February 12, 2016

Via Email Only

Mr. Clem Brown
Program Manager
City of San Diego
Transportation and Storm Water Department
9370 Chesapeake Drive
Suite 100, MS 1900
San Diego, California 92123

In reply refer to / attn:
CW-794851:WChiu

Subject: San Diego Water Board Notice of Acceptance
Mission Bay Watershed Management Area Water Quality Improvement Plan

Mr. Brown:

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) received the revised final Mission Bay Watershed Management Area (WMA) Water Quality Improvement Plan (Plan) on September 29, 2015. The revised final Mission Bay WMA Plan was submitted by the City of San Diego (City), the designated Mission Bay WMA Copermittee, after considering written comments submitted by the public and San Diego Water Board staff on the draft final Mission Bay WMA Plan. Submittal of the Mission Bay WMA Plan, as revised in response to comments, is required by Order No. R9-2013-0001, as amended by Order Nos. R9-2015-0001 and R9-2015-0100, NPDES No. CAS0109266, *National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit and Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) Draining the Watersheds within the San Diego Region* (Order).

Provisions B and D of the Order describe the required elements that must be included in the Plan. The San Diego Water Board reviewed the revised final Mission Bay WMA Plan and the comments received during the Plan revision process. On January 6, 2016, the San Diego Water Board informed the City that there were minor deficiencies remaining. On February 3, 2016, the City provided proposed corrections to the Mission Bay WMA Plan (see Attachment 1). After reviewing the proposed corrections, the San Diego Water Board finds that the Mission Bay WMA Plan, with the corrections proposed in Attachment 1, is in compliance with Provisions B and D of the Order. To comply with Signatory Requirement Provisions 1.k.(1)(d) and 2.n (requiring certification of the Plan) in Attachment B to the Order, a *certified* final Mission Bay WMA Plan incorporating the corrections proposed in Attachment 1 must be submitted promptly to the San Diego Water Board. The San Diego Water Board looks forward to the City achieving full compliance with the Signatory Requirement Provisions of the Order upon submittal of the *certified* final Mission Bay WMA Plan.

Based on these findings, the San Diego Water Board accepts the revised final Mission Bay WMA Plan dated September 29, 2015 with the corrections proposed in Attachment 1. As such,

the City should continue implementation of the strategies described therein according to the specified schedules. The City is now authorized to allow exemptions to the Hydromodification Management BMP Requirements that have been identified pursuant to Provision E.3.c.(2)(d)(iii) of the Order, and implement the Alternative Compliance Program for Priority Development Projects provided under provision E.3.c.(3) of the Order within the Mission Bay WMA.

The Mission Bay WMA Plan, dated September 29, 2015, and the proposed corrections in Attachment 1 will be available for public review on the San Diego Water Board website until the certified final Mission Bay WMA Plan is submitted and posted. Any person aggrieved by this San Diego Water Board action to accept the Mission Bay WMA Plan may petition the State Water Resources Control Board to review the action in accordance with Water Code section 13320 and California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 23, section 2050, et seq. The State Water Resources Control Board must receive the petition by 5:00 p.m. within 30 days after the date of this action except if the thirtieth day falls on a Saturday, Sunday or holiday, the petition must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. on the first business day following. Copies of laws and regulations applicable to petitions are available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/petitions/water_quality and are available upon request.

Please submit any written correspondence in response to this letter to SanDiego@waterboards.ca.gov. Electronic documents must be submitted as a single file, in Portable Document Format (PDF) format, and converted to text searchable format using Optical Character Recognition (OCR). All electronic documents must also include scanned copies of all signature pages; electronic signatures will not be accepted. Electronic documents submitted to the San Diego Water Board must include the following identification numbers in the header or subject line: **PIN: CW-794851:WChiu.**

Should you have any questions or comment s on this matter, please contact Wayne Chiu by phone at (619) 521-3354 or by e-mail at Wayne.Chiu@waterboards.ca.gov.

