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**San Gabriel River Watershed Project to Reduce River  
Discharge in Support of Increased Recycled Water Reuse**  
Initial Study

Prepared for  
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

February 2019





Draft

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## **Initial Study**

Prepared for  
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

February 2019

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# SECTION 1

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## Project Description

### 1.1 Introduction

In anticipation of increased future recycled water demands, the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Sanitation Districts) are proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five water reclamation plants (WRPs), including the San Jose Creek WRP, the Pomona WRP, the Whittier Narrows WRP, the Los Coyotes WRP, and the Long Beach WRP, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River, San Jose Creek, or Coyote Creek. The diverted water would supply recycled water programs implemented by other agencies. The proposed reduction in water discharges would occur over time, and would not involve any construction activities or other physical changes to the environment other than the decreased volume of discharge.

### 1.2 Project Location

The locations of the five WRPs are shown in **Figure 1-1**. The Pomona WRP currently discharges recycled water to San Jose Creek. The San Jose Creek WRP, Whittier Narrows WRP, and Los Coyotes WRP each discharge to the San Gabriel River.<sup>1</sup> The Long Beach WRP discharges to Coyote Creek at the confluence with the San Gabriel River. The project study area includes the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek.

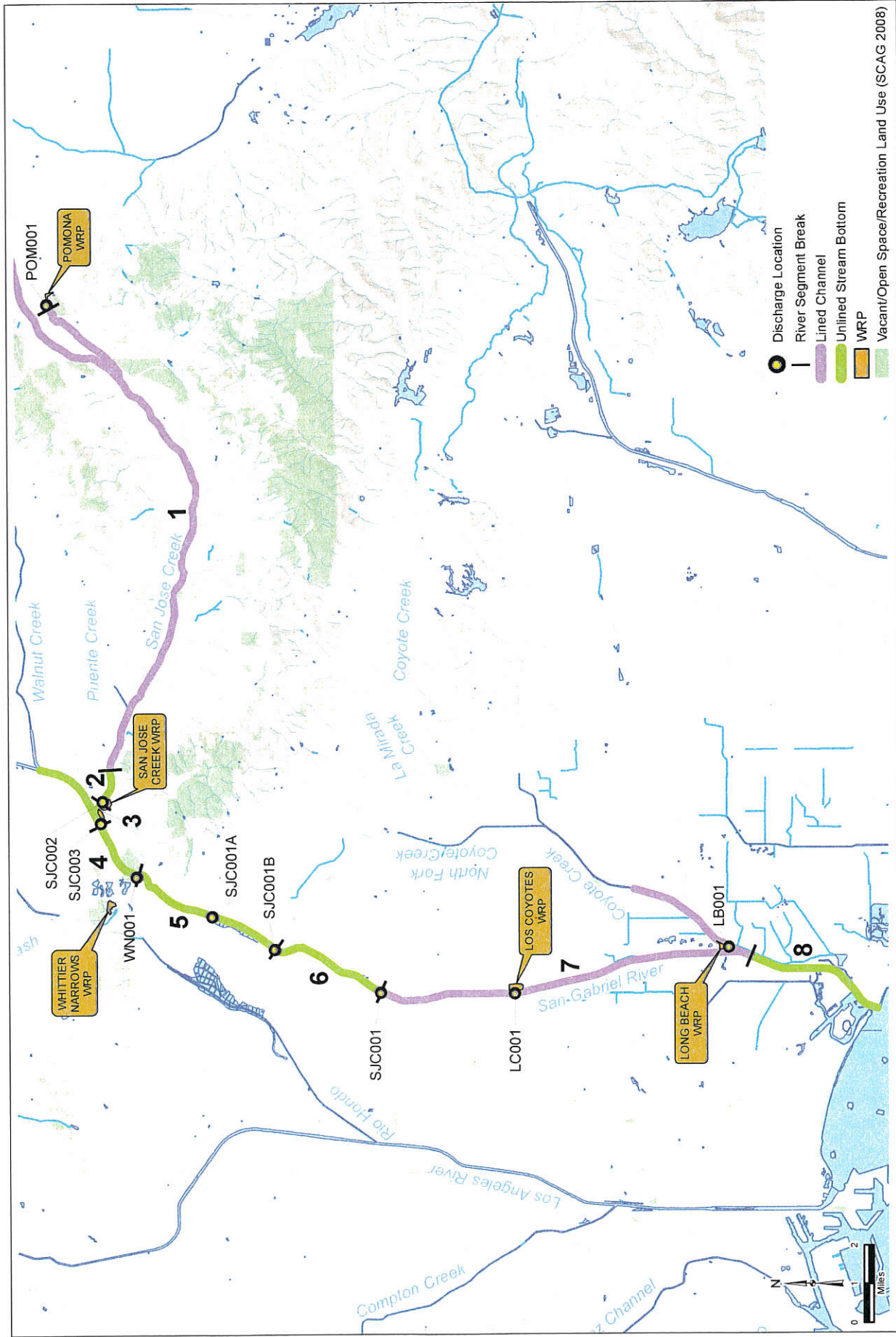
### 1.3 Project Background

#### Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County

The Sanitation Districts are a public agency created under state law to manage wastewater and solid waste on a regional scale and consist of 24 independent special districts serving approximately 5.6 million people in Los Angeles County (County). The Sanitation Districts' service area covers approximately 850 square miles and encompasses 78 cities and unincorporated territory within the County. The Sanitation Districts operate 10 WRPs and the Joint Water Pollution Control Plant. Seventeen sanitation districts provide sewerage services in the metropolitan Los Angeles area are signatory to a Joint Outfall Agreement that provides for the regional, interconnected systems of facilities known as the Joint Outfall System (JOS).

