

**APPENDIX I**

**San Juan Basin Groundwater and Facilities Management Plan**

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**The SJBGFMP is a Large File. Click this text to open its webpage.**

**2015 IRWM Implementation Grant Program Solicitation Application  
Supplemental Form  
California Department of Water Resources  
Integrated Regional Water Management Grant Program**

On September 28, 2014 the Governor signed Assembly Bill (AB) 1249, which became effective on January 1, 2015 and modified the IRWM Planning Act by adding, among other sections, California Water Code Sections 10544.5 and 10545. These two sections require Regional Water Management Groups and DWR to make certain considerations for areas that have nitrate, arsenic, perchlorate, or hexavalent chromium contamination. Details of these code sections can be found at the following link:

[http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=WAT&division=6.&title=&part=2.2.&chapter=5.&article=](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText.xhtml?lawCode=WAT&division=6.&title=&part=2.2.&chapter=5.&article=)

All applicants that submitted proposals to DWR for 2015 IRWM Implementation Grant Program Solicitation (2015 Solicitation), must complete, sign, and submit this form to DWR by 5:00 PM, September 4, 2015. DWR will consider the responses when making funding decisions.

IRWM Region: South Orange County Watershed Management Area

Applicant: County of Orange

1. Does your IRWM Region contain areas with nitrate, arsenic, perchlorate, or hexavalent chromium contamination?

YES – Please provide a brief summary of the contaminants of concerns and the area(s) of contamination. Then go to Question 2.

NO – Please support the basis for such a conclusion. Skip Question 2 and sign form.

No surface waterbodies in South Orange County are listed on the Final California 2010 Integrated Report (303(d) List/305(b) Report) for nitrate, arsenic, perchlorate or hexavalent chromium. Three waterbodies - Aliso Creek, Arroyo Trabuco Creek and San Juan Creek - are listed for Total Nitrogen as N (Total N), which includes nitrate-Nitrogen; however, listings for these waterbodies do not separate nitrate from Total N and are thus not considered impaired for nitrate. Additionally, the Orange County Stormwater Program noted in the 2014 State of the Environment Report to the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board that though nutrient levels such as Total N and Phosphorus exceed commonly used thresholds that would indicate potential impacts, occurrences of impacts are less frequent and not unique to urbanized areas. Further, given that diffuse sources of nutrients, non-traditional pollutant control strategies that account for site-specific conditions may better contribute to further progress in the region. Projects included in the grant application for the Watershed Management Area address nutrient loading in this manner; the Crown Valley Park Channel Entry Improvement project will provide nutrient reduction for a portion of the Aliso Creek watershed through creek restoration, and the Strategic Turfgrass Removal & Design Assistance project will reduce nutrients discharged in runoff from landscaped areas by promoting replacement of turfgrass with native and California Friendly plants at sites throughout the region.

Regarding groundwater quality, two recent studies in the San Juan Creek Watershed have demonstrated that nitrate, arsenic, perchlorate and hexavalent chromium are not constituents of concern in the Watershed: the 2013 San Juan Basin Groundwater and Facilities Management Plan and the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the South Orange County Aliso Creek, San Juan Creek, and Portions of Other Basins (Appendix G to the IRWM Plan for South Orange County). For nitrates specifically, the Groundwater and Facilities Management Plan, which evaluated data for the 2006-2010 period, indicated that exceedances of the MCL for nitrate occurred in only 1% of reported sample results. The Salt and Nutrient Management Plan concluded that nitrate (as nitrogen) concentrations in groundwater and surface water are well below the Basin Plan Objective (and MCL) of 10 mg/L and that nitrogen loading is not a significant issue within the San Juan Creek Basin. A recent review of the San Juan Basin Authority's database shows that, with the exception of a few monitoring wells associated with leaking underground storage tanks (LUST sites), there have been no reported exceedances of the nitrate MCL at the municipal or monitoring wells tracked by the San Juan Basin Authority since 2010. These few shallow wells are not utilized for drinking water and thus do not impact the ability of water purveyors within the San Juan Basin Authority to provide clean and safe drinking water to any communities, including Disadvantaged Communities (DACs), in South Orange County. Additionally, no projects included in the application directly impact groundwater in the San Juan Basin.

Finally, water quality for all drinking water provided to customers within the San Juan Basin meets required MCLs. A significant majority of drinking water within the San Juan Basin Authority area is from imported sources; these sources all meet drinking water standards. Water Quality Reports for each of the four agencies within the San Juan Basin - Moulton Niguel Water District, South Coast Water District, Santa Margarita Water District and the City of San Juan Capistrano - provide water quality results and are available on each agency's respective website.

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2. Does your 2015 IRWM Implementation grant proposal contain a project(s) that helps address the contamination?

- YES – Please identify which project(s) helps address the contamination and briefly describe how each project helps and whether it provides safe drinking water to small disadvantaged communities (Communities with a median household income (MHI) of less than 80% of the Statewide MHI with a population of fewer than 20,000 persons).

- NO – Briefly explain why the application does not include any project that will help to address the contamination.

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I understand that the Department of Water Resources will consider the responses in this signed form when making funding decisions, and that false or inaccurate representations may result in loss of funds awarded to the applicant.

Marilyn Thoms  
Name of Authorized Representative  
(Please print)

Marilyn Thoms  
Signature

Manager, Watershed Management Division  
Title

9/2/15  
Date

Forms should be scanned and emailed to Keith Wallace ([keith.wallace@water.ca.gov](mailto:keith.wallace@water.ca.gov)) by 5:00 PM, September 4, 2015.