Respectfully,

David W. Gibson
Executive Officer
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board

Attachment 1: Proposed Corrections to the Mission Bay WMA Plan, City of San Diego Letter to San Diego Water Board dated January 3, 2016

DWG:dtb:law:wc

Tech Staff Info & Use	
Order No.	R9-2013-0001
NPDES No.	CAS0109266
PIN ID	794851
Regulatory Measure ID	387355

ATTACHMENT 1

Proposed Corrections to the
Mission Bay Watershed Management Area
Water Quality Improvement Plan

City of San Diego Letter
to San Diego Water Board
dated January 3, 2016

The City of SAN DIEGO
Transportation and Storm Water Department
Storm Water Division

January 3, 2016

Mr. Wayne Chiu
California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region
2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92108-2700

Subject: Mission Bay Water Quality improvement Plan Proposed Changes

Dear Mr. Chiu:

This letter outlines the proposed changes to the Mission Bay Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) that the City of San Diego developed in collaboration with the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Board). Enclosed with this submittal are the proposed edits to Section 5.1.2 and Appendix R of the WQIP. The proposed changes are the same as what you have already reviewed in previous draft submittals. Based on review of the previous submittals you indicated that the proposed changes address the deficiencies in the September 2015 WQIP submittal.

Summary of changes to WQIP:

- Added long-term monitoring station in Rose Creek;
- Revised Section 5.1.2 and Figure 5-2 of the WQIP text and Section R.1.1 and R.1.2 of the WQIP Appendix R to address new Rose Creek long-term monitoring station and summarize the ASBS receiving water monitoring program

Thank you for working with us to make modifications to the WQIP that address your comments. We look forward to receiving the WQIP acceptance letter from the Board and to begin the process of implementing the WQIP.

Sincerely,

Clem Brown
Program Manager, Transportation and Storm Water Department

CB/jph

Enclosure: Proposed Mission Bay WQIP Modifications

9370 Chesapeake Drive, Suite 100, MS 1900
San Diego, CA, 92123
sandiego.gov

T (858) 541-4336
sandiego.gov

Table 5-8
Dry Weather Monitoring Related to
Jurisdictional Goals in Scripps Subwatershed

Jurisdiction	Performance Metrics	Assessment Metric	Monitoring Elements
City of San Diego	Develop a green infrastructure policy, attain City Council approval, and construct 1 green infrastructure BMP[1] to improve water quality from 8.9 acres of drainage area	Acres of drainage area treated by construction of 1 green infrastructure BMP	Detail the completion of BMP, including acres treated
	Reduce by 10% the prohibited[2] dry weather flow from baseline measured at persistently flowing outfalls during dry weather	Percent reduction in prohibited[2] dry weather flow	Collect flow measurements at persistently flowing outfalls

1. The 8.9 acres of drainage area treated are associated with 1 green infrastructure project that will be completed by FY18: (1) permeable pavement and bioretention at Kellogg Park draining 8.9 acres.
2. Does not include allowable discharges as defined in Provision A and Provision E.2.a of the MS4 Permit.

5.1.2 Receiving Water Monitoring

The purpose of the receiving water monitoring program is to characterize trends in the chemical, physical, and biological conditions of a receiving water to determine whether beneficial uses are protected, maintained, or enhanced. This program is designed to meet the requirements set forth in Provision D.1 of the MS4 Permit. Long-term monitoring occurs during both wet and dry conditions for water quality and physical and biological integrity, along with sediment quality monitoring and participation in regional monitoring. The MS4 Permit also stipulates how TMDL monitoring requirements are to be incorporated into the receiving water monitoring program, as described in Attachment E of the MS4 Permit. Receiving water monitoring comprises the following programs:

- Long-term receiving water monitoring
- Regional monitoring participation
- Sediment quality monitoring
- TMDL monitoring
- ASBS monitoring

Long-Term Receiving Water Monitoring

Long-term receiving water monitoring will track the overall health of the receiving waters and is designed to answer the following questions:

- Are conditions in the receiving water protective, or likely protective, of beneficial uses?
- What are the extent and magnitude of the current or potential receiving water problems?
- Are the conditions in the receiving water getting better or worse?

