



*Ventura Countywide  
Stormwater Quality  
Management Program*

2020-2021  
Permit Year

# Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program Annual Report



December 15, 2021

Camarillo  
County of Ventura  
Fillmore  
Moorpark  
Ojai  
Oxnard  
Port Hueneme  
Santa Paula  
Simi Valley  
Thousand Oaks  
Ventura  
Ventura County Watershed Protection District

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Attachment E	Total Maximum Daily Load Reports and Monitoring Data

# Executive Summary

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This Annual Report discusses the Permittees' Permit compliance activities for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, the eleventh year of the NPDES Permit No. CAS004002/Order No. 10-108 (Permit). It includes a description of all activities conducted during the reporting period, and the efforts to improve water quality throughout Ventura County by the Permittees. The purpose of this Annual Report is to show compliance with the Permit, and to meet the reporting requirement that an Annual Stormwater Report be submitted by December 15<sup>th</sup> of each year; in its entirety this Report also serves as the Receiving Water Limitations Report. Since the Permit did not require a Stormwater Management Plan this Annual Report also serves to clarify the Permit's requirements and the efforts put forth by the Permittees to meet them. Finally, program effectiveness assessment of the implementation of the Permit requirements are examined with potential areas for improvement identified.

The Permittees, who contributed the information and data regarding their programs, were instrumental in the preparation of this Annual Report. Cooperating through the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program (Program) the Permittees ensure information and workloads are shared, economies of scale achieved, and an efficient and effective Program is realized. Together through the implementation of various comprehensive program elements we have strived for improved water quality through compliance with all requirements of the Permit. Each program element has a subcommittee working to develop needed forms, protocols, and procedures to ensure future Permit compliance. The programs, methods, and this Annual Report are continually being refined to improve effectiveness, apply lessons learned, identify and address additional sources of stormwater pollutants, and therefore improve water quality.

Notable accomplishments made by the Permittees and the Program over this reporting period include:

- Continued engagement with Regional Board members and staff during Regional Permit renewal in the hopes of ensuring a Permit that is right for Ventura County, including the submittal of a comprehensive comment package on the Tentative Draft Regional Permit.
- Water quality at beaches throughout Ventura County remained above average for Southern California with seven beaches making the honor roll in Heal the Bay's 2020/21 Annual Beach Report Card (BRC). 98% of the beaches received A grades for summer dry weather, and 92% of beaches received A grades for both winter dry weather and wet weather.
- Participation in SCCWRP's Bight '18 Microbiology Coliphage Study and Trash assessment.
- Completed a countywide regional stormwater treatment project location identification and concept development study.
- Stakeholders are submitting new projects in the Stormwater Resource Plan using a tool developed by the Program that automatically calculates the quantitative and qualitative benefits.
- Continued to inform and engage the highest levels of management about the programmatic and financial impacts of a new Regional Permit through new and refined communication tools.
- The Public Outreach program made over 18.5 million impressions. New creative material was created, in both English and Spanish, focusing on pollutants of concern: trash/litter, pet waste, and yard chemicals. Over 2,000 elementary school age students were educated through COVID-19 safe virtual performances by the EcoHero Show and his engaging and interactive eco-friendly songs.
- Created a more effective and targeted youth outreach program of stormwater pollution prevention informed by the results of the 2019 internet-based youth behavioral awareness survey.

- Continued to grow the new Community for a Clean Watershed public outreach Instagram account: [www.instagram.com/cleanwatershed](http://www.instagram.com/cleanwatershed), including the addition of professional high quality local images.
- Coordinated the 2020 Ventura County Coastal Cleanup Day Event, as part of the California Coastal Cleanup Day. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, individual neighborhood self-guided cleanups were encouraged throughout the month of September. 1,046 volunteers reported their cleanup efforts with 6,350 pounds of trash picked up over 147 miles.
- Continued updating the Water Quality Index distilling the over 200 constituents monitored into an easy to communicate form and continued the comprehensive data analysis effort to prioritize pollutants of concern in outfalls and receiving waters that in turn will be used to prioritize Program activities.
- Nine Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Plans Annual/Semiannual Reports were submitted to the Regional Board.
- Active participation in the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) of Southern California, California Stormwater Quality Association, and the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, including representation as Vice-Chair of SMC, and Co-Chair of CASQA Policy and Permitting subcommittee.

Ventura County continues to be subjected to increased environmental stresses in recent years. Rainfall for 2020/21 was the lowest on historical record for Ventura County. In addition to the ongoing drought, every major watershed within the County has been impacted heavily by numerous wildfires including the Thomas Fire of 2017/18, the Hill and Woolsey fires of 2018/19, and most recently the Maria and Easy fires that occurred in 2019. The impacts of the fires were not observed in the water quality monitoring results, as concentrations above applicable water quality objectives (WQO) were similar to non-fire years, although higher sediment loads were observed in the runoff.

Three wet weather events were sampled at each of the fourteen monitoring stations. Ten of fourteen stations were sampled during dry weather and it can be inferred no pollutants were being discharged at the dry/unsampled stations. Aquatic toxicity samples were analyzed for all fourteen sites during the first sampled wet event of the monitoring year and no toxicity was observed. Biological assessments were performed in accordance with the new 2021-2025 Bioassessment Workplan, and at the Principal Permittee's fixed (Integrator) sites at the three receiving water stations.

The Water Quality Index (Index) shows generally good water quality scores across the County, with the overall Index showing A to C grades at mass emission stations during 2020/21 in both wet and dry weather. Bacteria (*E. coli*) and/or salts concentrations continued to be the main contributor(s) at sites with lower overall scores for both wet and dry weather, although *E. coli* could not be sampled at all events due to COVID-19 pandemic related issues at the laboratory. Other constituents that were found at elevated levels in relation to applicable water quality objectives (WQO) at least once during wet-weather events include total chlorine residual, chloride, total dissolved solids, total cyanide, total aluminum, nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen, benzo(a)pyrene, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, and pentachlorophenol. Constituents not meeting dry-weather WQO at least once include pH, dissolved oxygen, chloride, total dissolved solids, and total selenium. Data from the Stormwater Monitoring Program (SMP) is used to identify pollutants of concern and direct efforts to reduce their discharge from the storm drain system.

Continued in this Annual Report are the Performance Standards for specific Permit requirements identified in each section along with the Permittees' status on achieving that standard. Permit compliance cannot be directly inferred solely by these Performance Standards as the complete effort of the Permittees cannot be reflected through these discrete metrics. Rather, the information is more suitable for use by the Permittees to gage their efforts and identify areas of needed improvement.

# 1 Introduction

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The Watershed Protection District (Principal Permittee), the County of Ventura, and the incorporated cities of Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Oxnard, Port Hueneme, Santa Paula, Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, and Ventura, (each a Permittee, and collectively known as Permittees) operate municipal storm drain systems and discharge stormwater and urban runoff pursuant to the countywide NPDES Permit (Board Order No. 10-0108 or Permit). This Permit, administered by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), requires an Annual Stormwater Report and Assessment (Annual Report) be submitted by December 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.

The first stormwater permit for Ventura County was adopted in 1994 and included all ten cities, the County, and the Watershed Protection District. On July 27, 2000 a second permit was adopted that advanced logical and incremental increases in the requirements. That five-year permit was on administrative extension until May 7, 2009, when Board Order 09-0057 was adopted. Shortly after adoption of that permit the Regional Board rescinded it to hold a new adoption hearing. On July 8, 2010 Order No. R4 2010-0108 was adopted with minor changes. The 2010 Permit had a new set of implementation deadlines associated with it and replaced the order adopted in 2009 in its entirety.

## 1.1 PURPOSE AND ORGANIZATION OF REPORT

The primary purpose of this Annual Report is to document the Permittees' continued compliance with NPDES Permit No. CAS004002/Order No. 10-108 (Permit) and efforts to improve water quality. Since the Permit did not require a Stormwater Management Plan this Annual Report also serves as a way to clarify the Permit's requirements and the effort required to meet them. Finally, program effectiveness assessment of the implementation of the Permit requirements are examined with potential areas for improvement identified.



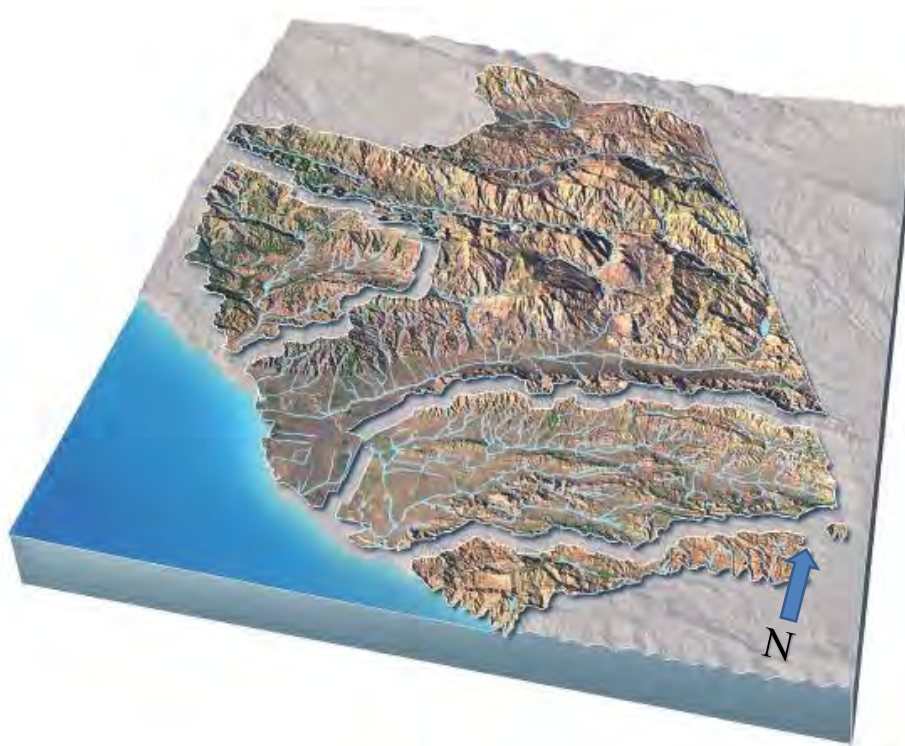
This Annual Report discusses the Permittees' Permit compliance activities for the period of July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, the eleventh year of the third Permit term. It includes a description of all activities conducted during the reporting period and the efforts made to improve water quality throughout Ventura County by the Permittees. In its entirety, this report also serves as the Receiving Water Limitations Report for all Permittees.

The organization of the Report reflects the organization of the Permit. Each section contains a description of the Permit requirements and their purpose, and the Permittee's program activities in that area with detailed descriptions of the efforts put forth in the 2020/21 Permit year. The sections are as follows:

- **Program Management - Section 2.0** – Roles and responsibilities of the Permittees committee structure, and a program budget report for 2020/21.
- **Public Information and Public Participation Program – Section 3.0** – The efforts and effectiveness of pollution prevention education and outreach programs.



- **Industrial Commercial Business Program - Section 4.0** – The activities directed at effectively prohibiting non-stormwater discharges from businesses and industrial sites in order to reduce stormwater pollution to the maximum extent practicable.
- **Planning and Land Development Program - Section 5.0** – The minimization of the impact of new development and significant redevelopment on stormwater quality through use of Low Impact Development site design and water quality treatment BMPs.
- **Development Construction Program - Section 6.0** – Activities before and during construction through stormwater pollution prevention plans and inspections to ensure the protection of stormwater quality to the maximum extent practicable.
- **Public Agencies Activities Program - Section 7.0** – Both the efforts to remove pollutants from MS4s, and to eliminate the adverse effects that municipal activities may have on runoff water quality.
- **Illicit Discharge and Illegal Connections Elimination Program - Section 8.0** – Status of the tools, control measures, and responses established to eliminate non-permit authorized discharges and connections to the storm drain system.
- **Water Quality Monitoring Program - Section 9.0** – A summary and analysis of the monitoring results from the Permit year. Includes efforts that are currently being implemented and additional BMPs that will be implemented to prevent or reduce any pollutants that are causing or contributing to the exceedance of Water Quality Objectives.



*The Watersheds of Ventura County west to east:*

*Ventura River, Santa Clara River, Calleguas Creek, and Malibu Creek*

### 1.1.1 Major Program Accomplishments

Since the adoption of the third term Permit the Program has achieved many accomplishments in each of the program elements, and beyond Permit requirements. These include adopting a five-year implementation agreement and new stormwater quality ordinances, new bilingual BMP training posters for business and construction, drafting a Revised Technical Guidance Manual and Hydromodification Control Plan for land development, catch basin mapping and prioritization, increased trash management programs, new pesticide protocols, installation of eleven outfall monitoring stations, water quality data trends analysis, development of a water quality index, and special studies to address pyrethroids, pentachlorophenol, aluminum and bacteria. All of these efforts have resulted in water quality at Ventura County beaches to be among the best in the state.

Notable accomplishments made by the Permittees and the Program over this reporting period include:

- Continued engagement with Regional Board members and staff during Regional Permit renewal in the hopes of ensuring a Permit that is right for Ventura County, including the submittal of a comprehensive comment package on the Tentative Draft Regional Permit.
- Water quality at beaches throughout Ventura County remained above average for Southern California with seven beaches making the honor roll in Heal the Bay's 2020/21 Annual Beach Report Card (BRC). 98% of the beaches received A grades for summer dry weather, and 92% of beaches received A grades for both winter dry weather and wet weather.
- Participation in SCCWRP's Bight '18 Microbiology Coliphage Study and Trash assessment.

- Completed a countywide regional stormwater treatment project location identification and concept development study.
- Stakeholders are submitting new projects in the Stormwater Resource Plan using a tool developed by the Program that automatically calculates the quantitative and qualitative benefits.
- Continued to inform and engage the highest levels of management about the programmatic and financial impacts of a new Regional Permit through new and refined communication tools.
- The Public Outreach program made over 18.5 million impressions. New creative material was created, in both English and Spanish, focusing on pollutants of concern: trash/litter, pet waste, and yard chemicals. Over 2,000 elementary school age students were educated through COVID-19 safe virtual performances by the EcoHero Show and his engaging and interactive eco-friendly songs.
- Created a more effective and targeted youth outreach program of stormwater pollution prevention informed by the results of the 2019 internet-based youth behavioral awareness survey.
- Continued to grow the new Community for a Clean Watershed public outreach Instagram account: [www.instagram.com/cleanwatershed](http://www.instagram.com/cleanwatershed), including the addition of professional high quality local images.
- Coordinated the 2020 Ventura County Coastal Cleanup Day Event, as part of the California Coastal Cleanup Day. Due to the COVID-19 emergency, individual neighborhood self-guided cleanups were encouraged throughout the month of September. 1,046 volunteers reported their cleanup efforts with 6,350 pounds of trash picked up over 147 miles.
- Continued updating the Water Quality Index distilling the over 200 constituents monitored into an easy to communicate form and continued the comprehensive data analysis effort to prioritize pollutants of concern in outfalls and receiving waters that in turn will be used to prioritize Program activities.
- Nine Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Plans Annual/Semiannual Reports were submitted to the Regional Board.
- Active participation in the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) of Southern California, California Stormwater Quality Association, and the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, including representation as Vice-Chair of SMC, and Co-Chair of CASQA Policy and Permitting subcommittee.

## 1.2 PROGRAM EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT

The 2020/21 Annual Report documents the Program's comprehensive stormwater quality efforts that address a wide range of activities. Various Departments in each Permittee's agency cooperate in implementing the different elements or activities of the Program under their control. All of these efforts are examined for program effectiveness.

Each of the six Program Elements contains various Control Measures. Each Control Measure consists of a series of Performance Measures. Performance Measures are identified to document the progress of implementation and to measure the effectiveness of implemented BMPs.

The Program has adopted a method for assessing program effectiveness based on an approach developed by the California Stormwater Quality Association (CASQA). The effectiveness assessment is more comprehensive than assessments under past permits and addresses the major stormwater

program areas and activities. The outcome levels represent ways in which the effectiveness of the program can be determined, even if it is intermediate<sup>1</sup>.

Outcome levels help to categorize and describe the desired results of the Program Elements and related Control Measures. Pursuant to the 2007 CASQA guidance, outcomes for stormwater programs have been categorized into six levels, as shown in Figure 1-1. As illustrated, there are six outcome levels for the effectiveness assessment. The outcome levels help to categorize and describe the desired results or goals of the program.

Within each individual program section (starting with Chapter 3), the effectiveness assessment identifies the outcome level(s) achieved, as well as any program modifications that have been identified because of the assessment. The assessment section is at the end of each chapter.

Integrated Assessment					
Implementation Assessment	Target Audience & Source Assessment			Urban Runoff & Receiving Water Assessment	
<u>Outcome Level 1</u>	<u>Outcome Level 2</u>	<u>Outcome Level 3</u>	<u>Outcome Level 4</u>	<u>Outcome Level 5</u>	<u>Outcome Level 6</u>
<b>Stormwater Program Activities</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Facilitation activities</li> <li>▪ Feedback activities</li> <li>▪ Administrative activities</li> </ul>	<b>Knowledge &amp; Awareness</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Knowledge</li> <li>▪ Awareness</li> <li>▪ Attitudes</li> </ul>	<b>Behavior (Action)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ BMP Implementation</li> <li>▪ Intermediary Behaviors                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Information seeking</li> <li>○ Pollution reporting</li> <li>○ Participation and involvement</li> <li>○ Administrative and procedural behaviors</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<b>Source Reductions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Source pollutant loads</li> <li>▪ Site / source hydrology</li> </ul>	<b>Runoff Quality &amp; Hydrology</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Urban runoff quality</li> <li>▪ Urban runoff hydrology</li> </ul>	<b>Receiving Water Conditions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Receiving water quality</li> <li>▪ Hydromodification impacts</li> <li>▪ Beneficial use protection</li> </ul>

Figure 1-1 Effectiveness Assessment Outcome Levels

Some important points to remember about these effectiveness assessments include:

- The ability of a stormwater program to assess an outcome level tends to become progressively more difficult as you assess higher outcome levels (levels 4-6). This is because the higher outcome levels assess the impact that the Permittees have on water quality, which requires a much more robust dataset over an extended period of time.

<sup>1</sup> California Stormwater Quality Association, *Municipal Program Effectiveness Assessment Guidance*, May 2007.

- Outcome levels 1-3 (and sometimes 4) are typically assessed using program management data, whereas outcome levels 4-6 are assessed using physical and/or water quality monitoring data.
- Each program element may be assessed at one or more outcome levels based on the data and information available.

Through the annual reports the effectiveness assessment will be expanded and modified as necessary in order to report on key items.

To assess our ultimate effectiveness of improvement in receiving water conditions, the Program started a comprehensive data analysis effort, aiming to identify historical trends in water quality, priority pollutants and their sources to receiving waters. As part of this year's Report in Section 9 Water Quality Monitoring, the trend analysis methods and results are presented.

Water quality at the receiving water (mass emission) Stations in Ventura County is generally good but does fluctuate from year to year, usually associated with changes in salts and bacteria in dry weather, and salts and metals in wet weather. Water quality is usually better during dry weather events compared to storm events. Trends of sub-indices are shown in Chapter 9 as part of the Water Quality Index. The sub-indices quickly indicate what constituent classes are associated with drops of the overall Index. Lower scores are typically affected by salts in dry weather, and salts, metals, and bacteria in wet weather.

Overall water quality improved in Ventura County from 2003/04 to 2011/12, but then began dropping through 2016/17 coinciding with increasing (severe) drought conditions in Ventura County and a corresponding decrease in scores for salts and metals. A return to closer to average rainfall in 2017/18 through 2019/20 coincided with an improvement in salts scores, however, the heavy impact of the Thomas Fire on the Ventura River Watershed likely dragged down the 2017/18 scores at ME-VR (metals and toxicity in wet weather and bacteria<sup>2</sup> in dry weather), reducing the scores overall. The Ventura River Watershed appears to have rebounded significantly since then. Index scores at ME-VR held steady, but changing salts scores at ME-SCR and ME-CC, likely due to the very dry conditions, had the greatest impact on overall Index scores in 2020/21, although the effect was somewhat muted by an increase at CC in dry weather and decrease in wet weather.

Index scores have generally been best for ME-VR/VR2, followed by ME-SCR then ME-CC in non-drought years, and ME-CC then ME-SCR in drought years. The order could be related to the degree of urbanization and agriculture in each watershed, as well as the effect of drought conditions on the watersheds.

Overall water quality in the County of Ventura is generally good, with the overall Index showing A to C grades across the county during 2020/21 in both wet and dry weather.

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<sup>2</sup> The exceedance was low in magnitude but because bacteria is based on only one sample for dry weather and it exceeded the objective, it weights the score down regardless of the magnitude of the exceedance.

## 2 Program Management

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### 2.1 PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION

#### 2.1.1 Mission Statement

The Management Committee adopted a revised mission statement in 2018 to improve the focus and guide the actions of the Program. Its purpose is to provide a sense of direction, identify the overall goals, and guide decision-making in the future. It presents the framework and context within which the Program's strategies are guided. The Program's mission statement is:

*Preserve, protect, and enhance surface water resources within Ventura County for the protection of human health and continued enjoyment of multiple beneficial uses.*

#### 2.1.2 Program Implementation

In 1992 the concept of a single countywide NPDES MS4 Stormwater Permit (Permit) was implemented in Ventura County. This began with the initial Report of Waste Discharge and the authorization to use the Watershed Protection District's Benefit Assessment to finance the activities and program efforts. Subsequently, on June 30, 1992, the District (as the Permit's Principal Permittee) entered into four separate District-zone-based implementation agreements with the ten Ventura County cities and the unincorporated areas of the county (the Permittees). Collectively, these four agreements are known as the Implementation Agreement for the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program. The Implementation Agreement identified the responsibilities of the Permittees and set forth the methodology for using the District's Benefit Assessment financing to fund the NPDES Stormwater Programs.

With the adoption of the second NPDES Permit, the Principal Permittee Program activities, responsibilities, and associated costs increased significantly. The District could no longer solely shoulder these fiscal obligations without assistance from the Permittees. In response, the Permittees' Public Works Directors created a committee to research the historical documentation from the District's Benefit Assessment Reports and draft a new implementation agreement.

In FY 2007/08, the first amendment to the agreement was approved to address this needed cost-sharing by amending the original agreement. In FY 2008/09 and 2009/10, the second and third amendments to the original agreement were approved to continue this needed cost-sharing.

The additional program costs for the Principal Permittee and Permittees associated with the 2010 NPDES Permit prompted further effort among the Public Works Directors to equitably share the increased costs. The result of that effort was a new NPDES Implementation Agreement to supersede the original agreement and amendments. The latest version of the Implementation Agreement was approved in 2016.

The Implementation Agreement defines the fiscal responsibilities (expenditures and contributions) of all collective parties with respect to the current Permit. It formalizes the Permittees' commitment to cooperate and to mutually fund an integrated Program for protecting and improving water quality in Ventura County. Permittee Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the Principal Permittee and Permittees are defined within the Permit and the Implementation Agreement. These roles and responsibilities are outlined below.

#### 2.1.3 Permittees

Each Permittee is responsible for implementing the NPDES Stormwater Program and Permit compliance within their jurisdiction. The main responsibility of each Permittee can be identified as follows:

- Comply with the requirements of the Permit through implementation within its jurisdiction of the various stormwater management programs outlined in the Permit.
- Establish and maintain adequate legal authority and apply appropriate enforcement actions as necessary within its jurisdictions to ensure compliance with applicable ordinances.
- Participate in intra-agency coordination (e.g., Planning Department, Fire Department, Building and Safety, Code Enforcement, Public Health, Parks and Recreation, and others) necessary to facilitate the implementation of the requirements of this Permit applicable to such Permittees in an efficient and cost-effective manner.
- Prepare and submit all reports or requests of information to the Principal Permittee in a timely fashion.
- Review, provide comments, and approve Program budgets, plans, strategies, management programs, and monitoring programs developed by the Principal Permittee or any subcommittee.
- Respond to, or arrange for, response to emergency situations, such as accidental spills, leaks, illicit discharges/illegal connections, etc., to prevent or reduce the discharge of pollutants to the storm drain systems and waters of the U.S. within its jurisdiction.
- Conduct inspections of, and perform maintenance on, municipal infrastructure within its jurisdiction.
- Conduct and coordinate any surveys and source identification studies necessary to identify pollutant sources and drainage areas, and
- Participate in the Management Committee.

#### 2.1.4 **Principal Permittee**

The role of the Principal Permittee is similar to the other Permittees with the addition of certain overall programmatic and facilitation responsibilities. These responsibilities do not include ensuring the compliance of the Permittees, as the Principal Permittee has no regulatory authority over the Permittees. The responsibilities outlined in the Permit include the following:

- Coordinate and facilitate activities necessary to comply with the requirements of the Permit.
- Act as liaison between the Permittees and the Regional Water Board on permitting issues.
- Provide for countywide consistency and program coordination.
- Provide technical and administrative support for subcommittees organized to implement this Order and its requirements.
- Implement a Public Information and Participation Program (PIPP) including developing a strategy to educate ethnic communities through culturally effective methods, and a plan to provide outreach in lieu of the school curriculum.
- Implement the monitoring program required in Attachment F of the Permit.
- Participate in the County Environmental Crimes Task Force.

- Provide resources for the collection, processing, and submittal to the Regional Water Board of monitoring and annual reports, and summaries of other reports required under this Order. Establish uniform data submittal format and develop an Electronic Reporting Program.
- Participate in water quality meetings for watershed management and planning.
- Participate in the Southern California Storm Water Monitoring Coalition (SMC) Southern California Regional Bioassessment Monitoring Program.
- Compile and make available on the internet a list of the general public reporting contacts, and
- Convene all Management Committee meetings.

In addition to responsibilities identified in the Permit, the Principal Permittee also performs the following for the benefit of the Program:

- Prepare communications, regulatory reports, and submissions to the Regional Board.
- Provide Regional Representation for the Program and communicate information to the Permittees.
- Arrange for public access and review of Program plans and documents.
- Secure services of consultants as necessary.
- Implement activities of common interest to the Program.
- Develop, prepare, and generate all materials and data common to all Permittees, and
- Update Permittees on RWQCB and US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) regulations.

## **2.2 MANAGEMENT ACTIVITIES**

### **2.2.1 Management Committee**

The NPDES Management Committee is the main forum for directing the Program's development and implementation. This Committee is attended by senior staff from all Permittee agencies and meets monthly to assure Program continuity. All Committee members have been authorized by their Director of Public Works as Management Committee Voting Representatives with the authority to approve the Principal Permittee's budget and/or modifications. If no Representative is authorized, it is the Public Works Directors' responsibility to voice their opinion at meetings when these items are on the agenda. In addition to budgeting and program direction, this committee also periodically evaluates the need to create ad hoc committees or workgroups to develop tools and accomplish the objectives of the NPDES Stormwater Program. Although it is no longer mandated that Permittees attend the meetings, participation in the Management Committee as necessary is a specific requirement of the Permit.



Performance Standard 2-1

<b>Participate in intra-agency coordination including Committee and Subcommittee Meetings to facilitate the implementation of the Permit</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



### 2.2.2 Subcommittees

The Subcommittees provide a forum for discussion of particular program elements and are attended by the staff with the appropriate expertise from each Permittee. These meetings allow for a more uniform approach and regional consistency to program management countywide. This helps provide a level playing field for businesses and residents countywide. More importantly it allows the Permittees to learn from each other and have access to tools that have already been developed. This is very beneficial for the smaller agencies which do not have at their disposal the resources available to the true Phase 1 cities (population over 100,000).

The subcommittees were created at the beginning of the program, have continued to meet, and have evolved over the years as requirements and pollutant sources have changed. Subcommittee activities over this Permit Year have been devoted to communicating and implementing Permit requirements and improving programs for compliance. Each subcommittee focuses on specific Permit requirements and implementation programs. These generally follow the program sections of the Permit, but the subcommittees also incorporate the whole Permit in their analysis and integrated program development. The subcommittees and their program responsibilities are listed below. This list does not include any ad hoc, special project, or working groups that may have been formed by the Management Committee or from a logical outgrowth of the subcommittees. One such working group that was previously implemented was the Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) Working Group. This group was set up to assist Permittees own capital improvement program engineers and staff to understand and implement the new post-construction requirements as well as the new Construction General Permit requirements in our public projects.

The following is a description of the Program’s subcommittees.

#### **Residential/Public Outreach Subcommittee**

The Principal Permittee’s countywide outreach program is guided by this subcommittee. Using information on pollutants identified through the monitoring program and 303(d) lists, this committee selects specific Pollutants of Concern to target each year, target audiences, and decides on the best methods of outreach to influence a change in behavior. Information is shared and regional message consistency reinforced.

#### **Business Outreach and Illicit Discharge Control Subcommittee**

Attended mostly by inspectors, this committee oversees the development of the model industrial/commercial and illicit discharge/illegal connections programs. Countywide consistency is created by developing inspection forms and sharing methods of identifying and educating businesses

and industries targeted for inspections. Outreach materials focused on specific industries and businesses are also developed for countywide use by all Permittees. Illicit discharge identification and responses are included at every meeting and discussed. Enforcement experiences are shared to further the education of inspectors countywide.

### **Planning and Land Development Subcommittee**

Planners and development engineers work together to provide regional tools for design, review, and conditioning of new development and redevelopment projects, and to promote regional consistency in their application. Guidance and training are developed for the development community for the implementation of stormwater management control measures countywide. The guidelines developed are intended to improve water quality and mitigate potential water quality impacts from new development and significant redevelopment. This year's focus was on developing the Stormwater Resources Plan, and creating the tools needed for identifying potential project locations and concept designs.

### **Construction Subcommittee**

Regional consistency for inspections and enforcement are provided by developing model inspection checklists and identifying solutions to common problems. Information on the State Construction General Permit issues, training requirements and opportunities are shared and disseminated to the construction community.

### **Public Infrastructure Subcommittee**

This subcommittee assists municipalities in the protection of their storm drain infrastructure from pollutants through best management practices, the development of model municipal activities programs, corporate yard inspections, and integrated pesticide management programs. It also works to identify solutions to infrastructure mapping and other Permit requirements.

The value of the subcommittees to improve staff knowledge and abilities, achieve economies of scale, and provide regional program consistency is understood by all members. It is recognized by the Permittees that increased attendance and effort in the subcommittees will be rewarded by improvement in staff understanding and capabilities, resources, and the overall program.

### **2.2.3 Total Maximum Daily Load Annual Compliance**

In addition to the compliance requirements of the NPDES Permit the Permittees also must comply with the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) when they are named as Responsible Parties. These efforts may seem parallel to Permit compliance efforts, but they require significant additional resources to develop and implement the needed plans. Many of the Permittees have coordinated efforts under separate implementing legal instruments for common sharing of monitoring and reporting costs and collection of data and studies among the Responsible Parties of the different TMDLs. The currently effective multi-stakeholder Memoranda of Agreements (MOAs) for TMDLs in Ventura County are listed in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1 Currently Effective Ventura County TMDL MOAs

Watershed	TMDL	TMDL Requirement	MOA Effective Date	Participating Parties
VRW	Algae, Eutrophic Conditions, & Nutrients TMDL	Receiving Water Monitoring	01/19/2015	City of Ventura, City of Ojai, County of Ventura, District, Ojai Valley Sanitary District, VCAILG (Farm Bureau of Ventura County), & Caltrans
VRW	VRE Trash TMDL	Implementation of TMRP/MFAC	03/28/2009	City of Ventura, County of Ventura, District, Fairgrounds, State Parks, VCAILG (Farm Bureau of Ventura County), & Caltrans
SCR	SCR Bacteria TMDL	Receiving Water Monitoring	10/11/2016	Cities of Fillmore, Santa Paula, Oxnard, and Ventura, & County of Ventura
		Outfall Monitoring	09/14/2018	
		Receiving Water & Outfall Monitoring	10/04/2021	Cities of Fillmore, Santa Paula, Oxnard, and Ventura, District & County of Ventura
CCW	OC Pesticides TMDL	Implementation of TMDL Requirements	07/01/2018 Amendment No. 2	CCW MS4s, CCW WWTPs, Caltrans, Navy, and VCAILG (Farm Bureau of Ventura County)
CCW	Metals TMDL			
CCW	Salts TMDL			
CCW	RSBW Trash TMDL			
CCW	Oxnard Drain TMDLs			
OCW	Harbor Beaches TMDL	Special Studies for Wet Weather Compliance	01/01/2018	County of Ventura, District, City of Oxnard
MCW	Malibu Creek Bacteria TMDL	TMDL Monitoring	07/20/2010	District, County of Ventura, & City of Thousand Oaks
		Implementation of TMDLs	07/01/2021	

For the TMDLs identified in the Permit that specifically mention reporting, the Permit states that “MS4 Permittees, either independently or in conjunction with other stakeholders, shall submit an annual progress report”. It does not identify the Principal Permittee as responsible to collect, analyze, or report the information regarding TMDL compliance, but rather keeps that responsibility with Permittees (and other Responsible Parties) identified in the TMDL. Nonetheless, all TMDL Reports and Plans submitted to the Regional Board in the 2020/21 reporting period are included in Attachment E.

During this reporting period of July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021, the TMDL Responsible Parties continued implementation of the TMDL requirements including preparation and submittal to RWQCB required documents. Table 2-2 summarizes submitted TMDL documents and Permittees’ compliance efforts for TMDL covered under the Permit:

Table 2-2 Summary of TMDL Implementation Efforts (July 1, 2019 and June 30, 2020)

No.	Watershed	TMDL Pollutant	On-going Implementation Plan Efforts	Submitted Documents	Permittees' Compliance Efforts
1	Malibu Creek	Nutrients	U.S. EPA's TMDL - the Implementation Plan was developed by the RWQCB-LA Region and became effective May 2017  Addendum 1 to Implementation Plan was prepared by the County and submitted to RWQCB-LA Region in May 2013	Not required	1) County of Ventura completed Oak Park Green Streets Urban Retrofit project by installation of 20 modular wetlands funded by Prop. 84. <a href="http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/oak-park-green-streets-urban-retrofit">http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/oak-park-green-streets-urban-retrofit</a> 2) County and City of Thousand Oaks' feasibility study for low flow and stormwater diversion – in progress
2	Calleguas Creek	Nitrogen Compounds	Stormwater discharges are minor contributors; no WLAs were assigned to MS4s. On-going monitoring per approved Calleguas Creek TMDL Monitoring Plan	Annual Report (Dec. 2019)	Stormwater pollution source is minimal; no WLAs are assigned to MS4s.
3	Santa Clara River	Nitrogen Compounds	On-going MS4 monitoring	Request for Ammonia Delisting (June 2015)	1) Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for Santa Clara River watershed was approved by RWQCB-LA on July 9, 2015; 2) The County and SCR MS4s completed data analysis and submitted a request to RWQCB-LA for delisting of Ammonia in SCR Reach 3 in June 2015; RWQCB-LA and SWRCB approved requested delisting as documented in the 2014/2016 Integrated Report;
4	Santa Clara River (Reach 3)	Chloride	On-going MS4 monitoring	Not applicable	Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for Santa Clara River watershed was approved by RWQCB-LA on July 9, 2015.

No.	Watershed	TMDL Pollutant	On-going Implementation Plan Efforts	Submitted Documents	Permittees' Compliance Efforts
5	Upper Santa Clara River	Chloride	Outside County of Ventura's jurisdiction	Not applicable	Not applicable; in July 2016, the County provided maps to RWQCB showing no Ventura County's MS4 within upper SCR watershed
6	Calleguas Creek	Toxicity, Chloropyrifos, Diazinon (OP Pesticides)	On-going monitoring and completion of Special Studies per approved Calleguas Creek TMDL Monitoring Plan	Annual Report (Dec. 2020)	On-going implementation of MS4 Permit requirements
7	Calleguas Creek	OC Pesticides, PCBs, and siltation	On-going monitoring and completion of Special Studies per approved Calleguas Creek TMDL Monitoring Plan; Natural Attenuation study due March 2016	Annual Report (Dec. 2020)	On-going implementation of MS4 Permit requirements
8	Malibu Creek and Lagoon	Bacteria	Weekly bacteria monitoring per approved Monitoring Plan.  Addendum 1 to Implementation Plan was prepared by the County.	Monthly reports	1) Completion of Additional Bacteria Source Identification Special Study by the County in summer 2015. 2) County of Ventura completed Oak Park Green Streets Urban Retrofit project by installation of 20 modular wetlands funded by Prop. 84. <a href="http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/oak-park-green-streets-urban-retrofit">http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/oak-park-green-streets-urban-retrofit</a> 3) County and City of Thousand Oaks' feasibility study for low flow and stormwater diversion – in progress

No.	Watershed	TMDL Pollutant	On-going Implementation Plan Efforts	Submitted Documents	Permittees' Compliance Efforts
9	Calleguas Creek	Metals & Selenium (Cr, Ni, Ag, Zn, Cd, Se)	On-going monitoring and completion of Special Studies per approved Calleguas Creek TMDL Monitoring Plan and Urban Water Quality Monitoring Plan for Cu, Hg, Ni, and Se.	Annual Report (Dec. 2020)	On-going implementation of MS4 Permit requirements
10	Revolon Slough and Beardsley Wash	Trash	Monthly trash monitoring per approved Trash Monitoring and Reporting Plan (TMRP)	Annual Report (Dec. 2020)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Installation of full trash capture devices to meet 100% point-source compliance by County of Ventura &amp; City of Oxnard;</li> <li>2) 100% point source compliance via MFAC/BMP efforts by City of Camarillo;</li> <li>3) On-going monthly clean-ups and monitoring events;</li> <li>4) Additional trash BMPs and clean-up efforts are described in the Annual Report;</li> <li>5) TMDL implementation update presentation was given to RWQCB in June 2018;</li> <li>6) Revised TMRP was submitted on 08/06/2020 and approved on 06/04/2021.</li> </ol>
11	Calleguas Creek	Salts: Boron, Chloride, Sulfate, & TDS	On-going monitoring and completion of Special Studies per approved Calleguas Creek TMDL Monitoring Plan	Annual Report (Dec. 2020)	On-going implementation of MS4 Permit requirements

No.	Watershed	TMDL Pollutant	On-going Implementation Plan Efforts	Submitted Documents	Permittees' Compliance Efforts
12	Ventura River Estuary	Trash	Weekly patrols, monthly trash cleanups, and quarterly trash assessment per approved Trash Monitoring and Reporting Plan (TMRP) Addendum 1.	Annual Report (Jan. 2020)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Installation of full trash capture devices to meet 100% point-source compliance by City of Ventura and County of Ventura;</li> <li>2) Weekly patrols and monthly volunteer trash cleanups;</li> <li>3) On-going trash monitoring per approved TMRP Addendum 1;</li> <li>4) Implementation update to RWQCB on 06/13/2019;</li> </ul>
13	Harbor Beaches of Ventura County	Bacteria	On-going weekly bacteria monitoring at Kiddie and Hobie Beaches	Compliance Report (Dec. 2018)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Dry weather compliance due to year-round operation of San Nicolas Pump Station at Kiddie Beach and no nuisance flows present at Hobie Beach;</li> <li>2) Implementation of BMPs in accordance with Dry-Weather and Wet-Weather Implementation Plans.</li> <li>3) County conducted dye test to confirm proper operation of dry-weather diversion system;</li> <li>4) Weekly inspections of catch basins discharging into Hobie Beach by City of Oxnard;</li> <li>5) Completion of wet weather special study in 2018;</li> <li>6) Microbial Source Tracking study completed in 2019/20;</li> <li>7) County completed CCTV of storm drain system in spring of 2020;</li> <li>8) 2021 groundwater quality study in progress</li> <li>8) County and District's feasibility study to comply with wet weather Bacteria TMDL – in progress</li> </ul>
<p><b>Additional TMDLs Currently not Included in Ventura MS4 Permit:</b></p>					

No.	Watershed	TMDL Pollutant	On-going Implementation Plan Efforts	Submitted Documents	Permittees' Compliance Efforts
14	Ventura River	Algae, Eutrophic Conditions, & Nutrients TMDL	Draft Implementation Plan	Draft Implementation Plan 06/25/2015; Annual Rpt 7/27/2020 Semiannual Report 12/16/2020	1) On-going receiving water monitoring and reporting 2) County and District constructed Happy Valley Bioswale in Meiners Oaks in spring 2016 funded by Proposition 84 SWGP <a href="http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/happy-valley-bioswale">http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/happy-valley-bioswale</a> 3) on-going water conservation efforts including seminars and workshops 4) Responsible Agencies prepared 5-year monitoring data evaluation for presentation to Ventura River Watershed Council on 6/3/2021; and to LA-RWQCB on 8/31/2021



No.	Watershed	TMDL Pollutant	On-going Implementation Plan Efforts	Submitted Documents	Permittees' Compliance Efforts
15	Santa Clara River	Bacteria Indicator	Draft Implementation Plan was approved by RWQCB-LA in Dec. 2017	Draft Implementation Plan (Mar. 2015); Semiannual Report (June 2021); Annual Report (December 2020)	<p>1) On-going receiving water monitoring and reporting</p> <p>2) County completed Green Streets retrofit in El Rio in spring 2016 funded by Proposition 84 IRWM  <a href="http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/el-rio-retrofit-for-groundwater-recharge">http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/el-rio-retrofit-for-groundwater-recharge</a></p> <p>3) County completed Piru Stormwater Capture for Groundwater Recharge project funded by Proposition 1 SWGP  <a href="http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/piru-storm-water-capture">http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/projects/piru-storm-water-capture</a></p> <p>4) City of Santa Paula is in the design process of stormwater improvement project</p> <p>5) District completed periodic trash cleanups and removal of homeless encampments</p> <p>6) On-going water conservation efforts including seminars and workshops</p> <p>7) District is working with stakeholders on planning and initial design of Central Avenue Stormwater Diversion for Groundwater Recharge project</p> <p>8) County in collaboration with Caltrans prepared initial planning documents for Saticoy Stormwater Capture for infiltration project.</p> <p>9) TMDL implementation update presentation was given to RWQCB in October 2017</p>

No.	Watershed	TMDL Pollutant	On-going Implementation Plan Efforts	Submitted Documents	Permittees' Compliance Efforts
16	Malibu Creek	Trash TMDL	Development of Trash Monitoring and Reporting Plan (TMRP)	Annual Reports (County/District on 12/15/2020) City of Thousand Oaks (12/15/2020)	1) Installation of full trash capture devices to meet 100% point-source compliance by County of Ventura and City of Thousand Oaks; 2) On-going monthly clean-ups and monitoring events; 3) Additional trash BMPs and clean-up efforts are described in the Annual Report; 4) TMDL implementation update presentation was given to RWQCB in June 2018; and 5) Revised TMRP was submitted on 08/06/2020 and approved on 06/04/2021.

Since adoption of the Permit in July 2010, additional TMDLs for Ventura County watersheds were adopted and/or became effective including:

1. Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDL effective March 2012,
2. Ventura River Algae TMDL effective June 2013,
3. Malibu Creek and Lagoon Sedimentation and Nutrients Impacting Benthic Community TMDL adopted by US EPA in July 2013, and
4. Oxnard Drain No. 3 Toxicity TMDL adopted by US EPA in October 2011.

TMDL responsible parties listed in the above recently adopted and/or effective TMDLs have been implementing all planning, monitoring, and implementation requirements as specified by TMDLs.

#### 2.2.4 Other Regional Committees/Work Groups

Many of the Permittees additionally participate in various watershed management advisory groups. These groups include: the Ventura County Integrated Resources Water Management Plan (IRWMP), Ventura River Watershed Council, Santa Clara River Watershed Committee, Wetlands Recovery Project, Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Committee, Matilija Dam Ecosystem Restoration Study, Ventura River Watershed Modeling Technical Advisory Committee, Channel Islands Beach Park Action Plan for Improving Water Quality, Malibu Creek Watershed Management Committee and Technical Advisory Committee, Steelhead Restoration and Recovery Plan, Beach Erosion Authority for Clean Oceans and Nourishment (BEACON), Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), Stormwater Monitoring Coalition of Southern California (SMC), the Ormond Beach Task Force, and the Marine Advisory Committee of the Channel Islands Neighborhood Council. These watershed and regional groups focus their activities and discussions on specific concerns such as water quality, habitat restoration and flood control, as well as short, medium, and long-term solutions to improve water quality.

## 2.2.5 Management Framework – Program Implementation

Program development occurs through the Permittee, Countywide Program, and watershed management frameworks. At a jurisdictional level the Permittees have formally identified which departments and staff have responsibility for implementation of each program element within their jurisdictions. It may be necessary for the responsibility to be formally documented through Memorandums of Understanding or other tools. Smaller agencies tend not to require such formal agreements between departments, and in some cases there may be only a few people who are involved in the implementation of all aspects of the stormwater program.

## 2.2.6 Legal Authority

Although adequate legal authority existed for most pollutant discharges at the inception of the stormwater program in 1994, the Permittees determined that a Model Stormwater Quality Ordinance should be developed to provide a more uniform countywide approach and to provide a legal underpinning to the entire Ventura Countywide NPDES Stormwater Program.

### *Performance Standard 2-2*

<b><i>Ensure that the Stormwater Quality and LID Ordinances authorize enforcement of all requirements of the Permit? (by July 8, 2012)</i></b>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>In Progress</i>
<i>Camarillo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>County of Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Fillmore</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Moorpark</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ojai</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Oxnard</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Port Hueneme</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Santa Paula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Simi Valley</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Watershed Protection</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Subsequently, all of the Permittees adopted largely similar versions of the initial Model Stormwater Quality Ordinance. With the adoption of the Order No. 10-0108 the municipal ordinances needed to be updated by July 8, 2012. The Permittees, led by the City of Moorpark, drafted a model ordinance which served as the basis for each Permittee to adopt and authorize them to enforce all requirements of the Permit. Since that time, several of the Permittees have updated their existing ordinances or written entirely new ones. Preliminary review by Counsel for the Permittees have determined the existing ordinances are capable of enforcing the Permit, however this will be made stronger through the adopting of an improved ordinance.

Enforcement of the current ordinance and the detection, investigation, and elimination of discharges undertaken by the Permittees during 2020/21 are described further in Section 8 Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharge Elimination. In addition to prohibiting un-permitted discharges, the Stormwater Quality Ordinance, in conjunction with the conditions of land development, provides for requiring BMPs on new development and significant redevelopment. Stormwater quality ordinances have been adopted in each Permittees' jurisdictions as indicated in Table 2-3 Ordinance Adoption Dates. As stated above, the requirement to be able to enforce the Permit was required by July 8, 2012, the beginning of this reporting period.



*Watershed Identification Sign*

*Table 2-3 Ordinance Adoption Dates*

<b>Ordinance Adoption Dates</b>		
<b>Permittee</b>	<b>Adopted Date</b>	<b>Amendment Date</b>
Camarillo	10/1/1998	12/12/2012
County of Ventura	7/17/2012	
Fillmore	3/25/2014	8/25/2015
Moorpark	1997	2008
Ojai	6/21/1999	
Oxnard	3/24/1998	3/24/2009
Port Hueneme	4/1/1998	
San Buenaventura	1/11/1999	9/1/2011
Santa Paula	1/1/1998	2010
Simi Valley	7/2/2012	
Thousand Oaks	9/14/1999	

## 2.2.7 Watershed Protection District Stormwater Program Representation

To stay informed of new science and regulations and gain economies of scale through regional efforts the Principal Permittee represents the Permittees by participating in the following organizations and associations:

### **California Association for Stormwater Agencies (CASQA)**

The California Stormwater Quality Association, originally formed as an advisory body to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) on stormwater quality program issues, is now a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization. CASQA membership is composed of a diverse range of stormwater quality management organizations and individuals, including cities, counties, special districts, industries, and consulting firms throughout the state. A large part of its mission is to assist stormwater quality programs in California to learn collectively from the individual experiences of its members, learn from their mistakes, and provide awareness of regional and state issues. Since its inception in 1989, CASQA has evolved into the leading organization in California dealing with stormwater quality issues.

### **Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP)**

The Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) is a joint powers agency formed by fourteen agencies through a unique partnership between municipalities that discharge treated wastewater to the ocean, stormwater agencies, and regulators that oversee dischargers. Members work together to develop a solid scientific foundation for coastal environment management in southern California. SCCWRP's mission is to gather the necessary scientific information so that member agencies can effectively and cost-efficiently protect the Southern California coastal and marine environment. In addition, SCCWRP's mission is to ensure that the data it collects and synthesizes effectively reaches decision-makers, scientists, and the public.

### **Stormwater Monitoring Coalition of Southern California (SMC)**

The SMC participants are the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, the County of Orange, the County of San Diego, the Los Angeles County Flood Control District, the San Bernardino County Flood Control District, the Riverside County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the City of Long Beach, the City of Los Angeles, the Regional Water Quality Control Boards of Los Angeles Region, Santa Ana Region, and San Diego Region, the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), and the California Department of Transportation. They have decided to work together in a cooperative effort to develop scientific and technical tools needed in southern California to improve stormwater program implementation, assessment, and monitoring.

## **2.3 PROGRAM IMPACTS OF COVID-19**

On March 20, 2020 due to the emerging COVID-19 pandemic, the County of Ventura issued a Stay Well at Home Order (Order) requiring all persons to stay in their places of residence as required by the Governor's Executive Order N-33-20, subject to exemptions. Additionally, the Order required non-essential businesses to close, prohibited travel, and gatherings of more than 10 persons. Guidance from the State Water Resources Control Board's emphasized that compliance with board-established orders and other requirements are within the essential activities, essential governmental functions, or comparable exceptions to shelter-in-place directives provided by local public health officials.

In the reporting year 2020/21 each Permittee and each municipality faced numerous challenges from COVID-19. Impacts included reduced budgets, essential worker reassignments, and performing required compliance activities while ensuring the health and safety of staff and the communities as a whole. Specific impacts on Permittee's stormwater programs during the reporting period are summarized below.

**Camarillo** – The COVID-19 Pandemic (Pandemic), has made unprecedented impacts to the City of Camarillo and its Stormwater Program during the 2020-21 reporting year. Camarillo experienced budget constraints as a result of the global Pandemic impacts. In Fiscal Year 2019-20, the City lost approximately \$3 million in

revenue from sales income tax, hotel occupancy tax, and property tax which has caused economic restraints on the General Fund. The landscape budget was reduced, which created a reduction in the City's storm drain maintenance budgets. Subsequently, the City's Stormwater Program budget was significantly impacted by this budget reduction. The Stormwater Program budget was reduced from \$1.3 million in Fiscal Year 2019-20 to \$1.1 million in Fiscal Year 2020-21. As previously noted, reductions in this budget caused a decrease in the Stormwater Program's municipal activities, such as storm drain inspection and maintenance. As a result of the Pandemic, the City is requiring COVID-19 response plans in all formal bids and contracts. Additionally, the increase in cardboard boxes and trash from residents receiving more home package deliveries, the City increased its residential recycling bin pickup from every other week to weekly starting July 2021.

**Fillmore** – During the reporting year, the City of Fillmore was impacted by the lack of public participation because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The County has had to cancel or downsize many public participation and outreach events, such as Coastal Cleanup Day and Eco Hero presentations, due to social distancing restrictions.

**Moorpark** - The City performed abridged versions of their facility inspections whereby inspections were limited to inspection of outdoor areas such as inspecting parking lots, trash enclosures, alleyways etc. This was done to reduce potential COVID-19 exposure. Areas were still inspected for signs of potential illicit discharges (such as signs that kitchen mats were being washed out in parking lots, etc).

**Ojai** – The City of Ojai's MS4 activities were not greatly affected by COVID-19. In spite of a few restaurant closures, the city inspector was able to inspect forty restaurants.

Street sweeping, conducted by EJ Harrison under a Solid Waste Franchise Agreement, remained consistent. Streets are swept the first and third Tuesdays of the month in residential and commercial areas for best management practices to prevent trash and debris in storm drains.

The interagency coordination remained consistent across the City.

City property monitoring and sampling remained consistent throughout COVID-19. The Public Works Yard was sampled on January 28, 2021 at point OJI03 (34.4417, -119.245003) in the Ventura River Watershed and monitoring for trash and feces continued throughout various locations throughout the City.

City maintenance crew responded effectively and promptly to only three illicit discharges (such as a raw sewage spillage and a hydraulic fluid leak from construction equipment). The City uses contractors for IC/ID and provided training in 2020-2021.

**Oxnard** – The City of Oxnard was impacted by COVID-19 in July of FY 20-21. The City decided to stop street sweeping in residential neighborhoods due to the increase of community members ordered to stay or work from home. The City realized that there were too many people parking on the street and that it would be difficult for everyone to move their vehicles on the scheduled street sweeping day.

The City was also unable to promote Public Works Week and Earth Day as in person outreach events.

The City was able to continue business inspections for those businesses that remained open and did carry on with illicit discharge investigations.

Finally, the City's catch basin cleaning that is performed by City Corps was put on hold due to the initial stop in staff reporting to work. Any staff that remained reporting to work were unable to continue the work due to the concern that the crew members would be working and traveling in close contact with one another. Some stormwater operations and maintenance were continued such as the City owned hydrodynamic separators that are inspected and cleaned by City Collections staff.

**Port Hueneme** – Minor issues related to staffing shortage were noted, but no major impacts were felt this past year due to Covid.

**Simi Valley** – The majority of the City of Simi Valley’s Public Works employees returned to work full time in June 2020. However, staff continues to mainly respond to complaints of illicit discharges due to a severe staffing shortage. Two of the four inspectors retired in spring 2021, one inspector resigned to move to northern California, and one inspector was promoted, leaving the Environmental Compliance Division with no inspectors. It has been difficult recruiting new inspectors. We recently hired two inspectors and are in the process of hiring a third.

Household Hazardous Waste Collection events resumed in June 2020 on their regular bi-monthly schedule. These events generally provide an opportunity for city staff to interact with the community and educate residents regarding Best Management Practices for environmentally conscience lawn care, auto care, and pet responsibilities.

All City outreach events remain on hold but may resume in the fall.

**Thousand Oaks** – Several components of the Stormwater Program in Thousand Oaks were impacted by the pandemic caused by COVID-19. The Public Information and Participation Program was the hardest hit program element because social gatherings were prohibited. Accordingly, events such as Amgen Earth Day, Arbor Earth Day, Trail Education Days, and Public Works Week were cancelled.

Illness caused by the pandemic was another problem that interfered with the implementation of the Malibu Creek Watershed trash TMDL. Trash collection and assessment events in July and December had to be cancelled because of positive COVID-19 cases within the workforce of the contractor, the California Conservation Corps.

Other program elements had progress hindered by the pandemic. The completion of inspections required under the Industrial General Permit (IGP) as part of SB 205 was slowed because of business closures. This caused about a 3-month delay in program implementation. Lastly, the Illicit Connection/Illicit Discharge program element received less calls likely from businesses closures and more people working remotely due to the pandemic.

**Ventura** – The City of Ventura faced several challenges during reporting year 2020-2021 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Staffing limitations, human health risks and businesses temporarily closing lead to increased effort to complete necessary business, industrial and construction inspections. Planning Division staffing levels were significantly impacted during reporting year 2020-2021, resulting in the City being unable to provide project and application reviewed and conditioned information for reporting year 2020-2021. The City of Ventura Development Advisory Committee consists of City staff that review all planning submittals/discretionary review development projects and stormwater quality requirements are included in this review. All new development and redevelopment projects that meet MS4 Permit applicability requirements for post-construction BMPs are conditioned accordingly. Furthermore, all projects that disturb soil are conditioned to implement erosion and sediment control BMPs onsite to mitigation construction related pollution. No other programmatic impacts to the City’s Stormwater Compliance Program were observed due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

## **2.4 FISCAL ANALYSIS**

The Permittees have committed significant resources to Permit compliance, reducing stormwater pollution, and improving the water quality in Ventura County. This Section presents a summary of the costs anticipated for the coming permit year by the Permittees in developing, implementing, and maintaining programs in order to comply with Permit requirements. Also included is information on the different funding sources used by the Permittees to ensure that resources are available for Permit compliance. Since each Permittee shares in the cost of the Principal Program the total cost shown for each Permittee is the sum of those *shared* costs and their *individual* costs. However, in the grand total of all costs, including the Principal Permittee, these costs are not included to avoid the error of counting them twice.

### 2.4.1 Program Costs for Permit

With the current Permit, costs of the Principal Program had increased significantly over previous permits. The majority of this was due to the large increase in monitoring, but also the first years of the Permit required new materials for businesses and land development communities. Cost for the Permittees' implementation also increased significantly but have tapered off and stabilized since the first year. For 2020/21 the estimated costs were about half of what they were in 2010/11, though still significant at \$14.7 million.

#### *Performance Standard 2-3*

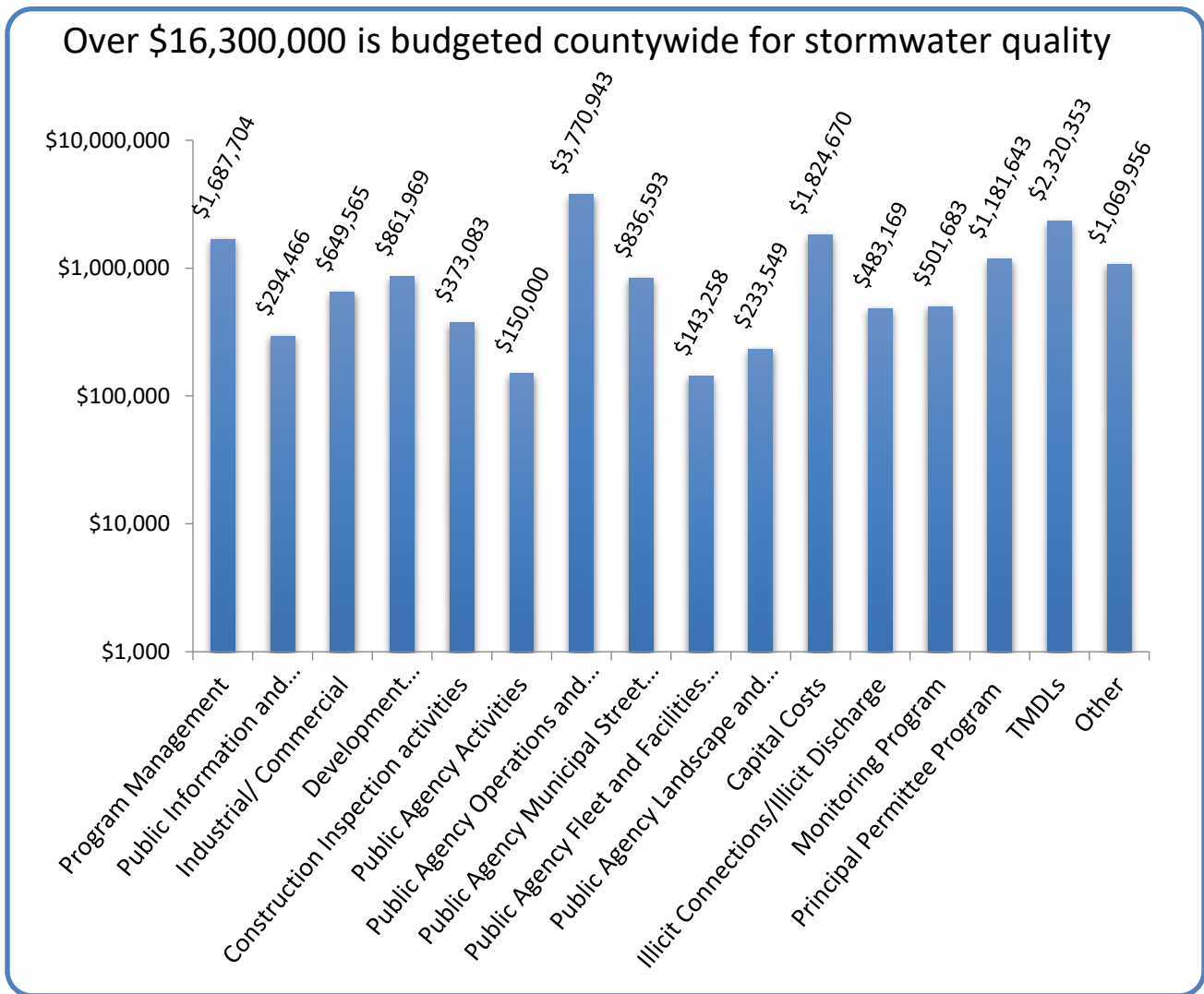
<b>Document the costs to implement the stormwater program for Permit Year 2020/21</b>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Camarillo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>County of Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Fillmore</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Moorpark</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ojai</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Oxnard</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Port Hueneme</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Santa Paula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Simi Valley</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Watershed Protection</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

### 2.4.1 Fiscal Resources

Each Permittee prepares a stormwater budget annually and allocates resources to be applied to the stormwater program. An effective stormwater program must be integrated within the entire management structure of a Permittee, which means it transcends divisions and departments, therefore stormwater programs are not always uniquely identified in budgets, but more often integrated into the ongoing programs. Table 2-4 presents the projected stormwater budget for each Permittee for Fiscal Year 2021/22 and Figure 2-1 shows how the countywide budget is broken out among the various programs. As expected, there is some variability between the stormwater program budgets reported by the Permittees, even if normalized by population or geographic size. This variability is due in part to the accounting practices utilized by each Permittee and the allocation of activity costs amongst programs implemented by each Permittee. Variability is most significant when capital improvements are undertaken, these are usually very large and costly projects that may be TMDL driven or assisted by grant funding. These projects do not represent ongoing program costs, but rather investments in infrastructure to help reduce stormwater pollution into the future.



Figure 2-1 Countywide Budget FY 2021/22



The Permittees vary significantly in their jurisdictional area and population; this can explain some differences in resources dedicated to various program areas. Another example of differences is that some Permittees have privatized streets sweeping and the annual costs are being born by the solid waste rate payers. Yet, a review of the annual budgets produces some nominal findings. As expected, total stormwater budgets trend upwards as population and service area increases. However, increased population doesn't always directly translate into increased revenue available for the program. Seeking new revenue sources to provide the needed resources to comply with the legal requirements of the Permit is an ongoing effort of the Permittees, and opportunities have been negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic emergency.

Table 2-4 Agency Annual Budget Update for Stormwater Management Program - Fiscal Year 2021-2022

Program Element	Camarillo	County of Ventura	Fillmore	Moorpark	Ojai	Oxnard	Port Hueneme	Ventura	Santa Paula	Simi Valley	Thousand Oaks	VCWPD	Principal Permittee
II. Program Management	\$ 354,871.00	\$ 406,300.00	\$ 27,711.00	\$ 49,181.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 107,000.00	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 104,316.00	\$ 190,000.00		\$ 321,325
III. Public Outreach	\$ 30,710.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 33,000.00		\$ 38,531.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ -	\$ 110,725
IV. Industrial/Commercial	\$ 32,935.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 350,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 120,000.00	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 56,630.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ -	
V. Planning and Land Development	\$ 56,988.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 5,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	\$ 400,000.00		\$ 14,981.00	\$ 85,000.00	\$ -	
VI. Construction	\$ 58,303.00	\$ -	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 45,000.00		\$ 72,280.00	\$ 65,000.00		
VII. Public Agency Activities*		\$ 150,000.00											
Operations and Maintenance	\$ 385,714.00	Included in County Agencies O&M Budgets	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 3,500.00	\$ 62,000.00	\$ 1,089,901.00	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 325,000.00	\$ 5,700.00	\$ 158,128.00	\$ 200,000.00	\$ 1,500,000	
Municipal Street Sweeping	\$ 130,000.00		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 275,000.00	\$ 137,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 137,000.00	\$ 107,593.00	\$ -	N/A	
Fleet and Public Agency Facilities (Corporate Yards)	\$ 6,467.00		\$ 7,000.00	\$ 7,920.00	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 12,371.00	\$ 95,000.00		
Landscape and Recreational Facilities	\$ 14,236.00		\$ 3,000.00	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 2,500.00		\$ 75,000.00	\$ 40,000.00		\$ 85,813.00	\$ -		
Capital Costs		\$ 331,400.00	\$ -	\$ 453,800.00	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 650,000.00	\$ 100,000.00		\$ 109,470.00	\$ 160,000.00		
VIII. Illicit Discharges/Connections	\$ 71,335.00	\$ 150,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,500.00	\$ -	\$ 7,992.00	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 135,542.00	\$ 64,800.00		
Monitoring Program	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -	\$ -		\$ 1,100.00			\$ 25,000.00		\$ 9,073.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 436,510
Principal Permittee Program		\$ 297,000.00	\$ 20,524.00	\$ 60,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 243,505.00	\$ 14,000.00	\$ 133,000.00	\$ 36,000.00	\$ 204,214.00	\$ 161,400.00		
TMDLs	\$ 132,835.00	\$ 1,241,100.00	\$ 19,418.00	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 12,000.00	\$ 240,000.00		\$ 75,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 75,000.00	\$ 240,000.00	\$ 240,000	
Other			\$ 8,992.00	\$ 15,000.00	\$ -	\$ 157,276.00			\$ 1,000.00	\$ 82,401.00		\$ 210,000	\$ 595,287
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,304,394</b>	<b>\$ 2,780,800</b>	<b>\$ 102,645</b>	<b>\$ 804,401</b>	<b>\$ 138,600</b>	<b>\$ 2,463,674</b>	<b>\$ 966,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,493,000</b>	<b>\$ 267,700</b>	<b>\$ 1,266,343</b>	<b>\$ 1,381,200</b>	<b>\$ 1,950,000</b>	<b>\$ 1,463,846</b>

\* Funds for additional Public Agency Activities are allocated in the County’s Operations and Maintenance budget, Fleet Public Agency budget, and County’s Landscape and recreational Facilities budget.

\*\* Capital costs are included in the County’s Capital Project budget.

## 2.4.2 Funding Sources

Funding sources to implement the stormwater program, including the programs that have been in place long before the Permit requirements but are now relied upon to ensure Permittees meet Permit objectives, are both general and specific funds, taxes, maintenance and user fees, and grants. Other efforts in the county to monitor, cleanup, or otherwise improve stormwater quality by volunteer groups like Ventura Coastkeeper whose efforts can be considered to help implement some stormwater program elements are not included, however, Permittee efforts to support volunteer groups in their endeavors are included.

The funding sources used by the Permittees include: Watershed Protection District Benefit Assessment Program, General Fund, Utility Tax, Separate Tax, Gas Tax, Special District Fund, and others (Developer Fees, Business Inspection Fees, Sanitation Fees, Fleet Maintenance, Community Services District, Water Fund, Grants, and Used Oil Recycling Grants).

All applicable Permittees gave authorization to use Watershed Protection District's Benefit Assessment to finance the activities and requirements. This was done through watershed-based Implementation Agreements for the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program. The Implementation Agreements identified the responsibilities of the parties to the Permit and set forth the methodology for using the District's Benefit Assessment financing to fund the NPDES Stormwater Program in their respective jurisdictions. To formally document their intention to be included in the following fiscal year's Benefit Assessment Program, each Permittee submits a request via their Annual Report data submittal and signature page.

The Agreements have been amended over the years and with the 2010 Permit a renewed effort to secure a long-term agreement was initiated. The result was a five-year Implementation Agreement with all Permittees to replace the original agreement. The Agreement defines the fiscal responsibilities (expenditures and contributions) of all collective parties with respect to the current Permit. It formalizes the Permittees' commitment to cooperate and to mutually fund an integrated Program of protecting and improving water quality in Ventura County. The five-year time frame was designed to mirror the term of the Permit. The latest Implementation Agreement was approved in 2016 and expires one year after a new Permit's effective date. As new permits are written and adopted for Ventura County these agreements will be reviewed, revised, and renewed as appropriate.

*Table 2-5 Permittee Population and Area*

<b>Ventura County Statistics</b>		
<b>Permittee</b>	<b>Population</b>	<b>Area (Sq. Mi.)</b>
Camarillo	70,261	19.88
County of Ventura	92,063	24
Fillmore	15,664	3.36
Moorpark	37,044	12.44
Ojai	7,470	4.50
Oxnard	208,881	26.89
Port Hueneme	22,399	4.50
Ventura	109,910	33.00
Santa Paula	31,138	5.40
Simi Valley	126,878	42.00
Thousand Oaks	127,783	55.03

## 3 Public Information and Public Participation

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### 3.1 OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Public Outreach Program is to increase the public's knowledge and ultimately change their behavior to reduce stormwater pollution. In addition to improving water quality, helping the public understand the problems associated with urban stormwater runoff can help build overall support for the stormwater program.

The Public Outreach Program is designed to implement and evaluate comprehensive short- and long-term public education campaigns that will inform the community about how our actions may adversely impact urban stormwater discharges and, subsequently, the local water bodies. Public education is an essential part of a municipal stormwater program because changing public behavior can create a real reduction in pollutants. When a community has a clear understanding of where the pollution comes from, how it can affect them, and what they can do to stop it, they will be more likely to support the program, change their own practices, and help educate others.

The Permittees are building upon the many successes over the years of the program. Early in the program, the Permittees identified key elements crucial to establishing a successful outreach campaign. These elements include:

- Watershed Awareness.
- Identification of general and specific goals of the program.
- Identification of target audiences and key messages for those audiences.
- Consistent messaging using a unified “brand name”.
- Development of a watershed-based outreach program.
- Development of a model public education/public participation strategy for localization at the Permittee level.
- Development and implementation of a school-aged children education outreach program.
- Development and implementation of food facilities outreach program materials.
- Development and implementation of automotive facilities outreach program materials.
- Development and implementation of industrial facilities outreach program materials, and
- Public Awareness Surveys to measure success and determine needs.

### 3.2 CONTROL MEASURES

The Permittees have developed several Control Measures and accompanying performance standards to ensure that the Public Outreach Program requirements found in the Permit are not only met but are effective and provide information for optimizing the Program.

The Public Outreach Program Control Measures are organized to be parallel to the organization of the Permit and consist of the following:

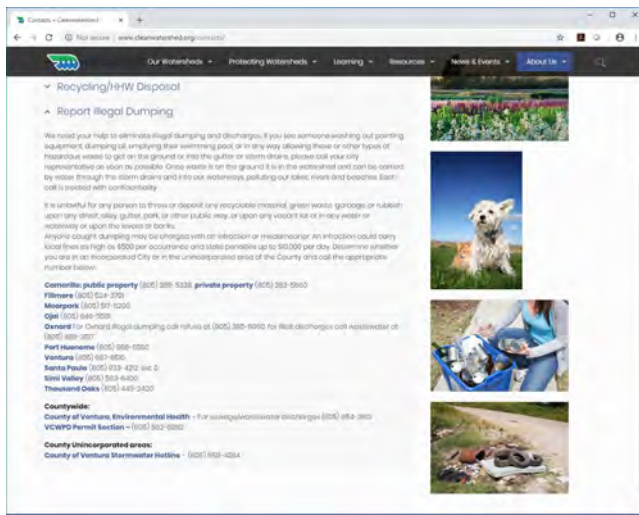
Table 3-1 Control Measures for the Public Outreach Program

PO	Control Measure
PO1	Public Reporting
PO2	Public Outreach Implementation
PO3	Youth Outreach and Education
PO4	Business Outreach
PO5	Effectiveness Assessment

At the end of this chapter these control measures are evaluated to determine the effectiveness of this program element.

### 3.3 PUBLIC REPORTING (CONTROL MEASURE PO1)

The purpose of this Control Measure is to identify staff to serve as contact persons and to operate and advertise public hotline numbers to facilitate public reporting of observed water pollution problems. This Control Measure also ensures that through the hotlines, complaint information is forwarded to the appropriate contacts for follow-up and/or investigation.



Screen Shot of Program's Website

#### 3.3.1 Identify Staff to Serve as Contact Persons for Public Reporting

Permittees have identified staff to serve as the contact person for public reporting, in many cases more than one staff member will serve in this capacity to ensure that someone is always available to respond. Designated staff members are provided with relevant stormwater quality information, including program activities and preventative stormwater pollution control information.

*Performance Standard 3-1*

<b>Identify staff who will serve as the contact person(s) for public reporting of water pollution problems</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**3.3.2 Maintain Public Reporting Hotline Numbers**

The Permittees have two types of phone numbers for the public: one for general stormwater information and one for reporting water pollution problems. The latter number is used by the public to report illicit discharges or illegal dumping into the storm drain system, faded or missing catch basin markers, and other observed water pollution problems. In some cases this number is also used to report clogged catch basin inlets, but some agencies may have a separate number for that. Staff is also available to provide general stormwater information.

Once a water pollution complaint is received, staff initiates a response as required by the Permit within 24 hours to the reported illicit discharges, and within 21 days to illicit connections (generally much faster). For additional summary information regarding use of the hotlines for reporting illicit discharges or illegal connections see the process outlined in Section 8 Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges Elimination. It is a requirement of the Permit that the public reporting phone numbers are listed in the phone book. As technology continues to make phone books more obsolete, the less effective this Permit requirement is. Permittees are making use of more novel ways to make the reporting number available. The Permittees will consider a web-based reporting form for reporting illegal discharges and illicit connections (see Control Measure ID1), however the timely response needed to stop illicit discharges necessitate the public report to a live person as quickly as possible, so it is considered more appropriate for websites to refer the public to a phone number. Most Permittees reporting numbers can be found on multiple websites.

*Performance Standard 3-2*

<b>Public reporting information has been listed in the government white pages of the local phone book</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 3.3.3 Promote/Publicize Public Reporting Hotline Numbers/Contact Information

Contact information for reporting water pollution complaints for all Permittees is updated as necessary and published in the government pages of the local phone book and other appropriate locations. In addition, this contact information is available at several Permittee web sites.

Table 3-2 Web Sites Listing Contact Information for Public Reporting

Program or Permittee	Web site URL
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program	<a href="http://www.vcstormwater.org/index.php/programs/illicit-discharge-dumping">http://www.vcstormwater.org/index.php/programs/illicit-discharge-dumping</a>
Community for a Clean Watershed	<a href="http://www.cleanwatershed.org/contacts/">http://www.cleanwatershed.org/contacts/</a>
Ventura County Watershed Protection District and County of Ventura	<a href="http://www.vcstormwater.org/index.php/programs/illicit-discharge-dumping">http://www.vcstormwater.org/index.php/programs/illicit-discharge-dumping</a>
City of Camarillo	<a href="https://www.cityofcamarillo.org/departments/public_works1/stormwater_pollution.php">https://www.cityofcamarillo.org/departments/public_works1/stormwater_pollution.php</a>
City of Fillmore	<a href="http://www.fillmoreca.com/">http://www.fillmoreca.com/</a>
City of Moorpark	<a href="http://www.moorparkca.gov">www.moorparkca.gov</a>
City of Ojai	<a href="http://www.ci.ojai.ca.us">www.ci.ojai.ca.us</a>
City of Oxnard	<a href="http://www.oxnard.org/city-department/public-works/stormwater/">www.oxnard.org/city-department/public-works/stormwater/</a>
City of Port Hueneme	<a href="http://www.ci.port-hueneme.ca.us">www.ci.port-hueneme.ca.us</a>
City of Ventura	<a href="https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1094/Stormwater-Quality-Management">https://www.cityofventura.ca.gov/1094/Stormwater-Quality-Management</a>
City of Santa Paula	<a href="https://spcity.org/205/Public-Works">https://spcity.org/205/Public-Works</a>
City of Simi Valley	<a href="http://www.simivalley.org/environmentalcompliance">www.simivalley.org/environmentalcompliance</a>
City of Thousand Oaks	<a href="http://www.toaks.org/departments/public-works/maintenance/storm-drains">http://www.toaks.org/departments/public-works/maintenance/storm-drains</a>
County of Ventura	<a href="http://www.cleanwatershed.org/">http://www.cleanwatershed.org/</a>

*Performance Standard 3-3*

<b>Promote and publicize contact information for public reporting in public information media, such as the government pages of the telephone book and web sites</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**3.4 PUBLIC OUTREACH IMPLEMENTATION (Control Measures PO2 and PO3)**

The Public Outreach Implementation Control Measure provides that outreach be conducted with the residential community and general public to inform these audiences of the impacts of urban stormwater runoff and introduce steps they can take to reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff. Such outreach communicates to the Permittees’ residents and visitors the importance of stormwater quality protection and pollution prevention as it relates to the protection of the local water bodies.

**3.4.1 Educate Ethnic Communities**

The Permit requires the Principal Permittee to develop and implement a strategy to educate ethnic communities through culturally effective methods. According to the 2019 U.S. census, persons of Hispanic of Latinx origin were estimated to make up 43.2% of the Ventura County population, and an estimated 10.7% of residents speak a language other than English at home according to the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS). While the Latinx population is significant in Ventura County, only 4.6% of the entire population speaks limited English according to the same 2019 ACS. This suggests that while Spanish-language outreach materials is important to include in outreach plans, the majority of the Latinx population can still be reached with English-language creative.

To reach the Latinx community in Ventura County, Spanish-language elements including radio, digital ads, videos, and outdoor were utilized in the spring 2020/21 campaign. Three 15-second videos were produced in Spanish with Spanish subtitles in 2019/20. Adding to our library of Spanish-language creative, an outdoor wildboard display was created in Spanish and placed in the Port Hueneme where the percentage of limited English-speaking households is greatest at 11.2%. Spanish-language radio, digital, and the wildboard delivered 2,233,456 impressions. Spanish-language paid media accounted for 12.7% of delivered media impressions.





*Anti-littering behavior wildboard - Spanish*

*Performance Standard 3-4*

<b>Develop and implement a strategy to educate ethnic communities through culturally effective methods?</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 3-5*

<b>Conduct stormwater pollution prevention public service announcements</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**3.4.2 Make Five (5) Million Stormwater Quality Impressions per Year**

At the beginning of each reporting year the Public Information and Participation Program Subcommittee meets with our public outreach and media consultant Sagent Marketing to identify outreach priorities, pollutants of concern, and key messages to inform the annual Communications and Outreach Plan. In a continued effort to educate residents on how their daily habits contribute to the health of the five watersheds in Ventura County, the ten co-permittees agreed on an outreach strategy for the 2020/21 Permit Year that continues to utilize the general message campaign “Yours to Enjoy. Yours to Protect” and expand on the “Pollutants of Concern” behavior messages developed from 2017-2020.

Media plans were negotiated with the goal to maximize target reach and frequency on a limited budget. Attention was paid to geographical distribution throughout Ventura County as well as adequate coverage in Spanish speaking communities. Since 2017 the Program has contracted with Sagent, a full-service media

company based out of Sacramento with stormwater outreach experience who was able to obtain low rates and significant bonus elements, including bonus radio spots, digital ads, and outdoor transit ads.

“Yours to Enjoy. Yours to Protect” relates to the beauty of the watersheds, something that past awareness surveys have shown resonates with residents. The Program continues to use this creative as the overarching campaign. To round out the campaign, the Program developed new creative addressing the three top pollutants of concern: trash/litter, pest waste, and yard chemicals. In 2021 we expanded upon these creative assets to reach a wider target audience.

With in-person events and outreach still restricted by the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020/21 Permit Year outreach included a “Shared Values” partner strategy to leverage networks of like-minded organizations, their communication channels, and developed content. Outreach was also conducted to youth through paid social media videos targeting ages 12+ focused on litter/plastics pollution and through virtual school presentations under a separate Eco-Hero contract. The overall Communication and Outreach Plan for 2020/21 Permit Year included paid media, partnerships, virtual school assemblies, Annual Coastal Cleanup Day sponsorship, website enhancements, and social media to achieve and over-deliver the required 5 million impressions including a representative sample of Spanish language dominant audiences in the County.



*“Yours to Enjoy. Yours to Protect.” Creative developed in 2018.*

*Hikers (used in campaign)*

## Media Plan Outreach Strategy



*Biker (used in campaign)*

To meet the NPDES permit requirements for outreach the Program must achieve a minimum of 5 million impressions per year to the general public related to stormwater quality, with a minimum of 2.5 million impressions via newspaper, local TV access, local radio and/ or internet access. Given this requirement, the Program developed a Spring Paid Media Plan with Sagent to achieve and over-deliver the required 5 million impressions including a representative sample of Spanish language dominant audiences in the County. The media plan included multiple tactics: print, radio, social media and digital in English and Spanish, and outdoor to increase awareness and opportunity for behavior change in Ventura County related to stormwater. Media plans were negotiated with the goal to maximize target reach and frequency on a limited budget. Sagent was able to obtain significant bonus elements, including bonus radio commercial spots, digital ads, print ads, and outdoor overrun.

The paid spring media campaign ran from April to July 2021. The spring paid media campaign significantly out delivered the minimum five million required impressions resulting in a total of 17,715,488 impressions. The spring paid media plan focused on three pollutants of concern: litter, pet waste, and pesticides. Paid social, youth-targeted media focused on plastics pollution as part of our litter outreach. Additional impressions were gained through paid social, website visits, and Coastal Cleanup Day print, radio, and paid social advertising. Combined for the 2020/21 Permit Year the **Community for Clean Watershed PIPP delivered over 18,550,000 million gross impressions**, greatly exceeding the permit requirements.

The impressions are broken down as follows:

*Table 3-3 Community for a Clean Watershed Gross Impressions*

<u>Timing</u>	<u>Medium</u>	<u>Gross Impressions</u>	<u>Youth Targeted Impressions</u> <small>(included in gross)</small>	<u>Spanish-language Impressions<sup>1</sup></u> <small>(included in gross)</small>
April-June 2021	Radio	1,913,816		741,200
	Radio Social Posts			131,016

April-June 2021	Print	236,955		
April-June 2021	Outdoor (VCTC busses, transit shelters, wildboards)	12,069,716		899,136
April-June 2021	Digital (video, digital display, e-newsletter)	3,043,243		462,104
May-June 2021	Paid Social	353,180	164,154	
<b>Total Spring Paid Media Plan Impressions</b>		<b>17,616,910</b>	<b>164,154</b>	<b>2,233,456</b>
September 2020	Coastal Cleanup Day Ads	826,310		55,200
Year Round	Organic Social Media Impressions (Facebook & Instagram)	98,578		
Year Round	Website Unique Users	14,331		
April-May 2021	EcoHero School Assemblies	2,002	2,002	
<b>Total Impressions</b>		<b>18,558,131</b>	<b>166,156</b>	<b>2,288,656</b>

Notes: <sup>1</sup>Spanish impressions include Spanish-language media only. The total reach in the Latinx community is much higher due to reaching them in English-language media as well.

*Performance Standard 3-6*

<b>Make a minimum of 5 million impressions per year to the general public related to stormwater quality, with a minimum of 2.5 million impressions via newspaper, local TV access, local radio and/ or internet access.</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

### Adult Spring Outreach Campaign

The 2021/221 campaign utilized existing and new creative materials for radio, digital ads, video ads, web displays, outdoor, and social media. In the 2017/18 Permit Year, Sagent with input from the PIPP Subcommittee and Management Committee, developed a new overarching general watershed awareness message campaign “Yours to Enjoy. Yours to Protect”. In the last two reporting years the campaign was expanded with additional adaptive creative to address the top three pollutants of concern: trash/litter, pet waste, and pesticides. In the 2019/20 Permit Year the 15-second “Pollutants of Concern” videos were additionally produced in Spanish and subtitles were added to more effectively reach our target audience.

The majority of the spring media campaign ran from April 12 to June 4, 2021. The spring campaign included 15-second radio ads in English and Spanish, print ads, digital ads and video ads in English and Spanish, and out-of-home media including transit shelters, bus backs and wildboards (outdoor postings) in rural locations. Sagent negotiated bonus ads with media partners to deliver an additional \$41,340 in added value or 104% of the planned media buy.

The English and Spanish digital and video ads were targeted to Ventura County and optimized for engagement and website visits. A supplemental youth-focused paid social media buy targeting litter and single-use plastics ran June 1 to June 30, 2021. The combination of digital ads and paid social yielded a 0.53% click through rate (CTR) which is well above the industry average of 0.05% - 0.08%.

15-second English and Spanish radio spots focused on the three key pollutants of concern. An added value English language :15-second spot ran promoting “Earth Day is every day.” English radio spots were run on KCAQ-FM, KFYV-FM, KOCP-FM, KUNX-AM, KVTA-AM. Spanish radio spots were run on KLJR-FM and KXLM-FM.

Print ads were placed in the Acorn Weekly (five publications including The Acorn, Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Camarillo, and Moorpark) and the VC Reporter. These publications have a combined circulation of 175,155. The areas reached by these publications include: Thousand Oaks, Simi Valley, Camarillo, Oxnard, Ventura, Ojai, Newbury Park, and the general Ventura County area.

All outdoor ad placements on transit shelters and bus queens (signage on the side of buses) ran the “Litter is Preventable” message. A total of 17 bus ads ran for a 4-week period delivering a calculated 1,600,000 impressions. Six transit shelters were secured for eight weeks. Three shelters delivered an estimated 81-day override (meaning they were left up longer than ordered) resulting in 985,000 added value impressions. Wildboards are rural outdoor postings that require a great deal of management but allow reach into areas not generally accessible by traditional media. Five wildboards focused on litter messaging were posted and delivered 5,040,000 impressions.

Overall, the campaign delivered **17,616,920** total impressions, far exceeding the goal for the year.

### **Outreach and Partnerships**

With in-person events and outreach still restricted by the COVID-19 pandemic, 2020/21 Permit Year outreach included a “Shared Values” partner strategy to leverage networks of like-minded organizations, their communication channels, and developed content. Local community organizations were invited to participate as partners in the Program’s effort to help people connect their interests to positive behaviors that support clean neighborhoods, parks, rivers, creeks, beaches, and the ocean. Four organizations (Ventura Land Trust, Ventura County Surfrider Foundation, Ojai Valley Conservancy, and Ventura Humane Society) actively contributed and shared CCW’s social media posts.

### **Ad Examples**



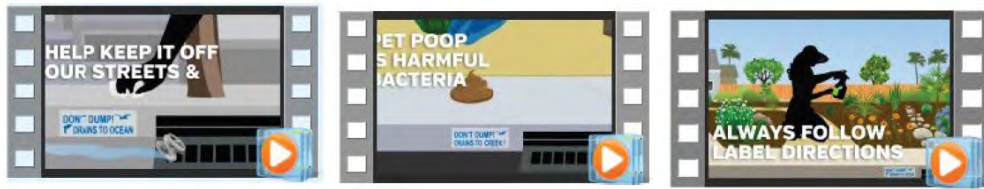
Print Ad



Digital Display Ad



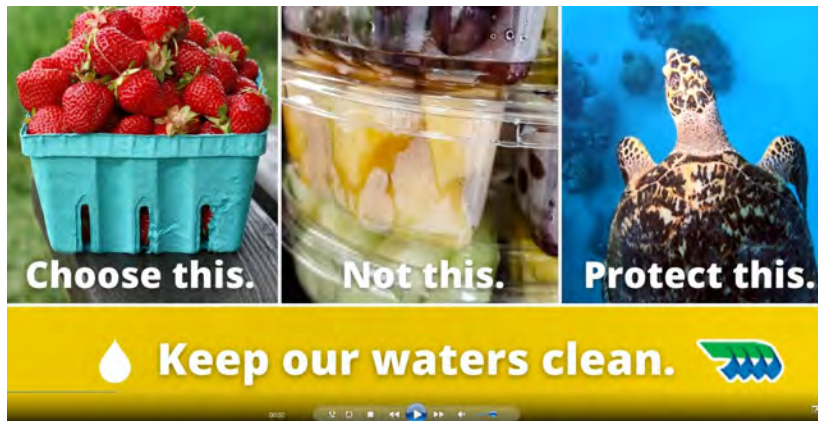
Digital Display Ad - Spanish



*Pollutants of Concern Video Ads (viewable at <https://www.cleanwatershed.org/tvandradio/>)*

### Youth Outreach

To better engage youth on social media a separate month-long campaign was developed to specifically target Youth ages 12+ highlighting litter focused on plastics pollution and its impact on wildlife. The Youth social campaign ran June 1 to June 30, 2021.



*Example of youth-targeted outreach.*

The sheer number of schools in Ventura County and the demands on the curriculum has made it challenging for the Program to coordinate with schools to schedule in-class presentations. Since the 2017/18 Permit Year the Program has contracted with environmental rap superhero, Mr. Eco and his EcoHero Show to perform school-wide assemblies for elementary school students in Ventura County. The school-wide assemblies allow us to reach more youth than we have in previous years with the Boys & Girls Club presentations. The presentations are designed to inspire the next generation of eco-friendly citizens through choreographed dance, video, and lyrics about environmental issues. Each song has a call-and-response aspect to the chorus and kids and teachers are encouraged to dance and sing along.

After receiving positive feedback from teachers and principals at the schools that The EcoHero Show visited in 2018, 2019, and virtual shows in 2020, the Program choose to contract with The EcoHero Show again to virtually visit eleven schools throughout Ventura County for the 2020/21 Permit Year; one per co-permittee. Mr. Eco’s songs “Litterbug”, “Bag Monster” and “EcoHero Anthem” were selected to be performed at the virtual assemblies because of their anti-littering and waste messages that encourage kids to take action against pollution at school and at home. Challenges of virtual learning and lost instructional time due to the COVID-19 pandemic made it difficult to reach one school in every city. A total of nine EcoHero shows were successfully scheduled and performed, reaching an estimated 2,002 students.

<u>Date</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>School</u>	<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>Type</u>	<u># Kids</u>
4/24/2021	Ventura	Montalvo Arts Academy	k-5	Whole School Assembly	100
2/25/2021	Port Hueneme	Parkview Elementary	k-6	Whole School Assembly	600
3/5/2021	County Unincorporated Area	Hollywood Beach Elementary	k-6	Whole School Assembly	120
3/26/2021	Oxnard	Julien Hathaway Elementary	K-5	Whole School Assembly	375
4/16/2021	Moorpark	Walnut Canyon Elementary	k-5	Whole School Assembly	208
4/23/2021	Thousand Oaks	Ladera STARS Academy	k-5	Whole School Assembly	125
5/12/2021	Santa Paula	Santa Clara Elementary	k-6	Whole School Assembly	54
5/14/2021	Oxnard	Ansgar Larsen Elementary	K-5	Whole School Assembly	400
5/27/2021	Thousand Oaks	Conejo Elementary	k-5	Whole School Assembly	20

## Ventura County Testimonials

"We LOVED it! It was engaging, fun, and informative! The trifecta!"

**02/24/2021: Claudia Caudill, Principal, Montalvo**

"The students enjoyed the songs and learning about ways they can help the environment."

**02/26/2021: Taylor Moore, 3rd Grade, Parkview Elementary**

"My students really enjoyed the songs and the fact that they could somewhat interact with the presenters through question and pictures that were show."

**02/26/2021: Mrs. Elena Diaz, 5th Grade, Parkview Elementary**

"Great balance of information and entertainment. Kept the kids engaged and on task."

**03/05/2021: Lynz Mullaney, 3rd/4th Grade, Hollywood Beach**



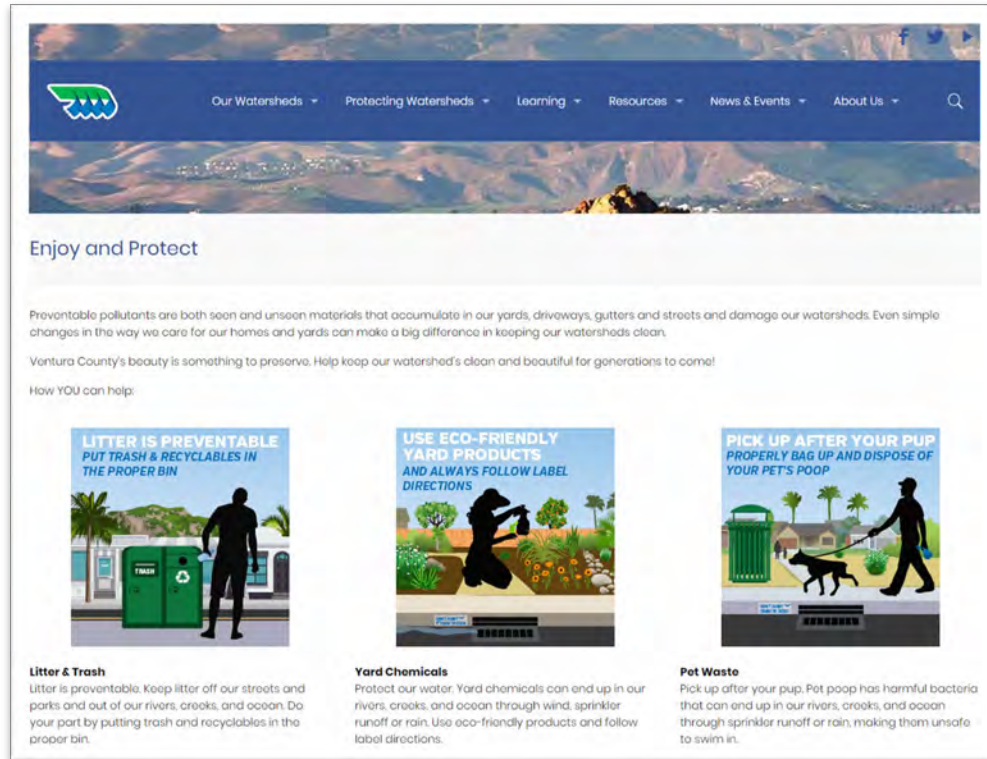
### 3.4.3 Maintain and Update the Countywide Stormwater Website

#### Community for a Clean Watershed Website Update

The Permit requires the Permittees to maintain the Countywide stormwater website ([www.vcstormwater.org](http://www.vcstormwater.org)) This is the website specified by the Permit, but the Permittees also use [www.cleanwatershed.org](http://www.cleanwatershed.org) primarily for outreach, as described earlier under “activity-specific outreach to residents”. The Community for a Clean Watershed website ([www.cleanwatershed.org](http://www.cleanwatershed.org)) continues to reinforce the various public outreach messages as well as make available a network of resources to help the web viewer make informed decisions. In 2018 the website was modernized and made more mobile-friendly. The website now earns a 99% utilization score on mobile devices. Enhancements were made to the website to optimize it for mobile and tablet viewing and improve its SEO rank in addition to updating content including a Partner page, updated Youth resources, and an updated Find Your Watershed page. Overall during 2020/21 Permit Year the website attracted 26,300 page views, 19,115 sessions, and 14,331 unique users.

The website is periodically updated to include pollutant-specific educational materials for businesses and do-it-yourself homeowners. Fact sheets have been developed and updated as needed over the life of the program and include information on the proper disposal, storage, and use of the following pollutants:

- Vehicle waste fluids
- Household waste materials
- Construction waste materials
- Pesticides and fertilizers (including IPM) (updated in 2015/16 Permit Year)
- Green waste (including lawn clippings and leaves)
- Animal waste



2021 Spring Campaign Landing Page

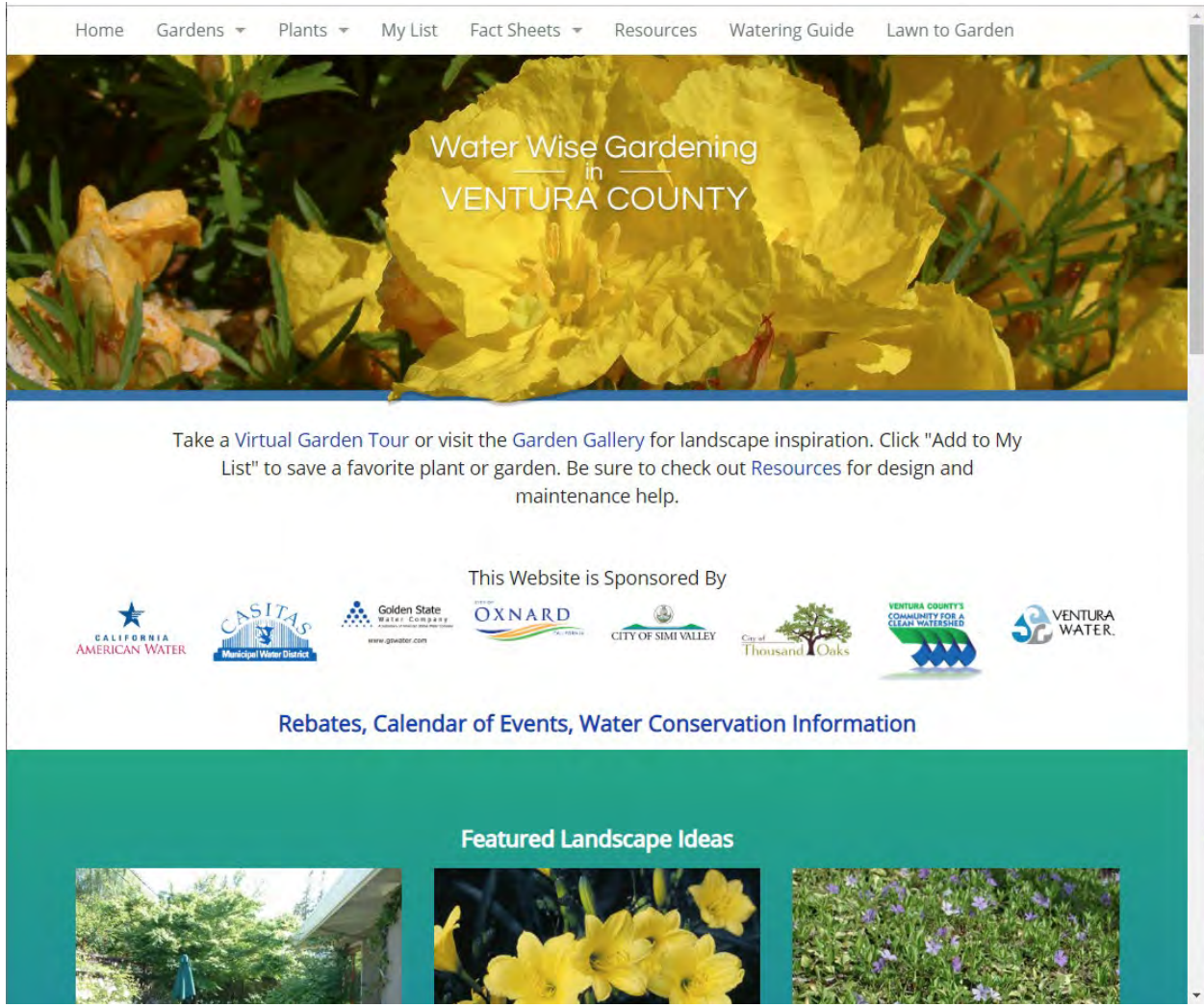
Performance Standard 3-7

Maintain the stormwater Web site (www.vcstormwater.org)			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Program	☑		

**Gardensoft**


Understanding Ventura County's water resources are limited, and that water wasted down the gutter will also transport pollution, the Program teamed up with Ventura County water purveyors to develop a waterwise landscaping website ([www.venturacountygardening.com](http://www.venturacountygardening.com)). There the user will find information on how to design and install a water-wise garden, and irrigation methods and equipment that will help water a landscape more efficiently, along with suggestions on how to easily and effectively maintain a garden. The website includes a directory of drought-tolerant plants and example gardens. Special additions were made to include rain gardens, permeable pavement options, and rain barrels.

