



## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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### 2009-10 Program Effectiveness Assessment (PEA) Executive Summary

This Program Effectiveness Assessment (PEA) has been prepared as a joint submittal by the County of Orange/Orange County Flood Control District (hereinafter referred to as the County) to meet the requirements of the Fourth Term Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) NPDES Permits (Fourth Term Permits) that were issued by the Santa Ana and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Boards to the County of Orange, the Orange County Flood Control District (OCFCD) and the incorporated cities of Orange County (collectively referred to as Permittees). The County's jurisdiction consists of largely undeveloped and developing areas as well as fragmented unincorporated islands.

The primary objective of the 2009-10 PEA is to describe implementation of the County's stormwater program between July 1, 2009 and June 30, 2010. This reporting period represents the seventh year of implementation of the 2003 DAMP model programs within the County's jurisdiction, which straddles both Regional Board areas of Orange County.

The County's 2007-08 PEA represented a shift to the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA) approach to effectiveness assessment and subsequent PEAs have followed this approach. The CASQA approach identifies six Outcome Levels in order to help determine if desired outcomes on both an implementation and water quality basis are being achieved. Throughout this PEA, wherever information on program elements, activities, best management practices (BMPs), etc., are reported, the corresponding CASQA Outcome Level or Levels are shown indicated by a colored triangle with the appropriate corresponding number. This methodology is designed to allow readers of this report to more clearly identify which elements of the County's Stormwater Program are having the greatest impact on protection and improvement of water quality and the environment.

The County's 2009-10 PEA is organized into twelve (12) sections which correspond with the structure of the 2003 DAMP. Through implementation of the DAMP programs as described in its Local Implementation Plan (LIP), the County has continued to recognize water quality protection and improvement as a top priority. Some of the more notable achievements during the reporting period include:

#### **Program Management (Section C-2)**

- Participated in every meeting of the countywide program committees, subcommittees and task forces.
- Conducted two meetings of the County's internal NPDES Committee which consists of representatives from over twenty different County Departments.

#### **Plan Development (Section C-3)**

- Iterative implementation of BMPs in Dana Point Harbor resulted in a continued dramatic improvement in water quality, with Baby Beach receiving an A grade in the *Heal the Bay 2009-10 Beach Report Card* for a second consecutive year.
- Participated in a demonstration project to test rapid methods for evaluating beach water quality and providing same day results to the public.



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### **Municipal Activities (Section C-5)**

- Cleaned 34.26 miles of drainage facilities including 1,469 catch basins.
- Removed a total of 1,228 tons (wet weight) of solid debris from the stormdrain system (combination of debris removed from catch basins, channels and pipes, trash barriers, dry weather diversion dams, pump stations and vaults).
- Diverted 147 million gallons of urban runoff to the sanitary sewer for treatment from four diversion dams located in Huntington Beach, Fountain Valley and Costa Mesa.
- Prevented 254 tons of solid debris from reaching the stormdrain system in unincorporated areas through street sweeping activities.
- Collected 7,841,757 lbs. of household hazardous waste at the County's Household Hazardous Waste Collection Centers.
- Collected 166,247 gallons of used motor oil and 12,200 used oil filters through the County's used oil recycling program.

### **Public Education/Public Participation (Section C-6)**

- The County's OC Watersheds website, [www.ocwatersheds.com](http://www.ocwatersheds.com), which focuses on pollution prevention methods, and is full of educational resources, experienced more than 17 million "page views" during the reporting period.
- Distributed a total of 6,518 outreach materials.
- Participated in 302 public outreach events throughout the County.
- Attained 17,281,222 million public impressions through the County's public education and outreach effort.
- Hosted multiple cleanup locations at County Regional Parks as part of the 13<sup>th</sup> annual Inner Coastal Watershed Cleanup Day and along with the cities of Fullerton, Buena Park and La Palma, coordinated a cleanup within Fullerton Creek Flood Control Channel where 97 volunteers removed 1,420 pounds of trash over a 2 mile stretch.

### **New Development/Significant Redevelopment (Section C-7)**

- Participated in the development of a proposed Model Water Quality Management Plan (Model WQMP) and Technical Guidance Manual which was submitted to the Executive Officer of the Santa Ana Regional Board for review and approval on May 24, 2010.

### **Construction (Section C-8)**

- Conducted 1,208 stormwater inspections of construction sites under County jurisdiction resulting in 171 enforcement actions.
- Held training sessions on construction program requirements for 149 County attendees.

### **Existing Development (Section C-9)**

- Conducted 17 industrial facility stormwater inspections within the County's jurisdiction.



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- Conducted 114 commercial site/source stormwater inspections within the County's jurisdiction resulting in 3 enforcement actions.

### **Illegal Discharges/Illicit Connections (Section C-10)**

- Received a total of 218 pollution complaints/reports.
- Responded to 101 water pollution incidents, resulting in 25 enforcement actions.

### **Water Quality Monitoring (Section C-11)**

- Continued to coordinate implementation of the countywide monitoring programs.
- Heal the Bay's 2009-10 *Annual Beach Report Card* reported the following: "Orange County displayed quite easily the best dry weather water quality it has seen in the last six years. For both AB411 and year-round dry weather conditions, this year's water quality was markedly better than the County's six-year average."

### **Watershed Management (Section C-12)**

- The County continued to take the lead in coordinating with the public, cities, local, state and federal agencies as well as other stakeholders on watershed-scale efforts throughout Orange County.



## CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

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### 2009-10 Program Effectiveness Assessment (PEA) Conclusion and Recommendations

This PEA spans a reporting period from July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010 and contains information gathered from the seventh year of full implementation of the enhanced programs of the 2003 DAMP in both the San Diego and Santa Ana Regions. As with the prior PEA submittals, the goal of this annual summary is to use implementation measures to demonstrate overall program effectiveness and drive the iterative process. To this extent, the County has integrated the CASQA approach to effectiveness assessment into its program framework (see **Section C-2.5** for complete discussion). CASQA is currently in the process of refining their guidance on effectiveness assessment and the State is initiating development of statewide guidance; the County's approach will change accordingly.

As implementation of stormwater program elements under the Fourth Term Permits begins, the major conclusions that can be drawn have not changed from the last reporting period:

- 1) All County submittals have been made in compliance with the schedules in the Third & Fourth Term MS4 NPDES Permits.
- 2) There continue to be strong indications that desired outcomes on both an implementation and water quality/environmental basis are being achieved.

As a consequence, the County submits the following recommendations:

- 1) The increased complexity of the Fourth Term MS4 NPDES Permits for Orange County combined with the economic challenges faced by local government make the decisions on where and how to allocate resources even more challenging for a municipal stormwater program. The County recommends continued pursuit of an integrated holistic approach to management of water resources on a regional and watershed scale.
- 2) Effectiveness assessment should follow the CASQA developed approach and/or a statewide model being developed pursuant to State law and transition to a more efficient process of integrated data management which helps increase the public's knowledge and understanding of the program while at the same time making it easier for the Regional Boards to evaluate permittee compliance should be pursued.