Dry and wet weather monitoring will continue at ~~the~~ two ~~historical mass loading~~ station~~s:~~ ~~(~~TC-MLS~~)~~ located on the lower reach of Tecolote Creek and at the lower reach of Rose Creek. ~~Copermittees have monitored TC-MLS since 2001 to meet the requirements of previous MS4 Permits.~~ The monitoring locations are ~~MLS is~~ depicted on Figure 5-2. ~~This~~ These site~~s~~ will be monitored three times during wet weather and three times during dry weather per permit cycle. This monitoring program is designed to monitor the highest priority water quality conditions in the receiving water, along with a comprehensive list of constituents based on the 303(d) list impairments, CLRP, non-storm water action levels (NALs) or storm water action levels (SALs), and Table D-3 of the MS4 Permit. During both dry and wet weather, water samples will be analyzed for conventional constituents, nutrients, metals, pesticides, bacteria, field parameters, and toxicity, when applicable. Toxicity identification evaluations (TIEs), if necessary, will be conducted in compliance with Provisions D.1.c(4)(f) and D.1.d(4) of the MS4 Permit and used to determine the causative agent(s) of toxicity. Once per term during dry weather, a bioassessment will be conducted to evaluate chemical, physical, and biological data, and hydromodification monitoring will be conducted to record the stream conditions and habitat integrity and impacts.

The 2013 and 2014 Transitional Monitoring Programs satisfied long-term receiving water monitoring requirements, including dry and wet weather water quality sampling, bioassessments, and hydromodification monitoring for this Permit term. A long term receiving water monitoring station will be installed at the current location of MB-TWAS-1. The long term receiving water monitoring station will be referred to as the Rose Creek-MLS. Monitoring has been completed at MB-TWAS-1 in accordance with the 2007 MS4 Permit and will continue to be completed until the end of the current permit term in 2018. Long term receiving water monitoring in accordance with the MS4 Permit requirements will start at the Rose Creek-MLS after 2018 in the next permit cycle and will continue in accordance with the requirements of the WQIP Monitoring ~~These~~Program. These data can be used to re-evaluate priorities via the iterative approach as described in Section 6. For details of this monitoring program, refer to Appendix R. The methods and procedures provided in Appendix R may be modified on the basis of site-specific environmental conditions and updated analytical methodologies.