In spring 2019 the Program led an effort to update the site to be mobile-friendly and have a new look and feel. The new website landing page also highlights stormwater and links to the Community for a Clean Watershed website, [www.cleanwatershed.org](http://www.cleanwatershed.org). In the 2020/21 Permit Year there were 9,846 website visits, of which 5,430 were unique users, showing the website has a high rate of return visitors.




[www.venturacountygardening.com](http://www.venturacountygardening.com) homepage

Home Gardens Plants My List Fact Sheets Resources Watering Guide Lawn to Garden



## GREEN GARDENS HEALTHY CREEKS SOLVING RUNOFF PROBLEMS




### Importance of Watershed

A watershed is a land area that drains rain and other water into a creek, river, lake, wetland, or groundwater aquifer. Water from your neighborhood also enters the watershed through the storm drain system and flows directly to local creeks and the ocean without any treatment. It often is contaminated by pollutants that can be toxic to fish, wildlife, and people.

### Stormwater Runoff

Stormwater runoff is the water that flows over paved surfaces or landscaping after rain (a storm), irrigation, or other water use

than the ground can absorb. As the runoff travels, it can pick up litter, pesticides, fertilizers, pet waste, motor oil, and other pollutants, washing these substances into our neighborhood creeks and the ocean. Replacing non-permeable surfaces with permeable material, any material that allows water to flow through, greatly helps with absorption and reducing runoff. Materials such as sand and gravel, can be installed in pathways to control runoff and improve water quality by filtering pollutants through the ground. The end result is cleaner, healthier waterways in our community.



### Home Steps to Protect the Watershed:

- 1. Clean up outside your home** including trash, leaves, yard clippings, and pet waste.
- 2. Water the yard only as needed** and avoid spraying streets, sidewalks, and driveways to prevent water from carrying pollutants directly into storm drains.
- 3. Divert rainspouts and garden hoses away from paved surfaces.** Provide landscaping next to sidewalks and driveways to help collect and filter rain runoff.
- 4. Control erosion around your property** to prevent dirt and debris being carried into the storm drain.
- 5. Read labels on pesticides, herbicides, and fungicides** prior to use and follow instructions carefully. Try Integrated Pest Management (IPM) as a less toxic alternative for yard pest management. [www.ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu)

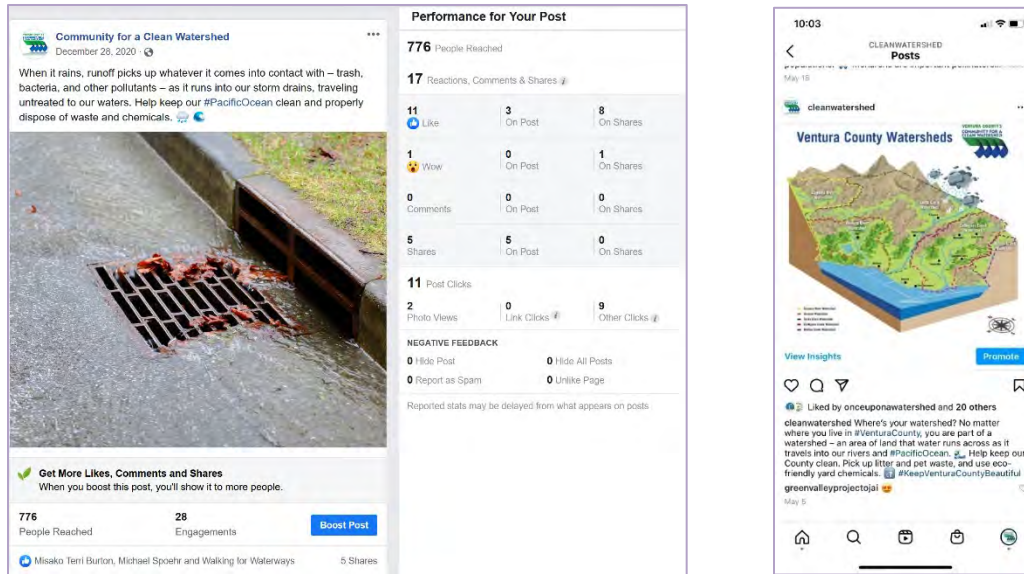
*Erosion and stormwater pollution prevention page on [www.venturacountygardening.com](http://www.venturacountygardening.com)*

## Facebook

To maintain awareness of stormwater between media campaigns, the CCW Facebook page shares year-round general messages about stormwater. Topics address general messages about watersheds, main pollutants of concern (POCs), positive behaviors, highlight the work of Permittees, rain/stormwater posts, and key events like Coastal Cleanup Day. We also include fun and related topics on living eco-friendly lifestyles, the beauty of Ventura County watersheds, native plants and gardens, and wildlife to encourage engagement and sharing of our posts to increase our reach.

Community for a Clean Watershed had 4,463 page followers as of June 30, 2021, keeping Ventura County residents and youth engaged during periods when there is no paid outreach while adding a social element year-round. Facebook now prioritizes paid social media posts over organic as this metric reveals. In the 2020/21 Permit Year we ran two paid social campaigns. One targeting adults and three POCs (litter, pet waste, and pesticides). A separate month-long campaign was developed to specifically target youth ages 12+

highlighting litter and plastics pollution impacts on wildlife. Over the 2020/21 Permit Year, 93 posts were shared with 12,011 engagements.



*Facebook and Instagram posts with the highest engagement.*

### Instagram

The Program launched an Instagram account, @cleanwatershed, in January 2020 to reach new social media audiences. The followers and audiences on Instagram tend to be younger than Facebook audiences, primarily 25-44 years old. Like all of CCW’s social media, Instagram posts are meant to encourage audiences to learn more about Ventura County watersheds, pollutants of concern, and proper behaviors for preventing stormwater pollution. Over the reporting period 83 posts were published. As of June 30, 2021, @cleanwatershed Instagram account had 188 followers.

### Twitter

Twitter use was discontinued at the end of 2019.

#### 3.4.4 Permittee Individual Efforts

On top of what the Program provides for public outreach countywide, the individual Permittees implement their own outreach efforts focusing on local issues and more personal interactions with their residents. Countywide these efforts beyond the Program’s efforts lead by the Principal Permittee made over 6.6 million additional impressions. Below are some examples of these efforts:



*The City of Camarillo used an Enviroscape to show how to protect storm runoff*

## **Camarillo**

- Camarillo CityScene Newsletter Articles:
  - "Your Yard, Your Actions Matter"& "Time it Takes Trash to Decompose" - May/June 2021
  - "Pick Up After Your Pet" & "Help Keep Your Neighborhood Beautiful - March/April 2021
  - "Pet Waste" - January/February 2021
  - "Wet Weather Preparedness" - November/December 2020
  - "Coastal Cleanup Days" - September/October 2020
  - "Think Before You Drain" - July/Aug. 2020
- The following public outreach inserts were mailed to all Camarillo residents receiving utility bills:
  - Utility Bill Insert advertising Coastal Cleanup Month Long Event, emphasizing trash – August 2020

- Utility Bill Insert on Pet Waste – January 2021
- CityScene TV:
  - City Council Presentation on Coastal Cleanup Day & Airing of ad for Coastal Cleanup Day

Camarillo Business License Staff and Stormwater Program Staff joined forces in successfully enforcing the requirements under SB-205. New or renewal business licenses were required to show proof of coverage under the State Industrial General Permit before the license would be granted.



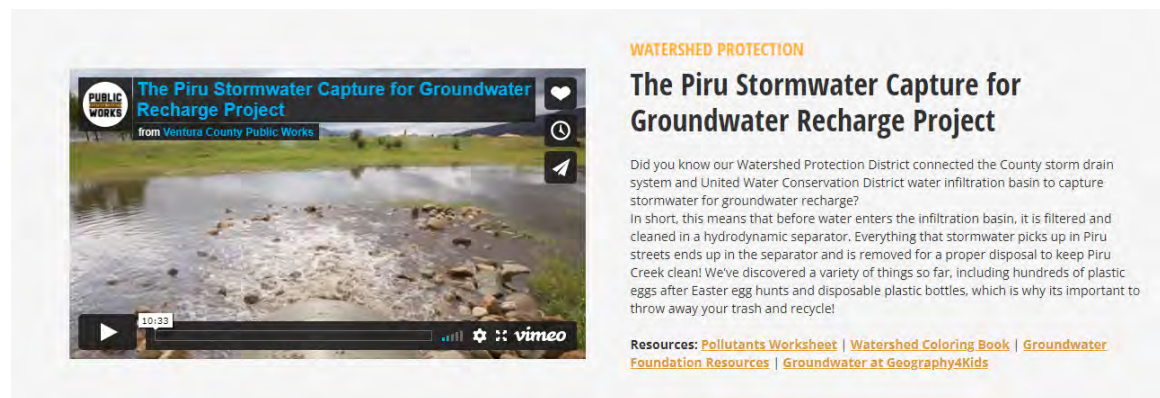
*Examples of City of Camarillo Social Media Posts*

### County of Ventura

County Staff gave five presentations about the Piru Stormwater Capture for Groundwater Recharge Project to APWA-Ventura Chapter on 03/11/2021.

County Stormwater Program participated in 2021 Virtual Science Carnival event organized by the Cal State University Channel Islands in Spring 2020. The event statistics included: Total – 5,191 participants including Students – 3,924, Educators – 1,219, Other – 48. <https://sciencecarnival2021.com/>

The County Stormwater Program participated in 2021 Virtual Ventura County Public Agency's Annual Public Works Week event the week of May 16-22, 2021. Staff created a video about Piru Stormwater Capture for Groundwater Recharge project. <https://www.vcpbublicworks.org/npww/>.



*County Stormwater Program Piru Stormwater Capture for Groundwater Recharge Project Educational Video*

### **Fillmore**

The City of Fillmore has coordinated and participated in Household Hazardous Waste events. These events were advertised in the Trash Flash City newsletter produced by the City's waste provider EJ Harrison. The events served to inform the public of proper containment, use, storage, and disposal of hazardous waste.

Additionally, EJ Harrison advertised an Annual City-wide Clean-up Day featured in the Trash Flash newsletter in Summer 2021. The Annual City-wide Clean-up Day provided an opportunity for residents to discard bulky items and other trash. Additionally, it highlighted the importance of clean dumpsters and dumpster enclosures for the benefit of clean creeks and beaches.

Furthermore, the City hosted a voluntary clean-up in Sespe Creek as part of the Annual Coastal Clean-up Day, during which the public had the opportunity to assist in trash and debris removal from the local waterway.

Business outreach is conducted as part of the Commercial and Industrial Facilities Program. The last outreach was conducted as part of the Inspection Program in Spring 2019.

### **Moorpark**

The City routinely participates in Coastal Cleanup Day (CCD), which is traditionally held on the third Saturday of September. In 2020, due to COVID-19, the City did not host a CCD event. Although residents were encouraged to participate in cleanup activities in their own neighborhoods throughout the month of September the City does not have an active count of who participated.

No stormwater publications were distributed in FY 2020/21.

Similarly, Moorpark Country Days did not occur in 2020. The City normally distributes stormwater information to participants of the event.



## Ojai

COVID-19 had a major impact in being able to conduct in person outreach. Predominate outreach efforts were limited to social media and the City's website. The Building Department counter has storm water brochures available and City plan review includes information regarding SWPPPs.



## Oxnard

- Water Talks at the Libraries
- Water conservation outreach events: Virtual CA Friendly Landscape classes
- DMV ad for water conservation
- Virtual garden design workshops
- Virtual drip-irrigation class
- 10 Stormwater Presentations and Illicit Discharge/Illicit Connection presentations to various City of Oxnard departments
- Contactless Curbside Water Conservation Kit for 150 kits for Oxnard residents with supplies for water conservation and stormwater outreach
- Virtual /Building Block Entertainment (BBE) to provide school education to elementary school students through stormwater pollution videos
- Zoom water model presentation advertised to the Oxnard School District
- Web page on gardening for City of Oxnard Water Wise Gardening
- Fix Leak Campaign through Facebook, classes, Vida web page electronic ads, neighborhood packets

The City of Oxnard has established a dedicated stormwater page on the city website to disseminate information about stormwater best management practices and pollution prevention. The illicit discharge/illicit connection hotline is located on this page along with links to other relevant stormwater related websites. The City of Oxnard also has the 311 mobile application which can be used by the public to report illicit discharges/illicit connections that are observed in the city.

The City of Oxnard has an active Business Assistance Program. Technical Services Program staff distribute educational materials and BMP guidelines during routine inspections of commercial facilities, automotive facilities, and food service establishments. In addition, staff also provide verbal direction and guidance regarding stormwater compliance during inspections and did not distribute educational materials to automotive parts stores, home improvement stores, or pet shops unless requested.



## Port Hueneme

Staff conducts outreach through inspections at local businesses and also works with the local commercial facilities performing waste evaluations, water conservation efforts and project reviews. Illicit discharges and other complaints can be submitted to the City through its newly implemented CivicPlus Complaint Tracker. Due to COVID-19, little event activity took place and City facilities were closed to the public.

## Santa Paula

City contributed to Ventura Countywide Stormwater Program's Public Outreach Program: Media outreach (TV, billboard, radio, newspaper) ongoing campaign, coastal cleanup day, and stormdrain signage.

City also contributed to Ventura Countywide Stormwater Program's Public Outreach Program specifically for business, including implementation of SB 305 and Industrial Permit and business license renewals.



*Turf Removal Class*

## Simi Valley

The City of Simi Valley held five Household Hazardous Waste events instead of the usual six due to the COVID-19 emergency. Using money from the CalRecycle Beverage Container grant, the city ran anti-littering ads weekly in the Acorn from July 2020 through June 2021. Due to the COVID-19 health emergency, city outreach events were canceled, but will resume later in 2021. The City's Environmental Compliance Inspectors took the time to educate residents and businesses during 58 compliance responses. City staff issued 125 Pool Discharge Encroachment permits, handing out our Swimming Pool Maintenance BMP brochures with each encroachment permit. The Swimming Pool Maintenance brochures were also given out with Building and Safety permits for new pools.

The City of Simi Valley has a phone hotline and designated e-mail address to address stormwater pollution questions and concerns of businesses within the city. Also, during inspections city Environmental Compliance inspectors review stormwater BMPs as well as any issues dealing with industrial pretreatment, hazardous materials, and water conservation. We pay special attention to the stormwater needs of our Industrial base, auto facilities, restaurants, and home improvement stores. On a monthly basis a report is created showing all the new Business Tax Certificates issued by the city, inspectors will then visit the business to determine what pretreatment classification it should be, discuss Stormwater BMPs, and offer technical assistance and guidance. As time warrants inspectors perform sweeps in their assigned areas to identify new businesses. The city's Environmental Compliance inspectors respond to resident complaints and concerns on a regular basis and make field observations for mobile businesses. Due to COVID-19 health concerns very few inspections were done from March 2020 through August 2021. Staffing shortages also restricted the number of inspections that were performed, however, all complaints of illicit discharges and connections were investigated within one business day.

## Thousand Oaks

Public Events were suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic.

School Outreach:

EcoHero - Using Dance, music and storytelling, this program encouraged participation in activities with messages about watershed protection. A total of 145 students attended two presentations given at Conejo Elementary (5/27/21) and Ladera STARS Academy (4/24/21).

Solid Waste Reduction Programs:

Freeway Ramp and Interchange Cleanup – 2.05 tons (it should be noted that several of the on/off ramps were inaccessible due to construction on the 23 freeway, so tonnage was slightly less than normal for the FY)

Simi Valley Landfill Days – Free landfill disposal was provided to residents for partial days on 9/20/20, 3/21/21 and 6/20/21. Combined, these days allowed 1,581 residents to appropriately dispose of 573.86 tons of trash, 377.68 tons of construction and demolition waste, 132.68 tons of green waste, 63 tons of concrete, 176 tires and 35 defunct appliances.

Street Sweeping - Total Curb miles in the City = 35,731.6; Total curb miles swept = 35,731.6; Total amount of debris removed by street sweeping (tons) = 1,906.40 tons

Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility – A total of 8,719 residents and businesses brought into the facility 382.93 tons of waste materials in FY 2020-21. Loads were composed of paint, automobile and garden chemicals, pool chemicals, electronics (e-waste) and other hazardous materials.

Local Media/Direct Mail Outreach:

Thousand Oaks Water/Wastewater Billing Inserts with Stormwater pollution prevention message: 38,000 Bill inserts.

Video ads at the Thousand Oaks DMV office promoting our used motor oil and oil filter collection program. The ads ran every 15 minutes for every hour the office was open from 7 AM – 5 PM. 4 ads / hour x 10 hours / day = 40 ads / day. 40 ads / day x ~251 working days / year = ~10,040 ads / year x ~100 people / day = 1,004,000 impressions.

The City of Thousand Oaks' Pretreatment and Stormwater Inspection Programs provide information to businesses that explain best management practices to prevent discharges with the potential to contaminate the storm drain system. As part of these inspections, the businesses are provided educational brochures that outline prohibited activities that could negatively impact the storm drain system.

## Ventura

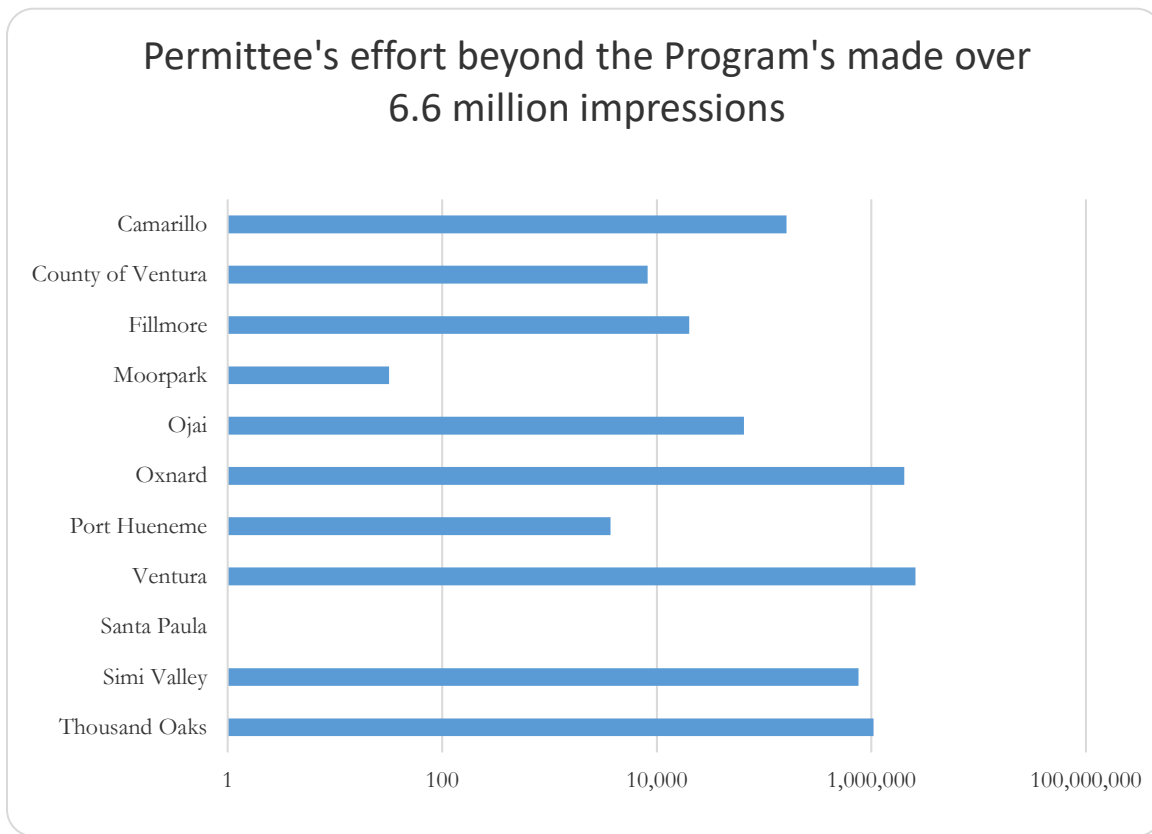
The City sponsors and hosted 3 free Community Cleanup & Recycling Events throughout the year including free drop off of unwanted items. The City sponsors and hosts 2 free compost workshops and a very successful March Mulch Madness giveaway event per year. In addition to our Green Business Certification Program, our Environmental Excellence Award and Green School Award are outreach tools to reward businesses and schools for their best environmental practices. Videos highlighting the winners are posted on our City website as models for other businesses and schools. Outreach materials were also provided at

monthly Household Hazardous Waste collections. Technical assistance was provided to businesses and schools through waste assessments and specific requests. Environmental Sustainability reviews and updates a wide variety of educational materials circulated to residents, multifamily dwellings, businesses, and schools. The City produces advertising and other outreach for various media outlets including VC Star website and newspaper, the local movie theater, billboard advertisements, Cumulus Media, My Ventura magazine, our e-newsletter, our waste haulers newsletter, digital advertising avenues, and social media. These messages range from recycling, HHW, DIY oil change, oil recycling, stormwater pollution prevention, and litter management. Side panels on City Big Belly machines offers highly visible locations for environmental messaging. We also offer residents texting for messages related to stormwater pollution prevention, HHW events, oil recycling, and other community events. We also distribute reusable shopping bags, straws, utensils, and water bottles to encourage residents to reduce single-use plastic use.

Environmental Sustainability Division staff work with businesses to educate them on general environmental sustainability, which includes stormwater pollution prevention. We provide educational materials and training, when requested. The City of Ventura Environmental Sustainability Division continues to run the Green Business Certification program. This statewide California Green Business Network is comprised of other cities, counties and regional jurisdictions. This program is available currently to office/retail, restaurants, multi-family dwellings, and brewery businesses. To date, the city has certified over 80 businesses, with many other in the process. Stormwater pollution prevention and best management practices play an important role in this program.

In addition to the Green Business Certification Program's growing success, the City continues to recognize businesses that go above and beyond with regard to their environmental practices. Through the ongoing partnership with the Chamber of Commerce Green Task Force focusing on business education and recognition, to the annual Chamber of Commerce Poinsettia Environmental Excellence Awards. The city also partners with our waste hauler, EJ Harrison and Sons, and our Ventura Water department to award local schools with Green School and Watershed Hero Awards for those schools that go above and beyond with their environmental efforts.

Figure 3-1 Impressions made through Permittee efforts



### 3.4.5 Work with Existing Local Watershed Groups

There are four watersheds in urbanized Ventura County: Malibu Creek, Calleguas Creek, Santa Clara River, and the Ventura River. Each of these watersheds has a watershed organization or existing stakeholder group developed to encourage stakeholders to work together to identify problems and reach consensus on solutions. The Program's members are involved with these groups and are accomplishing this Permit requirement through their collective effort.

#### Performance Standard 3-6

<b>Work with existing local watershed groups or organize watershed Citizen Advisory Groups/Committees to develop effective methods to educate the public about stormwater pollution? (by July 8, 2011)</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



Watershed Identification Sign

### 3.4.6 Storm Drain Inlet Markers and Signage Discouraging Illegal Dumping

The Permit requires each Permittee to label all storm drain inlets that they own with a legible “no dumping” message and to maintain them. The Permit also requires signs with prohibitive language (i.e., discouraging illegal dumping) to be posted and maintained at designated public access points to creeks, other relevant waterbodies, and channels.

#### Label Storm Drain Inlets with “No Dumping” Message

As of Permit Year 2011/12, the Permittees

had completed labeling or marking the curb inlets to their entire storm drain system. Permittees maintain their inlet signs by reapplying stencils/markers as they wear out (see Control Measure PA5) and applying stencils/markers to new inlets as they are installed. Markers at curb inlets have varying useful lives due to the materials from which they are constructed (e.g., paint, thermoplastic), their position (e.g., on top of curb, on face of curb), and wear factors (e.g., traffic, street sweeping, sunlight). As a result, the Permittees have different programs to maintain curb inlet markers within their respective jurisdictions. Some Permittees replace a portion of their markers each year, whereas others re-mark all inlets every few years. Regardless of the specific inlet marker practice, all Permittees understand the importance of storm drain inlet markers to the education component of their program and are committed to installation and maintenance of the markers.

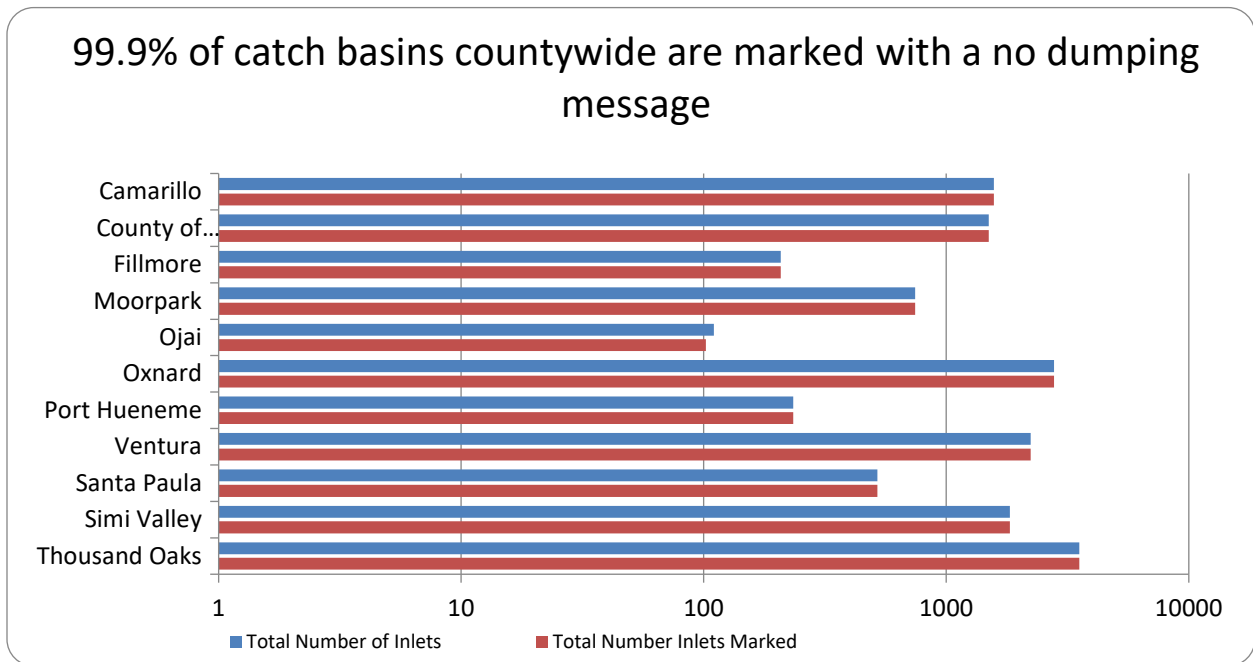
#### Performance Standard 3-7

Label storm drain inlets with a “no dumping” or equivalent message			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		





Figure 3-2 Catch Basin Labeling



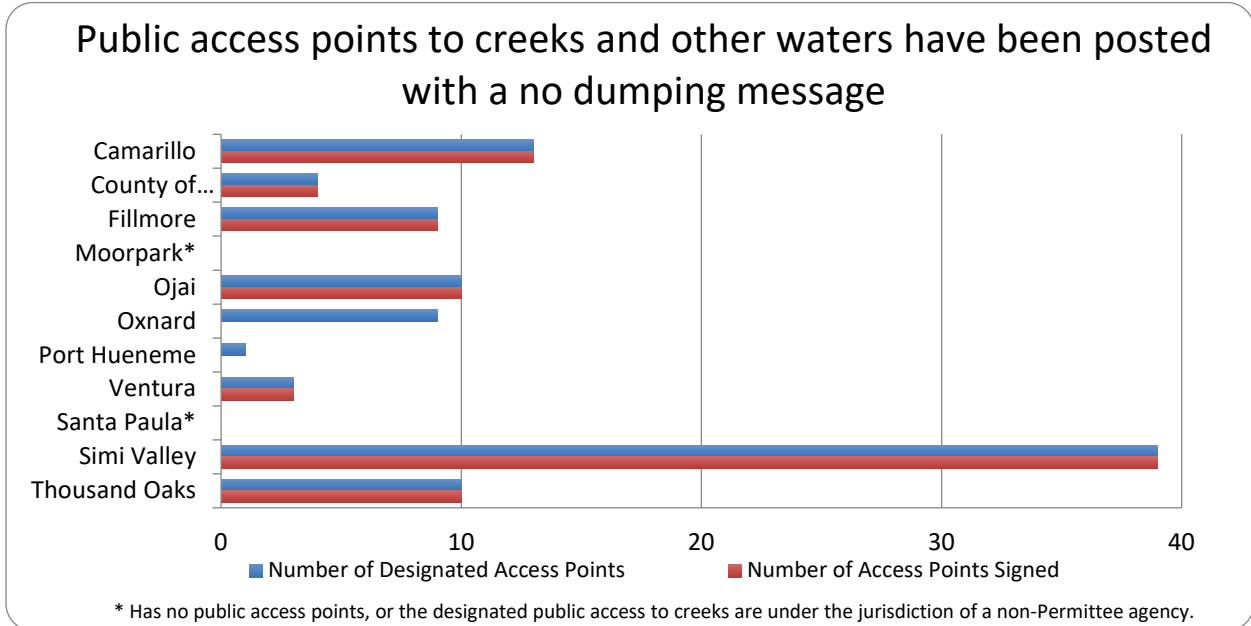
**Post Signs with Language Discouraging Illegal Dumping**

The Permittees are required to designate appropriate access points to the creeks and channels within their jurisdiction for the placement of signs with prohibitive language to discourage illegal dumping. Each



Permittee is responsible for designating the appropriate access points to creeks and channels within their jurisdiction, which requires field verification and mapping. In some cases, a Permittee may not have any designated public access points or they are under the jurisdiction of a special district outside a Permittee's jurisdiction.

Figure 3-3 Public Access Point Signage



### 3.4.7 Educational Materials

The Permittees are required to distribute stormwater pollution prevention educational materials covering specific types of pollutants to specific businesses. The businesses to be targeted with these pollutant-specific educational materials include automotive parts stores; home improvement centers; lumber yards; hardware stores; and pet shops and feed stores. In addition, the Permit requires the Permittees to continue the existing outreach program to residents on the proper disposal of litter, green waste, pet waste, proper vehicle maintenance, lawn care, and water conservation practices.

#### Retail Partnership Brochures: Gardeners, Pet Owners, Car Owners (Due July 8, 2011)



This requirement was fulfilled in June of 2011, as was reported in the 2010/11 Annual Report. The Permittees distributed stormwater pollution prevention public education materials to automotive parts stores, home improvement centers/lumber yards/hardware stores,



and pet shops/feed stores. Three Watershed Protection Tip pamphlets aimed at residents were created to encourage best practices in their homes. These brochures were distributed to targeted retailers called out in the Permit to reach the population that is likely involved in the activities. Each colorful pamphlet defines the Watershed, explains the storm drain system, how polluted water is damaging and gives both overall and topic-specific tips for how to keep the Watershed clean. For example:

- Gardeners: discuss plant selection, irrigation, fertilizer and pesticide practices, integrated pest management and yard maintenance
- Pet Owners: safe methods for handling and disposing pet waste, for both cats and dogs
- Car Owners: do-it-yourself clean vehicle practices for fluids, tires, batteries, and car-washing

Even though this requirement has been met, several Permittees have made additional visits to restock the brochures and have also identified and reached out to new businesses that have opened since the original effort. It is important to note that the Retail Partners are not required to display the material and only do so voluntarily. Permit compliance is met when the Permittee makes a request for the brochures to be displayed.

Figure 3-4 Retail Partnership Outreach to Automotive Parts Stores

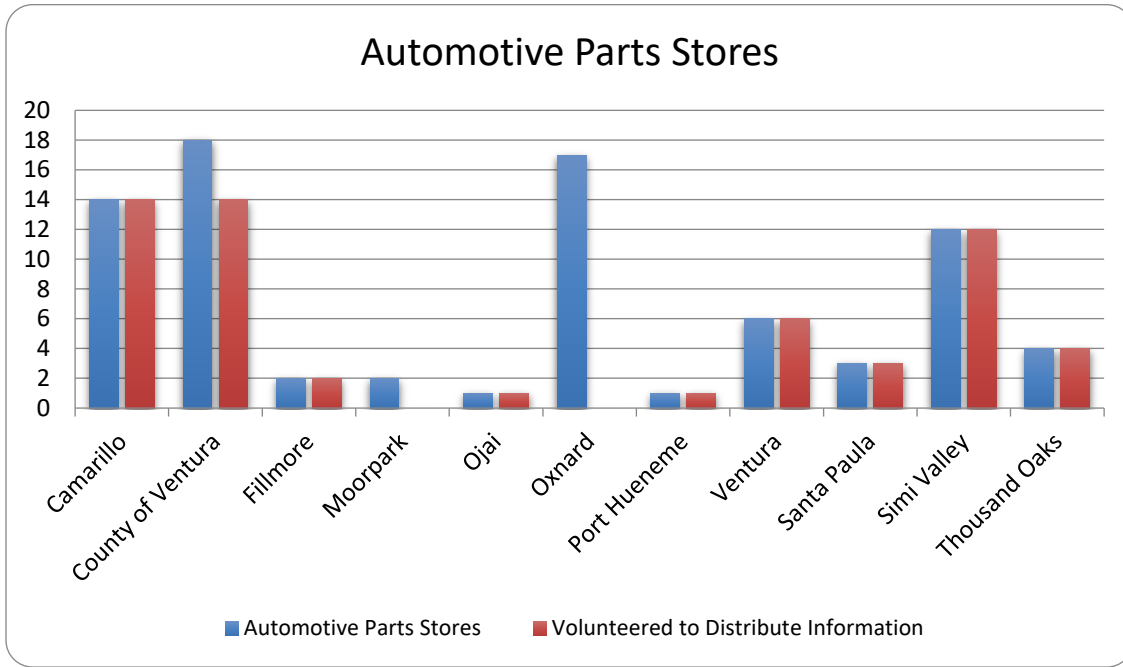


Figure 3-5 Retail Partnership Outreach to Pet Shops

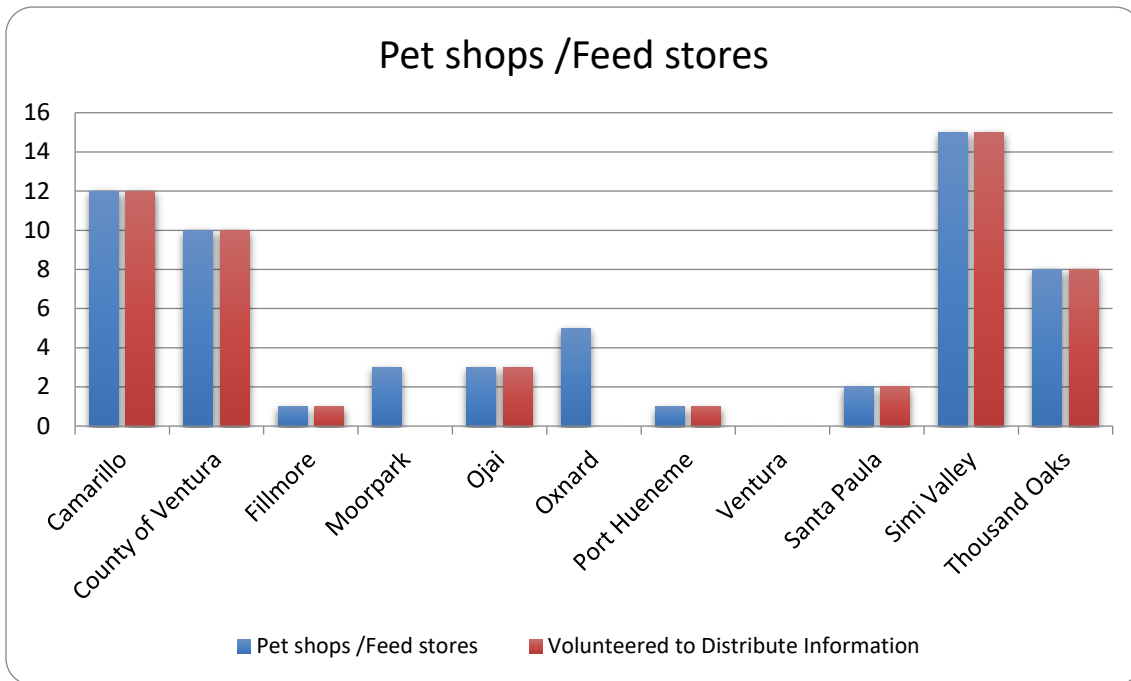
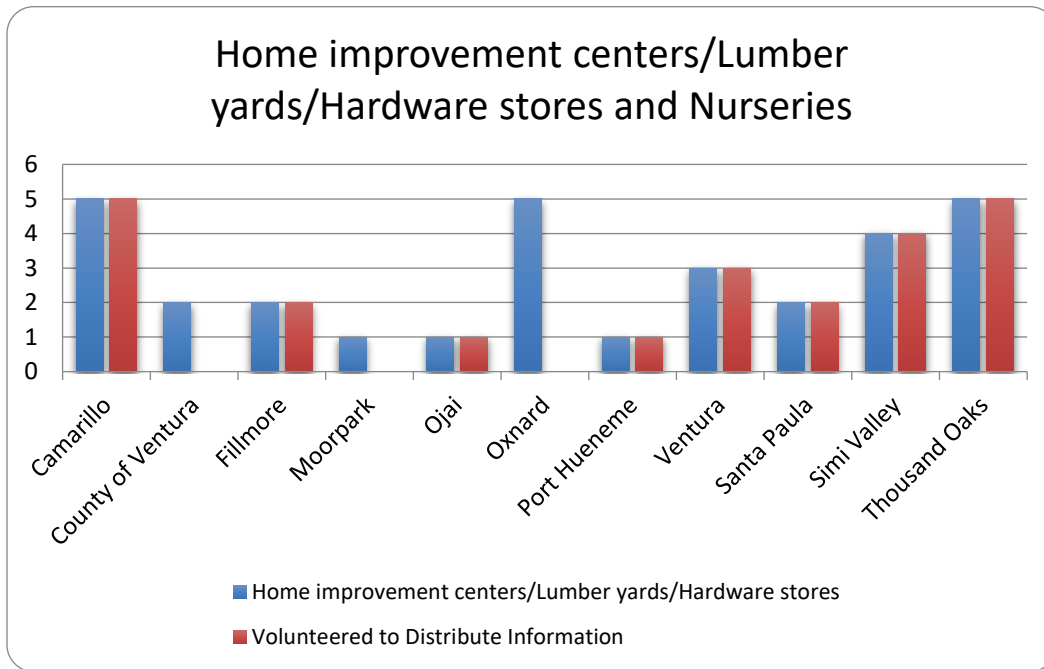


Figure 3-6 Retail Partnership Outreach to Nurseries



### 3.4.8 Community Events

The Permit requires the Permittees to individually and collectively organize community-oriented educational activities and events and to participate in countywide events focusing on stormwater quality. The main countywide event for the stormwater program is Coastal Cleanup Day.

Our Coastal Cleanup Day is part of international coastal cleanup day and is an annual trash pickup event held on the third Saturday each September. Volunteers typically spend three hours of their Saturday morning picking up litter from beaches, parks, and local waterways. In September 2019 3,795 volunteers participated in Ventura County, collectively picking up over 17,300 pounds of trash and recyclables at 29 different sites.

Coastal Cleanup Day is organized by a team of talented, hard working professionals from the cities of Oxnard, Ventura, Simi Valley, Camarillo, Moorpark, Thousand Oaks, California State University Channel Islands, and the Resource Conservation District, without whom this event would not be the success that it is. Ventura Countywide Stormwater Program’s Community for a Clean Watershed is the events largest sponsor. The California State University Channel Islands became a significant partner in the planning and organizing in 2018. We are supported by the California Coastal Commission and their statewide sponsors, as well as by our generous local sponsors, including the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Program’s Community for a Clean Watershed, Gold Coast Broadcasting and Vida News. We have passionate, dedicated site captains, many of whom have been doing this for many years, who volunteer their time to host the event at sites across the county, including inland areas, on the water harbor cleanups, and sites along the coast from Rincon Parkway to Mugu Rock, and inland to Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, and Ojai.

The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day, like most events in 2020 was impacted by the COVID-19 emergency. The California Coastal Commission decided not to support in-person group cleanups and instead encouraged individual or house-hold cleanups through the months of September. The Program

followed suit and encouraged residents to participate in self guided cleanups. We adjusted our website, posted guidelines, and informed local site captains and community partners. We continued with our usual advertising for the event, and encouraged volunteers to report their cleanup activities in September using the free Clean Swell data collection app. Overall 1,046 volunteers participated in a cleanup in the month of September and reported their cleanup using the app. Over 6,350 pounds of trash was reported to be picked up, and over 147 miles covered. People went out individually, in pairs, and small groups, on foot, in boats, on streets and trails. Many people did more than one cleanup over the month and discovered it to be an easy and satisfying way to give back to their community. This event showcases the pride that Ventura County residents take in their communities.



*Pictures from Coastal Cleanup Day 2020*

*Performance Standard 3-8*

<b>Collectively organize events targeted to residents and population subgroups</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Program	☑		

### 3.4.9 Pollutant-Specific Outreach

The Permit requires the Permittees to coordinate to develop outreach programs that focus on the following specific pollutants of concern: metals, urban pesticides, bacteria, and nutrients. For effectiveness in delivering these messages they were incorporated into the other outreach program requirements of a multimedia campaign and retail partnerships with auto shops, pet stores, and home improvement stores/nurseries.

To focus on nutrients a more understandable surrogate for the public was employed because communicating that “nutrients” are a bad thing would create an additional hurdle to the ultimate goal of changing behavior. Good gardening techniques were identified as the best way to communicate this issue. A full media campaign was developed and information along with pesticide BMPs were distributed at retail nurseries throughout the county in the beginning of the permit term. Bacteria from pet waste have been an ongoing target of the program. In the 2019/20 Permit Year the Program developed new creative focused on “Pollutants of Concern”: trash/litter, pet waste, and yard chemicals executed in multiple formats including video, digital ads, outdoor ads, and radio. A description of how these pollutant-specific outreach materials were utilized during the 2020/21 Permit Year can be found in section 3.4.2. 2020/21 Permit Year outreach also included a “Shared Values” partner strategy to leverage networks of like-minded organizations, their communication channels, and developed content. Local community organizations were invited to participate as partners in the Program’s effort to help people connect their interests to positive behaviors that support clean neighborhoods, parks, rivers, creeks, beaches and the ocean. For example, the Program partnered with Ventura County Humane Society to educate their social media followers about the importance of picking up pet waste. As stated in the Permit the metals pollutant-specific outreach is addressed through the industrial-commercial inspection program.

## 3.5 BUSINESS OUTREACH (Control Measure PO4)

The Permit requires the Permittees to develop and implement both a corporate outreach and a small business assistance program to educate and inform corporate franchise operators, local facility managers, and small businesses about stormwater regulations and BMPs to reduce the discharge of pollutants in stormwater.

### 3.5.1 Corporate Outreach

#### **Develop Corporate Outreach Program (due by July 8, 2012)**

The Annual Report for Permit Year 2011/12 describes in detail how this requirement was met. While the Program continues the data are not repeated here. The requirement is that Permittees must work with other regional or statewide agencies and associations such as the California Storm Water Quality Association (CASQA) to develop a Corporate Outreach program to educate and inform the following corporate franchise operators and/or local facility managers (at a minimum) about stormwater regulations and BMPs.

- Four (4) Retail Gasoline Outlet (RGO) Franchisers
- Four (4) Retail Automotive Parts Franchisers
- Two (2) Home Improvement Center Franchisers
- Six (6) Restaurant Franchisers

Educational materials for RGOs, and restaurants have been developed by the Permittees and are distributed to local facility managers during the required inspections. These facilities are inspected not less than twice

during the Permit term. During the inspection the inspector meets with the facility manger, effectively complying with this Permit requirement. Automotive part stores are included in the retail partnership program to help educate the consumers shopping at their locations. The local facility manager's permission is needed to display the brochures, at this opportunity regulations and BMPs are explained. Under the nursery inspection program some Permittees are including home improvement centers due to the size of their gardening sections. Again, the business inspection program satisfies the requirement by meeting with the local facility manager during the inspection.

### **3.5.2 Business Assistance Program**

#### **Best Management Practices Fact Sheets**

Targeting types of businesses that have significant potential to contribute to stormwater pollution, Watershed Protection Tips one-page fact sheets were created to outline Best Management Practices for six categories of activities. Each BMP fact sheet is available on the Community for a Clean Watershed website, where they can be read or printed for distribution. 10,800 were printed for distribution through Permittees. Printing more of these brochures was evaluated this year but was postponed due to the upcoming Permit renewal. Some Permittees used their own resources to print more fact sheets.

#### **Provide Consultation Regarding Business Responsibilities**

On-site, telephone, or e-mail consultation is required to help businesses reduce the discharge of pollutants. The Permittees provide on-site consultation regarding the responsibilities of businesses to reduce the discharge of pollutants, during inspections; this requirement is covered in Section IV Industrial Commercial Programs. These trained and knowledgeable inspectors are also available to respond to questions via phone or email.

## Distribute Educational Materials to Specific Businesses

As mentioned above, the Industrial Commercial Program is responsible for the distribution of information to businesses. This occurs mostly at inspections but may also be done when obvious problems are reported. An opportunity to disseminate this information to new businesses before they are in operation is through the business license program. Businesses may need a business license to operate legally in a jurisdiction. It is at that time that the Permittees are able to distribute information regarding stormwater regulations and appropriate BMPs for their operations. The Program has developed many specific fact sheets over the years for this purpose. The fact sheets may be distributed with the business license, or the proprietor may be directed to the website for the information.



Best Management Practices Fact Sheets

### 3.6 EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT (Control Measure PO5)

#### 3.6.1 Behavioral Change Assessment Strategy

##### Youth Panel Survey – July 2019

Research surveys are conducted to measure awareness, perceptions, and actions taken by Ventura County residents, alternating years of research between adult residents and K-12 youth. In addition to measuring changes in attitudes and behaviors related to watershed best practices, the research gives insights about whether outreach messaging is effective. The following summarizes the finalized July 2019 Youth Research Survey (the 5th youth study survey since 2009), noting significant changes since the last youth survey in 2015.

#### METHODOLOGY

- A web survey was used as the method of data collection.



- The number of completed surveys from each of the cities with Ventura County are as follows: Thousand Oaks (30); Simi Valley (30); Oxnard (35); Ventura (31); Moorpark (30); Camarillo (30); Santa Paula (30); Port Hueneme (30); Fillmore (30); Ojai (30); and Unincorporated areas (32), including Somis, Lake Piru, Saticoy, El Rio, Hidden Valley, Meiners Oaks, Mira Monte, Oak Park, Oak View.
- Study participants had to be youths between the ages of 5 and 18 and were required to be residents of Ventura County. In addition, they were recruited according to specific demographic criteria that are comparable to previous years.

## Key Findings

- Kids' consciousness of litter is also evolving. In the 2015 study, the majority of the kids (59%) said they *sometimes picked up litter* when they saw it on the ground. That has switched to where the majority (54%) now say that they'd *always pick it up*.
- The schools are taking a more active role in talking to kids about the environment, a trend that has been growing every study since it was initiated in 2010. Almost two-thirds (62%) said they learned about environmental concerns in school in 2019 versus less than half (46%) in 2015.
- There was a dramatic 100% increase in participation in Coastal Cleanup Day. Participation grew to over two-fifths (43%) in 2019 from only one-fifth (22%) in 2015.
- However, awareness of Earth Day has decreased somewhat to only two-thirds (68%) aware in 2019 versus three-quarters (79%) in 2015. Still, more importantly, participation in the event remained constant.
- There has been a steady increase in kids concern about the environment since the question was first asked in 2013. The overwhelming majority (88%) of the kids are worried about people hurting the environment, a steady growth from 66% in 2013 to 82% in 2015. More importantly, that worry has escalated with three-quarters (75%) saying "*they are very worried*" versus just over half (51%) in 2015.
- Two-thirds (67%) of the kids think the environment will be more polluted when they are older, a dramatic 45% increase over 2015 numbers (46%).
- The kids are exceedingly more attuned to the fact that all types of waste are damaging to the environment. In fact, in this study they felt a number of waste items had a more negative impact on the environment----pet waste, pesticides, yard waste, garden fertilizer, household cleaning supplies and cigarette butts.
- The recognition of the beauty of Ventura's environment continues to grow with each survey from just over half in 2013 (58%), to three-quarters (74%) in 2015, to the overwhelming majority (90%) in 2019.

## Public Outreach Findings

- Advertising recall of the commercials remains steady but has not grown significantly. It's possible that an approach more closely attuned to youthful events and interests might be a more effective way to reach the youth. It seems that the computer is where the youth spend a great deal of their spare time. Facebook seems to have grown passé, whereas Instagram and YouTube have gained trust and interest from kids.
- 47% of respondents recalled seeing the 'Biker', Yours to Enjoy, Yours to Protect online image.

- This year, two-fifths (40%) of the youth said they heard or saw advertising regarding the protection of the watershed. That’s similar, although slightly greater than 2015 (36%).
- 68% of respondents were able to recall seeing the CCW logo (+1%) since 2015.

### Summary of Effectiveness

Based on the positive results of the 2019 Youth and 2016 Adult Surveys, the combined strategy of reminding people *why* they should protect the watershed and filtering in building upon existing assets seems to work. Together, the advertising outreach elements work with promotions and face-to-face presentations to raise the value of protecting the environment while suggesting best practices to help them do so.

In program year July 2020 to June 2021, we:

- Utilized existing broadcast and online elements to strengthen awareness of best watershed practices while stretching the budget to achieve maximum reach and repetition.
- Utilized youth targeted paid social media posts to better reach youth through communication channels they primarily use, and maintained our presence in schools through virtual presentation.
- Garnered an exceptional amount of bonus media placements with Coastal Cleanup Day promotions.

#### Performance Standard 3-9

<b>Develop and implement a behavioral change assessment strategy based on current sociological data and studies to determine whether the Public Outreach Program is demonstrably effective in changing the behavior of the public.</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

### 3.6.2 Outreach Program Annual Effectiveness Assessment

Effectiveness assessment is a fundamental component required for the development and implementation of a successful storm water program. In order to determine the effectiveness of the Public Outreach Program Element, a comprehensive assessment of the program data is conducted as part of the Annual Report. The results of this assessment are used to identify modifications that need to be made to the program. Each year the effectiveness assessment is reviewed and revised as necessary.

By conducting these assessments and modifying the Program Element as necessary, the Permittees ensure that the iterative process is used as an effective management tool. Due to the types of data collected for the Public Outreach Program, current and future assessments will primarily focus on Outcome Levels 1, 2, and 3.

- Outcome Level 1 (L1) answers the question: Did the Permittees implement the components of the Permit?
- Outcome Level 2 (L2) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard significantly increased the awareness of its target audience?
- Outcome Level 3 (L3) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard changed a target audience’s behavior, resulting in the implementation of recommended BMPs?

The following is an assessment regarding the effectiveness of the Public Outreach Program.

## **PO1 – Public Reporting**

The Permittees have identified staff to serve as contact persons for public reporting. (L1)

The Permittees maintain two types of public reporting hotlines, one for general stormwater information and the other for reporting water pollution problems. (L1)

The Permittees are promoting and publicizing the public reporting hotlines and contact information. The information is available on Permittee websites and is published in the government pages of the local phone book and other appropriate locations. (L1)

The Permittees are raising awareness about the public reporting hotline numbers. (L2)

## **PO2 – Public Outreach Implementation**

The Permittees have developed and are implementing the public outreach program that provides key stormwater messages. (L1)

Education of Ethnic Communities – The Permittees have developed and implemented a strategy to educate ethnic communities through culturally effective methods. The Permittees educated ethnic communities by reaching out to the Spanish language community in Ventura County via Spanish language advertising in the media. Elements of each campaign were created in Spanish, including transit shelters, wildboards and digital videos. In the 2020/21 Permit Year, Spanish language advertising accounted for over 2 million of the annual media impressions.

Storm Drain Inlet Markers and Signage – The Permittees have labeled or marked 99.9% of the storm drain inlets for the entire storm drain system and maintain the stencils/markers through the Public Agency Activities Program. In addition, 100% of the Permittees' public access points to creeks and channels have signage with language that discourages illegal dumping, this includes access points that are outside of Permittee jurisdiction.

Educational Materials – The Permittees have developed and are providing a variety of stormwater pollution prevention outreach materials, including those for specific pollutants and activities. The materials include pamphlets, brochures, animations, infographics, and BMP posters. These are provided via a number of mechanisms, including at community events, at specific businesses, utility billing inserts, social media, and the Countywide stormwater website ([cleanwatershed.org/](http://cleanwatershed.org/)). In addition, the Permittees distributed activity-specific stormwater pollution prevention educational materials to residents regarding the following activities: proper disposal of litter, green waste; pet waste; proper vehicle maintenance; lawn care; and water conservation practices.

Mixed Media Campaigns – The Countywide program has continued to work with their media consultant, Sagent, to develop and implement Ventura County's Community for a Clean Watershed campaigns. The Permittees have provided the public with various stormwater-related articles or messages via radio, print ads (including newspaper), signage on outdoor buses, wildboards and at transit shelters, online digital ads, website banners, and paid social media. During 2020/21 Permit Year, the Permittees conducted a comprehensive effort for approximately 18.5 million total impressions through mixed media campaigns.

Countywide Stormwater Website – The Permittees continue to maintain and utilize both websites ([cleanwatershed.org/](http://cleanwatershed.org/) and [vestormwater.org/](http://vestormwater.org/)) to provide regularly updated outreach to the public.

Community Events – The Permittees provided outreach to the general public by sponsoring, organizing, and/or exhibiting at multiple community events and providing information to event attendees. These events

included Coastal Cleanup Day; a total of 1,046 volunteers participated in a self-guided cleanup in September 2020, cleaning 147 miles and picking up an estimated 6,350 pounds of trash.

Pollutant-Specific Outreach – The Permittees are implementing a pollutant-specific outreach program rotating through trash, metals, urban pesticides, bacteria, and nutrients in coordination with multi-media campaigns and retail partnerships with auto shops, pet stores, and home improvement stores and nurseries. Pollutant-specific outreach materials have been distributed via these retail partnerships.

As a result of the above efforts, along with the individual efforts of the Permittees in 2020/21 Permit Year, an estimated total of over 25 million impressions were made, well exceeding the goal of five million stormwater quality impressions per year.

### **PO3 – Youth Outreach and Education**

The Program's efforts towards educated youth continued to build on previous year's outreach with the goal to reach 50% of all Ventura County school children (K-12) once every two years to comply with the NPDES Permit #CAS004002. Persons under 18 in Ventura County is 187,212, according to the 2018 Census Bureau, but many are under 5, with less than 145,000 school aged children enrolled in Ventura County schools, this translates to reaching approximately 75,000 in that target group every two years. School presentations via EcoHero virtual school assemblies reached 2,002 Ventura County elementary school students. The 2020/21 Permit Year youth targeted social media is estimated to have garnered 164,154 impressions. While that goal was met and exceeded during the last Permit year, the exact number of youth impressions are difficult to accurately quantify. The Program continues to speak to this important audience with a targeted media plan and a creative strategy that appeals to youth. In addition, the Facebook page has a sizeable percentage of young fans, and the Instagram account continues to gain young followers, allowing for a consistent message to be delivered to youth. (L2)

### **PO4 – Business Outreach**

On-site consultation to businesses are provided during inspections regarding their responsibility to reduce discharge of pollutants. Inspectors are also available for consultation via telephone and e-mail. (L1)

The Permittees distributed educational materials to specific businesses during inspections, when business licenses are obtained, and when problematic businesses are reported. In addition, information is made available on the Countywide website, and businesses are referred to the website as appropriate. (L1)

### **PO5 – Effectiveness Assessment**

The Ventura County Watershed Permittees are committed to tracking performance of their outreach efforts. To that end, periodic research surveys are conducted to measure awareness, perceptions, and actions taken by Ventura County residents to protect the local Watershed. The research also gives insight into whether outreach messaging is effective, along with providing some insight into local media preferences.

In order to establish a baseline of both our adult and K-12 target audiences' understanding of the watershed and surrounding stormwater pollution web surveys are routinely conducted, usually every other year for each target audience.

The research results indicate a clear connection between key outreach messages and increases in understanding and shifts in behavior/attitude. This supports continued use of new and traditional media to educate youth on watershed protection.

The results outlined above show that the Public Outreach program efforts have increased awareness among Ventura County residents regarding some key issues impacting the health of Ventura County’s watersheds. (L2) (L3)

### 3.6.3 Public Outreach Program Element Modifications

On an annual basis, the Permittees plan to evaluate the results of the Annual Report, as well as the experience that staff has had in implementing the program, to determine if any additional program modifications are necessary to comply with the Clean Water Act requirement to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the maximum extent practicable (MEP). Any key modifications made to the Public Outreach Program Element during the next fiscal year will be reported in the following Annual Report.



## 4 Industrial/Commercial Facilities Programs

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### 4.1 OVERVIEW

The purpose of the Industrial/Commercial Facilities Program Element is to effectively prohibit unauthorized non-stormwater discharges and reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff from industrial and commercial facilities to the maximum extent practicable (MEP).

The daily activities of many businesses create a potential for pollutants to enter a storm drain system through both intentional and unintentional actions. The Permittees have developed programs to address this source of pollutants through inspections of targeted businesses and by providing educational outreach and enforcement if needed. These efforts include information on the potential for illicit discharges and illegal connections from businesses, assistance in the selection and use of proper BMPs, and may result in formal enforcement action and fines if environmental directions are ignored.

The program for industrial and commercial facilities is accomplished by tracking, inspecting, and ensuring compliance at industrial and commercial facilities identified as critical sources of pollutants in stormwater. Industrial and commercial facilities are managed under a single Program Element due to the similarities among these types of facilities and the effort involved to implement the program.

The Permittees use the Business Outreach and Illicit Discharge/Illegal Connection Subcommittee meeting to coordinate and implement a comprehensive program to control pollutants in stormwater discharges to municipal systems from targeted commercial facilities. The Subcommittee is comprised of representatives of the Permittee cities and other municipal staff from various departments (e.g. Environmental Health, Environmental Services, and Wastewater Services). The subcommittee provides an opportunity for the Permittees to learn from each other's experiences, and to develop and share resources. Each Permittee has implemented an Industrial/Commercial Business Program using the control measures identified below.

### 4.2 CONTROL MEASURES

Several Control Measures and accompanying performance standards have been developed by the Permittees to ensure that the Industrial/Commercial Facilities Program requirements found in the Permit are met and provide information for optimizing the Program. At the end of this chapter these control measures are evaluated to determine the effectiveness of this program element.

The Industrial/Commercial Facilities Program Control Measures are organized to be parallel to the organization of the Permit and consist of the following:

*Table 4-1 Control Measures for the Industrial/Commercial Facilities Program Element*

IC	Control Measure
IC1	Facility Inventory
IC2	Inspection
IC3	Industrial/Commercial BMP Implementation
IC4	Enforcement
IC5	Training
IC6	Effectiveness Assessment

### 4.3 FACILITY INVENTORY (Control Measure IC1)

The Facility Inventory Control Measure addresses the need to develop and maintain a complete and comprehensive database of industrial and commercial facilities that are determined to be critical sources of stormwater pollution. Information for the database is primarily derived from new business licenses and sanitary sewer connection permits. Facility inspections performed by the Permittees also continues to provide the details needed for the database. Some Permittees perform surveys of the industrial zoned areas in their jurisdiction to help maintain their industrial facility inventory. This survey is usually associated with industrial waste pretreatment inspections required for agencies operating a wastewater collection system.

#### 4.3.1 Maintain and Annually Update the Industrial and Commercial Facility Inventory

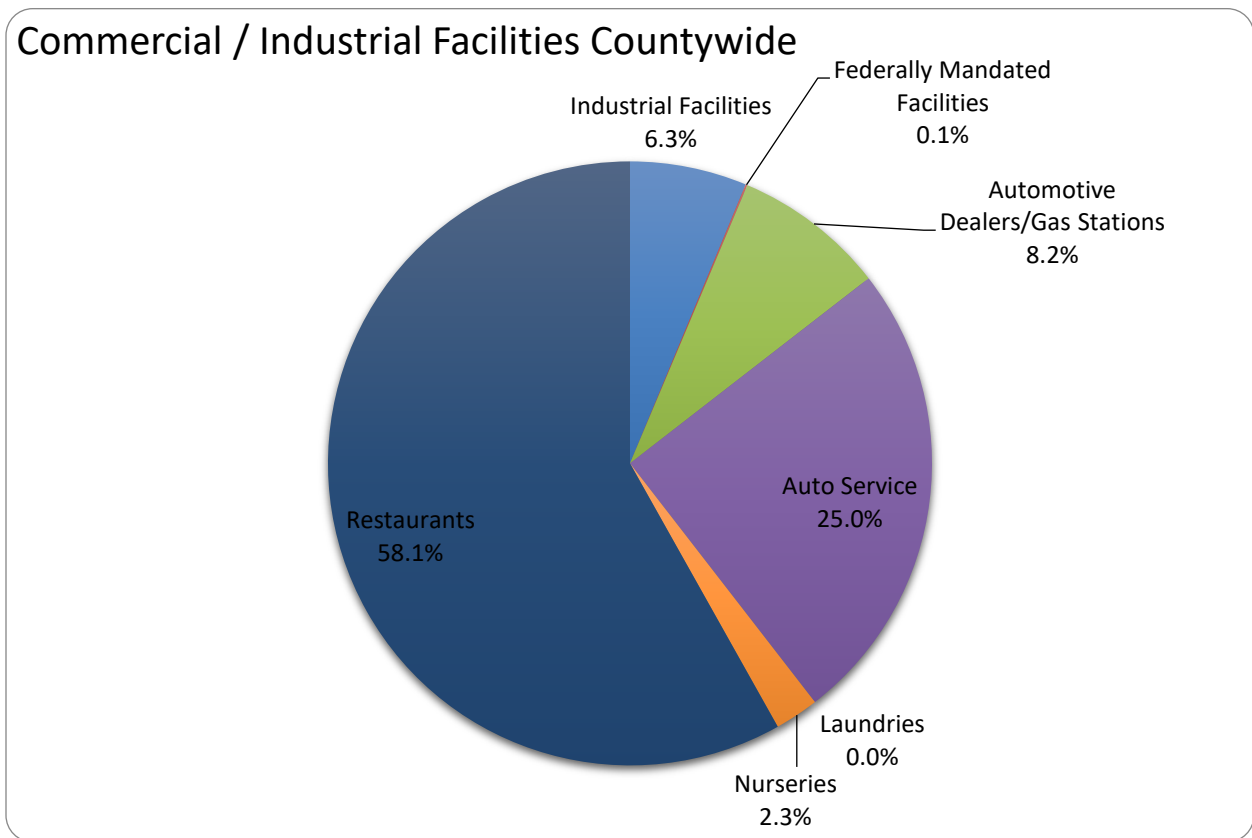
As required by the Permit, the Permittees maintain an inventory of industrial and commercial facilities within their jurisdictions, including those covered under the state Industrial General Permit. This inventory identifies the type of business, the watershed it is located in, and inspections and enforcement action history.

The Permittees supplement their inventory by utilizing data from County Environmental Health to obtain current facility numbers prior to planned inspections. The Regional Water Board's website and the Storm Water Multiple Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS) also provides useful information for all Industrial General Permit holders and is used extensively for that program. These data were first compiled during the 2009/10 reporting period and are updated on an ongoing basis as the next round of inspections discovers new facilities, as well as companies that are no longer in operation. Some businesses, such as restaurants, have a high turnover with many new ones opening each year and many permanently closing their doors. Because of the continued turnover of businesses, the Industrial and Commercial Inventory can never be assumed to be 100% accurate, it is a snapshot in time and is continually updated as information becomes available. The current development of inventory for 2020/21 is summarized in the following Tables.

#### *Performance Standard 4-1*

<b>Did the Permittees maintain and update the Industrial and Commercial Facility Inventory</b>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Camarillo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura County</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Fillmore</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Moorpark</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ojai</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Oxnard</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Port Hueneme</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Santa Paula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Simi Valley</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

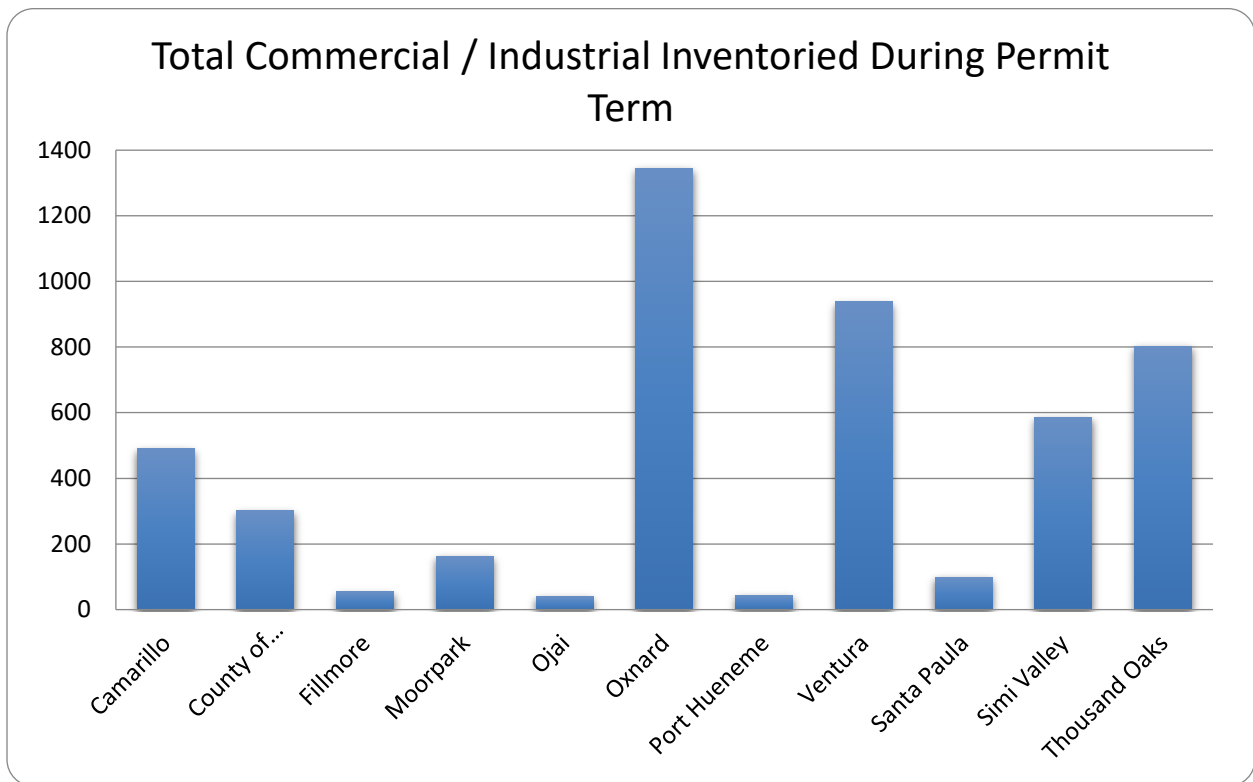
Figure 4-1 Commercial/Industrial Facilities Inventory



Materials stored in a covered shed with secondary containment

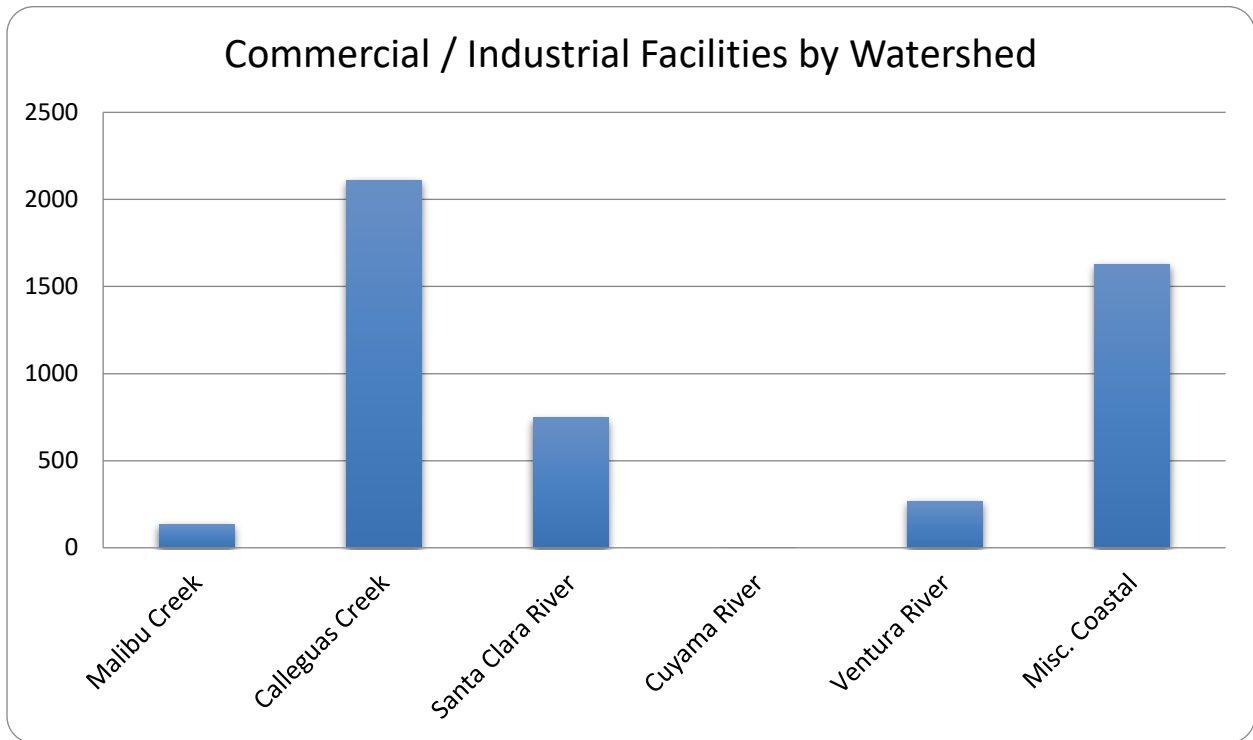


Figure 4-2 Commercial/Industrial Facilities by Permittee



An inspector reviews the Industrial Stormwater Permit requirements with the business manager

Figure 4-3 Commercial Industrial Facilities by Watershed



#### 4.4 INSPECT INDUSTRIAL AND COMMERCIAL FACILITIES TWICE DURING PERMIT TERM (Control Measure IC2)

To satisfy the requirement of inspecting these facilities twice during the Permit term the Permittees began their inspection of industrial and commercial facilities in the 2009/10 Permit year. With respect to industrial facilities, if the initial inspection revealed no risk of exposure of industrial activities to stormwater at a facility, then that facility may be categorized as *No Exposure Status*. Second inspections are required at a rate that provides annual re-inspection of a minimum of 20% of all such facilities determined to have non-exposure.

All initial industrial and commercial facility inspections must be completed no later than July 8, 2012. A minimum interval of six months between the first and second compliance inspection is required at all industrial and commercial facilities. It is possible that a site will be visited sooner than six months if requested by the Regional Board staff to assist with their investigations, or if an illicit discharge is suspected. The status of the industrial commercial inspection program through the end of the reporting period is represented in the following tables.

Figure 4-4 Industrial Stormwater General Permit Facilities Inventories

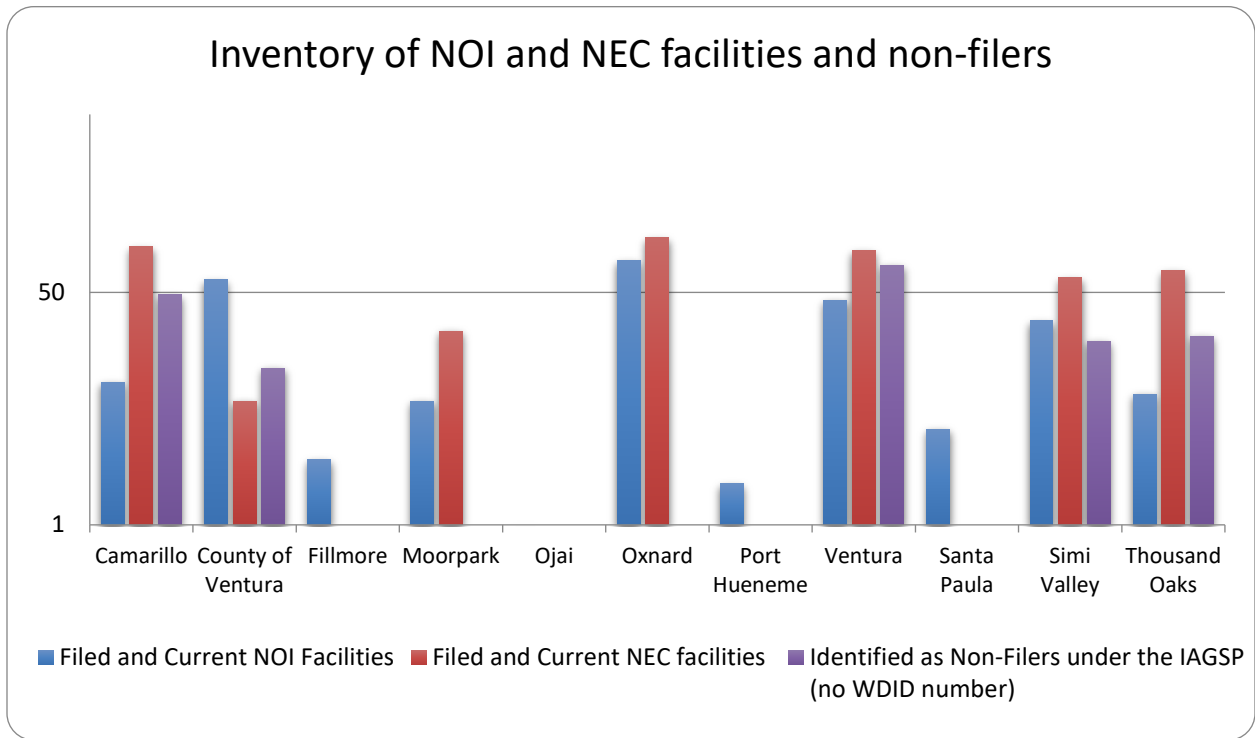


Figure 4-5 Industrial Facilities Filed as Non-Exposure

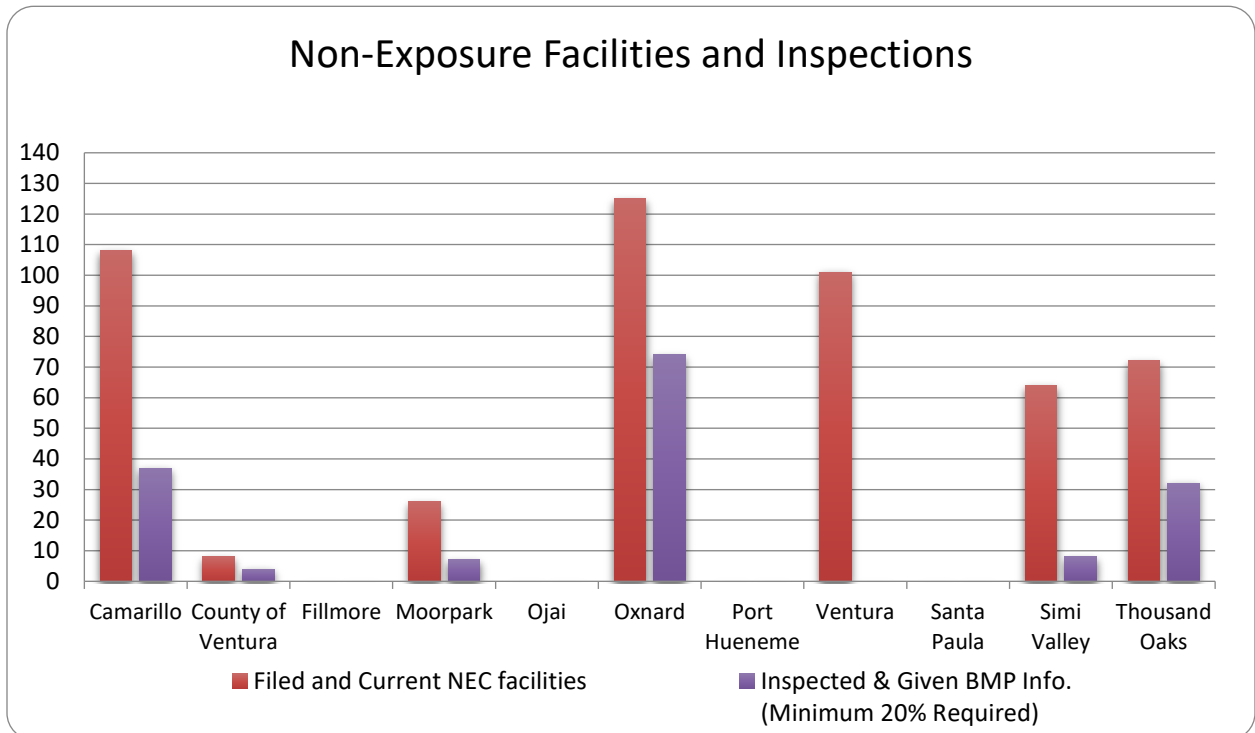
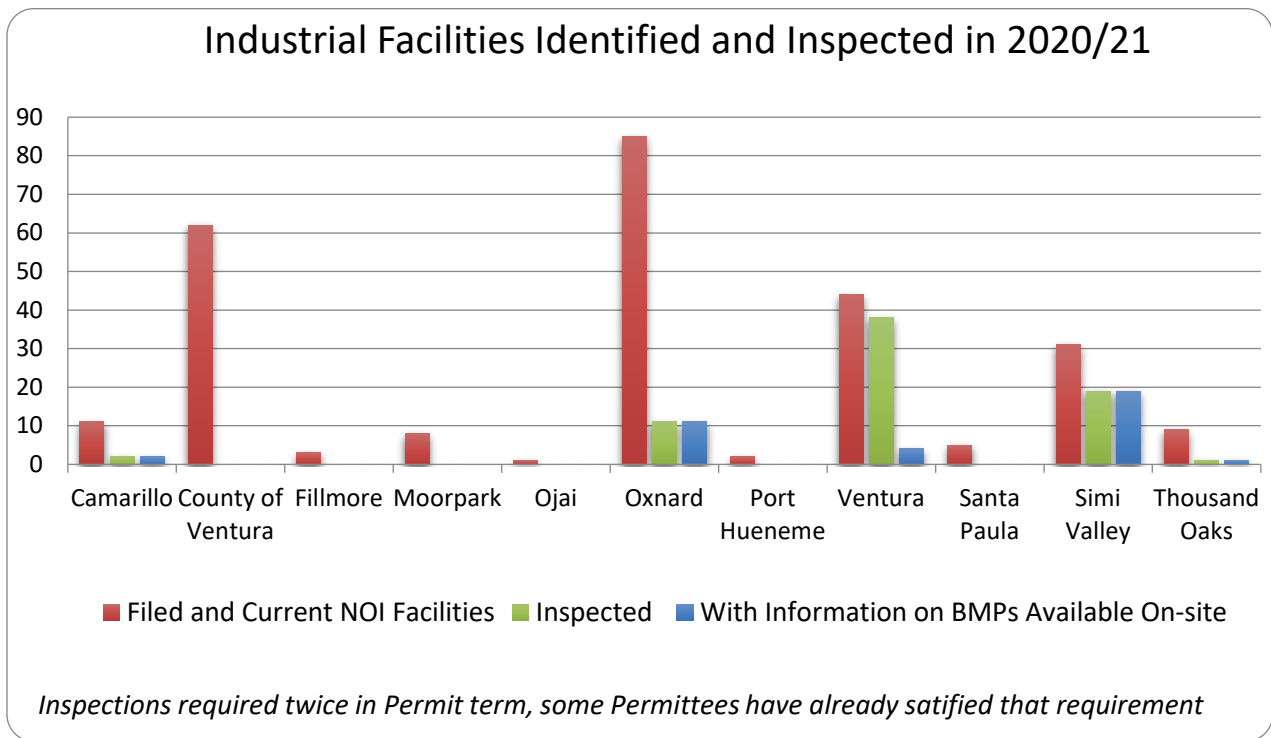


Figure 4-6 Industrial Facilities Inspections



Industrial Facilities includes U.S. EPA Phase I, II Facilities required to obtain coverage under the Industrial Activities Stormwater General Permit (IAGSP). These facilities are identified by either the Standard Industrial Classifications (SIC) or the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Facility ownership (federal, state, municipal, private) are not factors in this definition and so the inventory includes facilities such as the Naval Base Ventura County at Point Mugu.

The City of Ventura relies on numerous sources for identifying industrial and commercial facilities which may require inspection for stormwater permit compliance. Business licensing, water records, surveillance, phone book, newspaper ads and the internet provide a wide source list. Staff utilizes the State General Industrial Permit database to supplement and update the industrial business list. All initial "Critical Source" business inspections have been completed as well as second inspections for this permit cycle. The City has reviewed and continues to utilize the approved inspection checklists for inspections. The City provides BMP guidance materials to enhance clean business practices. Any business that does not meet

**STORMWATER INSPECTION CHECKLIST**  
INDUSTRIAL AND FEDERALLY MANDATED FACILITIES

**INSPECTION TYPE:**

INITIAL INSPECTION     2<sup>nd</sup> Inspection of Facilities with Exposure     2<sup>nd</sup> Inspection of NON-EXPOSURE FACILITIES (minimum 20% annually)

1<sup>st</sup> Follow-up after INITIAL INSPECTION     1<sup>st</sup> Follow-up after 2<sup>nd</sup> Inspection of Facilities with Exposure

2<sup>nd</sup> Follow-up after INITIAL INSPECTION     2<sup>nd</sup> Follow-up after 2<sup>nd</sup> Inspection of Facilities with Exposure     Complaint Response

INSPECTOR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ INSPECTION DATE & TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

FACILITY NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

FACILITY ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

FACILITY CONTACT NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

FACILITY CONTACT SIGNATURE (acknowledging receipt): \_\_\_\_\_

FACILITY'S SIC/NAICS CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ FACILITY CATEGORY: \_\_\_\_\_

STATUS OF EXPOSURE:  Exposed     No Exposure

THIS FACILITY IS COVERED UNDER:

Industrial Activities Stormwater General Permit (IAGSP) WQID # \_\_\_\_\_

Is SWPPP available on the site?  YES  NO  N/A

No Exposure Certification; the most recent re-certification date: \_\_\_\_\_

"Notice of Non-applicability" file date: \_\_\_\_\_

FACILITY IS LOCATED IN ONE OF THE FOLLOWING WATERSHEDS:

Calleguas Creek     Milibu Creek     Santa Clara River

Ventura River     Coyama River     Misc. Coastal

A. Brief Description of Facility Operations:		Yes	No	N/A
Does this facility discharge to MS4s that directly discharge to ESA's or 303(d) listed waterbodies? If YES, make a note if BMPs are sufficient or recommend additional BMPs				
Describe activities that have potential to pollute stormwater:				
BMP	Stormwater Management Criteria	Yes	No	N/A
SC-10	Unauthorized Non-stormwater discharges Are controls being implemented to eliminate non-stormwater discharges?			
SC-11	Accidental Spills/Leaks Is the facility effectively preventing and responding to spills and leaks?			

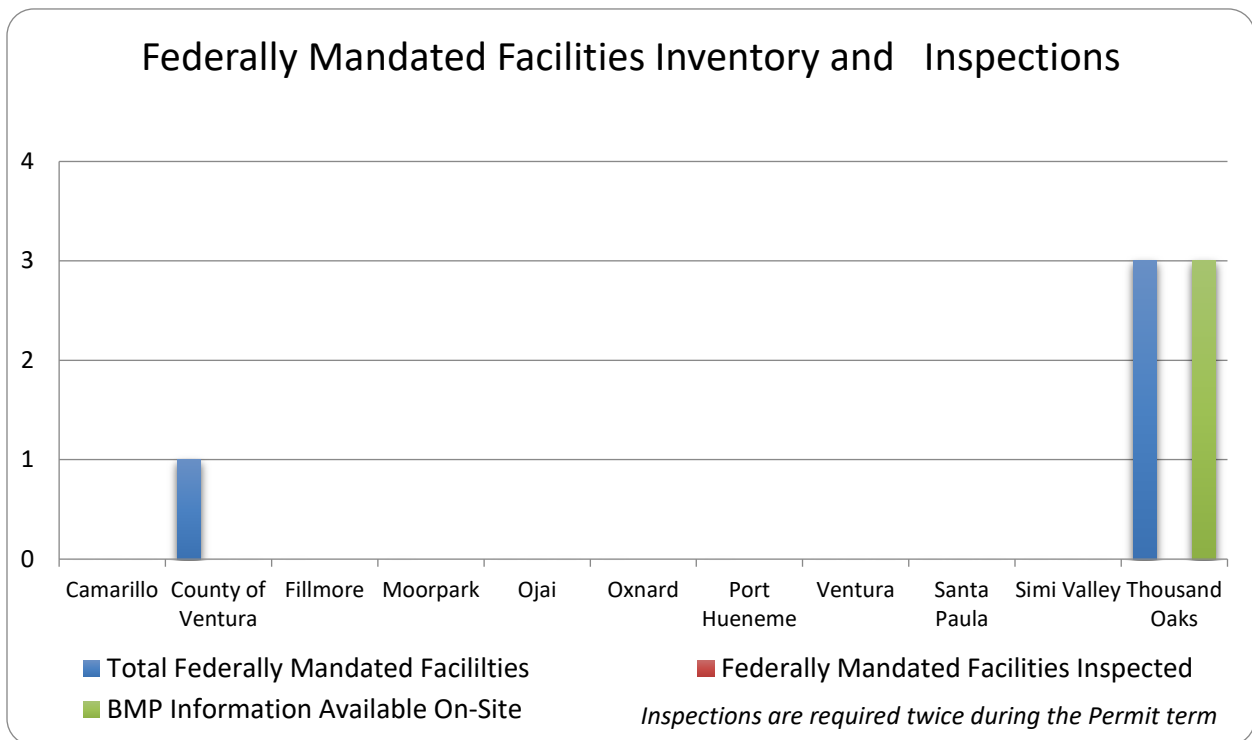
WATERWORKS    FOLLOW-UP    INITIALS  
Page 1 of 2    Industrial & Federally Mandated

Industrial facilities inspection form

compliance during inspection is issued corrective actions with possibility of follow-up inspection if warranted. Progressive enforcement begins when the initial order is not followed or ignored. All facilities met compliance initially or after corrective actions were taken. No referrals were made to the Regional Board.

The City of Simi Valley reported several non-filers to the SWRCB in 2017, six of those businesses have been assigned an WDID by the SWRCB and are listed as non-filers in the SMARTS system. There are currently 22 facilities operating within the City that have not filed an NEC or NOI and have not been reported to the RWQCB, the City of Simi Valley continues to actively work with these Industrial facilities. The COVID-19 health emergency hampered our inspections of these facilities. If compliance has not been achieved within the next few months, these facilities will be reported as Non-filers.

Figure 4-7 Federally Mandated Facilities Inventory and Inspections



Other Federally-mandated Facilities as specified in 40 CFR 122.26(d)(2)(iv)(C) are also required to obtain coverage under the IAGSP. Again, facility ownership (federal, state, municipal, private) and are not factors in this definition. Included in this category are:

- Municipal landfills
- Hazardous waste treatment, disposal, and recovery facilities

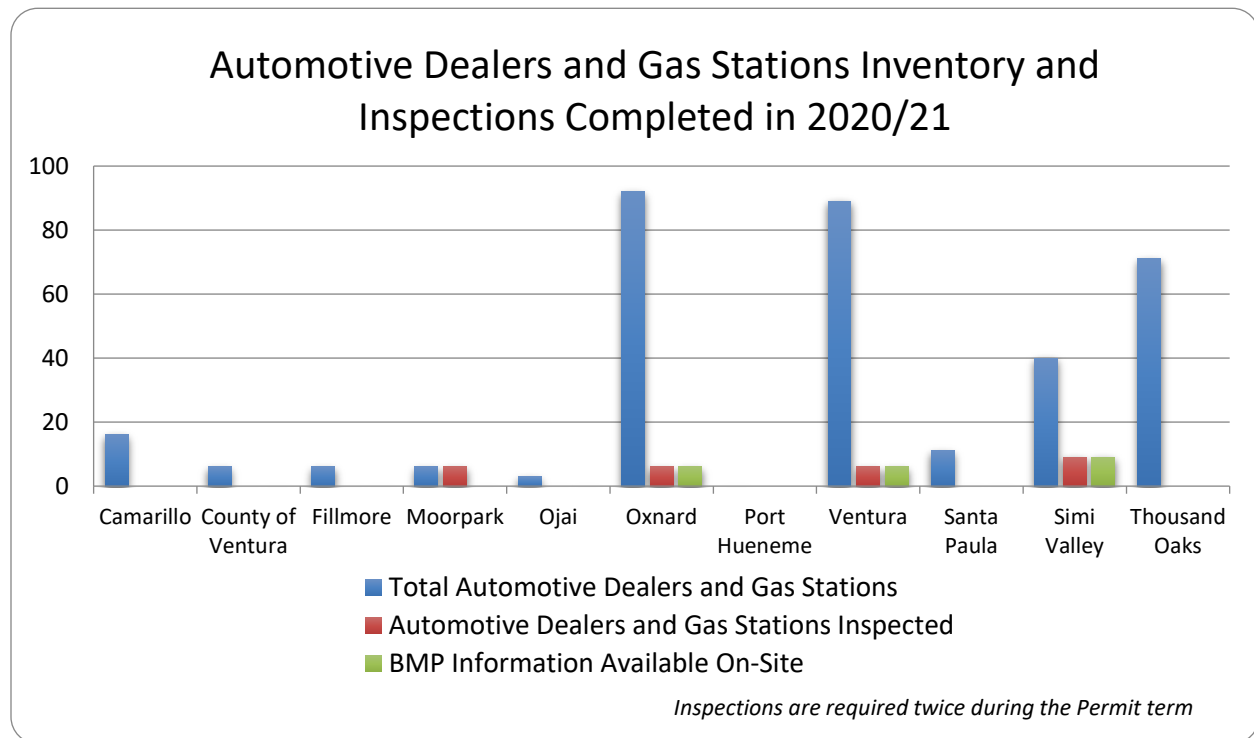
- Facilities subject to SARA Title III (also known as the Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (EPCRA))

Inspections are conducted at all automotive and gas station facilities even if these facilities do not have outdoor activities or storage that are exposed to stormwater. In addition, the Permittees have identified other facilities where engine oil is present and represents a potential threat to stormwater pollution, e.g., boat dealers, RV dealers, motorcycle dealers, etc. Facilities that are only inspected if they have outdoor activities or outside storage that are exposed to stormwater are auto parts stores and tire dealers.



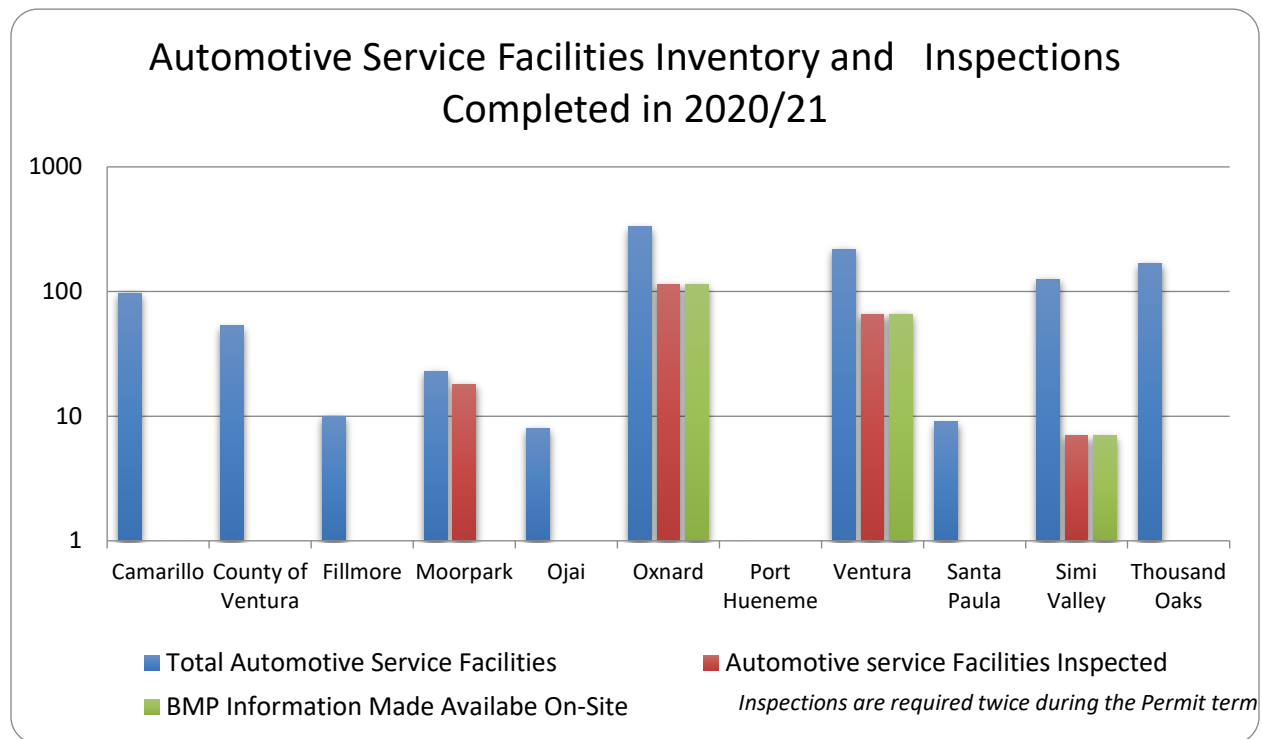
*An inspector reviews the findings of an inspection with the business manager*

*Figure 4-8 Automotive Dealers and Gas Stations Inventory and Inspections*



All automotive service facilities are included in the inventory for inspection, this category also includes motorcycle and boat repair if there is a potential for stormwater pollution.

Figure 4-9 Automotive Service Facilities Inventory and Inspections



The Permit includes requirements for the Permittees to confirm that nursery operators that are exposed to stormwater implement pollutant reduction and control measures with the objective of reducing pollutants in stormwater runoff discharges. “Nurseries” comprises establishments primarily engaged in the merchant wholesale distribution of flowers, florists' supplies, and/ or nursery stock (except plant seeds and plant bulbs). The industry in NAICS Code 444220 comprises establishments primarily engaged in retailing nursery and garden products, such as trees, shrubs, plants, seeds, bulbs, floriculture products and sod, which are predominantly grown elsewhere. These establishments may sell a limited amount of a product they grow themselves.

This is interpreted by the Permittees to not include stores that may have some plants or a small nursery section although it is not their primary business. Florists that specialize in cut flowers are also not included because their business and inventory is kept indoors. However, most Permittees have extended this to include the large home improvement centers due to the size of their nursery section.

