

# Safe, Clean Water Program

Lower San Gabriel River

Watershed Area Steering Committee (WASC)



## Meeting Minutes:

Tuesday, January 14, 2020

9:00am-11:00am

Burns Community Center, 2nd floor

5510 Clark Ave. Lakewood, CA

## Attendees:

### Committee Members Present:

Julian Juarez (LA County Flood Control District)

Lyndsey Bloxom\* (Water Replenishment District)

Stephen Scott (City of Long Beach)

Kristen Ruffell (Sanitation Districts)

Dan Knapp (Conservation Corps of Long Beach)

Adam Galia (Resident)

Joseph Gonzalez\* (Rivers Mountains  
Conservancy)

Mike O'Grady (Cerritos)

Delfino Consunji (Downey)

Lisa Ann Rapp (Lakewood)

Melissa You (Long Beach)

Noe Negrete (Santa Fe Springs)

Vicki Smith (Whittier)

Glen Kau (Norwalk)

### Committee Members Not Present:

Michelle Yanez (San Gabriel Valley Economic  
Partnership)

Marissa Christiansen (Friends of the LA River)  
Kevin Wattier (Central Basin)

\*Committee Member Alternate

See attached sign-in sheet for full list of attendees

## 1. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Rapp, the Chair of the Lower San Gabriel River WASC, called the meeting to order.

All committee members made self-introductions and quorum was established.

## 2. Public Comment Period

No public comment.

## 3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from December 10, 2019

The Los Angeles County Flood Control District (District) provided a copy of the meeting minutes from the previous meeting. Ms. Rapp asked the committee members for comments or revisions. The committee had no comments.

**The Committee voted to approve the meeting minutes from December 10, 2019 (unanimous).**

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#### 4. Committee Member and District Updates

Mr. Kevin Kim (District) provided a summary of the Call for Projects submittals including the amount of funding requested, the number of submittals per watershed area, and how the members and public may view the applications on [www.safecleanwaterla.org](http://www.safecleanwaterla.org).

#### 5. Discussion Items:

##### a. Summary of feasibility studies, project concepts and scientific studies submitted

District staff provided a copy of the Overview of Project Submittals for Fiscal Year 2020-2021 for Lower San Gabriel River WASC consideration.

Mr. Kim provided an overview of the current status of project submittals: ten (10) for the Infrastructure Program, zero (0) for the Technical Resources Program, and one (1) for the Scientific Studies Program. The overview of the Project Submittals for the Lower San Gabriel Watershed Area can be found [on the website](#).

The committee discussed how benefits to Disadvantaged Communities (DACs) would be determined. Mr. Kim stated that the process is still in development and will be shared with the committee once available.

The committee discussed budget projections for the Stormwater Investment Plan (SIP). The District clarified that the WASC is to set a budget for the current fiscal year and provide projections for the four subsequent years. The projections are not guaranteed and the WASC is encouraged to apply a monetary cap to the recommended programming in the four subsequent years to remain fluid/open for revisions.

The committee discussed procedures for Projects that do not meet the Threshold Score and if outreach is planned for the Technical Resources Program. Mr. Kim explained that the District will not reopen the Call for Projects for the current Fiscal Year and applicants will need to reapply for the next Fiscal Year or can be referred to the Technical Resources Program at the discretion of the WASC. It was later discussed that the District may allow applicants a limited opportunity to correct their submittals if the Scoring Committee determined a Project did not provide sufficient information to be scored and additional information is necessary for scoring purposes.

The committee discussed how applicants could receive feedback from the WASCs and Scoring Committee if the project is not approved in the SIP. This process will be further developed by the District.

The committee requested a status update on the fund Transfer Agreements and the Watershed Coordinators. Mr. Kim noted that the District will provide an update in future meetings when more information becomes available.