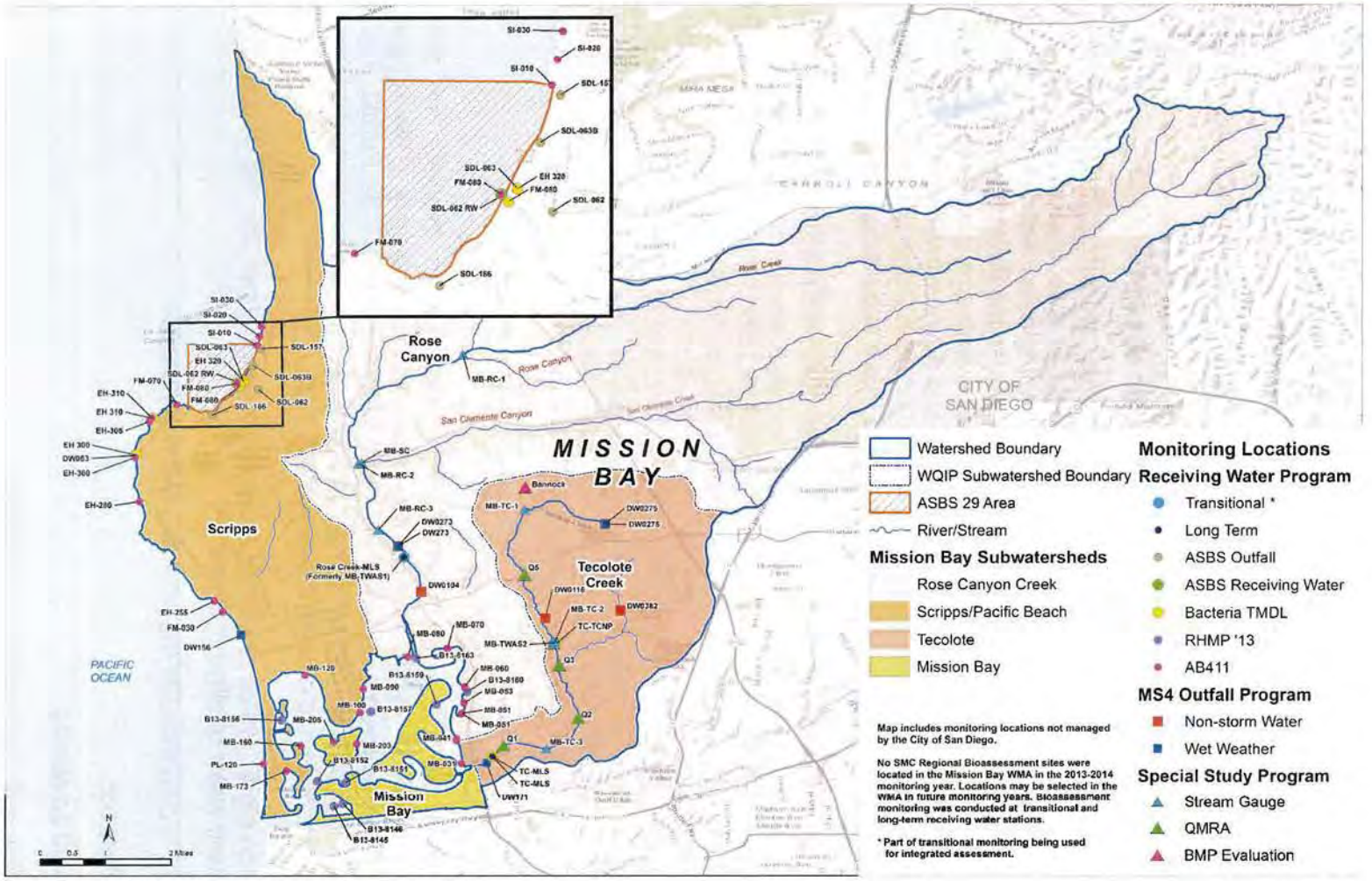

Figure 5-2
MAP Monitoring Locations for the Mission Bay WMA

samples at creek locations will be analyzed for fecal coliform, *Escherichia coli*, and *Enterococcus*. For details of this monitoring program, refer to Appendix R. The methods and procedures described in Appendix R may be modified on the basis of site-specific environmental conditions and updated analytical methodologies.

Bacteria TMDL compliance monitoring has been conducted in the receiving water since Fall 2012.

Areas of Special Biological Significance Monitoring

ASBS monitoring is used to assess the maintenance and protection of natural water quality conditions in areas of special biological significance that support an unusual variety of aquatic life, and often host unique individual species. Sampling includes up to five outfall monitoring locations and one receiving water monitoring location at the end of Avenida de la Playa. One to three wet weather events are monitored per year and include both grab samples in the receiving water and flow-weighted composite samples at the outfall locations. The program also includes additional flow monitoring to continue to calibrate a hydraulic model of the Avenida de la Playa subwatershed.