Figure 4-10 Nursery Facilities Inventory and Inspections

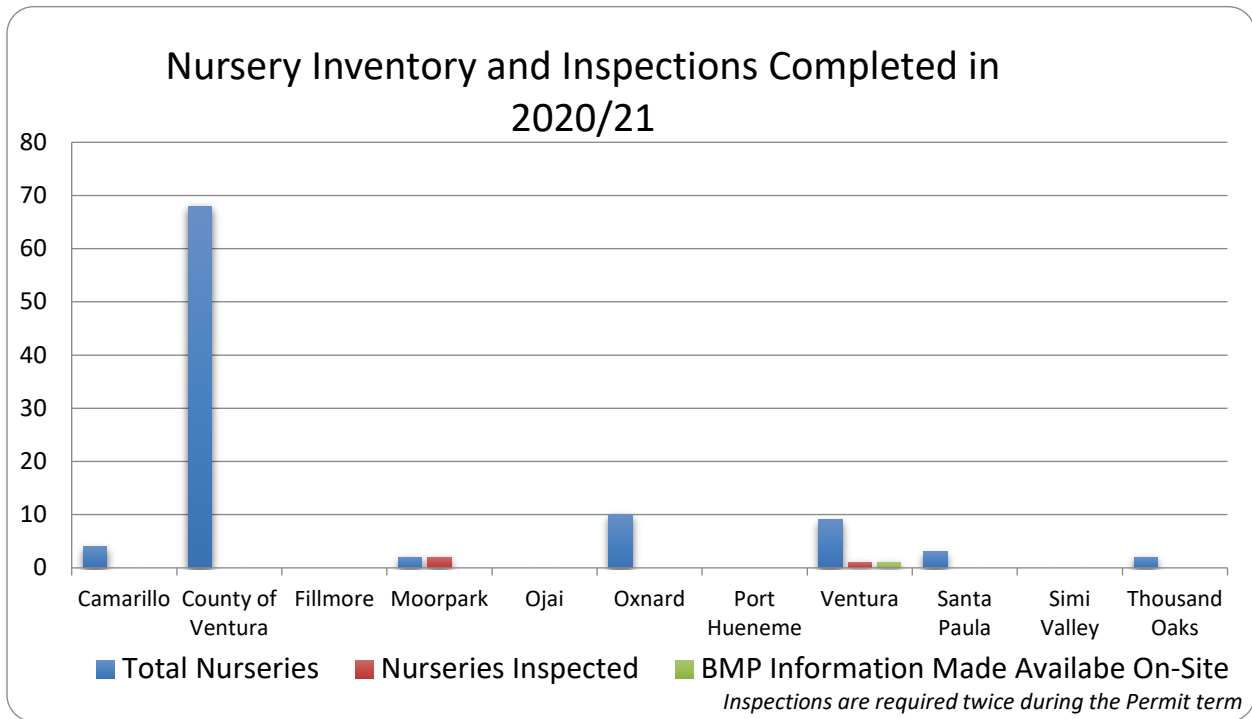
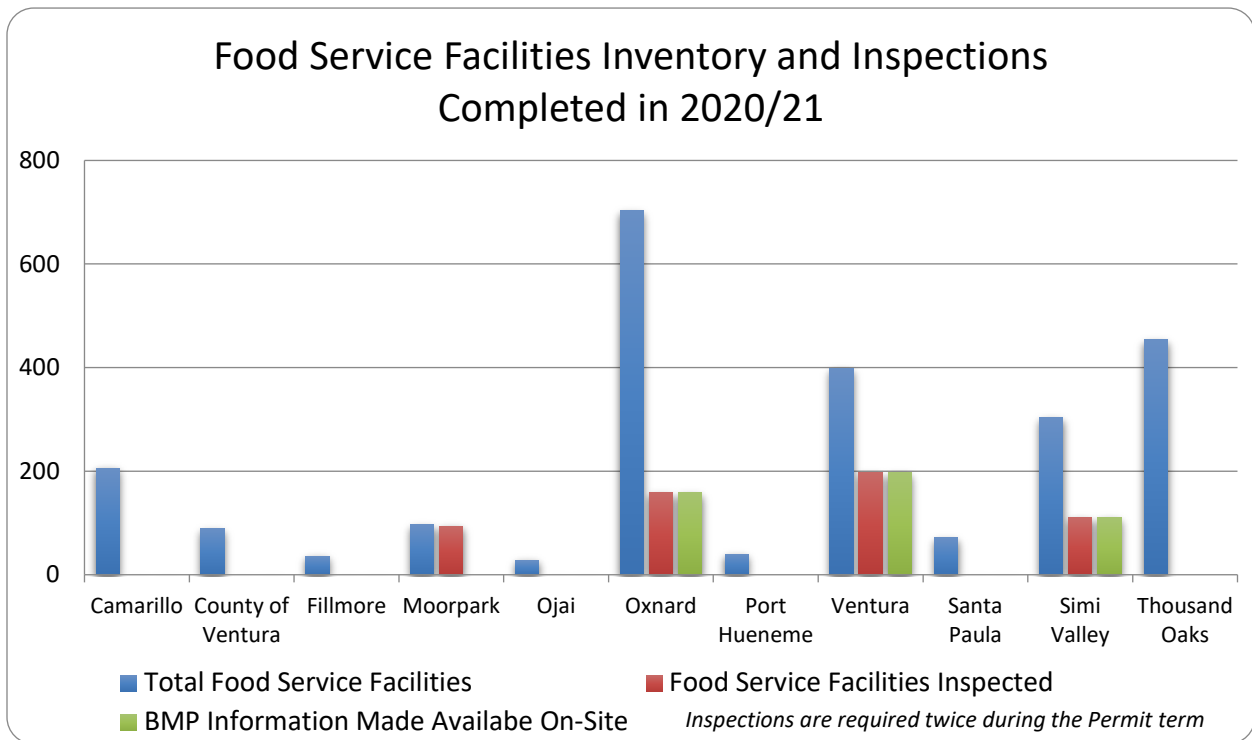


Figure 4-11 Food Service Facilities Inventory and Inspections





For the purposes of inventory and inspection the term food service facility means a facility that sells prepared foods and drinks for consumption, including stationary lunch counters and refreshment stands selling prepared foods and drinks for immediate consumption (SIC Code 5812). This will include supermarkets if they have a deli selling food which is prepared on-site, but will not include grocery stores, bakeries, and candy stores not engaged in food preparation.

#### 4.5 INSPECTIONS (Control Measure IC2)

The Inspection Control Measure establishes the inspection requirements associated with on-site visits. The inspections ensure that the facility operator is effectively implementing source control BMPs, is in compliance with municipal ordinances, has pertinent educational materials, and is not producing unauthorized non-stormwater discharges. Inspection of facilities covered under the IASGP also ensures that the operator has a current Waste Discharge Identification (WDID) number, a Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) is available on site, and the operator is effectively implementing BMPs. Stopping unauthorized discharges is the primary purpose of the inspections, however it is also just as important to educate businesses on proper disposal of wastes and other BMPs to prevent future discharges to the storm drain system. To accomplish this educational information is made available to businesses that do not immediately have it available for their staff.

##### 4.5.1 Inspections

The Permittees' municipal ordinances currently allow authorized officers to enter any property or building to perform inspections. On refusal to allow inspection by the owner, tenant, occupant, agent, or other responsible party, the Permittees may seek an Administrative Search Warrant. All the Permittees have or are reviewing their ordinances to determine if there is a need to strengthen their ability to perform inspections, as well as the enforcement tools at their disposal to bring an uncooperative business into compliance.

##### *Restaurant Inspection Checklist*

The vast majority of site visits performed were unannounced providing the inspectors with an honest look at daily activities of the facility. During these site visits, Permittee inspection staff would meet with the business owner/manager to review the objectives of the inspection. After performing a walk-through of the facility, inspection results were discussed with the business owner/manager. In the event a Permittee determined a facility's stormwater BMPs were insufficient, the Permittee provided their recommendations to the facility owner/manager. Source control BMPs were recommended as a first step in BMP implementation before requiring the facility to implement costly structural BMPs. In all cases, inspection staff informed facilities' owners/managers that BMP implementation does not guarantee compliance nor relieve them from additional regulations, and that it is their continued responsibility to ensure that pollutants do not escape the facility.

The City of Oxnard's Technical Services Program-Stormwater staff assembled inspection handouts which included general stormwater outreach information, BMP guidance, IASGP application materials and

contact information. TSP-SW staff maintained and updated an inventory spreadsheet of industrial and commercial facilities. Follow-up inspections were conducted as needed. In addition, TSP-SW staff conducted joint inspections with Oxnard Fire CUPA, Building and Engineering Services, and Code Compliance to ensure that environmental compliance was achieved.

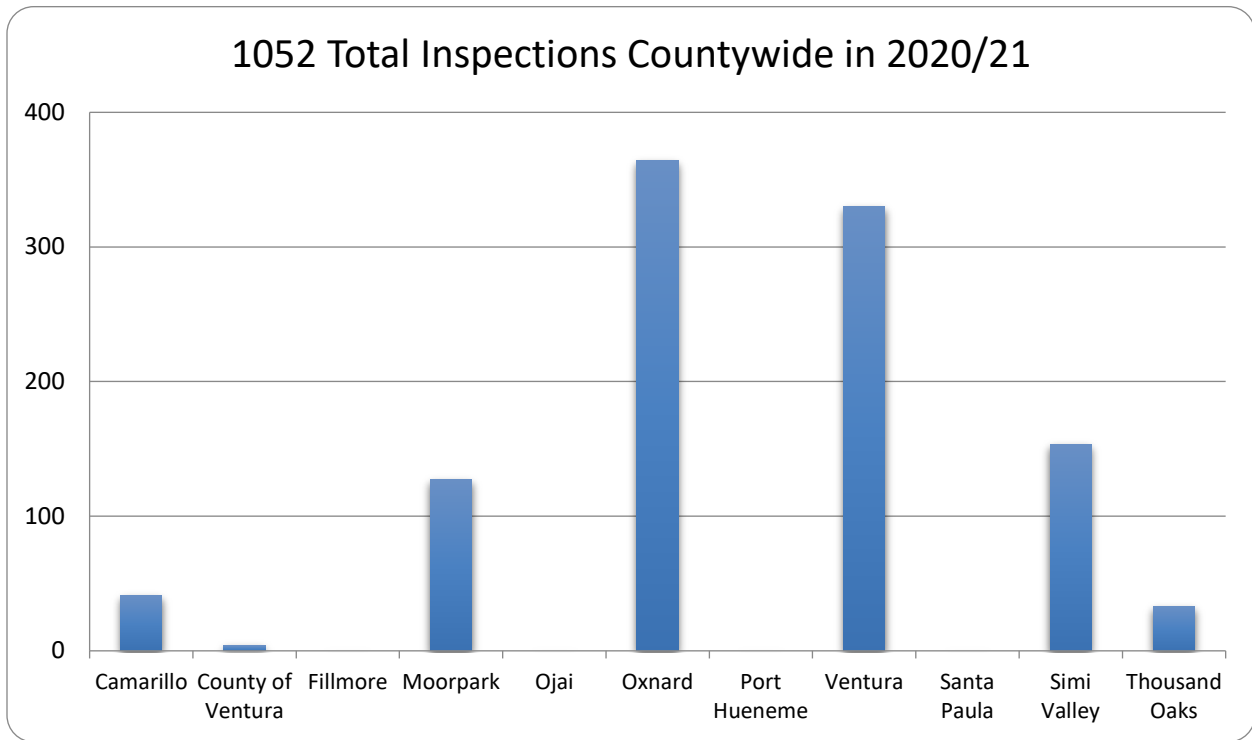
The City of Simi Valley utilizes a detailed database to track businesses operating within the City. New businesses are identified by reviewing the monthly report of new Business Tax Certificates. The new businesses are added to the database with their SIC and NAICS codes.

For the City of Ventura, new information identified in reporting year 2018-2019 found 169 businesses identified as possible non-filers to the Statewide General Industrial Permit. Due to SB205 implementation, many of the 169 identified potential non-filers have obtained coverage under the State General Industrial Stormwater Permit. Between July 1, 2018 and June 30, 2021 98 businesses enrolled in the State General Industrial Stormwater Permit. 49 businesses enrolled in the State General Industrial Stormwater Permit during reporting year 2020-2021. Additional businesses have enrolled in the State General Industrial Stormwater Permit after June 30, 2021, which are not included in this report. 31 business that required State General Industrial Stormwater Permit coverage were inspected and still require permit coverage

*Performance Standard 4-2*

<b>Review/revise the industrial inspection checklist to be consistent with the permit</b>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Camarillo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura County</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Fillmore</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Moorpark</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ojai</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Oxnard</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Port Hueneme</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Santa Paula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Simi Valley</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Figure 4-12 Total Inspections Countywide



**Review/Revise the Industrial Inspection and Commercial Business-Specific Checklists as Needed**

In order to ensure that the inspectors conduct thorough and consistent inspections, industrial and commercial checklists have been developed for different targeted businesses. Permittee industrial inspectors receive proper training to adequately assess facilities and offer assistance in suggesting remedies. County and municipal ordinances with support from City Attorney’s and County Counsel offices also provide the proper legal backing for inspections and any necessary enforcement. Checklists are periodically updated as necessary to ensure that they provide an adequate and sufficiently comprehensive basis upon which to conduct inspections. Currently, the Program has inspection checklists for general industry, restaurants, automobile related businesses, nurseries, and laundries. Examples of the checklists are included as Attachment A.

*Performance Standard 4-3*

Conduct follow-up inspections as necessary			
	Yes	No	N/A
<i>Camarillo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>County of Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Fillmore</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Moorpark</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Ojai</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Oxnard</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Port Hueneme</i>			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<i>Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Santa Paula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Simi Valley</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Performance Standard 4-4

<b>Review/revise the industrial inspection checklist to be consistent with the permit</b>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Camarillo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>County of Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Fillmore</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Moorpark</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ojai</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Oxnard</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Port Hueneme</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Santa Paula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Simi Valley</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Performance Standard 4-5

<b>Review/revise the commercial business-specific checklists to be consistent with the permit</b>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Camarillo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>County of Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Fillmore</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Moorpark</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ojai</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Oxnard</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Port Hueneme</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Santa Paula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Simi Valley</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

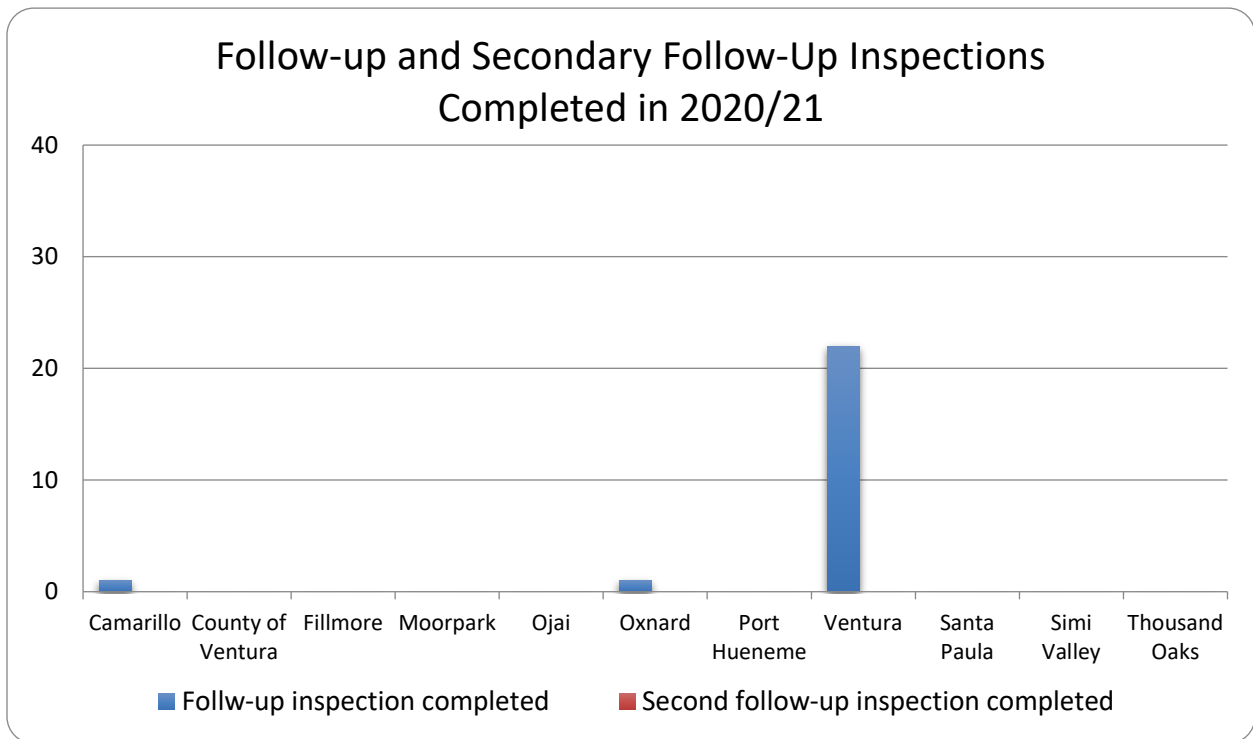
**Conduct Follow-up Inspections as Necessary**

Whenever the Permittee determined that an operator had failed to adequately implement all necessary BMPs as required by the Permit, or otherwise were deemed out of compliance, the Permittee engaged in progressive enforcement action. If the facility can be brought into compliance while the inspector is still on-site a follow-up inspection is not deemed necessary. All other facilities that failed to implement all necessary BMPs were advised there would be follow-up visits. The Permit requires that re-inspection occurs within four weeks of the initial inspection. Follow-up visits may be scheduled,

especially if the facility operator is difficult to get a hold of, but for the majority of businesses the follow-up inspections are unannounced surprise inspections. If continued stormwater violations were found progressive enforcement actions were initiated, and another visit was scheduled if necessary. Enforcement actions may include any of the following: Warning Notice, Notice of Violation(s), Administrative Civil Liability actions, and monetary fines. These actions are described in detail and reported in Section 8 - Programs for Illicit Discharges.



Figure 4-13 Follow-up and Secondary Inspections



The number of required Initial Follow-Up Inspections and Secondary Follow-Up Inspections can be seen by Permittee in Figure 4-13 Follow-up and Secondary Inspections.

#### 4.6 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL BMP IMPLEMENTATION (Control Measure IC3)

The Industrial/Commercial BMP Implementation Control Measure requires industrial and commercial businesses to reduce pollutants in stormwater discharges and cease any unauthorized non-stormwater discharges to the storm drain system. Although the Permittees may provide guidance to facility operators

on appropriate Source and Treatment Control BMP selection and application, the selection of specific BMPs to be implemented is the responsibility of the discharger. The Permittees developed business specific guidance (fact sheets) that is updated as necessary to reflect new requirements and/or knowledge.

#### 4.6.1 BMP Fact Sheets and Selection

In order to assist the industrial and commercial facilities in selecting and implementing the appropriate types of BMPs, the Permittees developed BMP Fact Sheets for industrial and commercial businesses. The BMP Fact Sheets are distributed during the inspections and made available on the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program's website at the following address:

<http://www.vcstormwater.org/index.php/publications/fact-sheets>

The most recent updated BMP fact sheets included:

- Building and Grounds Maintenance.
- Pool and Spa Maintenance.
- Commercial Pesticide Application.
- Mobile Cleaning Services.
- Mobile Auto Detailing and Charity Car Wash Events, and
- Building Repair and Remodeling.

These have been added to the library of fact sheets the Program has already developed for automotive service facilities, RGOs, and nurseries

#### 4.6.2 Distribute BMP Fact Sheets during Inspections

The Permittees distribute BMP Fact Sheets to facility owners/operators as a part of the inspection process. The development and distribution of these fact sheets, along with the inspection program where inspectors meet with the local facility managers about stormwater regulations and BMPs also serves to meet the Permit requirement for Corporate Outreach under the Public Information and Participation Program.

### 4.7 ENFORCEMENT (Control Measure IC4)

The Enforcement Control Measure outlines the progressive levels of enforcement applied to industrial and commercial facilities that are out of compliance with County and municipal ordinances and establishes the protocol for referring apparent violations of facilities subject to the Industrial Activities Storm Water General Permit to the Regional Water Board. The Enforcement Control Measure has been developed to address specific legal authority issues related to industrial and commercial facility discharges and should



*Fact Sheet for Mobile Cleaning Services*

be implemented in coordination with the Permittees' efforts to maintain adequate legal authority for the Stormwater Program in general.

#### 4.7.1 Implement the Progressive Enforcement and Referral Policy

The Permittees have a progressive enforcement and referral policy so that the enforcement actions match the severity of a violation and include distinct, progressive steps initiated to bring a facility into compliance. Options are available for progressive corrective actions for repeat offenders. Inspections are performed to assess compliance with municipal stormwater ordinances and any noncompliance is managed through the enforcement policy. Noncompliance may include failure to implement adequate source control or structural BMPs, or other violations of County and municipal ordinances.

The Permittees' facility inventory contains an "inspection findings" data field for comments pertaining to the specific facility. If there is an unsatisfactory inspection, then a comment is made in this data field and the facility is marked for re-inspection within four weeks of the date of initial unsatisfactory inspection. Past experience with facilities has shown that facility operators are cooperative and willing to bring facilities into compliance.

The Permittees  
identified 187  
non-filers under  
the Industrial  
General Permit.

During this permit year, some of the permittees provided outreach to the facilities that were determined as having no exposure under the 2015 IGP on the requirements of the General Industrial Permit that took effect July 1, 2015. As a result of that outreach, several of the no exposure facilities have submitted No Exposure Certifications (NECs) to the State Board. An example of a form letter sent to facilities under the Industrial Activities General Permit is included in Attachment A.

#### Implementation of Referral Policy

As a means to enhance interagency coordination, the Permittees may refer industrial business violations of County and/or municipal stormwater ordinances and California Water Code §13260 to the Regional Water Board, provided that Permittees have made a good faith effort of progressive enforcement under applicable stormwater ordinances. Referral to the Regional Water Board is required so that they can enforce the conditions of their permit on non-compliant industries. Every effort is taken at the local level to achieve compliance before referring a facility, including using the threat of calling in the Regional Board and their ability to levy hefty fines. It is possible that the Regional Board would be notified immediately if very egregious problems were discovered at a site covered by the Industrial Activities Stormwater General Permit (IASGP). At a minimum the Permit requires Permittees provide a good faith effort to bring a facility into compliance, which must be documented with:

- Two follow-up inspections
- Two warning letters or notices of violation

For those facilities in violation of municipal ordinances and subject to the IASGP, the Permittees may escalate referral of such violations to the Regional Water Board after one inspection and one written notice (copied to the Regional Water Board) to the operator regarding the violation. This is up to the discretion of the Permittee and is only likely to be used in cases where there is a severe discharge causing or contributing to a water quality exceedance.

Such referrals are filed electronically with the Regional Water Board for any inspection that led to a notice of violation or the discovery of a non-filer. In making such referrals, Permittees are required to include at a minimum the following information in their referral:

1. Name of facility
2. Operator of facility
3. Owner of facility
4. WDID number (if applicable)
5. Industrial activity being conducted at the facility that is subject to the IASGP
6. Records of communication with the facility operator regarding the violation, which shall include at least an inspection report
7. The written notice of the violation copied to the Regional Water Board

Implement a progressive enforcement policy			
	Yes	No	N/A
<i>Camarillo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura County</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Fillmore</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Moorpark</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ojai</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Oxnard</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Port Hueneme</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Santa Paula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Simi Valley</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

In Permit Year 2020/21, 65 industrial facilities were referred to the Regional Board after the Permittees provided a good faith effort to bring the facilities into compliance and documented those efforts. In many other cases the Permittees were able to gain compliance through a progressive enforcement program. Thirty industrial facilities were brought into compliance following progressive enforcement, which included sending two NOV letters to those facilities that were required to take out coverage under the Industrial Stormwater Permit. An example of an NOV letter is included in Attachment A.

### Investigation of Complaints Transmitted by Regional Water Board

On occasion, Regional Board staff will receive information on an industry within a Permittee’s jurisdiction that needs to be investigated in a timely manner. The Permittees implement procedures for responding to complaints forwarded by the Regional Water Board to ensure initiation of inspections within one business day. Permittees may comply by taking initial steps (such as logging, prioritizing, and tasking) to “initiate” the investigation within one business day. However, the Regional Water Board expects that the initial investigation, including a site visit, would occur within four business days. Complaint-initiated inspections include, at a minimum, a limited inspection of the facility to confirm the complaint, to determine if the facility is effectively complying with municipal stormwater urban runoff ordinances and, if necessary, to initiate corrective action.

The Permittees have (and will continue to) work closely with the Regional Water Board when a facility is identified as requiring a compliance inspection.

Table 4-2 Complaints Transmitted by Regional Water Board for Investigation by Permittees

Facility Category	Nature of Complaint	Confirmation of Complaint	Permittee Assistance and/or Corrective Action
<i>Industrial</i>			



None			
<i>Other Federally-Mandated Facilities</i>			
None			

#### 4.7.2 Task Force Participation

The Permittees participate in an interagency workgroup, such as the Environmental Crimes Task Force or the Storm Water Task Force, as a means to communicate information and concerns regarding stormwater enforcement actions undertaken by the Permittees. Participation in such a workgroup should facilitate communication of special cases of stormwater violations and address a coordinated approach to enforcement action.

The Ventura County Stormwater Program and Permittees, including different divisions such as CUPA or County Environmental Health, participate on the Ventura County Environmental Crimes Task Force. This task force is led by the District Attorney’s office and includes representatives from different environmental agencies including the Ventura Air Pollution Control District, California EPA, Federal EPA and the FBI. The purpose is to work together to share sensitive information on enforcement activities to increase the chances of eliminating the problem.

#### 4.8 TRAINING (Control Measure IC5)

The Training Control Measure is important for the implementation of the Industrial/Commercial Program Element. An effective training program is one of the best pollution prevention BMPs that can be implemented because it provides for consistency in inspections and enforcement, gives the inspector the ability to respond to a variety of situations and questions, and ultimately encourages the inspectors to initiate behavioral changes that are fundamentally necessary to protect water quality.

Each Permittee identified inspection staff and other personnel for training based on the type of stormwater quality management and pollution issues that they might encounter during the performance of their regular inspections or daily activities. Targeted staff may include those who perform inspection activities as part of the HAZMAT and wastewater pretreatment programs as well as staff who may respond to questions from the public or industrial/commercial businesses, such as those working with business licenses.

Staff was trained in a manner that provided adequate knowledge for effective business inspections, enforcement, and answering questions from the public or industrial/commercial operators. Training included a variety of forums, ranging from informal “tailgate” meetings to formal classroom training and self-guided training methods, including online methods. When appropriate, staff training included information about the prevention, detection, and investigation of illicit connections and illegal discharges (IC/ID). See **Section 8** for more information regarding IC/ID training.

Figure 4-14 Business and Industrial Facilities Inspections Training depicts the number of staff trained in the program area for each Permittee. Some agencies contract out their inspections to trained consultants and therefore did not target any of their employees. During this reporting period, the Permittees trained 36 inspection staff in stormwater pollution prevention.

Performance Standard 4-7

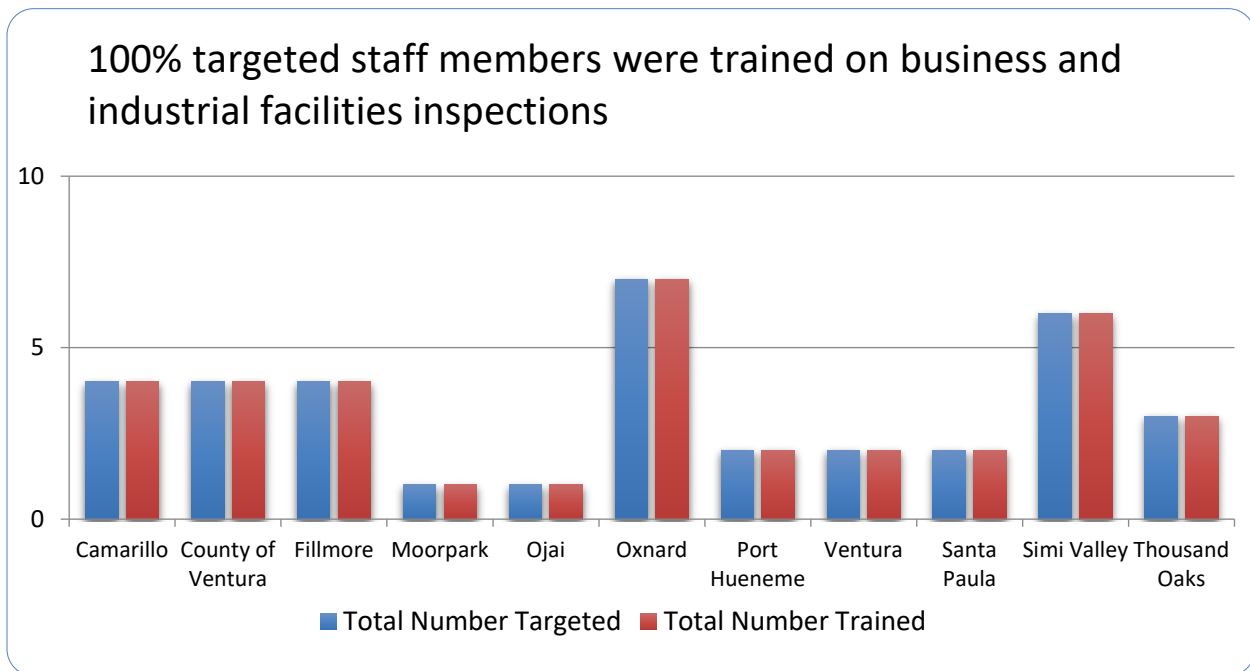
<b>Conduct training for key staff involved in the Business Inspection program</b>			
	<i>Yes</i>	<i>No</i>	<i>N/A</i>
<i>Camarillo</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura County</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Fillmore</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Moorpark</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ojai</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Oxnard</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Port Hueneme</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Ventura</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Santa Paula</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Simi Valley</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
<i>Thousand Oaks</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



Industrial/Commercial Program Element

<b>Target Audience</b>	<b>Format</b>	<b>Subject Material</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Industrial/Commercial inspectors</li> <li>• County Health restaurant inspectors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classroom</li> <li>• Field Demos</li> <li>• Video</li> <li>• Online</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of stormwater management program</li> <li>• Stormwater ordinance and enforcement policy</li> <li>• BMPs for facilities</li> <li>• Facility inventory tracking</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training seminars or workshops related to the program may be made available by other organizations</li> </ul>

Figure 4-14 Business and Industrial Facilities Inspections Training



#### 4.9 EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT – IC6

Effectiveness assessment is a fundamental component required for the development and implementation of a successful stormwater program. In order to determine the effectiveness of the Industrial/Commercial Facility Program Element, a comprehensive assessment of the program data is conducted as part of the Annual Report. The results of this assessment are used to identify modifications that need to be made to the Program Element. Each year the effectiveness assessment is reviewed and revised as necessary.

By conducting these assessments and modifying the Program Element as necessary, the Permittees ensure that the iterative process is used as an effective management tool. Due to the types of data collected for the Industrial/Commercial Facility Program, current and future assessments will primarily focus on Outcome Levels 1 and 2 though behavior changes that can be seen as a reduction in discharges is observed and the need for enforcement drops.

- Outcome Level 1 (L1) answers the question: Did the Permittees implement the components of the Permit?
- Outcome Level 2 (L2) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard significantly increased the awareness of its target audience?
- Outcome Level 3 (L3) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard changed a target audience’s behavior, resulting in the implementation of recommended BMPs?

The following is an assessment regarding the effectiveness of the Industrial/ Commercial Program.

##### 4.9.1 Facility Inventory Maintain and Annual Update Inventory

All Permittees maintain an inventory of industrial and commercial facilities. Permittees completed all initial inspections by July 8, 2012 and inspecting facilities twice during the Permit term. Initially inspections

focused on industrial facilities, auto dealers, auto service shops, laundry facilities, nurseries, and restaurants. (L1)

#### 4.9.2 **Inspection**

Initial and second inspections were completed prior to this reporting year. Some Permittees initiated inspections beyond permit requirements and continued them through the 2020/21 period. (L1) Permittees conducted 24 follow-up inspections when needed to ensure compliance. Since the Permit adoption over 14,200 inspections were conducted Countywide (L2).

The Permittees have reviewed and revised their inspection checklists, as necessary to be consistent with the Permit. (L1)

#### 4.9.3 **Industrial/Commercial BMP Implementation**

##### **BMP Fact Sheets and Selection**

Industrial and commercial BMP Fact Sheets were developed and are available at the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program website. (L1)

##### **Distribute BMP Fact Sheets**

Permittees that have initiated an inspection program distribute fact sheets as part of the inspection process. (L1)

#### 4.9.4 **Enforcement**

##### **Implement Progress Enforcement and Referral Policy**

The Permittees have a progressive enforcement and referral policy so that enforcement actions match the severity of a violation and include distinct, progressive steps introduced to bring a facility into compliance. (L1)

##### **Implementation of Industrial Referral Policy**

All Permittees may refer industrial business violations to the Regional Water Board provided that Permittees have made a good faith effort of progressive enforcement. (L1)

##### **Investigation of Complaints Transmitted by Regional Water Board**

The Permittees implement procedures for responding to complaints forwarded by the Regional Water Board to ensure initiation of inspections within one business day. (L1)

##### **Task Force Participation**

The Permittees participate in an interagency workgroup, such as the Environmental Task Force or the Storm Water Task Force, as a means to communicate information and concerns regarding stormwater enforcement actions undertaken by the Permittees. (L1)

#### 4.9.5 Training

During this reporting period, the Permittees trained 36 staff in business inspections and enforcement. Permittees effectively trained 100% of targeted staff. (L1)

#### 4.9 INDUSTRIAL/COMMERCIAL PROGRAM ELEMENT MODIFICATIONS

On an ongoing basis, the Permittees evaluate the experience that staff has had in implementing the program and the results of the Annual Report to determine if any additional program modifications are necessary to comply with the Clean Water Act requirement to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP.

Many key modifications have been made to the Industrial/Commercial Program Element since the adoption of the Permit. Key modifications that have been made are utilization of electronic inspection forms in the field, tracking facilities by watershed, implementing a self-certification process when obtaining a business license, an expanded list of businesses and industries that are tracked, and clearly defining how to identify those businesses and industries. Future efforts may look into the inspections or outreach to the owners of multi-tenant commercial retail areas with common trash areas.

## 5 Planning and Land Development

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### 5.1 OVERVIEW

The addition of impervious areas in the development of homes, industrial and commercial areas, parking lots, and streets and roads increase the amount of stormwater runoff, as well as the potential for pollution. The Planning and Land Development Program Element ensures that the impacts on stormwater quality from new development and redevelopment are limited through implementation of general site design measures, site-specific source control measures, low impact development strategies, and treatment control measures. The general strategy for development is to avoid, minimize, and mitigate (in that order) the potential adverse impacts to stormwater. The potential for long-term stormwater impacts from development is also controlled by requiring ongoing operation and maintenance of post-construction treatment controls.

The Permittees have developed and implemented a Program for Planning and Land Development to address stormwater quality in the planning and design of development and redevelopment projects. The term “development project” as used in this Program encompasses those projects subject to a planning and permitting review/process by a Permittee. A development project includes any construction, rehabilitation, redevelopment, or reconstruction of any public and private residential project, industrial, commercial, retail, and other non-residential projects, including qualifying public agency projects.

To help meet the goals and objectives of the Program, the Permittees attend Planning and Land Development Subcommittee meetings to coordinate and implement a comprehensive and consistent program to mitigate impacts on water quality from development projects to the MEP. However, the Permittees may modify their programs to address particular issues, concerns, or unique constraints to a watershed such as local geology or known water quality impairments.

### 5.2 CONTROL MEASURES

The Permittees have developed several Control Measures and accompanying performance standards to ensure that the planning and land development program requirements are effectively developed and implemented. For each Control Measure there are accompanying performance standards which, once accomplished, constitute compliance with the Permit requirements. The Planning and Land Development Program Control Measures consists of the following:

*Table 5-1 Control Measures for the Planning and Land Development Program Element*

<b>LD</b>	<b>Control Measure</b>
LD1	State Statute Conformity
LD2	New Development/ Redevelopment Performance Criteria
LD3	Plan Review and Approval Process
LD4	Maintenance Agreement and Transfer
LD5	Tracking, Inspection and Enforcement
LD6	Training
LD7	Effectiveness Assessment

### 5.3 STATE STATUTE CONFORMITY (CONTROL MEASURE LD1)

Traditional methods of land development can lead to increased stormwater discharge volumes and flow velocities. These alterations to the natural hydrologic regime may reduce infiltration to groundwater, and increase erosion and flooding as well as decrease habitat integrity. Water quality and watershed protection principles and policies such as minimization of impervious areas, pollutant source controls, preservation of natural areas, and peak runoff controls can help to minimize the impacts of urban development on the local hydrology and aquatic environment. Integration of stormwater quality and watershed principles into the Permittees' general conditions serve as the basis for directing future planning and development in order to minimize these adverse effects. In addition, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process provides for consideration of water quality impacts and appropriate mitigation measures.

#### 5.3.1 Review/Revise CEQA Review Documents

The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) sets forth requirements for the processing and environmental review of many projects. The Permittees use the CEQA process and review as an excellent opportunity to address stormwater quality issues related to proposed projects early in the planning stages. The National Environmental Quality Act (NEPA) comes into play less often than CEQA but may be included for projects involving federal funding. Like CEQA, NEPA process and review provides opportunities to address stormwater quality issues related to proposed projects early in the planning stages. The CEQA review process is necessary for determining what impacts a proposed development project could have on the environment. The Permittees' current CEQA review process includes procedures for considering potential stormwater quality impacts and providing for appropriate mitigation. Permittees will review and revise the CEQA review documents as needed for consistency with the new Permit.

Each Permittee has reviewed their internal planning procedures for preparing and reviewing CEQA (and NEPA when applicable) documents and has linked stormwater quality mitigation conditions to legal discretionary project approvals. When appropriate, the Permittees consider stormwater quality issues when processing environmental checklists, initial studies, and environmental impact reports. The Permit required that stormwater controls be incorporated into the Permittees CEQA process by July 8, 2011; the Permittees have been successful in meeting that obligation.

#### 5.3.2 Revise the General Plan

The Permittees' General Plans provide the foundation and the framework for land use planning and development. Therefore, the General Plan is a useful tool to promote the policies for protection of stormwater quality. The Permittees are to include watershed and stormwater management considerations in the appropriate elements of their General Plans whenever these elements are significantly rewritten. Table 5-2 indicates the scheduled date



of a significant rewrite to the Permittees' General Plan elements when known. Note that some Permittees have already modified their General Plan to include stormwater requirements under the previous permit, the table reflects if stormwater issues have been incorporated. The Permit additionally requires that when General Plan elements are being updated drafts are provided to the Regional Board for their review. These Permit requirements do not have an absolute due date other than as General Plan elements are updated.

*Performance Standard 5-1*

<b>CEQA process include the procedures necessary to consider potential stormwater quality impacts</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



*Before and after pictures of infiltration area of parking lot during construction.*



Table 5-2 Scheduled Dates for Permittees' General Plan Rewrite

Land Use	General Plan includes Stormwater Requirements (Y/N)	Scheduled Date for Significant Rewrite of General Plan	Date Submitted to Regional Board
Camarillo	Yes	10/1/2003	
County of Ventura	Yes	9/1/2020	2/13/21
Fillmore	Yes	7/1/2005	
Moorpark	Yes	12/1/2022	
Ojai	No	3/31/2022	5/14/1997
Oxnard	Yes	1/1/2025	1/1/2011
Port Hueneme	Yes	12/31/2021	
Ventura	Yes	12/1/2021	
Santa Paula	Yes	3/4/2020	3/4/2020
Simi Valley	Yes		
Thousand Oaks	In Progress	5/31/2022	6/30/2022
<b>Housing</b>			
Camarillo	Yes	1/8/2014	9/13/2013
County of Ventura	No	10/1/2021	
Fillmore	No	1/1/2021	
Moorpark	No	12/1/2022	
Ojai	No	3/31/2022	12/11/2013
Oxnard	Yes	10/1/2021	1/1/2011
Port Hueneme	Yes	12/31/2021	
Ventura	Yes	7/1/2021	
Santa Paula	Yes	9/17/2021	9/17/2021
Simi Valley	Yes		
Thousand Oaks	Yes	5/31/2022	6/30/2022
<b>Conservation</b>			
Camarillo	Yes	7/12/2006	
County of Ventura	Yes	9/1/2020	2/13/20
Fillmore	No	1/1/1998	
Moorpark	Yes	12/1/2022	
Ojai	Yes	3/31/2022	5/14/1997
Oxnard	Yes	1/1/2025	1/1/2011
Port Hueneme	Yes	12/31/2021	1/1/2011
Ventura	Yes	12/1/2021	
Santa Paula	Yes	3/4/2020	3/4/2020
Simi Valley	Yes		
Thousand Oaks	Yes	5/31/2022	6/30/2022
<b>Open Space</b>			
Camarillo	Camarillo	Yes	7/12/2006
County of Ventura	County of Ventura	Yes	9/1/2020
Fillmore	Fillmore	No	1/1/1998
Moorpark	Moorpark	Yes	12/1/2022
Ojai	Ojai	Yes	3/31/2022
Oxnard	Oxnard	Yes	1/1/2025
Port Hueneme	Port Hueneme	No	12/31/2021
Ventura	Ventura	Yes	12/1/2021
Santa Paula	Santa Paula	Yes	3/4/2020
Simi Valley	Simi Valley	Yes	
Thousand Oaks	Thousand Oaks	Yes	5/31/2022

Specific efforts some Permittees have made to address stormwater issues in the planning process are detailed below:

**County of Ventura** - The Ventura County Non-Coastal Zoning Ordinance (NCZO) supports the goals and policies of the General Plan, including the Housing Element. While some of the General Plan elements contain specific policies regarding stormwater, the Housing Element does not. However, since all development is required to comply with current standards by following state law and/or meeting development standards contained within the NCZO, the Housing Element is inherently consistent with stormwater requirements. The Ventura County General Plan was updated and adopted on September 15, 2020. The updated General Plan has moved the stormwater requirements previously located in the

conservation and open space element into the new Water Resources element. The General Plan has a horizon year of 2040. The next scheduled update of the Housing Element is planned for completion in October 2021.

**Oxnard** - The 2030 General Plan was adopted by the Oxnard City Council on October 11, 2011. The plan includes amendments through December 2016. The plan is available for review at [www.cityofoxnard.org](http://www.cityofoxnard.org). The General Plan update process is to be initiated in early 2022 and should be wrapped up by 2025. The next General Plan will project out to 2045, and it is intended to:

- Create a community vision, direction, and policy approaches.
- Comprehensively update to all State required General Plan Element Chapters:
- Land Use, Circulation, Safety/Hazards, Noise, Recreation/Parks, Open Space/Conservation, & Housing
- Determine if optional Elements should be included / added: Military compatibility, Sustainability, & Others as identified by community needs.
- Builds off plans and studies already completed,
- Builds from Climate Action Plan, additional of climate resilience
- Address new state mandates

**Santa Paula** – On March 04, 2020, the City of Santa Paula City Council adopted Resolution No. 7246 certifying the CEQA EIR for the 2040 General Home and adopted Resolution No. 7247 adopting the General Plan 2040 and Exhibit A (General Plan 2040 Land Use Map). Draft General Plan Housing Element is anticipated to be submitted to CA Dept of Housing and Community Development for review September 17, 2021.

**Simi Valley** - The City of Simi Valley's General Plan was adopted by City Council at the June 4, 2012 Council meeting. The Council asked for some changes to be made to the adopted version, those changes were made and the final version was submitted to the Regional Board in September 2012. An update is not scheduled at this time.

**Thousand Oaks** – The City of Thousand Oaks is currently preparing a comprehensive General Plan Amendment. This will be an ongoing process and dates are subject to change as public input is gathered and various General Plan elements are revised.

**Ventura** – Refinement of the 2005 General Plan for the Land Use Element related to commerce, industrial and mixed-use designations has been delayed. The next targeted comprehensive General Plan update is projected for 2021, using technical data on water (2015 UWMP), City specific infrastructure needs, the 2016 and 2018 RTP's, and the anticipated Regional Housing Needs (RHNA) (for a state mandated 2021 Housing Element update).

## **5.4 NEW DEVELOPMENT PERFORMANCE CRITERIA (CONTROL MEASURE LD2)**

Post-construction BMPs, including site design, source control, low impact development techniques, and stormwater quality treatment, are necessary for development and re-development projects to mitigate

potential water quality impacts. In addition, priority projects identified within the Permit require specific mitigation measures. In order to assist developers in meeting these requirements, the Permittees developed a Technical Guidance Manual for Stormwater Quality Control Measures for new development and redevelopment in 2002 (2002 TGM). This Manual was updated to conform to the new Permit requirements in 2011 (2011 TGM), and these requirements became effective during the 2011/12 reporting period. Errata updates to the 2011 TGM occurred in 2015 (2015 TGM) and most recently in 2018 (2018 TGM).

#### **5.4.1 Update to the 2002 Ventura County Technical Guidance Manual for Stormwater Quality Control Measures (TGM)**

In May 2010 the Permittees updated the 2002 TGM for the selection, design, and maintenance of BMPs for new development and redevelopment projects as identified in Order 2009-0057. This Manual was never approved by the Regional Board Executive Officer due to the Permit being remanded and subsequently re-heard by the Board. As an outcome of that hearing new language was adopted for the Permit and a new date set for the revisions to TGM. The TGM was rewritten to address the five-percent effective impervious area requirement, retention and biotreatment, alternative compliance for technical infeasibility, interim hydro-modification requirements, water quality criteria, and maintenance agreements (see also Control Measure LD4 for more information). The 2011 TGM was submitted to the Regional Board on June 16, 2011. The Regional Board approved the 2011 TGM on July 13, 2011 and it became effective on October 11, 2011.

To correct minor typos, discrepancies, and diagrams an errata version of the TGM was released in May 2015 and another update was initiated again in June 2018. The June 2018 update also includes information related to the Statewide Trash Amendment. At 600 pages there are possibly other errors that will need to be corrected. To address this, it is the Program's intention to plan regular errata updates. This would include providing a complete version of the TGM along with the specific pages where changes were made. This will allow users to substitute the correct pages into a hardcopy without having to print the entire document.

#### **5.4.2 Require Compliance with Performance Criteria**

New development and redevelopment projects, as outlined in Permit Provision 4.E.II., are subject to Permittee conditioning and approval for the design and implementation of post-construction controls to mitigate stormwater pollution. New performance criteria outlined within the Permit include reducing the percentage of effective impervious area to five percent or less of the total project area, the interim hydromodification control criteria, and water quality mitigation criteria. These Permit conditions became effective on October 11, 2011, 90 days after the TGM was approved by the Regional Board Executive Officer.

## Project Review and Conditioning

Projects must comply with one of two standards. For projects whose applications were deemed complete after the 2011 TGM effective date the Permittees are to ensure they comply with the requirements in the 2010 Permit. Those deemed complete prior to the effective date must comply with the previous performance criteria under the Stormwater Quality Urban Impact Mitigation Plan (SQUIMP) and the 2002 TGM. Under both manuals the Permittees' approach to stormwater comes early in the project development process when the options for pollution control are greatest, and the cost to incorporate these controls into new development or redevelopment projects is the least. In planning and reviewing a development project, the

Permittees consider three key questions with respect to stormwater quality control: 1. What kind of water quality controls are needed? 2. Where should controls be implemented? 3. What level of control is appropriate? During the planning and review process, the Permittees identify potential stormwater quality problems, communicate design objectives, and evaluate the plan for the most appropriate design alternatives.



*Low Impact Development BMP*

### Low Impact Development (LID)

LID is a concept in the overall watershed process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land, and related resources. By linking traditional development topics such as land use, water supply, wastewater treatment/reclamation, flood control/drainage, water quality, and hydromodification management into a cohesive hydrologic system, developments should recognize their interdependencies and minimize their potentially negative effects on the environment. An example is combining stormwater treatment, hydromodification control, and flood control in a single regional infiltration basin that recharges groundwater, incorporates recreation, and provides habitat. Another example is using Smart Growth principles to help reduce the environmental footprint while still accommodating growth.

Similar to Source Control Measures, which prevent pollutant sources from contacting stormwater runoff, Retention BMPs use techniques to infiltrate, store, use, and evaporate runoff onsite to mimic pre-development hydrology, to the extent feasible. The goal of LID is to increase groundwater recharge, enhance water quality, and prevent degradation of downstream natural drainage channels. This goal may be accomplished with creative site planning and with incorporation of localized, naturally functioning BMPs into the project. Implementation of Retention BMPs will reduce the size of additional

Hydromodification Control Measures that may be required for a new development or redevelopment project, and, in many circumstances, may be used to satisfy all stormwater management requirements.

Applicable projects must reduce Effective Impervious Area (EIA) to less than or equal to five percent ( $\leq 5\%$ ) of the total project area, unless infeasible. Impervious surfaces are rendered “ineffective” if the design storm volume is fully retained onsite using Retention BMPs. Biofiltration BMPs may be used to achieve the 5% EIA standard if Retention BMPs are technically infeasible.

Generally, the 2011 TGM (and later errata versions) advise to first design for the largest hydrologic controls (such as matching post development 100-year flows with pre-project 100-year flows for flood mitigation requirements), according to the appropriate City or County drainage requirements. Secondly, the TGM advises to check if flood mitigation will reduce or satisfy the stormwater management requirements. If it does not, then more controls are necessary. Flood mitigation may provide the necessary sediment and pollution control, thereby reducing maintenance requirements for the stormwater management BMPs. A sequence of hydrologic controls should be considered, such as site design, flood drainage mitigation, and Retention BMPs. Biofiltration BMPs and Treatment Control Measures can be considered where the use of Retention BMPs is technically infeasible. Each of these controls will have an influence on stormwater runoff from the new development or redevelopment project.

### Stormwater Quality Urban Impact Mitigation Plan (SQUIMP)

For those projects deemed complete before October 11, 2011 the Permittees require the implementation of the Stormwater Quality Urban Impact Mitigation Plan (SQUIMP) for new development projects categories described in the 2000 Permit. Redevelopment projects in one of the SQUIMP categories that result in the creation, addition or replacement of 5,000 square feet or more of impervious surfaces, not a part of routine maintenance, are subject to SQUIMP requirements. If a redevelopment project creates or adds 50% or more impervious surface area to the existing impervious surfaces, then stormwater runoff from the entire area (existing and redeveloped) must be conditioned for stormwater quality mitigation. Otherwise, only the affected area of the redevelopment project requires mitigation.

The SQUIMP lists the minimum required BMPs that must be implemented for new development and redevelopment projects subject to the SQUIMP. The minimum requirements include control peak stormwater runoff discharge rates, conserve natural areas, properly design trash storage areas, meet design standards for structural or treatment control BMPs, and provide proof of ongoing BMP maintenance among others designed to reduce the long-term pollutant effects of development.

Performance Standard 5-2

Require compliance with performance criteria under SQUIMP			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

#### 5.4.3 BMP Selection and Design Criteria

The Permittees consider site-specific conditions of development projects and pollutants of concern on the watershed when determining which BMPs are most appropriate for a site. Prior to approving BMPs, the

staff conditioning the project evaluates post-construction activities and potential sources of stormwater pollutants. The project proponent is required to consider BMPs that would address the potential pollutants reasonably expected to be present at the site once occupied. BMPs to protect stormwater during the construction phase may also be a part of this conditioning process, although these are addressed through the grading permit process through the Construction Program.

In order to achieve appropriate stormwater quality controls, the Permittees use the following common criteria in screening and selecting, or rejecting BMPs during the planning stage with a priority given to non-proprietary designed BMPs:

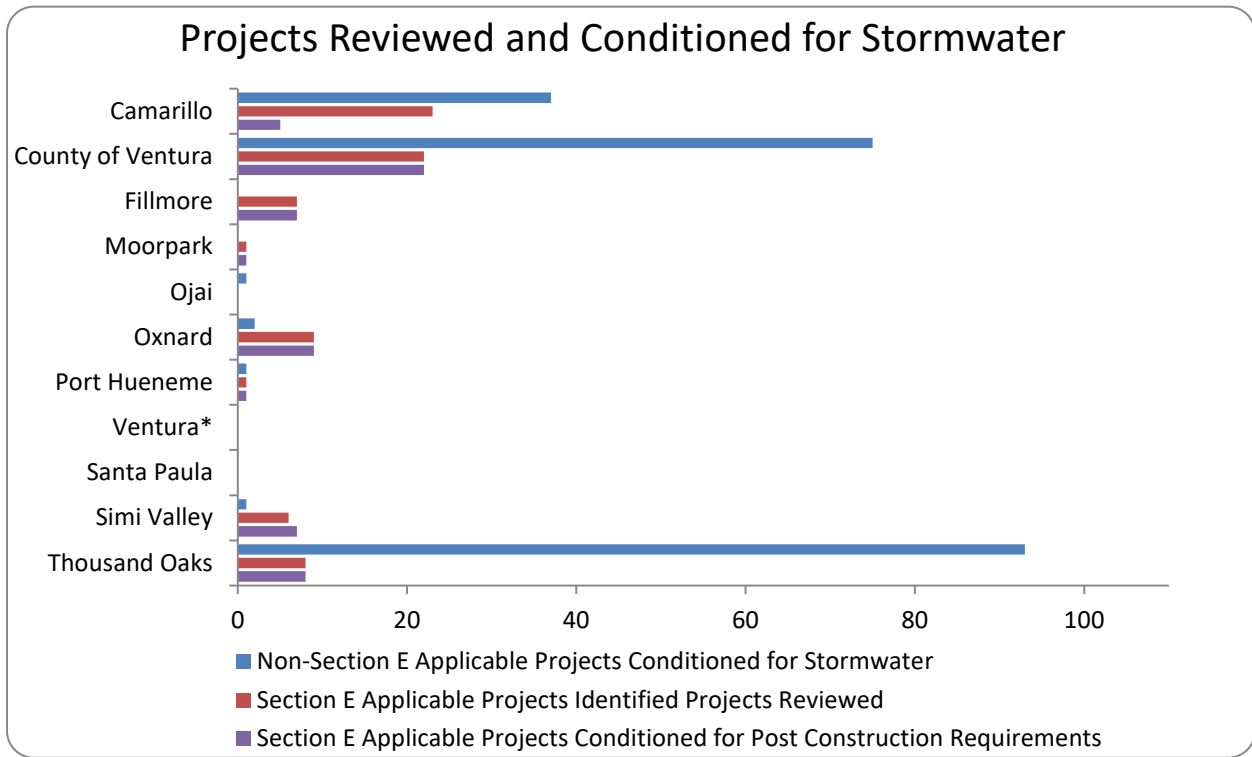
- Project characteristics;
- Site factors (e.g., slope, high water table, soils, etc.);
- Pollutant removal capability;
- Short term and long term costs;
- Responsibility for maintenance;
- Contributing watershed area; and
- Environmental impact and enhancement.

The BMP selection criteria listed above is applied by the Permittees in accordance with the overall objective of the Planning and Land Development Program, i.e. to reduce pollutants in discharges to the MEP. In some site-specific situations there will be certain BMPs that are clearly more appropriate and effective than others, the BMP selection process reflects this variability.

The number of projects required to comply with the performance criteria during the Permit year is outlined in Figure 5-1. This includes projects required by the Permit to implement stormwater treatment controls, but beyond that projects that, due to their nature or potential to discharge pollutants of concern, were also required to implement stormwater management controls of either source control or water quality treatment.

The City of Ventura Community Development Department, Planning Divisions is currently working at 40%-50% staffing level. Planning Division staff were unable to provide project and application reviewed and conditioned information for reporting year 2020-2021. The City of Ventura Development Advisory Committee consists of City staff that review all planning submittals/discretionary review development projects and stormwater quality requirements are included in this review. All new development and redevelopment projects that meet MS4 Permit applicability requirements for post-construction BMPs are conditioned accordingly. Furthermore, all projects that disturb soil are conditioned to implement erosion and sediment control BMPs onsite to mitigation construction related pollution.

Figure 5-1 Projects Reviewed and Conditioned



\*Total number of projects reviewed only account for 1st time reviews. It doesn't count multiple reviews of the same project within the same annual reporting period or reviews of projects first reviewed as part of a prior annual reporting period. Total SQUIMP or Section E projects are newly reviewed projects that have been conditioned with SQUIMP or PCSMP that will have actual physical BMPs requiring annual maintenance. There were several single family hillside homes that were conditioned with PCSMP (< 1 acre Hillside Home) but are only required to meet site design requirements not physical BMPs requiring maintenance. Thus, these projects are included in the non-SQUIMP, or non-section E numbers.

#### 5.4.1 Potential of Offsite Mitigation Projects

The requirements of the Permit allow an alternative to compliance with the land development criteria of onsite retention and biotreatment for projects with technical infeasibilities through the use of offsite mitigation. New developments and significant re-developments that have identified technical infeasibilities, and therefore cannot comply with the retention and biofiltration requirements onsite have the option of utilizing alternative mitigation offsite.

The Permittees have developed a preliminary offsite mitigation framework and identified potential locations. Infill and redevelopment projects that demonstrate technical infeasibility may be eligible for offsite mitigation. The Permittees researched potential management and funding structures for creating a new offsite stormwater alternative mitigation program as identified in the Permit. The project focused on general funding mechanisms, accounting, and the program management structure needed to implement and sustain a long-term stormwater retention and/or biofiltration program. The second prong of the project focused on potential locations for the offsite program using an integrated water resources approach. The first step was to determine the potential need for offsite mitigation to understand the scale of projects that may be needed.

Because development projects are required to manage as much water on site as possible the final results of the projected needs assessment yielded a volume of only eight-acre feet countywide that would need to be managed offsite by 2030. This volume of water is not a significant amount and did not attract the potential

for integrated water resource management programs with third party partners (e.g. local water agencies) to support the development of offsite BMPs. From these studies the Permittees learned that the offsite need for any one project is likely to be small enough to be manageable in the public right-of-way of the permitting agency and maintained through conventional funding mechanisms.

#### 5.4.2 Hydromodification Criteria

The purpose of Hydromodification Control Measures is to minimize impacts to natural creeks due to changes in post-development stormwater runoff discharge rates, velocities, and durations by maintaining, within a certain tolerance, the project's pre-project stormwater runoff flow rates and durations. Hydromodification Control Measures may include onsite, sub regional, or regional Hydromodification Control Measures; retention BMPs; or stream restoration measures. Preference will likely be given to onsite Retention BMPs and Hydromodification Control Measures; however in-stream restoration measures may be determined to be the best use of resources and may more effectively and quickly address the beneficial uses of natural drainage systems.

Permittees currently require the interim hydromodification criteria as specified in Permit provision 4.E.III.3(a)(3). Interim criteria was required until the Southern California Water Monitoring Coalition (SMC) completes the Hydromodification Control Study (HCS), and a Hydromodification Control Plan (HCP) for the county is approved by the Executive Officer. A Hydromodification Control Plan was submitted to the Regional Board Executive Officer on September 16, 2013. Until the approval of the HCP, the Interim Hydromodification Control Criteria will be applicable to non-exempt new development and redevelopment projects deemed complete after the TGM 2011 effective date. Those which disturb less than 50 acres shall be complying by meeting the stormwater management standards contained in the 2011 TGM. Projects disturbing 50 acres or greater must develop and implement a Hydromodification Analysis Study (HAS) to demonstrate that post development conditions are expected to approximate the pre-project erosive effect of sediment transporting flows in receiving waters. The HAS must lead to the incorporation of project design features intended to approximate, to the extent feasible, an Erosion Potential value of 1, or any alternative value that can be shown to be protective of the natural drainage systems from erosion, incision,



*Low Impact Development BMP incorporated into the landscaping*



and sedimentation that can occur as a result of flow increases from impervious surfaces and damage stream habitat in natural drainage systems.

To ensure the HCP adequately addressed the Permit requirements, and the concerns of the stakeholders, a public stakeholder meeting was held on July 30, 2013. The goals of the meeting were to explain the new hydromodification control requirements, where they apply, and how the HCP will assist the development community in meeting them. This well attended meeting included representatives from the Regional Board, Heal the Bay, the development community, public agency staff, and a BMP manufacturer. Comments were received from four stakeholders and incorporated into the draft HCP as appropriate. All written comments were reviewed by our working group comprised of land development and planning staff from all Ventura County Permittees. Consensus was reached on how to best incorporate the comments while maintaining the HCP's usefulness and compliance with the Permit requirements.

*Performance Standard 5-3*

<b>Participate in the Stormwater Monitoring Committee's Hydromodification Control Study</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 5-4*

<b>Develop watershed specific HCPs? (180 days after the completion of the SMC HCS)</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Program	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

The Permit states that “Permittees may exempt projects from implementation of hydromodification controls where assessments of downstream channel conditions and proposed discharge hydrology indicate that adverse hydromodification effects to present and future beneficial uses of Natural Drainage Systems are unlikely: Projects that discharge directly or via a storm drain into concrete or improved (not natural) channels (e.g., rip rap, sackcrete, etc.).” The susceptibility of receiving waters to hydromodification impacts is summarized by identifying non-susceptible receiving waters and describing the location of modified conveyance systems. Water bodies within and downstream of each Permittee’s jurisdiction have been mapped as either susceptible or non-susceptible to hydromodification impacts. Per the Permit, non-susceptible water bodies include: lakes, sumps, tidally influenced water bodies, large rivers, and modified conveyances. Water bodies that are considered susceptible to hydromodification impacts are the remaining natural stream channels. The Receiving Water Susceptibility Map was created to provide quick information to the development community. This map is considered a living document that will be updated by the Permittees if more accurate information on drainage infrastructure is obtained in the future.

While hydrologic analyses for flood control, such as those contained in the Ventura County Hydrology Manual (VCWPD, 2017), are based on evaluating the magnitude of one or a few large discrete events (on the order of hours to days), hydromodification analysis focuses on continuous simulations (spanning over several decades) which take into account both flow magnitude and duration. Because hydromodification analysis looks at both magnitude and duration of the long-term record, the large but rare flowrates that are

crucial to flood control can be relatively insignificant when considering sediment transport and changes in channel form. The most important range of flows from the perspective of affecting channel form are the relatively frequent flows that are contained primarily within the active channel and not the rare, high magnitude flows which exceed the rate of flow that can be contained in the normally wetter perimeter of the channel.

Flows which create high enough shear stresses to initiate sediment transport within the channel and which occur frequently enough to have influence over long-term stream morphology are considered “geomorphically-significant” flows. To provide perspective on the timescales of interest, a peak storm discharge may contribute to a bed scour hole, which slowly fills in with sediment over days to months after the event takes place. But if the time scale considered for stream stability is on the order of several decades, then the contribution of the short duration peak discharge to that scour hole may be a negligible perturbation on the overall record of channel form.

## **5.5 PLAN REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS (CONTROL MEASURE LD3)**

Stormwater quality controls should be considered throughout the development plan review and approval process. Comprehensive review by the Permittees of development plans must be provided in order to ensure that stormwater controls minimize stormwater quality impacts.

### **5.5.1 Conduct BMP Review**

Permittees conducted a detailed review of site designs and the proposed BMPs. Review included matching BMPs to the pollutants of concern, sizing calculations, pollutant removal performance, and municipal approval. Project designs are not approved unless all conditions have been met.



*Curb bump-out in residential neighborhood*

### **5.5.1 Establish Authority among Municipal Departments with Project Review Jurisdiction**

Permittees have an established structure for communication and delineated authority between municipal departments that have jurisdiction over project review, plan approval, and project construction. Each Permittee has approached this in the manner that will be most effective within their organization. Interdepartmental communication and coordination does not represent a complicated hurdle for the smaller agencies, however, larger agencies such as the County of Ventura have formally drafted Memorandums of Understanding to establish the structure and define responsibilities.

*Performance Standard 5-5*

<b>Conducted a detailed review of proposed BMPs. Review included sizing calculations and pollutant removal performance</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 5-6*

<b>Established authority among municipal departments with project review jurisdiction control BMPs. (by July 8, 2011)</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**5.6 TRACKING, INSPECTION AND ENFORCEMENT (CONTROL MEASURE LD4)**

Permittees have implemented a tracking system and an inspection and enforcement program for new development and redevelopment post-construction stormwater BMPs.

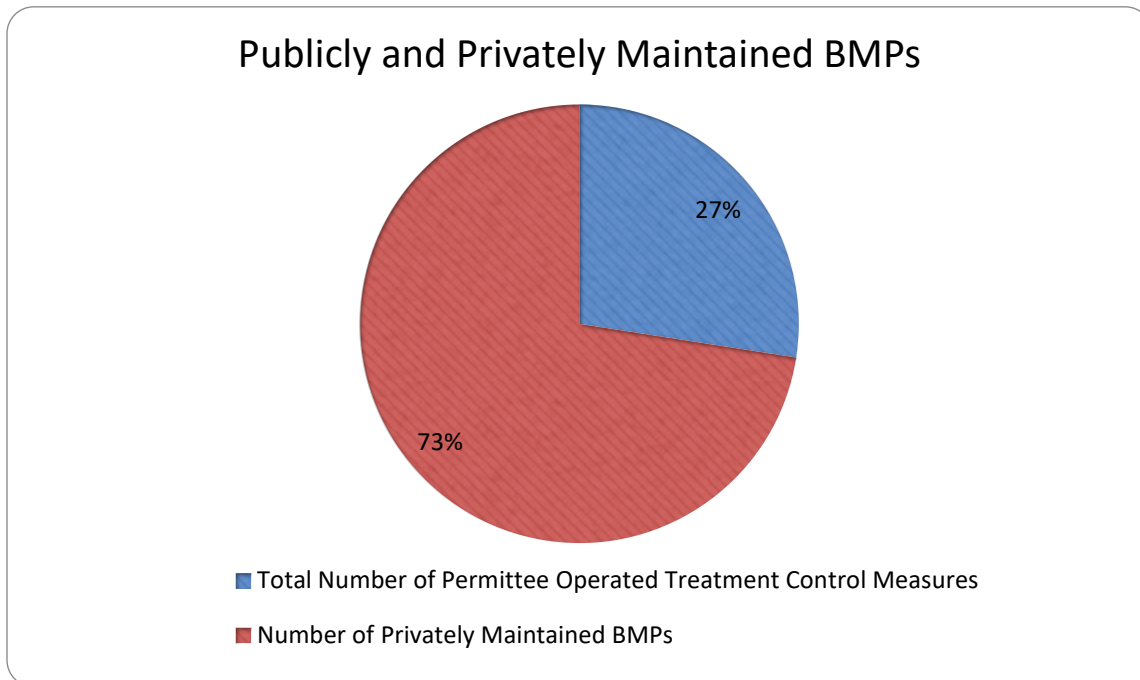
**5.6.1 Develop/Implement a Tracking System for Post-Construction Treatment Control BMPs**

Permittees have been conditioning development projects for stormwater controls since the 2002 TGM and understand that maintenance of these BMPs is instrumental to their performance of improving water quality. Developing and implementing a system for tracking projects that have been conditioned for post-construction treatment control BMPs is necessary to ensure that BMPs are properly maintained and working. The Permit requires this tracking system be in place by July 8, 2011.

Each Permittees' electronic system should contain the following information:

- Municipal Project ID
- State WDID No.(IAGSP)
- Project Acreage
- BMP Type and Description
- BMP Location (coordinates)
- Date of Acceptance
- Date of Maintenance Agreement
- Maintenance Records
- Inspection Date and Summary
- Corrective Action
- Date Certificate of Occupancy Issued
- Replacement or Repair Date

Figure 5-2 Publicly and Privately Maintained BMPs



### 5.6.2 Conduct Inspections of Completed Projects

Beginning July 8, 2011, the Permittees are required to conduct inspections of completed projects subject to the Planning and Land Development Program requirements to ensure proper installation of all approved control measures have been implemented and are being maintained. Identifying and tracking these projects will follow the development permitting process. The Certificate of Occupancy is withheld until a project can show that BMPs have been installed as designed on approved plans. See Attachment B for an example inspection checklist from the City of Camarillo.

*Performance Standard 5-7*

<b>Develop and implement a system for tracking projects that have been conditioned for post-construction treatment control BMPs? (by July 8, 2012)</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

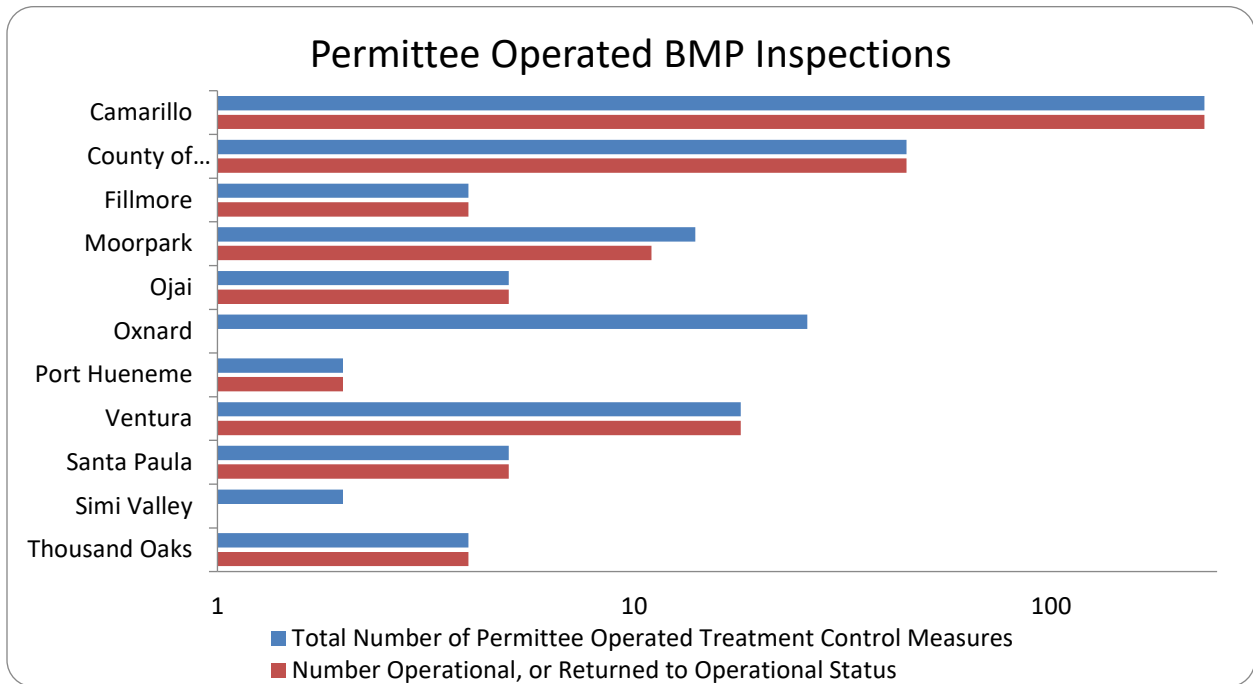
*Performance Standard 5-8*

<b>Conduct inspections of completed projects subject to the Planning and Land Development Program requirements to ensure proper installation of BMPs (effective 90 days after approval of Manual)</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**5.6.3 Conduct Inspections of Permittee Owned BMPs**

The Permittees are responsible for the inspection and maintenance of BMPs they own and operate. Sometimes Permittees will accept this responsibility from a development as a way to ensure that proper maintenance is performed. Not all Permittees own and operate BMPs, and some have not yet installed or accepted ownership of permanent BMPs. These inspections are required once every two years. The first inspection was due July 8, 2012, which is outside the reporting period of this Annual Report.

Figure 5-3 Permittee Operated BMPs



Specific efforts some Permittees have made to inspect BMPs and additional information are detailed below:

**Camarillo** - City treatment control measures include: 205 full capture trash devices, 3 full capture trash devices with an ARS; 4 curb face trash screens, 11 catch basin filters, 1 pervious paver area, 6 detention basins, 2 bioswales, and 1 bioretention area. The city's enforcement action included a fee collected for conducting an inspection of the privately maintained BMPs that did not return a maintenance report.

**County of Ventura** – In FY 20/21, the following Permittee operated treatment control measures were added to the County of Ventura facility inventory:

- BMP #1) Oak Park Modular Wetlands Phase II completed in 2/2021
- BMP #2) Camarillo Airport - Silverstrand Battery Energy Storage - completed in 4/2021
- BMP #3) Camarillo Airport - NE Hangar Project completed in 11/2020

**Ojai** - City corporate yard includes Permittee operated BMPs covered in public agency activities.

**Oxnard** - City of Oxnard Collections staff inspect and maintain City owned treatment control devices. A vacor truck is used to pump out and remove sludge and debris as needed. All residual wastewater is disposed of in the Oxnard Wastewater Collection System. Technical Services Program-Stormwater staff work with the City Civil Engineers to maintain a database for all the privately owned BMPs. As projects are completed, developers are required to file a covenant of agreement detailing the location of the BMP device along with a maintenance plan/schedule. The storm water maintenance agreement for privately maintained BMPs has been revised to include language with requirements for annual report submittal.

*Performance Standard 5-9*

<b>Inspect post-construction BMPs operated by the Permittees at least once every 2 years</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**Ventura** – Some publicly owned BMPs are routinely inspected by either City of Ventura Parks personnel or private contractors who are responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of treatment devices operated by the City. All private owners are notified annually by mail, requesting maintenance records for onsite post-construction BMP's. A City inspection may satisfy the requirement for reporting from the private party, if no response is received by the City following annual notice. After inspection by private owners or City staff, if maintenance is required, an additional letter is sent requiring follow-up and reporting. Enforcement may follow no reply and/or non-compliance.

*Performance Standard 5-10*

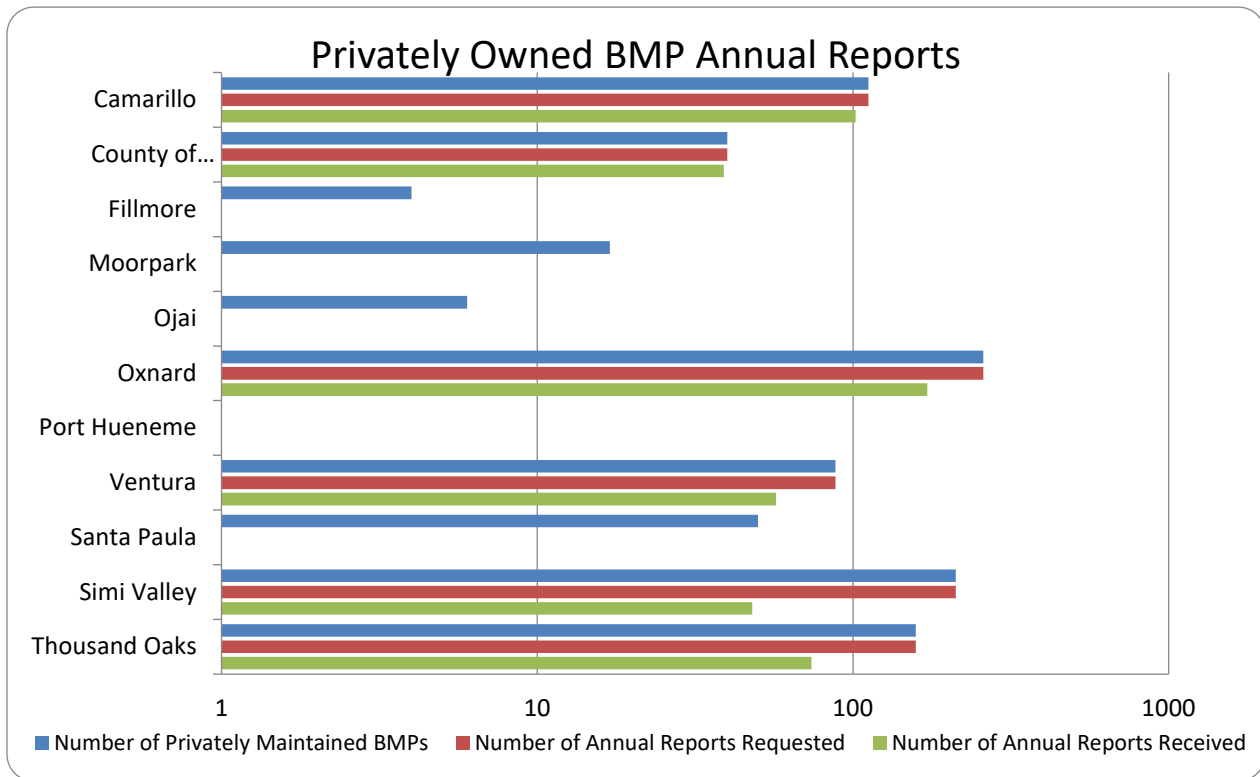
<b>Require annual reports for private post-construction BMPs to demonstrate proper maintenance and operations</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**5.6.1 Require Annual Reports for Post-Construction BMPs**

In July of 2011 the Permittees were required to require the submittal of Annual Reports for BMPs maintained by parties other than the Permittees. The annual statements provide information to the

Permittees showing that the BMPs have been properly maintained. In many cases a copy of an invoice from a service provider showing the date maintenance performed will suffice for an annual report.

Figure 5-4 Private BMP Annual Reports



### 5.6.2 Take Enforcement Action

Inspections and the requirement for annual reports are only the first steps towards ensuring BMPs are operational. Enforcement actions based on the results of the inspection may be needed in order to bring the facility into compliance. The Permit requires inspections of Permittee owned BMPs and enforcement is not necessary in that scenario. To ease future compliance the Permittees are performing educational outreach to the owner/operators of BMPs.

A performance standard on enforcement may be developed in future reports, however, enforcement would only be needed when there is non-compliance. Low enforcement numbers (high level of compliance) may represent an effective program just as well as high enforcement numbers would represent a determined effort to return BMPs to compliance.



## 5.7 MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT AND TRANSFER (CONTROL MEASURE LD5)

Maintenance agreements and transfers ensure that post-construction BMPs will remain effective upon project completion and continued occupancy. As a condition of approval for all priority development projects, Permittees require the owner/developer/successor-in-interest of stormwater BMPs to provide proof of control measure maintenance in the form of a Stormwater Treatment Device Operation and Maintenance Agreement and a Maintenance Plan.



*Low Impact Development infiltration BMP*

### 5.7.1 **Require Stormwater Treatment Device Operation and Maintenance Agreement**

Permittees integrated the development/submittal of a stormwater maintenance agreement as a condition within the project approval process for projects subject to the Permit’s Planning and Land Development Program requirements. To enforce the requirements of post-construction BMPs, a Maintenance Agreement is required to be executed between the Permittee and the owner/developer/successor-in-interest for any private facilities who remain the responsible party in operating and maintaining the post-construction Treatment Control Measures.

The 2002 TGM and the 2011 TGM revisions, including the 2015 and 2018 errata updates, address the development and submittal of Maintenance Agreements when a developer is responsible for ongoing maintenance of onsite treatment BMPs.

#### *Performance Standard 5-11*

<b>Require an operation and maintenance plan for applicable stormwater BMPs</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

## 5.8 TRAINING (CONTROL MEASURE LD6)

Training is important to the successful implementation of the Planning and Land Development Program Element. An effective training program is one of the best pollution prevention BMPs that can be implemented because this subject is complicated and requires many interpretations and judgment calls.

To provide continuous training in the implementation of the Technical Guidance Manual a special training session was held in June of 2018. This training was focused on City and County planning, engineering, and inspection staff including contractors who interpret and implement the standards. It was important to have everybody in the same room receiving the same training to minimize confusion and conflict at the counter when actual projects come in for approval. This eight-hour training was

attended by over seventy people. The training was also professionally recorded and is available online for future reference and continuous training opportunities. In August 2018 the Program held a modified training workshop on current Ventura County stormwater quality post construction mitigation requirements for the private development community including planners, engineers, and support staff.

*June 2018 Training Session*



*June 2018 Training Session*



The City of Moorpark also holds monthly 1 hour Training (in addition to the Field) on design and implementation of Construction BMP's, Design and Implementation of various Post-Construction BMP's; Infiltration Rate Testing and Design Methods; Industrial and Municipals SWPPP's and Management Practices; IDDE Training; Effluent Testing; TMDL assessments; Watershed Management Practices including Green Street Designs. Additionally, with the COVID-19 emergency, many municipalities provided trainings via Zoom or other remote meeting applications.

Figure 5-5 Land Development Training

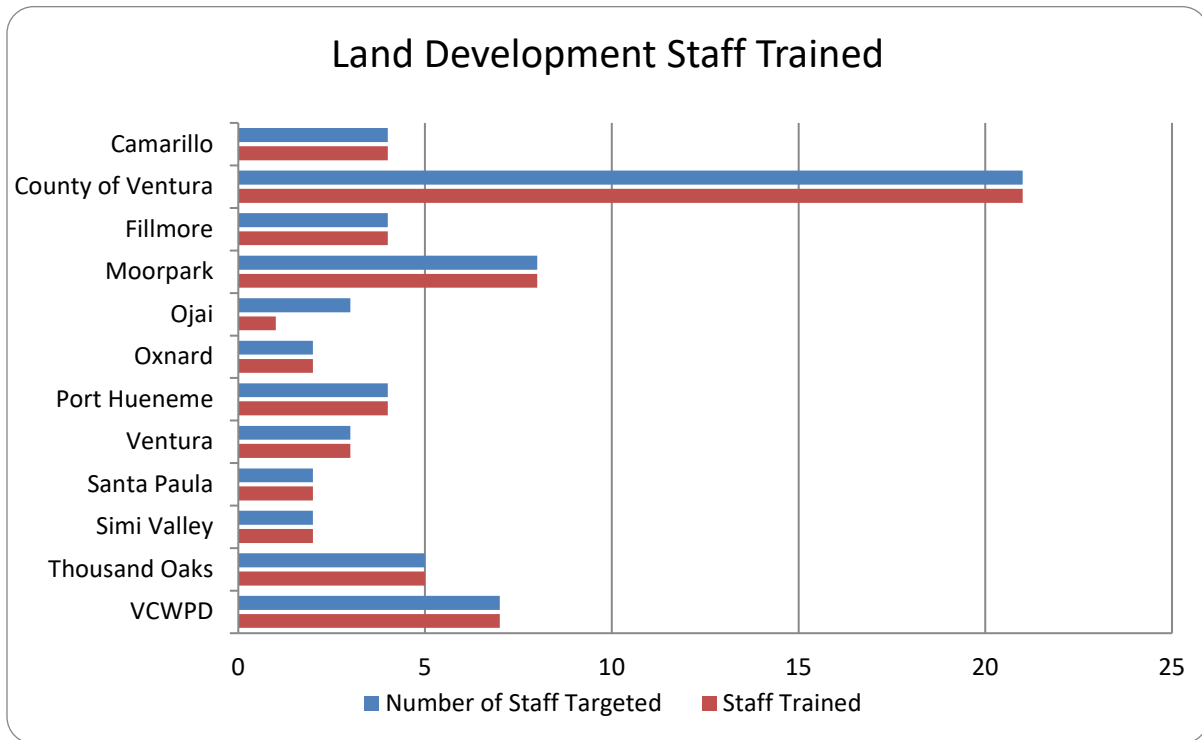


Table 5-3 Training Areas of Focus for the Planning and Land Development Program Element

Target Audience	Format	Subject Material
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Plan Checkers</li> <li>• Engineers</li> <li>• Building and Construction Inspectors</li> <li>• Builders</li> <li>• Design Professionals</li> <li>• Regulators</li> <li>• Resource Agencies</li> <li>• Other Stakeholders</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classroom</li> <li>• Video</li> <li>• Online</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Overview of 2011/2018 TGM</li> <li>• Integration of LID at various project scales</li> <li>• Guidance on relationship between LID strategies, source control BMPs, and hydromodification control requirements</li> <li>• Highlight LID pilot projects and demonstration projects</li> <li>• Current Ventura County stormwater quality post construction mitigation requirements</li> </ul>

## 5.9 EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT (CONTROL MEASURE LD7)

Effectiveness assessment is a fundamental component for developing and implementing successful stormwater programs. In order to determine the effectiveness of the Planning and Land Development Program, a comprehensive assessment of the program data is conducted as a part of the annual report. The results of this assessment are used to identify modifications that need to be made to the program. Each year the effectiveness assessment is reviewed and revised as needed.

By conducting these assessments and modifying the program as needed, the Permittees ensure that the iterative process is used as an effective management tool. Due to the types of data collected for the Planning and Land Development Program, current and future assessments will primarily focus on Outcome Levels 1, 2 & 3.

- Outcome Level 1 (L1) answers the question: Did the Permittees implement the components of the Permit?
- Outcome Level 2 (L2) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard increased awareness of a target audience?
- Outcome Level 3 (L3) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard changed a target audience's behavior, resulting in the implementation of recommended BMPs?

The following is an assessment regarding the effectiveness of the Planning and Land Development Program.

### 5.9.1 State Statute Conformity

#### Review/Revise CEQA Review Documents

The CEQA process and plan review process is an effective mechanism for addressing stormwater quality issues early in the planning stages. Where applicable, all Permittees have reviewed their internal planning procedures for preparing and reviewing CEQA documents. All Permittees have formally integrated stormwater quality issues into the CEQA review process (L2).

#### Revise the General Plan

All Permittees have incorporated incorporating stormwater requirements into their General Plans (L1). This control measure is dependent on the scheduled updates/amendments to General Plans which varies greatly by municipality. Once updated, Permittees will submit draft elements to the Regional Board for review. Effectiveness of this control measure will continue to be evaluated as progress is made.

### 5.9.2 New Development Performance Criteria

#### Update the 2002 Ventura County TGM

The 2002 Ventura County TGM was updated and submitted to the Regional Board on June 16, 2011 (L1). The updated TGM (2011 TGM) includes:

- Interim hydromodification criteria (addressed in Section 2 of the TGM);
- Expected BMP pollutant removal performance (addressed in Section 3 and Appendix D);
- Improved correlation of BMPs with stormwater POCs (addressed in Section 3 and Appendix D);
- BMP maintenance and cost considerations (addressed in Section 7, Appendices H & I);
- Integration of integrated water resources planning and management goals (Sections 1 and 4).

#### Require Compliance with Performance Criteria

Permittees continued to require compliance with 2002 TGM for all SQUIMP new development and redevelopment project categories (L1). As indicated in Figure 5-1, Permittees reviewed 380 projects and required 270 projects to implement source control and/or water quality treatment (note these numbers apply to both SQUIMP and non-SQUIMP project categories) (L2). The 2011 TGM became effective October 11, 2011, 90 days after its approval by the Regional Board Executive Officer. With the 2011 TGM in effect, priority new development and redevelopment projects are required to comply with the 5% EIA Requirement and other new development provisions contained within Order No. R4-2010-0108.

## **Documentation of Offsite Mitigation Projects**

Individually the Permittees have developed an offsite mitigation framework and created a list of potential locations, though no offsite mitigation projects have been initiated during this permit term.

## **Require Hydromodification Criteria**

The Permittees currently require SQUIMP project categories to comply with the interim hydromodification criteria (L1). Permittees will implement the Hydromodification Control Plan once approved by the Regional Board's Executive Officer (L1).

### **5.9.3 Plan Review and Approval Process**

#### **Conduct BMP Review**

Proposed post-construction BMPs were reviewed by each of the Permittees. BMP review included calculation sizing and pollutant removal performance. Permittees have effectively conducted BMP review for several years now and current review mechanisms are considered adequate (L1).

#### **Establish Authority among Municipal Departments**

Each Permittee has successfully established the authority for review of stormwater quality measures. The mechanism varies by Permittee and for the larger Permittees may consist of a formal MOU (L1).

### **5.9.4 Tracking, Inspection and Enforcement**

#### **Develop/Implement Tracking Mechanism**

Permittees have been conditioning development projects for stormwater controls since the last permit and understand that maintenance of these BMPs is instrumental to their performance of improving water quality. Developing and implementing a system for tracking projects that have been conditioned for post-construction treatment control BMPs is necessary to ensure that BMPs are properly maintained and working. (L1)

#### **Conduct Inspections of Completed Projects**

This performance measure was due July 8, 2011 and all 11 Permittees have conducted inspections of completed projects to ensure they were done in accordance with the land development requirements, or do not have completed projects and are in the process of developing their inspections programs (L1) (L2).

#### **Conduct Inspections of Permittee Owned BMPs**

All of the Permittees are inspecting the BMPs they own and operate, while others have not built or adopted BMPs. (L1) (L4)

#### **Take Enforcement Action**

One Permittee needed to take enforcement action to ensure proper BMP maintenance for privately maintained BMPs – the rest reported that enforcement actions were not necessary to achieve compliance. (L2)

### 5.9.5 Maintenance Agreement and Transfer

#### **Require Stormwater Treatment Device Access and Maintenance Agreement**

Permittees have required since 2002, and will continue to require, a maintenance agreement to ensure proper maintenance and permission to enter property and access BMPs (L1).

#### **Require Annual Reports for Post-Construction BMPs**

All Permittees reported that they have required annual reports as required by the Permit. (L1).

### 5.9.6 Training

#### **Conduct Training**

During this reporting period, Permittees trained 63 staff. Training primarily focused on updates to and compliance with the 2011 TGM and 2018 errata update (L1).

## **5.10 PLANNING AND LAND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS**

On an annual basis, the Permittees plan to evaluate the results of the Annual Report, as well as the experience that staff has had in implementing the program, to determine if any additional program modifications are necessary to comply with the Clean Water Act requirement to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP. Any key modifications made to the Land Development Program Element during the next fiscal year will be reported in the following Annual Report, such as the implementation of any new requirements that became effective during the 2020/21 Permit year.

## 6 Development Construction

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### 6.1 OVERVIEW

During construction projects, a number of activities have the potential to generate or mobilize pollutants. The purpose of the Development Construction Program Element is to coordinate programs and resources to effectively reduce pollutants in runoff from construction sites during all construction phases.

Reducing pollutants from construction activities has been a focus of the Permittees' compliance program since the stormwater program's inception. The Permittees regulate private construction activities, and also have responsibility for the construction and renovation of municipal facilities and infrastructure (these projects are reported in Section 7 Public Agency Activities). Major components of the Permittee's Construction Program include:

- Review of local SWPPPs for compliance with local codes, ordinances, and permits;
- Inspection of all construction sites for the implementation of stormwater quality controls a minimum of once during the wet season. Follow-up inspections take place within two weeks for sites found to have not adequately implemented their Local SWPPP;
- Require proof of filing a Notice of Intent (NOI) for coverage under the State Construction General Permit prior to issuing a grading permit for all projects requiring coverage.

Additionally, the Construction Program provides construction site owners, developers, contractors, and other responsible parties information on the requirements and guidelines for pollution prevention/BMP methods. To ensure construction sites are implementing the SWPPPs properly, each jurisdiction conducts inspections during the rainy season to verify the appropriateness and implementation of BMPs, taking enforcement action as necessary. Inspectors are also visiting the sites in the dry season to ensure the potential for illicit discharges has been reduced. Training and outreach is done regularly to improve the quality and consistency of program implementation throughout Ventura County.

The Permittees attend the Construction Subcommittee meetings to coordinate and implement a comprehensive program to mitigate impacts on water quality from construction sites to the MEP. In order to facilitate effective inspections and to document compliance with this requirement the Construction Subcommittee developed a model Stormwater Quality Checklist for Permittee use, which can be found in Attachment C. The checklist and the meetings create countywide consistency in the programs, however, the Permittees usually modify their programs to address particular issues, concerns, or constraints that are unique to a particular watershed, or to an individual municipality. The subcommittee is attended by representatives of the Permittee's municipal staff from various departments including Engineering Services, Planning and Land Development, and Inspection Services.

### 6.2 CONTROL MEASURES

The Permittees have developed several Control Measures and accompanying performance standards to provide information for optimizing the program and ensure that the construction-related requirements in the Permit are met. For each Control Measure there are accompanying performance standards which, once accomplished, constitute compliance with the Permit.

The Development Construction Program Control Measures consist of the following:

DC	Control Measure
DC1	Plan Review and Approval Process
DC2	Inventory
DC3	Inspections and BMP Implementation
DC4	Enforcement
DC5	Training
DC6	Effectiveness Assessment

Table 6-1 Control Measures for the Development Construction Program Element

At the end of this chapter these control measures are evaluated to determine the effectiveness of this program element.

### 6.3 PLAN REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS (CONTROL MEASURE DC1)

The Plan Review and Approval Process control measure provides the Permittees with the mechanism to review and approve construction plans to address sediment and erosion controls. Effective planning of construction site activities leads to minimizing erosion and preventing pollutants from entering the storm drain system. The Permittees require all projects that disturb less than one acre of land to address pollutants and activities during the construction phase of the project by implementing the erosion control, sediment control, non-stormwater management, and waste management BMPs identified in the NPDES Permit. For larger projects greater than one acre and less than five acres, the list of required BMPs gets progressively larger, more complex, and more protective. Prior to issuing a grading permit, the Permittees review construction and grading drawings to ensure that necessary erosion and sediment control BMPs and source and treatment control BMPs are identified and properly designed to control runoff pollution to the MEP. In the case of construction that encroaches in the Watershed Protection District’s right-of-way, those projects are inspected but are invariably part of a larger project and the lead agency for that project is the jurisdiction with land use authority to permit the design and building of that larger project.

#### 6.3.1 Review Grading and Construction Permit Applications for SWPPP Requirements

Prior to approving a grading permit, the Permittees require a SWPPP be submitted for projects greater than one acre. Additionally, as is mandatory for all construction related activity disturbing one or more acres, Permittees require proof of filing an NOI for projects subject to the Construction General Permit. The SWPPP remains in effect until the construction site is stabilized and all construction activity is completed. The SWPPP includes identification of potential pollutant sources and the design, placement, and maintenance of BMPs to effectively prevent the entry of pollutants from the construction site to the storm drain system. In addition, the Permittees require construction projects to include the following requirements:

- Erosion from slopes and channels will be eliminated by implementing BMPs;
- Sediments generated on the project site shall be retained using structural drainage controls;
- No construction-related materials, wastes, spills, or residues shall be discharged from the project site to streets, drainage facilities, or adjacent properties by wind or runoff;



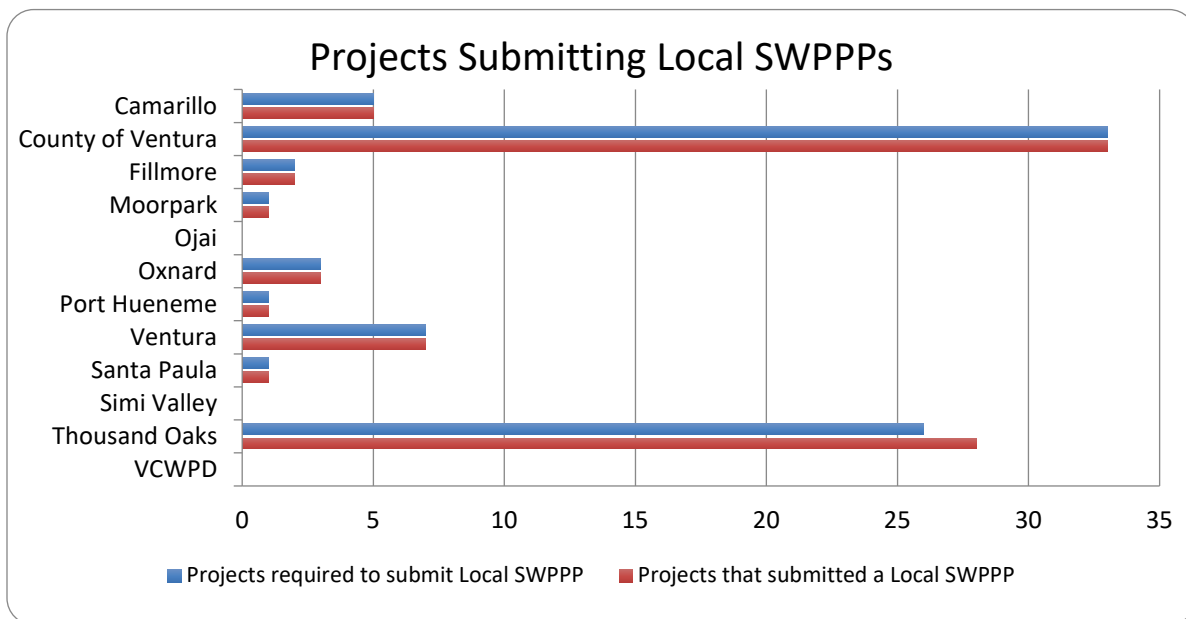
- Non-stormwater runoff from equipment and vehicle washing and any other activity shall be contained at the project site;

The Permittees have also incorporated SWPPP provisions in their own construction projects resulting in soil disturbance of one acre or more, located in hillside areas, or directly discharging to an ESA. Many Permittees have multiple Construction General Permit Qualified SWPPP Developers (QSD) and/or Qualified SWPPP Practitioners (QSP) on staff. The Permittees also include provisions delineating contractor responsibilities for SWPPP preparation, implementation, for performance of the work and ancillary activities in accordance with the SWPPP approved by the Permittee for the project. In some jurisdictions, Local SWPPPs were required and submitted for nearly all projects, including those not exceeding Permit thresholds. This conservative approach underlines the importance the Permittees place on ensuring implementation of stormwater controls at construction sites.

The number of grading permits issued during this reporting period does not directly reflect the number of active construction projects. This is due to the fact that larger projects can take longer than a year to complete. Conversely, not all projects that received grading permits granted during the Permit year actually broke ground on grading and construction. Because of these facts the number of active projects requiring inspection does not always match the number of grading permits granted. A project may be operating under a grading permit granted the previous year, or the grading permits may have been granted after the wet season so there was no opportunity for a wet season inspection, for these reasons the number of permits and projects inspected rarely match.

**Permittees inspect more construction sites than are required to submit a SWPPP and inspect them more frequently for stormwater compliance than the permit requires.**

Figure 6-1 Local SWPPPs



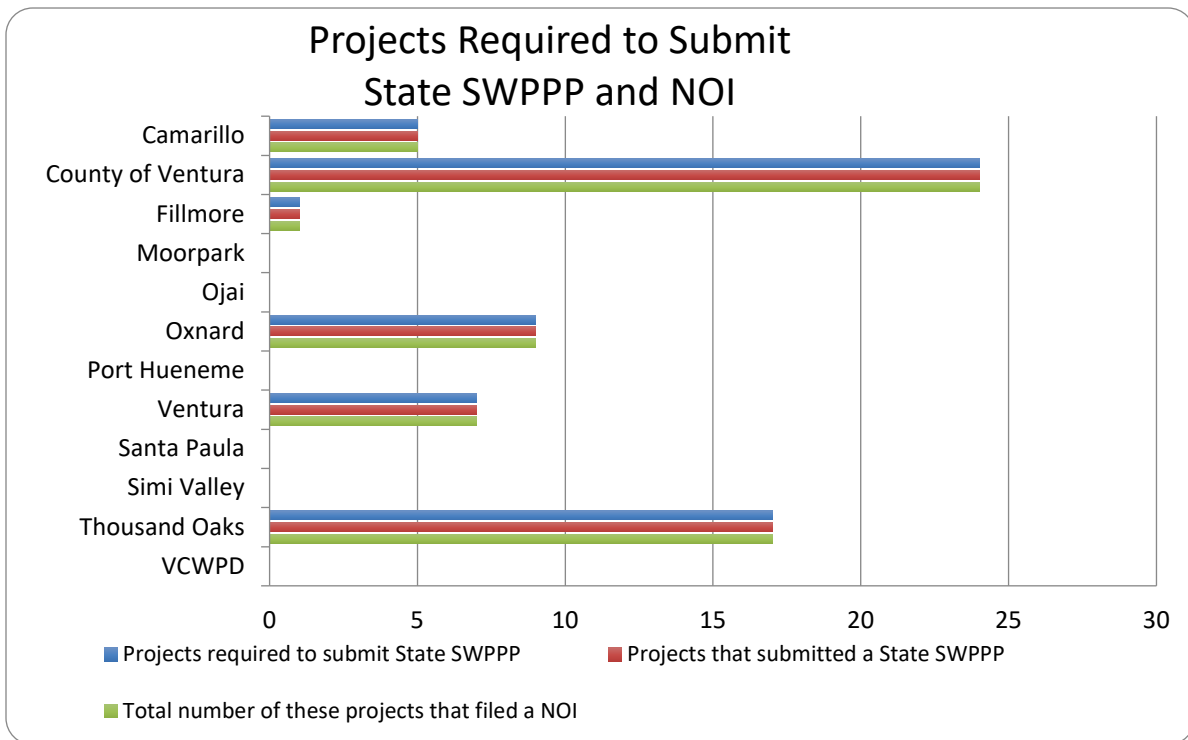
### 6.3.2 Requirements for Projects Subject to the General Stormwater Permit

The Permittees require all construction projects subject to the General Stormwater Permit for Construction Activities to submit proof of filing an NOI prior to issuing a grading permit. Proof of filing an NOI can include a copy of the completed NOI form and a copy of the check sent to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB), or a copy of the letter from the SWRCB with the Waste Discharge Identification Number (WDID) for the project.

