



Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

February 26, 2014

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APPROVAL OF REVISED NOTIFICATION OF INTENT TO DEVELOP AN ENHANCED WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PROGRAM, PURSUANT TO THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY MUNICIPAL SEPARATE STORM SEWER SYSTEM (MS4) PERMIT (NPDES PERMIT NO. CAS004001; ORDER NO. R4-2012-0175)

Dear Permittees participating in the Ballona Creek Watershed group:

In a letter dated December 11, 2013, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Water Board or Board) provided its review of the Ballona Creek Watershed notification of intent (NOI) to develop an enhanced watershed management program (EWMP). As part of their NOI, Permittees pursuing an EWMP are required to identify, and commit to fully implement by June 28, 2015, a structural best management practice (BMP) or suite of BMPs at a scale that provides meaningful water quality improvement within each watershed covered by the EWMP. The structural BMP(s) must be in addition to BMPs that are required to meet interim or final trash TMDL effluent limitations or other final effluent limitations applicable in the watershed with deadlines prior to April 28, 2016. The structural BMP(s) identified in the NOI are subject to Executive Officer approval. The NOI identified Phase II of the Mar Vista Recreation Center Stormwater BMP project as the structural BMP to meet the above mentioned requirement.

In its letter, the Board requested additional information about the water quality improvements to be achieved by Phase II of the Mar Vista Recreation Center Stormwater BMP project. Specifically, for the Board to fully evaluate the project, Permittees needed to provide the water quality components of Phase II of the Mar Vista Recreation Center Stormwater BMP project and the expected increase in water quality improvements to be achieved by implementing Phase II of the project.

On December 23, 2013, the Regional Water Board received the revised NOI for the Ballona Creek Watershed EWMP. Board staff has reviewed the revised NOI for compliance with all notification requirements of Part VI.C of Order No. R4-2012-0175 and has determined that all the notification requirements have been met.

Pursuant to section VI.C.4.b.iii.(5) of the Order, the proposed structural best management practices (BMPs) are subject to approval by the Regional Water Board Executive Officer. The City of Los Angeles proposes to implement Phase II of the Mar Vista Recreation Center Stormwater BMP project. Phase II of the project will treat and retain the runoff for on-site irrigation and infiltration; currently the treated runoff is discharged back to the MS4. Phase II of the project is expected to remove 6,000 gallons per day of storm water and the pollutants in the storm water runoff, which include copper, lead and zinc.

The Board has concluded that Phase II of the project will result in a meaningful improvement in water quality by infiltrating the treated storm water instead of discharging into Ballona Creek; therefore, the proposed Phase II of the Mar Vista Recreation Center Stormwater BMP project is approved.

The work plan for development of the Ballona Creek Watershed EWMP is due by June 28, 2014. Please submit the work plan to losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov with the subject line "LA County MS4 Permit – Enhanced Watershed Management Program Work Plan" with copies to Ivar.Ridgeway@waterboards.ca.gov and Rebecca.Christmann@waterboards.ca.gov.

If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Ivar Ridgeway, Storm Water Permitting, at (213) 620-2150 or Ms. Rebecca Christmann at (213) 576-6786.

Sincerely,


Samuel Unger, P.E.
Executive Officer

cc: Hubertus Cox, City of Los Angeles
Daniel Cartagena, City of Beverly Hills
Damian Skinner, City of Culver City
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