The ASBS receiving water monitoring location (SDL-062RW) is near an AB411 monitoring location at the end of Avenida de la Playa as shown in Figure 5-2. Grab samples are taken before and during storm events as required by the ASBS monitoring program at least two times per five year ASBS compliance cycle period. ASBS compliance sampling will therefore be repeated every five years at a minimum. Samples are collected in the surf zone, approximately two to three feet deep, where the storm water discharge mixes with the ocean water. The location of SDL-062RW is slightly different than the ankle deep AB411 monitoring location. Samples are analyzed for toxicity to marine species along with a range of analytical parameters that include TSS, oil and grease, total metals, nutrients, and organics.

5.1.3 MS4 Outfall Monitoring

The purpose of the MS4 outfall monitoring program is to evaluate the potential contribution from MS4 discharges to the receiving water quality. This program is designed to meet requirements set forth in Provision D.2 of the MS4 Permit. The MS4 outfall monitoring program has both dry and wet weather monitoring components. The outfall monitoring seeks to answer the question:

- Do non-storm water or storm water discharges from the MS4 contribute to receiving water quality problems?

This program is composed of the following two components:

- Dry Weather
  - Field screening
  - MS4 outfall dry weather monitoring

R.1 Receiving Water Monitoring

R.1.1 Long-Term Dry Weather Receiving Water Monitoring (Permit Prov. D.1.c)

Overview

Objectives

- Determine whether the conditions in the receiving water during dry weather are protective or likely protective of beneficial uses
- Determine the extent and magnitude of the current or potential dry weather receiving water problems
- Evaluate whether conditions in the receiving water during dry weather are improving or declining.

Sampling Locations

Table R-1
Dry Weather Receiving Water Monitoring Station

Station Name	Waterbody	Subwatershed	Latitude	Longitude
TC-MLS2[(a)]	Tecolote Creek	Tecolote Creek	32.~~772947~~ 7565	-117.~~203081~~ 9651
Rose Creek-MLS[(b)]	Rose Creek	Rose Canyon	32.81678	-117.22268

Notes:

(a) Due to the presence of a dry weather diversion above TC-MLS, MLS dry weather monitoring is performed at site TC-MLS2

(b) Monitoring at the Rose Creek-MLS will start after 2018 in the next permit cycle and will continue in accordance with the requirements of the WQIP Monitoring Program.

Frequency of Events

- Water Quality Sampling Events—Three During Permit Term
  - Event 1—During dry season (May 1—Sep. 30)
  - Event 2—During wet season (Oct. 1—Apr. 30)[1]
  - Event 3—At-large dry weather event
- Bioassessment Event – One During Permit Term

[1] Dry weather sample must be preceded by ≥72 hrs antecedent dry period following rainfall event of >0.1" and occur after the first wet event of the season

R.1.2 Long-Term Wet Weather Receiving Water Monitoring (Permit Prov. D.1.d)

Overview

Objectives

- Determine whether the conditions in the receiving water during wet weather are protective or likely protective of beneficial uses
- Determine the extent and magnitude of the current or potential wet weather receiving water problems
- Evaluate whether conditions in the receiving water during wet weather are improving or declining.

Sampling Locations

Table R-2
Wet Weather Receiving Water Monitoring Stations

Station Name	Waterbody	Subwatershed	Latitude	Longitude
TC-MLS	Tecolote Creek	Tecolote Creek	32.77294	-117.20308
Rose Creek-MLS[(a)]	Rose Creek	Rose Canyon	32.81678	-117.22268

Note:
(a) Monitoring at the Rose Creek-MLS will start after 2018 in the next permit cycle and will continue in accordance with the requirements of the WQIP Monitoring Program.

Number of Sampling Events—Three During Permit Term

- Event 1—First wet weather event of wet season (Oct. 1—Apr. 30)
- Event 2—Event occurring after February 1
- Event 3—At-large wet weather event

Monitoring Methods Reference

- Transitional Receiving Water Monitoring Plan (2013-2015) (www.projectcleanwater.org)
- Receiving Water Monitoring Plan (2015-2018) (www.projectcleanwater.org)

Sample Collection (Shown in Figures R-6 through R-8)

- Field Observations
- Flow-Weighted Composites