##### b. Regional Scientific Study to Support Protection of Human Health through Targeted Reduction of Bacteriological Pollution (Richard Watson & Associates)

Presentation by Richard Watson. Overview of a proposed Regional Scientific Study that will use the latest available technologies and approaches to measure waterborne pathogens across Safe Clean Water Program watersheds to help identify key sources of human health risk, develop cost-effective

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strategies that better protect human health, and support the regulatory shift needed to accommodate a modernized approach.

During the Q& A for the presentation: Mr. Knapp asked if Mr. Watson considered leveraging funds from Orange County since part of the watershed lies within their jurisdiction. Mr. Watson noted that the idea can be explored. Mr. Knapp also asked if there was a minimum amount of funding need to develop an adequate study. Mr. Watson stated that full funding is preferred. If a WASC does not contribute funding, they do not receive the benefits and may need to fund an independent study.

Ms. Bloxom asked who the responsible party conducting the technical work would be for the study. Mr. Watson stated the Project Lead will likely be the Gateway Water Management Authority (GWMA) pending execution of the Transfer Agreement. A portion of the funding would be used to select a Project coordinator through GWMA's solicitation process.

The committee discussed the goals of the study. Mr. Watson clarified that the purpose of the study is to find a method that is accepted by the stakeholders and regulatory agencies to focus investments on high-risk areas associated with human pathogens.

The committee discussed similar studies currently in progress. Mr. Watson clarified that some studies investigate different processes or are of varying sizes but can be used to inform policy or implementation of this study.

A member of the public noted that unpasteurized mulch along transportation corridors could be a source of pollutants. The member of the public noted that he was familiar with methods to treat these pollutants and offered to provide Mr. Watson additional details.

A member of the public asked if any labs had been identified to conduct testing and the anticipated costs. Mr. Watson noted that they have identified a lab in the Bay Area that is equipped to conduct the specialized testing needed. Mr. Watson anticipates that the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) recertification process may create the opportunity for more labs that are equipped to conduct the specialized testing needed and reduce costs.

#### 6. Voting Items:

##### **c. Send all completed feasibility studies to Scoring Committee for consideration.**

District staff recommended this action for all WASC committees due to the expedited timeline. After Scoring Committee review, the WASC will still be able to discuss the project before being programmed into the Stormwater Investment Plan. If a WASC does not contribute funding, they do not receive the benefits and may need to fund an independent study.

The committee discussed the decision-making process to determine which projects to include in the SIP. Ms. Rapp instructed committee members to email any ideas to the team.

**The Committee voted to send all completed feasibility studies to Scoring Committee for consideration (unanimous).**

#### 7. Items for next agenda

The District recommends the following items for the next agenda:

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- Presentations from Infrastructure Program Project applicants.

Ms. Rapp solicited additional recommendations from the committee for the next agenda.

Ms. Ruffell requested presentations include a discussion of Watershed Area served, percentage of land area in each city, and DAC benefits.

Committee members requested an agenda item to discuss changing the meeting time or potentially scheduling an additional meeting or a longer meeting to accommodate the expedited schedule.

Ms. Bloxom requested an agenda item to discuss of watershed priorities.

#### **8. Adjournment**

Ms. Rapp thanked the committee members and public for their time and participation and adjourned the meeting.

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 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address		Signature
Julian Juarez	FCD	JJUAREZ@dpw.lacounty.gov	P	
Carolina Hernandez	FCD	CHERNANDEZ@dpw.lacounty.gov	A	
Diane Gatza	Water Replenishment District	dgatza@ wrd.org	P	
Lyndsey Bloxom	Water Replenishment District	lbloxom@ wrd.org	A	
Stephen Scott	City of Long Beach Parks and Recreation	Stephen.Scott@longbeach.gov	P	
Sharon Gates	City of Long Beach, Parks, Recreation and Marine	Sharon.Gates@longbeach.gov	A	
Kristen Ruffell	Sanitation Districts	kruffell@lacsds.org	P	
Mike Sullivan	Sanitation Districts	msullivan@lacsds.org	A	
Kevin Wattier	Central Basin	kevinw@centralbasin.org	P	
Dan Knapp	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	dknapp@cclb-corps.org	P	
Kayla Slatten	Conservation Corps of Long Beach	kkellyslatten@cclb-corps.org	A	
Adam Galia	Resident	agaliam81@gmail.com	P	
Thalia Campos	Center for Asian Americans United for Self Empowerment	thalis887@gmail.com	A	
Michelle Yanez	San Gabriel Valley Economic Partnership	myanez@sgvpartnership.org	P	
Marissa Christiansen	Friends of the LA River	marissa@folar.org	P	
Mark Stanley	Rivers Mountains Conservancy	mstanley@rmc.ca.gov	P	

