41(a), CWC § 13261, 13263, 13265, 13268, 13300, 13301, 13304, 13340, 13350].

2. A copy of these waste discharge specifications shall be maintained by each Permittee so as to be available during normal business hours to Permittee employees and members of the public.
3. Any discharge of wastes at any point(s) other than specifically described in this Order is prohibited, and constitutes a violation of the Order.

**E. Duty to Mitigate [40 CFR 122.41 (d)]**

Each Permittee shall take all reasonable steps to minimize or prevent any discharge that has a reasonable likelihood of adversely affecting human health or the environment.

**F. Inspection and Entry [40 CFR 122.41(i), CWC § 13267]**

The Regional Board, USEPA, and other authorized representatives shall be allowed:

1. Entry upon premises where a regulated facility is located or conducted, or where records are kept under conditions of this Order;
2. Access to copy any records, at reasonable times, that are kept under the conditions of this Order;
3. To inspect at reasonable times any facility, equipment (including monitoring and control equipment), practices, or operations regulated or required under this Order; and,
4. To photograph, sample, and monitor at reasonable times for the purpose of assuring compliance with this Order, or as otherwise authorized by the CWA and the CWC.

**G. Proper Operation and Maintenance [40 CFR 122.41 (e), CWC § 13263(f)]**

The Permittees shall at all times properly operate and maintain all facilities and systems of treatment (and related appurtenances) that are installed or used by the Permittees to achieve compliance with this Order. Proper operation and maintenance includes adequate laboratory controls and appropriate quality assurance procedures. This provision requires the operation of backup or auxiliary facilities or similar system that are installed by a Permittee only when necessary to achieve compliance with the conditions of this Order.

**H. Signatory Requirements [40 CFR 122.41(k) & 122.22]**

Except as otherwise provided in this Order, all applications, reports, or information submitted to the Regional Board shall be signed by the Director of Public Works, City Engineer, or authorized designee and certified as set forth in 40 CFR 122.22.

**I. Reopener and Modification [40 CFR 122.41(f) & 122.62]**

1. This Order may only be modified, revoked, or reissued, prior to the expiration date, by the Regional Board, in accordance with the procedural requirements of the CWC and CCR Title 23 for the issuance of waste discharge requirements, 40 CFR 122.62, and upon prior notice and hearing, to:
  - a) Address changed conditions identified in the required reports or other sources deemed significant by the Regional Board;
  - b) Incorporate applicable requirements or statewide water quality control plans adopted by the State Board or amendments to the Basin Plan;
  - c) Comply with any applicable requirements, guidelines, and/or regulations issued or approved pursuant to CWA Section 402(p); and/or,
  - d) Consider any other federal, or state laws or regulations that became effective after adoption of this Order.
2. After notice and opportunity for a hearing, this Order may be terminated or modified for cause, including, but not limited to:
  - a) Violation of any term or condition contained in this Order;
  - b) Obtaining this Order by misrepresentation, or failure to disclose all relevant facts; or,
  - c) A change in any condition that requires either a temporary or permanent reduction or elimination of the authorized discharge.
3. The filing of a request by the Principal Permittee or Permittees for a modification, revocation and re-issuance, or termination, or a notification of planned changes or anticipated noncompliance does not stay any condition of this Order.
4. This Order may be modified to make corrections or allowances for changes in the permitted activity listed in this section, following the procedures at 40 CFR 122.63, if processed as a minor modification. Minor modifications may only:
  - a) Correct typographical errors, or
  - b) Require more frequent monitoring or reporting by the Permittee.

**J. Severability**

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

**K. Duty to Provide Information [40 CFR 122.41(h)]**

The Permittees shall furnish, within a reasonable time, any information the Regional Board or USEPA may request to determine whether cause exists for modifying, revoking and reissuing, or terminating this Order. The Permittees shall also furnish to the Regional Board, upon request, copies of records required to be kept by this Order.

**L. Twenty-four Hour Reporting [40 CFR 122.41(l)(6)]<sup>11</sup>**

1. The Permittees shall report to the Regional Board any noncompliance that may endanger health or the environment. Any information shall be provided orally within 24 hours from the time any Permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. A written submission shall also be provided within five days of the time the Permittee becomes aware of the circumstances. The written submission shall 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.
2. The Regional Board may waive the required written report on a case-by-case basis.