In addition, the Permittees will file NOIs with the SWRCB and pay the appropriate fees when Permittee construction projects require coverage under the Construction General Permit. The NOIs and appropriate fees are sent to the State prior to the commencement of any construction activity covered by the Construction General Permit. A copy of the NOI is kept with the project files and in the SWPPP for the project.

Projects subject to the requirements of the Construction General Permit currently include those involving clearing, grading, or excavation resulting in soil disturbances of at least one acre. Permittee emergency work and routine maintenance projects do not require preparation of a SWPPP. That does not imply that stormwater controls are not implemented during these activities. Routine maintenance and emergency projects are performed in accordance with the Permit’s requirements for Public Agency Activities.

Figure 6-2 State SWPPPs and NOIs



## 6.4 INVENTORY (CONTROL MEASURE DC2)

The Construction Projects Inventory Control Measure involves tracking construction sites from the planning stage to completion. This is essential for ensuring that stormwater pollutants are reduced to the MEP. Maintaining a database to track all stages of the construction process is the foundation of construction-related source identification and helps to ensure that pollution prevention and source control are emphasized during all phases of the construction project. The permitting process is also an opportunity to provide stormwater education and outreach to the construction community and to emphasize the penalties that can be incurred with non-compliance.

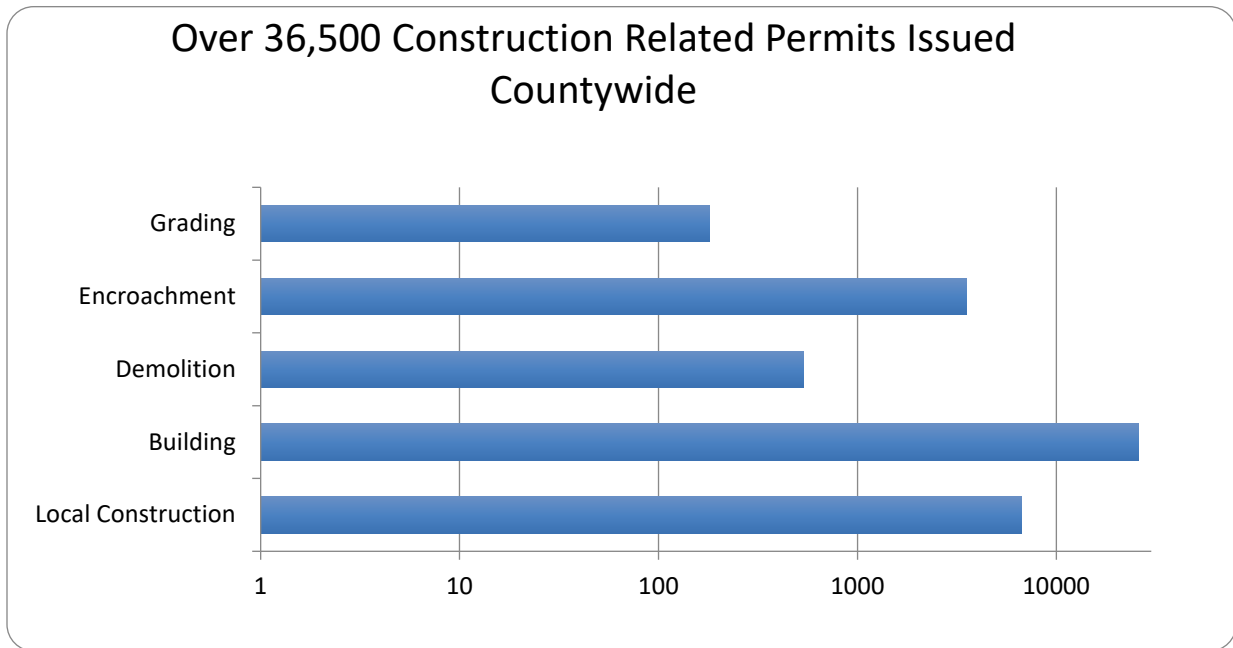
The Permittees have programs in place to track all grading, encroachment, demolition, and building permits as required by the NPDES Permit. In order to ensure the appropriate BMPs are being implemented when soil disturbing activities are taking place, the Permittees focus on the grading permit process to identify projects and the level of BMPs required. This has been determined as the most effective way to track projects with a potential to impact water quality as many encroachment, building, and other permits that are not associated with grading activities do not present the same level of risk to stormwater quality.

The City of Ventura utilizes an electronic tracking system throughout the City for grading permits, encroachment permits, demolition, building and CIP projects. Only 7 of 36 grading permits issued during the reporting period was for a project disturbing over 1 acre of soil. The majority of grading permits issued were for Thomas Fire rebuilds that are typically under 1 acre.

The City of Sim Valley implemented a new computer program, EnerGov, for tracking City issued permits in February 2021.

For the County of Ventura of the Grading Permits that were issued during the 2020-21 Fiscal Year, 35 were standard grading permits, 9 were Agricultural grading permits, 0 were Oil field grading permits, 1 for single temporary stockpile, and 49 were removal and re-compaction grading permits that only include the building envelope. The 9 Grading permits for Agricultural projects were subject to MS4 Construction Program but not General Construction Permit, so total projects subject to Local SWPPP Certification was 33 and total project subject to State SWPPP/GCP was 24.

Figure 6-3 Construction Permits Issued



Performance Standard 6-1

<b>Maintain an electronic system to track grading permits, encroachment permits, and any other municipal authorization to move soil</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

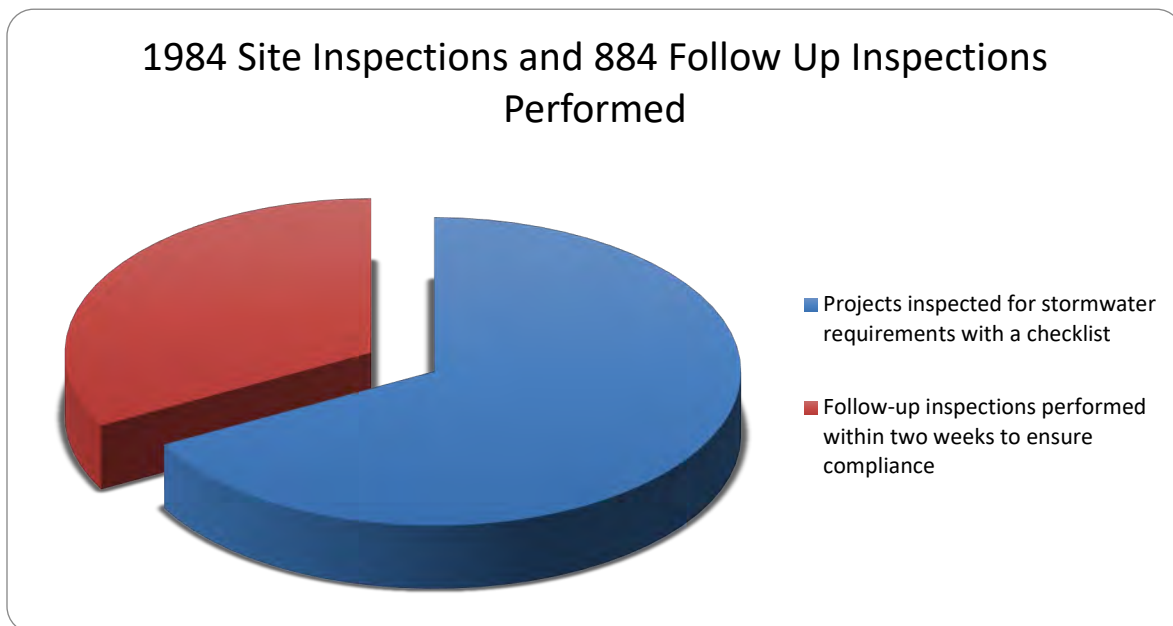
*Performance Standard 6-2*

<b>Required proof of Change of Information form (COI) and a copy of the modified SWPPP(s) at any time a transfer of ownership takes place</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**6.5 INSPECTIONS AND BMP IMPLEMENTATION (CONTROL MEASURE DC3)**

The Inspection and BMP Implementation Control Measure is critical to the ultimate success of the Development Construction Program Element. An effective construction site inspection program requires having adequate legal authority to enforce Permittee requirements, conducting inspections to ensure the sources are identified and that BMPs are being implemented and maintained, and tracking active construction sites to identify repeat violators. The inspection program also provides the basis for notifying the Regional Water Board when inspectors identify non-compliant sites including non-filers or repeat violators.

*Figure 6-4 Site Inspections and Follow-Up*

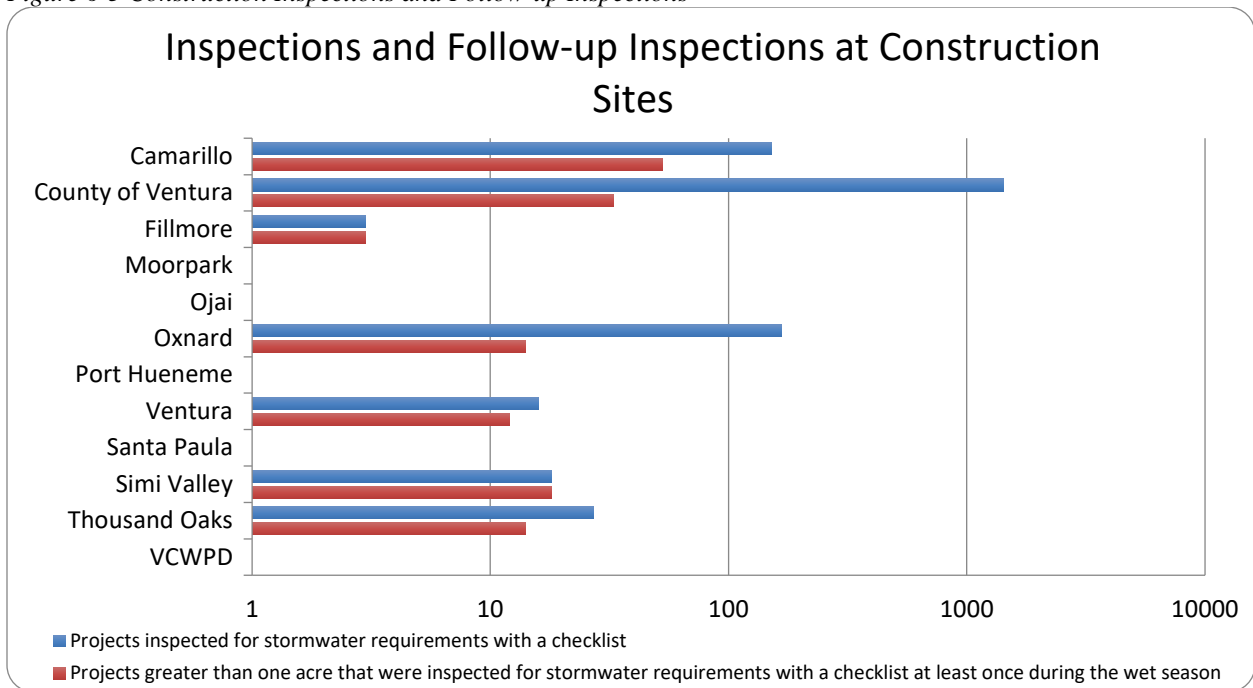


*Construction Site BMP Implementation*





Figure 6-5 Construction Inspections and Follow-up Inspections



### 6.5.1 Inspect Construction Sites

The Permittees inspect all active construction sites for the implementation of stormwater quality controls a minimum of once during the wet season, including all construction sites with SWPPPs to determine if the SWPPP is adequately implemented. During these site inspections, a checklist is completed to document inspection results. If it is determined the SWPPP is not adequately implemented, or when there is evidence of a reasonable potential for sediment, construction materials, wastes, or non-stormwater runoff to be discharged from the project site, the Permittees will inform the responsible party of what needs to be corrected and conduct a follow-up inspection within two weeks, but most often it is much sooner. The follow-up inspections are not always scheduled and often the response needed to correct the situation does not require two weeks to implement.

For the City of Ventura, all construction sites that require grading permits are required to submit a Local SWPPP (1 acre or greater) or SWPCP (under 1 acre) that is enforced through City of Ventura Municipal Code. Construction stormwater BMPs are checked weekly by superintendents, City construction inspectors and third party stormwater inspectors who are either QSPs or work under a QSP.

*Performance Standard 6-3*

<b>Construction sites less than 1 acre were inspected to ensure that the minimum set of BMPs was implemented</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



*Performance Standard 6-4*

<b>Construction sites greater than 1 acre and less than 5 acres inspected to ensure that the minimum set of BMPs was implemented</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*Performance Standard 6-5*

<b>Construction site greater than 5 acres inspected to ensure that the minimum set of BMPs was implemented</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

The Permittees inspect each road project that includes roadbed or street paving, repaving, patching, digouts, or resurfacing roadbed surfaces to ensure that the minimum set of BMPs are implemented. This is routinely done at the same time inspections are performed to ensure all work is being performed according to the design and the standards required of public works projects.



*Inspection of catch basin BMPs*

*Performance Standard 6-6*

<b>Projects that include roadbed or street paving, repaving, patching, digouts, or resurfacing roadbed surfaces inspected to ensure that the minimum set of BMPs was implemented</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### 6.5.2 Implementation of Enhanced Practices at “High Risk” Sites

Construction sites located on hillsides, adjacent to CWA 303(d) listed waters for siltation or sediment, and directly adjacent to ESAs are termed "high risk" sites. The Permittees ensure implementation of enhanced practices such as increased BMP inspection and maintenance requirements at "high risk" sites to ensure that they do not create a threat to water quality.

The Permit requires that "high risk" sites be inspected by the project proponent's Qualified SWPPP Developer or Qualified SWPPP Practitioner or personnel or consultants who are Certified Professionals in

Erosion and Sediment Control (CPESC) at the time of BMP installation, at least weekly during the wet season, and at least once each 24-hour period during a storm event that generates runoff from the site. Many of the Permittees did not have any designated high-risk construction sites, but did have the program in place to identify and implement the added requirements.

*Performance Standard 6-7*

<b>Ensure implementation of enhanced practices such as increased BMP inspection and maintenance requirements at high-risk sites</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ojai			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oxnard			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Port Hueneme			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



*Catch basin protection*

*Performance Standard 6-8*

<b>Require that high risk sites be inspected by the project proponent's Qualified SWPPP Developer or Qualified SWPPP Practitioner at high risk sites</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ojai			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oxnard			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Port Hueneme			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Simi Valley			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Construction sites are dynamic and changing environments and must be routinely inspected by the project proponent to ensure that the appropriate BMPs are in place and maintained. Permittees require that the project proponent of high-risk sites retain records of the inspection and a determination and rationale of the BMPs selected to control runoff during the wet season.

*Performance Standard 6-9*

<b>Did the Permittee require that the project proponent retain records of the inspection and a determination and rationale of the BMPs selected to control runoff during the wet season at high risk sites</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ojai			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Oxnard			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Port Hueneme			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Simi Valley			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



*Post-Construction BMP inspection*



*Concrete washout at construction site*

### 6.5.3 Inspect for Post-Construction Controls

The Permittees inspected the site design as constructed for source control and treatment control BMPs conditioned during the development process to verify that they have been constructed in compliance with all specifications, plans, permits, ordinances, and the MS4 Permit prior to approving and/ or signing off for occupancy and issuing the Certificate of Occupancy for all construction projects subject to post-construction controls. Permanent BMPs may be installed at any point during the construction process and therefore may be exposed to runoff conditions much worse than their intended design. The Permit also requires inspections to ensure that the BMPs are in good operating condition and are not in need of maintenance. These inspections are routinely performed at the same time to be cost efficient and to use the

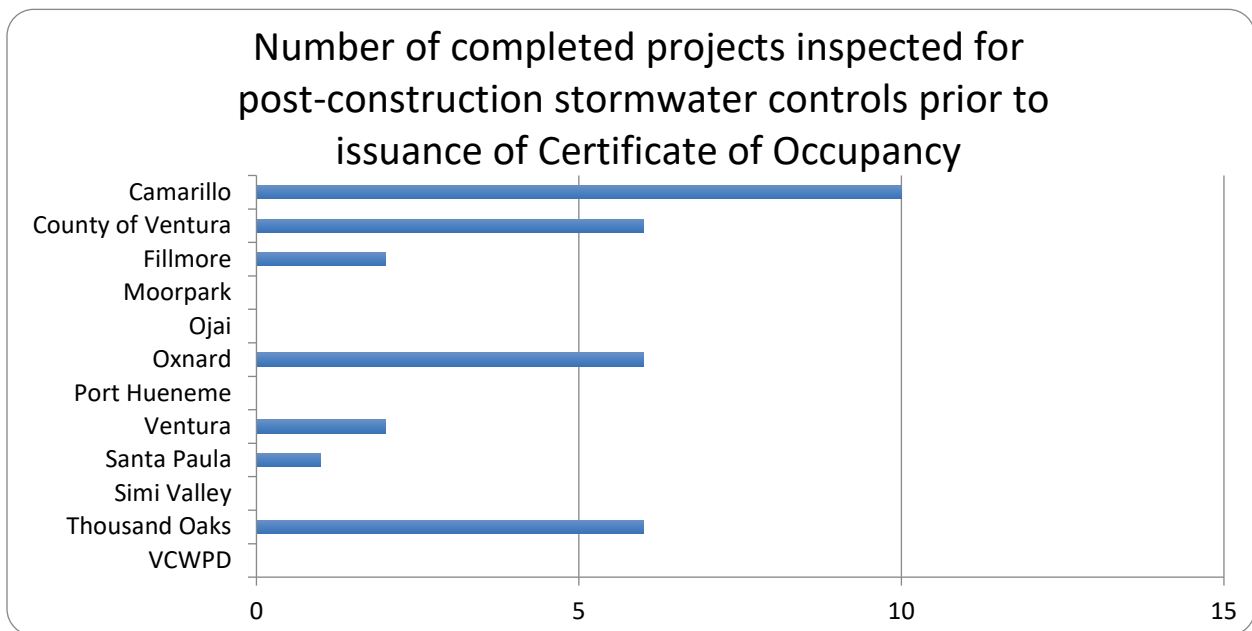
leverage the Certificate of Occupancy provides the Permittee. This requirement is in the Permit in Section F – Construction, and also Section E – Planning and Land Development.

As stated previously, the number of projects reaching the final stages of construction and requesting a Certificate of Occupancy will not directly match the number of active construction sites, or grading permits issued due to the elapsed time from permitting, to project initiation, completion, and finally occupancy.

*Performance Standard 6-10*

<b>Inspected constructed site design, source control and treatment control BMPs to verify constructed in compliance with all specifications prior to approving issuing the Certificate of Occupancy</b>			
	Yes	No	NA
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

*Figure 6-6 Inspections Prior to Certificate of Occupancy*



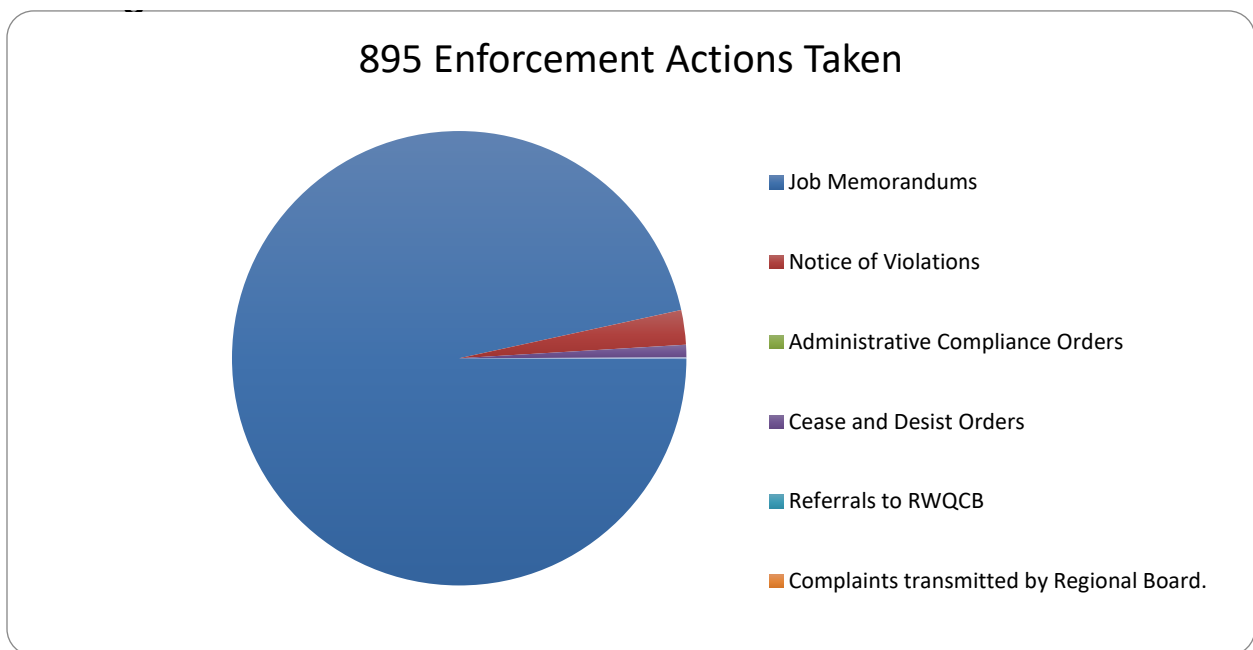
## 6.6 ENFORCEMENT (CONTROL MEASURE DC4)

The Enforcement Control Measure outlines the progressive levels of enforcement applied to construction sites that are out of compliance with local ordinances and establishes the protocol for referring apparent violations of construction sites subject to the Construction General Permit to the Regional Water Board. The progressive enforcement and referral policy, as well as the accompanying legal authority, is an important tool for providing a fair and equitable approach to bringing contractors and developers into compliance with the Permittees' municipal code requirements. Enforcement actions range from verbal warnings to the issuance of stop work orders. Legal action may also be taken, although is rarely necessary, as in almost all cases preventing work at a site will focus the developer's attention to the BMPs. For repeat offenders, or contractors that have not filed appropriate applications, the referral policy includes notification to the Regional Water Board.

### 6.6.1 Enforcement Action to Achieve Compliance

When a construction site fails to comply with the SWPPP, minimum BMPs, or other stormwater requirements, a Permittee implements the appropriate notification and enforcement procedures. There are five general levels of notification and enforcement for most stormwater related problems for construction projects. These are: Verbal Notification, Job Memorandum, Notice of Violation, Administrative Compliance Order, and Stop Work Order. Sites that are permitted under the construction activities general permit (CASGP) are also referred to the RWQCB if they fail to achieve compliance and a good faith effort has been made by the Permittee to achieve compliance. At a minimum that is two follow-up inspections within three months, and at least two warning letters or NOVs. The decision to use any level of enforcement is based upon the severity of the violation(s). Severe violations may result in all construction activities being stopped at the job site and not allowed to proceed until compliance is achieved. The Regional Board may be notified of severe violations at sites under the CASGP if the situation warrants immediate attention. If such a case occurs, the Permittees will work with Board staff in identification of owners and operators, assist with joint inspections, and other efforts to reduce pollutants from entering an MS4.

Figure 6-7 Enforcement at Construction Sites



### 6.6.2 Implement Progressive Enforcement and Referral Policy

During the reporting year one site was referred to the Regional Water Quality Control Board for enforcement actions under the CAGSP. The contractors at these sites failed to construct the BMPs per the SWPPP plan. This referral to the Regional Water Board is summarized in Table 6-2.

Table 6-2 Summary of Referrals

WDID Number	Reason for Referral
4 56C390320	A Regional Board referral was issued for WDID 4 56C390320 for lack of maintenance of BMPs and poor housekeeping practices

### 6.6.3 Refer Non-filers Under the CASGP or the Small LUP General Permit

Countywide all construction activities that were required to file for coverage under the CASGP or the Small Linear Underground Project Permit did so. This is because the Permittees have developed the appropriate programs and procedures to ensure that local permits are not granted until the project proponent can provide adequate proof of state permit coverage.

### 6.6.4 Investigation of Complaints Regarding Facilities - Transmitted by the Regional Water Board Staff

The Permittees are required to initiate an initial investigation of complaints transmitted by the Regional Water Board Staff (other than non-storm water discharges) on the construction site(s) within its jurisdiction. During the reporting period the Regional Board did not transmit any complaints for Permittee investigation; any reports received would be summarized in Table 6-3 Summary of Complaints Transmitted by the Regional Water Board.

Table 6-3 Summary of Complaints Transmitted by the Regional Water Board

Permit #	Initial Investigation conducted within 1 business day? (Y/N)	Inspection of the Facility and its Perimeter? (Y/N)
None	**	**

### 6.6.5 Support of Regional Water Board Enforcement Actions

If the Regional Water Board is aware of non-compliance at a construction site they may request assistance from the Permittees to support their formal enforcement actions. Fortunately during the reporting period the Permittees were able to use their local authority to keep all construction sites in compliance and assistance to the Regional Water Board enforcement actions was not needed.

Table 6-4 describes what kind of assistance the Permittees could provide and will be used in future reports to summarize any enforcement action assistance.

Table 6-4 Summary of Complaints Transmitted by the Regional Water Board

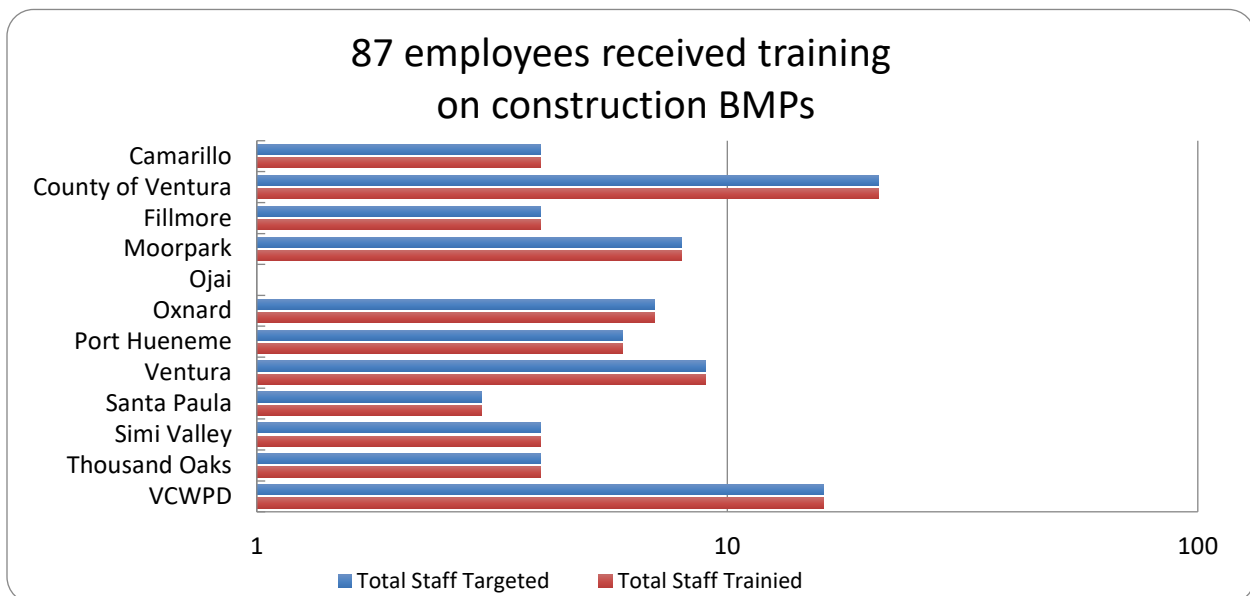
Permit #	Assisted in Identification of Current Owners/ Operators of Properties/Sites? (Y/N)	Provided Staff for Joint Inspections with Regional Water Board Inspectors? (Y/N)	Appeared to Testify as Witnesses in Regional Water Board Enforcement Hearings? (Y/N)	Provided Copies of Inspection Reports and Other Progressive Enforcement Documentation? (Y/N)
**	**	**	**	**

## 6.7 TRAINING – (CONTROL MEASURE DC5)

Training is important for the implementation of the Development Construction Program Element. An effective training program is one of the best pollution prevention BMPs that can be implemented because it prompts behavioral changes that are fundamentally necessary to protect water quality. The Permittees target employees involved with construction engineering and inspection for training regarding the requirements of the Program for Construction Sites. Training methods varied amongst the Permittees and ranged from informal meetings, online, formal classroom training, and seminars to self-guided training. The Permittees also trained staff on the prevention, detection and investigation of illicit discharges and illegal connections (IC/ID) associated with construction activities. See Chapter 8 of this Annual Report for more information regarding IC/ID training.

During this reporting period, the Permittees trained 87 key staff, including contractors whose interactions, jobs, and activities affect development construction in stormwater management, construction inspections, SWPCPs, SWPPPs, illicit discharge response, and non-stormwater discharges. Figure 6-8 depicts the number of staff trained in the program areas for each Permittee.

Figure 6-8 Construction Inspection Training





## **6.8 EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT (CONTROL MEASURE DC6)**

Effectiveness assessment is fundamental for developing and implementing successful stormwater programs. In order to determine the effectiveness of the Development Construction Program, a comprehensive assessment of the program data is conducted as a part of the Annual Report. The results of this assessment are used to identify modifications that need to be made to the program. Each year the effectiveness assessment is reviewed and revised as needed. By conducting these assessments and modifying the program as needed, the Permittees ensure that the iterative process is used as an effective management tool. Due to the types of data collected for the Development Construction Program, current assessments will primarily focus on Outcome Levels 1, 2 & 3.

- Outcome Level 1 (L1) answers the question: Did the Permittees implement the components of the Permit?
- Outcome Level 2 (L2) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard significantly increased the awareness of its target audience?
- Outcome Level 3 (L3) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard significantly modified the behavior of a target audience?

The following is an assessment regarding the effectiveness of the Development Construction Program.

### **6.8.1 Plan Review and Approval Process**

#### **Review Grading and Construction Permit Applications for SWPPP Requirements**

Prior to approving a grading permit, the Permittees require a SWPPP be submitted for projects greater than one acre. (L1) All projects required to submit a State SWPPP, submitted a State SWPPP and filed a NOI. (L1) Proof of filing an NOI included a copy of the completed NOI form and a copy of the check sent to the SWRCB, or a copy of the letter the SWRCB with the WDID for the project. (L1)

In some jurisdictions, Local SWPPPs were required and submitted for nearly all projects, including those not exceeding Permit thresholds. (L1)

The Permittees required proof of state permit coverage so that all construction activities that were required to file for coverage under the CASGP or Small Linear Underground Project Permit did so.

### **6.8.2 Inventory**

The Permittees maintained an electronic system to track grading permits, encroachment permits, and any other municipal authorization to move soil (or are in progress developing the system). (L1) They required a copy of the SWPPP any time a transfer of ownership took place. Ownership transfer did not happen in each jurisdiction, so some Permittees did not have the opportunity to require a revised SWPPP. (L1)

#### **Inspection and BMP Implementation**

The Permittees inspected all active construction sites for stormwater quality requirements during routine inspections a minimum of once during the wet season. (L1) (L2) As shown in Figure 6-4, for inspected sites that had not adequately implemented their SWPPPs, the Permittees conducted a follow-up inspection within two weeks. Most often, the follow-up inspection occurred much sooner. (L1) (L2) (L3) In addition, the majority of Permittees inspected each project that included roadbed or street paving, repaving, patching, digouts, or resurfacing roadbed surfaces to ensure that the minimum set of BMPs were implemented. This

was routinely done at the same time inspections were performed to ensure all work was being performed according to the design and standards required of public works projects. (L1) (L2)

The Permittees required a CPESC to inspect the construction sites at the time of BMP installation, at least weekly during the wet season, and at least once each 24-hour period during a storm event that generated runoff from the site if the site was:

- Within, or adjacent to an ESA
- On a hillside
- Discharging into a sedimentation/siltation impaired water body listed on the CWA 303(d) list

Many of the Permittees did not have any of these types of high-risk construction sites but did have the program in place to implement the added requirements.

Prior to approving and/or signing off for occupancy and issuing the Certificate of Occupancy for all construction projects subject to post-construction controls, the majority of Permittees inspected the constructed site design, and source control and treatment control BMPs conditioned during the development process to verify that they have been constructed in compliance with all specifications, plans, permits, ordinances, and the MS4 Permit, as shown in Figure 6-6.

### 6.8.3 Enforcement

#### **Enforcement Action to Achieve Compliance**

When a construction site fails to comply with the SWPPP, minimum BMPs or other stormwater requirements, a Permittee implements the appropriate notification and enforcement procedures. (L1) Sites that are permitted under the CASGP are also referred to the RWQCB if they fail to achieve compliance in two weeks and a good faith effort has been made by the Permittee to achieve compliance. (L1) (L2)

Figure 6-7 shows each enforcement level and the relative number of enforcement actions taken. The Permittees did not make any referrals of violation of the new development and redevelopment post construction requirements and municipal stormwater ordinances to the Regional Water Board because there were no violations. (L1) Two sites were referred to the Regional Water Board to take appropriate enforcement actions under the CAGSP.

#### **Training**

During this reporting period, the Permittees trained 88 key staff, including contractors whose interactions, jobs, and activities affect development construction in stormwater management, construction inspections, SWPCPs, SWPPPs, illicit discharge response, and non-stormwater discharges. (L1) 100% of targeted staff members received training on construction BMPs, as shown in Figure 6-8.

### 6.8.4 Development Construction Program Modifications

On an annual basis the Permittees plan to evaluate the results of the Annual Report, as well as the experience that staff has had in implementing the program, to determine if any additional program modifications are necessary to comply with the Clean Water Act requirement to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP. Any key modifications made to the Development Construction Program Element during the next fiscal year will be reported in the following Annual Report.

# 7 Public Agency Activities

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## 7.1 OVERVIEW

Public Agencies can help fight stormwater pollution in two ways. One is to stop and remove pollutants generated by the public before they reach receiving waters, and the other is ensuring all the activities performed by the agency do not contribute to stormwater pollution to the MEP. Therefore, public agencies have a dual role in the stormwater program: removing pollutants before they are transported by the storm drain system and preventing pollution from being generated in the operation and maintenance of public facilities.

The Permittees own and operate public facilities and build and maintain much of the infrastructure of the urban and suburban environment throughout their jurisdictions. Maintenance activities include street sweeping and drainage facility inspection and cleaning. As part of their normal operations the Permittees conduct a number of activities (e.g., sewer line cleaning, catch basin cleaning, street repairs) that have the potential to generate or mobilize pollutants. Control Measures in the Public Agency Activities Program Element are designed to ensure that these operations and maintenance activities are performed using procedures that minimize pollutants generated and reduce the potential for pollutants to enter the storm drain system.

## 7.2 CONTROL MEASURES

The Permittees have developed several Control Measures and accompanying performance standards to ensure that Permit requirements for the public agency activities are effectively developed and implemented. For each Control Measure there are accompanying performance standards.

The Public Agency Activities Control Measures are organized to be parallel to the organization of the Permit and consist of the following:

*Table 7-1 Control Measures for the Public Agency Activities Program Element*

<b>PA</b>	<b>Control Measure</b>
PA1	Public Construction Activities Management
PA2	Vehicle Maintenance/Material Storage Facilities/Corporation Yards Management/Municipal Operations
PA3	Vehicle and Equipment Wash Areas
PA4	Landscape, Park, and Recreational Facilities Management
PA5	Storm Drain Operation and Management
PA6	Street And Roads Maintenance
PA7	Emergency Procedures
PA8	Training
PA9	Effectiveness Assessment

### 7.3 PUBLIC CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITIES MANAGEMENT (CONTROL MEASURE PA1)

The Public Construction Activities Control Measure provides protocols to be followed in the design and construction phases of capital projects undertaken by the Permittees. Per the Permit, Permittees will follow the Planning and Land Development, and Construction Programs requirements for all Permittee-owned or operated public construction projects. Those requirements include complying with the Development Planning Program requirements at public construction projects and all the Development Construction Program requirements at Permittee owned or operated construction sites including requiring the development of SWPCP for projects that disturb less than one Acre.

*Performance Standard 7-1*

<b>Comply with all the Development Planning Program requirements at public construction projects.</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 7-2*

<b>Comply with all the Development Construction Program requirements at Permittee owned construction sites</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

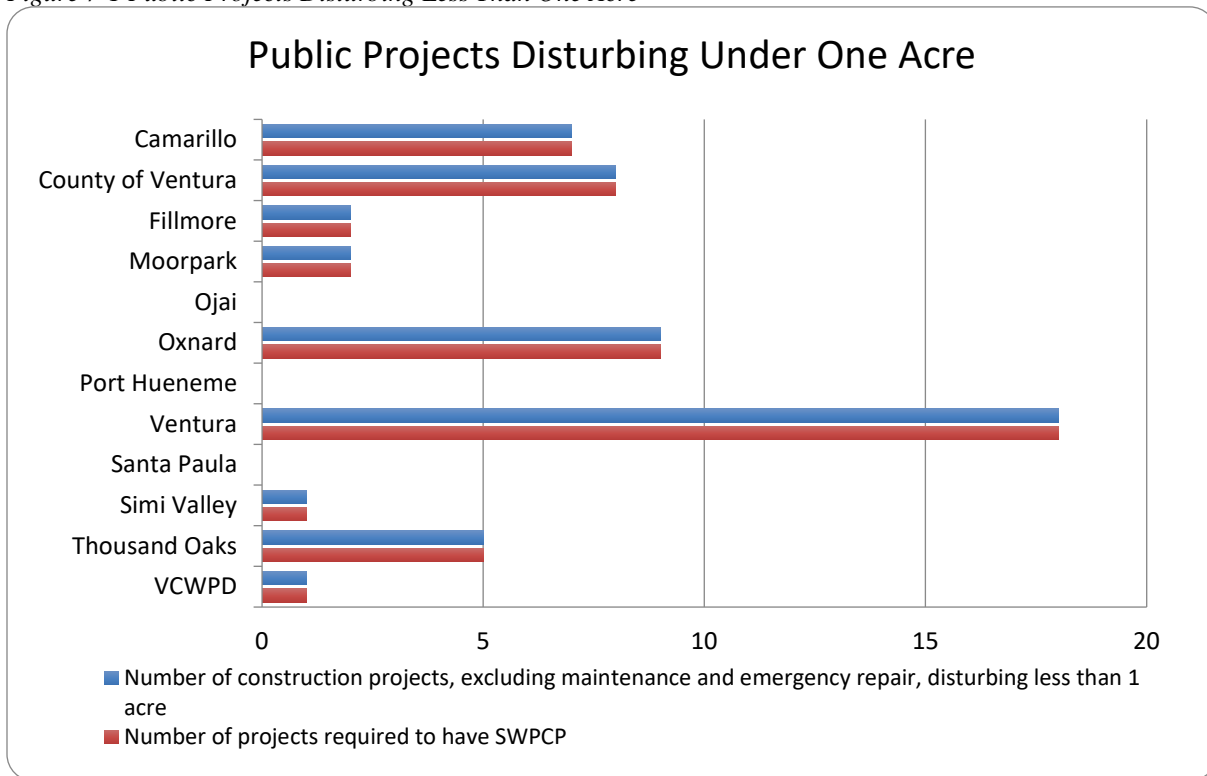
An agency does not routinely grant grading or building permits for its own public construction projects within their jurisdiction. Therefore, identifying and defining small construction projects does not have that

paper trail. To ensure that extremely small projects such as installing a stop sign or providing wheelchair access ramps to a sidewalk meet Permit requirements, the Permittees have adopted standard practices to serve as the SWPCP. The practices include the BMPs identified in the permit for construction projects under one acre.

*Performance Standard 7-3*

<b>Require the development of a Storm Water Pollution Control Plan for public projects</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

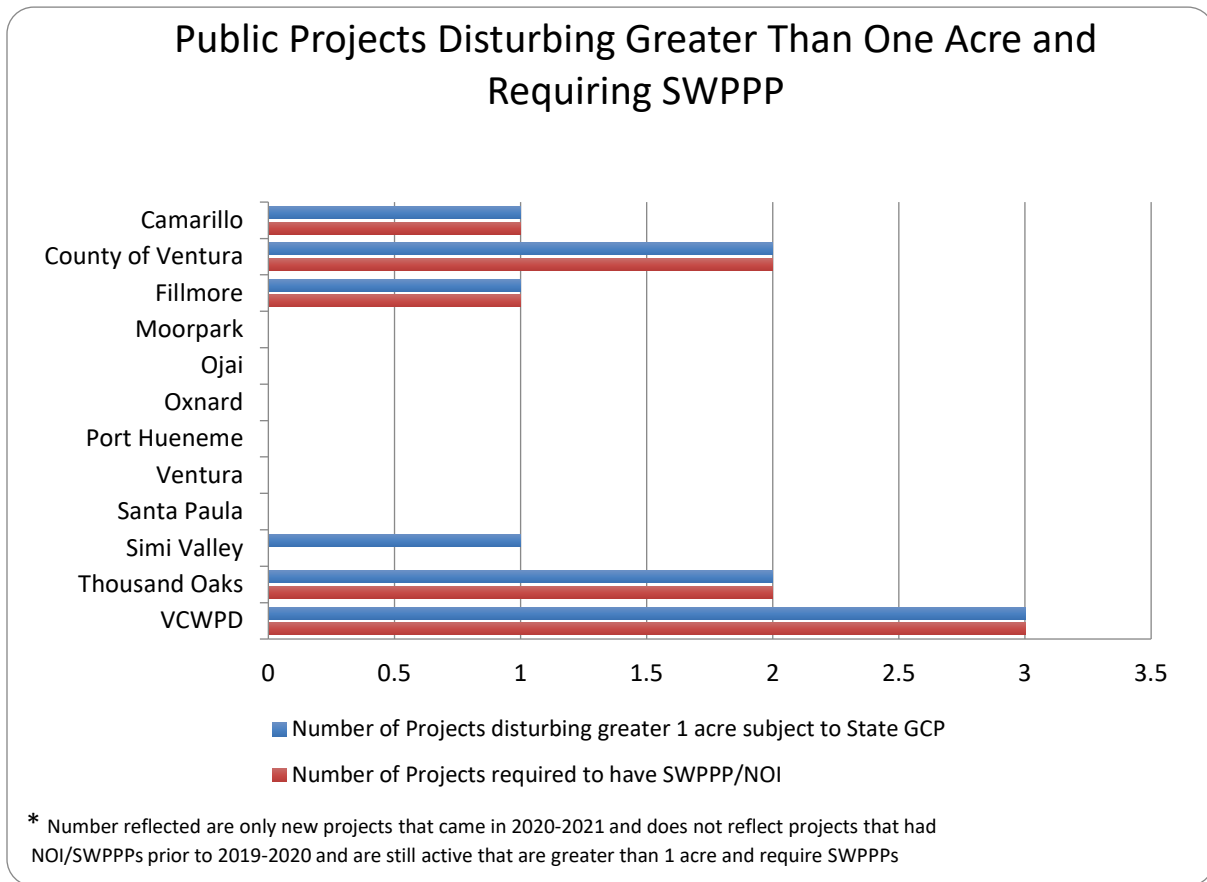
*Figure 7-1 Public Projects Disturbing Less Than One Acre*



Larger projects have requirements in the construction bid documents which require the contractor to draft and implement an approved SWPPP with the size appropriate BMPs. All public constructions projects are required to be in compliance the State’s requirements under the Construction Activities General Stormwater

Permit (CAGSP). Figure 7-2 identifies how many projects the Permittees had that fell under those requirements.

Figure 7-2 Public Projects Disturbing Greater Than One Acre



**7.4 VEHICLE MAINTENANCE/MATERIAL STORAGE FACILITIES/CORPORATION YARDS MANAGEMENT/MUNICIPAL OPERATIONS (CONTROL MEASURE PA2)**

The Vehicle Maintenance/Material Storage Facilities/Corporation Yards Management/Municipal Operations Control Measure addresses pollutants entering the storm drain system from Permittee-owned/leased facilities (e.g., vehicle equipment maintenance facilities, material storage facilities, collectively referred to as corporation yards). There are other non-operation oriented facilities that



BMP protected materials in Thousand Oaks

are owned or leased by the Permittees where these Permit conditions are not relevant, such as libraries, parks, and office buildings. However, these facilities are still required to comply with all other applicable Permit requirements such as pesticide use.

The Permittees' corporation yards support operation and maintenance activities within their jurisdiction. Corporation yards are operated and maintained by the Permittees for the following activities or facilities:

- Vehicle and equipment
- Storage and parking
- Maintenance
- Fueling
- Washing and cleaning
- Sign painting activities
- Bulk material storage areas

*Table 7-2 Summary of Permittee-Owned and Leased Facilities*

Permittee Corporate Yards	Name	Address	Implementation of appropriate BMPs	Address discharges of wash waters from vehicles and equipment washing facilities
Camarillo	Camarillo Corporation Yard	283 South Glenn Drive	☑	☑
County of Ventura	Saticoy Operation Yard	11201/11251 Riverbank Drive Saticoy, CA	☑	☑
	Government Center, Service Building	800 South Victoria Avenue Ventura, CA	☑	☑
	VCSO Air Unit	555 Airport Way Camarillo, CA	☑	☑
	Maintenance Yard	Camarillo/Oxnard Airport	☑	☑
	Aircraft Maintenance and Wash Rack Yard	Camarillo/Oxnard Airport	☑	☑
	East Dirt Field	Camarillo Airport	☑	☑
	Moorpark Maintenance Yard	6767 Spring Road Moorpark, CA	☑	☑
	Todd Road Jail	Todd Rd. Jail, Santa Paula, CA	☑	☑
Fillmore	Public Works Yard	752 Sespe Place, Fillmore, CA	☑	☑
Moorpark	Moorpark Public Services Facility	627 Fitch Avenue, Moorpark, CA 93021	☑	N/A
	Moorpark Police Services Center	610 Spring Road, Moorpark, CA 93021	☑	☑
Ojai	Public Works Maintenance Yard	408 S. Signal St. Ojai, CA 93023	☑	☑
Oxnard	Oxnard POTW	6001 S. Perkins Rd., Oxnard, CA	☑	☑
	Corporation Yard	1060 Pacific Ave, Oxnard, CA	☑	☑
	Water Campus	251 S. Hayes Ave, Oxnard, CA	☑	☑
	Del Norte	111 S. Del Norte Blvd, Oxnard, Ca	☑	☑
Port Hueneme	Public Works Surfside Yard	700 'B' E. East Hueneme Rd., Port Hueneme, CA	☑	☑
	Public Works Industrial Yard	746 Industrial Ave., Port Hueneme, CA	☑	☑
Ventura	City of Ventura Public Works Maintenance Yard	336 Sanjon Road, Ventura, CA 93001	☑	☑
Santa Paula	City Corporation Yard	203 Corporation St, Santa Paula	☑	☑
	City Water Yard	132 S. Palm St, Santa Paula, CA	☑	☑
Simi Valley	Simi Valley Police Department	3901 Alamo St, Simi Valley CA	☑	☑
	City of Simi Valley Public Service Center	490 W Los Angeles Ave, Simi Valley CA	☑	☑
Thousand Oaks	Municipal Service Center	1993 Rancho Conejo Blvd., Newbury Park, CA 91320	☑	☑
VCWPD	Moorpark Maintenance Yard	6767 Spring Rd, Moorpark, CA 93021	☑	☑
	Saticoy Maintenance Yard	11251-B River Bank, Ventura, CA 93004	☑	☑

\* The County of Ventura has implemented BMPs at over 40 facilities to eliminate runoff pollution from wash water. See table 7-3 for list of facilities and BMPs.

#### 7.4.1 Implement Required BMPs for each Facility

The Permittees have written SWPCPs for corporation yards to ensure implementation of appropriate BMPs, including those identified in Table 10 of the Permit. The SWPCPs were required under the previous permit and serve to help implement the current Permit requirements. The SWPCPs call for annual inspections to be performed and documented by trained staff. Any insufficiencies identified during inspections are quickly corrected by facility staff.

### 7.5 VEHICLE AND EQUIPMENT WASH AREAS (CONTROL MEASURE PA3)

The Vehicle and Equipment Wash Areas Control Measure addresses pollutants entering the storm drain system from Permittee-owned/leased vehicle and equipment wash areas. The Permit provides several options to eliminate wash water discharges from vehicles and equipment washing facilities by implementing one of the following:

- Self-contain, and haul-off for disposal;
- Equip with a clarifier;
- Equip with an alternative pre-treatment device; or
- Plumb to the sanitary sewer.



The Permittees have been successful in implementing applicable BMPs to eliminate wash water discharges from vehicles and equipment washing. As municipal facilities are constructed, redeveloped, or replaced all



vehicle wash areas will be plumbed to the sanitary sewer or be self-contained with all wastewater disposed of legally.

Table 7-3 County Facilities with Wash Water Elimination BMPs

County Facilities with Wash Water Elimination BMPs		
Project Name	BMP	Address
Boat Launch Ramp Replacement	Vegetated Swales and Cartridge Media Filters (2 of each)	Pelican Way, Oxnard
County Gov Center Parking Lot	Pervious gutters with infiltration trench and dry wells	800 S. Victoria Ave, Ventura
FS 20	Bioretention	12727 Santa Paula Ojai Road, Ojai, CA
FS 21	Bioretention with underdrain	1201 E. Ojai Rd, Ojai, CA
FS 22	Bioretention	466 S La Luna Ave, Meiners Oaks, CA
FS 23	Bioretention	15 Kunkle Street, Oak View, CA
FS 25	Clarifier and diversion to sanitary sewer	5674 W Pacific Coast Hwy, Ventura, CA
FS 27	Bioretention	613 Old Telegraph Road, Fillmore, CA
FS 33	Clarifier and diversion to sanitary sewer	25 Lake Sherwood Dr, Westlake Village, CA
FS 40	Clarifier and diversion to sanitary sewer	4185 Cedar Springs St, Moorpark, CA
FS 42	Clarifier and diversion to sanitary sewer	295 E High St, Moorpark, CA
FS 51	Clarifier and diversion to sanitary sewer	3302 Turnout Park Circle, Oxnard, CA
FS 53	Clarifier and diversion to sanitary sewer	304 N Second St, Port Hueneme, CA
FS 54	Clarifier and diversion to sanitary sewer	2160 Pickwick Dr, Camarillo, CA
FS-26	Fossil Filter - FloGard Plus inserts (2)	12391 W. Telegraph Rd, Santa Paula
FS-28	Bioretention	513 N. Church St, Piru
FS-30	Biofiltration (underdrain)	325 W. Hillcrest Dr, Thousand Oaks
FS-31	Biofiltration (underdrain)	151 Duesenberg Dr, Thousand Oaks
FS-32	Drywell	830 S. Reino Rd, Newbury Park
FS-34	Biofiltration (underdrain)	555 Avenida De Los Arboles, Thousand Oaks
FS-36	Drywell	855 N. Deerhill Rd, Oak Park
FS-37	Biofiltration (underdrain)	2010 Upper Ranch Rd, Thousand Oaks
FS-41	Drywell	1910 Church St. Simi Valley
FS-43	Bioswale, detention basin, and FloGard Plus Filter	5874 East Los Angeles Avenue, Simi Valley
FS-44	Fossil Filter - FloGard Plus inserts (2)	1050 Country Club Dr, Simi Valley
FS-45	Fossil Filter - FloGard Plus inserts (3)	790 Pacific Ave, Simi Valley
FS-46	Bioretention	3265 Tapo St, Simi Valley
FS-47	Bioswale	2901 Erringer Rd. Simi Valley
FS-50	Drywell	189 S. Las Posas Rd, Camarillo
FS-52	Drywell	5353 Santa Rosa Rd, Camarillo
FS-55	Drywell	403 Valley Vista Dr, Camarillo
FS-56	Biofiltration (underdrain)	11855 Pacific Coast Hwy, Malibu
FS-57	Drywell	3356 Somis Rd, Somis
Moorpark Police Station	Bioswale	610 Spring Rd, Moorpark
VC Juvenile Court	Retention basin	4333 Vineyard Ave
County facility in Ventura	Planter swale	855 Partridge, Ventura
Saticoy Yard	Detention basin	11251 Riverbank Drive, Saticoy
Piru Skate Park	Infiltration Trench	500 North Main Street, Piru, CA
Camarillo Sheriff's VCSA Unit	Biofilter	373 Durley Ave. Suite A, Camarillo, CA
Work Furlough Visiting Park	Swale, catch basin filters	345 Skyway Dr, Camarillo, CA

## 7.6 LANDSCAPE, PARK, AND RECREATIONAL FACILITIES MANAGEMENT (CONTROL MEASURE PA4)

The Landscape, Park, and Recreational Facilities Management Control Measure ensure that the discharges of pollutants from the Permittees' use, and storage of, fertilizers and pesticides are minimized. The control measure includes the use of BMPs that promote the use of integrated pest management (IPM) and retention and planting of native plant species requiring less water and chemical support to remain healthy.

### 7.6.1 Implement IPM Program

A model integrated pest management (IPM) program was drafted through the Public Agencies Activities Subcommittee and used as a template by the Permittees to develop their own plans. This standardized protocol was posted on the Program's website November 2009. The due date in the Permit for implementation of IPM plans was October 8, 2010.

The standardized protocol provides a comprehensive policy to comply with the Ventura County Permit for the routine and non-routine application of pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides (including pre-emergents). The intent is to focus on preventing pesticides, fertilizers, and herbicides from entering the storm drain system and discharging to receiving waters.

This protocol is applicable to 1) the outdoor use of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers; 2) the use of pesticides and fertilizers where the materials may come into contact with precipitation; 3) the use of pesticides, herbicides, and fertilizers where these materials may come into contact with runoff (natural or irrigation); and 4) the use of pesticides, herbicides, or fertilizers anywhere where they may be directly or indirectly discharged to a storm drainage system.

The protocol is applicable to both Permittee staff and contracted services that apply pesticides, fertilizers, or herbicides. Such staff commonly include, park, public works, building/grounds maintenance, and pesticide application staff. It is not applicable to the indoor use of pesticides, but is applicable to the consequential outdoor handling, mixing, or disposal of materials related to indoor use. It is also not applicable to separate parks districts that operate within the County but are not covered under the Permit. Additionally, this protocol also does not apply when another NPDES permit and/or abatement orders are in effect at the selected site. Furthermore, this protocol is not intended to replace federal or state requirements or provide complete directions for applying, handling, transporting, mixing, or storing pesticides, fertilizers, or herbicides.

An effective IPM program should include the following elements:

- Pesticides are used only if monitoring indicates they are needed according to established guidelines.
- Treatment is made with the goal of removing only the target organism.
- Pest controls are selected and applied in a manner that minimizes risks to human health, beneficial non-target organisms, and the environment.
- Use of pesticides, including Organophosphates and Pyrethroids do not threaten water quality.
- Partner with other agencies and organizations to encourage the use of IPM.
- Adopt and verifiably implement policies, procedures, and/or ordinances requiring the minimization of pesticide use and encouraging the use of IPM techniques (including beneficial insects) in the Permittees' overall operations and on municipal property.
- Policies, procedures, and ordinances shall include commitments and timelines to reduce the use of pesticides that cause impairment of surface waters by implementing the following procedures:
  - Quantify pesticide use by its staff and hired contractors.

- Prepare and annually update an inventory of pesticides used by all internal departments, divisions, and other operational units.
- Demonstrate reductions in pesticide use.

The prevention of pesticides from harming non-target organisms is the primary goal of the Permittees IPM program. The Permit also asks for the demonstration of a reduction in pesticide use; that is not as simple as comparing one year’s use to another. Many factors should, and do, go into the decision to use pesticides. Year-to-year variables can have a significant impact on the use. For example, an above average wet year will require more weed abatement than a dry year. The need to address an insect infestation before it spreads will require an intensified use of pesticides in that area. Since year-to-year reductions cannot be accurately compared due to the variability of needs, the reduction of pesticides used by the Permittees is considered to be the difference between current usage and the amount of pesticides that would have been used under a non-IPM program.

*Performance Standard 7-4*

<b>Implement an integrated pest management (IPM) program consistent with Permit</b>			
	Yes	No	Draft
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Beyond IPM some Permittees have completely stopped the use of pesticides. Ventura County’s General Services Agency Grounds Maintenance Division and the Watershed Protection District have not applied pesticides for over 5 years.

Since 2007, the City of Ventura has had an IPM Program as a method of managing plant pests by combining the proper identification of problems and assessment of potential injury before taking management actions. Management typically involves several approaches (biological, cultural, mechanical, soft chemical) which are used in a complementary, integrated manner. Consideration is given to environmental and social impacts of pest management activities. The basic goals of the IPM program include the following: A reduced pesticide use, reduced insecticide resistance , conservation of beneficial insects, maintain water quality, reduce costs and better overall management of the environment.

The City of Thousand Oaks implements Integrated Pest Management (IPM) practices that endeavor to protect and preserve the landscape, infrastructure, and urban forest within the Thousand Oaks community. The City’s IPM practices focuses on long-term sustainability and promotes limited pesticide use only after no other method of control can reasonably achieve the desired result. Treatments shall comply with all State and local regulations and shall be made with the goal of removing only the target organism. Prior to the purchase or handling of any pesticide, the City must obtain an annual Restricted Materials Permit from the Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner’s Office. After pesticides have been applied, a Pesticide Use Report must be completed and submitted to Commissioner’s Office.

### 7.6.2 Maintain and Expand Internal Inventory on Pesticide Use

Permittees require all staff applying pesticides to be either certified by the California Department of Food and Agriculture, or under the direct on-site supervision of a certified pesticide applicator, as defined in the

standardized protocol. Permittees have also restricted the purchase and use of pesticides and herbicides to certified staff. Permittees that contract out for pesticide applications have included contract provisions requiring the contract applicator meet all requirements of this program. Contract language includes compliance with the standardized protocol, the prohibitions and requirements of the protocol, and supervision of pesticide applicators.

*Performance Standard 7-5*

<b>Establish standard protocols for routine and non-routine application of pesticide consistent with the permit requirements</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 7-6*

<b>Prepare an annual update an inventory of pesticides used by all internal departments and hired contractors</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

## 7.7 STORM DRAIN OPERATION AND MANAGEMENT (CONTROL MEASURE PA5)

The Storm Drain Operation and Management Control Measure provides for the year-to-year performance and long-term integrity of the Permittees' storm drain system while reducing the discharge of pollutants. The Permittees must prioritize catch basins for cleaning based on the required level of maintenance, and all catch basins are marked with a storm drain message, whether stenciled or permanently imprinted. This Control Measure also includes a requirement for special events to prevent debris accumulation in catch basins and storm drains.

### 7.7.1 Implement Storm Drain System Mapping

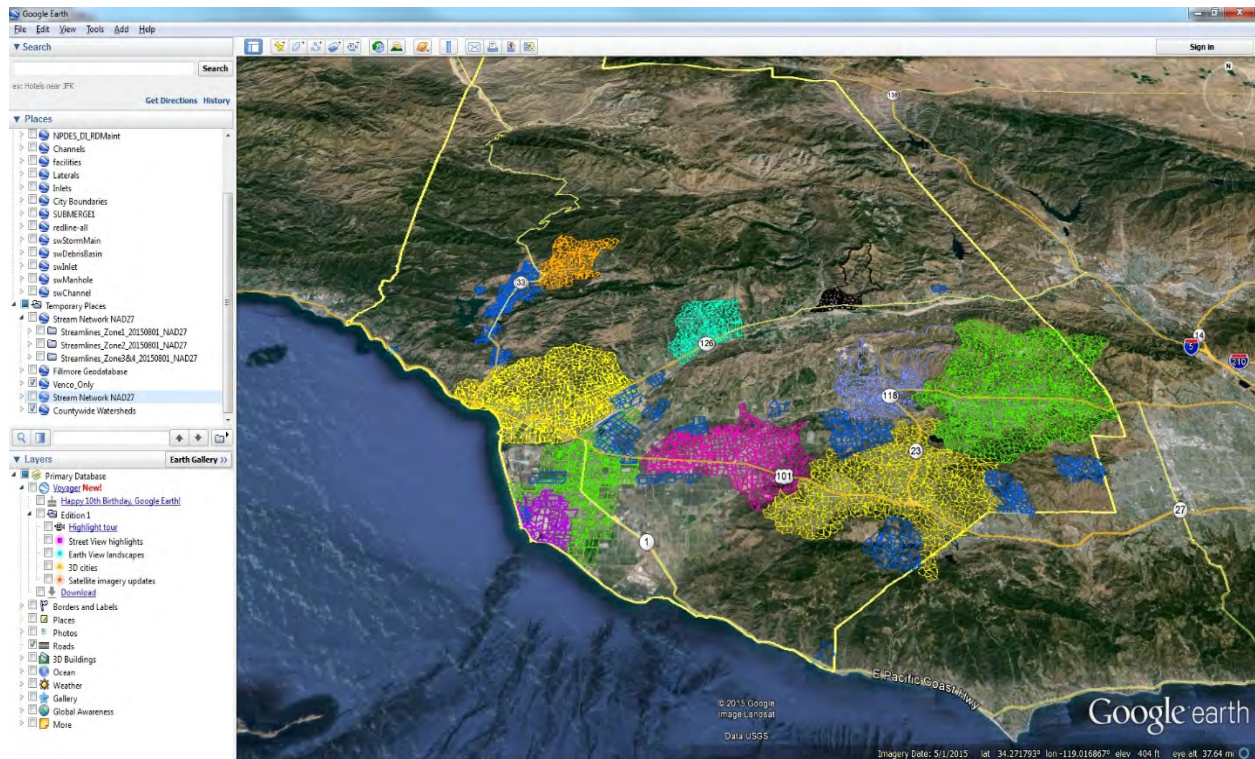
The Permit requires Permittees to create a map at a scale and in a format specified by the Principal Permittee showing the location and length of underground pipes 18 inches and greater in diameter, and channels within their permitted area. A schedule was provided to allow time to develop the needed information. The first due date was October 6, 2010. Since Ventura County's cities are all separated by open space and the MS4 from one city does not discharge to another, the need to integrate the maps into a countywide storm drain map was not as imperative as the need for a Permittee to be able to know what is upstream from any point in their MS4, and where that water will discharge. Given that the priority for the mapping is internal to the agency operating the system, the Permittees were given the autonomy to decide what form of mapping will work best for their needs. All maps have been incorporated into the Ventura Countywide Unified Storm Drain Mapping Project.

### 7.7.2 Unified Storm Drain Atlas

The Program has completed its Ventura Countywide Unified Storm Drain Mapping project. This project involved the creation of five new Storm Drain System Geodatabases and sub watershed boundaries for the five small cities of Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme, and Santa Paula who did not have this mapped in Geodatabase format. The new storm drain geodatabases are consistent with existing Storm Drain System Geodatabases for Permittees Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Simi Valley, Oxnard, Ventura, and the County. A single Geodatabase now contains all available storm drain information from all of the Permittees. This information is also available in Google Earth KMZ files downloadable from [vcstormwater.org](http://vcstormwater.org). This project also included a Countywide GIS analysis to identify infiltration constrains per 2011 Technical Guidance Manual and mapping of the natural stream network. In addition, a user-friendly computer program was created which allows for easy updating to the unified Geodatabase and KMZ files. This allows the Permittees to share updates to their storm drain system with all of the other Permittees ensuring all have the latest and greatest version of the unified storm drain information.

#### *Performance Standard 7-7*

<b>Prepare a map or list of catch basins, with GPS coordinates, designations, and rationale for designations</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		



Screen shot of Countywide Unified Storm Drain Atlas with all storm drain information in a single database.

The storm drain mapping for the small cities ensures future opportunities for the Program to work collaboratively on stormwater/TMDL required treatment and associated costs, future stormwater treatment projects and regional understanding and visualization of challenges to be faced when planning on stormwater/TMDL required treatments on the watershed scale or countywide. The effort is expected to be helpful during upcoming Permit Renewal to help the regulators, Non-Governmental Organizations, and general public understand the local conditions and complexity of planning, designing, and implementation of stormwater and urban runoff treatment to meet Ventura MS4 Permit requirements and Countywide TMDLs.

### 7.7.3 Implement Catch Basin Maintenance Program

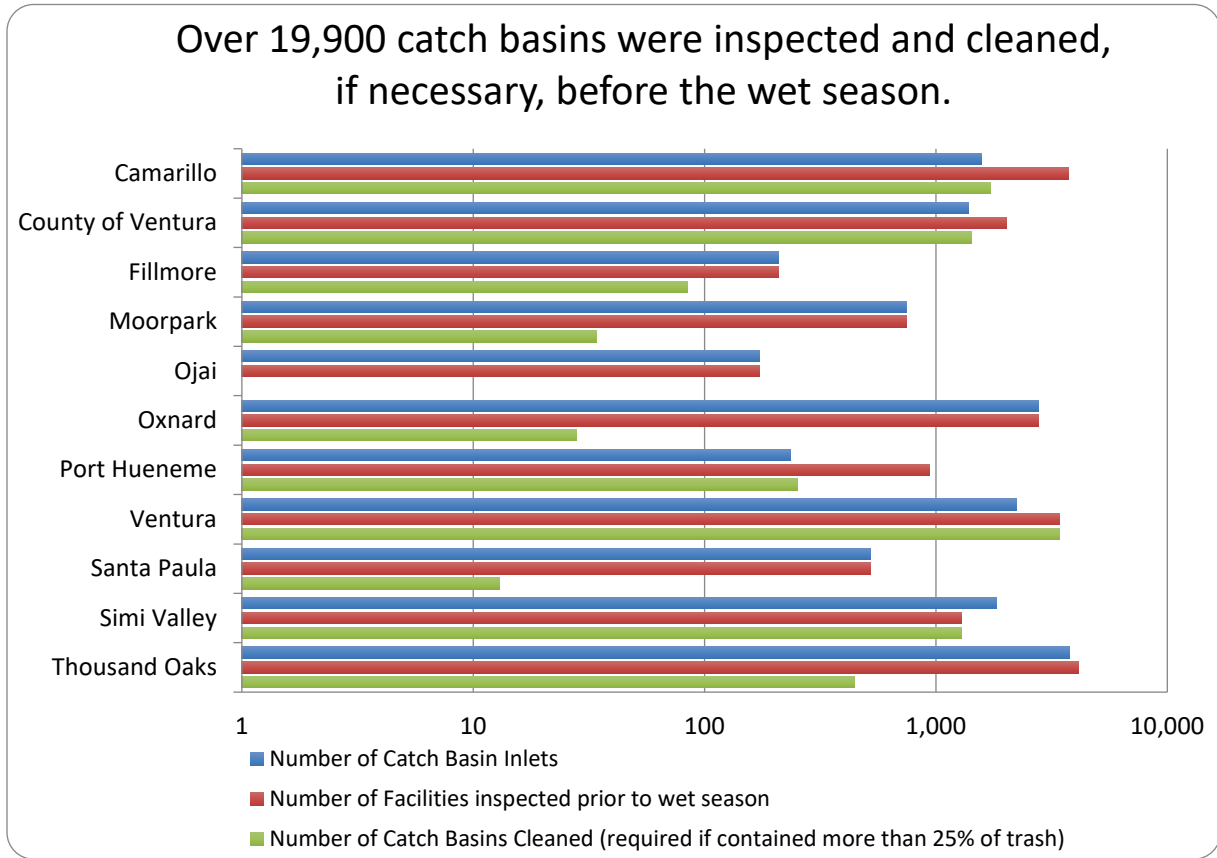
The Permittees are implementing catch basin cleaning schedules based upon the prioritization designations as required by the Permit. The requirement of a list or map of catch basins with their GPS coordinates and their prioritization designation was due July 8 2011. Figure 7-4 through Figure 7-7 shows the Permittees' efforts on prioritization, inspection, and maintenance.

Permittees routinely inspect catch basins and other drainage facilities that are a part of their system. These inspections are scheduled and completed in accordance with the requirements of the catch basin prioritization (due July 2011). The prioritization requires:

- Priority A inspected 3 times a wet season and once during the dry season;
- Priority B inspected once during the wet season and once during the dry season;

- Priority C inspected a minimum of once per year

Figure 7-4 Catch Basin Inspections and Cleaning



Inspections include the visual observation of each catch basin and open channel to determine if the device or conveyance has accumulated trash, sediment, or debris requiring removal. All debris removed (including natural debris such as leaves from street trees) is disposed of properly and therefore represents a removal of pollutants that would have been washed downstream to a receiving water. For catch basins, “as-needed cleaning” occurs whenever trash, sediment, or debris accumulation is found to be at least 25% of capacity. Watershed Protection District cleans and maintains their flood control facilities but does not operate any catch basins that receive runoff directly from streets or roads.



*Catch Basin Cleaning Using a Vacuum Truck*

*Performance Standard 7-8*

<b>Inspect the legibility of the catch basin label by all inlets before the beginning of the wet season</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**Almost 340 tons of debris were removed from catch basins countywide through the storm drain maintenance program.**



Figure 7-5 Priority A Catch Basins Inspected and Cleaned

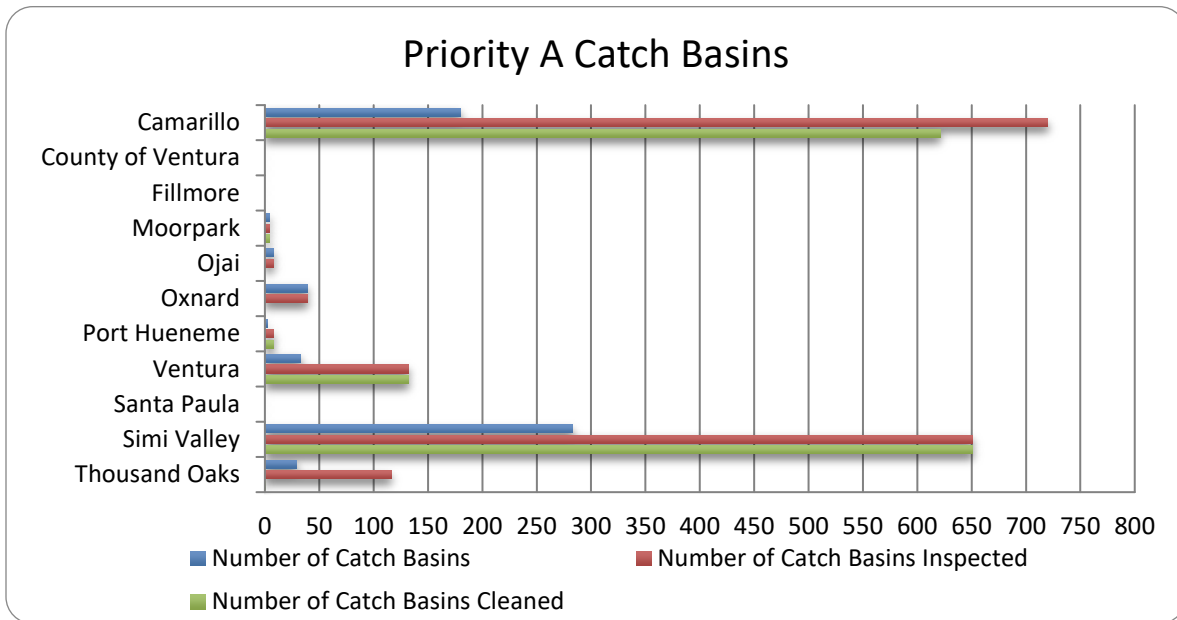


Figure 7-6 Priority B Catch Basins Inspected and Cleaned

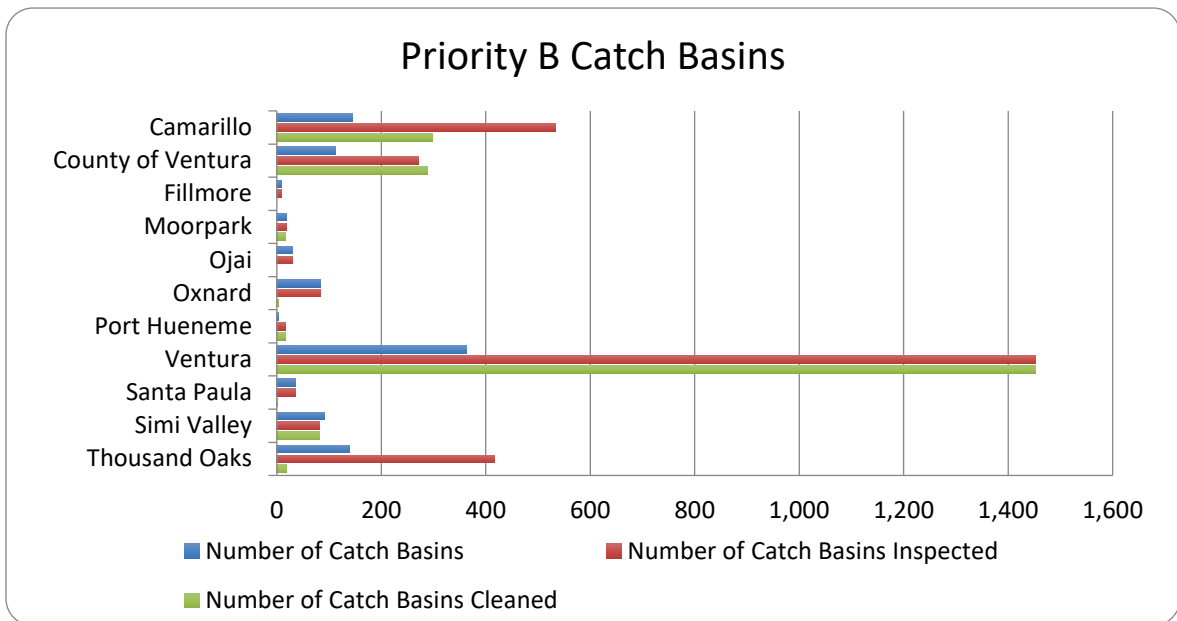
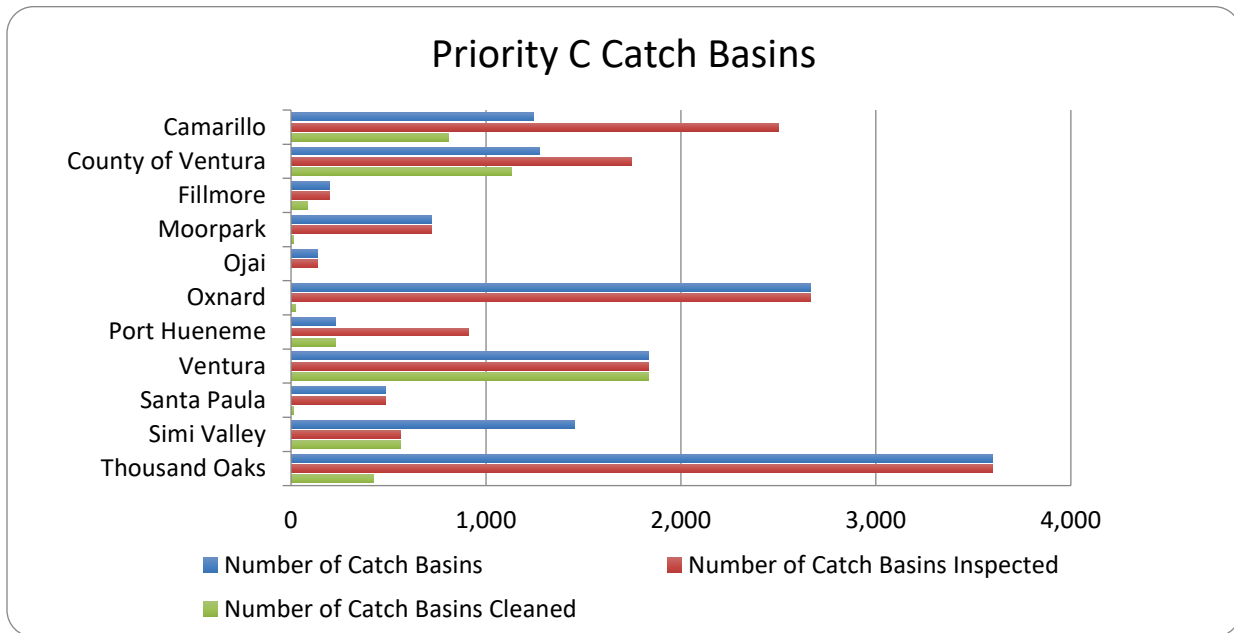


Figure 7-7 Priority C Catch Basins Inspected and Cleaned



#### 7.7.4 Install Trash Receptacles

All Permittees have installed trash receptacles at areas subject to high trash accumulation. They have also identified bus stop areas which are typically located in commercial areas and near schools as areas to install trash receptacles. Commercial areas are typically required to install trash receptacles at store fronts to aid in proper disposal. Trash programs usually involve agency solid waste divisions who bring their expertise in performing trash audits to determine the need for additional trash or recycling receptacles in commercial areas.

#### Performance Standard 7-9

Trash receptacles, or equivalent trash capturing devices in areas subject to high trash generation within jurisdiction			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>



*Trash excluders ready for installation*


*Performance Standard 7-10*

<b>Trash receptacles cleaned out and maintained as necessary to prevent trash overflow</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## 7.7.5 Install Additional Trash Management Devices and Programs

The Permittees have finished the implementation of this performance standard which was due July 8, 2012. Some agencies already had trash capturing devices installed in known problem areas before the permit was adopted. See below for the Permittee's specific actions including Statewide Trash Amendments requirements to control trash and litter:

**Camarillo** - High trash areas are reviewed annually when city catch basins are inspected. The catch basins located within the Revolon Slough/Beardsley Wash (RSBW) Subwatershed are inspected quarterly, and those found to contain trash are cleaned out. In the other subwatersheds, the Priority A catch basins are inspected quarterly, Priority B catch basins inspected biannually and Priority C catch basins inspected annually. Those catch basins that are found to be 25% or more full of trash two years in a row are then reclassified as a higher priority. Most A priority catch basins are retrofitted with a full capture trash device; currently, the city has installed 208 full capture connector pipe screens and 15 trash excluders (Flogard filters and curb face trash screens). Trash cans have been installed and are maintained weekly at all city bus stops. Residential City streets are swept biweekly and commercial and major arterial streets are swept weekly. In addition to the installation of full capture trash devices and trash excluders, the city also conducts "fence line" trash cleanups at least once a year in high priority areas of the RSBW Subwatershed.

**City of Camarillo**  
601 Carmen Drive • P.O. Box 248 • Camarillo, CA 93011-0248

*Department of Public Works*  
(805) 383-5659

March 12, 2018

«Name»  
«Owner/Company»  
«No» «Street\_Name» «Suite»  
«City\_ST» «Zip»

Dear Property Manager:

**Subject: Storm Drain & Property Maintenance – «BusinessProperty\_Name» «Location»**

Your assistance is requested in helping the City of Camarillo address stormwater pollution concerns throughout our beautiful town. The City of Camarillo is under a State mandate to eliminate all trash 5 mm (about the size of a pencil eraser) or larger from our municipal storm drain system as well as other pollutants such as pesticides, fertilizers, and sediment, and we need your help!

We have increased controls to help prevent trash from entering the channels, but assistance is needed from the property owners/managers of the private property areas within our watershed. The following are recommendations on measures to stop the discharge of trash into the environment and on maintaining private storm drain systems:

1. Keep lids on all trash receptacles including your trash roll-off dumpster and empty the containers before they overflow. If your trash roll-off dumpster does not have a lid, contact E.J. Harrison to have one installed. This is actually a requirement of the conditions of development for most developments in the city.
2. Clean out all storm drain inlets that contain 25 percent or more of trash or other debris at least biannually or more often if you observe trash/debris in the inlet. Preferably, clean inlets out prior to the beginning of the rainy season (October 1). Consider installation of a full capture trash device within the inlet which will stop trash from entering the storm drain outlet pipe. Please call me for more information on these devices.
3. Sweep all driveways and parking lots monthly. This will not only help remove trash and debris but also remove oils and other pollutants, such as metals and vehicle fluids, which may have accumulated on the pavement.
4. Dry sweep/clean material storage areas, trash enclosures and/or waste handling areas at least on a monthly basis.
5. Conduct periodic inspections of the perimeter of your property, especially fence lines, and remove any accumulated trash and debris.


In addition to controlling trash in our watershed, attached are watershed protection tips for:

- Commercial Pesticide, Herbicide & Fertilizer Application
- Building & Ground Maintenance-Surface Cleaning
- Building Repair, Remodeling & Construction

We appreciate your review of the attached brochures and sharing the information with the maintenance employees or contractors you may hire for your property.

The discharge of pollutants such as trash, landscape debris, pesticides/herbicides, and sediment is prohibited under the City of Camarillo's Stormwater Ordinance (Camarillo Municipal Code Chapter 9.32) and the Ventura County Municipal Storm Water Permit. Violations of the City's Code and the stormwater permit may result in civil, criminal or administrative enforcement actions. It is also important to keep your storm drain system clean to prevent potential flooding during rain events.

Thank you for helping to keep Camarillo beautiful. If you would like further information on stormwater pollution prevention, please call or email me at 805-383-5659 or [akuhlman@cityofcamarillo.org](mailto:akuhlman@cityofcamarillo.org) or visit [www.cleanwatershed.org](http://www.cleanwatershed.org)

Sincerely,  
  
Anita Kuhlman  
Stormwater Program Manager

Attachments – Watershed Protection Tips

*Example of Letter to Private Properties*

**County of Ventura** – Department of Airports O&M staff patrols and identifies trash areas including prior to rain events and during high winds.

Health Care Agency (HCA) Hospitals managers' report full trash receptacles to the Housekeeping Department. Housekeeping provides additional trash cans and pick up as necessary.

HCA Hospitals has department specific recycling program in place.

A total of 105 full trash capture devices have been installed to meet requirements of the Trash TMDLs. In March 2019, a continuous deflective separation (CDS) unit was installed in Piru increasing the total number of full trash capture devices to 106.



**Fillmore** - Street sweeping and additional trash receptacles were added to high trash generating areas. Per the statewide Trash Policy, the City has elected to pursue Track 1 to install full capture devices in high priority land use areas. The City submitted a map to the Regional Board in February 2019 that identified the proposed full capture device locations, high priority land uses, and the City's storm drain network. Additionally, the City of Fillmore hosts a California Coastal Cleanup Day site at Sespe Creek in which volunteers remove litter and debris from the local waterway.

**Moorpark** – All field staff is instructed to be observant and report any areas that need attention. Cleanup crews are promptly dispatched to clear any accumulation. The City has trash receptacles installed at major transit bus stops (approximately 18) and services them at least weekly. Receptacles that become full sooner are emptied promptly.

**Ojai** – City activities: field inspections, placement of no-dumping signs, clean up after public events, users are required to provide BMPs and cleanup activities as part of City permit process. The City has an extensive litter control program which includes, but not limited to, daily inspection and trash/recycling removal in downtown areas.

**Oxnard** – The City of Oxnard utilizes the services of Oxnard City Corps to inspect and maintain the high priority catch basins. The City of Oxnard has installed 329 full capture trash devices to date in priority land use areas per the Statewide Trash Amendments. Additional trash excluders were not installed during FY 20-21 due to reduced budget during COVID-19. The City is changing its categorization of catch basins from Priority A, B, and C to the Land Use areas designated as high priority through the Statewide Trash Amendments adopted in April 2015. The City of Oxnard utilizes the services of Oxnard City Corps to inspect and maintain all catch basins including Priority A. Additional trash excluders were not installed during FY 20-21 due to reduced budget during COVID-19.

**Port Hueneme** - Regular inspections of catch basins go beyond permit requirements. Solid waste performs regular trash audits of their day-to-day services. Identified Priority 'A' areas flow to end point with trash retention screens.

**Santa Paula** – City previously identified high trash areas: high pedestrian traffic areas, restaurant concentration areas, special events. City continues with increased trash receptacles in public areas prone to high amounts of trash. City continued increase in trash pickup from biweekly to weekly in public areas prone to high amounts of trash. City empties trash receptacles before and after local event/parades and conduct street sweeping after these events.

**Simi Valley** - The City of Simi Valley has been installing an average of 30 Connector Pipe Screen (CPS) units annually in designated priority areas, as well as other areas of concern. During FY 2019/20, 18 additional trash and recycling containers were placed in the public right of way in areas of high foot traffic and trash generation. The City is changing its categorization of catch basins from Priority A, B, and C to the Land Use areas designated as high priority through the Trash Policy adopted in April 2015.

**Thousand Oaks** - The City continues to add full capture trash control at a rate faster than required in areas known as high trash generation. Additionally, the City has completed full-capture device installation at catch basins in priority land use areas that discharge to the Malibu Creek Watershed for consistent compliance with its Trash TMDL. The City's street sweeping program continues to use a greater frequency of cleaning to prevent accumulation of trash. This is in addition to trash excluders that have been installed with full capture devices in Priority A areas.

**Ventura** - Areas with high volumes of trash had excluders installed in nearby catch basins and additional trash cans were also deployed. Trash excluders installed in catch basins draining to Ventura River per TMDL requirements. The City also increased the frequency of trash can servicing with Priority A areas. Sweeping in commercial and high trash generating areas is performed at least 2 times per month. The Downtown core is swept between 3-5 times per week. In addition, the City owned parking structures located at the Downtown and beach areas, are swept 2 times per week and trash receptacles are emptied. Citizen concerns are investigated and may result in extra sweeps. Paving projects require pre-construction meetings to discuss the implementation and maintenance of BMP's during the paving process. Residential neighborhoods impacted by the Thomas Fire and have redevelopment occurring have additional street sweeping schedule on an as needed basis.

**VCWPD** - To capture and remove trash from VC WPD facilities, the following BMPs were installed

- One trash rack at Mirror Lake Drain in Oak View, CA,
- One traveling screen system at the Port Hueneme pump Station, and
- Three trash booms upstream of Victoria Ave in Oxnard West Drain;

To meet RS/BW Trash TMDL, two basins were retrofitted to capture trash from County Unincorporated areas:

- Las Posas Detention Basin, and
- Ramona Detention Basin.

The District completed a number of trash cleanouts due to homeless encampments in response to public complaints.

### 7.7.6 Trash Management at Public Events

Events in the public right of way whenever it is foreseeable that substantial quantities of trash and litter may be generated, require the following measures:

- Proper management of trash and litter generated
- Arrangement for temporary screens to be placed on catch basins
- Arrangement that trash is removed after the event

The Permittees appreciate having the ability to select the option that will work best in their jurisdiction and have employed several methods to ensure trash does not get into a storm drain after a public event. Most cities use the power of the Special Use Permit or Temporary Use Permit. With this they can, and do, require a trash and recycling management plan and/or a substantial deposit before issuing an event permit. Funds can be withheld if trash has not been properly managed and costs recovered if the Permittee has to provide clean up services. Fines may even be levied to discourage any attempt to avoid the responsibility to prevent trash and litter. A few agencies take on this responsibility and have street sweepers employed to clean streets of any trash immediately after a large event, or services the affected drains with a vacuum truck after the event has concluded.

**Camarillo** – A special use permit is issued for all events held on city property and conditions are applied that address proper disposal and containment of trash. A city inspector inspects the event usually within 24 hours of completion of the event to ensure all trash had been removed.

**County of Ventura** – County Transportation Department's Encroachment Permits issued for activities within the County Road right-of-way require that trash be removed. Trash receptacles with specialized lids along with recycle bins are installed. Removal of trash occurs daily or during special events extra receptacles are provided and cleaned up immediately after.

Department of Airports O&M staff provided extra trash receptacles and dumpsters, monitored trash levels, increased frequency of trash pick-ups during events.

Additional trash receptacles are provided. Housekeeping staff is available on site to clean daily and empty trash receptacles.

All General Service Agency Parks' public park facilities are equipped with trash receptacles and covered 3-yard bins for public use. Trash containers are checked and emptied as needed daily or more often as required in accordance with use patterns.

Harbor Department's Permittees provided additional containers and inspected clean-ups as required. Special lidded cans are provided; cans are raised from the ground, emptied at least daily or twice a day for busy times; during public events, additional containers are provided and clean-up immediately after the event.

Fire Prevention Department provides trash containers and clean-ups.

**Fillmore** - The City has required additional trash cans and catch basin inlet protection during special events. The city has regular Public Works crew and Harrison trash truck to empty receptacles and to clean areas of high trash. Temporary Use Permits are administered for public events. As part of the permit, additional trash receptacles and catch basin inlet protection are required during special events to prevent litter and trash from entering the storm drain system.

**Moorpark** – Placement and frequent servicing of temporary litter containers are a condition of approval for all public events. Waddles/sandbags must be placed at all catch basins in the event area.

**Ojai** - Users are required to provide BMPs and cleanup activities as part of City permit process.

**Oxnard** – Technical Services Program-Source Control staff worked in conjunction with the Planning Division to revise the Temporary Use Permit (TUP) Application. A "Drainage and Trash Management" requirement has been added as a condition for obtaining a TUP. Any applicant seeking a TUP for a public event where substantial quantities of trash may be generated must meet the above referenced conditions.

**Port Hueneme** – Solid Waste division works in conjunction with events staff to provide adequate receptacles and service during the events. Language is also included in Special Use Permits regarding trash collection.

**Santa Paula** – City increased the number of trash receptacles in public areas prone to high amount of trash. City continued increase in trash pickup from biweekly to weekly in public areas prone to high amounts of trash.

**Simi Valley** – The City has created a Special Event permit that requires the group holding a special event (Simi Valley Days parade, 5-K runs, etc.) to provide sufficient trash containers and storm drain catch basin protection. Due to the COVID-19 emergency there has been very few public events.

**Thousand Oaks** – Event planning includes Sustainability Division Staff to provide input about placement of trash and recycling receptacles. Public events were canceled during the reporting period due to COVID-19 Pandemic.

**Ventura** – Temporary trash and recycling cans are distributed during public events. Events requiring City permits require permittee to remove all trash generated at said event. City works with event organizers to reduce and recycle generated wastes at events.

#### 7.7.7 Implement Storm Drain Maintenance Program

Permittees also routinely inspect and clean their drainage facilities during the year on an as-needed basis. "Routine cleaning" for these facilities, means the removal of accumulations of trash, sediment, and debris likely be washed downstream with the next runoff event or cause a loss of hydraulic capacity and result in potential flooding.

The Public Information and Participation section requires Permittees to have completed labeling or marking the curb inlets in their entire storm drain system, but the inspection and relabeling is required under Public Agencies. During the reporting period, some Permittees maintained their inlet signs by reapplying stencils/markers as they wear out and applying stencils/markers to new inlets as they were installed.

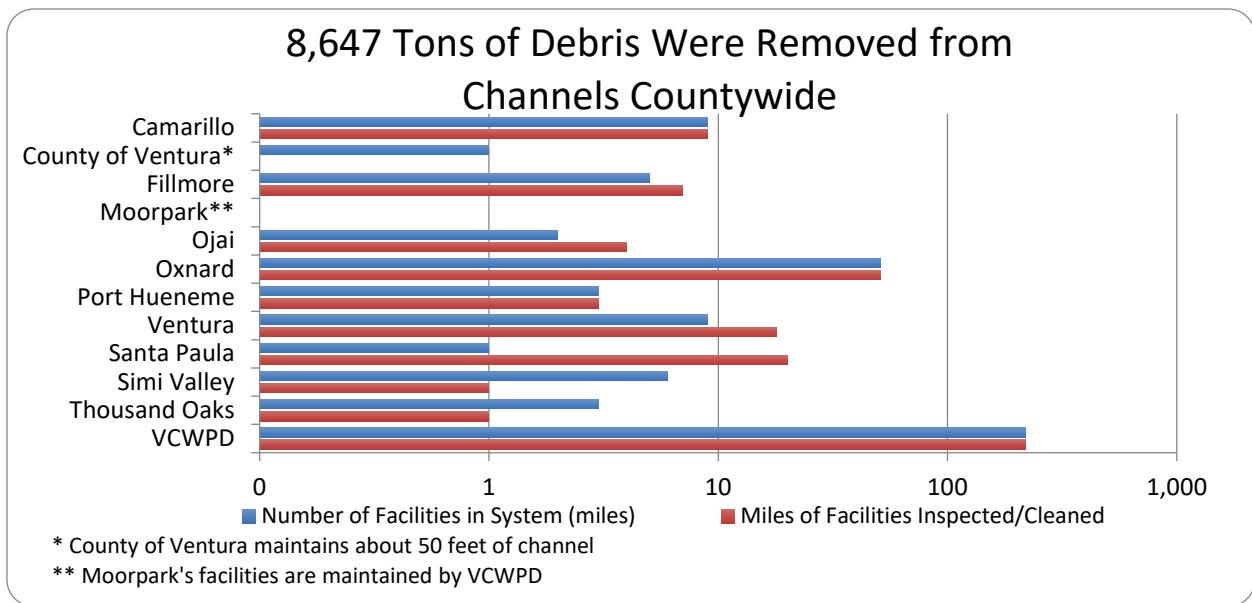


Signs at curb inlets have varying useful lives due to the materials from which they are constructed (e.g., paint or thermoplastic), their position (e.g., on top of curb or on curb face), and wear factors (e.g., traffic, street sweeping, sunlight). As a result, the Permittees have different programs to maintain curb inlet signage within their respective jurisdictions. Some Permittees replace a portion of their signs each year whereas others re-sign all inlets every few years. In the cases where a Permittee has a separate program for catch basin label maintenance from their catch basin debris maintenance program the catch basin debris maintenance inspection does not inspect for the label. Catch basin label data is reported in public outreach program.

Performance Standard 7-11

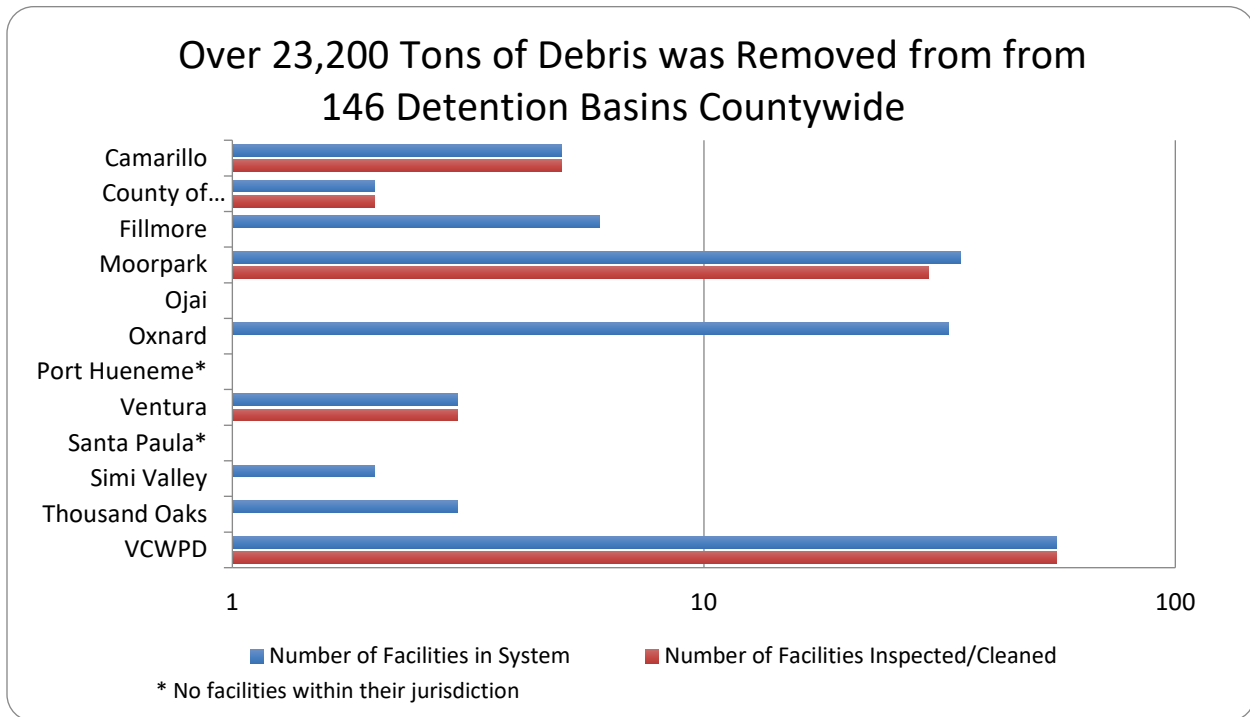
Catch basins with illegible stencils recorded and re-stenciled or relabeled within 15 days of inspection			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Moorpark			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Figure 7-8 Tons Removed from Channels and Ditches



When performing cleaning activities, Permittees implement appropriate BMPs to prevent sediments and debris from being washed downstream. By removing this amount of material from the catch basin inlets, open channels, and detention basins the Permittees prevent the passage of these materials to downstream receiving waters. During the reporting period, the Permittees tallied the collection of over 31,000 of solid debris from drainage facility maintenance activities.

Figure 7-9 Tons Removed from Detention Basins



### 7.7.8 Implement Spill Response Plan

Within their respective jurisdictions the Permittees implement a response plan for spills generated from their operations that have the potential to enter the MS4 system. Response plans include:

- Investigation of all complaints received within 24 hours of the incident report;
- Containment response within 2 hours to spills upon notification, except where such overflows occur on private property, in which case the response should be within 2 hours of gaining legal access to the property; and
- Notification to appropriate public health agencies and the Office of Emergency Services (OES).