Alternate Joseph Gonzalez

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 COMMITTEE MEMBER AND ALTERNATE SIGN-IN



Member Name	Municipality/ Organization	Email Address		Signature
Joseph Gonzalez	Rivers Mountains Conservancy	Jgonzalez@rmc.ca.gov	A	
Mike O'Grady	Cerritos	mograd@cerritos.us	P	
Rebecca Scott	Cerritos	rscott@cerritos.us	A	
Delfino Consunji	Downey	dconsunji@downeyca.org	P	
Dan Mueller	Downey	dmueller@downeyca.org	A	
Lisa Ann Rapp	Lakewood	lrapp@lakewoodcity.org	P	
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Melissa You	Long Beach	Melissa.You@longbeach.gov	P	
Alvin Papa	Long Beach	Alvin.Papa@longbeach.gov	A	
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Millie Khuu	Norwalk	mkhuu@norwalkca.gov	A	
Noe Negrete	Santa Fe Springs	noenegrete@santafesprings.org	P	
Marlin Munoz	La Mirada	mmunoz@cityoflamirada.org	A	
Vicki Smith	Whittier	vsmith@cityofwhittier.org	P	
Kyle Cason	Whittier	kcason@cityofwhittier.org	A	
Robert Gomez	LA (FCD) LSPW	rjgomez@pw.lacounty.gov		

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 PUBLIC SIGN-IN



First Name	Last Name	Municipality/Organization	Email Address
Richard	Watson	RWA	rwatson@rwaplanning.com
Melanie	Morita	LACFCD	
Kevin	KIM	LACFCD	
TORI	KLUG	Stantec	TORI.KLUG@STANTEC.COM
Veronica	Sey de	WSP	Veronica.Seyde@wsp.com
Michelle	Kim	JLHA	Mkim@JLHA.net
Fernando	VILLALBA	LACFW	FVILLALBA@PW.LACOUNTY.GOV
Yale Williams	Williams	LHA	SWILLIAMS@JCLHA.COM
Fred	Gonzalez	LACFCD	fgonzalez@pw.lacounty.gov

\*Signing or completing this form is voluntary for members of the public

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# Overview of Proposed Scientific Study

Richard Watson, Richard Watson & Associates, Inc. (RWA)