**M. Bypass [40 CFR 122.41(m)]<sup>12</sup>**

Bypass (the intentional diversion of waste streams from any portion of a treatment facility) is prohibited. The Regional Board may take enforcement action against Permittees for bypass unless:

1. Bypass was unavoidable to prevent loss of life, personal injury or severe property damage. (Severe property damage means substantial physical damage to property, damage to the treatment facilities that causes them to become inoperable, or substantial and permanent loss of natural resources that 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.);
2. There were no feasible alternatives to bypass, such as the use of auxiliary treatment facilities, retention of untreated waste, or maintenance during normal periods of equipment down time. 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 that could occur during normal periods of equipment downtime or preventive maintenance;

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<sup>11</sup> This provision applies to incidents where effluent limitations (numerical or narrative) as provided in this Order or in the Los Angeles County SQMP are exceeded, and which endanger public health or the environment.

<sup>12</sup> This provision applies to the operation and maintenance of storm water controls and BMPs as provided in this Order or in the SQMP.

3. The Permittee submitted a notice at least ten days in advance of the need for a bypass to the Regional Board; or,
4. Permittees may allow a bypass to occur that does not cause effluent limitations to be exceeded, but only if it is for essential maintenance to assure efficient operation. In such a case, the above bypass conditions are not applicable. The Permittee shall submit notice of an unanticipated bypass as required.

**N. Upset [40 CFR 122.41(n)]<sup>13</sup>**

*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 permittee. 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.

1. A Permittee that wishes to establish the affirmative defense of an upset in an action brought for non compliance shall demonstrate, through properly signed, contemporaneous operating logs, or other relevant evidence that:
  - a) An upset occurred and that the Permittee can identify the cause(s) of the upset;
  - b) The permitted facility was being properly operated by the time of the upset;
  - c) The Permittee submitted notice of the upset as required; and,
  - d) The Permittee complied with any remedial measures required.
2. No determination made before an action for noncompliance, such as during administrative review of claims that non-compliance was caused by an upset, is final administrative action subject to judicial review.
3. In any enforcement proceeding, the Permittee seeking to establish the occurrence of an upset has the burden of proof.

**O. Property Rights [40 CFR 122.41(g)]**

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

**P. Enforcement**

1. Violation of any of the provisions of the NPDES permit or any of the provisions of this Order may subject the violator to any of the penalties

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<sup>13</sup> *Supra*. See footnote number 3.

described herein, or any combination thereof, at the discretion of the prosecuting authority; except that only one kind of penalties may be applied for each kind of violation. The CWA provides the following:

a) Criminal Penalties for:

(1) Negligent Violations:

The CWA provides that any person who negligently violates permit conditions implementing § 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 is subject to a fine of not less than \$2,500 nor more than \$25,000 per day for each violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 1 year, or both.

(2) Knowing Violations:

The CWA provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing § 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 is subject to a fine of not less than \$5,000 nor more than \$50,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment for not more than 3 years, or both.

(3) Knowing Endangerment:

The CWA provides that any person who knowingly violates permit conditions implementing § 301, 302, 307, 308, 318, or 405 and who knows at that time that he is placing another person in imminent danger of death or serious bodily injury is subject to a fine of not more than \$250,000, or by imprisonment for not more than 15 years, or both.

(4) False Statement:

The CWA provides that any person who knowingly makes any false material statement, representation, or certification in any application, record, report, plan, or other document filed or required to be maintained under the Act or who knowingly falsifies, tampers with, or renders inaccurate, any monitoring device or method required to be maintained under the Act, shall upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$10,000 or by imprisonment for not more than two years, or by both. If a conviction is for a violation committed after a first conviction of such person under this paragraph, punishment shall be by a fine of not more than \$20,000 per day of violation, or by imprisonment of not more than four years, or by both. (See CWA § 309(c)(4))

b) Civil Penalties

The CWA provides that any person who violates a permit condition implementing § 301, 302, 306, 307, 308, 318, or 405 is subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$27,500 per day for each violation.