Unfortunately, even with good training and well-maintained equipment there are occasions where a spill will happen and needs to be cleaned up. Cleanup can be as simple as dispatching a crew to pick up fallen debris, or a street sweeper or vacuum truck to clean an area or catch basin and storm drain after a known spill. It could also become a major multi-agency operation if hazardous materials are involved.

### 7.7.9 Inspect and Maintain Permittee-Owned Treatment Control BMPs

Permittees that own or are authorized to maintain treatment control BMPs have programs to implement an inspection and maintenance program for those treatment control BMPs, including post-construction treatment control BMPs. Private BMPs required for private developments are managed in different ways. Some Permittees do not want to be responsible for the cleaning and maintenance of these BMPs and limit their role to inspection and enforcement to ensure effectiveness. Others will take on that responsibility on

a case-by-case basis. And there are occasions where a Permittee has installed their own treatment BMPs to improve water quality.

When Permittees are performing maintenance of structural BMPs they implement their own BMPs to ensure that residual water produced by a treatment control BMP (not internal to the BMP performance) is:

- Hauled away and legally disposed of;
- Applied to the land without runoff;
- Discharged to the sanitary sewer system (with permits or authorization); or
- Treated or filtered to remove bacteria, sediments, nutrients, and meet all limitations.

**7.8 STREET AND ROADS MAINTENANCE (CONTROL MEASURE PA6)**

The Street and Roads Maintenance Control Measure ensures that the streets and roads are both cleaned to reduce pollutants and maintained in ways that prevent the release of pollutants.

**7.8.1 Implement Street Sweeping Program**

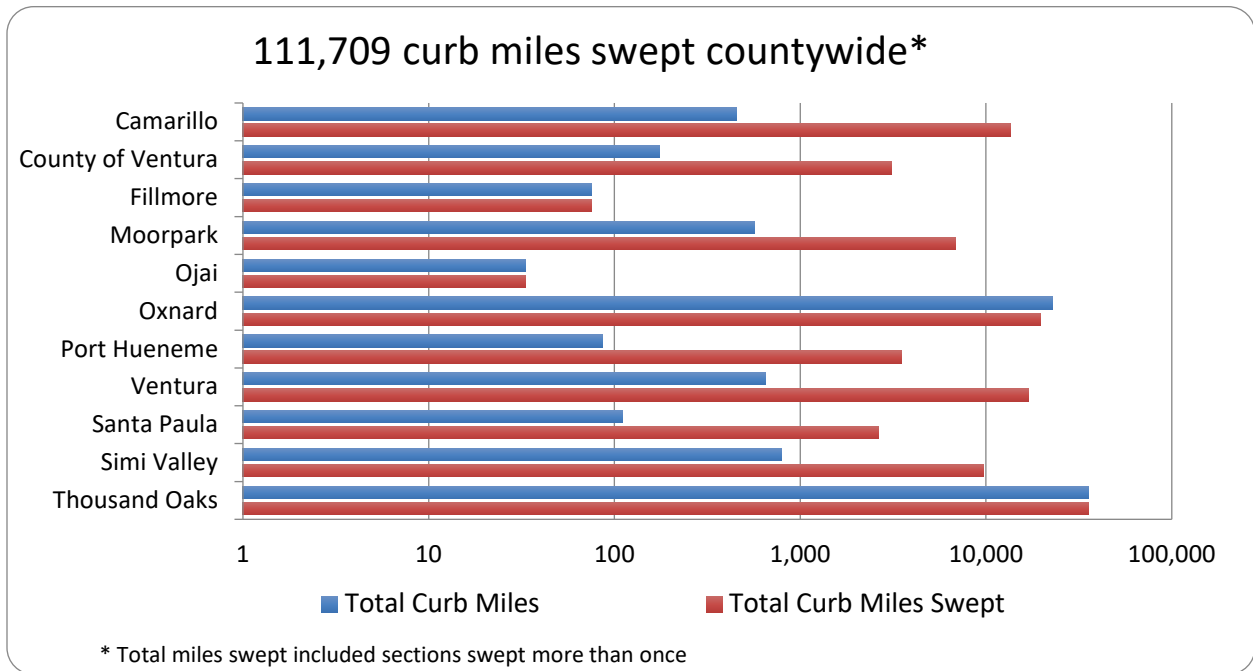
Permittees have identified curbed streets within their jurisdiction and have implemented a sweeping program for these streets. In many cases the frequency of street sweeping is beyond the Permit requirement of at least twice a month for commercial areas and areas subject to high trash generation.

To increase the efficiency of the street sweeping, Permittees have made an effort to encourage voluntary relocation of street-parked vehicles on scheduled sweeping days. This has been achieved by placing temporary “no stopping” and “no parking” signs, posting permanent street sweeping signs, and/or distributing street sweeping schedules to residents and businesses. Many of the Permittees have coordinated street sweeping to follow the routine trash collection days in order to remove any litter left in the streets by the trash removal service. Additionally, Permittees also sweep public parking lots to remove litter and debris, this is not always included in the total mileage swept.

*Performance Standard 7-12*

<b>Perform street sweeping of curbed streets in commercial areas and areas subject to high trash generation at least two times a month</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Figure 7-10 Curb Miles Swept



### 7.8.2 BMP Implementation for Road Reconstruction Projects

For any road reconstruction project that includes roadbed or street paving, repaving, patching, digouts, or resurfacing road surfaces, the Permittees require that appropriate BMPs are implemented. The vast majority of this work falls under the definition of routine maintenance as the road will maintain the line and grade and original purpose of the facility. The implementation of these BMPs ensures the project will not impact stormwater without the need for a formal SWPPP or other documentation.

#### Performance Standard 7-13

<b>Require that appropriate BMPs be implemented for any project that includes roadbed or street paving, repaving, patching, digouts, or resurfacing road surfaces</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## 7.9 EMERGENCY PROCEDURES (CONTROL MEASURE PA7)

The Emergency Procedures Control Measure ensures that each Permittee can conduct repairs of essential public service systems and infrastructure in emergency situations with a self-waiver. A self-waiver is required when there is a discharge to the storm drain system and the repairs needed to halt that discharge cannot be made within one day.

### 7.9.1 Invoke Emergency Procedures Self-Waiver

During the reporting period no emergencies required a Permittee to invoke Emergency Procedures Self-Waiver.

Table 7-4 Summary of Emergency Procedures

Summary of Emergency Procedures		
Permittee	Date Emergency Procedures invoked	Description
N/A	N/A	N/A

## 7.10 TRAINING (CONTROL MEASURE PA8)

Training is important for the implementation of the Public Agency Activities Program Element. An effective training program is one of the best pollution prevention BMPs that can be implemented because it prompts behavioral changes that are fundamentally necessary to protect water quality.

Each Permittee targets staff based on the type of stormwater quality and pollution issues they typically encounter during the performance of their regular maintenance activities. Targeted staff included those who perform activities in the following areas: stormwater maintenance, drainage and flood control systems, streets and roads, parks and public landscaping, and corporation yards.

Performance Standard 7-14

Provide training for key staff whose interactions, jobs, and activities affect stormwater quality			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 7-15*

<b>Provide training, or ensure that contractors were trained, whose interactions, and activities affect stormwater quality</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Training methods vary among Permittees and range from informal meetings to formal classroom training to self-guided training materials. The Permittees also train staff on the prevention, detection, and investigation of illicit discharges and illegal connections (IC/ID). (See Section 8 for more information regarding IC/ID training).

The Permittees provide training for contractors whose interactions, jobs, and activities affect stormwater quality, or in some cases where contractors are hired for their expertise, Permittees ensure that contractors hired had the required training, not all employees receive the same training as certain positions require special focus, such as key staff that use or have the potential to use pesticides or fertilizers.

Within the City of Thousand Oaks, all DPW-Operations staff and authorized agents that handle pesticides must be trained on an annual basis. The training program must be in writing and cover specific topics that are listed in Title 3, California Code of Regulations, Section 6724. The program must include Series-N Pesticide Safety Information and describe the materials (study guides, Safety Data Sheets, slides, videos, product labels) and information that was used to train the employees. Training records including attendance forms and the written training program must be maintained for two years. Under the terms of their agreement, the City’s landscape contractor is required to employ at least one Pest Control Advisor and at least one Qualified Pesticide Applicator. Copies of both licenses must be provided to the City's Project Manager upon receipt of Notice to Proceed and upon license renewal.

In the past the City of Ventura provided in-person annual refresher training to targeted personnel whose jobs and activities have a potential to effect stormwater quality. This includes both City of Ventura staff as well as contractors. Starting in 2021, the City of Ventura transitioned stormwater trainings to a customized online training program where employees access training materials. Targeted personnel review training material and take quiz at end of module. The City of Ventura will continue to build its online training module to target illicit discharges and pollutants of concern reduction. 100% of staff targeted did not complete the training; the City is following up with targeted personnel who did not complete the required training to complete training after closing of reporting period.

Performance Standard 7-16

<b>Provide training for contractors who use or have the potential to use pesticides or fertilizers, or ensure that contractors were trained.</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura County	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Figure 7-11 Public Agency Training

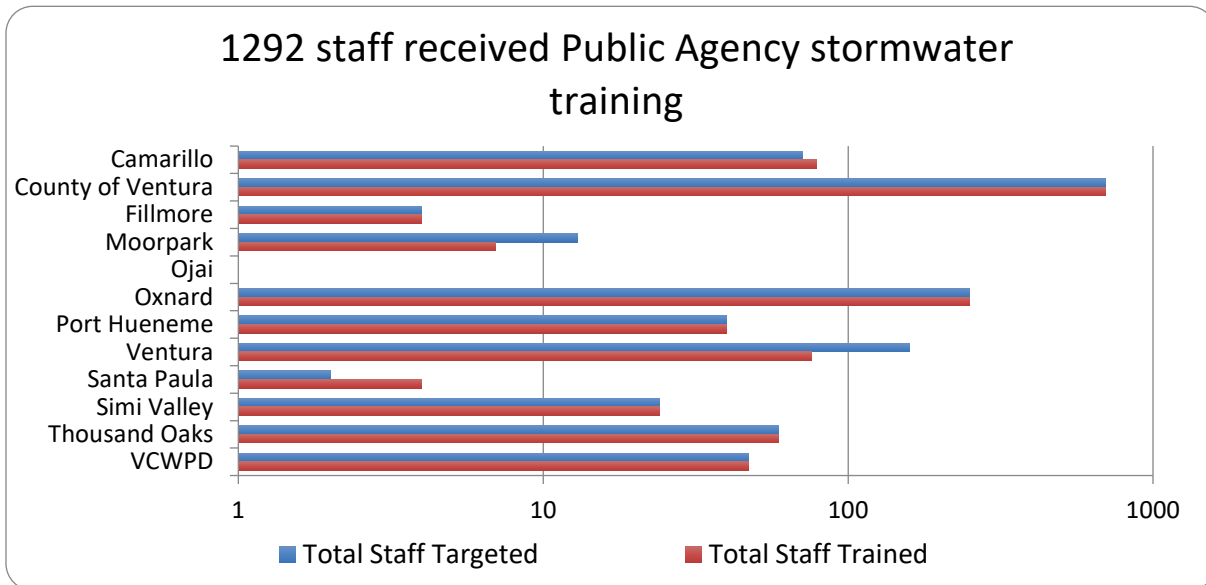


Table 7-5 Areas of Focus for the Public Agency Activities Program Element Training

Target Audience	Subject Material
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Employees whose interaction, jobs and activities affect stormwater quality.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Understanding of the potential for activities to pollute stormwater.</li> <li>Implementation of BMPs.</li> </ul>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees and contractors who use or have the potential to use pesticides and/or fertilizers</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Potential for pesticide-related surface water toxicity</li> <li>• Proper use, handling, and disposal of pesticides</li> <li>• Least toxic methods of pest prevention and control, including IPM</li> <li>• Reduction of pesticide use</li> </ul>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Employees and contractors responsible for the IC/ID program</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cover the full IC/ID program from identification to enforcement.</li> </ul>

## 7.11 EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT (CONTROL MEASURE PA9)

Effectiveness assessment is a fundamental component for developing and implementing successful stormwater programs. In order to determine the effectiveness of the Public Agency Activities Program, a comprehensive assessment of the program data is conducted as a part of the Annual Report. The results of this assessment are used to identify modifications that need to be made to the program. Each year the effectiveness assessment is reviewed and revised as needed.

By conducting these assessments and modifying the program as needed, the Permittees ensure that the iterative process is used as an effective management tool. Due to the types of data collected for the Public Agency Activities Program, current and future assessments will primarily focus on Outcome Levels 1-3.

- Outcome Level 1 (L1) answers the question: Did the Permittees implement the components of the Permit?
- Outcome Level 2 (L2) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard significantly increased the awareness of a target audience?
- Outcome Level 4 (L4) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard reduced the pollutant load?

The following is an assessment regarding the effectiveness of the Public Agency Program.

### 7.11.1 Public Construction Activities Management

#### **Require Public Projects to Comply with Planning and Land Development and Construction Program Requirements**

Where applicable, all Permittees require publicly owned or operated construction projects to comply with the Planning and Land Development and Construction Program requirements or adopted standard practices for very small projects. (L1)

#### **Require Development of SWPCP for Projects that Disturb less than 1 Acre**

Grading or building permits are not an effective mechanism for identifying or defining small public construction projects since they are not granted for public construction projects. Instead, all Permittees have effectively required small public projects to follow a SWPCP that identifies BMPs. (L1)



## **7.11.2 Vehicle Maintenance/ Material Storage Facilities/ Corporation Yard Management/ Municipal Operations**

### **Implement Required BMPs for Each Facility**

As indicated in table 7-2 Permittees have developed and implemented SWPCPs at all corporate yards. Inspections are performed annually, and deficiencies are quickly corrected by facility staff. (L1)

## **7.11.3 Vehicle and Equipment Wash Areas**

### **Eliminate Wash Water Discharges**

The Permittees have successfully eliminated wash water discharges from their operations through a variety of options including offsite disposal, disposal to sanitary sewer, and treatment through clarifier. (L1) Discharges will continue to be prohibited as facilities are constructed, redeveloped, or replaced.

## **7.11.4 Landscape, Park and Recreational Facilities Management**

### **Implement IPM Program**

All of the Permittees have implemented an IPM program that is consistent with the Permit. Further tracking of pesticides and assessment are being conducted. (L1) (L2)

### **Maintain and Expand Internal Inventory on Pesticide Use**

Permittees have effectively restricted the purchase and use of pesticides and herbicides to staff certified by the California Department of Food and Agriculture. Permittees that contract out for pesticide applications include standard protocols and requirements as a condition of the contract. (L1)

## **7.11.5 Storm Drain Operation and Management**

### **Implement Storm Drain System Mapping**

New storm drain geodatabases have been developed that are consistent countywide. A single Geodatabase now contains all available storm drain information from all the Permittees. This information is also available in Google Earth KMZ files. This project also included a Countywide GIS analysis to Identify infiltration constrains per 2011 Technical Guidance Manual and mapping of the natural stream network. (L2)

### **Implement Catch Basin Maintenance Program**

Each Permittee has identified criteria and a methodology for catch basin mapping and prioritization. 7,551 catch basins were cleaned during the Annual Reporting period. (L1) The Permittees have completed the process of designating and reporting debris removal by prioritization. During 2020/21, Permittees collectively removed over 330 tons of debris from catch basins. (L4)

### **Install Trash Receptacles**

The majority of Permittees have installed trash receptacles in high trash generation areas. Trash receptacles are cleaned out as necessary. (L1)

### **Install Additional Trash Management Devices**

Permittees have continued implementation of this performance standard. Their actions range from installing no littering signs (L2), ensuring sufficient trash collection containers in public spaces (L4), and prioritizing catch basins and installing full trash capture devices, trash booms, and using landscape contractors to remove trash from public areas. (L4)

### **Trash Management at Public Events**

All Permittees have required trash management for any event in the public right-of-way. (L1) (L4)

### **Implement Storm Drain Maintenance Program**

Each Permittee has a program to maintain curb inlet labeling. (L1) Additionally, all Permittees regularly maintain channels, ditches and detention basins. (L1) Implementation of this performance standard removed more than 8,647 tons of debris from channels and ditches and 23,287 tons of debris from detention basins countywide. (L4)

### **Implement Spill Response Plan**

All Permittees maintain a spill response plan. (L1)

### **Inspect and Maintain Permittee-Owned Treatment Control BMPs**

Permittees that own or are authorized to maintain treatment control BMPs have programs to implement an inspection and maintenance program for all Permittee-owned treatment control BMPs, including post-construction treatment control BMPs. (L1)

#### **7.11.6 Street and Roads Maintenance**

##### **Implement Street Sweeping Program**

Permittees have implemented a street sweeping program that at a minimum, targets commercial areas and high trash generation areas twice a month. More than 111,700 curb miles were swept countywide. (L1) (L4)

##### **BMP Implementation Road Reconstruction Projects**

All Permittees required BMPs for any road reconstruction project that includes roadbed or street paving, repaving, patching, digouts, or resurfacing. (L1)

#### **7.11.7 Emergency Procedures**

##### **Invoke Emergency Procedures**

No Permittees had an emergency that required Permittees to invoke Emergency Procedures. (L1)

### 7.11.8 Training

#### Conduct Training

Permittees provided training for over 100% of targeted staff. 1,292 staff members were trained on the implementation of BMPs, reduction of pesticide use, and reduction of illicit connections/illicit discharges. (L1)

### 7.12 PUBLIC AGENCY ACTIVITIES PROGRAM MODIFICATIONS

On an annual basis, the Permittees plan to evaluate the results of the Annual Report, as well as the experience that staff has had in implementing the program, to determine if any additional program modifications are necessary to comply with the Clean Water Act requirement to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP. Any key modifications made to the Public Agency Program Element during the next fiscal year will be reported in the following Annual Report.

# 8 Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges Elimination

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## 8.1 OVERVIEW

Illicit connections and illicit discharges (IC/ID) can be concentrated sources of pollutants to municipal storm drain systems. To reduce this source of pollutants the Permittees have developed and implemented programs for the identification and elimination of IC/ID to the MS4. Key components of these programs are public reporting, field screening, incidence response, and enforcement actions.

The term “illicit discharges” used in this program is any discharge to the storm drain system that is prohibited under local, state, or federal ordinances. The term includes all discharges not composed entirely of stormwater except discharges allowed under an NPDES permit. Examples of illicit discharges include:

- Incidental spills, or disposal of wastes, and non-stormwater. These may be intentional, unintentional, or accidental and would typically enter the storm drain system directly through drain inlets, and catch basins;
- Discharges of sanitary sewage due to overflows or leaks;
- Discharges of prohibited non-stormwater other than through an illicit connection. These typically occur as surface runoff from outside the public right-of-way (e.g., area washdown from an industrial site).

Categories of non-stormwater discharges not prohibited (exempted or conditionally exempted) under the Permit are listed below.

- Stream diversions permitted by the State Board
- Natural springs and rising groundwater
- Uncontaminated groundwater infiltration [as defined by 40 CFR 35.2005(20)]
- Flows from riparian habitats of wetlands
- Discharges from potable water sources
- Drains for foundation, footing and crawl drains
- Air conditioning condensate
- Water from crawl space pumps
- Reclaimed and potable landscape irrigation runoff
- Dechlorinated/debrominated swimming pool discharges
- Non-commercial car washing by residents or non-profit organizations
- Sidewalk rinsing
- Pooled stormwater from treatment BMPs

Accidents are inevitable and just as police cannot eliminate all crime in a community, there will always be an element of society that will contribute to the stormwater pollution problem. It will be impossible to eliminate all illicit discharges without massive capital improvements. However, through the efforts of public education, business inspection, construction inspection, and illicit discharge response the preventable acts of willfully using the storm drain system to dispose of waste will continue to be reduced and cleaned up when possible.

Illicit connections, even if done in error, cannot be considered accidents. An illicit connection to the storm drain system is an undocumented and/or un-permitted physical connection from a facility or fixture to the

storm drain system. Finding and eliminating illicit connections requires ongoing investigation and screening efforts.

## 8.2 CONTROL MEASURES

The Permittees have developed several Control Measures and accompanying performance standards to ensure that the Illicit Discharges/Connections Program requirements found in the Permit are met.

The Illicit Discharges/Connections Program Control Measures are organized the same as in the Permit and consist of the following:

*Table 8-1 Control Measures for the Illicit Discharges/Connections Program Element*

ID	Control Measure
ID1	Detection and Reporting of Illicit Discharges and Illicit Connections
ID2	Illicit Discharge and Illicit Connection Response and Elimination
ID3	Training
ID4	Effectiveness Assessment

At the end of this chapter these control measures are evaluated to determine the effectiveness of this program element.

## 8.3 DETECTION OF ILLICIT CONNECTIONS AND ILLICIT DISCHARGES (CONTROL MEASURE – ID1)

Detection of IC/ID through public awareness, the availability of a public hotline, and conducting illicit connection screening ensures that the IC/ID Program is proactive in identifying and eliminating problematic discharges. This control measure reflects the Permittee’s efforts to detect and eliminate IC/ID.

The Permittees have a number of programs supporting the detection of IC/ID. These programs include:

- Public education materials (see Section 3: Public Outreach)
- Industrial and commercial facility site visits (see Section 4: Industrial/Commercial Facilities Program)
- Drainage facility inspection (see Section 5: Public Agency Activities)
- Construction inspections and BMP implementation (see Section 6: Development Construction)
- Water quality monitoring (see Section 9: Monitoring and Reporting Program)

The performance standards for this IC/ID control measure and the activities that have been initiated, completed, and/or maintained during this reporting period are summarized below.

### 8.3.1 Public Reporting

The Public Outreach Program control measure both helps prevent illicit discharges from occurring and educates the public when discharges should be reported. Very early in the Stormwater Program the public became aware of what was not allowed down storm drains, and reports of IC/ID increased rapidly; this trend reversed as behavior changed, and for last several years reports of IC/ID have hit a plateau where further reductions have been difficult to achieve. Since the public is more aware of IC/ID and how to report

them the decrease likely represents a change in behavior resulting in fewer illicit discharges overall and fewer pollutants reaching the storm drains.

The public are the eyes of the IC/ID program, and so most illicit discharges are identified through public reporting of the situation. The goal of this component, in tandem with the Public Outreach component, is to educate the public and facilitate public reporting of illicit discharges and illicit connections. The baseline objectives are:

- Implement a program to receive calls from the public regarding potential illicit discharges and illicit connections, communicate and coordinate a timely response, perform all necessary follow up to the complaint, and maintain documentation;
- Provide educational material on non-stormwater discharges, and why they are harmful to streams and oceans, and how to report them;
- Target the land development/construction community with educational material and provide workshops on stormwater quality regulations and illicit discharge prevention response; and
- Target the industrial/commercial community with educational material and provide workshops on stormwater quality regulations and illicit discharge prevention and response.

Table 8-2 Permittee Hotlines

Permittee	Hotline
Camarillo	(805) 388-5338
County of Ventura Unincorporated Area	(805) 650-4064
Fillmore	(805) 524-3701
Moorpark	(805) 517-6200
Ojai	805-646-5581 or 805-722-7239 (after business hours)
Oxnard	805-797-6765 or 805-797-7598 (after business hours)
Port Hueneme	(805) 986-6530
Santa Paula	(805) 312-1423
Simi Valley	(805) 583-6400
Thousand Oaks	(805) 449-2499
Ventura	(805) 667-6510
VC EHD Sewage/wastewater discharges	(805) 654-2813
VC EHD Hazardous waste and material discharges	(805) 654-2813
VC PWA Transportation	(805) 672-2131
VC WPD O&M	(805) 650-4064
VC WPD Permit Section	(805) 662-6882

### 8.3.2 Publication of IC/ID Program Procedures

As part of the IC/ID outreach effort, the Permittees have documented their IC/ID Program through past Annual Reports which are available for public review at the Program’s web site ([www.vcstormwater.org](http://www.vcstormwater.org)). More directly, however, the program promotes the reporting of illicit discharges through the Public Information and Public Participation Program.

### 8.3.3 Public Reporting

Public reporting is one of the most effective ways that the public can be a part of the solution. Each Permittee has identified staff serving as the contact person(s) for public reporting of IC/ID. As required by the Permit Permittees maintain a phone hotline to receive reports of IC/ID. Due to the need for timely response to illicit discharges by inspectors the web sites direct people to report by telephone to a “live person” instead of through email which, while quickly delivered, may not be read within the short time frame that a discharge is occurring.

The Program maintains a website that contains the phone numbers for all the Permittees. A list of hotlines is presented in Table 8-2. This information is updated as necessary and, as required in the Permit, published in the

government pages of the local phone book and other appropriate locations. However, the availability of information on the internet is making the use of the phonebook more obsolete every year.

*Performance Standard 8-1*

<b>Document the procedures of the ID/IC Program and make them available for public review</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Timely responses to reports of illicit discharges are necessary to have the opportunity to determine the source, identify and educate the responsible party, and require the responsible party to initiate any cleanup to reduce pollutants from the discharge to the MEP. The baseline objectives include:

- Initiate response within 24 hours of receiving a report of discharge from the public, other agencies, or observed by a Permittee field staff during the course of their normal daily activities;
- Investigate to determine the nature and source of discharge and eliminate through voluntary termination (when possible) or enforcement action; and
- Educate identified responsible parties and initiate clean up and enforcement actions as necessary.

*Performance Standard 8-2*

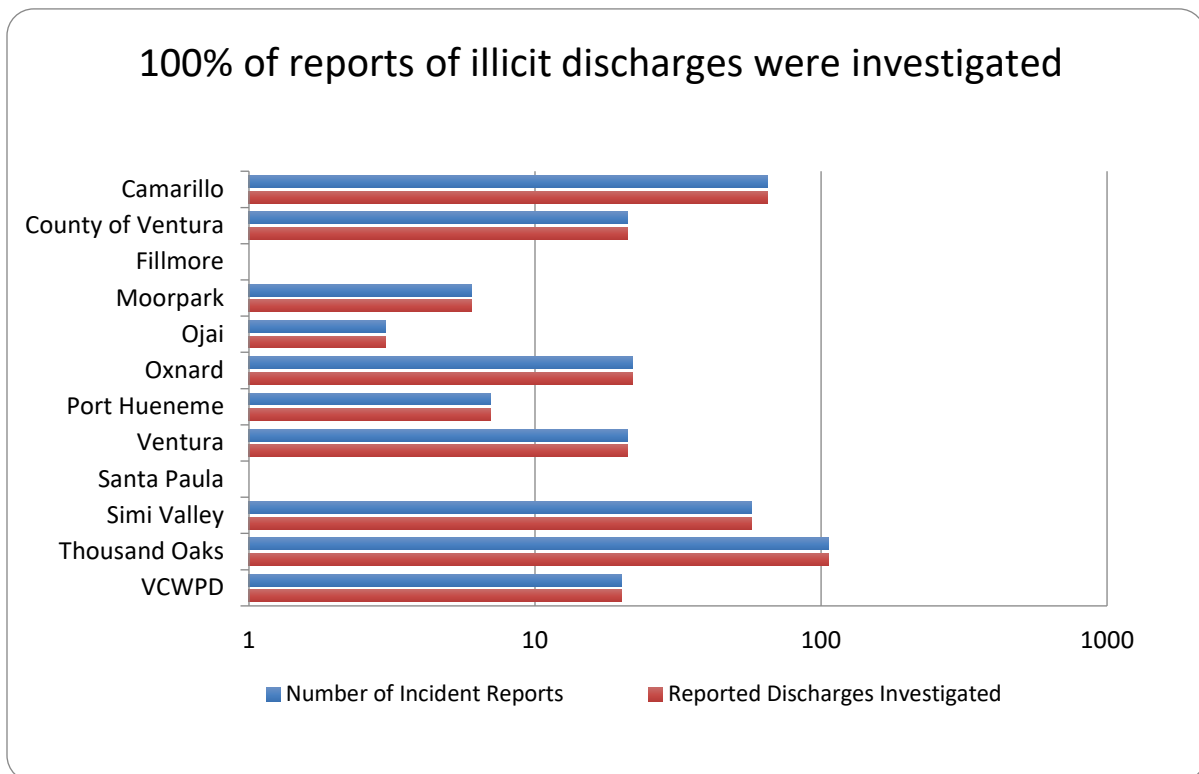
<b>Maintain a phone hotline to receive reports of ID/IC</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Performance Standard 8-3

Maintain a web site to receive/direct reports of ID/IC (contacts for all Permittees are on the Program website)			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

While the goal is to respond within 24 hours, most reports of illicit discharges are responded to within a few hours. Some Permittees have prioritized problem areas (geographical and/or activity-related) for increased efforts using the methods defined in the program. All illicit discharges reported by the public and found through the results of inspections are presented in Figure 8-1.

Figure 8-1 Illicit Discharge Investigations





### 8.3.4 IC/ID Tracking

Tracking the location of illicit connections and illicit discharges, aside from being a Permit requirement is performed to assist the Program’s efforts understanding which land uses, age of neighborhood, or other potential identifier is common to the problem of illicit discharges and connections. That knowledge could be useful in the future as the Public Outreach and Business Inspections programs continue to evolve.

*Performance Standard 8-4*

<b>Keep records of all illicit discharge discoveries, reports, responses, and formal enforcement</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

### **Mapping of Known Connections to Storm Drain System**

The benefit of mapping all storm drain connections is to allow the Permittees the ability to know the upstream location of an unknown, and conversely what might be possibly affected downstream. This is required in the Permit by May 7, 2012. Since the storm drain system includes all streets and gutters, literally mapping all known connections would include every driveway and property that drains to a street. Since an endeavor of that scale would be resource intensive and result in a product lacking practical usability, the Permittees have looked to the Regional Board

for clarification of the requirement. In the response to comments on this topic the Regional Board provided the following statement: *“Known connections in the Order refer to permitted below grade connections whose locations are likely already known to Permittees. Staff agrees that mapping may reveal additional connections, but those are likely to be un-permitted.”* This guidance creates a manageable effort and ultimately a useful product that will increase the Permittees ability to respond to IC/IDs.

### **Mapping Illicit Connection and Discharge Incidents**

The Permit required the mapping of all incidents of illicit connections and illicit discharges to their storm drain system since January 2009 by May 7, 2012 at a scale and in a format specified by the Principal Permittee.

The Permittees mapped all known connections to their storm drain system and all IC/ID incidents by July 8, 2012. While no obvious hotspots jumped out while reviewing the maps, the discharges were plotted on GIS and compared to other data layers to identify any consistent correlations that could be used to focus resources to prevent illicit discharges. Figures 8-2 and 8-3 show the illicit discharges by land use. Residential areas by far have the highest number of illicit discharges, but they are also the largest areas of the cities. When normalized for area commercial land uses become the major source of illicit discharges. This was not a surprise to the Permittees. By their nature commercial areas are high in activity and have high visibility, meaning a high chance of a discharge being reported by residents or neighboring businesses. Overall the mapping exercise confirmed the Permittees understanding. The Permittees have learned through experience which areas have problems with illicit discharges and have also developed strong inspection programs to prevent them.

Figure 8-2 Illicit Discharge by Land Use, 2012

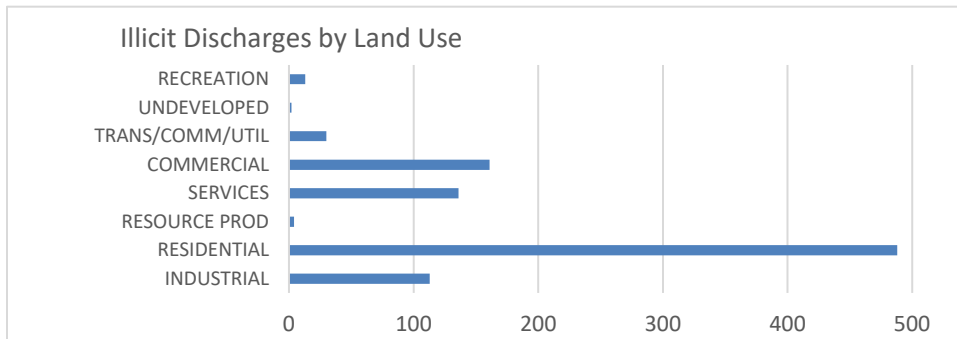
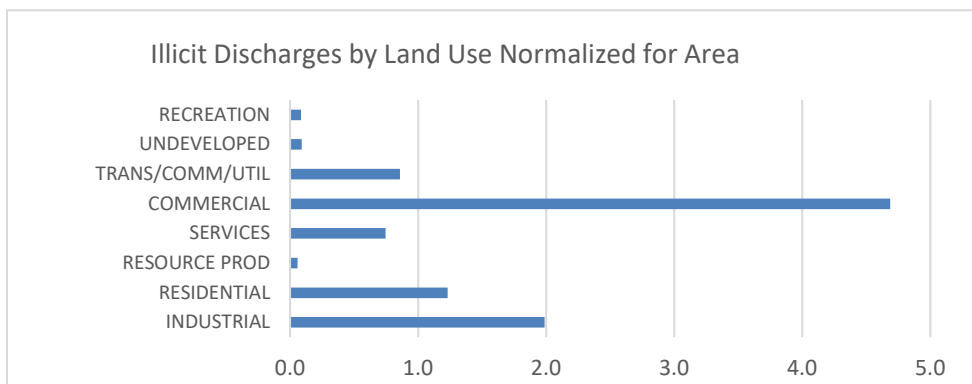


Figure 8-3 Illicit Discharges by Land Use Normalized for Area, 2012



### 8.3.5 Screening for Illicit Connections

Inspections of infrastructure can detect and eliminate illicit connections to the MS4 and reduce pollutants discharged through such connections to the MEP. The objectives of illicit connections screening are to:

- Identify dry weather flows.
- Investigate and determine the origin and nature of the discharge when connections to the storm drain system are suspected or observed to be from an illicit connection or discharge.

#### Mapping of Storm Drain System

Similar to mapping requirements of known connections to the storm drain system the Permit requires mapping of the entire system in a phased approach outlined below.

- Map all channeled portions of the storm drain system by October 6, 2010
- Map all portions of the storm drain system consisting of pipes 36 inches in diameter or greater by May 7, 2012
- Map of all portions of the storm drain system consisting of pipes 18 inches in diameter or greater by May 7, 2014

*Performance Standard 8-5*

<b>Submit a map of all channeled portions of the storm drain system in a uniform format</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 8-6*

<b>Submit to the Principal permitted a map of all portions of the storm drain system consisting of pipes 36 inches in diameter or greater in a uniform format</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

At the time, to assist in screening for illicit connections, the Permittees mapped channels within their permitted area and storm drain system. These maps were transmitted to the Principal Permittee and were incorporated into the Watershed Protection District’s GIS system. Currently, all of this information is included in the Ventura Countywide Unified Storm Drain GIS. Maps depicting the storm drain system were completed by May 7, 2012, and those 18 inches or greater completed by May 7, 2014.

*Performance Standard 8-7*

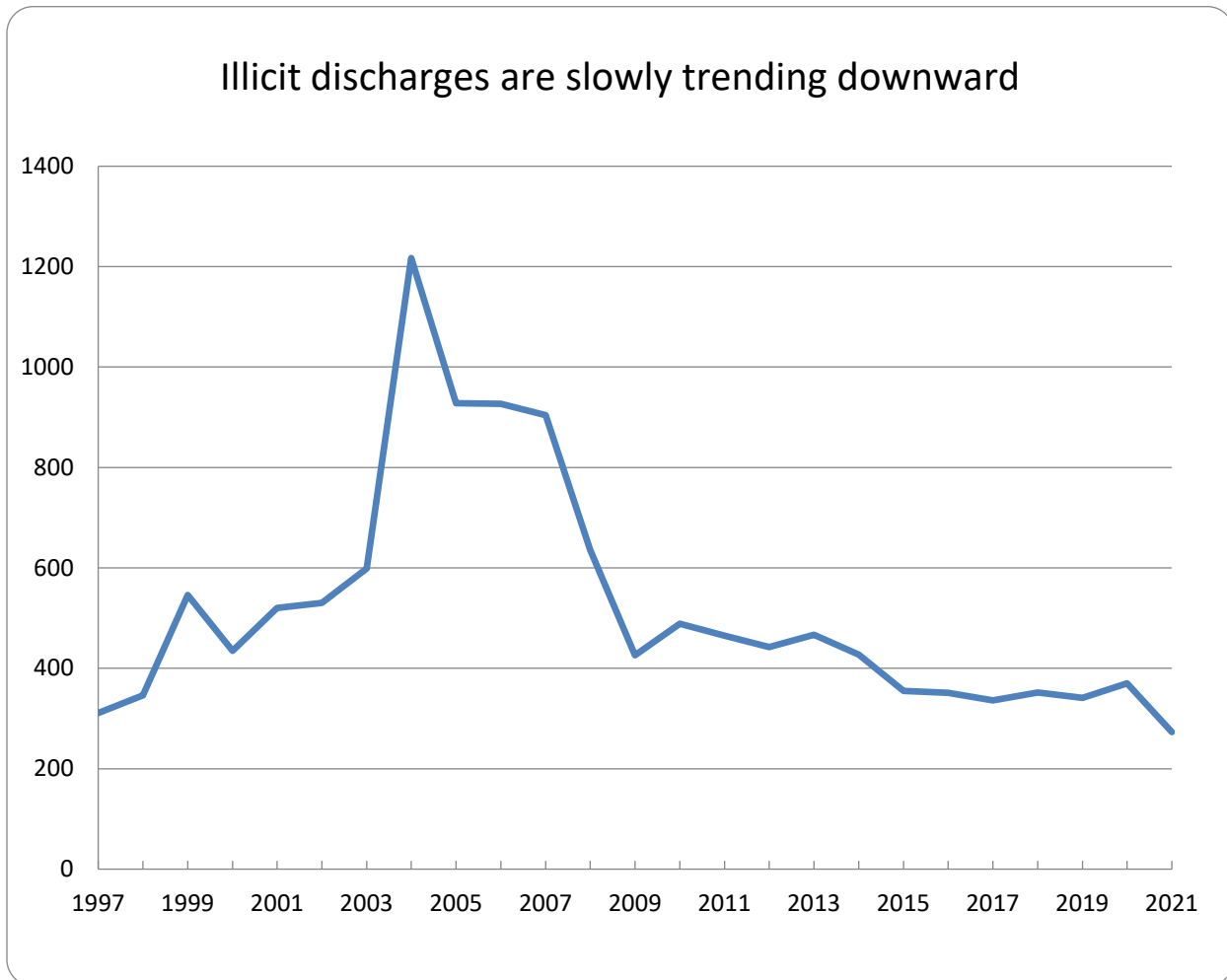
<b>Submit map of all portions of the storm drain system consisting of pipes 18 inches in diameter or greater in a uniform format? (Due by May 7, 2014)</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

### **Unified Storm Drain Atlas**

The Program has completed its Ventura Countywide Unified Storm Drain Mapping project. This project involved the creation of five new Storm Drain System Geodatabases and sub watershed boundaries for the five small cities of Fillmore, Moorpark, Ojai, Port Hueneme, and Santa Paula who did not have this mapped in Geodatabase format. The new storm drain geodatabases are consistent with existing Storm Drain System Geodatabases for Permittees Thousand Oaks, Camarillo, Simi Valley, Oxnard, Ventura, and the County. A single Geodatabase now contains all available storm drain information from all of the Permittees. This information is also available in Google Earth KMZ files. This project also included a Countywide GIS analysis to identify infiltration constrains per 2011 Technical Guidance Manual and mapping of the natural stream network. In addition, a user-friendly computer program was created which allows for easy updating to the unified Geodatabase and KMZ files. This allows the Permittees to share updates to their storm drain system with all of the other Permittees ensuring all have the latest and greatest version of the unified storm drain information.

The storm drain mapping for the small cities ensures future opportunities for the Program to work collaboratively on stormwater/TMDL required treatment and associated costs, future stormwater treatment projects, and regional understanding and visualization of challenges to be faced when planning on stormwater/TMDL required treatments on the watershed scale or countywide. The effort is expected to be helpful during upcoming Permit Renewal to help the regulators, Non-Governmental Organizations, and general public understand the local conditions and complexity of planning, designing, and implementation of stormwater and urban runoff treatment to meet Ventura MS4 Permit requirements and Countywide TMDLs.

Figure 8-4 Illicit Discharge Trends



### Field Screening

As discussed previously in this section, the Permittees have mapped the storm drain system in order to identify high priority areas for inspection. The Permittees inspected the storm drain system based on these maps. The screening effort did not identify a high number of illicit discharges, this can be seen in Figure 8-4 that displays the trend of actual illicit discharges countywide. The reduction seen in illicit discharges can be seen as a change of behavior as the public gains knowledge of stormwater pollution. The field screening may have identified a few discharges, but public reporting remains the most efficient way to identify them. The requirements for screening were during the reporting period and are outlined below.

- Screen all portions of the storm drain system consisting of pipes 36 inches in diameter or greater by May 7, 2012
- Screen all high priority areas identified during the mapping of illicit connections and discharges by May 7, 2012

- Screen all portions of the storm drain system 50 years of age or older by May 7, 2012

*Performance Standard 8-8*

<b>Screening of all portions of the storm drain system consisting of pipes 36 inches in diameter or greater</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 8-9*

<b>Screening of all high priority areas identified during the mapping of illicit connections and discharges</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

Individually, the Permittees efforts may be beyond Permit requirements and offer some valuable lessons learned:

- The City of Camarillo's field employees are instrumental in spotting illicit discharges and reporting them to the stormwater inspector immediately.
- For the City of Fillmore, screening is routinely completed as part of regular storm drain maintenance and any flows discovered are addressed.
- For the City of Oxnard, Technical Service Program-Storm Water (TSP-SW) staff respond to all reported illicit discharges. An investigation is conducted in accordance with an Illicit Discharge Response Manual within one business day of discovery. TSP-SW staff will verify that clean-up and abatement take place for all spills and illicit discharges. When applicable,

TSP-SC staff work in conjunction with other agencies such as the City Collections Division, CUPA, and County Environmental Health when responding to reports of illicit discharges. Reports can either be reported through the City's 311 application or by calling the City of Oxnard Wastewater Department, at which time reports are forwarded to TSP-SC staff or to the City's Collection crew after hours. TSP-SW staff also work in conjunction with Oxnard Fire CUPA when responding to spills involving hazardous waste.

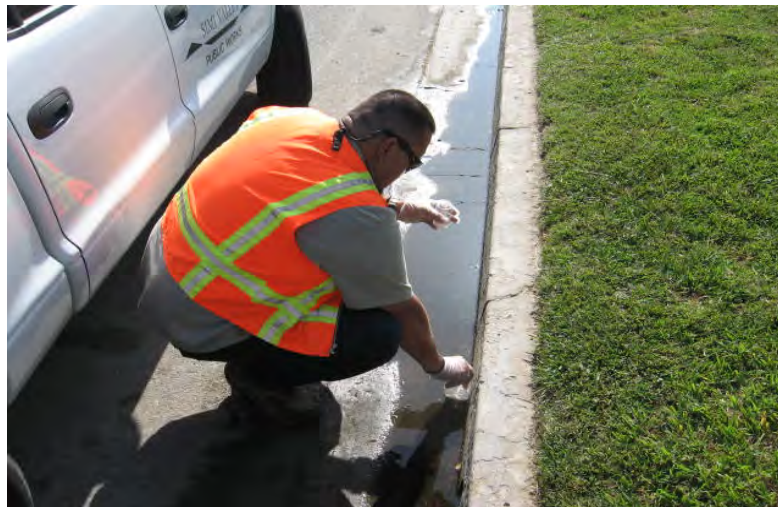
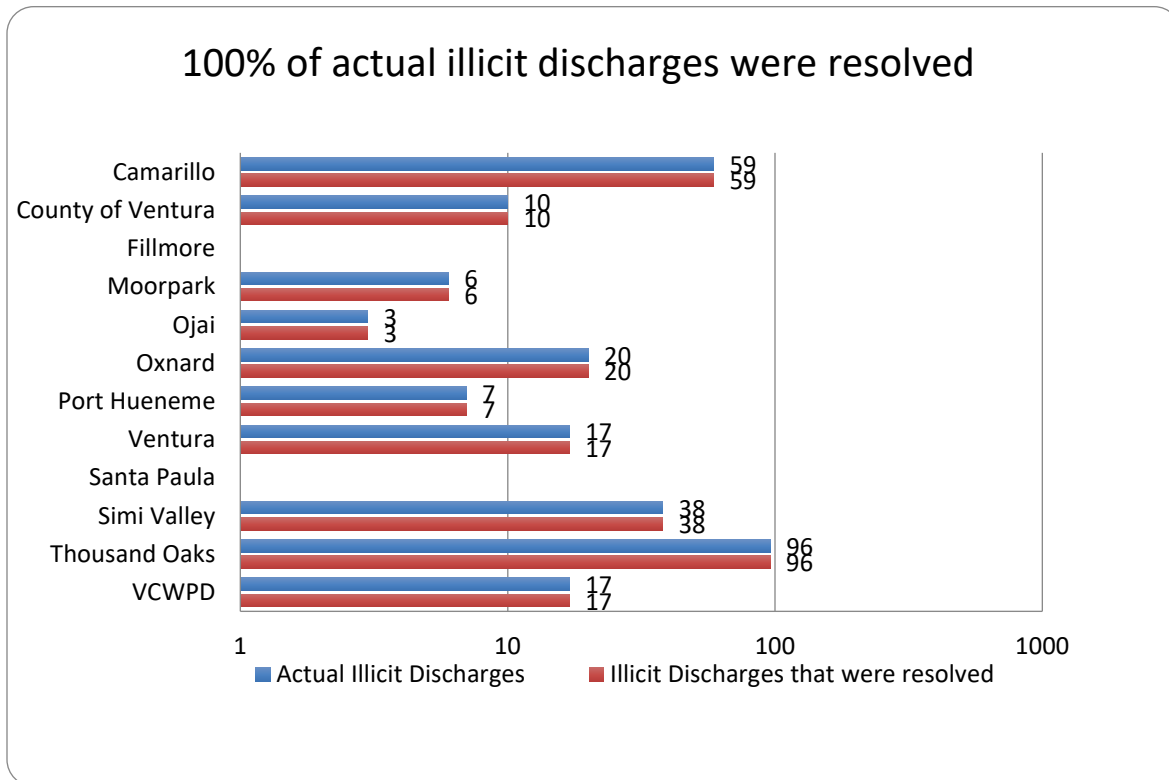
- The City of Ventura operates an illicit discharge hotline for reporting and responding to within 24 hours. Most illicit discharges are responded to within 1 hour during business operations. Illicit discharges reported during non-business hours are responded to the next business day. The City also receives reports of illicit discharges from other City departments. The City uses progressive enforcement to gain compliance. For non serious violations verbal orders are issued. If the discharge occurs a second time or compliance is not received a Notice of Violation is issued. When compliance is not achieved after progressive enforcement administrative penalties are assessed. The City estimates it annually receives 20 calls on the illicit discharge hotline for erroneous illicit discharge reports.

#### **8.4 ILLICIT DISCHARGE/CONNECTION INVESTIGATION AND ELIMINATION (CONTROL MEASURE ID2)**

Timely investigations of reports of IC/ID are necessary to have the opportunity to determine the source, identify the responsible party, and initiate any cleanup to reduce pollutants from such discharge to the MEP. This reporting year, the Permittees continued to:

- Provide educational materials and contact numbers for reporting illicit discharge/dumping when conducting stormwater inspections;
- Investigate the cause, determine the nature, and estimate the amount of discharge for each reported illicit discharge/dumping incident;
- Determine when possible the type of materials and source type for each reported illicit discharge/dumping incidents;
- Determine when possible the probable cause for the illicit discharge/dumping;
- Conduct enforcement or educational activities to prevent similar discharges from reoccurring;
- Verify that reported illicit discharge/dumping incidents were terminated and/or cleaned up;
- Refer illicit discharge/dumping or illicit connections to other agencies when appropriate;
- Identify and eliminate illicit connections.

Figure 8-5 Resolved Illicit Discharges





*Performance Standard 8-10*

<b>Respond within one business day or discovery or report of a suspected illicit discharge and abate, contain, and/or cleanup the discharge</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 8-11*

<b>Investigate illicit discharges during or immediately following containment and cleanup activities</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**8.4.1 Legal authority**

Although adequate legal authority existed for most potential pollutant discharges at the inception of the stormwater program in 1994, the Permittees determined for the first stormwater ordinance a Model Stormwater Quality Ordinance should be developed to provide a more uniform countywide approach and to provide a legal underpinning to the entire Ventura Countywide NPDES Stormwater Program.

Subsequently, all the Permittees adopted largely similar versions of the model Stormwater Quality Ordinance. In addition, each Permittee has designated Authorized Inspector(s) responsible for enforcing the Ordinance. The Authorized Inspector(s) is the person designated to investigate compliance with, detect violations of, and/or take actions pursuant to the Ordinance. These ordinances prohibit un-permitted discharges and provide the Permittees with legal standing and legal authority to prevent and remove illicit

connections and illicit discharges. A Stormwater Quality Ordinance has been adopted in each Permittees' jurisdictions as indicated in Table 8-3.

The Permit requires each Permittee, no later than July of 2012, that its Storm Water Quality Ordinance authorizes the Permittee to enforce all requirements of the Permit. Preliminary review by Counsel for the Permittees have determined the existing ordinances are capable of enforcing the Permit, however, will be made stronger through the adopting of an improved ordinance. The Permittees, led by the City of Moorpark, have drafted a model ordinance which served as the basis for each Permittee to authorize them to enforce all requirements of the Permit. Several of the Permittees have updated their existing ordinances or written entirely new ones.

*Performance Standard 8-12*

<b>Take appropriate enforcement action to eliminate the illicit discharge</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Table 8-3 Ordinance Adoption Dates*

<b>Ordinance Adoption Dates</b>		
Permittee	Adopted Date	Amendment Date
Camarillo	10/1/1998	12/12/2012
County of Ventura	7/17/2012	
Fillmore	3/25/2014	8/25/2015
Moorpark	1997	2008
Ojai	6/21/1999	
Oxnard	3/24/1998	3/24/2009
Port Hueneme	4/1/1998	2001
San Buenaventura	1/11/1999	9/1/2011
Santa Paula	1/1/1998	2010
Simi Valley	7/2/2012	
Thousand Oaks	9/14/1999	

*Performance Standard 8-13*

<b>Legal authority to prevent and remove illicit connections and illicit discharges</b>			
	Yes	No	In Progress
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**8.4.2 Response to Illicit Connections**

**Investigation**

Each Permittee detects and eliminates illicit connections within its municipal storm drain system. Any illicit connection identified by the Permittees during routine inspections or reported by a third party is investigated. Appropriate actions are then taken to approve undocumented connections by permit procedures, or if determined to be an illicit connection use enforcement actions to pursue removal of those connections.

*Performance Standard 8-14*

<b>Maintain a list of all connections under investigation for possible illicit connection and their status</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

If the discharge from an identified connection is determined to consist only of stormwater or exempted non-stormwater, it is no longer considered an illicit connection and the connection will be allowed to remain. Permittees may elect to issue a permit for the connection or allow the connection to remain if information on the connection is documented, or the discharge will be permitted through a separate NPDES permit. If not, the connection will be terminated by voluntary action or through enforcement proceedings.

Countywide, of the seven possible illicit connections reported this reporting period all seven were identified as actual unpermitted illicit connections. Three of the illicit connections were terminated within the reporting period, and the four remaining illicit connections are in progress of being resolved and eliminated. Termination or formal enforcement of illicit connections must occur within 180 days.

*Performance Standard 8-15*

<b>Complete investigation of illicit connection reports to determine the source, nature, and volume of discharge as well as the responsible party within 21 days</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

*Performance Standard 8-16*

<b>Terminate the connection using formal enforcement within 180 days of completion of the investigation</b>				
	Yes	No	In Progress	N/A
Camarillo*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
County of Ventura*				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Fillmore*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Moorpark*				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Ojai			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Oxnard*				<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Ventura*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Santa Paula*	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>			
Watershed Protection			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	

\*No illicit connections

Each of the Permittees also maintain a record of all connections currently under investigation for possible illicit discharge and tracks their status. The response time to an illicit connection is included in the Permittees' IC/ID database and does not exceed 21 days. The source, nature, and type of discharges from these connections, as well as the responsible party are also documented in the Permittees' IC/ID database. Summary statistics of the source of the illicit discharge from these connections is grouped with all other illicit discharges. The Watershed Protection District was utilizing progressive enforcement at the end of the reporting period to eliminate the four unresolved illicit connections.

*Performance Standard 8-17*

<b>Keep records of all illicit connection investigations and formal actions taken to eliminate all illicit connections</b>			
	Yes	No	N/A
Camarillo	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
County of Ventura	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Fillmore	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Moorpark	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ojai	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Oxnard	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Port Hueneme	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Ventura			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Santa Paula	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Simi Valley	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Thousand Oaks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Watershed Protection	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		

**Termination**

The Permit requires the connection be terminated within 180 days of completion of the investigation. Upon confirmation of an illicit connection, the Permittees terminate the connection using formal enforcement within 180 days of completion of the investigation.

**Documentation**

The Permittees’ IC/ID database documents the time by which the illicit connection is terminated. Owners of existing drains without appropriate permits (including encroachment permits) are notified to comply. For those drains where the owner is unresponsive or cannot be identified, each Permittee is responsible for deciding whether to formally accept the connection as part of their public drainage system or cap it off.

**8.4.3 Response to Illicit Discharges**

Upon receipt of a complaint, the Permittees investigate the source and nature of the IC/ID with the goals of:

- Eliminating the IC/ID through voluntary termination or enforcement action (when possible),
- Educating identified responsible parties,
- Direct any cleanup necessary to eliminate the discharge of pollutants, and
- Initiating enforcement actions as necessary

**Investigation and Cleanup**

Timely responses to reports of illicit discharges are necessary to have the opportunity to determine the source, identify the responsible party, and initiate any necessary cleanup to reduce pollutants from such discharge to the MEP.

While the goal is to respond within 24 hours, most reports of illicit discharge are responded to within a few hours. Some Permittees have prioritized problem areas (geographical and/or activity-related) for inspection, cleanup, and enforcement using the methods defined in the program. In the normal course of an investigation the responsible party will be directed to perform any possible clean-up. 100% of illicit discharges were investigated and 100% of confirmed illicit discharges were resolved or were pending resolution as of June 30, 2020.

The discovery of potential or likely illicit discharges through business inspections has worked to reduce the number of overall illicit discharges.

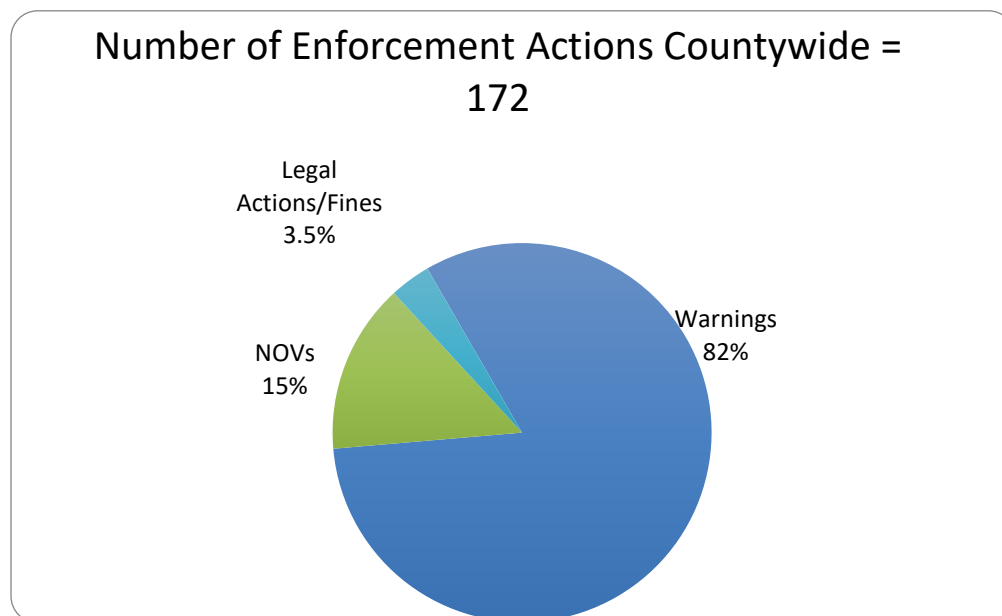
### Enforcement

Permittees continue to implement enforcement procedures to eliminate illicit discharges and illicit connections available through their legal authority of their respective ordinances. Most enforcement processes follow a common sequence. These typically include:

- Verbal or written warnings for minor violation
- Formal notice of violation or non-compliance with compliance actions and time frames
- Cease and desist or similar order to comply
- Specific remedies such as civil penalties (e.g., infraction), non-voluntary termination with cost recovery, referral for criminal penalties, or further legal action
- Authority to issue on site civil citations of \$100

**Total number of enforcement actions has decreased 39% from 2019**

Figure 8-6 Enforcement Actions Countywide



Every time a responsible party is identified for an illicit discharge there is an opportunity for education and enforcement. Enforcement activity begins at the appropriate level as determined by the Permittees' authorized representative. For incidents more severe or threatening at the onset, enforcement starts at an increased level. Often a verbal warning and requiring cleanup of the discharge is effective, if necessary, the Permittee will charge the responsible party for cleanup services provided. Enforcement steps are accelerated if there is evidence of a clear failure to act, or an increase in the severity of the discharge. Enforcement actions for violating any of the provisions of the Permittees' ordinances may include any of the following or a combination thereof:

- Criminal Penalties
- Monetary punishment
- Imprisonment
- Civil Penalties

Education of targeted audiences occurs through inspections of illicit discharges, businesses, and construction activities. The importance of eliminating or mitigating non-stormwater discharges to local streams and channels is emphasized.

The capacity to issue civil citations has been added to the City of Oxnard's enforcement plan to ensure that repeat violators of local, state, and federal stormwater quality regulations are assessed a fine for their illicit (illegal) activities. The integration of this enforcement action allows the municipality to assess a \$100.00 fee for those individuals or entities that receive a notice of violation (NOV) and thereafter again engage in the same illicit discharge activity. An additional \$100.00 fine is assessed, per day and per violation, if a repeat violation is committed within a thirty (30) day period. If, after thirty (30) days, the same party is once again engaging in similar illicit activities then a \$200.00 citation is given. A \$500.00 fine is issued to fourth time perpetrators of an illicit discharge committed within sixty (60) days after the initial citation. Since current City policy allows the Mayor to delegate the authority to issue civil citations to designated employees, no changes to the City's stormwater ordinance were necessary. The only prerequisite imposed on these employees was that they receive training on civil citation writing from the City of Oxnard Code Enforcement Unit. Simply having the ability, and threat, to issue a civil citation has proven to be enough of a deterrent to discourage/eliminate future occurrences of the same type of illicit activities from the local residents and the construction/building communities.

**Oxnard's inspectors  
have the capacity to  
issue civil citations  
up to \$500 for illicit  
discharge activity.**

Figure 8-7 Illicit Discharges Incidents

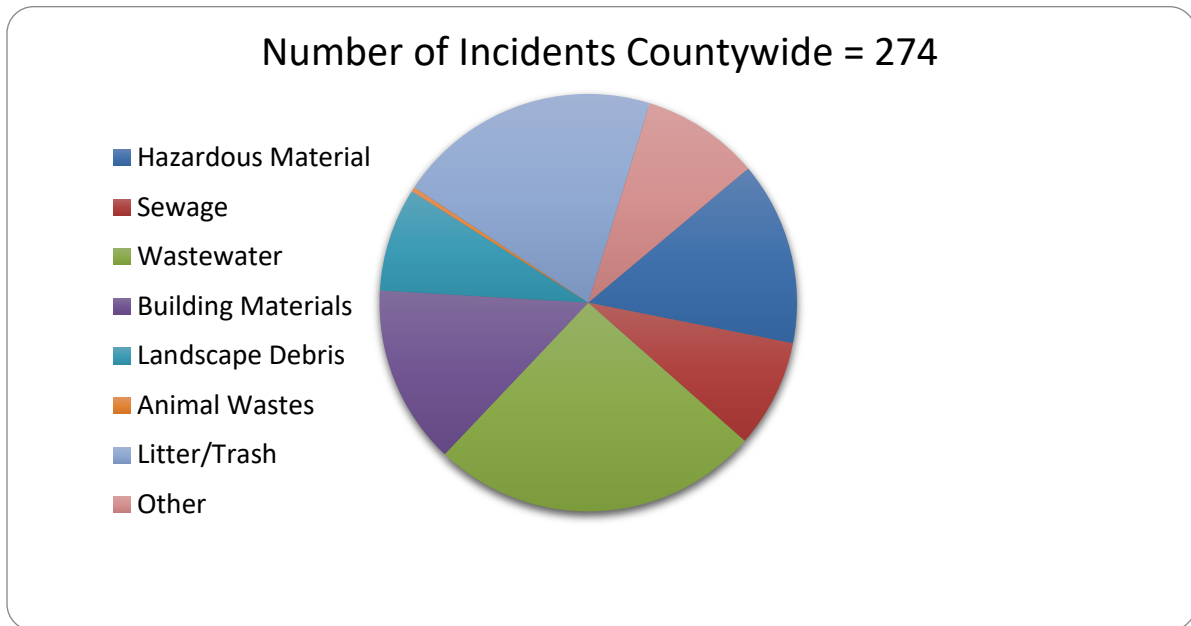


Figure 8-8 Sources of Illicit Discharges

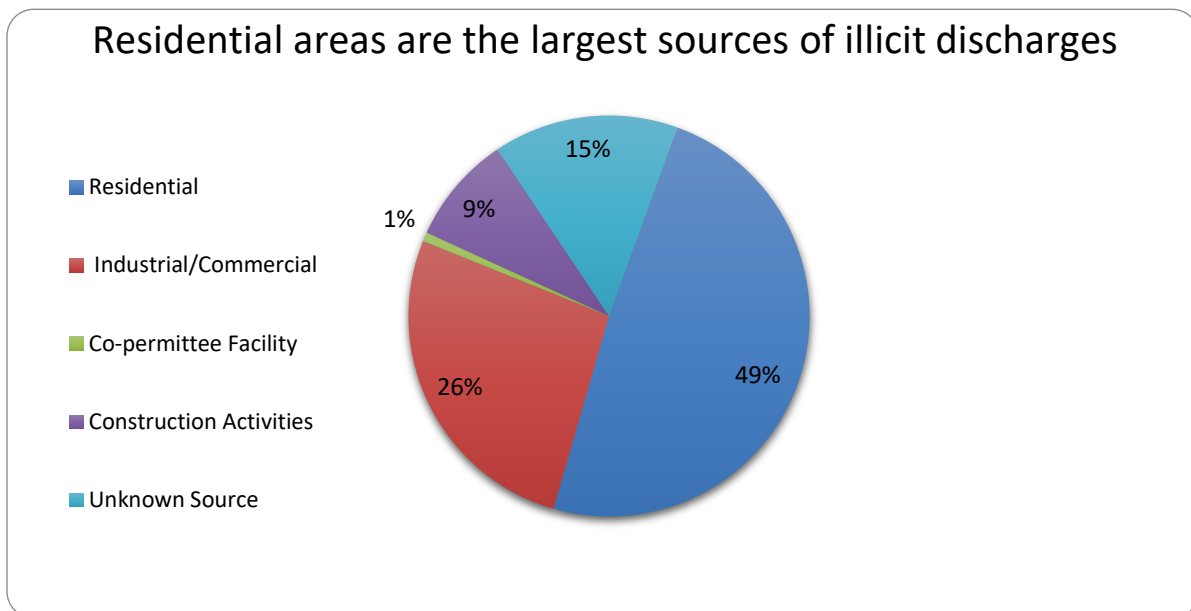
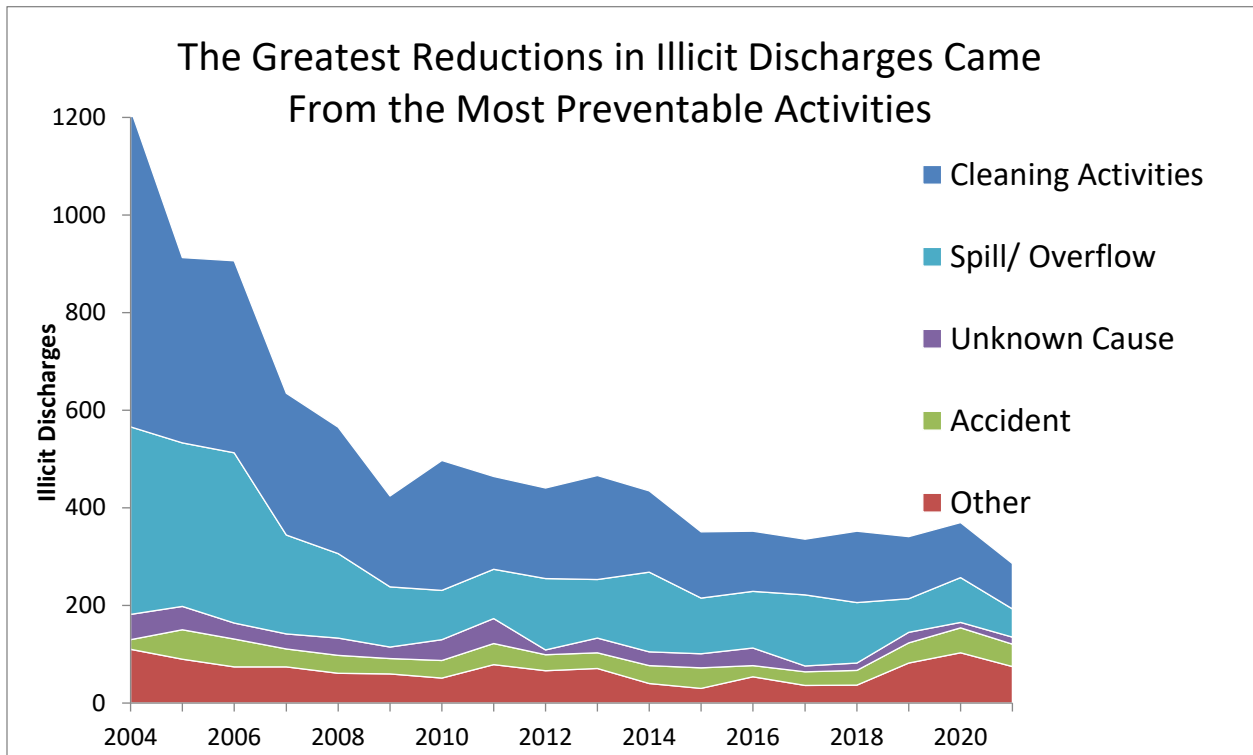




Figure 8-9 Trends in Illicit Discharges



### Documentation

Permittees keep records of all illicit discharge discoveries, reports, responses, and enforcement and track the efforts during the Permit term in the Permittees' IC/ID database and summarized in the figures below.

As part of their field investigation of reported illicit discharges/dumping incidents, the Permittees attempt to determine the material's source. This investigation begins at the surface drainage system in the vicinity of suspected illicit discharges. This may include accessible areas in the public right-of-way adjacent to residences and businesses, catch basins, open channels near known points of discharge, and upstream manholes. If the source and responsible party can be determined, Permittees take one, or all, of the following actions when appropriate:

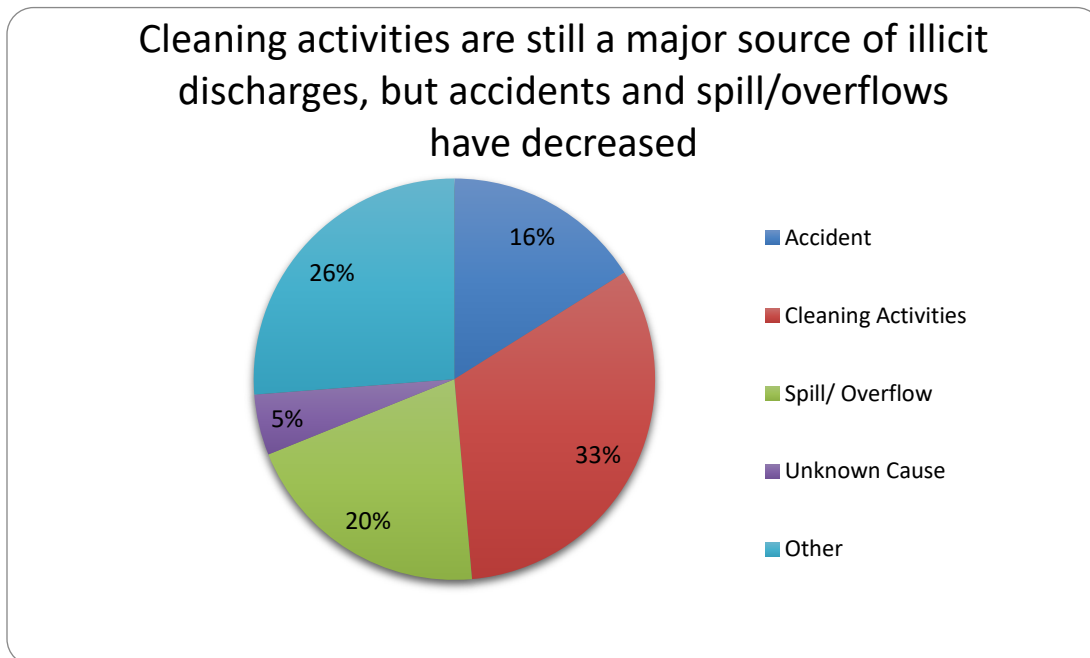
- Direct voluntary cleanup/termination;
- Initiate enforcement procedures;
- Take steps to prevent similar discharges from reoccurring.

When the source cannot be determined, the appropriate municipal department, or a contractor, will be notified to contain and clean up the material if possible. Because these situations and materials can vary, procedures vary as well. In general, the following steps are taken by Permittees to determine sources:

- Verify location of the spill/discharge;

- Containment and cleanup;
- Investigate the cause (look for origin);
- Determine the nature and estimate the amount of illicit discharge/dumped material;
- When appropriate, refer documented non-stormwater discharges/dumping or illegal connections to the proper agency for investigation; and
- If appropriate, notify the RWQCB and/or proper agencies.

Figure 8-10 Activities Leading to Illicit Discharges



## 8.5 TRAINING (CONTROL MEASURE ID3)

The Training Control Measure is important for the implementation of the IC/ID Program Element. An effective training program is one of the best pollution prevention BMPs that can be implemented because it prompts behavioral changes that are fundamentally necessary to protect water quality. The Permittees often evaluate the effectiveness of the training modules they offer by conducting pre- and post-training surveys used to assess a trainee’s command of a topic before and after receiving training on the subject.

### 8.5.1 Conduct Training

Each Permittee targets staff based on the type of stormwater quality and pollution issues they may encounter. Targeted staff included illicit discharge inspectors, as well as field staff such as drainage, roadway, landscape, and facilities staff, industrial pretreatment inspectors, and code enforcement officers

to help identify and report illicit discharges. Training is incorporated with existing business inspection, construction site, and public agency activity programs.

Staff is trained in a manner that provides adequate knowledge for effective illicit discharge identification, investigation, reporting and/or clean up. Training was achieved in a variety of ways, including informal “tailgate” meetings, formal classroom training; and/or self-guided training methods. Due to COVID-19 most of the training was provided online from July 2020 to June 2021. During this reporting period, Permittees trained 596 municipal staff on illicit discharge response and non-stormwater discharges. The staff trained by the Permittees is shown in figure 8-11 and training program is outlined in Table 8-4

Figure 8-11 Illicit Discharge and Illicit Connection Training

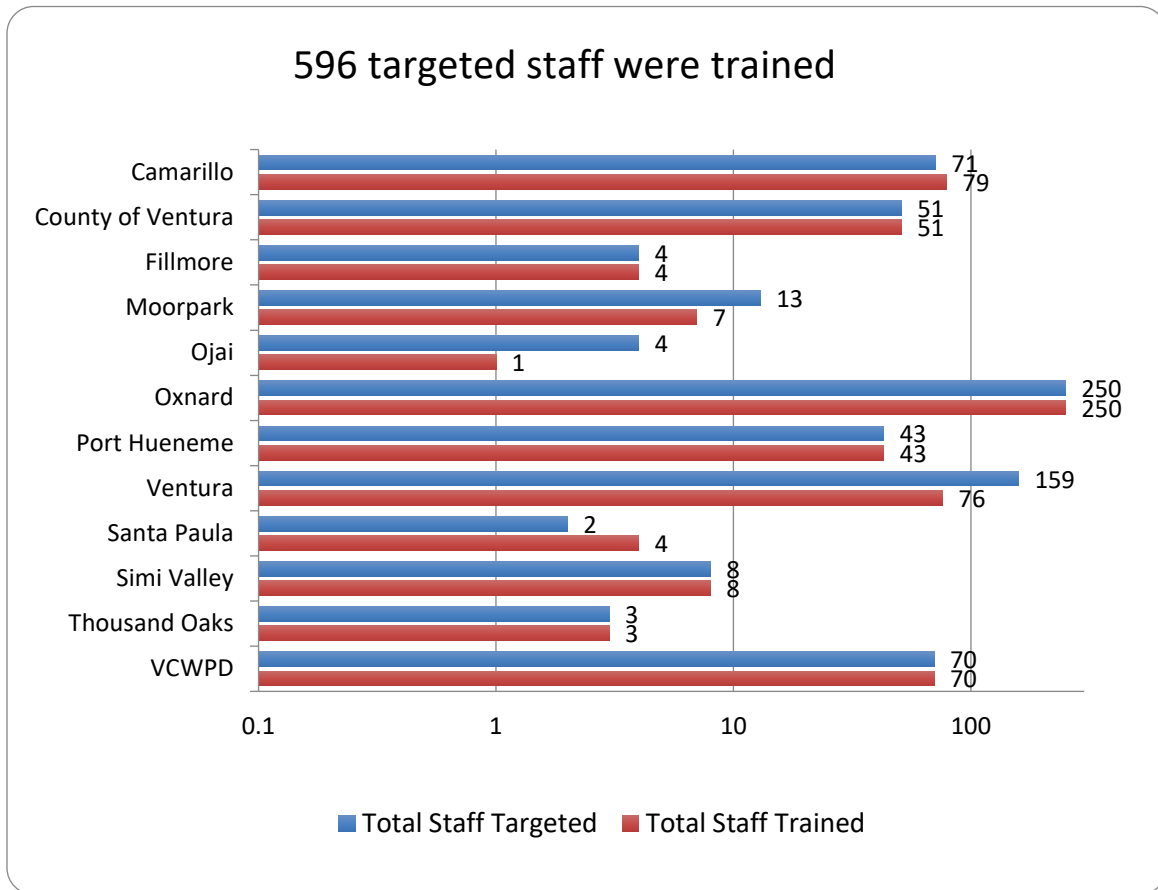


Table 8-4 Training Areas of Focus for the ID/IC Program Element

Target Audience	Format	Subject Material	Comments
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Illicit discharge inspectors</li> <li>• Drainage, roadway, landscape, and facilities staff</li> <li>• Industrial pretreatment inspectors</li> <li>• Code enforcement officers</li> <li>• Fire Departments</li> <li>• Supervisors</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classroom</li> <li>• On-site</li> <li>• Video</li> <li>• Online</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identification</li> <li>• Investigation</li> <li>• Termination</li> <li>• Cleanup</li> <li>• Reporting of incidents</li> <li>• Documentation of incidents</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Subject varies by staff responsibility</li> <li>• Training seminars or workshops related to the program may be made available by other organizations</li> </ul>

## 8.6 EFFECTIVENESS ASSESSMENT (CONTROL MEASURE ID4)

Effectiveness assessment is a fundamental component required for the development and implementation of a successful stormwater program. In order to determine the effectiveness of the IC/ID Program Element, a comprehensive assessment of the program data is conducted as part of the Annual Report. The results of this assessment are used to identify modifications that need to be made to the Program Element. Each year the effectiveness assessment is reviewed and revised as necessary.

By conducting these assessments and modifying the Program Element as needed, the Permittees ensure adaptive management is used as an effective management tool. Due to the types of data collected for the IC/ID Program, current and future assessments will primarily focus on Outcome Levels 1 through 4.

- Outcome Level 1 (L1) answers the question: Did the Permittees implement the components of the Permit?
- Outcome Level 2 (L2) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard significantly increased the awareness of its target audience?
- Outcome Level 3 (L3) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard significantly modified the behavior of a target audience?
- Outcome Level 4 (L4) answers the question: Can the Permittees demonstrate that the control measure/performance standard reduced the pollutant load?

The Permittees have effectively implemented an IC/ID program as described in the following sections. Past Annual Reports have documented the program and are available for public review at the Program’s website. (L1) Detection of Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges Public Outreach Implementation

### Public Reporting

Each Permittee has identified staff serving as the contact person(s) for public reporting of IC/ID. All of the Permittees maintain a phone hotline to receive IC/ID complaints. (L1) Due to the need for timely response to illicit discharges Permittee web sites direct people to report by telephone to a “live person” instead of through email which, while quickly delivered, may not be read within the short time frame that a discharge is occurring. The Program maintains two websites that contains the phone numbers for all the Permittees. (L1)

For the first few years as the Stormwater Program evolved and the public became more aware of what was not allowed down storm drains and so reports of IC/ID increased; however, since 2009 reports of IC/ID have demonstrated a slow downward trend as shown in Figure 8-9. Since the public is more aware of IC/ID this likely represents a change in behavior for all but the willful violators and so fewer pollutants are reaching the storm drains. (L3)

### **IC/ID Tracking**

The Permit requires the mapping of all incidents of illicit connections to their storm drain system since January 2009 by May 7, 2012 at a scale and in a format specified by the Principal Permittee. The Permittees have mapped channels within their permitted area and the storm drain system. These maps were transmitted to the Principal Permittee and were incorporated into the Watershed Protection District's GIS system and ultimately the Ventura Countywide Unified Stormdrain Mapping GIS system. (L1)

### **Screening for Illicit Connections**

Screening has been implemented by the Permittees and has proven to be a very labor-intensive effort resulting in very few suspect connections turning out to be illicit connections that need to be terminated. Of the seven possible illicit connections, all seven were identified as actual illicit connections, and three were terminated within the reporting period, with the remaining four cases in process of being resolved. As illicit connections are terminated it immediately reduces the discharge of pollutants. (L4)

## **8.6.1 Illicit Connection and Illicit Discharge Response and Elimination**

### **Legal Authority**

Legal authority for most potential pollutant discharges has existed since 1994. More recently Permittees adopted stormwater quality ordinances which more effectively and consistently ensure adequate legal authority across Permittees. (L1)

### **Response to Illicit Discharges and Illicit Connections**

Each IC/ID complaint and the actions undertaken in response were documented. (L1) The Permittees responded to all reports of illicit discharge within 24 hours and often within a few hours. (L1) Where possible, the Permittees identified the source, nature, and volume of the discharge. Data shows that the source was identified 86% of the time. (L1) The Permittees took enforcement action as shown in figure 8-5. (L1)

The Permittees have developed an IC/ID Field Screening Protocol using the guidance from "Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, A Guidance Manual for Program Development and Technical Assessments"<sup>3</sup> In order to identify high priority areas for inspection, the Permittees have completed a comprehensive countywide storm drain system GIS system. (L1) The Permittees investigated all illicit connections identified during inspections or reported by a third party within 21 days. (L1) Where possible, the Permittees determined the source, nature, and volume of the discharge.

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<sup>3</sup>*Illicit Discharge Detection and Elimination, A Guidance Manual for Program Development and Technical Assessments*. The Center for Watershed Protection, Pitt R., October 2004. Chapter 13, 13.1,13.2, 13.3, 13.4

### 8.6.2 Enforcement

Appropriate actions were then taken to approve undocumented connections or pursue removal of illicit connections. Upon confirmation of an illicit connection, the Permittees terminated the connection using formal enforcement within 180 days. (L1) (L4) Some of the Permittees maintained a list containing all connections under investigation for possible illicit connection and their status. (L1) The Permittees eliminated three of the seven known illicit connections during this reporting year, with the four remaining cases in process of being eliminated. (L1)

### 8.6.3 Training

#### Conduct Training

The Permittees trained a total of 388 municipal staff members. Each Permittee targets staff based on the type of stormwater quality and pollution issues they may encounter. Targeted staff included illicit discharge inspectors, drainage, roadway, landscape and facilities staff, industrial pretreatment inspectors, fire department employees and code enforcement officers. This permitting year 88% of targeted staff members were trained. (L1)

### 8.6.4 Illicit Discharges and Illicit Connections Program Element Modifications

On an annual basis, the Permittees evaluate the results of the Annual Report, as well as the experience that staff implementing the program, to determine if any additional program modifications are necessary to comply with the Clean Water Act requirement to reduce the discharge of pollutants to the MEP.

# 9 Water Quality Monitoring

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## 9.1 OVERVIEW

As required by Order R4-2010-0108 (Permit) issued July 8, 2010, the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program’s (Program) Stormwater Monitoring Program (SMP) monitored water chemistry, toxicity, and biological communities of creeks, rivers, and channels within Ventura County during the 2020/21 monitoring year. Rainfall across the county was well below average (20-30% of normal) for the wet season, with most rain falling in December 2020 and January and March 2021.

There were few wildfires with widespread impacts in 2020/21 compared to recent years. Vegetation regrowth and recovery continued in the 2019/20 Maria and Easy Fire burn areas (9,999 and 1,806 acres respectively) in central Ventura County, 2018/19 Woolsey and Hill Fire burn areas (96,949 and 4,531 acres, respectively) in east Ventura County and the 2017/18 Thomas Fire burn area (281,893 acres) in west Ventura County. Vegetation regrowth in the burn areas helped stabilize the soil, lessening the risk of landslide/rockfall/debris flow and allowing access to all monitoring stations for wet weather sampling.

### 2020/21 Wildfires:

Name	Date Started	Date Contained	Acres	Location
Elizabeth	6/10/20	6/12/20	289	Elizabeth and Foothill Rd, north of Ventura
Lime	6/10/20	6/17/20	803	Lime Cyn Rd and Piru Cyn Rd, west of Lake Piru
Holser	8/17/20	11/10/20	3000	Holser Cyn Rd and Piru Cyn Rd, south of Lake Piru
Cornell	12/7/20	12/8/20	174	Cornell Drive and Shell Road, East of Santa Paula
Erbes	1/14/21	1/15/21	250	Erbes Road and Westland Place
Westwood	4/4/21	4/5/21	25	Westwood Street and Cottonwood Drive in Simi Valley

Monitoring locations for water chemistry and toxicity included mass emission stations and major outfall stations. Mass emission stations are in the lower reaches of the three major watersheds in Ventura County (Ventura River, Santa Clara River, and Calleguas Creek). Major outfall stations, a component of the SMP since 2009, are in subwatersheds representative of each Permittee’s contribution to downstream waters.

Water chemistry samples were targeted for collection at the three mass emission and eleven major outfall stations during at least three rain events per site, with each site sampled once per event when applicable, per the Permit requirements. The official wet season begins on October 1<sup>st</sup> and the first sampled storm of the wet season occurred December 28, 2020 at all sites. This was the first flush event for all sites except MO-SIM, which received 0.28” of rain on November 7, 2020, from a storm predicted to be too small to sample. The other monitoring stations across the county received less than 0.25” rainfall during the November 7 event. The other sampled rain events occurred on January 28-29, 2021 and March 10, 2021.

Aquatic toxicity samples were collected from all fourteen sites during the first sampled event. No toxicity was observed as all sites were not significantly different in comparison to the control for both growth and reproduction, so no toxicity identification evaluations (TIEs) were required or performed.

Dry weather sampling was attempted at all mass emission and major outfall stations during one dry event which was split into three parts: Santa Clara River Watershed (ME-SCR, MO-FIL, MO-SPA, MO-OXN, and MO-VEN) on April 26-27, 2021; Calleguas Creek Watershed (ME-CC, MO-CAM, MO-SIM, MO-MPK, and MO-THO) on April 28-29, 2021, and Ventura River Watershed (ME-VR2, MO-MEI, and MO-OJA<sup>4</sup>) and the coastal watershed (MO-HUE) on May 11-12, 2021. All sites were sampled except MO-MEI, MO-SPA, MO-OXN, and MO-VEN, which were dry. MO-MPK had insufficient flow during grab sample collection so could not be sampled for all constituents. A smaller subset of water chemistry samples was collected at each of the major outfall stations (or alternate outfall location if it was dry) on August 10-11, 2021, as part of the dry-season, dry-weather monitoring prescribed in the NPDES Permit.

*E. coli* concentrations were above water quality objectives (WQO) at all sites during wet weather event 1 (bacteria unable to be analyzed events 2 and 3 due to laboratory issues) and at around half the sites with flow during dry weather. Other constituents that were found at elevated levels in relation to applicable WQO during the 2020/21 monitoring year include chloride and/or total dissolved solids (six sites, primarily dry-weather), pH (one site, dry weather), dissolved oxygen (one site, dry weather), total chlorine residual (one site, wet weather), total cyanide (one site, wet weather), total aluminum (two sites, wet weather), total selenium (three sites, dry weather), nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen (two sites, wet weather), bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (one site, wet weather), pentachlorophenol (two sites, wet weather), and benzo(a)pyrene (one site, wet weather). The Program is using this information to identify pollutants of concern and direct efforts to reduce their discharge from the storm drain system.

Bioassessment sampling was conducted as part of the Southern California Regional Bioassessment Program (RBP) for the 13<sup>th</sup> year. The latest five-year study started in 2021 and continues in a similar vein to the previous five-year studies, with monitoring designed and conducted to look at both regional trends over time (by approximately annual revisits to selected sites) and current stream conditions (single visits to randomly generated sites). This 2021-2025 study continues to include perennial and nonperennial streams and adds the opportunity to participate in several special studies. For 2021, the SMP surveyed five randomly generated sites to assess condition (two in the Ventura River Watershed, two in the Calleguas Creek Watershed, and one in the Santa Clara River Watershed), and ten sites that were previously surveyed in 2008/2009 (three in the Ventura River Watershed, three in the Calleguas Creek Watershed, two in the Santa Clara River Watershed, and one in the Santa Monica Bay Watershed), to track trends. The Principal Permittee's fixed (Integrator) sites at the three mass emission stations (ME-CC, ME-VR2, and ME-SCR<sup>5</sup>) were also sampled once each for 2021. Sampling occurred between May 19-July 13, 2021.

## 9.2 INTRODUCTION

This Annual Report summarizes the effort undertaken by the Program and the SMP during the 2020/21 monitoring year. Pursuant to NPDES Permit No. CAS0040002, the Program must submit a Stormwater Monitoring Report annually by December 15<sup>th</sup>, and include the following:

- Results of the SMP
- General interpretation of the results

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<sup>4</sup> MO-OJA composite was sampled one day later than the other sites for that watershed because of a problem with the intake line.

<sup>5</sup> The ME-SCR site for bioassessment was moved ~1,300 meters upstream and named ME-SCR2 for 2019 and beyond to avoid the fluctuating wetland conditions behind the Freeman Diversion Dam.



- Tabular and graphical summaries of the monitoring data obtained during the previous year

Analysis of samples collected at various stations throughout the watershed gives an overall representation of the quality of stormwater discharges. The monitoring also aids in the identification of pollutant sources, as well as the assessment of Program effectiveness. Feedback provided by the SMP allows for changes to be made in the implementation of other Program aspects to resolve any problems and reduce pollutants that may exist. This adaptive management strategy should eventually show improved water quality through the SMP. The SMP includes the following components.

### 9.2.1 Mass Emission Monitoring

Mass emission stations are in the lower reaches of the three major watersheds in Ventura County (Ventura River, Santa Clara River, and Calleguas Creek). As such, the mass emission drainage areas are much larger than the drainage areas associated with major outfall stations (described in Section 9.3.2), and include large contributions from other sources of discharge, such as wastewater treatment plants, agricultural runoff, non-point sources, and groundwater discharges.

The purpose of mass emission monitoring is to identify pollutant loads to the ocean and identify long-term trends in pollutant concentrations. This type of monitoring, in conjunction with the major outfall monitoring, is also useful in helping to determine if the Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) is contributing to exceedances of water quality standards (WQS) by comparing results to applicable WQO in the Los Angeles Region Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) and the California Toxics Rule (CTR), as described in Section 9.7

During the 2020/21 monitoring year, water quality samples from three wet-weather events and one dry-weather event were targeted for water chemistry analysis at each mass emission station, as required by the NPDES Permit. All mass emission sites were successfully sampled for these events. Aquatic toxicity samples were collected at each mass emission station during the first sampled event of the 2020/21 monitoring year (December 28, 2020) and tested with the species that was determined to be the most sensitive to contaminants for each station, based on the results from the 2009/10 monitoring year.

### 9.2.2 Major Outfall Monitoring

The Permit requires sampling at one representative station (major outfall) for each Permittee's municipal separate storm sewer system (MS4). Many of the monitoring requirements for major outfall stations are like those for the mass emission stations, as are the reasons for undertaking this monitoring. Four of the stations were monitored beginning with the 2009/10 monitoring season and seven of the stations were new to the 2010/11 monitoring season. Station selection for these sampling locations is described in Section 9.3.2.

During the 2020/21 monitoring year, water quality samples from three wet-weather events and one dry-weather event were targeted for water chemistry analysis at each of the eleven major outfall stations, as required by the NPDES Permit. Three wet events were sampled for all eleven stations. All sites were sampled during the dry event except for MO-MEI, MO-OXN, MO-SPA, and MO-VEN which were dry and could not be sampled, and MO-MPK which had flow during composite collection but had mostly dried out prior to grab sample collection. Aquatic toxicity samples were collected at each of the major outfall stations during the first sampled event (December 28, 2020). Samples were tested with the species that was determined to be the most sensitive to contaminants for that station, based on the results from the 2009/10 or 2010/11 monitoring year, as applicable.

Using the data from the major outfall monitoring in conjunction with the mass emission monitoring, the SMP will help the Program determine if an MS4 is potentially contributing to exceedances of WQS by comparing results to applicable WQO in the Basin Plan and the CTR. Over the course of many years, the data will be able to describe trends in waters from the major outfall stations over time. This information will be useful in evaluating the effectiveness of the Program implementation and provide Permittees with real data on which to base future management decisions.

### 9.2.3 Dry-Season, Dry-Weather Analytical Monitoring

The Permit requires the analysis of pollutant discharges from a representative MS4 outfall in each municipality and in the unincorporated County area during dry weather between May 1 and Sept 30. The SMP met this requirement by sampling once during the summer at or near major outfall stations, or at another pre-selected representative site if flow was insufficient at the major outfall station.

### 9.2.4 Bioassessment Monitoring

Prior to the adoption of the New Permit (Orders No. 09-0057 in 2009 and its replacement, R4-2010-0108 in 2010), the SMP performed bioassessment monitoring in the Ventura River watershed at fixed locations. That sampling effort was terminated in favor of a new program working to standardize bioassessment monitoring throughout Southern California undertaken by the Stormwater Monitoring Coalition of Southern California (SMC) and led by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP). The SMP has participated in the regional program since 2009.

The first five-year study was conducted from 2009 through 2013 during which time the SMP performed bioassessment surveys at 15 random sites (six in the Ventura River Watershed, six in the Calleguas Creek Watershed, and three in the Santa Clara River Watershed) and three targeted perennial sites (ME-CC, ME-SCR<sup>6</sup>, and ME-VR2) throughout the County each year. An interim study was conducted in 2014 to allow the SMC time to review the generated data and to provide information for developing the next five-year study (2015-2019). The 2014 study included revisits to previously sampled sites for trend detection and repeated visits to new nonperennial reference sites to provide information for developing the next five-year study.

The 2015-2019 Study was extended for 2020, included perennial and nonperennial streams, and was designed to look at both current stream condition as well as regional trends. Each year, the SMP surveyed ten randomly generated sites to assess condition (three in the Ventura River Watershed, three in the Calleguas Creek Watershed, three in the Santa Clara River Watershed, and one in the Santa Monica Bay Watershed) and five sites (two open land use and three developed land use) that were previously surveyed in 2008/2009 to track trends. The Principal Permittee's fixed (Integrator) sites at the three mass emission stations (ME-CC, ME-VR2, and ME-SCR<sup>7</sup>) were also sampled annually.

A new five-year study (2021-2025) began this year. It continues to include perennial and nonperennial streams and is designed to look at both current stream condition as well as regional trends but has altered the distribution of trend and condition sites. For 2021, the SMP surveyed five randomly generated sites to assess condition (two in the Ventura River Watershed, two in the Calleguas Creek Watershed, and one in the Santa Clara River Watershed) and ten sites that were previously surveyed in 2008/2009 (three in the Ventura River Watershed, three in the Calleguas Creek Watershed, and two in the Santa Clara River Watershed, and one in the Santa Monica Bay Watershed), to track trends. The Principal Permittee's fixed (Integrator) sites at the three mass emission stations (ME-CC, ME-VR2, and ME-SCR) were also sampled once each for 2021. Sampling occurred between May 19 and July 13, 2021. The regional bioassessment effort is ongoing and will be modified and revised as new information becomes available.

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<sup>6</sup> ME-SCR was not perennial in 2015/16 and 2016/17 due to drought conditions.

<sup>7</sup> The ME-SCR site for bioassessment was moved 1,300 meters upstream and named ME-SCR2 for 2019 and beyond to avoid the fluctuating wetland conditions behind the Freeman Diversion Dam.

## 9.3 MONITORING STATION LOCATIONS AND DESCRIPTIONS

### 9.3.1 Mass Emission Stations

Mass emission stations are located in the three major Ventura County watersheds: Ventura River (ME-VR2), Santa Clara River (ME-SCR), and Calleguas Creek (ME-CC). In locating these stations, every effort was made to position the station as low as possible in the watershed to capture as much of the runoff as possible, while remaining above tidal influence. See Figure 9-1 for the location of mass emission stations.

The ME-VR2 station is located at the Ojai Valley Sanitary District's wastewater treatment plant (WWTP) near Cañada Larga Road and captures runoff from the city of Ojai, several unincorporated communities (e.g., Meiners Oaks, Casitas Springs), a very small portion of the City of Ventura, and a large portion of undeveloped landscape, the latter of which comprises the bulk of the watershed. Monitoring at the ME-VR2 station was initiated during the 2004/05 monitoring season after landslide activity at the original Ventura River mass emission station, ME-VR, precluded further sampling at that location.

The ME-CC station is located along Camarillo Street (formerly University Drive) near California State University at Channel Islands and captures runoff from the cities of Camarillo, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, and Simi Valley. This watershed has the largest urban influence (roughly 30% urbanized), but also includes significant contributions from agricultural runoff found predominantly in the lower two-thirds of the watershed. Monitoring at the ME-CC station was initiated during the 2000/01 monitoring season.

The ME-SCR station is located at the United Water Conservation District's (UWCD) Freeman Diversion Dam east of Saticoy and captures runoff from the cities of Santa Paula and Fillmore, communities upstream in Los Angeles County, agricultural fields, and a large amount of undeveloped landscape. Monitoring at the ME-SCR station was initiated during the 2001/02 monitoring season. Unlike at the other two mass emission stations, accurate measurement of flow at this location is not possible due to the configuration and operation of the diversion structure. In dry conditions, the river is usually diverted to groundwater infiltration ponds. In wet-weather conditions, the Santa Clara River can also flow past the diversion dam through two other routes. One route is through the river diversion gate structure where the majority of wet-weather flow passes. The other route is over the diversion dam, a situation which occurs only during high flows generated by large storm events. Flood flows are monitored at the diversion dam by the Hydrology Section, but there is no flow meter installed at the river diversion gate due to complex hydraulics. A sonic water level sensor was installed in 2014 over the pond behind the diversion so that a gate opening would be noticed. A text message can be automatically sent to sampling team members when the gate is opened to let them know the intake strainer could lose contact with the river. A special swing arm intake strainer has been installed to alleviate this potential problem, but the installation is still being refined.

