

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

EXECUTIVE OFFICER SUMMARY REPORT

FEBRUARY 12, 2025

ITEM NO. 4

SUBJECT

Consideration of Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0007, *A Resolution Accepting Rancho California Water District's Salt and Nutrient Management Plan for the Temecula Valley Basin* (Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0007). (Brandon Bushnell)

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends adoption of Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0007.

KEY ISSUES

- Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0007 (**Supporting Document 1**), if adopted, will accept Rancho California Water District's (RCWD) *Temecula Valley Basin Salt and Nutrient Management Plan* (Temecula Valley Basin SNMP, **Supporting Document 2**). The Temecula Valley Basin SNMP serves as a technical document to support the management of salts and nutrients from all sources on a basin-wide basis in a manner that ensures attainment of water quality objectives and protection of beneficial uses.
- RCWD submitted the Temecula Valley Basin SNMP to the San Diego Water Board for acceptance, in accordance with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) *Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water* (Recycled Water Policy).
- Acceptance of the Temecula Valley Basin SNMP will inform future San Diego Water Board actions within the Temecula Valley Basin.

PRACTICAL VISION

Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0007 is consistent with the Strategize to Achieve Resilient Local Water Supply chapter of the *San Diego Water Board Practical Vision*.¹ The management of salts and nutrients on a basin-wide scale allows for recycled water

¹ Practical Vision:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/practical_vision/

producers to work collaboratively with other stakeholders to encourage the use of recycled water is used in a manner that protects water quality and beneficial uses.

DISCUSSION

The purpose of this item is to provide the Board with information to assist in its consideration of Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0007. If adopted, Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0007, will accept RCWD's Temecula Valley Basin SNMP. The Temecula Valley Basin SNMP will serve as a technical document to 1) support the management of salts and nutrients from all sources on a basin-wide basis in a manner that ensures attainment of water quality objectives and protection of beneficial uses; and 2) inform future Board actions within the Temecula Valley Basin.

The State Water Board adopted the Recycled Water Policy on February 3, 2009; and amended the policy on January 22, 2013, and December 11, 2018. The Recycled Water Policy encourages the safe use of recycled water from wastewater sources, and established direction to the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards), proponents of recycled water projects, and the public regarding the methodology and appropriate criteria for the State Water Board and the Regional Water Boards to use when issuing permits for recycled water projects. The Recycled Water Policy also encourages collaborative work among salt and nutrient management planning groups formed under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act to achieve the goals of groundwater sustainability, recycled water use, and water quality protection.

RCWD worked collaboratively with stakeholders after the State Water Board's adoption of the 2018 amendments to the Recycled Water Policy, to review and update RCWD's 2014 *Temecula Valley Basin Salt and Nutrient Management Plan* with input from San Diego Water Board staff. RCWD held four public workshops for the Temecula Valley Basin SNMP which allowed for input from various stakeholders. RCWD submitted the draft Temecula Valley Basin SNMP to Board staff in April 2024. Board staff reviewed the draft Temecula Valley Basin SNMP and provided RCWD with minor comments. RCWD submitted the final Temecula Valley Basin SNMP to Board staff on October 7, 2024. The final Temecula Valley Basin SNMP addressed comments provided by Board staff.

Board staff evaluated the Temecula Valley Basin SNMP to ensure it is consistent with the Recycled Water Policy, and includes the elements specified in section 6.2.4 of the Policy. The Recycled Water Policy requires that salt and nutrient management plans:

- Establish basin-wide or subbasin-wide monitoring plans that include an appropriate network of monitoring locations to provide reasonable, cost-effective means of determining whether the concentrations of salts, nutrients, and other constituents of concern are consistent with applicable water quality objectives.
- Establish water recycling use goals and objectives.

- Identify salt and nutrient sources, the fate and transport of salts and nutrients, and the basin assimilative capacity and loading estimates.
- Establish implementation measures to manage or reduce salt and nutrient loading in the basin and the intended outcome of each measure.
- Perform an antidegradation analysis to demonstrate that existing projects, reasonably foreseeable projects, and other sources of loading to the basin will cumulatively, satisfy the requirements of the State Water Board's Resolution No. 68-16, *Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California*.

Board staff determined that the Temecula Valley Basin SNMP satisfies the requirements of section 6.2.4 of the Recycled Water Policy, and an amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Region* is not needed.

PUBLIC NOTICE

The agenda for the February 12, 2025, board meeting was posted on the San Diego's Water Board's website on January 22, 2025.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

1. Tentative Resolution No. R9-2025-0007
2. Temecula Valley Basin Salt and Nutrient Management Plan