Presentation to Lower San Gabriel River WASC

14 January 2020

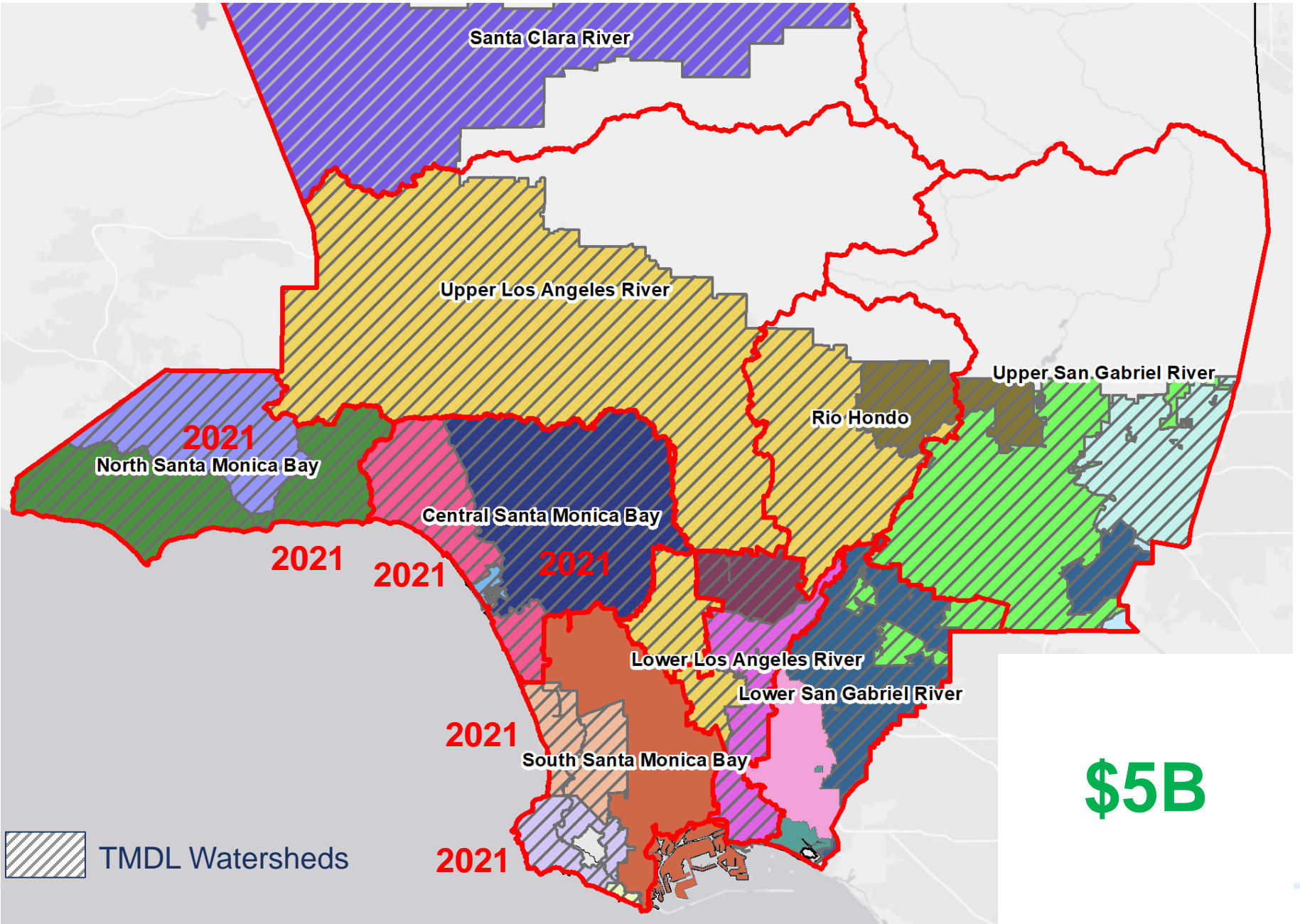


# Overview

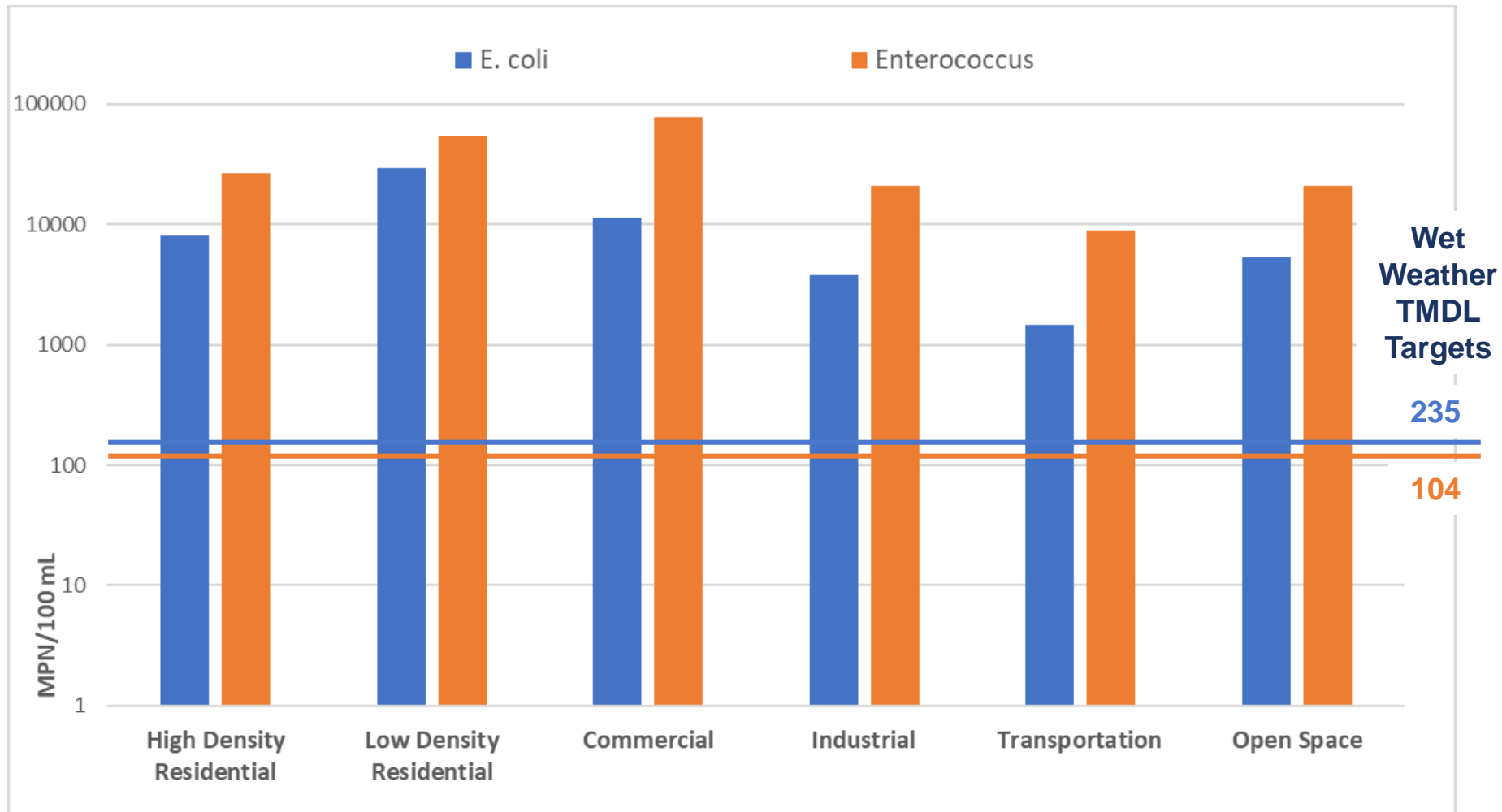
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- Bacteria Challenges
- Scientific Study Approach
- Scientific Study Schedule and Cost Estimate
- Summary