### 9.3.2 Major Outfall Stations

Of the eleven major outfall stations, four were added to the SMP in 2009 and seven were added in 2010. As directed by the NPDES Permit, these stations represent the runoff from each city/unincorporated county (Permittee) in which they are located. The four municipalities selected for inclusion in the 2009/10 SMP were Camarillo (MO-CAM), Ojai (MO-OJA), unincorporated Meiners Oaks (MO-MEI) and Ventura (MO-VEN).<sup>8</sup> The stations in the seven remaining municipalities brought online for the 2010/11 monitoring year were Fillmore (MO-FIL), Moorpark (MO-

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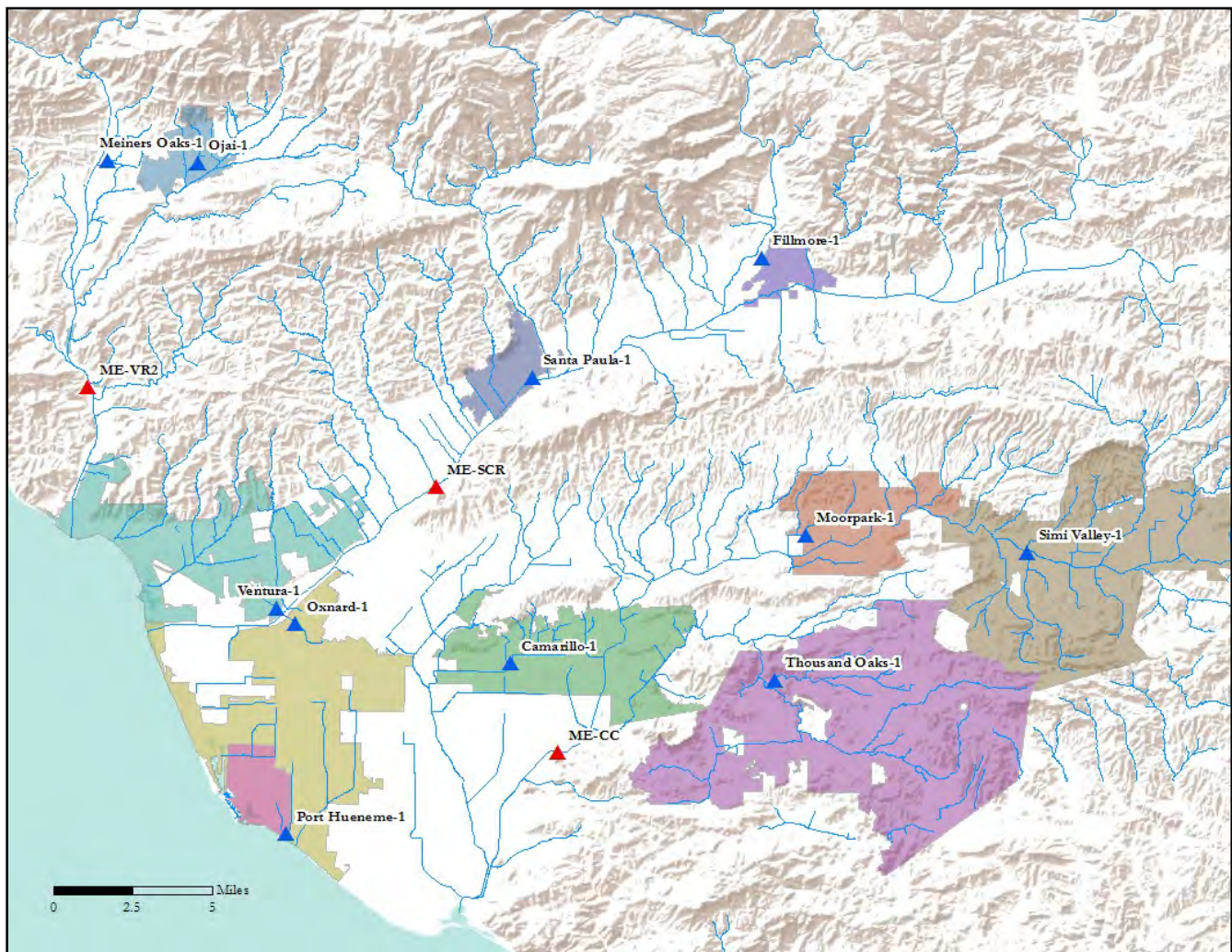
<sup>8</sup> Site names shown on the map in Figure 9-1 reflect the names given to each site in the NPDES permit; site names throughout this report are shortened to those shown on chains-of-custody (COCs) for brevity. Under this naming convention, MO-CAM is synonymous with Camarillo-1, MO-FIL with Fillmore-1, MO-HUE with Port Hueneme-1, MO-OJA with Ojai-1, MO-OXN with Oxnard-1, MO-MEI with Meiners Oaks-1 (VCUnincorporated-1), MO-MPK with Moorpark-1, MO-SPA with Santa Paula-1, MO-SIM with Simi Valley-1, MO-THO with Thousand Oaks-1, and MO-VEN with Ventura-1.

MPK), Oxnard (MO-OXN), Port Hueneme (MO-HUE), Santa Paula (MO-SPA), Simi Valley (MO-SIM), and Thousand Oaks (MO-THO). Figure 9-1 shows the location of the eleven major outfall and three mass emission stations.

In 2018/19 the Program revised the calculated drainage areas to each major outfall using the latest LiDAR topography and updated storm drain system information from the Ventura Countywide Unified Storm Drain Mapping project. In addition to updated drainage boundaries, the land use classification percentages within each drainage area were recalculated using the 2012 Southern California Area Government's (SCAG) Land Use GIS file. Upon inspecting the 2012 SCAG GIS data layer, it was noted that many agricultural parcels were miscategorized as "Rural Residential" when in fact the parcels were primarily used for agriculture. The Ventura County Agricultural Commissioner's (Ag. Commissioner) office provided its most recent GIS file identifying current agricultural parcels as of November 2018. This layer was then merged with the existing 2012 SCAG land use layer, with the Ag. Commissioner identified parcels replacing the existing 2012 SCAG data as land use category 'Agriculture' for those locations. The updated land use layer was also used to generate the citywide land use percentage statistics.

Details of the land use of each city and the representative watershed can be found in Appendix A in Attachment D.

Figure 9-1 Mass Emission and Major Outfall Sampling Locations



The MO-CAM station is located on Camarillo Hills Drain (a tributary of Revolon Slough) just north of Daily Drive in Camarillo. The predominant land use in the watershed is residential. Less than 5% of the watershed is commercial and less than 4% is agricultural.

The MO-OJA station is located on Fox Canyon Barranca (a tributary of San Antonio Creek) near the Ojai Valley Athletic Club in Ojai. Approximately 37% of the watershed is classified as vacant or open space, with residential land use comprising about 32%. About 5% of the watershed is commercial and about 9% is agricultural.

The MO-MEI station is located on Happy Valley Drain (a tributary of the Ventura River) near Rice Road in Meiners Oaks. Over half of the watershed is classified as residential or rural residential. About 10% is classified as vacant. 4% of the watershed is commercial and about 15% is agricultural.

The MO-VEN station is located on Moon Ditch (a tributary to the Santa Clara River) near the US101-Johnson Drive interchange in Ventura. Over half of the watershed is residential. Industrial land uses account for almost 13% of the watershed, while agriculture comprises less than 1% of the watershed.

The MO-FIL station is located on the North Fillmore Drain (a tributary of Sespe Creek) near Shiells Park in Fillmore. Almost half the watershed is residential and over 15% is classified as open space/recreation. Agriculture land uses account for almost 10% of the watershed, while commercial comprises less than 1% of the watershed.

The MO-MPK station is located on the Walnut<sup>9</sup> Canyon Drain (a tributary to Arroyo Las Posas) near the intersection of Los Angeles Avenue and Mira Sol Drive in Moorpark. Over a third of the watershed is classified as open space/recreation, almost a third is residential, and almost 12% of the watershed is used for agriculture.

The MO-OXN station is located on El Rio Drain (a tributary to the Santa Clara River) near the corner of Buckaroo Avenue and Winchester Drive in Oxnard. Most of the watershed is classified as residential, however almost 20% is transportation and less than 1% is agricultural.

The MO-HUE station is located on Hueneme Drain (a tributary of Tšumas Creek (formerly J Street Drain) at the Pacific Ocean) southeast of Bubbling Springs Park in Port Hueneme. The land use is predominantly residential and transportation, with open space/recreation land use accounting for almost 8%.

The MO-SPA station is located on the 11th Street Drain where it enters the Santa Clara River, east of the Santa Paula airport. Over half of the watershed is classified as residential, less than 20% as transportation, and schools account for approximately 2%.

The MO-SIM station is located on Bus Canyon Drain (a tributary of the Arroyo Simi) near the intersection of 5th Street and Los Angeles Avenue in Simi Valley. Over half (55%) of the watershed is classified as open space/recreation and about one third is residential.

The MO-THO station is located on the North Fork Arroyo Conejo (a tributary to Conejo Creek) in the Hill Canyon WWTP. The main land uses in the watershed are residential (47%), open space/recreation (26%) and transportation (16%).

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<sup>9</sup> Incorrectly referred to as Gabbert Canyon in reports and documents prior to the 2012/13 Annual Report.

## 9.4 METHODS

The NPDES Permit requires flow-paced sampling at monitoring stations where technically feasible. The reason for this type of sampling is two-fold. First, by collecting sub-samples (aliquots) based on flow, a more accurate representation of the Event Mean Concentration (EMC) of each constituent in the runoff can be achieved. Second, by multiplying the EMC by the total flow during sample collection, a mass of each constituent discharged during each sampling event can be estimated. Ideally, sampling events represent the entire hydrograph, however difficulties inherent in predicting precipitation quantity, intensity, and resulting runoff may result in partial representation of the complete storm event. Therefore, EMC are only representative of the sampling event duration and not the entire storm and mass emission quantities are calculated accordingly. These benefits are discussed further below.

Flow-paced sampling is not technically feasible at three sites, ME-SCR, MO-FIL, and MO-HUE. Since its installation in 2001, the monitoring station at ME-SCR has been monitored on a time-paced basis, as allowed by the RWQCB. This site is located at the UWCD's Freeman Diversion Dam, where irregular operation of the gates associated with the diversion dam makes it impossible to calculate flow. During most of the year, water is sent through a canal in which it would be easy to calculate flow. However, during rainfall events and periodically throughout the year, the UWCD will close the gates to the diversion canal, allowing water to go through a high-velocity bypass or spill over the dam itself. Computing flow over the latter is difficult, given the breadth of the dam, which spans the entire river bottom. Computing flow through the bypass is impossible due to the wide ranges in water surface elevation and velocity. The MO-FIL station is located at an outfall into Sespe Creek and is subject to backwater due to plant growth and sediment deposition, which makes accurate flow determination impossible. The MO-HUE station is in a canal that is drained via pumps that are triggered based on water surface elevation. The pumps are operated intermittently which makes flow-paced sampling inappropriate.

### 9.4.1 Precipitation

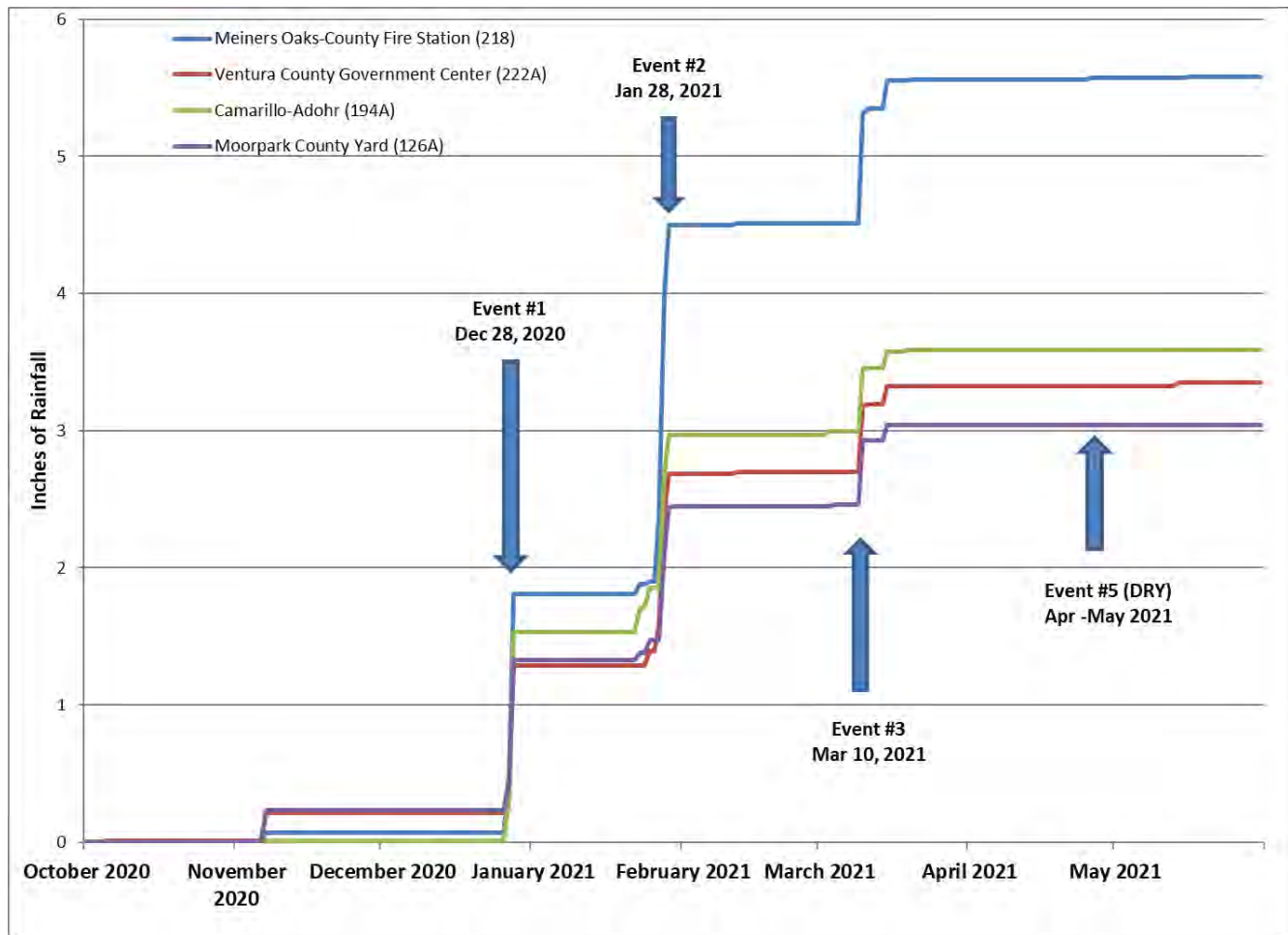
Precipitation amounts, both historical and predicted, are integral to performing flow-weighted sampling. Historical precipitation data is necessary to determine the relationship between rainfall and runoff. In the major watersheds with long-term mass emission stations, the rainfall-to-runoff (RTR) ratio is based on over 65 years of data and takes into account antecedent soil moisture conditions. These RTR tables have been used and refined by the SMP since the stations were installed in 2001.

At the time the major outfall stations were installed, the SMP had access to real time precipitation data from the VCWPD's Hydrology section [part of the Automated Local Evaluation in Real Time (ALERT) network]; however, it was not in a form that was usable by the SMP. Changes to the processing of the ALERT data allowed the SMP to capitalize on the already installed and maintained ALERT rainfall gauges. Most of the monitoring stations were able to use data from nearby ALERT gauges. Those monitoring stations that do not have nearby ALERT gauges (ME-SCR, ME-VR2, MO-CAM, MO-MEI, MO-VEN, and MO-HUE) have tipping bucket rainfall gauges (0.01" per tip) installed instead. Rainfall data from sites that use non-SMP rain gauges is considered "best available" at the time of the report. The data is subject to quality control review by the Hydrology section, during which time the telemetered data (if available) is compared to the data logger and to other rainfall gauges in the area at the time to determine best accuracy prior to storing the data as official "archived" data. This typically occurs after the end of the water year and too late for inclusion in this Annual Report. This may result in some slight differences in rainfall amounts if queried later, but typically will not have a large effect for most storms.

While the rainfall gauges purchased and maintained by the SMP are of high quality, the data generated by these gauges are subjected to less stringent quality control measures than the "official" gauges maintained by the Hydrology section. Therefore, the SMP has opted to show cumulative totals from representative ALERT gauges when indicating dates that actual sampling events occurred, as shown in Figure 9-2. Please note that this is preliminary data as this Annual Report is due before the records from the water year can receive full quality control review, however it does provide a good overview of wet season rainfall. Gauge 218 is in the Ojai Valley near the MO-MEI station. Gauge 222 is located at the County Government Center near the MO-VEN station. Gauge 194 is located at the base of the Conejo Grade, somewhat equidistant from the ME-CC and MO-CAM stations. Gauge

126A is located at the Moorpark County Yard near the MO-MPK station. Rainfall data gathered at specific monitoring stations can be found in Appendix B in Attachment D.

Figure 9-2 Precipitation at Selected Sites

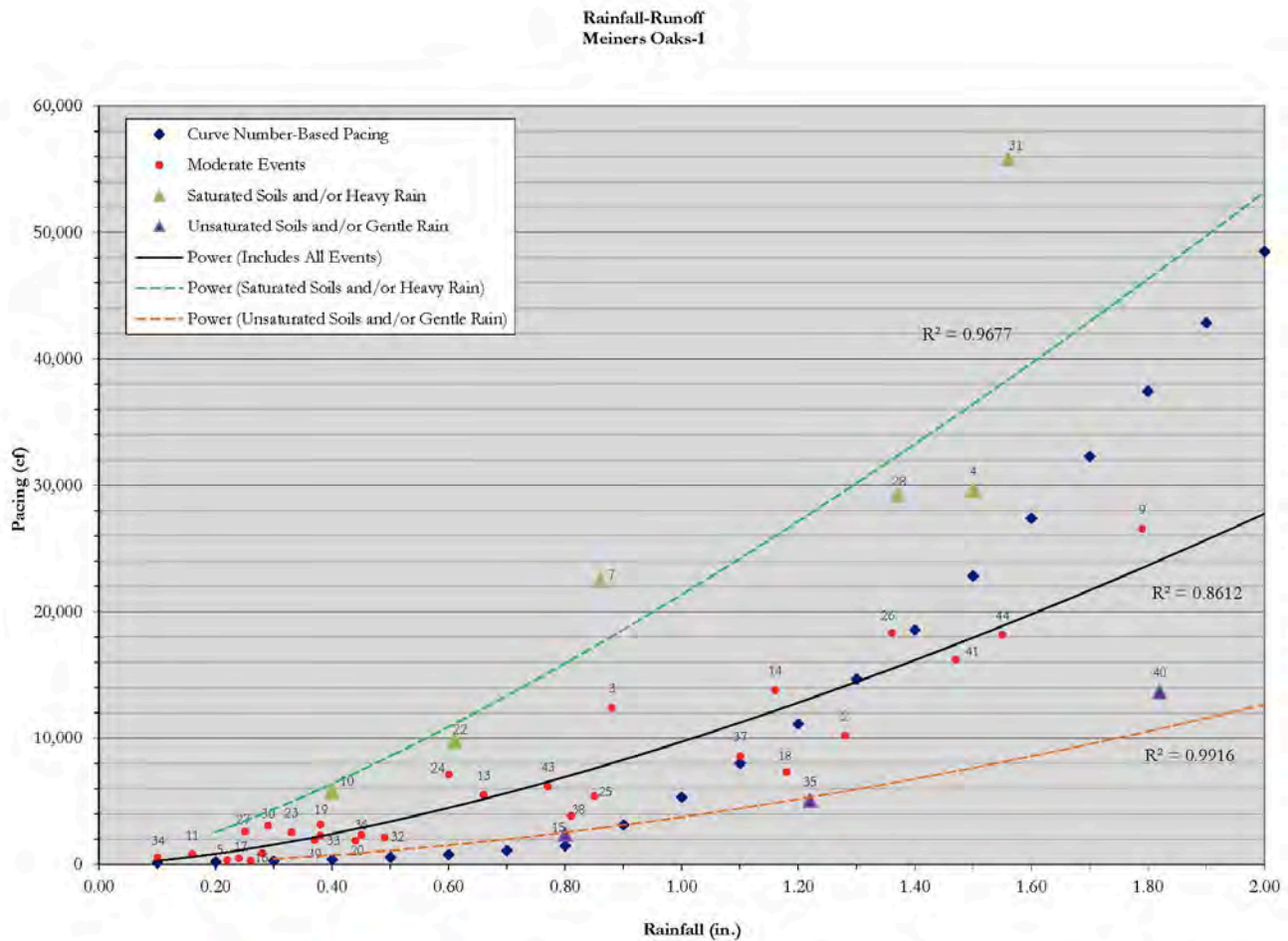


#### 9.4.2 Rainfall-to-Runoff Ratios

Prior to starting monitoring under the new Permit (before monitoring season 2009/10), the SMP enlisted the VCWPD’s Hydrology section to assist in modeling the expected rainfall-to-runoff (RTR) ratio for each new major outfall station. The Hydrology section used the NRCS Curve Number approach that is commonly used in hydrologic modeling. This model considers land use and soil types within each watershed but relies on using a wetter soil moisture condition than actually exists for all but the largest of rainfall events. Despite these known limitations, these RTR ratios represented a good beginning point for flow-weighted sampler pacing. A further description of the methods and limitations of this approach, as described by the Hydrology section, can be found in Appendix C in Attachment D.

Since the stations have been in place, the SMP has refined these model results by comparing the runoff generated at each site with the corresponding rainfall, where runoff was sufficient to be sampled by the equipment and rainfall was greater than 0.1 inch. The SMP also tracks the antecedent soil moisture for each event, flagging it as “Dry”, “Moderate”, or “Wet”. This allows the SMP to more accurately pace automated samplers based on the predicted size of each storm. Figure 9-3 shows an example of these pieces of information, as a function of the proper pacing of the automated sampler (see Section 9.4.3 for a further description of sampler pacing).

Figure 9-3. Example of Rainfall-to-Runoff Modeling Versus Actual Rainfall Events



### 9.4.3 Flow-Paced Sampling

To compute flow (or to measure water level at time-paced sites), ISCO flow meters are installed at all stations except MO-HUE (where the pump station prevents water level and flow from being able to be measured accurately).

ISCO 4230 bubblers are used to measure water height (stage) at MO-FIL and all flow-paced stations except MO-SPA, which uses an ISCO 2150 area-velocity meter instead. By measuring pressure head and relating it to a rating table, the 4230s can calculate instantaneous discharge. Measurement accuracy of the 4230 is not affected by wind, steam, foam, turbulence, suspended solids, or rapidly changing head heights. For concrete channels (i.e. MO-CAM, MO-FIL, MO-MEI, MO-MPK, MO-OJA, MO-OXN, MO-SIM, and MO-VEN), the water level must reach the toe of the channel to come into communication with the 4230 tubing for stage measurements and corresponding flow calculations. This means that water levels from the channel invert to the toe are unable to be measured and so sampling begins after water levels rise above this height. Bubbler flow meters are extremely low maintenance and highly reliable and were, therefore, chosen over other contact (ISCO 2150 area-velocity) and non-contact (ISCO 4210 ultrasonic) types of flow measuring devices when possible. 2150 area-velocity meters use Doppler technology to directly measure average velocity in the flow stream, while the integral pressure transducer measures liquid depth to determine flow area. The 2150 then calculates flow rate by multiplying the area of the flow stream by its average velocity. The 2150 is best for applications where weirs or flumes are not practical, or where submerged, full pipe, surcharged, and reverse flow conditions may occur, such as at the MO-SPA monitoring site. Flow meters are



installed at two time-paced sites (4230 at MO-FIL and ISCO 4210 ultrasonic at ME-SCR) to provide information about water level only, as flow cannot be calculated at these sites.

Flow-paced sampling involves collecting sub-samples (aliquots) on a volumetric flow interval basis, with a set aliquot volume collected after the passage of each equal, pre-set flow volume, and then compositing these aliquots into one sample for analysis. In its simplest terms, flow-paced sampling can be achieved by estimating the total flow that will pass a sampling location (which, itself, is dependent on predicted rainfall amounts and intensities) and dividing that by the number of aliquots to be taken. Using Figure 9-3 above as an example, an approximate 0.6” rainfall event would generate about 0.25 million cubic feet of runoff, which when divided by 35 (the number of aliquots the SMP attempts to take per event at each site) provides the proper pacing of around 7,000 cubic feet per aliquot (see data point #24). As mentioned above, this pacing volume is highly dependent on other variables such as rainfall intensity and antecedent soil moisture conditions.

Although composite samplers are automated, SMP staff actively monitored storm and flow conditions during each event to adaptively adjust the sampler to capture the best representation of storm flow. This was made possible by the telemetry capabilities of the SMP. Prior to the 2009/10 monitoring season, SMP staff members were required to visit each site as the timing and amounts of predicted rainfall changed. Each site is now equipped with a cellular modem that allows remote changes to sampler pacing, enabling conditions and alarms. Furthermore, the data from each of these sites is pushed via a private static IP address to a centrally located SQL server and is accessible in near real-time format. Due to this set-up, site visits were only necessary to set up the site initially, take grab samples, collect composite sample bottles, and correct physical problems with the site. A schematic of this set-up is shown in Figure 9-4. An example of the data available to SMP staff in the Storm Control Center is shown in Figure 9-5.

Figure 9-4. Schematic of Remote Data Delivery and Access

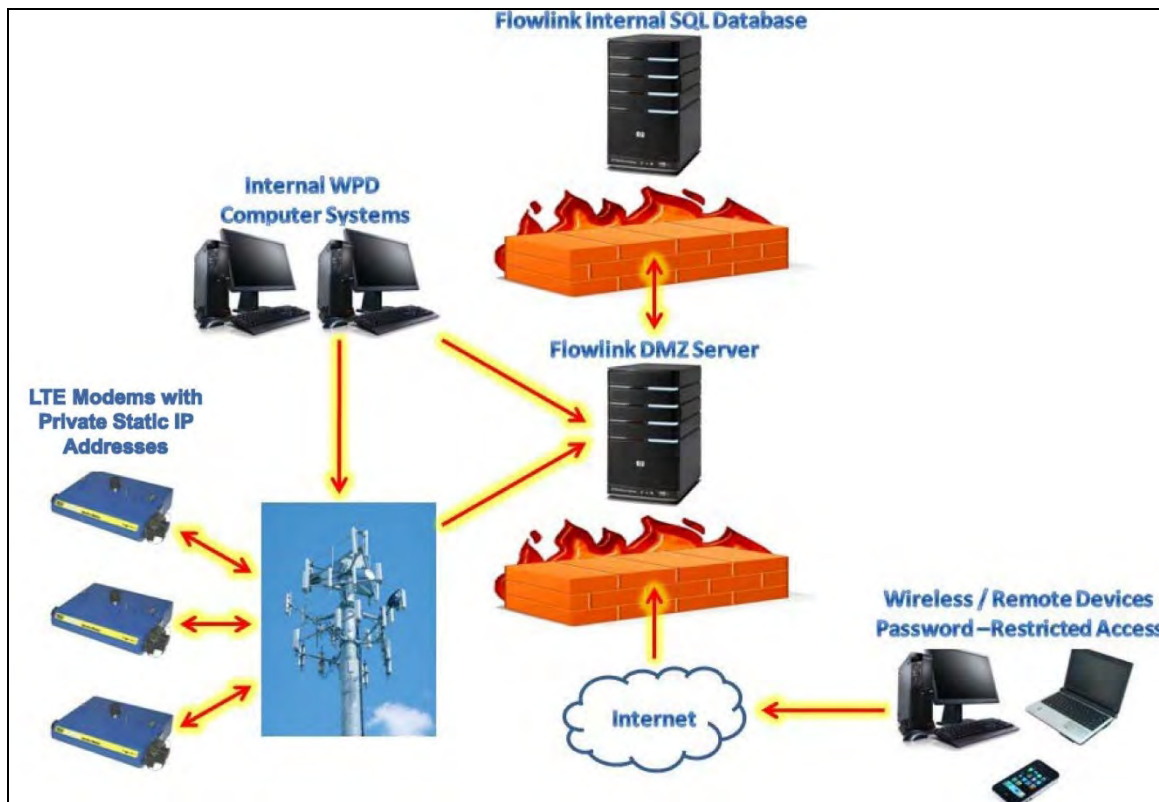
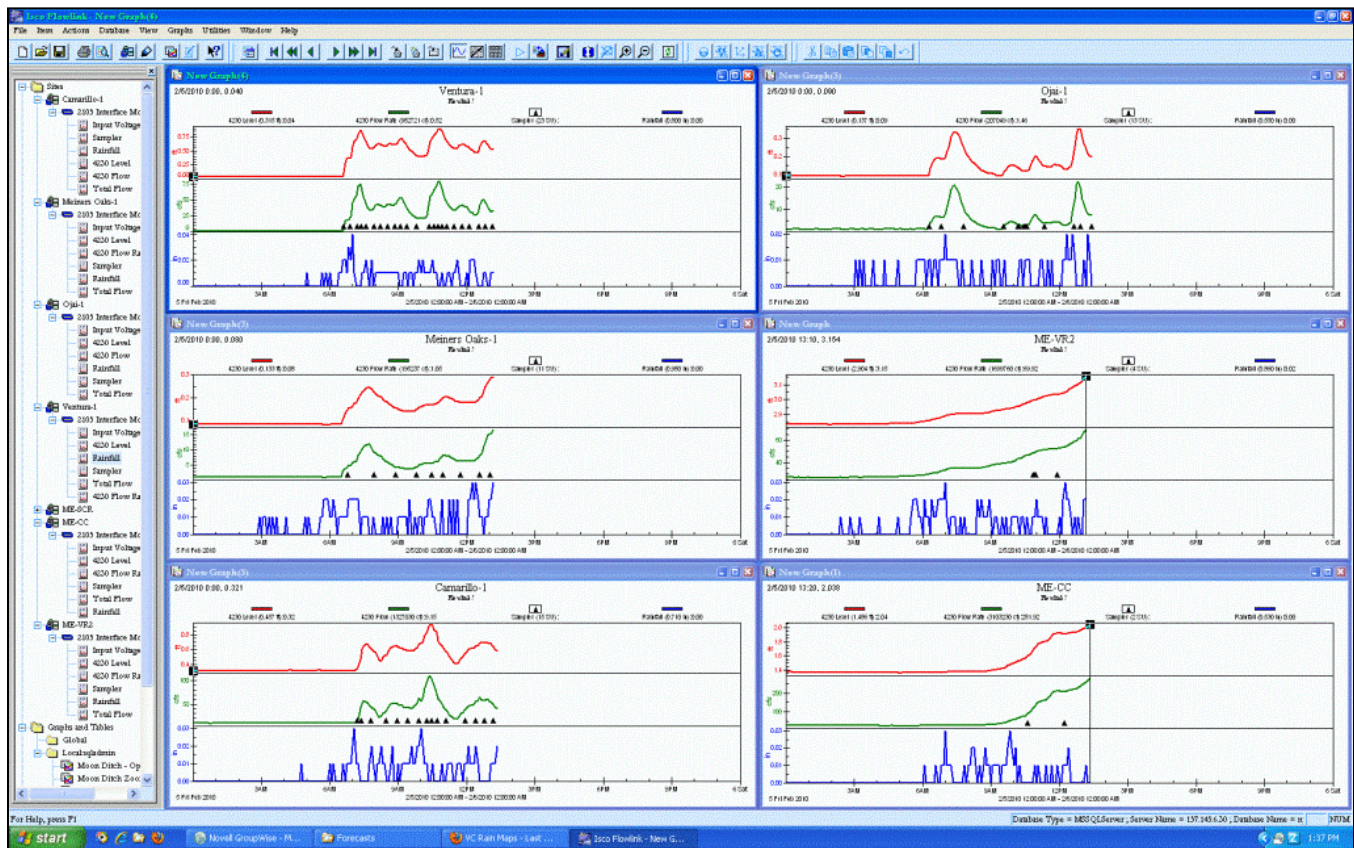


Figure 9-5. Real-Time Data Available in Storm Control Center



#### 9.4.4 Sample Collection

As detailed in the NPDES Permit, the SMP is to sample one dry-weather and three wet-weather events at the mass emission and major outfall stations during each Permit year. Wet-weather events are described as “discharge resulting from a storm event that is 0.25 inches or greater” preceded by at least 7 days of dry weather (<0.10” each day). Mass emission station wet-weather events have the additional criteria of a greater than 20% increase in base flow. The Permit emphasizes capturing the first event of the year, as well as the first part of each storm, both of which can be described as the first flush.

Composite and grab samples were collected at all mass emission and major outfall stations, when possible. Composite samples were collected in glass containers and then delivered to the lab, where they were split by agitating the bottle, pouring off the necessary volume into a sample bottle, and repeating as necessary. When the splitting of a composite sample was performed, the composite sample was continually agitated to provide as much "non-invasive" mixing as possible. Sample splitting allows homogeneous aliquots of a single, large water sample to be divided into several smaller sub-samples for different analyses. The volume of sample collected depended upon the volume required by the lab to perform requested water quality and QA/QC analyses.

Grab samples were collected for constituents that are not suitable for composite sampling (e.g. cannot use an intermediary container, are likely to volatilize, or require immediate preservation). Grab samples were taken as close to mid-stream, mid-depth as possible by immersing the sample bottle directly in the water (see Figure 9-6). In some situations, site conditions precluded such sampling and alternative sampling techniques were used. At the larger, deeper mass emission stations, grab samples were often gathered near the bank, but still in positive flow,

with the help of a long, extended swing sampler (see Figure 9-7) when necessary. This technique was also employed at some of the major outfall stations where getting into the channel would have compromised personnel safety.

Figure 9-6. Grab Sampling at Mid-Stream, Mid-Depth



For constituents analyzed from samples required to be collected as “grabs,” samples were ideally taken at the peak runoff flow to provide the best estimate for an event mean concentration (EMC). In practice, it was difficult to both predict the peak flow for each site and to allocate manpower such that all sites were grab-sampled at the storm event peak flow. It should be noted that peak flow times varied for each monitoring station due to the size and inherent characteristics of the watershed in which the site was located, as well as varying durations and intensities of rainfall. All grab and composite wet weather samples collected during the 2020/21 monitoring season are considered best available estimates of storm EMCs.

The chemical analysis of some constituents is not possible to be accurately performed on samples transported to a laboratory setting and must be performed in the field. These constituents were analyzed at the time when grab samples were collected using pre-calibrated field meters. All field meters were calibrated according to manufacturers’ directions, using vendor-supplied calibration solutions where applicable.

The chemical analysis of some constituents is not possible to be accurately performed on samples transported to a laboratory setting and must be

Figure 9-7. Grab Sampling Using Extended-Reach Swing Sampler



The SMP also documented the samples it collected at each monitoring site during an event, including the date and time of collection, by completing a chain of custody (COC) form for each sampling event. The COC form not only documented sample collection, but also notified the analytical laboratories about which samples should be analyzed for a certain constituent or group of constituents, oftentimes specifying the analytical method to be employed. Finally, the COC form acted as an evidentiary document noting how many samples were relinquished – and at what date and time – to a particular laboratory by the SMP. All chain of custody forms associated with the 2020/21 monitoring year are presented in Appendix E in Attachment D.

To maintain quality control for the sampling program, the SMP, in cooperation with the analytical laboratories, has minimized the number of laboratories and sample bottles used for analysis. This has minimized bottle breakage,

increased efficiency, and reduced the chances for contamination of the samples. Also, dedicated monitoring team leaders were used to provide consistent sample collection and handling.

As a means of documenting all preparatory, operational, observational, and concluding activities of a monitoring event, the SMP produced an event summary for each monitoring event. These event summaries include, but are not limited to, information related to event duration, predicted and actual precipitation, weather conditions, the programming of sampling equipment, equipment malfunctions, sample collection and handling, and sample tracking with respect to delivery to analytical laboratories. All event summaries associated with the 2020/21 monitoring season are presented in Appendix D in Attachment D.

*Figure 9-8. Typical Wet-Season, Dry-Weather Sampling Configuration*



During the dry sampling events, SMP staff deployed sand-weighted silicone dams where necessary to allow very low flows to pool up to sampleable depths. This provided the depth needed to submerge the grab bottles and/or automated sampler intake line to facilitate successful sample collection (see Figure 9-8). This innovative technique is further discussed in *Ventura Countywide Stormwater Monitoring Program: Water Quality Monitoring Standard Operating Procedures, 2009-2014*.

The QA/QC sampling schedule was designed to be flexible in response to changing conditions, with the analytical chemistry laboratory being instructed to

utilize SMP samples for MS/MSD and laboratory duplicate analyses when sample volume was sufficient, rather than for specific sites for each event. This flexibility is of benefit for several reasons. First, as is often the case, rainfall duration and intensity were difficult to predict, especially in the early part of the season. Second, dry antecedent conditions made forecasting flow conditions at the various monitoring locations complicated. Finally, site-specific complications can affect sample volume. An example of this is the operation of the diversion canal at ME-SCR by UWCD, which can leave the primary intake line of the sampler out of contact with the water, thereby causing insufficient sample volume as the sampler pulls air instead of river water. The SMP has attempted to deal with the situation at this site by installing a swing arm intake line, which is designed to stay submerged at changing water levels however the shortage of sampleable events since installation prevented the verification of the new model for all conditions. The flexibility in QA/QC sampling station selection allows the laboratory more options for using SMP samples for QA/QC tests than would otherwise be possible, due to the ability to select sites with surplus sample volume.

The sampling methods and sample handling procedures are described in *Ventura Countywide Stormwater Monitoring Program: Water Quality Monitoring Standard Operating Procedures, 2009-2014*.

#### 9.4.5 Analyses Performed

Attachment G (Minimum Levels) of the Permit lists the constituents to be analyzed for each event<sup>10</sup>. In addition to this broad suite of constituents, Attachment B (Pollutants of Concern) specifies site-specific constituents that have been identified as problematic pollutants in previous years of water quality sampling. These, and any unrequested constituents for which results are obtained during method analysis, were incorporated into the sampling program and appear in the tables below.

Table 9-1 shows those constituents that were gathered as discrete samples. Table 9-2 shows those constituents that were gathered as composite samples. Bolded constituents are required by the Permit. Constituents in italics are also measured by the method so results are available even though they are not required by the Permit. All laboratory chemical analyses of environmental samples and pre-season equipment blank samples were performed by Weck Laboratories, Inc. Analyses for indicator bacteria were performed by the Ventura County Public Health Laboratory (Event 1), Weck Laboratories, Inc. (Event 4), and FGL Environmental, Inc. (Dry Season event 2021-DRY). Toxicity testing was performed by Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories, Inc.

Table 9-1. Constituents Derived from Discrete (Grab) Samples

Method	Classification	Constituent
<b>MMO-MUG</b>	Bacteriological	<b>Total Coliform</b>
<b>MMO-MUG</b>	Bacteriological	<i><b>E. coli</b></i>
<b>SM 9221-E</b>	<del>Bacteriological</del>	<del>Fecal Coliform<sup>11</sup></del>
<b>Enterolert</b>	<del>Bacteriological</del>	<del>Enterococcus<sup>12</sup></del>
<b>ASTM D7511</b>	Conventional	<b>Cyanide</b>
<b>EPA 624</b>	Organic	<b>2-Chloroethyl vinyl ether</b>
	Organic	<b>Methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE)</b>
<b>EPA 1664A</b>	Hydrocarbon	<b>Oil and Grease</b>
<b>LUFT GC/MS</b>	Hydrocarbon	<i>Gasoline Range Organics (part of TPH)</i>
<b>Varies</b>	Toxicity	<b>Toxicity</b>
<b>Field Meter</b>	Conventional	Conductivity
	Conventional	DO (%)
	Conventional	<b>DO (mg/L)</b>
	Conventional	<b>pH</b>
	Conventional	Salinity
	Conventional	<b>Specific Conductance</b>
	Conventional	<b>Temperature</b>

Table 9-2. Constituents Derived from Composite Samples

Method	Classification	Constituent
<b>EPA 160.4</b>	Conventional	<b>Volatile Suspended Solids</b>

<sup>10</sup> For Permit Sections A. Mass Emission and B. Major Outfalls only. The constituents for Section C. Dry Weather Analytical Monitoring are listed separately in that section and are detailed in Section 9.11 of this report.

<sup>11</sup> Fecal coliform is no longer included in the bacteriological analyses as of May 23, 2018, when the Regional Board authorized the exclusion of fecal coliform from the POC and Minimum Levels list of the Permit, based on the elimination of fecal coliform as a freshwater REC-1 standard in 2010. The authorization occurred after the end of the 2017/18 wet season and prior to the 2017/18 dry event.

<sup>12</sup> Enterococcus is no longer included in the bacteriological analyses as of the end of the 2016/17 monitoring year as it is a marine water requirement (not freshwater), not listed as a Pollutant of Concern (POC) and is not recommended as a fecal indicator bacteria (FIB) for freshwater.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Constituent</b>
<b>EPA 180.1</b>	Conventional	<b>Turbidity</b>
<b>EPA 200.7</b>	Cation	<i>Calcium</i>
	Cation	<i>Magnesium</i>
	Conventional	<b>Hardness as CaCO<sub>3</sub></b>
	Metal	<b>Iron, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Iron, dissolved</b>
	Nutrient	<b>Phosphorus as P, total<sup>13</sup></b>
	Nutrient	<b>Phosphorus as P, dissolved<sup>7</sup></b>
<b>EPA 200.8</b>	Metal	<b>Aluminum, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Aluminum, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Antimony, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Antimony, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Arsenic, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Arsenic, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Beryllium, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Beryllium, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Cadmium, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Barium, total (POC at ME-CC &amp; ME-SCR)</b>
	Metal	<b>Cadmium, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Chromium, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Chromium, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Copper, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Copper, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Lead, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Lead, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Nickel, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Nickel, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Selenium, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Selenium, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Silver, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Silver, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Thallium, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Thallium, dissolved</b>
	Metal	<b>Zinc, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Zinc, dissolved</b>
<b>EPA 218.6</b>	Metal	<b>Chromium VI</b>
<b>EPA 245.1</b>	Metal	<b>Mercury, total</b>
	Metal	<b>Mercury, dissolved</b>
<b>EPA 300.0</b>	Anion	<b>Chloride</b>
	Anion	<b>Fluoride</b>
<b>EPA 314.0</b>	Anion	<b>Perchlorate</b>
<b>EPA 350.1</b>	Nutrient	<b>Ammonia as N</b>
<b>EPA 351.2</b>	Nutrient	<b>TKN</b>
<b>EPA 353.2</b>	Nutrient	<b>Nitrate + Nitrite as N</b>
	Nutrient	<b>Nitrate as N (ME-CC only)</b>

<sup>13</sup> In the 2018/19 monitoring year, Weck Laboratories, Inc. changed their method for phosphorus from EPA 365.1 to EPA 200.7. EPA 200.7 has a higher reporting limit (0.02 mg/l vs 0.01 mg/L) but requires less dilution and therefore should typically have better reporting limits.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Constituent</b>
<b>EPA 410.4</b>	Conventional	<b>COD</b>
<b>EPA 420.4</b>	Conventional	<b>Phenolics</b>
<b>EPA 515.4<sup>14</sup></b>	Pesticide	<i>2,4,5-T</i>
	Pesticide	<b>2,4,5-TP</b>
	Pesticide	<b>2,4-D</b>
	Pesticide	<i>2,4-DB</i>
	Pesticide	<i>3,5-Dichlorobenzoic acid</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Acifluorfen</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Bentazon</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Dalapon</i>
	Pesticide	<i>DCPA (Dacthal)</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Dicamba</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Dichlorprop</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Dinoseb</i>
	Pesticide	<b>Pentachlorophenol</b>
	Pesticide	<i>Picloram</i>
<b>EPA 525.2</b>	Organic	<b>Benzo(a)pyrene</b>
	Organic	<i>Bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate</i>
	Organic	<b>Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate</b>
	Pesticide	<i>Alachlor</i>
	Pesticide	<b>Atrazine</b>
	Pesticide	<i>Bromacil</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Butachlor</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Captan</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Chloroprotham</i>
	Pesticide	<b>Cyanazine</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Diazinon</b>
	Pesticide	<i>Dimethoate</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Diphenamid</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Disulfoton</i>
	Pesticide	<i>EPTC</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Metolachlor</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Metribuzin</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Molinate</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Prometon</i>
	Pesticide	<b>Prometryn</b>
Pesticide	<b>Simazine</b>	
Pesticide	<i>Terbacil</i>	
Pesticide	<i>Thiobencarb</i>	
Pesticide	<i>Trithion</i>	
<b>EPA 547</b>	Pesticide	<b>Glyphosate</b>
<b>EPA 608.3<sup>15</sup></b>	PCB	<b>PCB Aroclor 1016</b>
	PCB	<b>PCB Aroclor 1221</b>

<sup>14</sup> The laboratory replaced EPA 515.3 with EPA 515.4 between the end of the 2018/19 wet season and prior to the 2018/19 dry event.

<sup>15</sup> EPA 608 was replaced by EPA 608.3 on the 40 CFR 136 approved list of methods and so the updated method was used beginning with 2019/20-1.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Constituent</b>
<b>EPA 625.1<sup>16</sup></b>	PCB	<b>PCB Aroclor 1232</b>
	PCB	<b>PCB Aroclor 1242</b>
	PCB	<b>PCB Aroclor 1248</b>
	PCB	<b>PCB Aroclor 1254</b>
	PCB	<b>PCB Aroclor 1260</b>
	Pesticide	<b>4,4'-DDD</b>
	Pesticide	<b>4,4'-DDE</b>
	Pesticide	<b>4,4'-DDT</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Aldrin</b>
	Pesticide	<b>alpha-BHC</b>
	Pesticide	<b>alpha-Chlordane</b>
	Pesticide	<b>beta-BHC</b>
	Pesticide	Chlordane (technical)
	Pesticide	<b>delta-BHC</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Dieldrin</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Endosulfan I</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Endosulfan II</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Endosulfan sulfate</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Endrin</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Endrin aldehyde</b>
	Pesticide	<b>gamma-BHC (Lindane)</b>
	Pesticide	<b>gamma-Chlordane</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Heptachlor</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Heptachlor epoxide</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Methoxychlor</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Toxaphene</b>
	Organic	<b>1,2,4-Trichlorobenzene</b>
	Organic	<b>1,2-Dichlorobenzene</b>
	Organic	<b>1,2-Diphenylhydrazine</b>
	Organic	<b>1,3-Dichlorobenzene</b>
	Organic	<b>1,4-Dichlorobenzene</b>
	Organic	<b>2,4,6-Trichlorophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>2,4-Dichlorophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>2,4-Dimethylphenol</b>
	Organic	<b>2,4-Dinitrophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>2,4-Dinitrotoluene</b>
	Organic	<b>2,6-Dinitrotoluene</b>
	Organic	<b>2-Chloronaphthalene</b>
	Organic	<b>2-Chlorophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>2-Nitrophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>3,3'-Dichlorobenzidine</b>
	Organic	<b>4,6-Dinitro-2-methylphenol</b>
Organic	<b>4-Bromophenyl phenyl ether</b>	
Organic	<b>4-Chloro-3-methylphenol</b>	
Organic	<b>4-Chlorophenyl phenyl ether</b>	

<sup>16</sup> EPA 625 was replaced by EPA 625.1 on the 40 CFR 136 approved list of methods and so the updated method was used beginning with 2019/20-1.



<b>Method</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Constituent</b>
	Organic	<b>4-Nitrophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>Acenaphthene</b>
	Organic	<b>Acenaphthylene</b>
	Organic	<b>Anthracene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benz(a)anthracene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benzidine</b>
	Organic	<b>Benzo(a)pyrene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benzo(b)fluoranthene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benzo(g,h,i)perylene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benzo(k)fluoranthene</b>
	Organic	<b>Bis(2-chloroethoxy)methane</b>
	Organic	<b>Bis(2-chloroethyl)ether</b>
	Organic	<b>Bis(2-chloroisopropyl)ether</b>
	Organic	<b>Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate</b>
	Organic	<b>Butyl benzyl phthalate</b>
	Organic	<b>Chrysene</b>
	Organic	<b>Dibenz(a,h)anthracene</b>
	Organic	<b>Diethyl phthalate</b>
	Organic	<b>Dimethyl phthalate</b>
	Organic	<b>Di-n-butylphthalate</b>
	Organic	<b>Di-n-octylphthalate</b>
	Organic	<b>Fluoranthene</b>
	Organic	<b>Fluorene</b>
	Organic	<b>Hexachlorobenzene</b>
	Organic	<b>Hexachlorobutadiene</b>
	Organic	<b>Hexachlorocyclopentadiene</b>
	Organic	<b>Hexachloroethane</b>
	Organic	<b>Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene</b>
	Organic	<b>Isophorone</b>
	Organic	<b>Naphthalene</b>
	Organic	<b>Nitrobenzene</b>
	Organic	<b>N-Nitrosodimethylamine</b>
	Organic	<b>N-Nitrosodi-N-propylamine</b>
	Organic	<b>N-Nitrosodiphenylamine</b>
	Organic	<b>Phenanthrene</b>
	Organic	<b>Phenol</b>
	Organic	<b>Pyrene</b>
<b>EPA 625.1m<sup>17</sup></b>	Pesticide	<b>Pentachlorophenol</b>
	Pesticide	<i>Azinphos methyl</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Bolstar</i>
	Pesticide	<b>Chlorpyrifos</b>
	Pesticide	<i>Coumaphos</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Demeton-O</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Demeton-S</i>
	Pesticide	<b>Diazinon</b>
	Pesticide	<i>Dichlorvos</i>

<sup>17</sup> Changed from EPA 525.2m to EPA 625.1m starting with 2020/21-1 for 40CFR136 approved method for chlorpyrifos and malathion.

<b>Method</b>	<b>Classification</b>	<b>Constituent</b>
	Pesticide	<i>Dimethoate</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Disulfoton</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Ethoprop</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Ethyl parathion</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Fensulfothion</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Fenthion</i>
	Pesticide	<b>Malathion</b>
	Pesticide	<i>Merphos</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Methyl parathion</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Mevinphos</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Naled</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Phorate</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Ronnel (Fenchlorphos)</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Stiropfos (Tetrachlorvinphos)</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Tokuthion</i>
	Pesticide	<i>Trichloronate</i>
<b>EPA 8015D</b>	Hydrocarbon	<i>Diesel Range Organics (part of TPH)</i>
	Hydrocarbon	<i>Oil Range Organics (part of TPH)</i>
<b>EPA 8270C</b>	Organic	<i>1-Methylnaphthalene</i>
	Organic	<i>2,4,5-Trichlorophenol</i>
	Organic	<b>2,4,6-Trichlorophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>2,4-Dichlorophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>2,4-Dimethylphenol</b>
	Organic	<b>2,4-Dinitrophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>2-Chlorophenol</b>
	Organic	<i>2-Methylnaphthalene</i>
	Organic	<i>2-Methylphenol</i>
	Organic	<b>2-Nitrophenol</b>
	Organic	<i>3-/4-Methylphenol</i>
	Organic	<b>4,6-Dinitro-2-methylphenol</b>
	Organic	<b>4-Chloro-3-methylphenol</b>
	Organic	<b>4-Nitrophenol</b>
	Organic	<b>Acenaphthene</b>
	Organic	<b>Acenaphthylene</b>
	Organic	<b>Anthracene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benz(a)anthracene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benzo(a)pyrene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benzo(b)fluoranthene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benzo(g,h,i)perylene</b>
	Organic	<b>Benzo(k)fluoranthene</b>
	Organic	<b>Chrysene</b>
	Organic	<b>Dibenz(a,h)anthracene</b>
	Organic	<b>Fluoranthene</b>
	Organic	<b>Fluorene</b>
	Organic	<b>Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene</b>
	Organic	<b>Naphthalene</b>
	Organic	<b>Phenanthrene</b>
	Organic	<b>Phenol</b>
	Organic	<b>Pyrene</b>
	Pesticide	<b>Pentachlorophenol</b>
<b>SM 2320 B</b>	Conventional	<b>Alkalinity as CaCO<sub>3</sub></b>

Method	Classification	Constituent
SM 2510 B	Conventional	<b>Specific Conductance</b>
SM 2540 C	Conventional	<b>Total Dissolved Solids</b>
SM 2540 D	Conventional	<b>Total Suspended Solids</b>
SM 5210 B	Conventional	<b>BOD</b>
SM 5310 B <sup>18</sup>	Conventional	<b>Total Organic Carbon</b>
SM 5540 C	Conventional	<b>MBAS</b>

**Bold:** Permit required constituent

*Italics:* Constituent not required by Permit.

## 9.5 2020/21 MONITORING SEASON

The 2020/21 wet season and water year were the driest on record for Ventura County. The monitoring season began with very dry antecedent conditions and only 20-30% of normal rainfall fell, mostly in one storm each in December, January, and March. A small storm with low probabilities and small amounts of rain was forecast across the county for November 7-8, 2020. The forecast probability was too low to target for sampling (10-25% chance of  $\geq 0.25''$  rain) but the storm dropped 0.28'' rainfall at the rain gauge near MO-SIM so the first flush was missed for this site.

Only three storms were forecast to have rain amounts and probabilities suitable for sampling. Sampling was conducted at all fourteen sites for each of these events. The continuing COVID-19 pandemic (Section 9.5.1) did not prevent sample collection, except for bacteria samples in wet Event 2 and 3 (2020/21-2 and 2020/21-3) because the Ventura County Public Health Laboratory was unavailable due to COVID-19 sampling and pandemic-related issues and so could not accept stormwater samples for analysis.

Eleven of fourteen sites were sampled during the dry event in April-May but MO-MEI, MO-SPA, MO-OXN, and MO-VEN were dry, so sampling was not attempted at these sites. Grabs could not be collected at MO-MPK as flow ceased during sampling. These should not be interpreted as missed samples, rather as zero discharge of pollutants since removing dry weather flows is a goal of the Program.

### 9.5.1 Novel Coronavirus (SARS-CoV-2) and COVID-19

SARS-CoV-2 was first detected in Wuhan, China, in late 2019 and quickly spread to become a global pandemic by early 2020. The Governor of California and the Public Health Officer of Ventura County issued stay at home orders by March 20, 2020, however the State Water Resources Control Board also issued a notice on the same day, stating that permit requirements were considered an essential function. Monitoring events 1-4 for the 2020/21 season were conducted while the stay-at-home orders were in effect, so additional precautions were taken to protect monitoring staff from potential infection, including liberal use of hand sanitizer, disinfecting shared equipment, and ensuring that social distancing requirements were met by carefully splitting tasks and equipment between team members and driving separate vehicles if not of the same household. The stay-at-home orders were lifted in June 2021, in time for dry season monitoring event 2021-DRY in August.

<sup>18</sup> The laboratory changed its organic and inorganic carbon method from SM 5310 C to SM 5310 B in September 2017.

## 9.5.2 Recent Fires

### 2020/21 Fires

The largest fire for the 2020/21 year was the 3,000-acre Holser fire near Piru in August 2020. The area burned was unlikely to have directly impacted the SMP monitoring stations, however, the 174-acre Cornell Fire on December 12, 2020, was upstream of the ME-SCR station and burned within the Santa Clara riverbed, so ME-SCR samples could have been impacted by the fire and fire-fighting operations.

### The Easy and Maria Fires (2019)

The Easy Fire started on the west end of Simi Valley on October 30, 2019 and burned 1,806 acres before it was extinguished on November 2, 2019. It burned in an open space area next to the Arroyo Simi and two structures were destroyed. The Program does not have monitoring stations directly in or adjacent to the burn area, but ash could have spread to stations, including MO-SIM, MO-MPK, and MO-THO.

The Maria Fire started on South Mountain between Somis and Santa Paula on October 31, 2019 and burned close to 10,000 acres before being contained on November 6, 2019. It burned in a mostly agricultural and open space area and within the Santa Clara River bottom, including upstream of the ME-SCR mass emission station. Four structures were destroyed. The area burned was most likely to impact ME-SCR and MO-SPA.

Both fires were wildfires and smoke and ash from the fires may have spread beyond the areas most directly impacted by the fire.

### The Woolsey and Hill Fires (2018)

The Woolsey and Hill Fires both started on November 8, 2018 and burned 96,949 and 4,531 acres before being 100% contained on November 21 and 16, 2018, respectively, and declared out on January 4, 2019. As with the Thomas Fire in 2017/18, the burned areas became highly susceptible to erosion and landslides due to the bare ground resulting from the burning of vegetation. Monitoring stations in the Calleguas Creek watershed were the most directly impacted, however smoke and ash from both fires may have impacted all sites.

The Woolsey Fire began in Ventura County in the Santa Susana Mountains south of Simi Valley, but spread quickly into Los Angeles County. Tens of thousands of acres within the Santa Monica Mountains Recreation Area burned and 1,841 structures were damaged or destroyed in Ventura and Los Angeles County communities, including Agoura Hills, Calabasas, and Malibu. The burn area included Bus Canyon, which drains to MO-SIM and heavy ash was observed at ME-CC.

The Hill Fire burned mostly open space from Hill Canyon to the west and south within Ventura County and met up with the Springs Fire (2013) footprint, where the reduced vegetation/fuel load at the Hill-Springs boundary helped firefighters prevent further spread. The hillsides around the MO-THO monitoring station burned, and the fire denuded the canyon/hillsides along the access road to MO-THO resulting in an increased risk of landslide/rockfall/debris flow to crews accessing the area during the 2018/19 monitoring year. The fire damaged four structures and destroyed two.

### The Thomas Fire (2017-2018)

The Thomas Fire started on December 4, 2017 and burned 281,893 acres, mostly in Ventura County, before being contained on January 12, 2018. Low humidity, dry vegetation, a hot and dry summer, and strong and persistent Santa Ana winds contributed to the speed and magnitude of the fire. The Thomas Fire was declared the largest recorded fire in California history at that time, after burning through forests, grasslands, orchards, and housing tracts, eventually impacting the area from Fillmore to Santa Barbara, and from Ventura north, through Matilija Canyon, Ojai, and beyond destroying 1,063 structures and damaging 280 others.

The monitoring sites in the Ventura River watershed were the most directly affected by the fire as the fire ringed the Ojai Valley for several days, however parts of the Santa Clara River watershed also burned and all of Ventura County, including the Calleguas Creek watershed, received fallout from the ash. The burn areas became highly susceptible to erosion and landslides due to the bare ground resulting from the burning of vegetation.

### 9.5.3 Monitoring Event Descriptions

#### Event 1 (Wet)

The first significant storm and first sampled event of the wet season was December 27-28, 2020. Forecasts were 0.5-2" of rain across the county. Actual rainfall at the SMP sites was 1-1.75". Toxicity, bacteria, and chemistry grab samples and chemistry composite samples were collected on December 28, 2020 at all sites. A grab field blank and field duplicate were collected at MO-HUE. This was the first flush event for all sites except MO-SIM, which received qualifying rainfall from a storm on November 7, 2020 that had been forecast to be too small to sample.

A pre-storm increase in stage at ME-CC caused the sampler to enable early and the sampler collected several samples pre-storm. At the time, this was suspected to be an illicit discharge, so the sample was kept, and sampler pacing was adjusted to capture the storm flow for over two-thirds of total samples. Post-storm investigations identified a decrease in the diversion amount at the Camrosa Water District Diversion that resulted in increased flow in Conejo Creek, that contributed to the pre-storm increase. The change in flow from the cessation of diversion may have been measured as higher than actual due to low-flow rating table issues resulting from the buildup of sand behind the check structure at ME-CC following the Woolsey Fire. Calleguas Creek TMDL monitoring is also conducted in the area and more details may become available once their reports are released to the public on December 15, 2021.

#### Event 2 (Wet)

The second monitoring event of the season occurred January 28-29, 2021. Forecasts were for 1.5-5" across the county over approximately 36-hours. Rain was delayed 12-24-hours as the storm stalled over Santa Barbara County. Actual rainfall was 0.8-2.5" at SMP sites across the county. Bacteria samples were not collected as the laboratory was unable to accept after hours samples due to COVID-19 testing workload. A field blank (MO-MPK) and field duplicate (MO-THO) were collected during grab sampling. A meter malfunction at MO-MEI prevented pH measurement and a waterlogged DO/conductivity meter at MO-VEN resulted in estimated measurements for these parameters.

#### Event 3 (Wet)

Event 3 was a quick-moving storm on March 10, 2021. Forecasts varied by forecaster and were from 0.25-1.5" across the county. Actual rainfall was 0.19-0.64". All sites were sampled; however, bacteria samples were not collected as laboratory supplies were on backorder.

#### Event 4 (Dry)

The dry-weather sampling was organized and conducted in three parts (by major watershed) during the end of April and start of May 2021. Grab sampling did not include EPA 624 (volatile organics) as sites met Permit requirements for reduced monitoring for this constituent.

Sampling was conducted at the Santa Clara River Watershed sites (ME-SCR, MO-FIL, MO-SPA, MO-OXN, and MO-VEN) April 26-27, 2021, after approximately two weeks of dry weather since the previous storm. ME-SCR and MO-FIL were sampled but MO-SPA, MO-OXN, and MO-VEN were dry so could not be sampled.

The Calleguas Creek Watershed sites (ME-CC, MO-CAM, MO-SIM, MO-MPK, and MO-THO) were sampled on April 28-29, 2021, after two weeks of dry weather. All samples were collected except for MO-MPK which had

insufficient flow at the time of grab sample collection (i.e. cyanide, oil and grease, gasoline range organics and field measurements for pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen, conductivity and salinity).

The Ventura River Watershed sites (ME-VR2, MO-OJA, and MO-MEI) and the Port Hueneme site (MO-HUE) were sampled May 11-12, 2021, after four weeks of dry weather, however there was no runoff at MO-MEI, so samples could not be collected at that site. An equipment issue at MO-OJA resulted in composite collection May 12-13, 2021.

A summary of the site status for each monitored event is provided in Table 9-3.

Table 9-3. 2020/21 Site and Event Status

	Event 1	Event 2	Event 3	Event 4 (dry)
<b>MO-HUE</b>	Field blank Field duplicate	No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	
<b><u>ME-CC</u></b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	
<b>MO-CAM</b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	
<b>MO-MPK</b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours Field blank	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	No grabs (dry)
<b>MO-SIM</b>	Not first flush (0.28” November 7, 2020)	No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	
<b>MO-THO</b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours Field duplicate	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	
<b><u>ME-SCR</u></b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	
<b>MO-FIL</b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	
<b>MO-OXN</b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	Dry
<b>MO-SPA</b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	Dry
<b>MO-VEN</b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours Estimated DO/conductivity	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	Dry
<b><u>ME-VR2</u></b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	
<b>MO-MEI</b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours No pH	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	Dry
<b>MO-OJA</b>		No bacteria (COVID-19) - samples outside business hours	No bacteria (COVID-19) – supplies backordered	

Key:

Blank squares have the full data set available as sampled for that event.

Mass emission station

Dry: There was no or insufficient flow to collect samples.

#### 9.5.4 Event Flow and Duration

Table 9-4 shows site flow and event durations. In Table 9-4, Start Date/Time and End Date/Time describe the length of time the automated sampler was actually taking samples. The true time of the rainfall and related runoff event was always longer; since the samplers were programmed to begin taking samples after flow had risen to greater than 20% of base flow, which takes 0.10” to 0.25” of rainfall, depending on the antecedent conditions and sampling location.<sup>19</sup> Furthermore, flow often continued after the automated sampler had completed its sampling program, because of the SMP’s goal to ensure that enough aliquots were taken to perform the required analyses. Because of this goal, the SMP tried to err on the conservative side, pacing the samplers a bit quicker than the RTR tables dictated. As the RTR tables are refined, this error will become smaller, but will never completely disappear due to the inherent error in rainfall predictive abilities by both commercial and public weather forecasters. The relative timing of the onset of rainfall, commencement of the sampling program and duration of the flow for each site can be found in the event hydrographs located in Appendix B in Attachment D.

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<sup>19</sup> This range represents the amount of rainfall needed to generate measurable flow at the monitoring station. Smaller amounts of rainfall generated positive flow in watersheds with proportionally more impervious area. All automated sampling programs were designed to begin when the water in the creek or channel exceeded the elevation of the intake strainer by more than a couple hundredths of a foot, effectively capturing the “first flush.”

Table 9-4: Site Flow Data, Precipitation Data, and Event Durations

Site ID	Event No.	Event Date <sup>A</sup>	Average Flow (CFS) (Calc)	Total <sup>B</sup> Rainfall (inches)	Sampler Start <sup>C</sup> Date, Time	Sampler End <sup>C</sup> Date, Time	Event Duration (HH:MM)	Days since end of previously measurable ( $\geq 0.25''$ ) rain <sup>D</sup>	Total Rainfall (inches) Previous Storm <sup>D</sup>
ME-CC	1	12/28/2020	105.96	1.52	12/27/2020 14:34	12/28/2020 9:17	18:43	263	0.79
	2	1/28/2021	571.21	0.91	1/28/2021 19:49	1/29/2021 3:07	7:18	32	1.52
	3	3/10/2021	25.23	0.55	3/10/2021 5:37	3/10/2021 12:38	7:01	40	0.91
	4	4/29/2021	1.95	NA	4/28/2021 8:47	4/29/2021 7:26	22:39	49	0.55
ME-VR2	1	12/28/2020	2.15	1.17	12/28/2020 0:00	12/28/2020 9:52	9:52	263	0.82
	2	1/28/2021	23.21	1.47	1/28/2021 16:58	1/29/2021 8:36	15:38	32	1.17
	3	3/10/2021	3.17	0.39	3/10/2021 3:40	3/10/2021 10:14	6:34	40	1.47
	4	5/12/2021	4.21	NA	5/11/2021 8:52	5/12/2021 7:35	22:43	62	0.55
ME-SCR <sup>E</sup>	1	12/28/2020	NA	0.99	12/27/2020 23:18	12/28/2020 10:37	11:19	263	0.62
	2	1/28/2021	NA	0.98	1/28/2021 17:53	1/29/2021 5:18	11:25	32	0.99
	3	3/10/2021	NA	0.27	3/10/2021 3:21	3/10/2021 13:48	10:27	40	0.98
	4	4/27/2021	NA	NA	4/26/2021 10:14	4/27/2021 8:53	22:39	45	0.61
MO-CAM	1	12/28/2020	24.38	0.93	12/27/2020 23:23	12/28/2020 12:08	12:45	263	0.66
	2	1/28/2021	38.37	0.81	1/28/2021 18:08	1/29/2021 7:06	12:58	6	0.30
	3	3/10/2021	48.97	0.19	3/10/2021 1:54	3/10/2021 2:34	0:40	40	0.82
	4	4/29/2021	<0.01 <sup>F</sup>	NA	4/28/2021 9:28	4/29/2021 8:08	22:40	49	0.25



Site ID	Event No.	Event Date <sup>A</sup>	Average Flow (CFS) (Calc)	Total <sup>B</sup> Rainfall (inches)	Sampler Start <sup>C</sup> Date, Time	Sampler End <sup>C</sup> Date, Time	Event Duration (HH:MM)	Days since end of previously measurable ( $\geq 0.25''$ ) rain <sup>D</sup>	Total Rainfall (inches) Previous Storm <sup>D</sup>
MO-FIL <sup>E</sup>	1	12/28/2020	NA	1.17	12/27/2020 23:52	12/28/2020 11:11	11:19	263	0.89
	2	1/28/2021	NA	0.92	1/28/2021 17:46	1/29/2021 5:24	11:38	32	1.17
	3	3/10/2021	NA	0.36	3/10/2021 1:45	3/10/2021 7:58	6:13	40	0.92
	4	4/27/2021	NA	NA	4/26/2021 9:26	4/27/2021 7:25	21:59	47	0.41
MO-HUE <sup>E</sup>	1	12/28/2020	NA	1.50	12/27/2020 22:54	12/28/2020 10:14	11:20	263	1.29
	2	1/28/2021	NA	1.03	1/28/2021 17:34	1/29/2021 5:08	11:34	32	1.50
	3	3/10/2021	NA	0.37	3/10/2021 1:52	3/10/2021 8:05	6:13	40	1.03
	4	5/12/2021	NA	NA	5/11/2021 9:42	5/12/2021 8:21	22:39	62	0.37
MO-MEI	1	12/28/2020	3.30	1.67	12/27/2020 23:46	12/28/2020 11:17	11:31	263	0.66
	2	1/28/2021	11.61	2.69	1/28/2021 16:12	1/29/2021 4:31	12:19	32	1.67
	3	3/10/2021	4.00	0.48	3/10/2021 4:25	3/10/2021 5:20	0:55	40	2.25
	4	5/12/2021	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	63	0.77
MO-MPK	1	12/28/2020	2.14	1.10	12/28/2020 0:15	12/28/2020 13:07	12:52	263	0.84
	2	1/28/2021	3.32	0.95	1/28/2021 18:57	1/29/2021 3:57	9:00	32	1.10
	3	3/10/2021	2.73	0.30	3/10/2021 2:49	3/10/2021 3:41	0:52	40	0.97
	4	4/29/2021	<0.1 <sup>F</sup>	NA	4/28/2021 6:45	4/28/2021 8:41	1:56	49	0.47

Site ID	Event No.	Event Date <sup>A</sup>	Average Flow (CFS) (Calc)	Total <sup>B</sup> Rainfall (inches)	Sampler Start <sup>C</sup> Date, Time	Sampler End <sup>C</sup> Date, Time	Event Duration (HH:MM)	Days since end of previously measurable ( $\geq 0.25''$ ) rain <sup>D</sup>	Total Rainfall (inches) Previous Storm <sup>D</sup>
MO-OJA	1	12/28/2020	6.61	1.55	12/27/2020 23:33	12/28/2020 11:46	12:13	263	0.72
	2	1/28/2021	11.53	2.22	1/28/2021 16:06	1/29/2021 5:11	13:05	32	1.55
	3	3/10/2021	6.46	0.44	3/10/2021 4:06	3/10/2021 4:21	0:15	40	2.04
	4	5/12/2021	<0.01 <sup>F</sup>	NA	5/12/2021 7:18	5/13/2021 5:57	22:39	63	0.75
MO-OXN	1	12/28/2020	6.97	1.10	12/27/2020 23:22	12/28/2020 12:06	12:44	263	0.97
	2	1/28/2021	65.98	0.90	1/28/2021 17:41	1/28/2021 18:58	1:17	32	1.10
	3	3/10/2021	6.21	0.23	3/10/2021 0:55	3/10/2021 3:53	2:58	40	0.90
	4	4/27/2021	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	48	0.31
MO-SIM	1	12/28/2020	15.62	1.03	12/27/2020 23:42	12/28/2020 5:29	5:47	51	0.28
	2	1/28/2021	26.27	1.07	1/28/2021 18:22	1/29/2021 4:00	9:38	32	1.03
	3	3/10/2021	9.31	0.27	3/10/2021 2:29	3/10/2021 4:00	1:31	40	1.07
	4	4/29/2021	<1 <sup>F</sup>	NA	4/28/2021 7:26	4/29/2021 6:06	22:40	49	0.33
MO-SPA	1	12/28/2020	10.09	1.23	12/27/2020 23:26	12/28/2020 0:50	1:24	263	0.83
	2	1/28/2021	5.75	1.60	1/27/2021 9:18	1/29/2021 6:13	44:55	30	1.23
	3	3/10/2021	3.26	0.36	3/10/2021 0:57	3/10/2021 3:47	2:50	40	1.47
	4	4/27/2021	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	46	0.26

Site ID	Event No.	Event Date <sup>A</sup>	Average Flow (CFS) (Calc)	Total <sup>B</sup> Rainfall (inches)	Sampler Start <sup>C</sup> Date, Time	Sampler End <sup>C</sup> Date, Time	Event Duration (HH:MM)	Days since end of previously measurable ( $\geq 0.25''$ ) rain <sup>D</sup>	Total Rainfall (inches) Previous Storm <sup>D</sup>
MO-THO	1	12/28/2020	39.30	1.15	12/28/2020 0:54	12/28/2020 6:35	5:41	263	0.76
	2	1/28/2021	44.26	1.15	1/28/2021 19:32	1/29/2021 7:25	11:53	32	1.15
	3	3/10/2021	11.68	0.39	3/10/2021 4:23	3/10/2021 6:57	2:34	40	1.15
	4	4/29/2021	0.51	NA	4/28/2021 8:11	4/29/2021 6:50	22:39	49	0.51
MO-VEN	1	12/28/2020	15.01	1.10	12/27/2020 23:21	12/28/2020 12:46	13:25	263	0.97
	2	1/28/2021	17.49	0.91	1/27/2021 10:18	1/29/2021 5:43	43:25	30	1.10
	3	3/10/2021	10.18	0.23	3/10/2021 1:00	3/10/2021 5:26	4:26	40	0.90
	4	4/27/2021	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	DRY	48	0.31

NA Not Applicable

DRY Site dry or insufficient flow to sample.

<sup>A</sup> Event Date describes the sampling event date.

<sup>B</sup> Rainfall data from sites that use non-Program rain gauges is considered “best available” at the time of the report. The data is subject to quality control review by the Hydrology section, during which time the telemetered data (if available) is compared to the data logger and to other rainfall gauges in the area at the time to determine best accuracy prior to storing the data as official “archived” data. This typically occurs after the end of the water year and too late for inclusion in this Annual Report. This may result in some slight differences in rainfall amounts if queried later, but typically will not have a large effect for most storms.

<sup>C</sup> Start Date/Time and End Date/Time describe the period during which composite sample aliquots were taken. All times PST.

<sup>D</sup> Changed from 0.10" to 0.25" for the 2016/17 season and beyond to better comply with Permit requirements A.3.a and B.1.b.

<sup>E</sup> Time-paced as flows cannot be accurately measured at these sites. ME-SCR: During wet weather the Santa Clara River flows through the river diversion gate and over the diversion dam. Currently, there is no flow meter installed at the river diversion gate where most of the wet weather flow passes. MO-FIL: Site experiences ponding and backwater effects due to natural bottom channel. MO-HUE: Flow is dependent on the release of water at the Hueneme pump station.

<sup>F</sup> Flow was below the threshold levels for measurement.

## 9.6 QUALITY ASSURANCE / QUALITY CONTROL

The following is a discussion of the results of the quality assurance and quality control (QA/QC) analysis performed on the 2020/21 stormwater quality monitoring data. The data were evaluated for overall sample integrity, holding time exceedances, contamination, accuracy, and precision using field- and lab-initiated QA/QC sample results according to the SMP's *Data Quality Evaluation Plan* (DQEP) and *Data Quality Evaluation Standard Operating Procedures* (DQESOP). The DQEP describes the process by which water chemistry data produced by the SMP are evaluated. Data quality evaluation is a multiple step process used to identify errors, inconsistencies, or other problems potentially associated with SMP data. The DQEP contains a detailed discussion of the technical review process, based on U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) guidance and requirements set forth by the SMP used to evaluate water quality monitoring data. The DQEP provides a reference point from which a program-consistent quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) evaluation can be performed by the SMP. The DQESOP document provides a set of written instructions that documents the process used by the SMP to evaluate water quality data. The DQESOP describes both technical and administrative operational elements undertaken by the SMP in carrying out its DQEP. The DQESOP acts as a set of prescriptive instructions detailing in a step-by-step manner how SMP staff carry out the data evaluation and data quality objectives (DQO) set forth in the DQEP. QA/QC sample results from the 2020/21 monitoring season are presented in Appendix F in Attachment D.

QA/QC sample collection and analysis relies upon QA/QC samples collected in the field (such as equipment blank, field duplicate, and matrix spike samples), as well as QA/QC samples prepared and analyzed by the analytical laboratory (i.e. lab-initiated samples, such as method blanks, filter blanks, and laboratory control spikes) performing the analysis. The actual chemical analysis of field-initiated and lab-initiated QA/QC samples is conducted in an identical manner as the analysis of field-collected environmental samples. After all analyses are complete, the results of the field-initiated and lab-initiated QA/QC sample results are compared to DQO, also commonly referred to as "QA/QC limits." These limits are typically established by the analytical laboratory based on EPA protocols and guidance. However, in some cases, the SMP will set a DQO, such as the QA/QC limit for field duplicate results.

QA/QC sample results are evaluated to compare them to their appropriate QA/QC limits and identify those results that fall outside of these limits. The QA/QC evaluation occurs in two separate steps as the laboratory will review those results that fall outside of its QA/QC limits and typically label these results with some type of qualification or note. If a QA/QC sample result falls grossly outside of its associated QA/QC limit, and thus indicates that there is a major problem with the lab's instrumentation and/or analytical process, then the laboratory should re-run both the affected QA/QC and environmental samples as necessary. The second step in the QA/QC evaluation process occurs when the SMP performs an overall sample integrity evaluation, as well as specific holding time, contamination, accuracy, and precision checks. This second evaluation step provides an opportunity to thoroughly review the SMP's data to identify potential errors in a laboratory's reporting of analytical data and/or recognize any significant data quality issues that may need to be addressed. After this evaluation the SMP is ready to qualify their environmental data as necessary based on the findings of the QA/QC assessment.

Data qualification occurs when the SMP assigns a program qualification to an analytical result to notify data users that the result was produced while one or more DQO or QA/QC limitations were exceeded. Environmental sample results are qualified to provide the user of these data with information regarding the quality of the data. Depending on the planned use of the data, qualifications may help to determine whether the data are appropriate for a given analysis. In general, data that are qualified with anything other than an "R" (used to signify a rejected data point) are suitable for most analyses. However, the qualifications assigned to the data allow the user to assess the appropriateness of the data for a given use. The SMP used its NDPES Stormwater Quality Database to conduct a semi-automated QA/QC evaluation of the current season's data contained in the database. The use of the database allows the SMP to expedite and standardize the QA/QC evaluation of its monitoring data in conjunction with the use of the DQEP and DQESOP. After reviewing the qualifications assigned to each qualified data point in the 2020/21 monitoring year data set, the environmental data are considered to be of high quality and sufficient for all future general uses. However, all data qualifiers should be reviewed and considered prior to the use of the data in a

specific analysis or application. Environmental data from the 2020/21 monitoring season are presented in Appendix G in Attachment D.

Both environmental and field-initiated QA/QC samples were collected in the field using clean sampling techniques. To minimize the potential for contamination, Weck Laboratories cleaned all bottles used for composite sample collection with laboratory detergent, a nitric acid rinse, and ultrapure water. Only new containers were used for grab sample collection (except for Oil and Grease, for which previously used, laboratory-cleaned containers are sometimes used) with the appropriate preservative added to chemistry grab bottles by Weck Laboratories, Inc. Intake lines for the automated samplers were flushed with 1% nitric acid and distilled water prior to the first event of the season, except for MO-HUE, which was flushed with distilled water only as the sample intake is inaccessible preventing nitric acid recovery. Intake lines were flushed with distilled water before and after each successive event for the remainder of the season. Designated sampling crew leaders were used to ensure that consistent sample collection and handling techniques were followed during every monitoring event.

Field-initiated QA/QC samples performed by the SMP during the 2020/21 monitoring season included field blanks, field duplicates, and equipment blanks. Equipment blanks are typically prepared prior to the start of the monitoring season to check that tubing, strainers, and sample containers aren't sources of contamination for the SMP's environmental samples. Tubing equipment blanks were collected from the sampling equipment by passing ultrapure blank water through cleaned tubing and into brand new sample bottles. Composite bottle equipment blanks were collected by adding ultrapure blank water to a composite bottle and allowing it to sit at <math>4^{\circ}\text{C}</math> for 24 hours before being split at the laboratory into brand new sample bottles for analysis. Equipment blanks were submitted to the analytical laboratory and analyzed using the same methods as those employed for routine environmental sample analysis.

#### 9.6.1 Equipment Blanks

Equipment blanks, often referred to as pre-season blanks, were collected prior to the monitoring season to test for contamination in sample containers (e.g., composite bottles) and sample equipment (e.g., intake lines, tubing, and strainers). This process consists of running laboratory-prepared blank water through sampler tubing to identify potential contamination of field-collected samples as a result of "dirty" tubing. The blank water (ultrapure deionized water) used to evaluate contamination of composite bottles and tubing can also be analyzed to check for contamination of this analytical sample medium. Equipment blank "hits" or measured concentrations above the laboratory's quantitation limit (RL, PQL, etc.) for a constituent are assessed and acted upon using the guidelines listed below:

1. The SMP requests that the laboratory confirm the reported results against lab bench sheets or another original analytical instrument output. Any calculation or reporting errors should be corrected and reported by the laboratory in an amended laboratory report.
2. If the previous step does not identify improperly reported results, then the analytical laboratory should be asked to identify any possible sources of contamination in the laboratory.
3. If no laboratory contamination is identified, then a note should be made that documents that the equipment blank results indicate that the sample equipment may have introduced contamination into the blank samples.

When practical, remedial measures are initiated by the SMP to replace or re-clean sampling equipment and re-analyze equipment blank samples in an effort to eliminate field contamination. Only the results of field-initiated and laboratory-initiated QA/QC samples associated with the environmental samples collected for any given monitoring event are used to qualify SMP environmental samples. However, pre-season analyses provide useful information regarding possible sources of environmental sample contamination and insight into how contamination issues might be resolved.

Preseason equipment blank "Tubing Blank" (intake line cleaned with nitric acid ( $\text{HNO}_3$ ) and distilled water) and "Carboy Blank" (composite bottle) samples were collected for the 2020/21 monitoring year on August 18 and 19,

2020, respectively. The “Tubing Blank” sample was collected through the intake line at MO-SPA after flushing the line with 1 liter of 1% HNO<sub>3</sub> and 2 liters of distilled water. The Carboy Blank samples were split off at the laboratory from ultrapure deionized water that had been added to a clean composite bottle and left to sit in a cooler on ice (at 0 - 4 degrees Celsius) for 24 hours. The blanks were analyzed by EPA 200.8 for total metals (iron by EPA 200.7), EPA 245.1 for total mercury, EPA 353.2 for nitrate+nitrite as nitrogen, and for semi-volatile organics by EPA 625 and EPA 525.2.

Metals (aluminum, chromium, copper, iron, lead, and zinc) were detected in the carboy and/or the tubing blanks, and diethyl phthalate (an organic) was detected in the tubing blank; however, all detections were well below any applicable water quality objectives, therefore, the Program determined that the detections were low enough to not require follow up analysis as it would not significantly affect environmental results. The total fraction of the metal was measured in the equipment blank samples, but it is the dissolved component that is used for the CTRO, which further supports the conclusion that the detections would not significantly affect environmental results. Further investigation into these detections was not warranted based on the above explanation.

Table 9-5. Constituents Detected in Preseason Equipment Blanks

Constituent	Reporting Limit (µg/L)	WQO	WQO	Detections	Detections	Conclusion
		CTRO Wet/Dry (µg/L)	BPO (µg/L)	Carboy Blank Concentration (µg/L)	Tubing Blank (MO-SPA) Concentration (µg/L)	
Aluminum	5.0	NA/NA	1,000 <sup>b</sup>	2.9 <sup>a</sup>	19	No
Chromium <sup>f</sup>	0.2	(III <sup>f</sup> ) 148 <sup>d,e,f</sup> /48 <sup>d,e,f</sup> (VI <sup>f</sup> ) 16/11	50 <sup>b</sup>	0.084 <sup>a</sup>	0.46	No
Copper	0.5	2.99 <sup>d,e</sup> /2.29 <sup>d,e</sup>	NA	0.32 <sup>a</sup>	0.25 <sup>a</sup>	No
Iron	10	NA/NA	NA	<1.1	19	No
Lead	0.2	10.9 <sup>d,e</sup> /0.43 <sup>d,e</sup>	NA	<0.031	0.036 <sup>a</sup>	No
Diethyl phthalate <sup>c</sup>	1	NA/23,000	NA	<0.15	1.5	No

WQO: Water Quality Objective

NA: Not Applicable

<sup>a</sup> DNQ (detected but not quantifiable)

<sup>b</sup> Waters with a “MUN” designation, i.e. municipal supply

<sup>c</sup> Objective only applies in dry weather

<sup>d</sup> Dissolved fraction of the metal

<sup>e</sup> CTRO are for the dissolved fraction of the metals and are calculated using the water hardness measured at the site (or at the site’s corresponding receiving water station, if available). For this table, they are calculated using a water hardness of 20.3 mg/L, the lowest hardness detected at an ME or MO site (the objective is proportional to the water hardness) through the end of the 2020/21 monitoring year. Receiving water sites tend to be over 100 mg/L of hardness.

<sup>f</sup> Total chromium measured for preseason samples and includes chromium (III) and Chromium (VI). BPO is for total chromium. CTR does not have a total chromium objective but has separate chromium (III) and Chromium (VI) WQO. Chromium (VI) was not analyzed during the preseason event. CTRO for chromium (VI) are lower than for chromium (III) and so are listed here.

Based on these results, the SMP determined that cleaning procedures were adequate for preventing contamination from sampling equipment for the 2020/21 monitoring season. No environmental samples were qualified by the SMP based on the results of pre-season equipment blank analyses. The cleaning procedures will be reexamined during the preseason tests prior to the 2021/22 monitoring season.

### 9.6.2 Field and Laboratory Duplicates

Duplicate samples – both field duplicates and lab duplicates – are collected in the field using the same techniques as used for all environmental sample collection. For composite samples, a larger volume of water is collected during

the monitoring event and then the duplicates are split either in the field (when generating a field duplicate) or in the lab (when generating a lab duplicate) while constantly mixing the contents of the composite containers to ensure the production of homogeneous duplicate samples. The SMP does not collect field duplicates for composite samples as samples are not split in the field due to the risk of sample contamination and breakage. In the case of grab samples, two samples are collected side-by-side or in immediate succession into separate sample bottles when collecting an environmental sample and its field duplicate. Depending on the volume of water required to perform an analysis, a lab duplicate analysis of a grab sample may require the collection of an additional sample or may be run on a single environmental sample.

Field duplicate grab samples were collected during Event 1 at MO-HUE and Event 2 at MO-THO and achieved a 100% success rate for all constituents. Results are shown in Table 9-6.

Table 9-6. Field Duplicate Success Rates

Classification	Constituent	Method	Total Samples	Samples Outside DQO	Success Rate
<b>Bacteriological</b>	Total coliform / <i>E. coli</i>	MMO-MUG	1/1	0	100
<b>Conventional</b>	Cyanide	ASTM D7511	2	0	100
<b>Hydrocarbon</b>	Gasoline Range Organics	LUFT GC/MS	2	0	100
<b>Hydrocarbon</b>	Oil and grease	EPA 1664A	2	0	100
<b>Organic</b>	2-Chloroethyl vinyl ether	EPA 624	2	0	100
<b>Organic</b>	Methyl tert-butyl ether (MTBE)	EPA 624	2	0	100

Laboratory-initiated laboratory duplicate samples were analyzed on non-project samples for all events. Laboratory duplicate samples were also analyzed for one or more constituents at ME-CC (Events 1-4), ME-SCR (Event 1 and 2), MO-CAM (Event 4), MO-HUE (Events 1-4), MO-MEI (Event 1), MO-MPK (Event 3), MO-OJA (Event 4), and MO-SPA (Event 3). All 81 laboratory duplicates were within the limits for relative percent difference (RPD) except for one ME-CC total chlorine residual sample and two non-project sample results (BOD and total chlorine residual). 110 laboratory duplicates were analyzed for non-project samples during preseason event 2020/10-PRE and all met DQO. The records were qualified with data flags where applicable. Results are shown in Table 9-7.

Table 9-7. Laboratory Duplicate Success Rates

Classification	Constituent	Method	Total Samples	Samples Outside DQO	Success Rate
<b>Conventional</b>	Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	SM 2320 B	5	0	100
<b>Conventional</b>	Biochemical Oxygen Demand	SM 5210 B	8	1	88
<b>Conventional</b>	Chemical Oxygen Demand	EPA 410.4	6	0	100
<b>Conventional</b>	MBAS	SM 5540 C	1	0	100
<b>Conventional</b>	Specific Conductance	SM 2510 B	9	0	100
<b>Conventional</b>	Total Chlorine Residual	SM 4500-CL G	5	2	60
<b>Conventional</b>	Total Dissolved Solids	SM 2540 C	12	0	100
<b>Conventional</b>	Total Suspended Solids	SM 2540 D	10	0	100
<b>Conventional</b>	Turbidity	EPA 180.1	7	0	100
<b>Conventional</b>	Volatile Suspended Solids	EPA 160.4	5	0	100
<b>Nutrient</b>	Ammonia as N	EPA 350.1	1	0	100
<b>Nutrient</b>	Nitrate + Nitrite as N	EPA 353.2	9	0	100
<b>Nutrient</b>	TKN	EPA 351.2	3	0	100
<b>Organic</b>	Multiple	EPA 625.1	110	0	100

### 9.6.3 Holding Time Exceedances

Most analytical methods used to analyze water quality samples specify a certain time period in which an analysis must be performed in order to ensure confidence in the result provided from the analysis.<sup>20</sup> A holding time can be either the time between sample collection and sample preparation (the preparation holding time limit) or between the sample preparation and sample analysis (the analysis holding time limit). If a sample doesn't require any pre-analysis preparation, then the analysis holding time is the time between sample collection and sample analysis.

These elapsed times are compared to holding time values (typically provided in EPA guidance for analytical methods) to determine if a holding time exceedance has occurred. Elapsed times greater than specified holding time limits are considered to exceed the SMP's DQO for this QA/QC sample type. All holding times for environmental samples, field blanks, and field duplicates were met by laboratories during the 2020/21 monitoring season, with the exceptions as shown in Table 9-8.

Table 9-8. Holding Time Success Rate

Classification	Environ Samples	FD & FB Samples	Total Samples	Total Samples Outside DQO	Success Rate (%)
<b>Anion</b>	156	0	156	0	100
<b>Bacteriological</b>	46	2	48	0	100
<b>Cation</b>	104	0	104	0	100
<b>Conventional</b>	1039	4	1043	8 <sup>a</sup>	99.2
<b>Hydrocarbon</b>	192	8	200	0	100
<b>Metal</b>	1664	0	1664	1	99.9
<b>Nutrient</b>	264	0	264	0	100
<b>Organic</b>	4736	8	4744	0	100
<b>PCB</b>	364	0	364	0	100
<b>Pesticide</b>	4278	0	4278	3 <sup>b</sup>	99.9

<sup>a</sup> Total chlorine residual is a Pollutant of Concern for ME-CC due to the contributions of wastewater treatment plants. The method requires that this constituent be analyzed "immediately", and the Permit requires that it be sampled as a composite sample, which combined results in an exceedance of the hold time for each event. All the conventional results outside of the DQO were for total chlorine residual.

<sup>b</sup> The original extraction was performed within hold time but the QC recoveries were outside acceptance criteria so the sample was re-extracted/re-analyzed outside of holding time

### 9.6.4 Other QA/QC Methods and Analyses

A variety of other QA/QC methods are used by the SMP and associated laboratories to determine the quality of the data. These include method blanks, matrix spikes and matrix spike duplicates (MS/MSD), surrogate spikes, and laboratory control samples. For many of these, the relative percent difference between two separate samples is computed to determine whether the laboratory has achieved the necessary DQO, as described in Section 9.6. Results of QA/QC analyses performed on individual samples can be found in Appendix F and Appendix G in Attachment D.

<sup>20</sup> A sample that remains unanalyzed for too long sometimes shows analytical results different from those that would have been observed had the sample been analyzed earlier in time. This difference is due to the breakdown, transformation, and/or dissipation of substances in the sample over time.



### 9.6.5 QA/QC Summary

In summary, a total of 12,843 environmental results were obtained during the 2020/21 monitoring season. Of these, 12,592 met the above DQOs for that sample, which translates into the SMP achieving a 98.0 % success rate in meeting program DQO. Stormwater matrices are typically highly turbid and 2020/21 was no exception, with 7,730 analyses requiring laboratory dilutions (to meet analytical requirements), of which 7,278 were non-detects. There is the potential that the dilutions may have obscured the presence of some of these constituents.

Overall, the wet-weather and dry-weather events monitored during the 2020/21 monitoring season produced a high-quality data set in terms of the low percentage of qualified data, however laboratory reporting levels have been increasing in recent years due to higher dilutions of samples. COCs always instruct the laboratory to minimize sample dilution as much as possible to obtain low reporting levels. The laboratory states that stormwater matrices are the reason for the dilutions, but it is unclear why the dilutions have been increasing over time. The SMP provided the laboratory with graphical comparisons that show reporting limits increasing over time without an associated change in concentrations of analytes typically associated with a need for dilutions. The laboratory reviewed procedures internally and will have their organics leads carefully monitor the dilutions being made, if any, to ensure that they dilute as little as possible without putting their instruments at risk. The SMP will continue to pursue low reporting limits for samples.

## 9.7 WATER QUALITY STANDARDS<sup>21</sup> AND IMPACTS

The NDPES Permit requires the SMP to report the results of stormwater monitoring to the Regional Board in two ways. First, within 90 days of a monitoring event, analytical results must be submitted electronically and must highlight elevated constituent levels relative to Basin Plan and CTR acute criteria. The SMP met this requirement for all monitoring events during the 2020/21 monitoring year. Second, an Annual Storm Water Report must be submitted by December 15<sup>th</sup> and must highlight those same elevated levels relative to applicable water quality objectives (WQO)<sup>22</sup>. The contents of this report fulfill that requirement.

### 9.7.1 Urban Runoff Impacts on Receiving Waters

Pursuant to Part 2 of the Permit, the Permittees are required to determine whether discharges from their municipal separate storm sewer systems are causing or contributing to a violation of water quality standards (WQS). Additionally, Permittees are responsible for preventing discharges from the MS4 of stormwater or non-stormwater from causing or contributing to a condition of nuisance. Specifically, the Order contains the following Receiving Water Limitations Language:

1. Discharges from the MS4 that cause or contribute to a violation of WQS are prohibited.
2. Discharges from the MS4 of stormwater, or non-stormwater, for which a Permittee is responsible, shall not cause or contribute to a condition of nuisance.

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<sup>21</sup> Water quality standards (WQS) are “State Water Quality Standards, which are comprised of beneficial uses, water quality objectives, and the State’s Antidegradation Policy.” Order No. R4-2010-0108 Part 6 p. 116

<sup>22</sup> Water quality objectives (WQO) are “water quality criteria contained in the Basin Plan, the California Ocean Plan, the National Toxics Rule, the California Toxics Rule, and other state or federally approved surface water quality plans.” Order No. R4-2010-0108 Part 6 p. 116

Compliance with the above Receiving Water Limitations is achieved by the Permittees through implementation of control measures and other actions to reduce pollutants in stormwater and non-stormwater discharges in accordance with the requirements of the Permit.

### 9.7.2 “Cause or Contribute” Evaluation Methodology

The evaluation used to determine if a pollutant is persistently causing or contributing to the exceedance of a WQS in receiving waters consists of three steps:

1. The water quality data collected at a mass emission site in the same watershed is used as the receiving water to compare to relevant WQO contained in the CTR and Basin Plan.
2. When a receiving water concentration exceeded a WQO for a constituent, the urban runoff concentration of said constituent measured at a major outfall in that watershed was compared to the WQO. If an elevated level relative to the associated WQO for said constituent was observed in both urban runoff and the receiving water, then the WQS exceedance in the receiving water was determined “likely caused or contributed to by urban runoff.” However, this comparison does not consider the frequency or persistence of WQS exceedances for a given constituent.
3. The persistence of a WQS exceedance was determined by evaluating the number of times (frequency) that a constituent was observed at an elevated level in urban runoff and above the WQO for the receiving water for a particular type of monitoring event (wet or dry) over the course of the monitoring season. If two or more elevated levels in urban runoff and WQS exceedances in the receiving water were observed for a constituent over the course of the monitoring season, then the WQS exceedances of said constituent were determined to be persistent. Ideally, an assessment of persistency would be based on a larger data set (e.g., 10 events or more) and an assumed percentage of exceedances (e.g., 50%), but given the need for an annual assessment two or more exceedances from the existing, limited data set were used as the criterion to determine persistence.

### 9.7.3 Water Quality Objective Calculations for Reporting of Exceedances

The SMP uses its water quality database to identify water quality monitoring results that are above California Toxics Rule (CTR) and Basin Plan WQO (CTRO and BPO, respectively). The database performs these calculations using a pre-programmed set of reference values for CTRO and BPO, including site specific objectives. The reference values are stored in the CTRO and BPO reference tables and are used for these calculations to reduce the likelihood of human error.

#### Ammonia BPO Calculations

Updates to the ammonia BPO were made in 2012/13 to accurately determine, calculate, and compare ammonia WQO with sample results based on the Basin Plan updates as described in the 2012/13 Annual Report and re-stated below. The WQO and comparisons are determined using the flow charts and formulas provided in Appendix K in Attachment D.

Ammonia BPO are determined for each site/sample based on salinity and pH, and in the case of dry weather and saltwater samples, temperature. Freshwater WQO are used for samples that are at or below 1 ppt salinity. Saltwater WQO (un-ionized ammonia objective converted to total NH<sub>3</sub>-N using the formula in Appendix K in Attachment D) are used for samples that are at or above 10 ppt. Samples that are between 1 ppt and 10 ppt use the more stringent of the freshwater or saltwater WQO. SMP staff reviewed the Basin Plan amendments and developed a flow chart to determine which ammonia BPO formulas should be used to calculate the appropriate objective for each site for both wet (acute objective) and dry (chronic objective) monitoring events. The flow charts are included in Appendix K in Attachment D.

There are two formulas for calculating freshwater dry weather (chronic) WQO and the selection of the appropriate formula depends on whether Early Life Stages (ELS) of fish are present or absent in the reach. ELS are presumptively present unless listed as absent in the Basin Plan or a site-specific study is conducted. For the Ventura County mass emission and major outfall stations, the sites that are designated COLD and/or MIGR are also designated “ELS Present”, conversely, the sites that are not designated COLD/MIGR are designated “ELS Absent”.

For Ventura County, waters within the Calleguas Creek Watershed, except for Mugu Lagoon, the estuary, and Reach 2 (estuary to Potrero Rd), are not designated COLD/MIGR, therefore SMP stations without a COLD/MIGR designation in this watershed include the mass emission station (ME-CC) and major outfall stations (MO-CAM, MO-MPK, MO-SIM, and MO-THO). Waters within Ventura County that are designated COLD and/or MIGR, include the reaches applicable to the remaining SMP mass emission stations (ME-SCR and ME-VR2) and major outfall stations (MO-FIL, MO-SPA, MO-OXN, MO-VEN, MO-HUE, MO-OJA, and MO-MEI).

The correct calculation of ammonia BPO requires the collection of salinity, pH, and temperature data in addition to the total ammonia as nitrogen analysis. Salinity, pH, and temperature are measured in situ in the field using handheld meters at the time that event grab samples are collected, as the samples require immediate measurement to reflect the site conditions to which the organisms are exposed. Ammonia is collected as a composite sample and is analyzed at the laboratory within 28 days of sample collection (28-day holding time). Comparisons of the composite ammonia value to the grab BPO provide the best available assessment of compliance, given the restraints in collecting relevant sample data.

### **Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) Beneficial Use**

Historically, the SMP considered all receiving waters it monitors as having at least a potential Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) beneficial use and, therefore, compared water quality data collected at each of its monitoring sites to WQO applicable to the MUN beneficial use. However, the SMP was informed by Regional Board staff in 2016 that this “blanket” approach may not be appropriate, given that beneficial use designations (established in the Basin Plan) are identified in multiple ways such as “existing,” “potential,” or conditional for various reasons. More specifically, based upon several findings and decisions by the pertinent regulatory agencies (the State Water Board, Regional Board, and USEPA), MUN beneficial uses designated with an asterisk (“\*”) in the Basin Plan are considered to be conditional and requirements based on the WQO that apply to the MUN beneficial use are not to be used to impose requirements in Waste Discharge Requirements, including the Ventura County MS4 permit.<sup>23</sup> As some waterbodies in Ventura County have MUN beneficial uses designated with an asterisk and others do not, the SMP conducted a review of the specific MUN beneficial use designation for the receiving waters into which the Program discharges stormwater runoff and dry weather flows, along with their tributaries, to determine the waterbodies for which comparisons to WQO applicable to the MUN beneficial use are unnecessary.