2. The CWC provides that any person who violates a waste discharge requirement provision of the CWC is subject to civil penalties of up to \$5,000 per day, \$10,000 per day, or \$25,000 per day of violation; or when the violation involves the discharge of pollutants, is subject to civil



penalties of up to \$10 per gallon per day or \$25 per gallon per day of violation; or some combination thereof, depending on the violation or combination of violations.

**Q. Need to Halt or Reduce Activity not a Defense [40 CFR 122.41(c)]**

It shall not be a defense for a Permittee 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 Order.

**R. Rescission**

Regional Board Order No. 01-182 is hereby rescinded, except for enforcement purposes.

**S. Expiration**

This Order expires on October 7, 2012. The Permittees must submit a Report of Waste Discharges and a proposed Storm Water Quality Management Program in accordance with CCR Title 23 as application for reissuance of waste discharge requirements no later than October 7, 2011.

## Part 7. TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD PROVISIONS

The provisions of this Part implement and are consistent with the assumptions and requirements of Waste Load Allocations from TMDLs for which some or all of the Permittees in this Order are responsible.

### 1. TMDL for Trash in the Los Angeles River Watershed

- A. Waste Load Allocations: Each Permittee identified in Appendix 7-1 shall comply with the interim and final effluent limitations set forth in Appendix 7-1 hereto.<sup>14</sup>
- B. Compliance:
  - (1) Permittees may comply with the effluent limitations using any lawful means. Such compliance options are broadly classified as *full capture*, *partial capture*, or *institutional controls*, as described below, and any combination of these may be employed to achieve compliance:
    - (a) Full Capture Systems:
      - 1) The Basin Plan authorizes the Executive Officer to certify *full capture systems*, which are systems that meet the operating and performance requirements as described in this Order, and the procedures identified in "Procedures and Requirements for Certification of a Best Management Practice for Trash Control as a Full Capture System." (See Appendix 7-2.)<sup>15</sup>
      - 2) Permittees are authorized to comply with their effluent limitations through certified *full capture systems* provided the requirements of paragraph 3), immediately below, and any conditions in the certification, continue to be met.
      - 3) Permittees may comply with their effluent limitations through progressive installation of *full capture systems* throughout their jurisdiction until all areas draining to the Los Angeles River system are addressed. For purposes of this Permit, attainment of the effluent limitations shall be conclusively presumed for any drainage area to the Los Angeles River (or its tributaries)<sup>16</sup> where certified *full capture systems* treat all drainage from the area, provided that the *full capture systems* are adequately sized and maintained, and that maintenance records are up-to-date and available for inspection by the Regional Board.
        - i. A Permittee relying entirely on *full capture systems* shall be deemed in compliance with its final effluent

<sup>14</sup> The interim and final effluent limitations set forth in Appendix 7-1 are equivalent to the Compliance Points identified in Table 7-2.3 of the Basin Plan.

<sup>15</sup> The Regional Board currently recognizes eight *full capture systems*. These are: Vortex Separation Systems (VSS) and seven other Executive Officer certified *full capture systems*, including specific types or designs of trash nets; two gross solids removal devices (GSRDs); catch basin brush inserts and mesh screens; vertical and horizontal trash capture screen inserts; and a connector pipe screen device.

<sup>16</sup> Tributaries to the Los Angeles River include, but are not limited to, Pacoima Wash, Tujunga Wash, Burbank Western Channel, Verdugo Wash, Arroyo Seco, Rio Hondo, and Compton Creek.

limitation if it demonstrates that all drainage areas under its jurisdiction are serviced by appropriate certified *full capture systems* as described in paragraph (a)(3).

- ii. A Permittee relying entirely on *full capture systems* shall be deemed in compliance with its interim effluent limitations:
  1. By demonstrating that *full capture systems* treat the percentage of drainage areas in the watershed that corresponds to the required trash abatement.
  2. Alternatively, a Permittee may propose a schedule for jurisdiction-wide installation of *full capture systems*, targeting first the areas of greatest trash generation ( based upon the information on drainage area and litter generation rates by land use provided in Appendices I and III of the Los Angeles River Trash TMDL Staff Report) for the Executive Officer's approval. The Executive Officer shall not approve any such schedule that does not result in timely compliance with the final effluent limitations. A Permittee shall be deemed in compliance with its interim effluent limitations provided it is fully in compliance with any such approved schedule.