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<sup>1</sup> The Whittier Narrows WRP also discharges to the Rio Hondo River.



SOURCE: Clearwater EIR Segment Map

San Gabriel River Watershed Project to Reduce River Discharge  
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**Figure 1-1**

Sanitation Districts Receiving Water Stations and Discharges to San Gabriel System



The service area of the JOS encompasses 73 cities and unincorporated territory, providing sewage treatment, reuse, and ocean disposal for residential, commercial, and industrial wastewater. Under the Joint Outfall Agreement, Sanitation District No. 2 of Los Angeles County (District) has been appointed managing authority over the JOS.

## Montebello Forebay

The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (County) owns and operates an extensive system of flood control and groundwater recharge facilities along the San Gabriel and Rio Hondo Rivers that make up the Montebello Forebay Groundwater Recharge Program. The Montebello Forebay, located just south of Whittier Narrows, is a valuable area for groundwater recharge due to its highly permeable soils which allow deep percolation of surface waters. The Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds, the San Gabriel Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds (SGSG), and the lower San Gabriel River spreading area comprise the Montebello Forebay recharge facilities. The County notes that operations at these recharge facilities recharge an average of approximately 150,000 acre-feet (AF) of water annually.

The Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds, the County's largest spreading facility, covers approximately 570 acres. Water is diverted from the Rio Hondo Channel by use of three large radial gates. The County operates a connection channel between the San Gabriel River and the Rio Hondo within the Whittier Narrows Recreational Area known as the Zone 1 Ditch (see **Figure 1-2**). This channel can convey San Gabriel River water to the Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds.

The SGSG are approximately 128 acres in size. Recycled water is conveyed to the spreading grounds via the San Jose Creek Outfall Pipeline (SJC Outfall Pipeline), which includes a discharge point at the head of the facility capable of discharging to the river or the spreading grounds or diverting water from the San Gabriel River into the spreading grounds.

