

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

**EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT  
AUGUST 12, 2020**

**ITEM 14**

**SUBJECT**

Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) Internship Program and Trash Amendment Action Plan (TrAAP) Update. (*Laurie Walsh*)

**STAFF RECOMMENDATION**

This is an informational item and the Board will not take an action.

**KEY ISSUE**

The SWPPP Internship Program (SWPPP Program) and the TrAAP Program are designed to engage students in developing sustainable solutions to water quality control challenges such as stormwater pollution and waste disposal practices observed on their school campus. These student internship programs strive to build a community of water quality advocates for the next generation of environmental leaders. The development of these future leaders can have far reaching effects on the San Diego Water Board's ability to meet its mission and goals. Bill Dean with BCK Programs LLC will introduce student interns enrolled in these programs who will present their plans and most recent accomplishments.

**PRACTICAL VISION**

Chapter 4 of the San Diego Water Board Practical Vision, *Proactive Public Outreach and Communication* is focused on implementing the core values of leadership, communication, and transparency. The SWPPP and TrAAP Programs align with Practical Vision goals by teaching students why healthy waters are important, and by empowering them to take action to improve water quality and achieve meaningful environmental outcomes.

**DISCUSSION**

Bill Dean and others at BCK Program LLC developed the SWPPP and TrAAP Programs to engage students at elementary, middle and high schools in examining and developing solutions to issues such as stormwater pollution, waste diversion, and conservation practices observed at their school campus and in the surrounding community. The SWPPP Program "hires" student interns for the school year to sample, analyze, and study pollutants on their school campuses; partner with local water districts to study the impact of their findings; and craft recommendations to improve conditions. The students then present their recommendations to the school district and in other community forums. First started in 2013, the SWPPP Program has grown to include 11 school campuses in north San Diego County. In 2016, the SWPPP Program received a \$720,000 Drought Response Outreach Program for Schools (DROPS) Grant for water quality projects at five school campuses. These grant funds contributed to construction of structural storm water treatment control devices that included permeable pavement in the parking lot, curb cuts and bioswales.

Over the last two years, Bill Dean has also initiated the TrAAP Program. The TrAAP

Program teaches students about trash and how to control trash from becoming a pollutant in creeks and the ocean. TrAAP was created in response to the State Water Resources Control Board 2015 *Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters, and Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California to Control Trash*.

The student interns last presented their accomplishments to the San Diego Water Board in February 2018. The student interns who participated in that presentation have since advanced to middle school and remain active in stormwater pollution related projects. The student interns will present their most recent plans and accomplishments and introduce the new TrAAP Program.

### **LEGAL CONCERNS**

None

### **PUBLIC NOTICE**

The Meeting Notice and Agenda for today's meeting was posted on the Board's website and sent to those who subscribe to the email list for Board meetings.

### **SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS**

None