# E/WMP Groups Addressing Bacteria



# Wet Weather Average Concentrations: LA County Land Uses



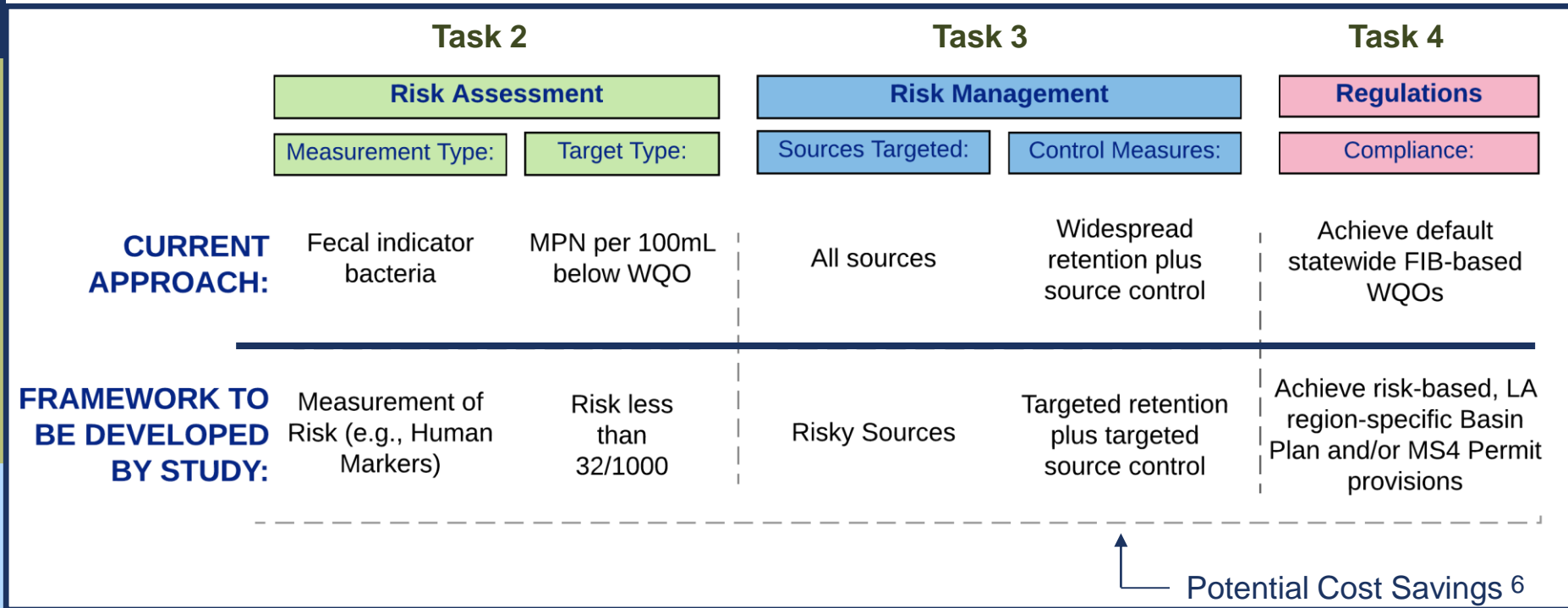
# Scientific Study: Initial Steps

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- Small Group Initiated Discussions
  - City and County of LA; LLC, LLAR, LSGR; and LWA
- Developed Special Study Approach
  - Apply state of the science to LA County specific issues
  - Built a scope for Measure W Regional Program funded study that each group can elect to participate (or not)
- Presented Approach E/WMP Groups
- Discussed with Regional Board staff

# What will the study do?

## Task 1 Stakeholder Process



# Study Schedule

Task	Year										
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Task 1 – Stakeholder Process	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Task 2 – Risk Assessment	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Task 3 – Risk Management	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■
Task 4 – Regulatory Revisions	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■	■

# Measure W Scientific Study Funding

- Funding is now available to address issue through studies
- Multi-year studies eligible for scientific study funding (5% of regional program funds)

Watershed Area	Estimated Available Regional Funding for Special Studies	
	Annual*	5 Years*
Central Santa Monica Bay	\$890,000	\$4,450,000
Lower Los Angeles River	\$640,000	\$3,200,000
Lower San Gabriel River	\$835,000	\$4,175,000
North Santa Monica Bay	\$90,000	\$450,000
Rio Hondo	\$575,000	\$2,875,000
Santa Clara River	\$300,000	\$1,500,000
South Santa Monica Bay	\$920,000	\$4,600,000
Upper Los Angeles River	\$1,930,000	\$9,650,000
Upper San Gabriel River	\$945,000	\$4,725,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,125,000</b>	<b>\$35,625,000</b>

\* Assumes Measure W revenue of \$285,000,000/year.