(b) Partial Capture Devices and Institutional Controls: Permittees may comply with their interim and final effluent limitations through the installation of *partial capture devices* and the application of *institutional controls*.<sup>17</sup>

- 1) Trash discharges from areas serviced solely by *partial capture devices* may be estimated based on demonstrated performance of the device(s) in the jurisdictional area.<sup>18</sup> That is, trash reduction is equivalent to the *partial capture devices'* trash removal efficiency multiplied by the percentage of drainage area serviced by the devices.
- 2) Except as provided in subdivision 3), below, trash discharges from areas addressed by *institutional controls* and/or *partial capture devices* (where site-specific performance data is not available) shall be calculated using a mass balance approach, based on the daily generation rate (DGR) for a representative area.<sup>19</sup> The

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<sup>17</sup> While interim effluent limitations may be complied with using partial capture devices, compliance with final effluent limitations cannot be achieved with the exclusive use of partial capture devices.

<sup>18</sup> Performance shall be demonstrated under different conditions (e.g. low to high trash loading).

<sup>19</sup> The area should be representative of the land uses within the jurisdiction and shall be approved by the Executive Officer prior to the 30-day collection period.

DGR shall be determined from direct measurement of trash deposited in the drainage area during any thirty-day period between June 22<sup>nd</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup> exclusive of rain events<sup>20</sup>, and shall be re-calculated every year thereafter. The DGR shall be calculated as the total amount of trash collected during this period divided by 30 (the length of the collection period).

***DGR = (Amount of trash collected during a 30-day collection period<sup>21</sup>) / (30 days)***

The DGR for the applicable area of the jurisdiction shall be extrapolated from that of the representative drainage area. A mass balance equation shall be used to estimate the amount of trash discharged during a storm event.<sup>22</sup> The *Storm Event Trash Discharge* for a given rain event in a Permittee's drainage area shall be calculated by multiplying the number of days since the last street sweeping by the DGR and subtracting the amount of any trash recovered in the catch basins.<sup>23</sup> For each day of a storm event that generates precipitation greater than 0.25 inches, the Permittee shall calculate a *Storm Event Trash Discharge*.

***Storm Event Trash Discharge = [(Days since last street sweeping\*DGR)] – [Amount of trash recovered from catch basins]<sup>24</sup>***

The sum of the *Storm Event Trash Discharges* for the storm year shall be the Permittee's calculated annual trash discharge.

***Total Storm Year Trash Discharge = ∑ Storm Event Trash Discharges from Drainage Area***

- 3) The Executive Officer may approve alternative compliance monitoring approaches for calculating total storm year trash discharge, upon finding that the program will provide a scientifically-based estimate of the amount of trash discharged from the MS4.

<sup>20</sup> Provided no special events are scheduled that may affect the representative nature of that collection period.

<sup>21</sup> Between June 22<sup>nd</sup> and September 22<sup>nd</sup>

<sup>22</sup> Amount of trash shall refer to the uncompressed volume (in gallons) or drip-dry weight (in pounds) of trash collected.

<sup>23</sup> Any negative values shall be considered to represent a zero discharge.

<sup>24</sup> When more than one storm event occurs prior to the next street sweeping the discharge shall be calculated from the date of the last assessment.