The CTR Human Health Water & Organisms criteria (HHWO) historically have been considered by the SMP to be applicable to the MUN beneficial use because of the “water consumed by humans” nexus to these criteria, as well as the potential for fish consumption. Water quality data collected at the various SMP monitoring sites that are designated as “\*” in the Basin Plan will no longer be compared to HHWO; instead, they will be compared to CTR Human Health Organisms Only criteria (HHOO).

As a result of the evaluation, it was determined that most of the SMP’s water quality monitoring sites (including three mass emission stations and eleven major outfall stations) are located on waterbodies identified in the Basin Plan as having a conditional MUN beneficial use designation. Only program monitoring data collected at two sites

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<sup>23</sup> Related to State Board Resolution No. 88-63 (Sources of Drinking Water) and Regional Board Resolution 89-03 (Incorporation of Sources of Drinking Water Policy into the Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans)).

(major outfall stations MO-OJA and MO-MEI) need to be compared to WQO applicable to the MUN beneficial use, while similar comparisons for the other twelve monitoring stations are unnecessary at this time.

Table 9-9. Cause or Contribute Evaluation Methodology for MUN vs non-MUN Sites

**Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program "Cause or Contribute" Evaluation Methodology**

WQO Exc = water quality objective exceedance

Old method for water quality objectives comparisons (ALL data compared to WQOs applicable to MUN Beneficial Use)

Major Outfall (urban runoff)	Mass Emission (receiving water)	Cause or Contribute Determination
WQO Exc	---	Urban runoff not causing or contributing to observed WQO Exc in receiving water
WQO Exc	WQO Exc	Urban runoff likely caused or contributed to observed WQO Exc in receiving water
---	WQO Exc	Urban runoff not causing or contributing to observed WQO Exc in receiving water
---	---	Urban runoff not causing or contributing to observed WQO Exc in receiving water

New method for water quality objectives comparisons (Only data from SOME monitoring stations compared to WQOs applicable to MUN Beneficial Use)

Major Outfall site with Existing MUN: MO-OJA & MO-MEI	Mass Emission site with Existing MUN: None	Cause or Contribute Determination
---	---	Urban runoff not causing or contributing to observed WQO Exc in receiving water BASED ON PROGRAM NO LONGER COMPARING RECEIVING WATER DATA TO WQOs APPLICABLE TO MUN B.U.
WQO Exc	---	Urban runoff not causing or contributing to observed WQO Exc in receiving water BASED ON PROGRAM NO LONGER COMPARING RECEIVING WATER DATA TO WQOs APPLICABLE TO MUN B.U.

### 9.7.4 WQS Evaluation Methodology

For the analysis of wet-weather data (Events 1-3), the BPO and the acute, freshwater WQO in the CTR –Criteria Maximum Concentration (CMC) were used. For some constituents, the CTR does not contain acute criteria. Prior to the 2011/12 Annual Report, the SMP used the HHOO for these cases because these constituents had no other objectives for comparison. However, since these objectives are based on long-term exposure and stormwater discharges are infrequent and of short duration, it was decided that comparing short term stormwater discharges to the long-term chronic criteria was not an accurate representation of the risk of stormwater discharges to human health. CTR chronic criteria were not used for wet-weather analyses because acute criteria better reflect the short-term storm event exposure experienced by organisms, as compared to the long-term exposure considered by chronic criteria.

For the analysis of dry-weather data (Event 4 and 2021-DRY), the applicable BPO and the most stringent of the CTR chronic freshwater objectives - Criteria Continuous Concentration (CCC), HHOO, or HHWO were used. Prior to 2011, if the CTR did not contain chronic freshwater objectives for a constituent, the HHOO was used. In 2011, this was revised to include HHWO in the determination of the most stringent objective exceedances due to their potential for long-term exposure. In December 2016, this was revised to the current method as described above based on the re-evaluation of the applicability of MUN beneficial use designations for these waters.

Table 9-10. Applicable Water Quality Standards

Site and MUN Beneficial Use Designation Status	Wet Weather Standards	Dry Weather Standards
<b>MUN</b> (MO-MEI and MO-OJA)	Basin Plan <u>including</u> Title 22 (drinking water) standards  CTR-CMC	Basin Plan <u>including</u> Title 22 (drinking water) standards  CTR - most stringent of CCC, HHOO, HHWO

<b>Non-MUN</b> (ME-CC, ME-SCR, ME-VR2, MO-CAM, MO-FIL, MO-HUE, MO-MPK, MO-SIM, MO-SPA, MO-THO, MO-VEN)	Basin Plan <u>excluding</u> Title 22 (drinking water) standards  CTR-CMC	Basin Plan <u>excluding</u> Title 22 (drinking water) standards  CTR - most stringent of CCC and HHO
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Section 9.8 presents a discussion of WQS exceedances that occurred during the wet-weather and dry-weather monitoring events during the 2020/21 monitoring year.

### 9.7.5 Pollutants of Concern

The Permit (Section 1.A.I.16 of Attachment F - Monitoring Program No. CI 7388,) requires that Pollutants of Concern (POC) that exceed the BPO and CTRO for acute criteria for all mass emission test results be highlighted and submitted to the Regional Board. Attachment B of the Permit lists the POC for each watershed. The POC include constituents that have limits in the Basin Plan that are only applicable to sites designated for MUN beneficial use, and constituents in the CTRO that do not have acute objectives but do have CCC, HHWO, and/or HHO (which are only applicable to dry weather (chronic) conditions). The POC lists also include fecal coliform, which does not have a limit in either document. Therefore, there are not always applicable POC limits for comparison with sample results (e.g. sites without MUN designations in wet and dry weather, wet weather samples for CTR POC, etc.). Table 9-11 shows the POC from Attachment B that only have MUN or CTR dry weather criteria and the associated watershed for which they are listed. The Program will continue to compare sample results to applicable criteria per the approach explained in the preceding sections.

Table 9-11. Applicability of Attachment B - Pollutants of Concern

POC	MUN (µg/L)	CTR HHWO (µg/L)	CTR HHO (µg/L)	CTR Chronic (µg/L)	Calleguas Creek	Santa Clara River	Ventura River
Fecal Coliform <sup>a</sup>					X	X	X
Aluminum, total	1000				X	X	X
Arsenic, total	10					X	
Barium, total	1000				X	X	
Beryllium, total	4				X		
Cadmium, total	5				X	X	X
Chromium, total	50				X	X	X
Mercury, total	2				X	X	X
Nickel, total	100	610	4600		X	X	X
Selenium, total	50			5.0		X	
Benzo(a)anthracene		0.0044	0.049		X	X	
Benzo(a)pyrene	0.2	0.0044	0.049		X	X	X
Benzo(b)fluoranthene		0.0044	0.049		X	X	X
Benzo(k)fluoranthene		0.0044	0.049		X	X	
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	4	1.8	5.9		X	X	X
Chrysene		0.0044	0.049		X	X	X
Dibenz(a,h)anthracene		0.0044	0.049		X	X	
Hexachlorobenzene	1	0.00075	0.00077		X		X
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene		0.0044	0.049		X	X	
4,4'-DDD		0.00083	0.00084		X		
4,4'-DDE		0.00059	0.00059		X	X	

Note: Blank spaces indicate limits do not apply.

<sup>a</sup> The Regional Board authorized the exclusion of fecal coliform from the POC and Minimum Levels list of the Permit on May 23, 2018, based on the elimination of fecal coliform as a freshwater REC-1 standard in 2010. The authorization occurred after the end of the 2017/18 wet season and prior to the 2017/18 dry event. Fecal coliform is no longer included in the bacteriological analyses however *E. coli* continues to be analyzed to track potential fecal pollution.

## 9.8 2020/21 WATER QUALITY STANDARD EVALUATIONS

### 9.8.1 2020/21 WQS Updates and Corrections

There were no changes to California Toxics Rule Objectives (CTRO) or Basin Plan Objectives (BPO) during the 2020/21 monitoring year. The elevated levels report for Event 2 was submitted to the Regional Board without flagging a non-primary method detection of benzo(a)pyrene at MO-OJA at an elevated level above the Basin Plan limit of 0.2 µg/L. This discrepancy was identified, and the elevated levels report resubmitted in September 2021 and the update is included in the tables below.

#### Primary Method Determination

Some constituents are measured by more than one analytical method which can yield significantly different results. Since 2009, the SMP has utilized some non-40 CFR 136 approved analytical methods to target the low Minimum Levels (ML) listed in Attachment G of the Permit. Prior to July 2019, the SMP considered the method with the lowest Reporting Limit (RL) as primary, based on the recommendation of the laboratory at the time. In reviewing this evaluation method and based on updated guidance from the analytical laboratory, the SMP determined that the method with the lowest RL may not be the most representative of the level of the constituent due to differences in the matrices for which the analytical methods are intended; and that in keeping with Section K.4(a) of Attachment F of the Permit, the 40 CFR 136 method should be considered the primary method.

As of July 2019, the SMP considers the 40 CFR 136 approved method to be primary. In all cases, any result above a WQO by any method triggered the inclusion of that constituent in the Elevated Levels Report and Annual Report with the results from all available methods. A footnote to the table in the reports explained which method was considered primary.

This redetermination applies to phenols (including pentachlorophenol), bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). The primary method for all affected constituents is now EPA 625.1. It is a 40 CFR 136 approved gas chromatography mass spectrometry (GCMS) method intended for use with wastewater matrices and as such has been determined to be the most appropriate method for the SMP. The downside is that it tends to have higher RLs than the other methods and it requires dilutions more frequently, which raises the already typically higher RLs and can obscure the presence of constituents at lower concentrations. It also contains more steps than some of the other methods which introduces greater risk of laboratory contamination (especially phthalates).

The three methods used to obtain the lower RLs that are not 40 CFR 136 approved are EPA 515.3 and EPA 525.2 (drinking water methods), and EPA 8270C (wastewater method). The drinking water methods contain fewer steps and were originally selected because they rarely require dilutions and therefore their reporting limits stay low, however it was recently determined that they may not be accurate for a stormwater matrix (however they would still be appropriate for laboratory/equipment/field blank samples). EPA 525.2 is 40 CFR 136 approved for atrazine, diazinon, prometryn, and simazine (permit-required pesticides) but not for bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate or benzo(a)pyrene. EPA 8270C is a GCMS method intended for wastewater matrices and is very similar to EPA 625.1 with similar extraction and analysis steps however while EPA 8270C RLs are typically lower, it is not 40 CFR 136 approved.

A letter explaining the change was sent to the Regional Board Executive Officer on July 19, 2019.

#### Hexavalent Chromium Update

The State Water Board has not yet adopted a new Title 22 (drinking water) maximum contaminant level (MCL) for hexavalent chromium. The Superior Court of Sacramento County judged the previous one to be invalid in May 2017 due to the failure to “properly consider the economic feasibility of complying with the MCL” prior to adoption. The adoption was expected to take 18-24 months to complete, so may be in effect for the next annual report. The CTR hexavalent chromium and Basin Plan total chromium WQO remain in effect.

## 9.8.2 2020/21 Water Quality Standard Evaluation Summary

Table 9-12 presents WQO exceedances at mass emission stations based on an analysis of the 2020/21 wet-season stormwater monitoring data. Constituents that were found at elevated levels<sup>24</sup> at sites upstream (i.e., related major outfall stations) are shown in bold (see Sections 9.8.3 through 9.8.6 for a discussion of the relationship between the mass emission and major outfall stations). Table 9-13 presents the elevated levels of constituents at major outfall stations based on an analysis of the 2020/21 wet-season stormwater monitoring data. Constituents that exceeded the WQO at sites downstream (i.e., related mass emission stations) are shown in bold. Table notes are provided below Table 9-13.

Table 9-12. Water Quality Objective Exceedances at Mass Emission Stations

Site	Constituent	2020/21-1 (Wet) <sup>a</sup>	2020/21-2 (Wet)	2020/21-3 (Wet)	2020/21-4 (Dry) <sup>d</sup>	Applicable WQO
ME-CC	<i>E. coli</i>	<b>1,951</b>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	<b>270</b>	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	Chloride ^			170	<b>190</b>	SSO: 150 mg/L (BPO)
	Total Dissolved Solids ^	1,300				SSO: 850 mg/L (BPO)
	Total Chlorine Residual		0.25 (DNQ)			0.1 mg/L (BPO)
ME-SCR	<i>E. coli</i>	<b>1,354</b>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>		235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	Chloride	140				SSO: 100 mg/L (BPO)
	Total Dissolved Solids ^				1,400	SSO: 1,300 mg/L (BPO)
	Nitrate + Nitrite as N ^	6.3				SSO: 5 mg/L (BPO)
ME-VR2	<i>E. coli</i>	<b>464</b>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>		235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)

<sup>24</sup> “Elevated levels” is used to describe those concentrations that are above a WQS. These amounts are not referred to as “exceedances,” as has been done for the mass emission stations, since, technically, those standards are only applicable to receiving waters, not to the outfalls that were monitored.

Table 9-13. Elevated Levels at Major Outfall Stations

Site	Constituent	2020/21-1 (Wet) <sup>a</sup>	2020/21-2 (Wet)	2020/21-3 (Wet)	2020/21-4 (Dry) <sup>d</sup>	Applicable WQO
		Value	Value	Value	Value	
MO-CAM	<i>E. coli</i>	1,989	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	1,600	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	pH				8.83	6.5 -8.5 pH Units (BPO)
MO-FIL	<i>E. coli</i>	10,462	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	370	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	Selenium, total				5.7	5 µg/L (CTRO)
MO-HUE	<i>E. coli</i>	15,531 <sup>d</sup>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	2,600	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	Dissolved Oxygen				4.35	5 mg/L (BPO)
	Total Cyanide		0.033			0.022 mg/L (CTRO)
MO-MEI	<i>E. coli</i>	4,352 <sup>d</sup>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	Dry	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	Aluminum, total <sup>e</sup>	8,800	4,400	2,200	Dry	1,000 µg/L (BPO)
	Pentachlorophenol <sup>e,f</sup>	1.3 7.4 (DNQ) 5.3 (DNQ)	<0.46 <4 <sup>g</sup> 1.7 (DNQ)	0.46 (DNQ) 4.4 (DNQ) 2 (DNQ)	Dry	1 µg/L (BPO) EPA 515.4 RL=0.2,2,1 EPA 625.1 RL=10,10,5 EPA 8270C RL=10,10,5
MO-MPK	<i>E. coli</i>	933	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	Dry <sup>h</sup>	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	Chloride <sup>^</sup>				260	SSO: 150 mg/L (BPO)
	Total Dissolved Solids <sup>^</sup>				930	SSO: 850 mg/L (BPO)
	Nitrate + Nitrite as N <sup>^</sup>	37	18			SSO: 10 mg/L (BPO)
MO-OJA	<i>E. coli</i>	6,488	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	12,000	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	Chloride <sup>^</sup>				380 <sup>i</sup>	SSO: 60 mg/L (BPO)
	Total Dissolved Solids <sup>^</sup>				1,900 <sup>i</sup>	SSO: 800 mg/L (BPO)
	Aluminum, total <sup>e</sup>	6,700	4,600	6,400	<sup>i</sup>	1,000 µg/L (BPO)
	Selenium, total				7.5 <sup>i</sup>	5 µg/L (CTRO)
	Benzo(a)pyrene <sup>e,f</sup>	1.2 (DNQ) <7.8 <sup>g</sup> 1.1 (DNQ)	<0.2 <3.9 <sup>g</sup> 0.84 (DNQ)		<sup>i</sup>	0.2 µg/L (BPO) EPA 525.2 RL=2.0,1 EPA 625.1 RL=20,10 EPA 8270C RL=2.0,1



Site		2020/21-1 (Wet) <sup>a</sup>	2020/21-2 (Wet)	2020/21-3 (Wet)	2020/21-4 (Dry) <sup>d</sup>	Applicable WQO
	Constituent	Value	Value	Value	Value	
	Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate <sup>e,f</sup>	<8.2 64 (DNQ)			i	4 µg/L (BPO) EPA 525.2 RL=60 EPA 625.1 RL=100
	Pentachlorophenol <sup>e,f</sup>		<0.46 <4 <sup>g</sup> 1.8 (DNQ)	<0.23 <4 <sup>g</sup> 1.8 (DNQ)	i	1 µg/L (BPO) EPA 515.3 RL=2,1 EPA 625.1 RL=10,10 EPA 8270C RL=10,10
MO- OXN	<i>E. coli</i>	<b>6,488</b>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	Dry	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
MO-SIM	<i>E. coli</i>	<b>2,382</b>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>		235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	Chloride <sup>^</sup>				<b>200</b>	SSO: 150 mg/L (BPO)
	Total Dissolved Solids <sup>^</sup>			1,200	2,500	SSO: 850 mg/L (BPO)
	Selenium, total				32	5 µg/L (CTRO)
MO- SPA	<i>E. coli</i>	<b>2,851</b>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	Dry	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
MO-THO	<i>E. coli</i>	<b>6,867</b>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>		235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)
	Chloride <sup>^</sup>			230	<b>230</b>	SSO: 150 mg/L (BPO)
	Total Dissolved Solids <sup>^</sup>			1,300	1,100	SSO: 850 mg/L (BPO)
MO- VEN	<i>E. coli</i>	<b>19,863 <sup>d</sup></b>	NS <sup>b</sup>	NS <sup>c</sup>	Dry	235 MPN/100 mL (BPO)

Table 9-12 and Table 9-13 Notes:

**Bolded: Elevated level of same constituent in one or more related major outfalls**

Blank cells indicate the result was within WQO limits or was not required to be analyzed

DNQ: Detected below the RL and therefore concentration cannot be confidently quantified.

NS: Not sampled.

\*: Primary method

<sup>^</sup> Site Specific Objectives

Dry: Channel dry or insufficient flow to sample.

<sup>a</sup> First flush event for all sites except MO-SIM, which received qualifying rainfall (0.28") on November 7, 2020, from a storm that was predicted to be too small to sample.

<sup>b</sup> Grab samples were collected outside of Ventura County Public Health Laboratory business hours. The laboratory was unable to accept and analyze bacteria samples after hours due to their COVID-19 testing workload. Bacteria samples are often above the Basin Plan Objective (BPO) during wet weather events so are included here to avoid implying compliance.

<sup>c</sup> Ventura County Public Health Laboratory was unable to accept and analyze bacteria samples due to backordered supplies. Bacteria samples are often above the BPO during wet weather events so are included here to avoid implying compliance.

<sup>d</sup> The analyzing laboratory reported *E. coli* results higher than total coliform results for this site for one of the three dilutions at which the sample is analyzed. *E. coli* is a subset of total coliform and therefore should be present at a lower MPN/100 mL than total coliform. The results of all dilutions were above the BPO for these three sites, so the elevated level designation is likely to be correct, however the magnitude of the elevated level is uncertain. The laboratory was asked to check the results and they confirmed their original reporting but were unable to conduct additional investigation into the source of the issue.

<sup>e</sup> The BPO for aluminum, bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate, benzo(a)pyrene, and pentachlorophenol only apply to sites with a MUN designation for municipal or domestic water supply. Only MO-MEI and MO-OJA have an existing MUN designation. [Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate and benzo(a)pyrene also have a non-MUN dry weather CTRO and pentachlorophenol also has a wet and dry CTRO, which apply to all samples.]

<sup>f</sup> This constituent is measured by more than one analytical method, which can yield significantly different results. Prior to July 2019, the SMP considered the method with the lowest Reporting Limit (RL) as primary, but as of July 2019, the SMP considers the 40 CFR 136 approved method (EPA 625.1) as primary, but reports all results as required. The other method(s) are not 40 CFR 136 approved for the constituent, but are analyzed to provide a lower detection limit and/or are analyzed for other constituents. RLs are indicated in order by event in the “Applicable WQO” column. Only levels above the WQO for the primary method are assessed for cause or contribute.

<sup>g</sup> For this event, the method detection level for the primary method was above the BPO due to the dilutions initiated by the laboratory to meet equipment requirements, in alignment with method protocols. The primary method NDs (non-detects) can neither confirm nor refute the non-primary method results because of the raised MDL.

<sup>h</sup> Lack of flow during grab sampling resulted in no grab samples at MO-MPK, including *E. coli*/pH/dissolved oxygen/conductivity/temperature, which also prevented the calculation of ammonia BPO and pentachlorophenol CTRO, however, ammonia and pentachlorophenol were ND, so were not present at elevated levels.

<sup>i</sup> MO-OJA sample equipment issue May 11-12, 2021, so composite collected May 12-13, 2021.

### 9.8.3 Ventura River Watershed Receiving Water Limit Evaluation<sup>25</sup>

Urban stormwater runoff and urban non-stormwater flows were evaluated at two major outfall locations in the Ventura River Watershed during the 2020/21 season: Unincorporated-1 (MO-MEI) and Ojai-1 (MO-OJA). Both major outfalls are located upstream of the ME-VR2 mass emission station (see Figure 9-1), and therefore water quality data collected at ME-VR2 were used to represent receiving water quality in the “cause or contribute” evaluation conducted for both major outfalls. Table 9-14 and Table 9-15 show the constituents that exceeded WQS in the downstream receiving water and compares them to the levels measured at the major outfalls, MO-MEI and MO-OJA, respectively. Receiving water exceedances where the urban runoff from the applicable major outfalls was outside of WQS are shown in bold. Since ME-VR2 is not designated MUN beneficial use, the MUN WQO elevated levels at MO-MEI and MO-OJA are not included in Table 9-14 or Table 9-15.

Table 9-14. Comparison of MO-MEI and ME-VR2 Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Unincorporated-1 Major Outfall (MO-MEI)	Receiving Water (ME-VR2)	WQO (BPO or CTRO)
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>			
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	<b>4,352<sup>a</sup></b>	<b>464</b>	235 BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>			
No exceedances at ME-VR2 this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]			
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>			
No exceedances at ME-VR2 this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]			
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – May 11-12, 2021</b>			
No exceedances at ME-VR2 this event.			

<sup>a</sup> The analyzing laboratory reported *E. coli* results higher than total coliform results for this site for one of the three dilutions at which the sample is analyzed. *E. coli* is a subset of total coliform and therefore should be present at a lower MPN/100 mL than total coliform. The results of all dilutions were above the BPO for these three sites, so the elevated level designation is likely to be correct, however the magnitude of the elevated level is uncertain. The laboratory was asked to check the results and they confirmed their original reporting but were unable to conduct additional investigation into the source of the issue.

<sup>25</sup> The Ventura River mass emission station (ME-VR2) was installed during the 2004/05 monitoring year when the original station, ME-VR was decommissioned due to safety concerns because of landslide activity. The station was moved approximately one mile downstream to a safe location, while still representative of the runoff of the Ventura River watershed. The new location for the station put it into a different reach of the river according to the Basin Plan (between the confluence with Weldon Canyon and Main Street rather than between Casitas Vista Road and the confluence with Weldon Canyon), with higher limits for total dissolved solids (TDS), sulfate, chloride, boron, and nitrogen. Of these constituents, TDS, chloride, and nitrogen are monitored as part of the NPDES Permit by the SMP. The limits in the SMP’s database were not updated for the new location until the 2011 annual report, and they are now correct for the current location. These changes and revised exceedances were explained in the 2011 annual report.

Table 9-15. Comparison of MO-OJA and ME-VR2 Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Ojai-1 Major Outfall (MO-OJA)	Receiving Water (ME-VR2)	WQO (BPO or CTRO)
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>			
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	<b>6,488</b>	<b>464</b>	235 BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>			
No exceedances at ME-VR2 this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]			
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>			
No exceedances at ME-VR2 this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]			
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – May 11-13, 2021</b>			
No exceedances at ME-VR2 this event. <sup>a</sup>			

<sup>a</sup> MO-OJA sample equipment issue May 11-12, so composite collected May 12-13.

#### 9.8.4 Santa Clara River Watershed Receiving Water Limit Evaluation

Urban stormwater runoff and urban non-stormwater flows were evaluated at four major outfalls in the Santa Clara River Watershed during the 2020/21 monitoring year: Fillmore-1 (MO-FIL), Santa Paula-1 (MO-SPA), Oxnard-1 (MO-OXN), and Ventura-1 (MO-VEN). Two of these stations, MO-FIL and MO-SPA, are located upstream of the ME-SCR mass emission station (see Figure 9-1), and therefore water quality data collected at ME-SCR were used to represent receiving water quality in the “cause or contribute” evaluation conducted for both major outfalls. The other two stations, MO-OXN and MO-VEN, are located downstream of the ME-SCR mass emission station (see Figure 9-1). Because the ME-SCR station is located upstream of MO-OXN and MO-VEN, an assumption was required so that water quality data collected at ME-SCR could be considered to adequately represent Santa Clara River water quality downstream of the confluence of both MO-OXN and MO-VEN with the river. For comparison purposes it was assumed that pollutant concentrations in the Santa Clara River downstream of ME-SCR remain unchanged to those measured at ME-SCR to represent a hypothetical compliance point below the confluence of MO-OXN and MO-VEN and the Santa Clara River. With this assumption in effect, water quality data collected at ME-SCR were used to represent receiving water quality in the “cause or contribute” evaluation conducted for the MO-OXN and MO-VEN stations. Constituents exceeding WQS at the receiving water were compared to the urban runoff levels at the MO-FIL, MO-SPA, MO-OXN, and MO-VEN stations and are shown in Table 9-16 through Table 9-19 below<sup>26</sup>. Receiving water exceedances where the urban runoff from the applicable major outfalls was outside of WQS are shown in bold.

<sup>26</sup> Column order is presented to show whether a site is upstream or downstream of the receiving water station, i.e. if a site is upstream of the receiving water station then the site column is listed first (MO-FIL, MO-SPA) and if a site is downstream of the receiving water station (MO-OXN, MO-VEN) then the site column is listed second.

Table 9-16: Comparison of MO-FIL and ME-SCR Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Fillmore-1 Major Outfall (MO-FIL)	Receiving Water (ME-SCR)	WQO (BPO or CTRO)	
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	10,462	1,354	235	BPO
Chloride (mg/L)	19	140	100	BPO
Nitrate + Nitrite as N (mg/L)	2.1	6.3	5	BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>				
No exceedances at ME-SCR this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]				
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>				
No exceedances at ME-SCR this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]				
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – April 26-27, 2021</b>				
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1,100	1,400	1,300	BPO

Table 9-17. Comparison of MO-SPA and ME-SCR Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Santa Paula-1 Major Outfall (MO-SPA)	Receiving Water (ME-SCR)	WQO (BPO or CTRO)	
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	2,851	1,354	235	BPO
Chloride (mg/L)	12	140	100	BPO
Nitrate + Nitrite as N (mg/L)	2.3	6.3	5	BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>				
No exceedances at ME-SCR this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]				
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>				
No exceedances at ME-SCR this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]				
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – April 26-27, 2021</b>				
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	Dry	1,400	1,300	BPO

Table 9-18. Comparison of MO-OXN and ME-SCR Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Receiving Water <sup>a</sup> (ME-SCR)	Oxnard-1 Major Outfall (MO-OXN)	WQO (BPO or CTRO)	
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	1,354	6,488	235	BPO
Chloride (mg/L)	140	20	100	BPO
Nitrate + Nitrite as N (mg/L)	6.3	1.4	5	BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>				
No exceedances at ME-SCR this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]				
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>				
No exceedances at ME-SCR this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]				
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – April 26-27, 2021</b>				
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1,400	Dry	1,300	BPO

<sup>a</sup> Water quality monitoring data collected at ME-SCR were used in the receiving water “cause or contribute” evaluation as downstream surrogate data to represent the water quality in the Santa Clara River at a compliance point below the confluence of MO-OXN and the Santa Clara River. The site column is listed after the receiving water column to represent this difference.

Table 9-19. Comparison of MO-VEN and ME-SCR Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Receiving Water <sup>a</sup> (ME-SCR)	Ventura-1 Major Outfall (MO-VEN)	WQO (BPO or CTRO)	
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	1,354	19,863 <sup>b</sup>	235	BPO
Chloride (mg/L)	140	15	100	BPO
Nitrate + Nitrite as N (mg/L)	6.3	1.1	5	BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>				
No exceedances at ME-SCR this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]				
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>				
No exceedances at ME-SCR this event. [Note: <i>E. coli</i> unable to be analyzed this event]				
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – April 26-27, 2021</b>				
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	1,400	Dry	1,300	BPO

<sup>a</sup> Water quality monitoring data collected at ME-SCR were used in the receiving water “cause or contribute” evaluation as downstream surrogate data to represent the water quality in the Santa Clara River at a compliance point below the confluence of MO-OXN and the Santa Clara River. The site column is listed after the receiving water column to represent this difference.

<sup>b</sup> The analyzing laboratory reported *E. coli* results higher than total coliform results for this site for one of the three dilutions at which the sample is analyzed. *E. coli* is a subset of total coliform and therefore should be present at a lower MPN/100 mL than total coliform. The results of all dilutions were above the BPO for these three sites, so the elevated level designation is likely to be correct, however the magnitude of the elevated level is uncertain. The laboratory was asked to check the results and they confirmed their original reporting but were unable to conduct additional investigation into the source of the issue.

### 9.8.5 Calleguas Creek Watershed Receiving Water Limit Evaluation

Urban stormwater runoff and urban non-stormwater flows were evaluated at four major outfalls in the Calleguas Creek Watershed during the 2020/21 monitoring year: Camarillo-1 (MO-CAM), Moorpark-1 (MO-MPK), Simi Valley-1 (MO-SIM), and Thousand Oaks-1 (MO-THO). Three of these major outfalls (MO-MPK, MO-SIM, and MO-THO) are located upstream of the ME-CC mass emission station (see Figure 9-1), and therefore water quality data collected at ME-CC were used to represent receiving water quality in the “cause or contribute” evaluation conducted for these major outfalls. As stated earlier, MO-CAM is in a different subwatershed than the closest receiving water location, the ME-CC station, monitored by the Program (see Figure 9-1). MO-CAM is tributary to Revolon Slough, which is tributary to Calleguas Creek several miles downstream of ME-CC. Similar to the ME-SCR station in the Santa Clara River watershed, an assumption was made so that water quality data collected at ME-CC could be considered to adequately represent Calleguas Creek water quality downstream of the confluence of Revolon Slough and the creek. It was assumed that pollutant concentrations in Calleguas Creek downstream of ME-CC remain the same as those measured at ME-CC to a hypothetical compliance point below the confluence of Revolon Slough and Calleguas Creek. With this assumption in effect, water quality data collected at ME-CC were used to represent receiving water quality in the “cause or contribute” evaluation conducted for the MO-CAM major outfall. Constituents exceeding WQS at the receiving water were compared to the urban runoff levels at the MO-MPK, MO-SIM, MO-THO, and MO-CAM stations and are shown in Table 9-20 through Table 9-23<sup>27</sup>. Receiving water exceedances where the urban runoff from the applicable major outfalls was outside of WQS are shown in bold.

Table 9-20. Comparison of MO-MPK and ME-CC Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Moorpark-1 Major Outfall (MO-MPK)	Receiving Water (ME-CC)	WQO (BPO or CTRO))	
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	<b>933</b>	<b>1,951</b>	235	BPO
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	580	1,300	850	BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>				
Total Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	NS	0.25 (DNQ)	0.1	BPO
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>				
Chloride (mg/L)	23	170	150	BPO
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – April 28-29, 2021</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	NS	270	235	BPO
Chloride (mg/L)	<b>260</b>	<b>190</b>	150	BPO

NS: Not sampled. Total chlorine residual is not typically analyzed at the major outfalls. Flow was too low to collect *E. coli* sample at time of grab sampling for 2020/21-4 (Dry).

[Note: *E. coli* unable to be analyzed events 2020/21-2 and 2020/21-3.]

<sup>27</sup> Column order is presented to show whether a site is upstream or downstream of the receiving water station, i.e. if a site is upstream of the receiving water station then the site column is listed first (MO-MPK, MO-SIM, MO-THO) and if a site is downstream of the receiving water station then the site column is listed second (MO-CAM).

Table 9-21. Comparison of MO-SIM and ME-CC Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Simi Valley-1 Major Outfall (MO-SIM)	Receiving Water (ME-CC)	WQO (BPO or CTRO)	
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	<b>2,382</b>	<b>1,951</b>	235	BPO
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	550	1,300	850	BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>				
Total Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	NS	0.25 (DNQ)	0.1	BPO
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>				
Chloride (mg/L)	100	170	150	BPO
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – April 28-29, 2021</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	150	270	235	BPO
Chloride (mg/L)	<b>200</b>	<b>190</b>	150	BPO

NS: Not sampled. Total chlorine residual is not typically analyzed at the major outfalls.  
 [Note: *E. coli* unable to be analyzed events 2020/21-2 and 2020/21-3.]

Table 9-22. Comparison of MO-THO and ME-CC Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Thousand Oaks-1 Major Outfall (MO-THO)	Receiving Water (ME-CC)	WQO (BPO or CTRO)	
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	<b>6,867</b>	<b>1,951</b>	235	BPO
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)	530	1,300	850	BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>				
Total Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	NS	0.25 (DNQ)	0.1	BPO
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>				
Chloride (mg/L)	<b>230</b>	<b>170</b>	150	BPO
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – April 28-29, 2021</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	110	270	235	BPO
Chloride (mg/L)	<b>230</b>	<b>190</b>	150	BPO

NS: Not sampled. Total chlorine residual is not typically analyzed at the major outfalls.  
 [Note: *E. coli* unable to be analyzed events 2020/21-2 and 2020/21-3.]



Table 9-23. Comparison of MO-CAM and ME-CC Relative to Water Quality Standards

Constituent (Unit)	Receiving Water <sup>a</sup> (ME-CC)	Camarillo-1 Major Outfall (MO-CAM)	WQO (BPO or CTRO)	
<b>2020/21-1 (Wet) – December 28, 2020</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	<b>1,951</b>	<b>1,989</b>	235	BPO
Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L) <sup>b</sup>	1,300	190	850	BPO
<b>2020/21-2 (Wet) – January 28-29, 2021</b>				
Total Chlorine Residual (mg/L)	0.25 (DNQ)	NS	0.1	BPO
<b>2020/21-3 (Wet) – March 10, 2021</b>				
Chloride (mg/L) <sup>b</sup>	170	18	150	BPO
<b>2020/21-4 (Dry) – April 28-29, 2021</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> (MPN/100 mL)	<b>270</b>	<b>1,600</b>	235	BPO
Chloride (mg/L) <sup>b</sup>	<b>190</b>	<b>180</b>	150	BPO

NS: Not sampled. Total chlorine residual is not typically analyzed at the major outfalls.

[Note: *E. coli* unable to be analyzed events 2020/21-2 and 2020/21-3.]

<sup>a</sup> Water quality monitoring data collected at ME-CC were used in the receiving water “cause or contribute” evaluation as downstream surrogate data to represent the water quality in Calleguas Creek at a compliance point below the confluence of Revolon Slough and Calleguas Creek. The MO-CAM station is tributary to Revolon Slough. The site column is listed after the receiving water column to represent this difference.

<sup>b</sup> Site-specific BPO for reach of Calleguas Creek where ME-CC is located. There are no waterbody specific WQO below the confluence of Revolon Slough and Calleguas Creek (the reach to which MO-CAM discharges). Therefore, the level of chloride and total dissolved solids at MO-CAM are not flagged as elevated in Table 9-13 but are included here because they are above the BPO for ME-CC.

### 9.8.6 Coastal Watershed

Urban stormwater runoff and urban non-stormwater flows were evaluated at one major outfall station that does not have an associated mass emission station located within the watershed. The MO-HUE station is in Port Hueneme and discharges to tšumaš (chumash) creek (formerly named J Street Drain) just upstream of where the drain enters Ormond Beach lagoon. Elevated levels seen at MO-HUE are listed in Table 9-13 and not in a separate table as there is not a mass emission station nearby to which comparisons would be relevant. Backwater effects from Ormond Lagoon preclude the installation of a mass emission station for this watershed.

### 9.8.7 Discussion of Results above Water Quality Standards

Three wet events were sampled for all sites. All sites were able to be sampled during the same wet events (events 1, 2, and 3), allowing representative evaluations of the “cause or contribute” status of pollutants for each mass emission station and its associated major outfalls.

One dry event was able to be sampled at all sites except for MO-MEI, MO-SPA, MO-OXN, and MO-VEN, which were dry. MO-MPK dried out during sampling resulting in insufficient water present for grab sample collection.

The occurrence of elevated levels varied by site, constituent, and event type (wet or dry) and is summarized below. [Note that Table 9-24 does not include magnitude of exceedance.]

Table 9-24. 2020/21 Occurrences of Elevated Levels by Constituent and Site in Wet and Dry Weather

Watershed	Calleguas					Santa Clara					Ventura			-
	ME-CC	MO-CAM	MO-MPK	MO-SIM	MO-THO	ME-SCR	MO-FIL	MO-OXN	MO-SPA	MO-VEN	ME-VR2	MO-OJA**	MO-MEI	MO-HUE
<i>E. coli</i>	1W * 1D	1W * 1D	1W * -D	1W *	1W *	1W *	1W * 1D	1W * -D	1W * -D	1W * -D	1W *	1W * 1D	1W * -D	1W * 1D
pH		1D	-D					-D	-D	-D			-D	
Dissolved Oxygen			-D					-D	-D	-D			-D	1D
Total Chlorine Residual	1W							-D	-D	-D			-D	
Chloride	1W 1D		1D	1D	1W 1D	1W		-D	-D	-D		1D	-D	
Total Dissolved Solids	1W		1D	1W 1D	1W 1D	1D		-D	-D	-D		1D	-D	
Total Cyanide								-D	-D	-D			-D	1W
Aluminum, total, MUN only												3W	3W -D	
Selenium, total				1D			1D	-D	-D	-D		1D	-D	
Nitrate + Nitrite as N			2W			1W		-D	-D	-D			-D	
Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate								-D	-D	-D		1W	-D	
Pentachlorophenol								-D	-D	-D		2W ^	3W -D	
Benzo(a)pyrene								-D	-D	-D		2W ^	-D	

“W” indicates number of wet weather occurrences

“D” indicates number of dry weather occurrences

“- D” Not sampled during dry weather

\* Only 1 wet event for *E. coli* because laboratory was unable to accept samples due to COVID-19 issues during Event 2 and 3.

^ Not by primary method. The primary method was ND but the primary method MDL was above the BPO so insufficiently sensitive to detect constituent at BPO concentration.

The Program is using this information to identify pollutants of concern and direct efforts to reduce their discharge from the storm drain system. Actions such as studies or the purchasing of new equipment that each permittee has taken or is committing to take to address pollutants found at elevated levels in their outfalls are detailed in Section 9.8.8.

### Pathogen Indicators

Urban runoff concentrations of *E. coli* bacteria in wet weather were only able to be analyzed during Event 1 but were detected above the BPO in all samples. These indicator bacteria are routinely measured at concentrations above WQS during wet weather events. For dry weather monitoring, one mass emission site and four of six sampled major outfall sites exceeded the *E. coli* WQO during Event 4.

Heal the Bay's 2020/21 Annual Beach Report Card (BRC) assigns beaches a grade on an A to F scale, with higher grades representing lower risk of illness for beachgoers. 98% of Ventura County Beaches earned an A grade for summer dry weather and the BRC stated, "We are heartened that Ventura County sets such a high bar for summer water quality." Wet weather grades were "great and above average", with 92% receiving an A grade. Winter dry weather grades were "also very good" with 92% of sites receiving A grades. Seven Ventura County beaches made the honor roll (A+ for all seasons and weather conditions year-round).

Bacteriological contamination is a common occurrence throughout California and the United States. However, several issues make compliance with existing standards challenging:

- The WQS are based on fecal indicator bacteria, not the actual pathogenic micro-organisms that can cause illness. As a result, it is difficult to ascertain whether a water concentration of indicator bacteria is associated with an increased risk of human illness. This complicates establishment of priority watersheds or drainage areas and introduces considerable risk of spending significant resources to comply with bacteria standards but with little to no benefit to recreational beneficial uses.
- Urban (anthropogenic) sources, wildlife, bacterial regrowth and other non-urban sources all potentially contribute fecal indicator bacteria to outfalls and receiving waters. However, identifying the sources of bacteria impairment through sanitary surveys and source identification studies are costly and not always conclusive, as the science is still evolving.
- Even if likely dominant sources of fecal indicator bacteria can be identified, remediation or control of these sources is often difficult, e.g. high volumes of stormwater runoff, bacterial regrowth, and wildlife. There are only a limited number of BMPs that can effectively control fecal indicator bacteria pollution to meet these objectives, and they may not always be technically feasible at a given location.

### ***Implementation of bacteria control strategies and BMPs***

The Program has control strategies in place that directly address indicator bacteria concentrations in urban runoff. The existing Program includes a comprehensive residential public outreach program that uses radio, newspaper, online banners, outdoor bulletins, and transit shelters to educate the public about preventing animal waste from entering storm drains. The pollutant outreach campaign was expanded in 2009 to include the mailing of a brochure to horse owners, equestrian supply stores, and horse property owners. The brochure identified BMPs that horse owners should take to reduce bacteria in stormwater runoff. Section 3 - Public Outreach describes in detail the outreach conducted during the 2020/21 year. The Permittees also install dispensers for pet waste pickup bags at beaches, parks and trail heads. It is estimated that over 2 million pet waste bags are given out each year and there are now close to 400 pet waste bag dispensers throughout the County encouraging pet owners to pick up after their pets.

The efforts of the Illicit Discharges/Illicit Connections Program likely help to reduce bacteria in stormwater runoff by identifying and stopping illicit wastewater discharges. As indicator bacteria may also grow in natural environments and sediments, measures to prevent sediment transport may also help reduce bacteria in stormwater runoff. Steps to remove sediment from the storm drain system include street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, and maintenance of debris basins and publicly owned BMPs. Industrial and commercial inspections, construction inspection, and illicit discharge response and elimination therefore also represent significant efforts towards reducing the discharge of fecal indicator bacteria. These are covered in Section 4 - Industrial/Commercial Facilities Programs, Section 6 - Development Construction, Section 7 - Public Agency Activities, and Section 8 - Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges Elimination. Some Permittees have conducted field efforts to track bacteriological contamination detected at the major outfalls. General conclusions were that the data evaluation did not indicate specific identifiable sources because elevated concentrations were determined throughout the tested subwatershed areas (Section 8).

In addition to the municipal stormwater program, bacteria are being addressed through TMDL programs in Malibu Creek, Miscellaneous Ventura Coastal Watersheds (Hobie and Kiddie Beaches), and Santa Clara River. Various reaches of Calleguas Creek and Ventura River are also listed on the Section 303(d) list due to indicator bacteria impairment. The Malibu Creek and Ventura Coastal beaches Bacteria TMDLs have been in effect since January 24, 2006 and December 18, 2008, respectively. Implementation Plans for both dry-weather and wet-weather were prepared and submitted for both TMDLs and compliance monitoring has been conducted at Malibu Creek and Ventura Coastal beaches since 2007 and 2009, respectively. The Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDL went into effect on March 21, 2012 and a comprehensive in-stream bacteria water quality monitoring plan and TMDL implementation plan were developed by the responsible parties according to the TMDL schedule. Receiving water and outfall monitoring began in October 2016 and September 2018, respectively, and continue in accordance with the approved monitoring plan. Several BMPs implemented in Calleguas Creek and Ventura River watersheds to meet compliance with other TMDLs also address bacteriological impairment such as prohibition of illicit discharges and implementation of LID/Green Street retrofits. The Calleguas Creek TMDL MOA group developed a draft Bacteria Work Plan to address this problematic pollutant in the Calleguas Creek Watershed.

Developing control measures to reduce observed bacteria concentrations to meet WQS is challenging. Treatment measures to address bacteria are likely to be costly and difficult to implement (especially with respect to the infrequent and short-term but high-volume events that compose stormwater runoff). As a result, implementing measures that will result in compliance with the existing WQS at all times will be extremely difficult. Consequently, the tasks in the Calleguas Creek Draft Bacteria Work Plan are designed to address these complexities to the greatest extent possible and provide mechanisms for protecting the identified beneficial uses in the watershed as is feasible. The strategy outlined in the draft work plan will assess the beneficial uses and risks to human health from bacteria and use that information to develop a TMDL to address bacteriological impairments. In the near-term an educational program focusing on the requirements of local domestic animal waste ordinances and the effects of domestic animal waste on the watershed is being considered. Like the metals TMDL, it is expected that the results from the bacteria TMDL will assist the municipal stormwater program in addressing this problematic pollutant because the successful efforts in Calleguas Creek can be applied throughout the County to address indicator bacteria.

The SMP collected samples for host-specific DNA marker analysis to identify bacteria sources (e.g. humans, dogs, birds) in the 2013/14 – 2015/16 permit years. Knowing which bacteria sources are responsible for high levels of indicator bacteria would assist in the selection of BMPs better suited to control a particular bacteria source. The goal of the county-wide fecal indicator bacteria source identification study was to assess county-wide dry and wet weather sources of fecal pollution in receiving waters, MS4 and control sites, to provide a regional assessment framework, inform future local studies and BMP implementation efforts.

The SMP conducted a dry weather study in 2014 to quantify *E. coli* and look for host-specific DNA markers (human, dog, and bird) in storm drains and outfalls across the County. A hybrid sampling design with probabilistic and targeted stations was developed, with assistance from SCCWRP, and 22 outfall samples, 45 random MS4 samples and 6 random control samples were collected and analyzed. All 73 samples were negative for the sensitive human marker HF 183. Dog markers were only detected in 11% of the samples, and bird in 37% of the samples. None of the three markers were detected in 60% of the samples and the detection proved independent of *E. coli* concentrations. The dominant source of *E. coli* remains unclear.

The SMP collected wet weather samples from major outfalls and mass emission stations during 2014-2016 for DNA marker analysis. A subsample of the wet-weather major outfall samples was sent to Weston Laboratories in 2016 for human, dog, and bird DNA marker analysis. Dog and bird markers were detected in all samples, and the human marker was detected in quantifiable amounts in 12 of 40 samples. The mass emission station samples were analyzed as part of the Bight '13 Microbiology study for the human DNA marker HF 183.

The Bight '13 Microbiology study for human DNA markers included wet and dry weather samples. The wet weather samples were collected at the mass emission stations and the dry weather samples were collected from the same

receiving waters but lower in the watershed than the mass emission stations. The SMP collaborated with SCCWRP to transfer technology of qPCR-based analysis of host-specific DNA markers to the Ventura County Public Health Laboratory, which then performed the analyses and submitted the data to SCCWRP for analysis. For dry weather, HF 183 was found in quantifiable amounts in 11 of 49 samples. For wet weather, the number of samples was low for drawing conclusions; however ME-SCR and ME-VR2 were near the middle of the field in the Bight '13 region for detections/amplifications, but ME-CC had a higher percentage of samples that amplified and a very high maximum sample (5 log is equivalent to ~10 % sewage) which indicates a likely human fecal source (or at least for HF183 marker) upstream of ME-CC. Preliminary studies have shown that advanced treatment of wastewater can result in varying levels of marker/pathogen in the treated effluent from day to day and there are two wastewater treatment plants that discharge tertiary treated effluent in this watershed.

These complex issues related to bacteriological contamination and impairment of beneficial uses have been considered and still need to be discussed among the regulators, regulated communities, and environmental groups with a goal to identify cost-effective water quality protective solutions.

## **Aluminum**

The BPO for total aluminum (1,000 µg/L) is a Title 22 Primary MCL standard which is only applicable to MUN designated reaches. MO-OJA and MO-MEI are the only two of the fourteen sites that are in reaches designated as MUN. Elevated levels of aluminum were seen at both sites during wet weather monitoring but MO-OJA was below the objective and MO-MEI was dry during the dry weather monitoring.

Since the SMP began monitoring for aluminum in 2004, it has frequently observed levels above 1,000 µg/L at all SMP monitoring sites (receiving water and land use). Aluminum is a ubiquitous natural element in sediments throughout Ventura County geology. These sediments are mobilized during stormwater runoff events from urban, agriculture, and natural sources resulting in concentrations of aluminum above the BPO for MUN designated reaches (BPO-MUN). This is clearly shown by the wet weather concentrations of the metal measured in all three watersheds monitored by the SMP. Dry weather aluminum concentrations above WQS have not been observed at MO-OJA or MO-MEI.

To investigate the high concentrations of total aluminum identified in urban runoff and surface waters in Ventura County, primarily during storm events, the SMP conducted a historical data evaluation, and initiated new monitoring during the 2013/14 monitoring season. The findings are summarized below while the full aluminum data evaluation report can be found in the appendices of the 2013/14 Annual Report.

The majority (74.2 percent) of all wet weather water quality samples collected by the SMP for the aluminum study exceeded the BPO-MUN for total aluminum of 1,000 µg/L (this standard only applies to the reaches to which MO-MEI and MO-OJA discharge). However, all wet weather samples collected upstream of anthropogenic activities also exceeded the objective. In comparison, concentrations of total aluminum in dry weather samples appear to be a much smaller issue, since dry weather samples have always been below the BPO-MUN at MO-MEI and MO-OJA.

Required to protect MUN beneficial uses of receiving waters, the SMP investigated the geospatial and seasonal trends in aluminum concentrations measured in the Ventura River, Santa Clara River, and Calleguas Creek watersheds. A better understanding of the major sources and factors contributing to elevated aluminum concentrations is needed to identify potential solutions. As aluminum occurs naturally in soils and sediments and is the most abundant metal in the earth's crust it is suspected that naturally occurring aluminum is the primary source, and sampling was designed to confirm this hypothesis.

Data evaluation for total aluminum included surface water quality samples and soil samples. Data sources include the Ventura Countywide SMP, Calleguas Creek Watershed Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Compliance

Monitoring Program (CCWTMP), Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP), Southern California Stormwater Monitoring Coalition, and the Southern California Bight Monitoring Program. Monitoring was also performed on river sediments and on wet weather flows from pristine upstream areas in the three watersheds and included in this analysis.

A summary of the main conclusions of this evaluation are provided below.

- Wet weather exceedance rates of the Title 22 Primary MCL were greater than 50% for eleven of the fourteen individual SMP monitoring sites. The three exceptions included the current mass emission station in the Ventura River Watershed, the City of Fillmore's major outfall, and the Port Hueneme major outfall.
- Average and median total aluminum concentrations measured in the Santa Clara River and Calleguas Creek watersheds were noticeably higher than those observed for the Ventura River watershed and the Port Hueneme major outfall that discharges to the Pacific Ocean.
- Agricultural discharges contribute higher levels of total aluminum to receiving waters than urban discharges (based on the CCCWTMP data set, which distinguished between runoff from different land use types).
- For dry weather monitoring, publicly owned treatment works (POTWs) contribute very little total aluminum to surface waters (also based on the CCCWTMP data set). During wet weather events, POTW discharges are not monitored.
- Within the Calleguas Creek Watershed, upstream agricultural land use discharges appear to appreciably influence surface water total aluminum concentrations measured downstream of such discharges within a subwatershed.
- Correlation analyses of total aluminum and total suspended solids (TSS), and total aluminum and flow:
  - Measured total aluminum and TSS concentrations were strongly correlated for both wet weather and combined dry and wet weather data.
  - Measured water column aluminum concentrations were more dependent on the amount of solids suspended in the water column than the flow transporting the aluminum and TSS (based on total aluminum concentrations at the mass emission sites correlating more strongly with TSS than with flow).
- Review of soils data in the three watersheds:
  - The total aluminum measured in water quality samples appears to be derived from the erosion of soil (based on the consistency between the average mass of total aluminum per mass of TSS in the water column and the range of total aluminum soil concentrations in Ventura County; and on the high correlation between total aluminum and TSS concentrations measured in SMP water quality samples).
- Data gaps in historical monitoring and additional monitoring:
  - Data gaps were identified for upstream portions of the three watersheds where sediment and runoff are little influenced by anthropogenic activities. Monitoring was initiated at new upstream locations in each of the three watersheds in December 2013 and February 2014 to help fill this gap.
  - Natural background sites were monitored for water (December 2013 and February 2014) and sediment (December 2013) and data showed that upstream locations in each of the three watersheds also possess elevated water column and sediment aluminum concentrations. Wet weather aluminum at these background sites was seen from 19,000 µg/L to 250,000 µg/L.
  - Limited stormwater runoff data collected from parking lots at the Ventura County Government Center in February and March 2014 also revealed elevated aluminum and TSS concentrations in half of the samples collected, even so these were much lower than the natural background with the highest concentration being only 2,100 µg/L.

The exceedingly high level of total aluminum detected in sediment and runoff from undeveloped areas suggests that wet weather aluminum will routinely exceed WQO regardless of Permittee efforts. A sound scientific and

regulatory approach to managing the elevated concentrations of aluminum observed in Ventura County surface waters will be needed to sufficiently protect beneficial uses potentially impacted by this naturally occurring metal.

## **Copper**

The CTRO for copper is calculated for each site using the water hardness at the applicable receiving water station, as that is where the objective applies. If the receiving water hardness is not available, then the water hardness at the site is used instead. Typically, the water hardness at the receiving water stations is higher than at the outfalls, which results in a higher CTRO.

There were no results above the CTRO for dissolved copper in the receiving water or major outfall station samples collected during the 2020/21 monitoring year.

Based on the “cause or contribute” methodology, copper from urban outfalls was not determined to persistently cause or contribute to WQS exceedances because results for copper were not observed above the CTRO in receiving waters (i.e., measured at the receiving water stations). There is no evidence to conclude that copper in urban runoff appreciably impacted receiving water beneficial uses during the 2020/21 monitoring season.

This conclusion does not mean these data will be ignored by the Program as it is actively addressing copper. Permittees supported the Brake Pad Partnership and Senate Bill (SB) 346 adopted September 27, 2010 – that authorized legislation to phase out the copper contained in vehicle brake pads. SB 346, authored by Senator Christine Kehoe (D-San Diego), requires brake pad manufacturers to reduce the use of copper in brake pads sold in California to no more than 5% by 2021 and no more than 0.5% by 2025. This true source control action will help significantly reduce copper in urban runoff. Several of the major outfall sites are next to freeways or railroad lines (MO-CAM, MO-OXN, MO-SPA, and MO-VEN) where copper-containing dust from vehicles and trains is continually produced and deposited; the SB346 legislation will help address this issue. In the future, similar legislation to address train brake pads may help to further reduce copper in runoff.

## **Other Metals**

Three sites (MO-SIM, MO-FIL, and MO-OJA) were above the total selenium dry weather CTRO during Event 4. Since there were no corresponding exceedances at their respective receiving water stations, these sites do not appear to have a cause or contribute relationship within their watersheds.

The exact sources of the metals are elusive. Sources of selenium include discharge from petroleum and metal refineries, erosion of natural deposits, and discharge from mines. Selenium is used in electronic and photocopier components, glass, pigments, rubber, metal alloys, textiles, petroleum, medical therapeutic agents, and photographic emulsions. Selenium is known to occur at elevated levels in Monterey Formation rocks (Miocene marine mudstone) which are common in Ventura County. The relative contributions of anthropogenic and natural sources to elevated selenium concentrations are not clear at this point.

## **Efforts to reduce metals in urban runoff**

Because total metal fractions are associated with sediment, the Program has several control measures and BMPs that address metals in general, and sediment specifically. These control measures include steps to remove sediment from the storm drain system through street sweeping, catch basin cleaning, debris basin maintenance and publicly owned BMPs. A thorough discussion of these programs is provided in Section 7 Public Agency Activities. Preventing sediments containing metals from entering the storm drain system is just as (if not more) important than removing them after they enter the storm drain system. Industrial and commercial inspections, construction inspection, and illicit discharge response and elimination, are significant efforts targeted at eliminating the discharge

of metals. These are covered respectively in Sections 4 Industrial/Commercial Facilities Programs, Section 6 Development Construction, and Section 8 Illicit Connections and Illicit Discharges Elimination.

In addition, the construction program element is structured to address sediment from construction sites and includes review of grading plans, requirements for sediment and erosion control BMPs, and field inspections to confirm BMP implementation. More recently the State Water Resources Control Board adopted WDR Order 2009-0009 DWQ (latest amendment 2012-0006-DWQ), the Construction General Permit, which covers all construction sites with greater than one acre of active land disturbance. The Construction General Permit incorporates a risk-based approach to address pollutants from construction sites including sediments and associated metals. The Construction General Permit includes rigorous site planning, numeric effluent and action limits, and minimum BMPs as a function of the site risk for discharging sediment. It is expected that the Construction General Permit will provide further control of sediment from construction sites within Ventura County.

Although the transport of metals is not usually through direct actions of the public, public education of stormwater pollution prevention can reduce the overall transport of pollutants including sediment and dry weather runoff both which if reduced would also reduce metals. Current efforts can be further tailored to address sources of metals such as promoting household hazardous waste collection events to dispose of mercury containing compact fluorescent light bulbs and thermometers. Other efforts include the Brake Pad Partnership and [Senate Bill \(SB\) 346](#), legislation that authorizes the phase out of copper from vehicle brake pads discussed above.

Beyond these efforts conducted under our municipal stormwater programs, certain metals (copper, nickel, selenium, and mercury) are being addressed under the various TMDL programs. These constituents have been identified as causing impairment in Calleguas Creek, its tributaries, and Mugu Lagoon. As a result, a Metals Work Plan has been developed by the Calleguas Creek TMDL MOA Parties and is currently being implemented. This multiple year plan provides the framework to (1) determine whether metals impairments still exist in the watershed, (2) develop site-specific objectives for copper and nickel, and (3) if necessary, identify the control measures needed to meet the TMDLs. It will be developed in two phases. A draft of Phase I of the implementation plan was issued in February 2015. The draft Phase I Implementation Plan conveys which pollutants are watershed priorities, the magnitude of reduction necessary to bring the priorities into compliance, where appropriate regulatory strategies may affect the WQO, the BMPs to control the discharge of the priorities, and a framework to develop scenarios of watershed controls. Phase I will provide the Stakeholders with the tools and a roadmap to develop scenarios of regulatory strategies, institutional controls and watershed actions. Phase II of the plan will integrate developed scenarios into the modeling framework to demonstrate that the proposed actions will result in receiving water compliance with standards. Between Phases I and II, the stakeholders will collaboratively develop the implementation scenarios. The complete implementation plan will be comprised of work products developed in Phases I and II. It is expected that the control measures identified under this effort will inform the efforts to address aluminum and mercury in the Calleguas Creek and Santa Clara River watersheds.

## **Organics and Pesticides**

The CTRO for organics and pesticides apply to all sites, although the dry weather Human Health objective may differ for MUN and non-MUN sites. BPO-MUN for pesticides and organics are only applicable to MUN designated reaches. MO-OJA and MO-MEI are the only two of the fourteen sites that are in reaches designated as MUN so they are the only sites to which the BPO-MUN apply.



Several organics/pesticides are measured by more than one analytical method, which often have different reporting limits (RL) and can yield significantly different results<sup>28</sup>. Prior to July 2019, the SMP considered the method with the lowest Reporting Limit (RL) as primary, based on the recommendation of the laboratory at the time. In reviewing this evaluation method and based on updated guidance from the analytical laboratory, the SMP determined that the method with the lowest RL may not be the most representative of the level of the constituent due to differences in the matrices for which the analytical methods are intended; and that in keeping with Section K.4(a) of Attachment F of the Permit, the 40 CFR 136 method should be considered the primary method. As of July 2019, the Program considers the 40 CFR 136 approved method to be primary. In some cases, the primary method is below the objective and the secondary method is not and vice versa. The SMP is reporting those results that were above the objective according to the primary (40 CFR 136 approved) method as elevated levels, but also includes non-primary method data for reference, when applicable.

For 2020/21, MO-MEI pentachlorophenol results were above the BPO-MUN of 1 µg/L by the primary method for two of three wet weather events<sup>29</sup>. MO-MEI was dry for the dry weather event. MO-OJA was above the BPO-MUN by a non-primary method for wet weather Events 2 and 3 but the primary method was ND, however the MDL was above the BPO due to dilution. Although some results were detected not quantifiable (DNQ), the method detection level (MDL) was close to or above the objective and therefore detections can be considered to be above the WQO. All pentachlorophenol results at their corresponding receiving water station ME-VR2 (non-MUN) were non-detects (except one non-primary method DNQ that was below the BPO-MUN), therefore there is not an established cause or contribute relationship. Pentachlorophenol is a manufactured chemical that is used industrially as a restricted use pesticide and wood preservative for railroad ties, utility poles, and wharf pilings. It is not available to the general public and its use has been restricted to certified applicators since 1984.

Elevated levels (by the non-primary method) of one polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbon (PAH) – benzo(a)pyrene, were seen above the BPO at MO-OJA during two wet weather events. The primary method results were ND but the MDL was well above the BPO, which would have prevented detection of BPO level concentrations. Benzo(a)pyrene does not have wet weather CTRO. Benzo(a)pyrene is a combustion byproduct that is produced by the incomplete combustion of organic matter and is primarily found in gasoline and diesel exhaust, cigarette smoke, coal tar and coal tar pitch, soot, petroleum asphalt, and certain foods, especially smoked and barbecued foods.

Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate levels were DNQ but above the BPO at MO-OJA by the primary method during wet weather Event 1. Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate is commonly added to plastics to make them flexible and is a common sampling and laboratory contaminant. This sample was analyzed at a 100x dilution, which could have introduced the contaminant into the sample.

## Salts

Concentrations above WQS for salts (chloride and/or total dissolved solids) at the stations monitored by the Program mainly occurred during dry weather (Event 4). This is in accordance with historical data from dry weather events, when flows are comprised of a larger groundwater component. Concentrations of salts were also elevated during wet weather at several sites in the Calleguas Creek Watershed. The Simi Valley area is known to have high ground

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<sup>28</sup> Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate results are obtained from two analytical methods used by the Program, EPA 525.2 and EPA 625.1. Pentachlorophenol results are obtained from three analytical methods used by the Program: EPA 515.4, EPA 625.1, and EPA 8270Cm. PAHs are measured by two to three analytical methods (depending on constituent) used by the Program, EPA 525.2, EPA 625.1, and EPA 8270C.

<sup>29</sup> Detected above the BPO during three events but only two were by the primary method. The primary method MDL was raised above the BPO due to dilution for the one ND result.

water levels with natural springs, seeps, and artesian conditions in the western part of Simi Valley. In addition, there is a Salt TMDL that is evaluating monitoring and implementing solutions throughout the Calleguas Creek watershed. More information on this is provided below.

Simultaneous high concentrations of salts occurred in dry weather during Event 4 in the Calleguas Creek Watershed at ME-CC, MO-MPK, MO-SIM, and MO-THO, so a cause or contribute relationship can be inferred for these sites in dry weather. Most of the elevated levels of salts in wet weather events at the outfalls in the Calleguas Creek Watershed did not occur during the same event as at ME-CC so a cause or contribute relationship was not apparent in wet weather, except for chloride at MO-THO and ME-CC during Event 3. In the Ventura River Watershed, MO-OJA exceeded salts WQO in dry weather Event 4 but its corresponding receiving water station (ME-VR2) did not exceed the Basin Plan site-specific objectives, therefore there is no cause or contribute relationship for salts in the Ventura River Watershed.

The Program is unable to evaluate if concentrations above salts WQO within the watershed are a persistent issue during any given monitoring season because the Program only samples one dry weather monitoring event for all stations. Additionally, the other dry weather event required to be monitored by the Program, the dry season event in August, represents grab sampling (as opposed to composite sampling), is only conducted at the major outfalls, and does not include a requirement to evaluate chloride and TDS. However, historic monitoring data collected during dry weather sampling events show regular elevated levels of chloride and total dissolved solids concentrations in the Calleguas Creek and Santa Clara River watersheds, therefore it can be concluded that the issue is a persistent one.

Boron, chloride, sulfate, and total dissolved solids (“salts”) are currently being addressed in the Calleguas Creek Watershed through the implementation of the Calleguas Creek Salts Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board in October 2007. The CCW Salts TMDL only applies during dry weather and applies to the receiving water, not at tributary outfalls. During the first three years of the TMDL implementation plan for the watershed, the primary implementation action was water conservation, a program all Permittees have. The goal of the TMDL is to bring the watershed into “salt balance” where the inputs of salts are equal to or less than the amount of salts exported out of the watershed during dry weather. Water conservation on the part of municipalities reduces the input side of the equation. The salts loading calculation is performed on an annual basis and wet weather exports are not considered in the analysis. Beyond water conservation, the proposed implementation plan does not include many options for MS4 dischargers. Most of the planned actions are construction of groundwater desalters and wastewater treatment plants reverse osmosis as these are considered to be the major source of the salts. Municipal stormwater actions to control salts are limited because most salts in runoff come from source water supplies. The primary course of action for municipalities is to reduce outdoor water use, thereby limiting the amount of runoff that may contain high salts from entering urban tributaries and receiving waters. Permittees have also taken steps to the prohibition of discharges from saltwater pools. Camarillo has conducted outreach to pool service companies and provided articles in their local newsletter to residents alerting them that they cannot discharge saltwater pools to the storm drain system. Camarillo is also in the process of completing construction of a desalter plant, which may be fully operational in early 2022. The cities of Thousand Oaks and Simi Valley also banned the discharge of saltwater pools to the storm drain system but will allow it to the wastewater system with a permit. Self-regenerating water softeners are a source of salts in the watershed, though not commonly to the storm drain system. Permittees have prohibited their use at commercial and industrial facilities, while education is provided to discourage their use by residents. These are all efforts that should assist with reducing salts in the watershed.

### **Other Constituents**

One major outfall site, MO-CAM, had a pH level slightly above the Basin Plan’s 8.5 standard unit upper limit in dry weather (Event 4). Elevated pH is commonly observed during dry weather in concrete lined channels, such as

the outfalls. The lack of exceedances for pH at the receiving water stations indicates that pH levels in urban runoff do not typically affect receiving water beneficial uses for this constituent.

Low levels of dissolved oxygen (DO) were seen in dry weather at MO-HUE during Event 4. MO-HUE does not have a corresponding receiving water station, so there is not a cause or contribute relationship. The low DO at MO-HUE is likely due to ponding and low flow conditions caused by the closed gates at the pump station.

An elevated level of total cyanide was measured in dry weather at MO-HUE during Event 2. MO-HUE does not have a corresponding receiving water station, so there is not a cause or contribute relationship. Cyanides have both man-made and natural sources. Common man-made sources include industrial processes, vehicle exhaust, biomass burning, and wastewater treatment facilities, Cyanide can also be produced by some bacteria, fungi, and algae, and is present in some foods and plants, including almonds, stone fruit pits, and spinach.

Total chlorine residual was above the objective during wet weather Event 2 at ME-CC. Total chlorine residual is only a Permit requirement for ME-CC and was not analyzed at the outfalls so a cause or contribute relationship is unknown but is unlikely as chlorine tends to break down during aeration and UV exposure, such as that which occurs during stormwater transport. The level of chlorine residual is unexpected, as the ME-CC sample is part of a composite that is representative of approximately fifteen million cubic feet of river water. A matrix interference may be occurring during sample analysis. Sources of chlorine can include municipal drinking water, chemical treatment facilities, food and paper industries, swimming pools, and irrigation.

Nitrate + nitrite as nitrogen was measured above the BPO at MO-MPK during Event 1 and 2 and at ME-SCR in Event 1, but not at their corresponding mass emission/major outfall stations, so no cause or contribute relationships are demonstrated. Elevated levels of nutrients above BPO have occasionally been recorded by the SMP, but currently nutrients in urban runoff are not determined to be likely to contribute to concentrations observed above WQS for nutrients in receiving waters.

#### **9.8.8 Individual Permittee Efforts on Pollutants Observed at Elevated Levels**

Individually, the Permittees have taken, or are committing to take specific actions such as studies or purchasing new equipment to address pollutants found in their outfalls that may be causing or contributing to an exceedance of a WQS or is seen at an elevated level in their outfall but not in the receiving water. These are detailed below.

## Camarillo

The City of Camarillo has a population of approximately 66,000 residents, and is an active participant in the Countywide Stormwater program and supports the actions that were discussed in the section above. In addition to the countywide discussion in the monitoring section of the annual report, please also refer to the “Public Outreach, Public Agency Activities, Construction, Planning and Land Development, Illicit Discharge, and Business Program” sections of the annual report for a list of actions Camarillo has taken and will continue to implement in the current year and future years to address elevated levels of bacteria, chlorides and other constituents that were found in our urban outfall monitoring station. One of the many methods that Camarillo uses to educate its residents on pollution prevention controls is through the publishing of articles in the Cityscene Newsletter, which is mailed to over 18,000 households. The following are a few highlights of actions taken by Camarillo:

**City of Camarillo**  
1611 Camino Verde # P.O. Box 324 • Camarillo, CA 93616-0324  
 Department of Public Works • 805-565-1639 • [mail:publicworks@cityofcamarillo.org](mailto:publicworks@cityofcamarillo.org)

**RE: Mobile Business – Stormwater Pollution Prevention Regulations**

I have filed an application with the City of Camarillo for a Business Tax Certificate for a mobile business and agree to the following conditions:

1. No wash water will be allowed to enter the storm drain system (which includes catch basins, curb & gutter, streets, ditches, streams, creeks or other waterways).
2. All drain inlets adjacent to the mobile activity shall be protected/bormed and all wash water will be collected or vacuumed up by the mobile business and will be properly disposed at a location approved by the city. Proposed disposal will occur at:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please list disposal location)
3. If mobile pet care, all pet waste will be properly disposed of (bagged and placed in trash receptacle).
4. If mobile food service, no discharge to the storm drain system shall occur from any of the operations (includes, but not limited to grease, wash water, trash, or food items). Business shall contact Camarillo Sanitary District for grease interceptor requirements.
5. No mobile business activities will be conducted within the city public right-of-way such as streets, parkways or sidewalks. However, cars, oversized vehicles such as recreational vehicles and boats may be washed on public streets in residential zones on an appointment basis only, unless the street is posted for no parking.
6. If required to do so, each mobile business must obtain a waste discharge permit from the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board.
7. Each mobile business must comply with all requirements of the Ventura County Municipal NPDES permit and requirements of the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Board.
8. Washing of hard surfaces, such as sidewalks, patios, driveways, parking lots and building structures is prohibited under the City's Water Conservation Ordinance unless for sanitary or safety hazards. All such permitted rinsing should be only done using high pressure, low volume (0.006 gallons per square foot of surface to be rinsed) washer with no additives added to the water. Any waste generated from the activity must be collected and properly and legally disposed of.
9. The mobile business will only use domestic potable water in operations. If a detergent must be used, it must be phosphate free and biodegradable. However, no wash-water, even if it contains biodegradable detergents, shall be discharged to storm drain. No engine degreasers or toxic wheel cleaners will be used.
10. The mobile business will allow the city to make reasonable inspections of their operations, and will notify Joe Chinery at 805-388-5384 or Anita Kuhlman at 805-312-2239 in the City's Stormwater Division of the scheduled locations that they will be operating at in Camarillo (please allow at least two hour's notification).

*Persons acknowledging/signing this form shall not be relieved from complying with all other provisions of the City codes or any other applicable law.*

Business Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_ Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Driver's License No. \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_  
NOTE: #2 above must be completed.

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**DON'T DUMP!**

**DRAINS TO CREEK**

**Mobile Detailers  
Pollution Prevention**

← THIS SIGN MEANS  
SOMETHING...

...There are rules that must be followed...

To Report Illegal Dumping Call City of Camarillo 388-5338

- No wash water shall be allowed to enter the storm drain system (which includes catch basins, curb & gutters, streets, ditches, streams, creeks or other waterways).
- Vacuum up any Remaining Wastewater. All wash water should be collected or vacuumed by the mobile business and properly disposed of.
- Pay Close Attention to the Amount and Type of Chemicals You Use. Never use engine degreasers or toxic wheel cleaners. These products usually contain petroleum based solvents and may be highly corrosive.
- If You Must Use a Detergent, make sure it is Phosphate Free and Biodegradable. It is a common misconception that a phosphate free, biodegradable detergent is completely safe for the environment. Any detergent can impact the environment. Many professional auto detailers do not use detergents.
- Use as Little Water as Possible. Limiting the amount of wash and rinse water reduces the possibility of wastewater runoff. Unpermitted wastewater discharges are prohibited by local ordinance. A positive shut-off nozzle must be attached to the hose when hand watering or when washing cars, trucks, boats, trailers, etc.
- Washing of hard surfaces, such as sidewalks, patios, driveways, tennis courts or parking lots, is prohibited.
- Don't let the Wash or Rinse Water Run Off the Site!
- Don't Wash in City Public Right-of-way. No mobile car washing or detailing activities will be conducted in areas such as streets, parkways, or sidewalks. However, oversized vehicles such as recreational vehicles and boats may be washed on public street as long as permission is obtained from the City of Camarillo, contact 312-2239.
- Mobile food service. No discharge to the storm drain system should occur from any of the operations (includes, but not limited to grease, wash water, trash, or food items). Business shall contact Camarillo Sanitary District for grease interceptor requirements.
- Mobile pet care. All pet waste should be properly disposed of (bagged and placed in trash receptacle).

Remember, anything that goes into the Storm Drain ends up in our creeks and ocean untreated and can be harmful to aquatic life. There are Federal, State, and City water quality control laws that hold us responsible for our actions. Make the right choice! Remember, you're the solution to Stormwater pollution. For more information, feel free to contact the Stormwater Coordinator at 383-5659 or 312-2239.

### Business tax conditions and handouts in English and Spanish to mobile detailers in Camarillo

**pH** - To address the slightly elevated level of pH in the dry event #4 at Camarillo’s Outfall station, MO-CAM, Camarillo continues to attach stormwater quality conditions to all business tax certificates for mobile detailers and provides the above fact sheet to mobile detailers. As stated earlier, the lack of exceedances for pH at the receiving water station in Calleguas Creek indicates that pH levels in the urban runoff did not typically affect receiving water beneficial uses for this parameter.

**Bacteria & Other Constituents** - Camarillo continues to educate its residents on pollution prevention controls via our local Cityscene Newsletter that is mailed to over 18,000 households, and through Facebook and Instagram posts. Camarillo also included a public outreach insert in the January-February 2021 utility bills, alerting its customers of

the importance of picking up after their pets. This public outreach effort assists with addressing the problems with bacteria, aluminum, chloride, copper, TDS and other constituents include information on how to control pet waste and construction debris such as sediment, proper use and application of pesticides and disposal of yard waste, proper disposal of swimming pool discharges, trash management, and proper maintenance of vehicles (please refer to the PIPP section of this report for a list of these articles).



Further, since several constituents may be attached to sediment, Camarillo has continued increased inspections of construction sites to quarterly for all private development projects with grading permits, and monthly at higher risk private developments as well as all City capital improvement program projects. This increased inspection level should help to ensure sediment and erosion controls are being properly applied. Further, Camarillo’s stormwater program manager became a certified QSD with the underlying certification of CPSWQ to assist with insuring proper controls are being applied at construction sites. The stormwater program manager is also a certified CPMSM and QSP with the underlying certification of CESSWI. Also, Camarillo continued to notify its residents of the importance of preventing soil erosion from their properties during the wet season through a November/December 2020 Cityscene article “Wet Weather Preparedness”.

## Wet Weather Preparedness

The best preparation for possible flooding is to plan ahead: Assemble an emergency supply kit; register your phone number at [www.vcalert.org](http://www.vcalert.org) so you can receive emergency messages; clear debris from roof gutters, downspouts and drains so water can flow properly; apply erosion controls to bare slopes and barriers around the perimeter of property to prevent loose wood chips, mulch, dirt or debris from flowing off your yard into the adjacent gutter and clogging downstream storm drains; check your roof for leaks or damage, paying special attention to areas where separation could occur, such as around the chimney; and have a supply of sandbags and other flood prevention materials such as plastic sheeting, plywood and tarps. Your local fire station has sandbags available for the public. For a list of fire stations and/or local vendors where you can purchase sandbags as well as obtain more emergency preparedness information visit [www.readyventuracounty.org](http://www.readyventuracounty.org). Additionally, the City maintains its drainage facilities, which includes inspecting and cleaning city-maintained ditches and over 1,500 storm drain inlets. To report a clogged storm drain in Camarillo, please call the Public Works Department at (805) 388-5338.

In October 2012 with assistance from District staff, additional dry weather monitoring of bacteria was conducted; however, there were no standout contributors to the higher levels of bacteria found at the urban outfall station. Camarillo completed the permit required illicit screening of outfalls in 2012. However, to address the higher level of pH detected in the countywide dry weather monitoring in 2017, Camarillo staff conducted further dry weather screening of the channel upstream of our urban outfall monitoring station. The results of the screening did not locate any illegal discharges and no discharges were coming from any of the outfalls upstream of the monitoring station. Camarillo will continue to screen this channel during dry weather runoff in the current permit year.

**Chlorides/Salts/Chlorine** – Although chloride levels were slightly elevated in the dry weather Event #5 MO-CAM sample, there is no waterbody specific WQO below the confluence of Revolon Slough and Calleguas Creek (the reach to which MO-CAM discharges), therefore, there is not a cause or contribute relationship. As discussed in Section 1.87, boron, chloride, sulfate, and total dissolved solids (“salts”) are currently being addressed in the Calleguas Creek Watershed through the implementation of the Calleguas Creek Salts Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL), adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board in October 2007. The primary implementation action was water conservation, which Camarillo has embraced fully (see section below). Beyond water conservation, the proposed implementation plan does not include many options for MS4 dischargers. Most of the planned actions are construction of groundwater desalters and wastewater treatment plants reverse osmosis as these are considered to be the major source of the salts. The City of Camarillo is nearing the completion of a desalter plant and is hopeful that it will be fully operational in early 2022. Municipal stormwater actions to control salts are limited because most salts in runoff come from source water supplies. The primary course of action for municipalities is to reduce outdoor water use, thereby limiting the amount of runoff that may contain high salts from entering urban tributaries and receiving waters. Camarillo continues to conduct public outreach including a July/August 2020 Cityscene article mailed to approximately 18,000 households on swimming pool discharges (see below). Camarillo continues to require its residents to notify the City before discharging swimming pool water, which allows the City to educate the discharger on the regulations and proper disposal, such as sampling chlorine and pH levels and ensuring the path of discharge is free of any debris that could wash into the storm drain system. Camarillo also continues to distribute information to new pool and spa owners alerting them to the prohibition of salt water pool discharges and proper maintenance of swimming pools. In addition, conditions are applied on all new development and redevelopment projects prohibiting waters from salt-chemistry pools or spas, filter waste and acid-wash or other cleaning waste water from discharging to the storm drain system and outlining requirements for fresh-water swimming pool discharges.

### Think Before You Drain!

The summer sun may call you to swim, but be careful how you care for your pool. The City of Camarillo has a reminder for those who own or maintain a swimming pool; please be aware of proper pool maintenance and regulations because pool water contains pollutants that could end up in our waterways and, if not drained correctly, harming our creeks and ocean.

· Properly maintained pools should require draining no more than once every ten years.

· It is illegal to discharge the water from salt-water chemistry pools into the storm drain or sewer systems. This water must be hauled to an ocean-discharging disposal facility.

· Prior to draining a fresh water pool, ensure water is clean of algae, mosquitoes, leaves and debris, and reduce the chlorine level to .1 ppm and pH to 7-8. Clean the drainage path (curb/gutter/street) to remove any debris that may wash out to the storm drain with the pool water.

· Pool filter backwash (diatomaceous earth) should never be washed into the street, gutter or storm drain system; bag it wet and dispose of it in your trash receptacle.

· Follow the directions before using any pool chemical.

**Before draining your swimming pool, please notify the City of Camarillo at 805-383-5659 or 805-388-5373.**

**Water Conservation/Decreased Dry Weather Runoff.** Further, due to the City’s stringent water conservation ordinance, dry weather runoff has been significantly reduced. In accordance with the Statewide Drinking Water Systems Discharge Permit WDR 4DW0718, the City continued implementing the following requirements in the 2020/21 permit year:

- a. Established and implemented BMPs, including the capture of potable water discharges with sulfate concentrations above 250 mg/l and sent discharges to the sewer system.
- b. Ensured that all planned potable water discharges complied with the applicable effluent limitations for chlorine residual and turbidity.
- c. Conducted monitoring and reporting in compliance with the provisions of the permit and maintained self-monitoring reports.
- d. Responded to 6 water conservation violations and issued 1,600 warnings, which is less than last year.

**Calleguas Creek TMDL Compliance.** In addition to the above actions, Camarillo is an active participant in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Program (CCWMP). Please refer to the Calleguas Creek Watershed TMDL Monitoring Program Annual Report for the period of July 2020 to June 2021, which was sent to Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board staff. This report provides details on compliance with the TMDLs in which Camarillo is listed as a responsible party. At this point, the majority of special studies identified in the TMDLs have been completed and almost eleven years of TMDL monitoring data are available for analysis. Recommended actions under consideration include increasing outreach and education to property owners with sediment discharges, coordination with RWQCB on agricultural parcels that may drain into the MS4, and outreach to pest control operators that may still use chlorpyrifos for urban pest control. As mentioned earlier, Camarillo has also increased construction site inspection frequency and may increase inspection/outreach for any commercial agricultural operations covered by the MS4 permit that could contribute chlorpyrifos. Further, the Calleguas Creek stakeholders initiated development of an implementation plan to identify the additional actions necessary to meet the remaining TMDL requirements and 303(d) listings. The draft implementation plan outlines the steps Stakeholders will take to address the remaining water quality issues in the Calleguas Creek Watershed. It is being developed in two phases. Phase I of the implementation plan was issued in February 2015. The Phase I Implementation Plan conveys which pollutants are watershed priorities, the magnitude of reduction necessary to bring the priorities into compliance, where appropriate regulatory strategies may affect the water quality objectives, the BMPs to control the discharge of the priorities, and a framework to develop scenarios of watershed controls. Phase I will provide the Stakeholders with the tools and a roadmap to develop scenarios of regulatory strategies, institutional controls and watershed actions. A draft of Phase II of the plan was released in September 2016 which integrates developed scenarios into the modeling framework to demonstrate that the proposed actions will result in receiving water compliance with standards. Between Phases I and II, the stakeholders will collaboratively develop the implementation scenarios which may be incorporated into future potential watershed management plans required under the future municipal stormwater permit.

**Revolon Slough/Beardsley Wash Trash TMDL Compliance.** For compliance information for this TMDL, refer to the 2020/2021 Annual Report for the Revolon Slough and Beardsley Wash (RSBW) Trash TMDL, which will be submitted to Los Angeles Regional Board staff in December 2021. This report provides monitoring results and Camarillo’s compliance strategies being implemented and proposed for future years.

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board revised the RSBW Trash TMDL on June 14, 2017, modifying compliance to align with the Statewide Trash Amendments. The revised RSBW Trash TMDL became effective on May 6, 2020. As required by the revised RSBW Trash TMDL an updated TMRP – Addendum No. 2 was submitted to the Regional Board staff in August 2020. As outlined in the TMRP, the City will continue to comply with the point source requirements via the MFAC/BMP program which consists of quarterly inspection and

cleanout as needed of all MS4 drain inlets (priority and non-priority sources) until we have completed the installation of full capture devices in all conveyances draining priority land uses that discharge to RSBW subwatershed, in accordance with the revised Trash TMDL. The City will also continue to implement the suite of BMPs detailed in both addendums of the TMRP.

In 2020/21 the City removed 76,450 gallons of trash, therefore, the City is in compliance with the 100 percent reduction from the baseline WLA of 2,738 gallons of trash in the RSBW subwatershed, as well as addressing trash within the other subwatersheds in the City. Further, the City continued the MFAC/BMP compliance quarterly inspections. During quarterly inspections for the 2020/21 monitoring year, 165 nonpriority catch basins had to be cleaned more than once (total of 486 cleanings), which equates to approximately 38 percent of the total 447 nonpriority catch basins within the RSBW subwatershed not addressed by full capture systems. The remaining 271 nonpriority catch basins without full capture trash devices were cleaned one or fewer times due to non-trash accumulation. Of the 165 catch basins cleaned more than once (total of 486 cleanings), 2 were a Category 3 level (100+ pieces of trash), 104 were found to be Category 2 (10+ pieces of trash) and 322 were found to be in Category 1 (<10 pieces of trash) and 58 were Category 0 (no trash). Camarillo will continue to assess whether additional trash BMPs are needed to address these catch basins. However, based on the fact that most of the catch basins within the subwatershed were a Category 1 or less (indicating that trash is not accumulating in deleterious amounts) and the amount of trash being removed by the existing BMPs is sufficient to meet the WLA, it appears that additional BMPs in these nonpriority catch basins may not be needed.

Further, the City has installed 208 full capture trash devices citywide, of which 127 are within the RSBW subwatershed. The City has also installed 15 trash excluders citywide, which includes 3 within the RSBW subwatershed, and will continue installation of full capture trash devices in the remaining high priority land use area catch basins in future years in conjunction with the MFAC/BMP program described above. We are confident that the current trash control measures implemented by the City as well as the point source MFAC/BMP program are meeting the required 100 percent reduction from the baseline WLA.



Full Capture Device Cleanout

Additional measures that Camarillo will initiate in 2021/22 to address trash include the following:

In July 2021, Camarillo started weekly curbside collection of all three refuse containers: trash, recycling, and yard waste. Previously, Camarillo's trash and yard waste containers were collected curbside on a weekly basis, while recycle containers were serviced bi-weekly. There has been a notable increase in cardboard due to deliveries during the pandemic, which has contributed to the push in this direction because recycle carts appear to fill up before the scheduled pickup day. Weekly service replaced the alternate-week recycling service that has been standard in Camarillo the past few years.

The City of Camarillo also approved an ordinance banning Styrofoam™ food packaging. Effective January 1, 2022, Camarillo will prohibit the use of expanded polystyrene food and beverage containers, furthering the City's goal of minimizing impacts on the environment.



Outreach via the following Camarillo Cityscene Newsletter of May/June 2021, which was mailed to over 18,000 households, as well as City of Camarillo Instagram posts continue to address trash and keeping our waterways beautiful:



9 likes

cityofcamarillogov Public littering is not only unsightly, it is costly to all of us who must pay someone to pick up the mess left behind. It can also be costly to you if you are caught littering, as public littering is against the law. Please be considerate of others and discard your trash and pet waste in a trash can where it will be picked up by the trash hauler and disposed of properly. Thank you for helping to keep Camarillo clean and beautiful!

### Your Yard, Your Watershed... Your Actions Matter!

When it comes to landscaping and gardening, it is important to keep our environment in mind. Below are several practices that will help you do just that.

**Plant Selection:** It's important to select pest-resistant and drought-resistant native plants so the need for pesticides, fertilizers and water could be minimized.

For a list of recommended plants to incorporate in your landscaping, visit the City of Camarillo's Water-Wise Gardening website, [www.camarillogardening.com](http://www.camarillogardening.com).

**Fertilizers & Pesticides:** Using pesticides or fertilizers correctly is essential to keeping the watershed free of pollutants. Apply only as needed and as directed on the label, and always store under cover – out of the rain! Avoid using pesticides or fertilizers around water, drains or bare ground. Also, if rain is in the forecast within 24 hours, hold off on using them.

**Integrated Pest Management (IPM):** As an eco-friendly approach to effective pest management, the goal of IPM is to use less-toxic methods that result in using less pesticides. For example, a pest problem can be handled by incorporating beneficial insects, such as lady bugs, into your garden. Get more info about IPM at [ipm.ucdavis.edu](http://ipm.ucdavis.edu).

**Maintenance:** Clear, remove, and recycle yard debris and place them in your yard waste bin or compost bin. If organic waste ends up in a storm drain, it can create flooding and pollute the watershed! For more info, call Camarillo's Stormwater Program Manager at 805-388-5391 or visit [cleanwatershed.org](http://cleanwatershed.org).



### If It's On The Ground, It's In Our Watershed

#### Time it Takes for Litter to Decompose in the Environment

Glass bottle	1 million years
Fishing line	600 years
Plastic beverage bottles	450 years
Disposable diapers	450 years
Aluminum can	80-200 years
Foamed plastic buoy	80 years
Rubber boot sole	50-90 years
Foamed plastic cup	50 years
Tin can	50 years
Leather	50 years
Nylon fabric	30-40 years
Plastic film canister	20-30 years
Plastic bag	10-20 years
Cigarette filter	1-5 years
Wool sock	1-5 years
Plywood	1-3 years
Waxed milk carton	3 months
Apple core	2 months
Newspaper	6 weeks
Orange & banana peels	2-5 weeks
Paper towel	2-4 weeks

Source: Windows on our Waters & Pocket Guide to Marine Debris, The Ocean Conservancy © 2003

The City of Camarillo requests your help in keeping Camarillo and its creeks beautiful. Not only is trash unsightly, but it can also clog our storm drain lines and contribute to flooding on public and private property. Most trash does not decompose for years in the environment, as is shown in this table.

Cigarettes constitute a large portion of trash found in our neighborhoods and surrounding ecosystems. Though small, they have a large impact on the health and beauty of the environment. Cigarette waste contains toxic chemicals that stay present in the environment for many years. Cigarette butts and other trash that are not properly disposed of will eventually travel by stormwater runoff through drains and will pollute our creeks and ocean, which may harm aquatic life.

To keep Camarillo beautiful, properly dispose of trash and cigarette butts in designated waste receptacles. A clean and healthy watershed is a beautiful watershed, which is why it is important to prevent litter from entering our storm drains and waterways. For more information on how you can help keep our waterways clean, call the City's Stormwater Program Manager at 805-388-5391, or visit [cleanwatershed.org](http://cleanwatershed.org).

In addition, to address the PPE trash that may be deposited in Camarillo's storm drain and/or sewer system during the recent pandemic, Camarillo published articles in its Cityscene Newsletter such as this one shown below.

## Wipes Clog Pipes - Please Don't Flush!



The Camarillo Sanitary District reminds you to place flushable wipes in the trash, not the toilet. Flushing them down the toilet causes blockages and other problems in your sewer system and the City's treatment plant. As a result of the COVID-19 pandemic and more people staying at home, the use of wipes has increased, becoming a problem for the sewer system. Wipes have been observed across the country as a problem. Now that the product is increasingly being used, the Sanitary District is seeing an increase in the improper disposal of this product along with improperly disposed of hygiene products, fats, oils and grease, disposable gloves and facemasks. Remember to always keep these products out of the sewer system and never put anything down the drain that is not intended for disposal through this system.

The Sanitary District treats regular sanitation that can be broken down through our treatment processes. Plastics, wipes, fats, oils and grease along with many non disposable chemicals should never be put into the sewer drains. Always check the products directions for proper disposal. If you are unsure, please call 805-388-5663.

We at the Sanitary District our doing our best to make sure the pipes and sanitation plant are functioning properly.

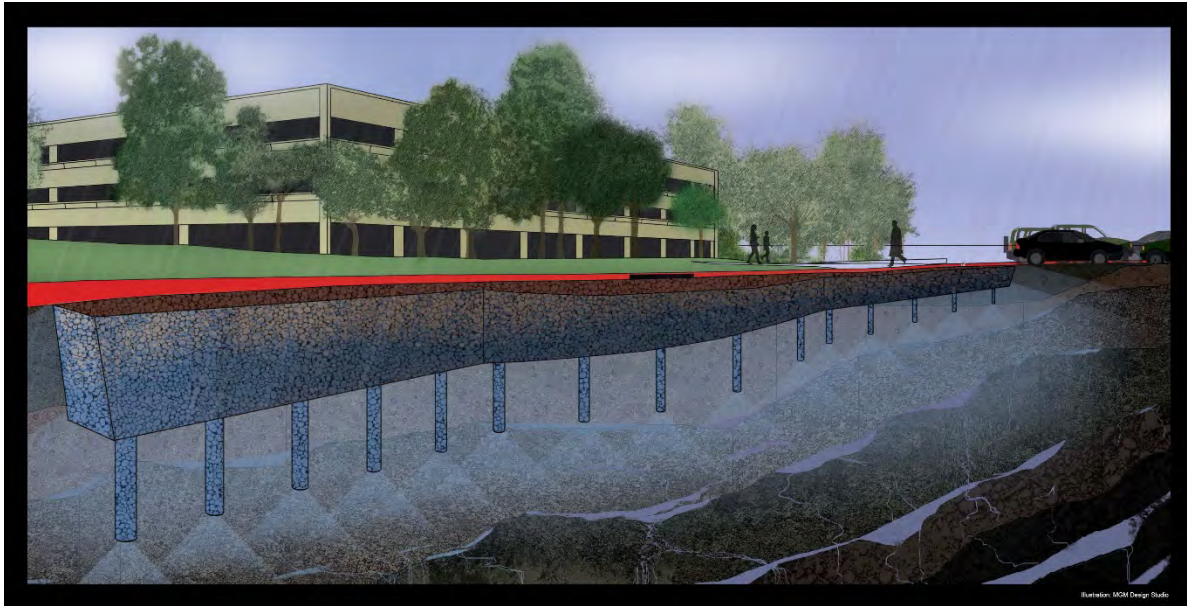
**Please do your part, too, and keep the Wipes out of our Pipes!**

### County of Ventura

The County is an active participant in the Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program and supports the actions that were discussed in the sections above. In addition, the County participates and leads stakeholder efforts to meet monitoring and implementation requirements of the effective TMDLs (regardless if TMDL is included or not in the Ventura 2010 MS4 Permit). Section 2.3.3 provides a summary of plans, reports, and documentation produced by various TMDL responsible parties including the County and TMDL Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) groups to meet the TMDL implementation schedule requirements.

In response to elevated concentrations of some of the stormwater pollutants at the County's stormwater monitoring station, the County initiated stormwater treatment efforts in the County Unincorporated Urban areas. The County successfully secured State grant funding for five stormwater retrofit projects including:

1. Ventura County Government Center Parking Lot Green Streets Retrofit project located at 800 S. Victoria Ave, Ventura, CA. Construction completed in September 2014. The project captures 100% of nuisance flows and the first flush stormwater discharges from 39 acres of impervious parking lot area for infiltration and groundwater recharge. Total project cost including effectiveness monitoring and educational outreach was \$1.9M. The County continues operation and maintenance of pervious concrete at the County Government Center for estimated \$130,000/year. More project information is available at <http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/>.



2. Meiners Oaks Urban Low Impact Development Retrofit project. Construction of bioswale was completed in February 2016. The project captures nuisance flows and stormwater runoff from 40% urbanized area (or over 36 acres) of Meiners Oaks community to meet Ventura River Algae TMDL compliance. Total project cost including monitoring and educational outreach was \$0.95M. The County continues operation and maintenance of the project for estimated \$20,000/year. More project information is available at <http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/>.



3. El Rio Retrofit for Groundwater Recharge. Construction was completed in March 2016. The project captures 100% nuisance flows and the first flush stormwater discharges from 46 acres of residential community of El Rio for infiltration and groundwater recharge. Total project cost is \$1.3M. The County continues operation and maintenance of the project for estimated \$110,000/year. More project information is available at <http://uninc.vcstormwater.org/>.



- Oak Park Green Streets Retrofit project construction was completed in May 2021. Using proprietary systems, Modular Wetlands® System Linear by BioClean (<https://biocleanenvironmental.com/modular-wetlands-system-linear/>), the project provides nuisance low treatment about 1,520,000 cubic feet of runoff annually from about 114 acres of residential area in Oak Park. The proposed biofiltration treatment is to meet compliance with dry weather Malibu Creek Bacteria TMDL. Total cost for the Proposition 84 funded project is \$1.75M. The County will provide operation and maintenance of the project for estimated \$70,000/year.



- In SCR watershed, the County has completed construction of a retrofit to the existing Piru Spreading Grounds for stormwater capture from 36 urban acres in unincorporated community of Piru for groundwater recharge and water supply enhancement for disadvantaged community of Piru, CA. Project funded by Proposition 1 Storm Water Grant Program is estimated to capture 17 acre-feet of stormwater runoff per year at about \$0.5M. The County will provide operation and maintenance of the project at estimated \$25,000/year, and United Water Conservation District will continue maintenance of Piru Spreading Grounds.



6. In collaboration with California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), County is also working on a preliminary design of a stormwater infiltration project to treat about 40 acres of Saticoy urban area scheduled for construction in 2024. Caltrans provides funding for design and construction and County will provide for long-term maintenance. With generally high soil infiltration rates present, SCR watershed offers good opportunities for multibenefit projects.
7. In late 2017, the County became involved in development of a concept project to divert low flows and stormwater runoff from Central Avenue Drain for infiltration and groundwater recharge at an existing Ferro Basin owned by United Water Conservation District. About 25% of the 487 acres of drainage area is under County's jurisdiction and remaining 75% are agricultural fields. Currently ag dischargers, the County, United Water Conservation District, nonprofit organizations and other interested stakeholders are meeting on monthly basis to discuss planning and concept design. Construction is pending securing grant funding and stakeholder contributions for long-term O&M.

All State funded projects include BMP effectiveness monitoring and educational outreach including free to public Watershed Friendly Garden™ (WFG) seminars and hands on workshops conducted in cooperation with Surfrider Foundation and Green Garden Group. In September-October 2015, the County offered series of five WFG seminars and hands on workshops at the County Government Center. Over 120 participants attended seminars and workshops resulting in transformation of about 1,200 sq. ft. of turf into a drought-tolerant garden. County also offered garden maintenance training for County and other municipal employees. In fall 2016, similar workshop series were scheduled in the County unincorporated communities of Meiners Oaks and Oak Park in collaboration with local school districts.

The County participated in the Countywide Bacteria Special Study since fall of 2013. Dry weather urban runoff and stormwater samples were collected at Casitas Springs, Oak View, and Meiners Oaks outfalls, which represent discharges from the County urban areas above receiving water monitoring (mass emission) station in Ventura River.

In response to elevated bacteria concentrations measured in County's outfall during summer 2016 (outfall ID: Unincorporated-4"), County staff conducted an investigation within the drainage area, i.e., Arroyo Santa Rosa Channel and Camelot Estates, see map below. Total coliform and E. coli were tested at various upstream locations on two occasions to evaluate possible sources of bacteria in County's outfall. In addition, one set of samples was collected on September 14, 2016 for DNA markers for dogs, gulls, horses, and humans. The purpose of this additional analysis was to provide information regarding potential sources of elevated bacteria, in addition to the specific areas where these sources may be originating. Low levels were detected (below the level of quantification) at Outfall #2 for the HF183 human marker and at Outfalls #1 and #6 (quantifiable) for the HumM2 human marker. No human markers were detected at Outfall #3, the V-ditch discharge, or Unincorporated-4. Reclaimed water, used in the Santa Rosa Channel and Camelot Estates, has been shown to contain quantifiable levels of human DNA markers in other areas and could be responsible for the low concentrations of human marker detected. It is also possible that indicator bacteria levels are remaining high, while the source specific DNA markers are decaying more rapidly, resulting in low or absent detections of the source specific markers. Recent research has shown that these DNA markers are best indicators of fresh fecal contamination, whereas indicator bacteria can persist in the environment. County's consultant prepared a brief memorandum to document investigation and testing results. The County mailed a letter to HOAs of both Arroyo Santa Rosa Channel and Camelot Estates communities with educational brochures. No response has been received.