# Cost Estimate

Tasks		Cost Estimate
Task 1-	Stakeholder Process	\$490,000
Task 2-	Risk Assessment	\$5,880,000
Task 3-	Risk Management	\$2,940,000
Task 4-	Regulatory Revisions	\$490,000
Total		\$9,800,000



## Watershed Area Cost Allocations – Los Angeles County Bacteria Scientific Study

Watershed Area	% Share of Budget for Study <sup>2</sup>	Projected SCWP Scientific Study Funds		Study Contribution by Watershed Area	Percent of SCWP Scientific Study Funds over 5-Years
		Annual	5-Year		
Central Santa Monica Bay	12.5%	\$890,000	\$4,450,000	\$1,181,920	28%
Lower Los Angeles River	9.0%	\$640,000	\$3,200,000	\$909,031	
Lower San Gabriel River	11.7%	\$835,000	\$4,175,000	\$1,137,470	
North Santa Monica Bay	1.3%	\$90,000	\$450,000	\$141,252	
Rio Hondo	8.1%	\$575,000	\$2,875,000	\$782,646	
Santa Clara River	4.2%	\$300,000	\$1,500,000	\$462,119	
South Santa Monica Bay	12.9%	\$920,000	\$4,600,000	\$1,272,424	
Upper Los Angeles River	27.1%	\$1,930,000	\$9,650,000	\$2,604,041	
Upper San Gabriel River	13.3%	\$945,000	\$4,725,000	\$1,309,097	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>\$7,125,000</b>	<b>\$35,625,000</b>	<b>\$9,800,000</b>	

1. Costs assume participation by all Watershed Areas, which increases efficiency of the study. Costs will need to be recalculated if not all Watershed Areas participate. Projected SCWP Scientific Study Funds are based on \$142.5 million in annual funds for the regional program (5% of which is available for scientific studies).
2. Percent of Total Budget is based on a proportional distribution of the costs based on the SCWP taxable impervious area.

## Watershed Area Cost Allocations – Annual Cost Estimates to Implement Bacteria Study

Watershed Area	Study Year					Total Budget	Projected Scientific Study	
	1	2	3	4	5		Funds Available	% of Funds
Central Santa Monica Bay	\$330,518	\$330,518	\$330,518	\$116,293	\$116,293	\$1,224,140	\$4,450,000	28%
Lower Los Angeles River	\$237,676	\$237,676	\$237,676	\$83,627	\$83,627	\$880,281	\$3,200,000	
Lower San Gabriel River	\$310,093	\$310,093	\$310,093	\$109,107	\$109,107	\$1,148,491	\$4,175,000	
North Santa Monica Bay	\$33,423	\$33,423	\$33,423	\$11,760	\$11,760	\$123,789	\$450,000	
Rio Hondo	\$213,537	\$213,537	\$213,537	\$75,133	\$75,133	\$790,877	\$2,875,000	
Santa Clara River	\$111,411	\$111,411	\$111,411	\$39,200	\$39,200	\$412,632	\$1,500,000	
South Santa Monica Bay	\$341,659	\$341,659	\$341,659	\$120,213	\$120,213	\$1,265,404	\$4,600,000	
Upper Los Angeles River	\$716,741	\$716,741	\$716,741	\$252,187	\$252,187	\$2,654,596	\$9,650,000	
Upper San Gabriel River	\$350,943	\$350,943	\$350,943	\$123,480	\$123,480	\$1,299,789	\$4,725,000	
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,646,000</b>	<b>\$2,646,000</b>	<b>\$2,646,000</b>	<b>\$931,000</b>	<b>\$931,000</b>	<b>\$9,800,000</b>	<b>\$35,625,000</b>	

1. Costs assume participation by all Watershed Areas, which increases efficiency of the study. Costs will need to be recalculated if not all Watershed Areas participate. Projected SCWP Scientific Study Funds are based on \$142.5 million in annual funds for the regional program (5% of which is available for scientific studies).
2. Percent of Total Budget is based on a proportional distribution of the costs based on the SCWP taxable impervious area.

# Summary

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- Time is right
- To make this successful, can't just be technical
- LA Specific Study is needed to identify the best way to focus on risk in the region

# Questions and Thank You

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