- (c) Combined Compliance Approaches:  
Permittees may comply with their interim and final effluent limitations through a combination of *full capture systems*, *partial capture devices*, and *institutional controls*. Permittees relying on a combination of approaches shall demonstrate compliance with the interim and final effluent limitations as specified in (a)(3) in areas where *full capture systems* are installed and as specified in (b)(2) in areas where *partial capture devices* and *institutional controls* are applied.
- (2) Permittees that are not in compliance with the applicable interim and/or final effluent limitations as identified in Appendix 7-1 shall be in violation of this permit.
- (a) Permittees relying on *partial capture devices* and/or *institutional controls* that have violated their interim or final effluent limitations as identified in Appendix 7-1 shall be presumed to have violated the applicable limitation for each day of each storm event that generated precipitation greater than 0.25 inches during the applicable storm year, except those storm days on which they establish that their cumulative Storm Event Trash Discharges have not exceeded the applicable effluent limitation.
- (b) For Permittees relying on full capture systems who have failed to demonstrate that the *full capture systems* for any drainage area are adequately sized and maintained, and that maintenance records are up-to-date and available for inspection by the Regional Board, and that they are in compliance with any conditions of their certification, shall be presumed to have discharged trash in an amount that corresponds to the percentage of the baseline waste load allocation represented by the drainage area in question.
- 1) A Permittee may overcome this presumption by demonstrating (using any of the methods authorized in this Part 7.1.B(1)(b)) that the actual or calculated discharge for that drainage area is in compliance with the applicable interim or final effluent limitations as specified in Appendix 7-1.
- (3) Each Permittee shall be held liable for violations of the Effluent Limitations assigned to its jurisdiction in Appendix 7-1. Any Permittee whose compliance strategy includes full or partial capture devices and who chooses to install a full or partial capture device in the MS4 physical infrastructure of another public entity is responsible for obtaining all necessary permits to do so. If a Permittee believes it is unable to obtain the permits needed to install a full capture or partial capture device within another Permittee's MS4 physical infrastructure, either Permittee may request the Executive Officer to hold a conference with the Permittees. Nothing in this Order shall affect the right of that public entity or a Permittee to seek indemnity or other recourse from the other as they deem appropriate. Nothing in this subsection shall be construed as relieving a Permittee of any liability that the Permittee would otherwise have under this Order.

C. Monitoring and Reporting Requirements (pursuant to Water Code section 13383)

(1) By October 31 each year, each Permittee identified in Appendix 7-1 shall submit a TMDL Compliance Report detailing compliance with the interim and final effluent limitations. Reporting shall include the information specified below. The report shall be submitted on a reporting form to be specified by the Executive Officer (Appendix 7-3). The report shall be signed under penalty of perjury by the Director of Public Works or other agency head (or their delegee) that is responsible for ensuring compliance with this permit. Permittees shall be charged with and shall demonstrate compliance with the relevant effluent limitations beginning with their October 31, 2010 TMDL Compliance Report.

(a) Reporting Compliance based on Full Capture Systems:

Permittees identified in Appendix 7-1 shall provide information on the number and location of full capture installations, the sizing of each full capture installation, the drainage areas addressed by these installations, and compliance with the applicable interim or final effluent limitation, in their TMDL Compliance Report. The Regional Board will periodically audit sizing, performance, and other data to validate that a system satisfies the criteria established for a *full capture system* and any conditions established by the Executive Officer in the certification.

(b) Reporting Compliance based on Partial Capture Systems and/or Institutional Controls:

(1) Using Performance Data Specific to the Jurisdictional Area:

Permittees identified in Appendix 7-1 shall provide (i) site-specific performance data for the applicable device(s), (ii) information on the number and location of such installations, and the drainage areas addressed by these installations, and (iii) calculated compliance with the applicable effluent limitations, in their TMDL Compliance Report.

(2) Using Direct Measurement of Trash Discharge: Permittees identified in Appendix 7-1 shall provide an accounting of DGR and trash removal via street sweeping, catch basin clean outs, etc., in a database to facilitate the calculation of discharge for each rain event. The database shall be maintained and provided to the Regional Board for inspection upon request. Permittees identified in Appendix 7-1 shall provide the annual DGR, calculated storm year discharge, and compliance with the applicable effluent limitation, in their TMDL Compliance Report.

(c) Reporting Compliance based on Combined Compliance Approaches:

Permittees identified in Appendix 7-1 shall provide the information specified in subsection (a) for areas where full capture systems are installed and that specified in subsection (b)(1) or (b)(2), as appropriate, for areas where partial capture devices and institutional controls are applied. Permittees shall also provide information on compliance with the applicable effluent limitation based on the combined compliance approaches, in their TMDL Compliance Report

(2) Violation of the reporting requirements of this Part shall be punishable pursuant to inter alia Water Code subdivision (a)(1) of section 13385.1 and/or subdivision (a)(3) of section 13385.

I, Samuel Unger, Regional Board Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an Order issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region, and that such action occurred on April 7, 2011.

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Samuel Unger, P.E.  
Executive Officer