In February 2019, the County submitted the Compliance Response to Water Code Section 13383 Order for Implementation of Track 1 of the Statewide Trash Provisions for Ventura County Unincorporated Urban Areas. To meet compliance, the County identified 41 additional Full Capture Systems will be required for installation within unincorporated areas.

*Santa Clara River Watershed*

The County has been leading the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) group to complete required in-stream and outfall monitoring as well as reporting requirements. The County is working on projects and actions listed in the approved TMDL Monitoring Plan and Draft Implementation Plan for Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDL dated June 2015 including implementation of grant funded projects. On behalf of MOA group, Ewelina Mutkowska, Senior Stormwater Manager with Ventura County Public Works Agency, gave a presentation at Regional Water Board’s meeting in October 2017 to provide requested update on implementation of the SCR Bacteria TMDL requirements. The 2020 Annual Report and 2021 Semiannual Report for Bacteria TMDL submitted to RWQCB in FY2020/21 are also provided in Attachment E.

*Ventura River Watershed*

The County has been leading two TMDL MOA groups to implement requirements of the Ventura River Algae and Ventura River Estuary Trash TMDLs. All required monitoring, reporting and implementation activities have been on-going.

The County has been working on identifying potential stormwater treatment opportunities within its urban areas during development of TMDL Implementation Plan for Ventura River Algae TMDL. County developed preliminary concept of an infiltration project in Ventura River watershed, which was included in the Ventura Countywide Municipal Stormwater Resources Plan dated September 2016. In addition, currently County has been developing a

preliminary concept for a collaboration with Ojai Valley Land Conservancy for a stormwater treatment project in upper Ventura River.

For Ventura River Algae TMDL, all on-going monitoring efforts were reported in the 2020 Dry Season Data Summary Report and 2021 Annual Report submitted to RWQCB in FY2020/21, refer to Attachment E.

To meet compliance with Ventura River Estuary Trash TMDL, County installed full trash capture devices to meet 100%-point source compliance in the estuary subwatershed. The County and TMDL Responsible Parties have been conducting trash monitoring and Minimum Frequency Assessment and Collection (MFAC)/BMP program since 2009. Recently in collaboration with Ventura Land Trust (formerly Ventura Hillside Conservancy), and as approved by the RWQCB, the monitoring program was modified to include monthly volunteer cleanups and weekly patrols to prevent new establishments of transient encampments. On behalf of MOA group, Ewelina Mutkowska, Senior Stormwater Manager with Ventura County Public Works Agency, gave a presentation at Regional Water Board's meeting in June 2019 to provide an overview of TMDL implementation efforts during reopener hearing. All MFAC/BMP efforts and results are described in the 2020 Annual Trash Monitoring Report submitted to RWQCB by December 15, 2020 (copies of the report are provided in Attachment E).

### Malibu Creek Watershed

As mentioned above, County has successfully secured grant funding to implement Oak Park Green Streets Retrofit project to address elevated bacteria levels and compliance with dry weather Bacteria TMDL requirements. Copies of monthly Bacteria TMDL monitoring reports prepared and submitted to RWQCB are provided in Attachment E.

To meet compliance with Malibu Creek Trash and Santa Monica Debris TMDLs, in collaboration with the City of Thousand Oaks and the Ventura County Watershed Protection District, the County has been implementing MFAC/BMP program described in the Trash Monitoring and Reporting Plan dated April 2010. In addition, the County completed installation of full trash capture devices to meet point source compliance in Malibu Creek Watershed in July 2017. On behalf of Upper MCW Trash TMDL Responsible Agencies, Ewelina Mutkowska, Senior Stormwater Manager with Ventura County Public Works Agency, gave a presentation at the RWQCB's Hearing in June 2018. All MFAC/BMP efforts and results are described in the TMDL Annual Report submitted to RWQCB in December 2020 (Attachment E). As required by the revised TMDL, revised Trash Monitoring and Reporting Plan was submitted to RWQCB on August 6, 2020.

### Ventura Coastal Watershed

In cooperation with Channel Island Beach Community Services District (CIBCSD) and City of Oxnard, the County has been diverting dry-weather runoff from County unincorporated community of Silver Strand subject to Ventura Coastal Beaches Bacteria TMDL. In December 2018, the County submitted Bacteria TMDL Final Compliance Report for Harbor Beaches of Ventura County (Kiddie Beach and Hobie Beach) as required by the TMDL Implementation Plan (copy of this report was provided in the 2019 Annual Report). To address bacteria exceedances previously measured during dry winter weather, automated system for pump shut-off was installed and operation of the pump was extended through winter dry weather days. County also conducted a die test to ensure that there are no leaks into the beach. In winter of 2019/20, the County, the Ventura County Watershed Protection District and the City of Oxnard cost-shared special a study conducted by Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) to determine the average load of bacteria and human fecal markers being discharged to Kiddie and Hobie beaches and to confirm or rule out the presence of human fecal and chemical sewage markers in stormwater conveyances during rain events from the County's storm drain system discharging into District's San Nicholas Pump Station, and from the City's storm drain at the North end of Hobie Beach. SCCWRP has been in the process of finalizing sample results to be presented to the TMDL Responsible Parties before end of 2020. In addition, the County has completed CCTV of the County's storm drain system in spring of 2020. No illicit connections were found.

In 2021, the County, VCWPD, and City of Oxnard initiated groundwater quality investigation along Kiddie and Hobie Beaches. The CIBCSO agreed to contribute \$20,000 towards \$372,300, an estimated total cost of the study to be conducted by SCCWRP. In addition, the County and VCWPD are collaborating and cost-sharing a consulting contract to conduct feasibility study for Kiddie Beach to meet wet weather Bacteria TMDL, estimated to be completed in June 2023. The County and VCWPD will consider all potential compliance options and develop preliminary concept for the highest ranked compliance alternative.

### Calleguas Creek Watershed

The County has been working on identifying potential stormwater treatment opportunities within its urban areas as a part of on-going development of TMDL Implementation Plan for Calleguas Creek Watershed TMDLs.

To meet compliance with Revolon Slough/Beardsley Wash (RS/BW) Trash TMDL, County installed full trash capture devices to meet point source compliance. The County and TMDL Responsible Agencies have been conducting trash monitoring and MFAC/BMP program since 2009. All field work has been conducted by California Conservation Corps under oversight by the Ventura Land Trust and TMDL Responsible Agencies. On behalf of the TMDL MOA group, Ewelina Mutkowska, Senior Stormwater Manager with Ventura County Public Works Agency, gave a presentation at the RWQCB's Hearing in June 2018. All MFAC/BMP efforts and results are described in the TMDL Annual Report submitted to RWQCB in December 2020 (Attachment E). As required by the revised TMDL, revised Trash Monitoring and Reporting Plan was submitted to RWQCB on August 6, 2020.

### **Fillmore**

The City of Fillmore has addressed the elevated levels of E. coli at the MO-FIL station through active participation in the Countywide Stormwater Program and supports the actions that were discussed in the section above. In addition, the City works in collaboration with the Lower Santa Clara River (LSCR) Watershed Permittees, the cities of Santa Paula, Oxnard, Ventura, and County of Ventura, to address the Santa Clara River Estuary and Reach 3 Watershed Bacteria TMDL (Final In-Stream Compliance Monitoring Plan). The Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) was executed October 5, 2016 and monitoring commenced October 11, 2016. Under the program, additional LSCR bacteria TMDL outfall monitoring commenced in September 2018. The LSCR Watershed Permittees are in the process of an MOA amendment to extend monitoring activities for an additional 18 months.

The City of Fillmore, in collaboration with the LSCR Watershed permittees, continues to implement public outreach to city residents and commercial businesses in the watershed to target potential sources of high levels of bacteria in our waterways. In addition, the City is currently working on updating the North Fillmore Specific Plan and is working closely with developers to include the implementation of regional post-construction BMPs that most effectively target key pollutants, including bacteria, as a part of the specific plan.

Monitoring results have revealed high bacteria amounts in the past. Staff has visited the monitored outfall in the City and very little non-stormwater runoff was observed in the drainage area to the outfall. The upper reaches of the watershed are natural, extending into the National Forest lands. This area includes wildlife that can contribute bacteria to stormwater run-off naturally. Staff continues to monitor the bacteria levels and sampling site in addition to providing public outreach to residents. The City also continues to actively respond and resolve reports of illicit discharges in the City. Additionally, the City implements a street sweeping program, cleans out catch basins regularly, and hosted a Coastal Cleanup Day site for the past five years, in which the public had the opportunity to volunteer to remove trash and debris from Sespe Creek, a tributary to the Santa Clara River. By actively participating in the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Program and Lower Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDL, and through efficient implementation of the MS4 Permit, the City of Fillmore is consistently working to reduce pollutants from urban runoff throughout its jurisdiction.



## **Moorpark**

Bacteria (E. coli): Bacteria is a common problem in many watersheds throughout the country, not only in Ventura County. It remains to be determined how effective any particular BMP is in attaining reduced bacteria levels in stormwater flow.

The City continues to work on implementing stormwater infiltration projects, such as updating its existing Metrolink North Parking Lot, which was built before stormwater requirements were in place. Rather than simply performing a maintenance project, the parking lot will be rebuilt to achieve the current MS4 Permit's stormwater capture requirements. Completion of the project is expected in December 2022. The City completed installation of a second entrance into the Metrolink South Parking Lot which included a bioinfiltration planter to capture run-off from the entrance. The bioinfiltration planter was completed and operational as of the end of September 2020. The City is also in the preliminary stages of investigating an infiltration area that could collect a portion of the downtown area's run-off.

Chloride: City prohibits saltwater pools from being discharged into the City's streets. Standard chlorine pools must be allowed to sit idle and tested for less than 0.1 parts-per-million before they can be discharged into City streets/storm drain system. The discharge must also occur in a manner that no dirt/debris is collected along the flow path or materials other than water are discharged from the pool itself. The City is in the preliminary stage of investigating an infiltration area that could collect a portion of the downtown area's run-off.

## **Ojai**

The City of Ojai is an active participant in the Countywide Stormwater program and aims to reduce pollutants in the Ventura River Watershed. To help address elevated pollutant levels, the City installed curb extensions with urban stormwater runoff capture and treatment features in 2018. Additionally, in private construction developments, the City requires substantial construction post-construction BMPs including onsite biofiltration and detention basins in compliance with the TGM.

Due to high E. Coil values in last year's Annual Report, the Public Works Inspector monitored for contamination of feces, likely from dogs and persons experiencing homelessness. Currently, to reduce E Coil, dry cleaning methods are utilized as a Best Management Practice. After our inspector identified a location 200' north of the sampling point near Fox Channel impacted with dog and human wastes, the City increased inspection, monitoring, and cleaning methods around the area.

Next, the Public Works Inspector ensured that restaurants effectively maintained trash and grease storage. During business inspections educational information handouts were provided.

In an effort to meet compliance with the Trash TMDL in the Ventura River Watershed, the City has installed several permanent public trash containers in the downtown area and at parks. The City has also installed full capture devices in catch basins following the Trash TMDL implementation schedule.

Lastly, the City of Ojai monitors the Public Works Yard for trash, sufficient storage, and vehicle fluids. The Annual BMP Inspection was performed in July of 2020. The Public Works Yard sits above the sampling site and proper maintenance of the yard, such as drying clean methods, adequate storage of vehicle fluids, and proper maintenance of wash racks are enforced.

## **Oxnard**

As indicated by the 2020/21 storm water monitoring results, elevated levels of E. coli were detected at the MO-OXN during wet weather sampling. The MO-OXN is located in the El Rio Drain which receives stormwater and

non-stormwater runoff from the El Rio, East Vineyard, and North Ventura subwatersheds. The El Rio drain (a tributary to the Santa Clara River) is located near the Oxnard Village-Wagon Wheel Junction development.

Within the Oxnard Village-Wagon Wheel Junction development there are currently 63 acres being converted into a multiple-use redevelopment primarily containing multi-family apartment units. This project is located near Oxnard Blvd and Highway 101 and drains to the Santa Clara River. The project has been conditioned to install post-construction BMPs including a CDS Treatment Device as well as biofiltration as part of an onsite detention basin. The project is required to meet County of Ventura and City of Oxnard SQUIMP requirements. With updated BMPs and land development this project may decrease the amount on bacteria, trash, and other pollutants entering from the area into the Santa Clara River. These updates may also potentially decrease the amount of *E. Coli* detections in the wet weather sampling.

Future multiple use development will be located between N. Ventura Road, Town Center Drive, N. Oxnard Blvd., and Hwy 101. This development is the final development phase of the Riverpark community. Apartments, restaurants, hotels, and a retail gas station are planned. These developments will also incorporate post-construction BMPs that will treat stormwater before being discharged to the Santa Clara River north of Hwy 101. The planned BMPs may have the potential to decrease the amount of *E. Coli* being discharged to the Santa Clara River. The completed Riverpark neighborhood catch basins all have Contech Stormwater Management Stormfilters installed and maintained on a regular basis. This post-construction BMP targets total suspended solids, hydrocarbons, nutrients, metals, and other common pollutants from entering the Santa Clara River by using rechargeable, media-filled cartridges to absorb and retain the pollutants.

In an effort to prevent or reduce elevated levels of *E. coli*, the City of Oxnard Technical Services Program –Source Control (TSP-SC) Division implements a stormwater program with established Best Management Practices (BMPs). Annual reviews of land use data, business inventories, and critical source inspection records within the El Rio, East Vineyard, and North Ventura subwatersheds are conducted to identify and prevent illicit discharges. TSP-SC staff inspected businesses with a focus on outdoor trash enclosures, outdoor storage of waste and materials, and grease interceptor/clarifier maintenance. BMP information was provided regarding surface cleaning, waste management, and grease interceptor/clarifier maintenance. In addition, TSP-SC staff met with Wastewater Collections staff to review sanitary sewer overflow and grease interceptor overflow response protocol and training was provided for illicit discharge response.

TSP-SC, Special Assessments, and Parks Department staff are aware of possible bacteria sources such as excessive dog feces in the subwatersheds. Dog waste bags and dispensers are provided in various parks and neighborhoods throughout the city to reduce the amount of pet waste entering stormwater runoff. TSP-SC staff was trained on illicit discharge response and BMP information forms were put in a share drive so that all City departments could access and download the forms as needed.

The City of Oxnard is a participating agency in a subcommittee to address the requirements of the Santa Clara River TMDL, which became effective March 21, 2012. The City of Oxnard in partnership with the Cities of Fillmore, Santa Paula, Ventura, and the County of Ventura, has prepared an In-Stream Compliance Monitoring Plan and a Draft Implementation Plan for the Estuary and Reach 3 of the Santa Clara River. On April 11, 2016, we received Regional Board approval for the Final In-Stream Compliance Monitoring Plan for the Santa Clara River Estuary and Reach 3 Bacteria TMDL. The City of Oxnard and the other participating agencies have since entered into a memorandum of agreement to actively support the monitoring and reporting efforts as required by the SCR Bacteria TMDL by funding equal contributions of the total cost of the water monitoring described in the Final In-Stream Compliance Monitoring Plan.

As of March 2019, the City of Oxnard installed full capture devices within the Revolon Slough/Beardsley Wash Trash TMDL area. The installation of these devices is in accordance with the requirements as specified in Table 9 of the TMDL, achieving 100% reduction of trash from baseline WLA.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board gave approval on November 17, 2017, to move forward with a special study to investigate human waste sources to the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County as specified under the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County (Kiddie Beach and Hobie Beach) Bacteria TMDL. This study is in response to recent wet weather single sample exceedances and the information gained will be used to determine an effective compliance approach.

TSP-SC staff is constantly evaluating what programs and BMPs are most effective. We have enlisted the help of all city departments with the common goal of meeting our water quality standards and maintaining the beneficial uses for our receiving waters. The City of Oxnard has been and will continue to be proactive and diligent in its efforts to implement BMPs to prevent or reduce the discharge of E. coli.

## **Port Hueneme**

### Bacteria

The City of Port Hueneme addresses elevated levels of E. coli through active participation in the Countywide Stormwater Program.

Educational outreach is also utilized to help educate on reducing E. coli. The City participates with the countywide media campaign and sponsors outreach at local events, City Hall, and the City website. Messaging includes the importance of collecting and properly disposing of pet waste. The city has multiple pet waste bag dispensers placed along the recreational corridor for the public's use. The City diligently monitors for homeless encampments and offers multiple contact points to assist homeless in getting into sanitary conditions within shelters.

The solid waste division performs routine solid waste audits and ensures the appropriate level of service is being implemented so overflows do not occur.

Additionally, Port Hueneme is participating in the special study to investigate human waste sources to the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County as specified under the Harbor Beaches of Ventura County (Kiddie Beach and Hobie Beach) Bacteria TMDL.

The City contains a creek that is part of the drainage system with unrestricted use by various forms of wildlife. It is the City's belief that controlling bacteria in this area is beyond its control.

### Trash

The City of Port Hueneme continues to implement a street sweeping program that exceeds permit requirements, cleans out catch basins quarterly, and served as a participant in a regional 2021 Coastal Cleanup Day to remove trash and debris from Hueneme Beach and Ormond Lagoon. The city also dedicated staff to operate equipment during multiple clean up events on the beach. The City continues to contract with Ventura County Probation and has weekly trash removal from the recreation corridor, beach, medians, and parkways.

The City requires, and provides, both trash and recycle containers for all public events requiring a CUP. Port Hueneme continues to partner with VCWPD and City of Oxnard in monitoring and managing trash removal from the Oxnard West Drain.

The city also implemented a weekend trash collection at all parks throughout the city this past year.

## Santa Paula

General. Santa Paula is an active participant in the Countywide Stormwater program and supports the actions that were discussed in the section above. In addition to the countywide discussion in the monitoring section of the annual report, please also refer to the “Public Outreach, Public Agency Activities, Construction, Planning and Land Development, Illicit Discharge, and Business Program” sections of the annual report for a list of actions Santa Paula has taken and will continue to implement in the current year and future years to address elevated levels constituents that were found in our urban outfall monitoring station near the south end of 10<sup>th</sup> Street.

Private Construction. The City conditions private projects to install construction BMPs and post-construction BMPs including onsite biofiltration and detention basins. These BMPs are anticipated to decrease the amount of bacteria, trash, and other pollutants entering from the area into the Santa Clara River. The East Area 1 Project will include onsite biofiltration and detention basins.

Public Construction. The City conducts inspections at all significant City capital improvement program projects. These inspections are anticipated to ensure sediment and erosion controls are being properly applied and reduce sediment loading into the Santa Clara River. The City monitors to ensure that sediment and erosion control measures are implemented.

Bacteria Special Study. The City participated in the Countywide Bacteria Special Study since fall of 2013. Dry weather urban runoff and storm water samples were collected at the 10<sup>th</sup> Street storm water outfall and monitoring station, which represents discharges from the City’s urban areas upstream of the receiving water monitoring station in Santa Clara River. Total coliform and E. coli were tested to evaluate possible sources of bacteria in City’s outfall. In addition, samples were collected for DNA markers for dogs, gulls, horses, and humans. The purpose of this additional analysis was to provide information regarding potential sources of elevated bacteria.

Bacteria TMDL for Santa Clara River. The City works in collaboration with the Santa Clara River Watershed Permittees, including the cities of Fillmore, Oxnard, Ventura, and County of Ventura, to address the Santa Clara River Estuary and Reach 3 Watershed Bacteria TMDL (Final In-Stream Compliance Monitoring Plan). Water quality monitoring of two required sample sites within the Santa Clara River commenced October 2016 and permittee outfalls in September 2018. A final Bacteria TMDL Implementation Plan was completed and submitted in March 2015.

In addition, the City participated in the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Program Regional Stormwater Conceptual Design Project by Craftwater consultants which evaluated potential regional multi-benefit regional projects throughout Ventura County including the City. Several sites were identified within the City and will move forward for further evaluation during the upcoming development of a Watershed Management Plan for the entire County.

Mostly recently, the City approved the 2<sup>nd</sup> Amendment to the existing Memorandum of Agreement (with the Cities of Oxnard, Fillmore, Ventura, County and VCWPD) for the Santa Clara River TMDL Monitoring and Reporting Program.

Trash Removal and Street Sweeping. The City continues to implement an enhanced trash removal and street sweeping program in the downtown commercial district. The City also conducts additional trash removal and street sweeping prior to and following special events (parades, street fairs, etc.) in the downtown district. These BMPs are anticipated to decrease the amount of trash and other pollutants entering from the area into the Santa Clara River. To date the City has installed seven trash excluders (full capture devices). The City continues to evaluate other potential locations for installation of full capture devices in compliance with the SWRCB Trash Amendment in stormdrain inlets within the City.

Water Conservation/Decreased Dry Weather Runoff. Due to the City's stringent water conservation ordinance, dry weather runoff has been significantly reduced. The City's water customers met or exceeded State requirements for water conservation. In response to the Governor's 2015 Order for water conservation, the City continues to reduce its water use. In July 2016, the State Water Board approved the City's Self-Certification.

In addition, the City has implemented the Statewide Drinking Water Systems Discharge Permit WDR 4DW0718, including the following requirements:

- a. Established and implemented BMPs.
- b. Ensured that all planned potable water discharges complied with the applicable effluent limitations for chlorine residual and turbidity.
- c. Conducted monitoring and reporting in compliance with the provisions of the Permit and maintained self-monitoring reports.

### **Simi Valley**

The City of Simi Valley actively participates in the Countywide Stormwater program by participating in all subcommittees as well as the Management Committee. The City is also an active participant in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Program. The City works with the Ventura County Animal Shelter to install and maintain a mutt mitt station for the dog run at the shelter where potential adoptive pet parents can spend time and bond with their chosen dog prior to adoption.

The street sweeping program continues to be implemented through Waste Management in accordance with the 2011 Memorandum of Understanding between the City and Waste Management. Catch basins with Connector Pipe Screen (CPS) units are inspected and cleaned a minimum of three times each year. One third of the City's storm drain catch basins are cleaned each year, resulting in each catch basin within the City being cleaned once every three years. The City continues to add approximately 30 CPS units to storm drain catch basins in Priority Land Use areas each year to reduce trash and bacteria discharged to the Arroyo Simi and comply with the State's Trash Provisions.

**Bacteria:** Prior to Covid 19, educational outreach events were held where the public is educated about the importance of cleaning up after pets, pet waste bags and dispensers are also given out at these events. These events are scheduled to resume in October 2021. There is a large population of birds, ducks, and geese that accumulate in the arroyo each day, which contribute substantially to bacteria issues in the Arroyo Simi.

**Chlorides:** The city requires all saltwater pool discharges to either be hauled away or discharged to the sewer system with a permit required to monitor the amount of salts and volume of water that will be discharged to the sewer. Conventional pools are allowed to be drained to the street if the chlorine/bromine level is below 0.1 ppm. Informational flyers have been created to give out at outreach events that discuss the effects of water softening systems on our waters.

**Total Dissolved Solids:** Much of the high TDS in the Arroyo Simi can be attributed to the high groundwater in the arroyo.

### **Thousand Oaks**

The City of Thousand Oaks continues to work with the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program (including participating on the Management Committee and all Subcommittees) to find creative and economically achievable ways to eliminate or reduce the contamination of surface waters that can occur from

urban/suburban runoff. In addition to urban contaminant sources, there can be other sources of pollutants in runoff waters that are inherently difficult to control. Specifically, challenges should be expected when attempting to control atmospheric deposition, groundwater mineral enrichment from the endemic geology, and wildlife contribution of the fecal indicator (E. coli).

The City of Thousand Oaks operates, maintains, and enforces numerous programs and facilities to minimize pollutant sources that can originate within its developed infrastructure: Street sweeping, catch basin trash full capture device retrofits, catch basin inspection and cleaning, project conditioning using low impact development (LID) design principles and apparatus; industrial, commercial and residential inspections and outreach; Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) requirements and pre- and post-construction inspections; and restrictions on mobile cleaning operations.

Regarding the storm drain emissions that caused or contributed to exceedances of E. coli, Chloride, Total Dissolved Solids (TDS), and Sulfate in this report, the following may be said:

- E. coli – Wet Weather

The City takes further efforts to reduce potential sources of fecal bacteria. For example, restaurant inspections verify that facilities use effective garbage control to prevent both dumpster leakage and avian scavenging. The City frequently removes and cleans homeless encampments along stormwater channels and has made it a top priority to identify and advance solutions for emergency sheltering and permanent supportive housing to address homelessness. The City conducts local outreach and education and participates with the countywide media campaign that uses messaging to stress the importance of the proper disposal of dog waste. In addition, the City provides collection bag stations at parks, trailheads, and miscellaneous public open areas where dogs are commonly walked. Despite the many efforts to control indicator bacteria, open channels and creeks in open space areas surrounding the City are part of the natural stormwater drainage system that have unrestricted use by avian and mammalian wildlife. Their indicator bacteria contribution may be significant, but it is beyond the control of an MS4 agency. As the final compliance date for wet weather draws nearer, Thousand Oaks will consider source evaluations of its MS4 outfalls using microbial source tracking or other methods for identifying fecal contamination of human origin.

- Chloride and TDS – Dry and Wet Weather

The City has banned commercial and industrial onsite water softener regeneration and discharges from saltwater pools. It also conducts an outreach program that stresses water conservation. The City lies on marine sediments and fractured volcanic bedrock, which produce multiple areas of natural springs around the City. Sampling and analysis of the groundwater exfiltration found chloride and TDS to have an average level above the WQO. It is thought that a combination of marine sediments and stranded salts accumulated from irrigation dissolve into the groundwater to contaminate the surface water flow.

## **Ventura**

The City of Ventura is an active participant in the Countywide Stormwater program and supports the actions that were discussed in sections above.

In addition to the countywide discussion in the monitoring section of the 2020/21 annual report, please also refer to the Public Outreach, Public Agency Activities, Construction, Planning and Land Development, Illicit Discharge, and Business Program sections of the annual report for a list of actions City of Ventura has taken and will continue to implement in the current year and future years to address elevated levels of bacteria, trash, metals and other constituents that have been found in our urban outfall historically.

Three wet weather sampling events occurred during the 2020/21 monitoring year. E. Coli concentrations were detected above Basin Plan objective during wet weather sampling during events one at MO-VEN and ME-SCR. E. Coli was unable to be analyzed for wet weather sampling events two and three at MO-VEN and ME-SCR because laboratory was unable to accept and analyze bacteria samples after hours due to their COVID-19 testing workload. MO-VEN appears to be causing or contributing to ME-SCR exceedance of E. Coli Basin Plan objective during wet weather sampling event one. No other cause and contribute relationships were observed for City of Ventura MO-VEN during 2020/21 monitoring year.

One dry weather sampling event occurred during the 2020/21 monitoring year. Total dissolved solids were detected above Basin Plan objective at ME-SCR. MO-VEN was dry resulting in no discharge from the outfall. MO-VEN does not appear to be causing or contributing to total dissolved solids exceedance of Basin Plan objective.

The Lower Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDL became effective on March 21, 2012 with dry and wet weather compliance 11 and 17 years after effective date of TMDL, respectively. The Lower Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDL Implementation Plan was submitted to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board on March 20, 2015 and approved December 26, 2017. The City of Ventura is currently implementing BMPs identified in the Implementation Plan and looking for additional measures to achieve bacteria loading reductions to receiving waters. The City anticipates pursuing Watershed Management Programs associated with the Los Angeles - Region Four Regional MS4 Permit which may include BMPs, not included in the TMDL Implementation Plan, that will mitigate fecal indicator bacteria pollutant loading. Additionally, the City in partnership with the Cities of Fillmore, Oxnard, Santa Paula, and the County of Ventura, implemented an In-Stream Compliance Monitoring Plan for the Estuary and Reach 3 of the Santa Clara River, which commenced October 2016. Outfall monitoring commenced October 2018 in Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDL responsible MS4 agencies' jurisdictions. Since E. coli concentrations in the Santa Clara River Watershed are routinely detected above Basin Plan objectives in both wet and dry weather, the City of Ventura in collaboration with Santa Clara River Watershed permittees to implement targeted public outreach to residents and businesses in the watershed to address the causes of high levels of bacteria in our waterway. Non-structural control measures appear to be reducing bacteria loadings during dry weather as no discharge was observed from City of Ventura outfalls during dry weather MS4 monitoring this reporting year and only one dry weather outfall discharge, reported 10/20/2020, identified between 11/20/2018 – 4/20/2021 for the Santa Clara River Bacteria TMDL outfall monitoring program.

As discussed above, the City of Ventura has an industrial and commercial facilities program designed to prohibit unauthorized non-stormwater discharges and reduce pollutants in stormwater runoff from these businesses. Stormwater runoff information and best management practices educational materials are given to business owners during industrial and commercial facilities inspections. Furthermore, the City of Ventura has been working with the business community to enroll required businesses in the General Permit for Stormwater Discharges Associated with Industrial facilities with high success. City of Ventura has a street sweeping program to reduce pollutants, such as metals, salts, gross solids, from accumulating in the public right of way.

In an effort to meet compliance with the Trash TMDL in the Ventura River watershed and Statewide Trash Amendments, the City of Ventura installed trash full capture devices in catch basins following the Trash TMDL implementation schedule and several additional permanent public trash containers along the Ventura River trail in locations where there were documented patterns of uncaptured trash (pictured below). To date the City has installed 379 trash excluders in the public right of way throughout City limits and conditions all new and redevelopment projects to include state certified trash excluders on all storm drain inlets onsite. Furthermore, in December of 2016 City of Ventura, in collaboration with the Surfrider Ventura County Chapter, began installing cigarette butt collection receptacles (pictured below) in high generating cigarette butt areas. Currently over 90 cigarette collection receptacles had been installed with cigarette butt collection totals over 200,000. Cigarette waste collected is being recycled.

City of Ventura staff work with businesses to educate them on general environmental sustainability, which includes stormwater pollution prevention. We provide educational materials and training and run the Green Business Certification program. This program is available currently to office/retail, restaurants, multi-family dwellings, and brewery businesses. To date, the city has certified over 80 businesses, with many other in the process. Stormwater pollution prevention and best management practices play an important role in this program. Furthermore, effective July 1, 2021 the City of Ventura will prohibit the use of expanded polystyrene (EPS) containers used by food and beverage providers. This effort is anticipated to reduce waste in the environmental as well as promote the use of reusable containers.



*Examples of permanent public trash enclosure, cigarette butt collection receptacles*

### 9.8.9 Mass Emission Calculations

Mass loadings were estimated for constituents detected at the ME-CC and ME-VR2 mass emission stations during the 2020/21 monitoring season. Mass loadings could not be calculated at the ME-SCR station because total flow could not be accurately measured, as described in Section 9.3.1.

Constituents that are inappropriate for mass emission calculations (e.g. bacteria, alkalinity, DO, conductivity, specific conductance, hardness, salinity, temperature, pH, turbidity, dissolved metals, dissolved phosphorus, etc.) are excluded from the calculations.

Mass loads were calculated by using the average flow [total flow volume between first and last aliquot collection in cubic feet divided by the time elapsed between the first and last aliquots in seconds] measured in cubic feet per second (cfs), estimated over the duration of a monitoring event and the concentrations of detected constituents. For grabs, this is the concentration measured in the grab sample. For composites, this is the concentration measured in the composite bottle, which is a combination of aliquots collected during the event. Event duration was defined as the number of hours elapsed between the collection of the first and the final aliquots by the composite sampler at each site. Event durations during 2020/21 at the ME-CC and ME-VR2 stations lasted from 6.57 hours (Event 3 at ME-VR2) to 22.72 hours (Event 4 at ME-VR2). Based on the average flow rate for a sampling event, loadings were calculated in lbs/event to allow for comparisons between sites as well as between events (see example in Table 9-25) These mass loading estimates are presented in Table 9-26 and Table 9-27.



Table 9-25. Example Mass Loading Calculation

<b>Event 1 at ME-CC</b>
Chloride concentration: 77 mg/L Event duration: 18 hours, 43 minutes = 18.72 hours
Average flow rate: 105.96 cfs 105.96 cfs x 7.48 gal/cf x 3.785 L/gal = 2999.78 L/sec
Load = concentration x volume 2999.78 L/sec x 77 mg/L = 230983.11 mg/sec 230983.11 mg/sec x 60 sec/min x 60 min/hr x 18.72 hr/event x 1 kg/10 <sup>6</sup> mg x 2.2 lb/kg = <b>34,200 lb/event</b> (rounded)

Table 9-26. Estimated Mass Loadings at ME-CC

Classification	Constituent	Event 1 (Wet) 12/28/2020 18.72 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 2 (Wet) 1/28/2021 7.30 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 3 (Wet) 3/10/2021 7.02 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 4 (Dry) 4/29/2021 22.65 hrs. (lbs/event)
Anion	Chloride	34,200	66,600	6,780	1,890
Anion	Fluoride	245	241	15.9	5.2
Cation	Calcium	75,200	35,400	2,620	644
Cation	Magnesium	31,300	22,000	1,590	404
Conventional	BOD	2,530	6,950	259	ND
Conventional	COD	7,560	29,900	1,320	86.3
Conventional	Cyanide	1.9	(<) 1.1*	0.07*	0.004*
Conventional	MBAS	29.8	ND	1.8*	0.36*
Conventional	Phenolics	5.8	9.2*	ND	0.44
Conventional	Total Chlorine Residual (*SM 4500-Cl G)	26.2	241*	1.7*	(<) 0.31*
Conventional	Total Chlorine Residual (*SM 4500-Cl Gm)	ND	ND	1.2*	0.11*
Conventional	Total Dissolved Solids	578,000	386,000	31,100	8,230
Conventional	Total Organic Carbon	3,250	9,170	363	49.6
Conventional	Total Suspended Solids	6,670	1,640,000	3,990	69.5
Conventional	Volatile Suspended Solids	1,780*	232,000	957	39.7*
Hydrocarbon	Diesel Range Organics	(<) 84.5	492*	7.2	(<) 0.76*
Hydrocarbon	Oil and Grease	356*	1,060*	39.9*	ND
Metal	Aluminum (Total)	32.5	3,760	108	0.7
Metal	Antimony (Total)	0.13*	0.52	0.02	0.004*
Metal	Arsenic (Total)	0.39	3.2	0.13	0.04
Metal	Barium (Total)	16.9	37.6	1.8	0.28
Metal	Beryllium (Total)	ND	0.15	0.003*	ND
Metal	Cadmium (Total)	0.04*	0.35	0.01	0.001*
Metal	Chromium (Total)	0.10	10.6	0.3	0.004
Metal	Chromium VI	0.02	0.12	0.004	0.001
Metal	Copper (Total)	1.7	9.1	0.34	0.03
Metal	Iron (Total)	75.6	5,110	136	0.99
Metal	Lead (Total)	(<) 0.13	2.6	0.08	0.001*
Metal	Mercury (Total)	ND	0.02*	ND	ND
Metal	Nickel (Total)	1.0	10.6	0.37	0.06
Metal	Selenium (Total)	2.0	0.61	0.03	0.005
Metal	Silver (Total)	ND	0.04*	ND	ND

Classification	Constituent	Event 1 (Wet) 12/28/2020 18.72 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 2 (Wet) 1/28/2021 7.30 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 3 (Wet) 3/10/2021 7.02 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 4 (Dry) 4/29/2021 22.65 hrs. (lbs/event)
Metal	Thallium (Total)	ND	0.03*	0.001*	ND
Metal	Zinc (Total)	1.8*	32.8	1.5	0.13
Nutrient	Ammonia as N	25.8*	135	8.0	ND
Nutrient	Nitrate + Nitrite as N	889	2,700	287	56.6
Nutrient	Nitrate as N	844	2,700	287	56.6
Nutrient	Phosphorus as P (Total)	19.1	1,160	99.6	24.8
Nutrient	TKN	280	540	47.8	6.3
Organic	Benzo(a)pyrene	0.05*	0.85*	ND	ND
Organic	Benzo(b)fluoranthene^	0.04*	0.75*	0.01*	ND
Organic	Benzo(k)fluoranthene^	0.05*	0.28*	0.01*	ND
Organic	Benzo(g,h,i)perylene	ND	0.85*	ND	ND
Organic	Bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	(<) 0.23*	0.59*	(<) 0.11*	(<) 0.004*
Organic	Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (*EPA 525.2)	2.4	ND	(<) 0.07*	(<) 0.005*
Organic	Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (*EPA 625.1)	ND	ND	ND	0.04*
Organic	Diethyl phthalate	ND	ND	0.10*	0.02
Organic	Di-n-butylphthalate	ND	(< <sup>a</sup> ) 2.7*	ND	0.001*
Organic	Phenol	ND	ND	ND	0.002*
Pesticide	4,4'-DDE	ND	0.11*	0.001*	ND
Pesticide	4,4'-DDT	ND	0.07*	ND	ND
Pesticide	Bromacil	ND	ND	0.04*	ND
Pesticide	DCPA (Dacthal)	ND	0.50	0.02	0.005
Pesticide	Dimethoate (*EPA 525.2)	ND	ND	ND	(<) 0.002*
Pesticide	Dimethoate (*EPA 625.1m)	ND	ND	ND	0.0004
Pesticide	Glyphosate	1.6*	2.0*	0.24	ND
Pesticide	Malathion	ND	ND	(< <sup>b</sup> ) 0.001	ND
Pesticide	Metolachlor	0.03*	0.15*	0.01*	0.001*
Pesticide	Prometryn	0.02*	ND	0.008*	0.02
Pesticide	Simazine	ND	ND	0.007*	ND

ND - Constituent not detected, and, therefore, no estimated mass loading was calculated.

\* - Calculation of mass loading derived from result flagged as DNQ - constituent detected but not quantified (MDL < result < RL).

(<) - Analyte was detected in the method blank so result is considered an upper limit. Detection in sample may be due to laboratory contamination.

(<<sup>a</sup>) - High bias in laboratory control sample for this analyte so result is considered an upper limit.

(<<sup>b</sup>) - High bias in matrix spike sample for this analyte so result is considered an upper limit.

^ - Sample results for structural isomers may have contribution from their isomeric pair so results are considered upper limits.

Table 9-27. Estimated Mass Loadings at ME-VR2

Classification	Constituent	Event 1 (Wet) 12/28/2020 9.87 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 2 (Wet) 1/28/2021 15.63 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 3 (Wet) 3/10/2021 6.57 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 4 (Dry) 5/12/2021 22.72 hrs. (lbs/event)
Anion	Chloride	266	6020	330	1140

Classification	Constituent	Event 1 (Wet) 12/28/2020 9.87 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 2 (Wet) 1/28/2021 15.63 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 3 (Wet) 3/10/2021 6.57 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 4 (Dry) 5/12/2021 22.72 hrs. (lbs/event)
Anion	Fluoride	1.7	26.8	1.7	6.7
Anion	Perchlorate	0.005*	ND	ND	ND
Cation	Calcium	623	9520	589	2710
Cation	Magnesium	178	2580	166	733
Conventional	BOD	15.2	212	9.4	ND
Conventional	COD	57.1	781	29.7	ND
Conventional	Cyanide	ND	(<) 0.09*	ND	ND
Conventional	MBAS	0.10*	2.4*	ND	0.41*
Conventional	Phenolics	ND	ND	ND	0.08*
Conventional	Total Dissolved Solids	3900	61800	3820	16400
Conventional	Total Organic Carbon	22.8	350	0	38.8
Conventional	Total Suspended Solids	47.6	1870	33.0	86.2*
Conventional	Volatile Suspended Solids	ND	488	ND	ND
Hydrocarbon	Diesel Range Organics	(<) 0.44*	(<) 6.8*	(<) 0.41*	(<) 1.7*
Hydrocarbon	Oil and Grease	4.8*	81.4*	3.3*	ND
Metal	Aluminum (Total)	1.0	49.6	0.23	0.28*
Metal	Antimony (Total)	0.001*	0.01*	ND	ND
Metal	Arsenic (Total)	0.003	0.07	0.003	0.008*
Metal	Barium (Total)	0.25	4.3	0.21	0.80
Metal	Cadmium (Total)	0.0002*	0.008*	ND	ND
Metal	Chromium (Total)	0.004	0.11	0.001*	0.003*
Metal	Chromium VI	0.001	0.01	0.0001*	0.002
Metal	Copper (Total)	0.008	0.18	0.003	ND
Metal	Iron (Total)	1.9	74.9	1.2	1.6
Metal	Lead (Total)	(<) 0.002	0.05	0.0004*	ND
Metal	Nickel (Total)	0.01	0.36	0.01	(<) 0.01*
Metal	Selenium (Total)	0.005	0.09	0.005	0.02
Metal	Silver (Total)	ND	ND	ND	0.001*
Metal	Zinc (Total)	0.02*	0.43*	0.009*	ND
Nutrient	Nitrate + Nitrite as N	1.8	40.7	1.6	8.4
Nutrient	Phosphorus as P (Total)	0.32	7.1	0.13*	ND
Nutrient	TKN	0.76	24.4	0.94	2.4
Organic	Bis(2-ethylhexyl)adipate	(<) 0.001*	ND	(< <sup>a</sup> ) 0.003*	0.01*
Organic	Bis(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate (EPA 525.2)	ND	ND	(<) 0.002*	0.01*
Organic	Butyl benzyl phthalate	ND	ND	ND	0.009*
Organic	Diethyl phthalate	0.003*	0.05*	0.002*	0.01*
Organic	Di-n-butylphthalate	0.001*	ND	ND	0.002*

Classification	Constituent	Event 1 (Wet) 12/28/2020 9.87 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 2 (Wet) 1/28/2021 15.63 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 3 (Wet) 3/10/2021 6.57 hrs. (lbs/event)	Event 4 (Dry) 5/12/2021 22.72 hrs. (lbs/event)
Organic	Phenol	0.002*	ND	ND	0.006*
Pesticide	Bromacil	(< <sup>b</sup> ) 0.001*	ND	0.002*	ND
Pesticide	Diazinon	0.0001	ND	ND	ND
Pesticide	Glyphosate	ND	0.75*	ND	ND
Pesticide	Pentachlorophenol	ND	0.01*	ND	ND

ND - Constituent not detected, and, therefore, no estimated mass loading was calculated.

\* - Calculation of mass loading derived from result flagged as DNQ - constituent detected but not quantified (MDL < result < RL).

(<) - Analyte was detected in the method blank so result is considered an upper limit. Detection in sample may be due to laboratory contamination.

(<<sup>a</sup>) - High bias in laboratory control sample for this analyte so result is considered an upper limit.

(<<sup>b</sup>) - High bias in matrix spike sample for this analyte so result is considered an upper limit.

## 9.9 WATER QUALITY INDEX

### Description

The County of Ventura River Water Quality Index mathematically combines several variables, based on a large set of monitoring data, in one easily understood value. It was developed specifically for the County of Ventura to summarize chemical, microbiological and toxicity monitoring data, and is based on the Alberta River Water Quality Index (<http://environment.alberta.ca/01275.html>). The Index provides a simple snapshot of annual water quality conditions in the main rivers of the County (Calleguas Creek (ME-CC), Santa Clara River (ME-SCR), and Ventura River (ME-VR including ME-VR2<sup>30</sup>)), with a strong focus on its ability to meet applicable water quality objectives (WQO).

### Methodology

The County of Ventura River Water Quality Index is calculated annually for each watershed, for dry and wet weather separately, based on the average of six sub-indices calculated for six variable groups:

- Salts
- Bacteria
- Nutrients
- Organics (includes pesticides)

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<sup>30</sup> ME-VR2 replaced ME-VR in 2005 after landslide activity made accessing the original ME-VR station unsafe. For the purposes of the Index, ME-VR refers to data from both stations.

- Metals
- Toxicity

The constituents included in the Index were selected based on their relevance to river water quality. They include almost all constituents that have exceeded WQO since 2004 in the County of Ventura receiving waters (excluding a few that correlate with other constituents) and all pesticides that were detected by the MS4 outfall monitoring program (often these do not have WQO). Toxicity test results are included in the toxicity variable group.

Most chemistry and microbiology variables are currently measured once per year during dry weather and three times per year during storm events. Toxicity is currently measured for the first wet event per year (seasonal first flush) per site.

In 2017, the SMP ceased to use drinking water standards for determining exceedances at sites located in Reaches that have an asterisk under the MUN beneficial use designation in the Basin Plan, which includes all three mass emission (receiving water) stations used for calculating the Index. Water quality standards (WQS) that are specific to drinking water include the Title 22 objectives referenced in the Basin Plan, California primary and secondary MCLs, CTR Human Health Water & Organisms criteria, California DPH Drinking Water Notification Levels, US EPA Drinking Water Health Advisories, USEPA IRIS Reference Doses, and National Academy of Sciences Drinking Water Health Advisories. Some of these standards have been used as thresholds for calculating the Index scores and so to retain comparability of Index scores between past and present years, the methods and thresholds used for the 2021 Index remained the same as those in previous years, however it should be noted that drinking water objectives are not enforceable thresholds. Drinking water thresholds are marked with “(DW)” in Table 9-28.

The mathematical formula used to calculate the individual sub-indices is the same one as used by the province of Alberta, Canada. However due to unique aspects in climate, pollutants of concern, urbanization, monitoring programs and environmental regulations that apply to the County of Ventura, compiling of the overall Index is tailored to Ventura County.

The Index formula is based on three aspects of water quality that relate to WQO:

- Scope (F1): how many constituents do not meet objectives?
- Frequency (F2): how frequently do measurements not meet objectives?
- Magnitude (F3): by how much do measurements not meet objectives?

The formula used to calculate the Ventura County Water Quality Index is:

$$WQI = 100 - \left( \frac{\sqrt{F_1^2 + F_2^2 + F_3^2}}{1.732} \right)$$

Most constituent concentrations are compared to the applicable WQO, as explained in the Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program 2011/12 Water Quality Monitoring Report. For some pesticides WQO have not been adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). In those cases, the most stringent thresholds available from the State Water Board’s Water Quality Goals website were used ([http://waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/water\\_quality\\_goals/search.shtml](http://waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_goals/search.shtml)). Note that the calculations for constituents without WQO is slightly different<sup>31</sup> to reflect the priorities of the State Water Board.

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<sup>31</sup> F3 is not included for constituents without WQO. This ensures that no excessive weight is given to constituents for which (often multiple) environmentally relevant human health or ecotoxicity thresholds are available national or state recommended water quality criteria, but for

The constituents included in the Ventura County River Water Quality Index are summarized in Table 9-28, together with the WQO or other environmentally relevant although not enforceable thresholds applicable during dry and wet weather.

Table 9-28. Water Quality Index Constituents and Thresholds

Constituents	Units	Threshold dry	Threshold wet	Threshold reference
<b>Salts</b>				
Total Dissolved Solids	mg/l	SSO	SSO	WQO
Chloride	mg/l	SSO	SSO	WQO
<b>Organics</b>				
2,4,5-T	µg/L	70	n/a	US EPA IRIS Reference Dose (DW)
2,4-D	µg/L	70	70	WQO (DW)
2,4-DB	µg/L	56	n/a	US EPA IRIS Reference Dose (DW)
4,4'-DDE	µg/L	0.00059	n/a	WQO
4,4'-DDT	µg/L	0.00059	1.1	WQO
Aldrin	µg/L	0.00013	3	WQO
Azinphos methyl	µg/L	0.01	0.01	US EPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria
Bromacil	µg/L	70	n/a	US EPA Drinking Water Health Advisory (DW)
Chlorpyrifos	µg/L	0.014	0.02	CA Department of Fish and Game Recommended criterion
Dalapon	µg/L	200	n/a	Drinking water MCL (DW)
DCPA (Dacthal)	µg/L	0.008	14300	US EPA IRIS Reference Dose (DW)
delta-BHC	µg/L	500	n/a	National Academy of Sciences Drinking Water Health Advisory (DW)
Demeton-O	µg/L	0.1	n/a	US EPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria
Demeton-S	µg/L	0.1	n/a	US EPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria
Diazinon	µg/L	0.05	0.08	CA Department of Fish and Game Recommended criterion
Dicamba	µg/L	210	n/a	US EPA IRIS Reference Dose (DW)
Dimethoate	µg/L	1	n/a	CA DPH Drinking Water Notification Level (DW)
Diphenamid	µg/L	200	n/a	CA DPH Drinking Water Notification Level (DW)
Glyphosate	µg/L	700	700	WQO (DW)
Malathion	µg/L	0.1	0.1	US EPA National Recommended Water Quality Criteria
Metolachlor	µg/L	44	100	US EPA Drinking Water Health Advisory (DW)

which the State Water Resources Control Board has not formally adopted water quality objectives. Note that parameters F1 and F2 are still included, to ensure that exceedances of these constituents are still reflected in the Ventura County Water Quality Index.

Constituents	Units	Threshold dry	Threshold wet	Threshold reference
Pentachlorophenol	µg/L	1	1	WQO (DW)
Simazine	µg/L	4	4	WQO (DW)
Toxaphene	µg/L	0.00073	0.73	WQO
Benzo(a)pyrene	µg/L	0.0044	0.2	WQO (DW)
Chrysene	µg/L	0.0044	n/a	WQO (DW)
Dibenz(a,h)anthracene	µg/L	0.0044	n/a	WQO (DW)
Indeno(1,2,3-cd)pyrene	µg/L	0.0044	n/a	WQO (DW)
DEHP	µg/L	1.8	4	WQO (DW)
DEP	µg/L	23000	n/a	WQO (DW)
<b>Bacteria</b>				
<i>E. coli</i> <sup>32</sup>	MPN/100 ml	235	235	WQO
<b>Nutrients</b>				
DO	mg/L	5	5	WQO
pH	pH units	6.5-8.5	6.5-8.5	WQO
Nitrate+Nitrite-N <sup>33</sup>	mg/l	SSO or 10	SSO or 10	WQO
Ammonia-N	mg/l	calc	calc	WQO
MBAS	mg/l	0.5	0.5	WQO
<b>Metals</b>				
Aluminum, total	µg/L	1000	1000	WQO (DW)
Antimony, total	µg/L	6	6	WQO (DW)
Arsenic, total	µg/L	10	10	WQO (DW)
Barium, total	µg/L	1000	1000	WQO (DW)
Beryllium, total	µg/L	4	4	WQO (DW)
Cadmium, total	µg/L	5	5	WQO (DW)
Cadmium, dissolved	µg/L	calc	calc	WQO
Chromium, total	µg/L	50	50	WQO (DW)
Chromium, VI	µg/L	11	16	WQO
Copper, dissolved	µg/L	calc	calc	WQO
Lead, dissolved	µg/L	calc	calc	WQO
Mercury, total	µg/L	0.05	2	WQO (DW)
Nickel, total	µg/L	100	100	WQO (DW)
Nickel, dissolved	µg/L	calc	calc	WQO
Selenium, total	µg/L	5	50	WQO (DW)

<sup>32</sup> *E. coli* concentrations are log-transformed before calculating F3. Log-transformation of *E. coli* concentrations is commonly applied in environmental statistics, to account for the log-normal concentrations distribution. Here, it ensures that *E. coli* exceedances do not low bias the index, relative to exceedances of other constituents.

<sup>33</sup> Changed from Nitrate-N in 2018.

Constituents	Units	Threshold dry	Threshold wet	Threshold reference
Silver, dissolved <sup>34</sup>	µg/L	n/a	calc	WQO
Thallium, total	µg/L	1.7	2	WQO (DW)
Zinc, dissolved	µg/L	calc	calc	WQO
<b>Toxicity</b>				
IC50 <sup>35</sup>	%	100	100	NPDES Permit

Notes SSO: site-specific objectives, n/a: not applicable, calc: threshold calculated based on other water quality parameters, WQO: water quality objective, DW: drinking water threshold.

Index values are calculated annually for the six variable groups for each watershed, and separately for dry and wet weather events. The latter is important because water quality and pollutants of concern are often different during dry and wet weather, as our Mediterranean climate produces little rain between May and September. The sub-indices are then averaged to produce an overall River Water Quality Index for dry and wet weather events. Multiple indices can also be averaged to obtain an Index for all watersheds combined, or for dry and wet weather combined.

### Rating System

Index results are reported as a number between 0 and 100, where 100 represents the best water quality, relative to objectives. The numbers are further ranked into five grades, each with a color code for graphing and mapping purposes:

Table 9-29. WQI Rating System

Index score	Grade	Interpretation
96 – 100	A	Excellent – Guidelines almost always met
81 – 95	B	Very Good
66 – 80	C	Fair
46 – 65	D	Marginal
0 – 45	F	Poor – All constituents exceed guidelines with high frequency

### 2021 WQI

Scores for 2020/21 monitoring year showing how multiple indices can also be averaged to obtain an Index for all watersheds combined, or for dry and wet weather combined:

Table 9-30. 2020/21 WQI Scores

Site	Event	Salts	Bacteria	Nutrients	Organics	Metals	Toxicity	Overall Index
ME-CC	Dry	59	18	100	95	100	n/a	74
	Wet	39	17	100	91	94	100	74
	Year	49	18	100	93	97	100	74

<sup>34</sup> No dissolved silver WQO for dry weather. Corrected in 2018.

<sup>35</sup> Toxicity in 2017/18 and 2018/19 only run with 100% concentrations so cannot calculate IC50s.



ME-SCR	Dry	59	100	100	98	100	n/a	91
	Wet	69	17	88	71	71	100	69
	Year	64	59	94	85	86	100	80
ME-VR	Dry	100	100	100	100	100	n/a	100
	Wet	100	18	100	100	100	100	86
	Year	100	59	100	100	100	100	93
All	Dry	73	73	100	97	100	n/a	89
	Wet	69	17	96	88	88	100	76
	Year	71	45	98	93	94	100	83

Using the same example as above, the grades for 2020/21 are:

Table 9-31. 2020/21 WQI Grades

Site	Event	Salts	Bacteria	Nutrients	Organics	Metals	Toxicity	Overall Index
ME-CC	Dry	D	F	A	B	A	n/a	C
	Wet	F	F	A	B	B	A	C
	Year	D	F	A	B	A	A	C
ME-SCR	Dry	D	A	A	A	A	n/a	B
	Wet	C	F	B	C	C	A	C
	Year	D	D	B	B	B	A	C
ME-VR	Dry	A	A	A	A	A	n/a	A
	Wet	A	F	A	A	A	A	B
	Year	A	D	A	A	A	A	B
All	Dry	C	C	A	A	A	n/a	B
	Wet	C	F	A	B	B	A	C
	Year	C	F	A	B	B	A	B

### What does the Index show?

Water quality at the mass emission Stations in Ventura County is generally good but does fluctuate from year to year, usually associated with changes in salts and bacteria in dry weather, and salts and metals in wet weather. Water quality is usually better during dry weather events compared to storm events (Figure 9-10). Trends of sub-indices are shown in Figure 9-11. The sub-indices quickly indicate what constituent classes are associated with drops of the overall Index. Lower scores are typically affected by salts in dry weather, and salts, metals, and bacteria in wet weather.

Overall water quality improved in Ventura County from 2003/04 to 2011/12, but then began dropping through 2016/17 coinciding with increasing (severe) drought conditions in Ventura County and a corresponding decrease in scores for salts and metals. A return to closer to average rainfall in 2017/18 through 2019/20 coincided with an improvement in salts scores, however, the heavy impact of the Thomas Fire on the Ventura River Watershed likely dragged down the 2017/18 scores at ME-VR (metals and toxicity in wet weather and bacteria<sup>36</sup> in dry weather),

<sup>36</sup> The exceedance was low in magnitude but because bacteria is based on only one sample for dry weather and it exceeded the objective, it

reducing the scores overall. The Ventura River Watershed appears to have rebounded significantly since then (Figure 9-10).

As in 2018/19 and 2019/20, ME-CC minimally exceeded the bacteria WQO in dry weather but the effect of the exceedance on the score is large because the bacteria score is based on only one sample and therefore had a 100% exceedance rate. Salts improved at ME-CC in dry weather but worsened in wet weather. The effect of the salts score on the decrease in overall score for ME-CC in wet weather was reduced by an improvement in the metals score. These changes were the main factors behind the respective increase/decrease in overall score for ME-CC in dry/wet weather for 2020/21. ME-VR held steady for dry weather but increased a little in wet weather due to improved bacteria and metals scores. ME-SCR dry weather score dropped due to a decrease in salts score, but the effect was lessened due to an improved organics score<sup>37</sup>. ME-SCR wet weather score dropped for all subindices except metals, which improved but not enough to counteract the other subindices, resulting in a decrease in overall wet weather score and overall score for ME-SCR.

Index scores have generally been best for ME-VR/VR2, followed by ME-SCR then ME-CC in non-drought years, and ME-CC then ME-SCR in drought years<sup>38</sup> (Figure 9-10). The order could be related to the degree of urbanization and agriculture in each watershed, as well as the effect of drought conditions on the watersheds.

Overall water quality in the County of Ventura is generally good, with the overall Index showing A to C grades at the mass emission stations during 2020/21 in both wet and dry weather.

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weights the score down regardless of the magnitude of the exceedance.

<sup>37</sup> Organics reporting levels have been increasing in recent years due to increased dilutions by the laboratory, resulting in some reporting limits that are higher than amounts that were previously detected at a site, so the non-detect results do not automatically signify that objectives were met, or how concentrations relate to previously detected levels. The SMP is exploring options for modifying the WQI to better account for reporting limit issues.

<sup>38</sup> 2020/21 was the driest year on historical record for Ventura County.

Figure 9-9. WQI Trends for All Locations Combined

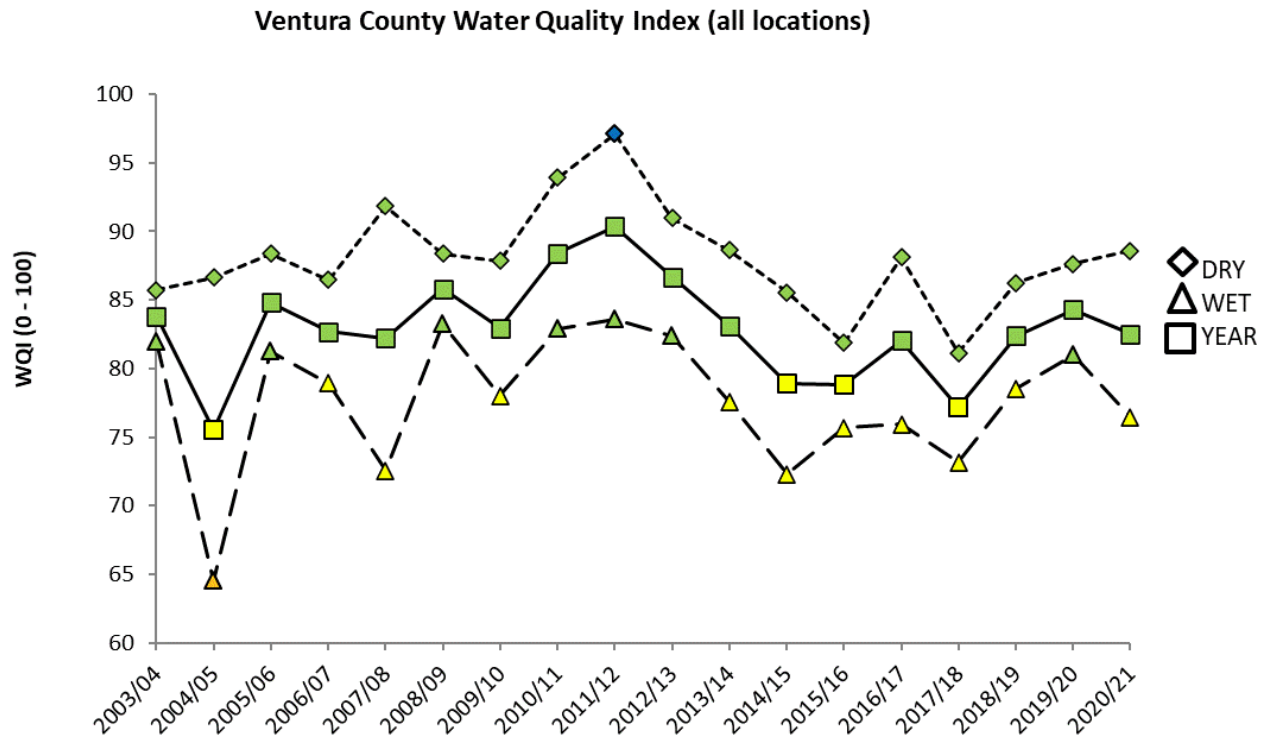


Figure 9-10. Combined Wet and Dry WQI Trends for Each Receiving Water Station

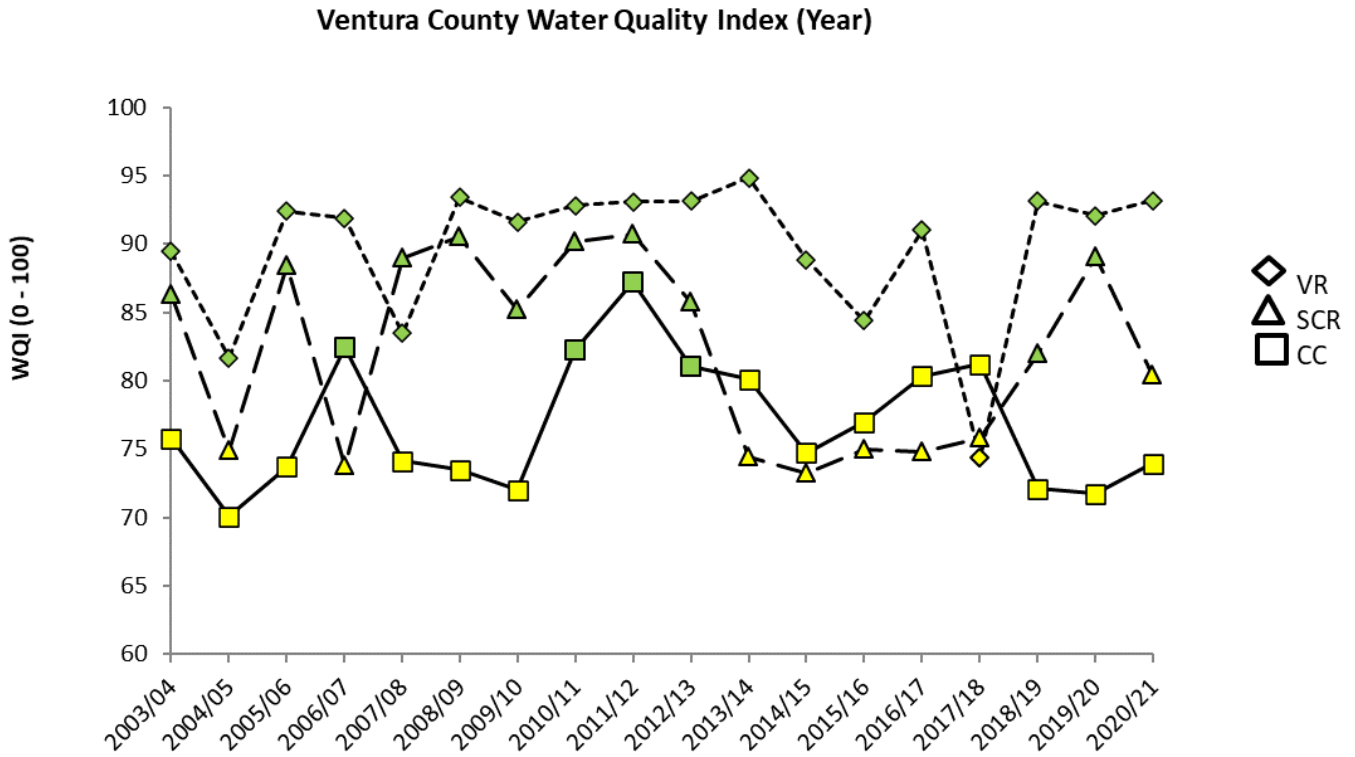
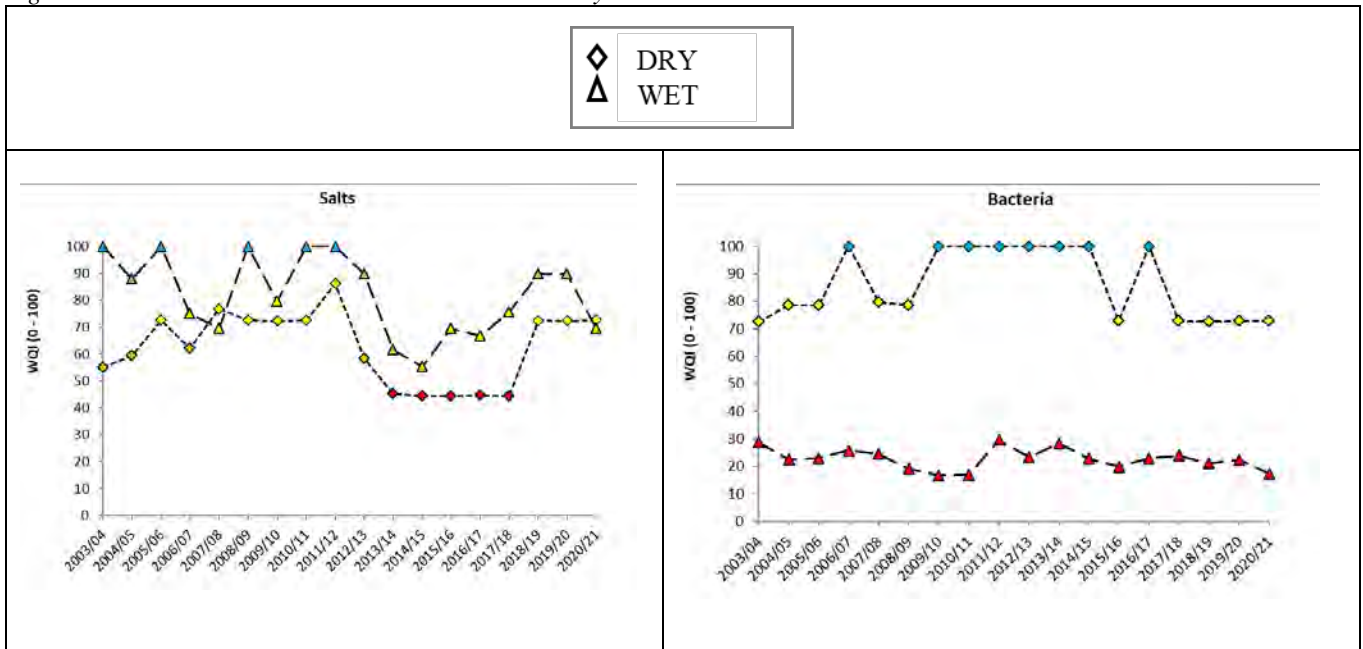
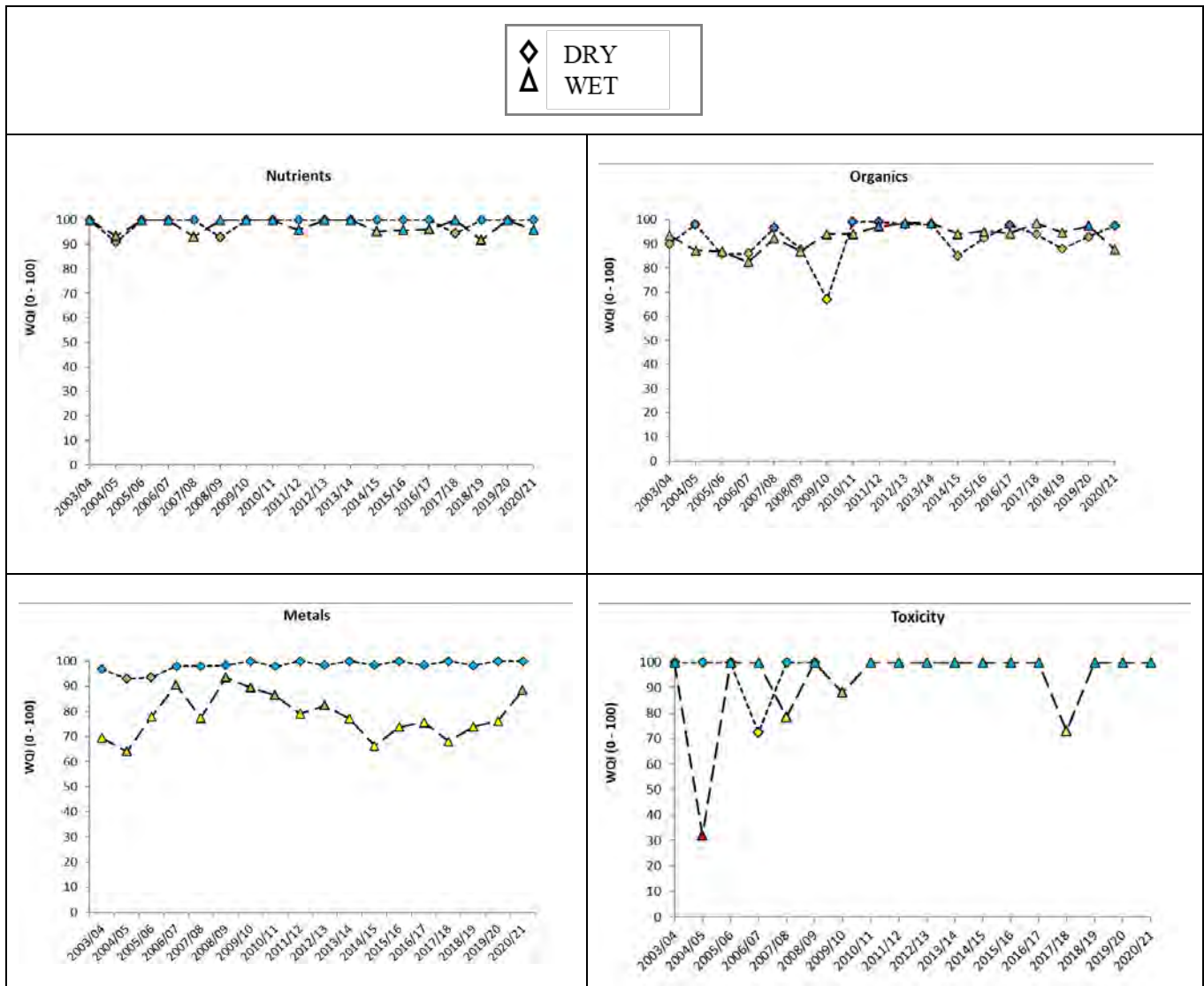


Figure 9-11 Sub-Index Trends with Grades Indicated by Color Codes





## 9.10 AQUATIC TOXICITY RESULTS

The SMP’s NPDES Permit includes chronic toxicity monitoring requirements for the mass emission and major outfall stations. The Permit specifies that for the first year a station is online for the Permit cycle, chronic toxicity testing is to be conducted using three species during two storm events, the first of the wet season plus one other. For each site, the most sensitive species determined during the initial year of sampling is then to be used for toxicity testing for the first storm of the season for the next four years. The Program has continued to analyze samples from the first storm of the season for aquatic toxicity, even though the requirement was completed in the 2014/15 monitoring year.

The Permit requires that marine/estuarine species [topsmelt (*Atherinops affinis*), giant kelp (*Macrocystis pyrifera*), and purple sea urchin (*Strongylocentrotus purpuratus*)] be used for the mass emission stations and for sites that discharge into marine receiving waters. Freshwater species [fathead minnow (*Pimephales promelas*), water flea (*Ceriodaphnia dubia*), and green algae (*Selenastrum capricornutum*)] must be used for sites that discharge into

freshwater receiving waters. This means that marine species are required to be used in freshwaters, such as at the three mass emission stations. Although flow from all sampling sites is ultimately discharged to the ocean, mass emission samples are freshwater with low salt concentrations. The use of marine species for the mass emission sites requires the sample to be greatly manipulated by adding a large quantity of salt. Salt addition results in oxygen uptake and requires the sample to be vigorously aerated. The results from marine organisms for freshwater toxicity tests are less applicable to the existing conditions in the receiving water than freshwater organisms.

The most sensitive species was determined for seven stations (ME-CC, ME-SCR, ME-VR2, MO-CAM, MO-MEI, MO-OJA, and MO-VEN) during the 2009/10 monitoring year. The other seven stations (MO-FIL, MO-HUE, MO-MPK, MO-OXN, MO-SIM, MO-SPA, and MO-THO) were brought online for the 2010/11 monitoring year and the most sensitive species were determined from the results from that year. The most sensitive species for each site are shown in Table 9-32 and will be used for toxicity analysis during the first rainfall event of future years, as required by the NPDES Permit.

Table 9-32. Most Sensitive Species Selected for Annual Toxicity Testing

Site	Most Sensitive Species
ME-CC	Topsmelt*
ME-SCR	Purple sea urchin
ME-VR2	Topsmelt*
MO-CAM	Fathead minnow
MO-OJA	Fathead minnow
MO-MEI	Fathead minnow
MO-VEN	Water flea
MO-FIL	Water flea
MO-HUE	Water flea <sup>39</sup>
MO-MPK	Green alga
MO-OXN	Fathead minnow
MO-SIM	Water flea
MO-SPA	Fathead minnow
MO-THO	Water flea

Event 1 was sampled on December 28, 2020 at all fourteen sites and the samples were delivered on ice to Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories, Inc. on the same day. Tests using organisms supplied in-house were initiated within the Permit's 36-hour preferred hold time. The storm occurred on a Monday, so organisms from interstate vendors could not be ordered in advance due to weekend shipping constraints. Tests that required purchasing organisms from interstate vendors were initiated within 57 hours, within the Permit's 72-hour maximum hold time.

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<sup>39</sup> MO-HUE discharges into tšumaš (chumash) creek (formerly J Street Drain), near where tšumaš (chumash) creek enters the Ormond Lagoon/Pacific Ocean. This area is influenced both by tides and by the status of the sand berm, which can cause backwater effects. Since salinity at MO-HUE is strongly influenced by the ocean, with measured levels of 0.3-7.7 parts per thousand (ppt), a different approach for selecting an organism is sometimes needed for this site. *Ceriodaphnia dubia* (water flea) was determined to be the most sensitive species in 2010, when both the samples used for that determination were below 1 ppt, however it can only tolerate a maximum salinity of 1-2 ppt. When salinity is above 2 ppt, a second test using topsmelt (a euryhaline organism that can tolerate salinities of 3-36 ppt and is the most sensitive species utilized for ME-CC and ME-VR2) is run concurrently with the *Ceriodaphnia* to verify whether salinity is the likely cause of any mortality. The salinity for the MO-HUE grab sample as measured in situ by the field crew was 0.6 ppt at the time of sample collection for 2020/21, so topsmelt was not analyzed.

Toxicity was not observed (i.e. there was not a significant reduction in survival or growth compared to the laboratory controls) for any of the undiluted marine or freshwater species tests and all sites passed the test of significant toxicity (TST) analysis.

Marine species toxicity bioassay results are shown in Table 9-33 (mass emission stations) and freshwater species toxicity bioassay results are in Table 9-34 (major outfall stations).

Table 9-33. Chronic Toxicity Testing Results from Mass Emission Stations (Marine Species)

			<b>Topsmelt (<i>Atherinops affinis</i>)</b>							
			<b>Survival</b>				<b>Biomass</b>			
<b>Site</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>NOEC (%)</b>	<b>TUc</b>	<b>EC25 (%)</b>	<b>EC50 (%)</b>	<b>NOEC (%)</b>	<b>TUc</b>	<b>IC25 (%)</b>	<b>IC50 (%)</b>
<b>ME-CC</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00
<b>ME-VR2</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00

			<b>Purple sea urchin (<i>Strongylocentrotus purpuratus</i>)</b>			
			<b>Fertilization</b>			
<b>Site</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>NOEC (%)</b>	<b>TUc</b>	<b>IC25 (%)</b>	<b>IC50 (%)</b>
<b>ME-SCR</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00

Table 9-34. Chronic Toxicity Testing Results from Major Outfall Stations (Freshwater Species)

			<b>Fathead minnow (<i>Pimephales promelas</i>)</b>							
			<b>Survival</b>				<b>Reproduction</b>			
<b>Site</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>NOEC (%)</b>	<b>TUc</b>	<b>EC25 (%)</b>	<b>EC50 (%)</b>	<b>NOEC (%)</b>	<b>TUc</b>	<b>IC25 (%)</b>	<b>IC50 (%)</b>
<b>MO-CAM</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00
<b>MO-OJA</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00
<b>MO-MEI</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00
<b>MO-OXN</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00
<b>MO-SPA</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00

			<b>Daphnid (<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>)</b>							
			<b>Survival</b>				<b>Reproduction</b>			
<b>Site</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Event Date</b>	<b>NOEC (%)</b>	<b>TUc</b>	<b>EC25 (%)</b>	<b>EC50 (%)</b>	<b>NOEC (%)</b>	<b>TUc</b>	<b>IC25 (%)</b>	<b>IC50 (%)</b>
<b>MO-VEN</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00
<b>MO-FIL</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00
<b>MO-HUE</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	74.87	>100.00
<b>MO-SIM</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00
<b>MO-THO</b>	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00

<b>Green alga (<i>Selenastrum capricornutum</i>)</b>
<b>Growth</b>

Site	Event	Event Date	NOEC (%)	TUc	IC25 (%)	IC50 (%)
MO-MPK	Event 1 (Wet)	12/28/2020	100.00	1.00	>100.00	>100.00

More detailed results are available in Appendix I in Attachment D. All tests were performed as required.

## 9.11 DRY-SEASON, DRY-WEATHER ANALYTICAL MONITORING

As described in the NPDES Permit, dry weather monitoring is required once during each dry season (May 1 – September 30) at sites selected to be representative of runoff from each of the Permittees’ jurisdictions (each city and the county unincorporated area) in Ventura County.

### 9.11.1 2021 Dry Season Monitoring (2021-DRY)

For five jurisdictions, monitoring occurred at the associated major outfall monitoring station; however, as anticipated, inadequate flow was encountered at six of the major outfall stations prompting the sampling of alternate locations for these sites. Receiving water monitoring is not part of this Permit requirement. The five jurisdictions with sampleable dry-season, dry-weather major outfall stations were: Camarillo, Fillmore, Moorpark, Simi Valley, and Thousand Oaks. For the remaining jurisdictions, the list of alternate sites was used to select a location with suitable flow. The Port Hueneme site was moved upstream to Bubbling Springs Park (Port Hueneme-3) to reduce ocean influence from the tidal/sand berm affected tšumaš (chumash) creek. Dry conditions at the remaining sites triggered the use of the alternate list, with sampling focused on sites that had previously been sampled. The County Unincorporated site was sampled at the Arroyo Santa Rosa in the Santa Rosa Valley (Unincorporated-4), Santa Paula was sampled at Richmond Road Drain (Santa-Paula-4), Oxnard was sampled at Stroube Drain (Oxnard-2) and Ventura was sampled at Dent Drain (Ventura-5). A new site was found for Ojai in 2021 due to dry conditions and access issues at the previously identified alternate sites. The new site, Ojai-7, was sampled at San Antonio Creek below Stewart Canyon and is downstream of alternate site Ojai-3 (San Antonio Creek), which no longer has access permission, and Ojai-2 (Stewart Canyon), which was dry.

Sampling took place on two days and there was at least 72 hours of dry weather preceding each sampling event. Fillmore-1 (MO-FIL), Ojai-7 (DRY-OJA7), Oxnard-2 (DRY-OXN2), Ventura-5 (DRY-VEN5), and Port Hueneme-3 (DRY-HUE3) were sampled on August 10, 2021 and all Santa Paula sites were attempted but flow was insufficient for sampling. Camarillo-1 (MO-CAM), Moorpark-1 (MO-MPK), Simi Valley-1 (MO-SIM), Thousand Oaks-1 (MO-THO), and Unincorporated-4 (DRY-UNI4), were sampled on August 11, 2021 and the Santa Paula sites were revisited. Santa Paula-4 (DRY-SPA4) was the only site with flow so sampling was conducted. Flow at Moorpark-1 and Santa Paula-4 was too low to meet the requirements for use of the YSI 85 dissolved oxygen meter so these measurements could not be taken.

Grab samples for total coliform, *E. coli*, total hardness, total organic carbon, and three dissolved metals (copper, lead, and zinc) were collected and analyzed. Field observations and measurements were also taken. The results are presented in Appendix J and laboratory QA/QC is included in Appendix F in Attachment D. Constituents outside of water quality standards are in Table 9-35.



Table 9-35. Dry Season Constituents Detected above Water Quality Standards

Dry Season 2021 Elevated Levels								
Calleguas Creek Watershed								
Constituent	MO-CAM	MO-MPK	MO-SIM	MO-THO	DRY-UNI4	Units	BPO	CTRO
<i>E. coli</i>	19,863	1,050			8,664	MPN/100 mL	235	
pH					8.67	pH Units	8.5	
Santa Clara River Watershed								
Constituent	DRY-SPA4	DRY-ONX2	MO-FIL			Units	BPO	CTRO
<i>E. coli</i>	359	5,172				MPN/100 mL	235	
Ventura River Watershed								
Constituent	DRY-OJA7	DRY-VEN5				Units	BPO	CTRO
<i>E. coli</i>		14,136				MPN/100 mL	235	
Dissolved Oxygen		1.83				mg/L	5	
Pacific Ocean								
Constituent	DRY-HUE3					Units	BPO	CTRO
<i>E. coli</i>	64,880					MPN/100 mL	235	
Dissolved Oxygen	1.24					mg/L	5	

## 9.12 BIOASSESSMENT MONITORING

As written in the Permit, the Principal Permittee continued to participate in the Southern California Stormwater Monitoring Coalition (SMC) Southern California Regional Bioassessment Program (RBP). The RBP is run by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) with the participation and assistance of multiple agencies and organizations. The first five-year study was conducted from 2009-2013 and looked at the trend and condition of perennial waterbodies in southern California. In 2014, while the 2009-2013 data was being reviewed and analyzed, an interim one-year study was performed to: 1) validate and refine assessment tools for use in nonperennial streams by conducting repeat assessments at nonperennial reference sites during the monitoring season, and 2) see if changes in condition could be detected by revisiting perennial sites sampled early in the first RBP study cycle. The second five-year study (2015-2019) built on the preceding work by looking at both trend and condition components of perennial and nonperennial streams in Southern California. New components included measurements of hydromodification and bioanalytical screens for chemicals of emerging concern (2015 & 2016). Sediment sampling for grain size, nutrients, pyrethroid pesticides and fipronils, and total organic carbon, was added in 2017 for Ventura County sites with sufficient sediment for analysis as a pilot study to check the feasibility and outcomes of including these requirements in the RBP. The addition of sediment analysis was expanded to include all RBP participants in 2018. The 2015-2019 study was extended to include 2020, to allow greater time to develop a plan for the next study. The 2021-2025 study continues the work of the previous studies in looking at status and trends but also includes several optional special studies to address knowledge gaps, such as how development affects the ecological potential of streams.

The 2021-2025 study provides flexibility within the workplan to allow participants to reallocate resources depending on participant priorities on an annual basis. The Principal Permittee has been allocated an equivalent of 75 bioassessments over the 5-year study. This allocation includes revisiting one of the 2015-2019 trend sites for both the Calleguas Creek and Santa Clara River watersheds (panel 1 trend sites) once during the study period, four years of annual sampling at new trend sites that were previously sampled in 2008-2009 (panel 2 trend sites), and five years of sampling at new condition sites. A targeted number of sites was assigned to each participating agency based on watershed and site type.

The panel 2 trend site allocations for the Principal Permittee include three sites for Calleguas Creek and Ventura River watersheds, two sites for the Santa Clara River watershed, and one site for the Santa Monica Bay watershed, to be sampled annually for four of the five years. The Principal Permittee was allocated a total of seven condition sites for both the Calleguas Creek and Ventura River watersheds, and five for the Santa Clara River watershed, to be spread out over the five years at the Principal Permittee’s discretion. Condition sites are probabilistically generated and include both perennial and nonperennial sites. The 2015-2020 list of randomly generated sites was carried over to be used for the 2021-2025 study.

For the trend and condition sites, the Principal Permittee received a list of potential sites for each category and then evaluated the potential sites to ensure they met the requirements of the RBP (e.g. accessible, water present, obtainable landowner permission etc.). The original trend assessments were not all performed by the Principal Permittee; therefore, reconnaissance was performed on those sites as if they were new to the RBP. Alternative trend sites are sampled if one of the trend sites cannot be sampled in any given year.

The 2021-2025 study workplan includes an optional causal assessment special study, in which each participant will work to identify the stressors potentially causing poor conditions at a specific site so that managers can determine appropriate actions for improving conditions. The Principal Permittee has been allocated the equivalent of eighteen sample events towards this study, but since preliminary efforts have had difficulty identifying candidate sites, and no monitoring was scheduled for 2021, the Principal Permittee sampled an additional panel two trend site in the Ventura River watershed in 2021 to meet the full number of Permit-required samples (15) for the 2021 monitoring season.

In addition to participating in the RBP, the Permit requires annual monitoring of one fixed site in each of the three major Ventura County watersheds using RBP protocols. The mass emission stations, ME-CC, ME-SCR, and ME-VR2, are monitored to meet this requirement. The bioassessment site for ME-SCR was moved 1,300 meters upstream and named ME-SCR2 for 2019 and beyond to avoid the fluctuating wetland conditions behind the Freeman Diversion Dam.

The completed (2021) and projected (2022-2025) allocations are shown in Table 9-36.

Table 9-36. Completed (2021) and Projected (2022-2025) Sample Allocations

SampleType	Watershed	Sample Year				
		2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
Condition	Calleguas Creek	2	2	1	1	1
	Santa Clara River	1	1	1	1	1
	Ventura River	2	2	1	1	1
Trend Panel 1	Calleguas Creek					1
	Santa Clara River					1
Trend Panel 2	Calleguas Creek	3	3	3	3	
	Santa Clara River	2	2	2	2	
	Ventura River	4*	3	3	3	
	Santa Monica Bay	1	1	1	1	
Mass Emission Station	Calleguas Creek	1	1	1	1	1
	Santa Clara River	1	1	1	1	1

	Ventura River	1	1	1	1	1
Causal Assessment	To Be Determined	0*	1	3	3	10
<b>Total # Sites</b>	All	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>18</b>

\* Sampled extra Panel 2 Ventura River site in 2021 because causal assessment not started

With help from Aquatic Bioassay & Consulting Laboratories, Inc. (ABC), sampling was conducted May 19 – July 13, 2021. The reconnaissance, water chemistry, California Rapid Assessment Method (CRAM), physical habitat (P-HAB), flow, and other field data were submitted to the SMC in 2021. Taxonomy data is currently due to SCCWRP by February 28, 2022.

Bioassessment reports and the current Workplan (2021-2025) are available at <http://www.vcstormwater.org/index.php/publications/reports/technical-reports> and include stream survey reports of the current study for 2017 and 2018-19, a fact sheet and final report for the 2009-2013 study, and a technical and non-technical report on the first year of the previous study (2009). Topic-specific reports utilizing the study data are in development and links to relevant reports will be included in future Annual Water Quality Monitoring Reports, as they become available.

### 9.13 BEACH WATER QUALITY MONITORING

The Permit requires the Program to fund beach water quality monitoring in accordance with procedures and locations used in AB411 monitoring at ten sites if funding from state and federal sources is not available. Those funds were available during the reporting period, so the County of Ventura Environmental Health Department (EHD) conducted ocean water quality monitoring at 40 sites along the Ventura County coast, including year-round monitoring at the ten sites listed in the Permit. The Program was not involved in the monitoring; however, the results of that monitoring is summarized in Table 9-37 below.

Heal the Bay’s 2020/21 Annual Beach Report Card (BRC) assigns beaches a grade on an A to F scale, with higher grades representing lower risk of illness for beachgoers. 98% of Ventura County Beaches earned an A grade for summer dry weather and the BRC stated, “We are heartened that Ventura County sets such a high bar for summer water quality.” Wet weather grades were “great and above average”, with 92% receiving an A grade. Winter dry weather grades were “also very good” with 92% of sites receiving A grades. Seven Ventura County beaches made the honor roll (A+ for all seasons and weather conditions year-round). Ventura County received well below the historical annual average amount of rainfall (only 5 of 12 inches).

Compliance with limits set by the State of California for all parameters was achieved in over 97% of samples.

Table 9-37. Beach Water Quality Monitoring Results July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021

	Total Coliform (TC)	Fecal Coliform (FC*)	Enterococcus (Enteroc)	FC*:TC
<b>Number of Samples</b>	1,444	1,444	1,444	1,444
<b>SS Limit (MPN/100mL)</b>	10,000	400	104	N/A
<b>SS Limit (Ratio)</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	Ratio > 0.1 and TC > 1,000
<b>No. Samples &gt; SS Limit</b>	7	7	19	6
<b>% Samples within limits</b>	99.995	99.995	99.987	99.996

SS = Single Sample

\* EHD substitutes *E. coli* results for fecal coliform results for reporting and calculations

## 9.14 TMDL MONITORING

TMDL monitoring is conducted by following the L.A. Regional Board's Executive Officer approved TMDL Monitoring and Reporting Plans prepared and implemented by the TMDL Responsible Parties. The Permit addresses the TMDL monitoring requirements by maintaining the responsibility of monitoring and reporting with the Responsible Parties of the TMDLs. Part 3 Section A.5. of the Permit states:

*“If TMDL requirements, including Implementation Plans and Reports, address substantially similar requirements as the MS4 permit, the Executive Officer may approve the applicable reports, plans, data or submittals under the applicable TMDL as fulfilling the requirements under the MS4”.*

Monitoring for the TMDLs are performed under compliance monitoring plans approved by the L.A. Regional Board's Executive Officer, and the Permit does not include any monitoring or reporting for TMDLs beyond the adopted TMDL requirements. These approved plans detail the monitoring effort involved, including how and when the results are to be reported to the Regional Board, and do not incorporate the Program's SMP.

TMDL monitoring requires significant coordination among multiple Responsible Parties, many of which do not operate MS4s. The Principal Permittee does not collect monitoring data for any TMDLs, but as an appropriate Responsible Party participates in the multi-stakeholder groups focusing on implementing TMDL requirements. Many of the Permittees operate under separate implementing legal instruments for common sharing of monitoring and reporting costs and collection of data and studies. Currently effective multi-stakeholder Memoranda of Agreements (MOAs) are listed in Table 2-1. In these cases, the TMDL monitoring programs are designed to meet the requirements of all the Responsible Parties participating in the TMDL monitoring program. As such, monitoring data that is gathered by the TMDL monitoring programs are reviewed, evaluated, and owned by the TMDL monitoring programs. The data cannot be officially used by Permittees for reporting or public release until the final reports have been submitted to the Regional Board.

In the adoption of TMDLs by the Regional Board as Basin Plan Amendments, unique schedules for submittal of data and reports were established. TMDL monitoring is conducted in accordance with requirements and schedules outlined in Basin Plan Amendments and TMDL monitoring plans that are approved by the Regional Board Executive Officer independently of the Program requirements. Routinely, the reporting periods and dates for TMDL weekly, annual, or periodic reports and monitoring data submittals do not always correspond with the Countywide Stormwater Permit Annual Report due by December 15<sup>th</sup> each year.

Recognizing that reporting improvements could facilitate better understanding of watershed conditions, we have initiated discussions with the Calleguas Creek Watershed TMDL Parties in hopes of producing a better, more integrated report for both programs. However, progress on integration will require more than communication between MS4 and TMDL Responsible Parties, as the Regional Board will also have to be willing to allow changes in the approved monitoring programs in Ventura County (e.g. stormwater, wastewater, and agriculture waiver). Regional Board staff assistance has been requested in facilitating this integrated approach for the TMDL and MS4 monitoring program and could be improved if POTW and Ventura County Irrigated Lands Program monitoring programs are also considered.

Nonetheless, all available final TMDL reports and data for the reporting period of July 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup> have been compiled in Attachment E.

## 9.15 SOCAL BIGHT 2018 (BIGHT '18) MONITORING

The Southern California Bight Regional Monitoring Program (Bight) is an ongoing regional marine monitoring collaboration that examines how human activities affect the health of Southern California coastal waters. Participating organizations pool their resources and expertise to investigate the condition of marine ecosystems across both time and space. The Bight Program began in 1994 and runs on a five-year cycle. The current Bight Program (Bight '18) includes five major study elements: sediment quality, ocean acidification, harmful algal blooms, trash, and microbiology. The SMP is participating in the microbiology study element to research better methods of determining health risk to swimmers, which in turn could result in fewer unnecessary beach closings, and cost savings for compliance with bacteria total maximum daily loads (TMDLs).

The microbiology study will test the use of a new Environmental Protection Agency method (EPA Method 1642) for enumerating male-specific and somatic coliphages (bacterial virus) in recreational waters at Southern California beaches. Coliphage measured by EPA Method 1642 has been proposed by the EPA for use as a new beach water quality indicator. The SMP is collaborating with the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP), California State University Channel Islands (CSUCI), and the Ventura County Environmental Health Division (VCEHD) for sample collection, testing, and analysis. The study is entitled "Evaluation of EPA Method 1642 for Enumeration of Male Specific and Somatic Coliphage in Recreational Waters and Wastewater."

The study proposes to answer the following questions: (1) Is Method 1642 performance consistent across Southern California beaches? (2) How do measurements of *Enterococcus* compare to those of somatic and male-specific coliphages in beach water? (3) Is there a seasonal difference in magnitude and frequency of somatic and male-specific coliphages in beach water between wet and dry weather?

The project consists of collection and analysis of 30 dry weather samples and 30 wet weather (defined as days with 0.1 inch of rain or greater following at least three dry days) samples collected by VCEHD at each of two existing beach water quality monitoring sites: Surfer's Point at Seaside and Surfer's Knoll Beach. CSUCI Chemistry and Biology departments worked together to perform EPA Method 1642 on the ocean water samples. Results of their weekly analysis will be compared to fecal indicator bacteria *Enterococcus* results from the same location, as *Enterococcus* is currently the fecal indicator bacteria enumerated for beach water quality monitoring.

Sample collection began on June 24, 2019 with the collection of samples for training CSUCI participants on Quality Assurance/Quality Control (QA/QC) methods that run parallel with sample processing and to look for potential matrix interference in the method. Ten CSUCI undergraduate students and two faculty are participating in the Coliphage Study. Six students participated 2019-2020 and another four participated 2020 to 2021, after the original six graduated. These students are supported by and represent the Program in the Bight'18 Study.

During the July 2020 – June 2021 period, the CSUCI students ran 25 sets of quality controls to first reestablish standards after the ~5 month break due to COVID-19 shutdowns and then to support environmental data. Further, 13 beach water samples were assayed from Surfer's Point and 12 from Surfer's Knoll. Each beach water sample is paired with an *Enterococci* measurement from Ventura County Public Health Laboratory. During the same time, there were several 2-week to 1-month periods of COVID-19 related shutdowns on campus. The undergraduate students, however, worked safely under COVID-19 restrictions and stayed healthy through the year.

The involvement of the CSUCI undergraduate students is significant. The students gain valuable laboratory and research skills and interact with various environmental monitoring groups (Program, SCCWRP). This experience contributed to two of the graduating seniors quickly finding full-time work and one of the juniors developing a strong interest in environmental microbiology.

## 9.16 PYRETHROID INSECTICIDES STUDY 2012-2021

Monitoring of sediment for pyrethroids, total organic carbon (TOC), and toxicity to the amphipod, *Hyalella azteca*, was conducted at two sites in the Calleguas Creek (CC), Ventura River (VR), and Santa Clara River (SCR) watersheds in 2012, 2015, 2018, and 2021, as required by the Permit.

The 2020/21 water year was exceptionally dry, and Ventura County received only 20-30% of normal rainfall, with most of the rain falling in December, January, and March. Sampling was conducted on March 23 and 24, 2021, one to two weeks after the March storm. Two of the usual sites were dry with no evidence of seasonal flow: CC Up and SCR Down. A replacement site with similar land use approximately 5.5 miles upstream was sampled for SCR Down (SCR Down-a), but an appropriate replacement site was not found for CC Up. Pyrethroids were not detected in the 2021 round of the Study, however the laboratory's reporting levels for 2021 were higher than previous years, which could have obscured detection of some pyrethroids at previously detected levels. All 2021 samples displayed significant toxicity and a toxicity identification evaluation (TIE) was conducted, which determined that the toxicity was likely caused by the naturally occurring chironomids in the sample preying on the *H. azteca* organisms used for the test. The removal of the chironomids eliminated the toxicity in the samples.

There was no toxicity or detections of pyrethroids in 2018. In 2012 and 2015, the most detected pyrethroids were bifenthrin and permethrin. The hypothetical contribution to toxicity (TUH) was calculated for each detection based on the sample's pyrethroid concentration, TOC amount, and a pyrethroid reference concentration known to cause significant toxicity to *H. azteca* in sediment samples. The hypothetical and observed toxicity agreed that the pyrethroid concentrations should not result in significant toxicity for all samples, although WOOD 2012, a predominately agricultural site, showed bifenthrin near the TUH threshold for toxicity. In two samples, SCR Up 2015 and VR Down 2015, significant toxicity was observed but TUH was low, indicating that the cause of the toxicity was a pollutant not part of this study. These two sites are associated with multiple land uses, including urban and agriculture.

Bifenthrin and permethrin are both used in significant quantities for regulated applications for structural and agricultural pest control in Ventura County but are also known to have unregulated applications for residential and industrial uses, which are not tracked. The lack of correlation between pyrethroid TUH and corresponding observed toxicity for samples collected over four study terms, except at the agricultural-dominated WOOD site in 2012, suggests that the current approach to mitigate urban contributions of pyrethroids by targeting pesticide use in the Program's education and outreach campaigns is effective and should be continued. The agricultural contributions are not under the jurisdiction of the Program and would need to be addressed through other avenues.

The full report is available in Appendix L in Attachment D.