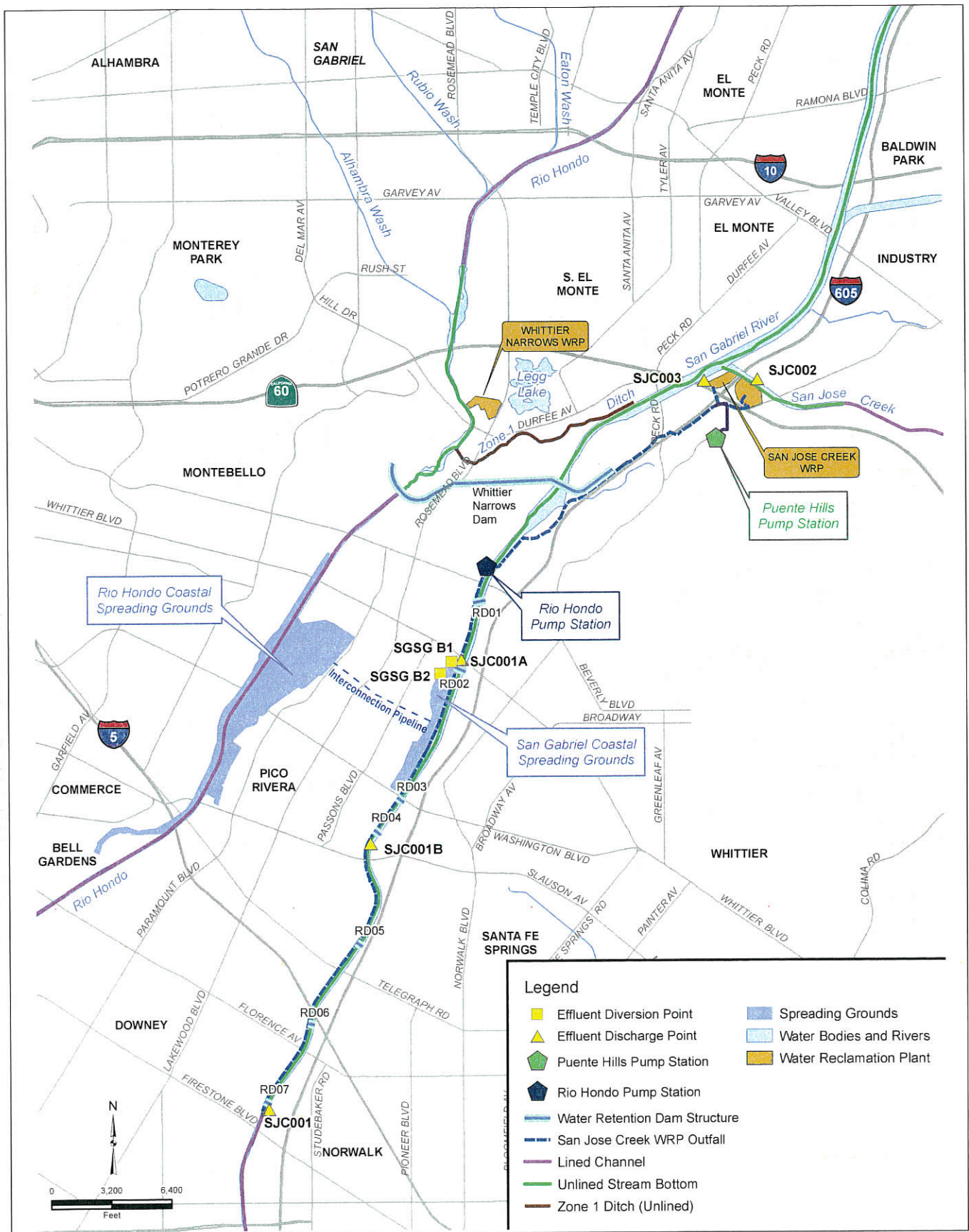
The lower San Gabriel River, from Whittier Narrows Dam to North of Firestone Boulevard, also allows spreading by percolation through its unlined bottom. Seven inflatable rubber dams have been installed to increase spreading capacity along this portion of the river, replacing sand levees that washed out when high flows occurred.

(<http://ladpw.org/wrd/publication/system/montebello.cfm>)

## 1.4 Water Reclamation Facilities

### San Jose Creek Water Reclamation Plant

The San Jose Creek WRP is located at 1965 Workman Mill Road, in unincorporated Los Angeles County, adjacent to the city of Whittier at the confluence of San Jose Creek and the San Gabriel River. The San Jose Creek WRP consists of two independently operated treatment plants: San Jose Creek East (SJCE) on the east side of the Interstate 605 Freeway and San Jose Creek West (SJCW) on the west side of I-605 near the intersection of California State Route 60 Freeway (CA-60). The SJCE and SJCW facilities have a design capacity of 62.5 million gallons per day (MGD) and 37.5 MGD, respectively, resulting in a combined treatment capacity of 100 MGD for the San Jose Creek WRP.



SOURCE: Amec, Foster, Wheeler, 2017

San Gabriel River Watershed Project to Reduce River Discharge  
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**Figure 1-2**  
SJCWRP Discharge Points

The San Jose Creek WRP serves a large residential population of approximately one million people. In 2018, the San Jose Creek WRP generated approximately 53.6 MGD of tertiary-recycled water, most of which is reused. The facility supplies approximately 42 MGD of recycled water to over 170 different reuse sites, including groundwater recharge, industrial facilities, and irrigation of parks, schools, and greenbelts. An average of approximately 9.48 MGD is discharged to San Jose Creek.

The San Jose Creek WRP is permitted to discharge at seven distinct surface water points; however, only five are currently constructed: Discharge Points SJC001A, SJC001B, SJC001, SJC002, and SJC003, are each shown on Figure 1-2. Three of these discharge points (SJC001, SJC001A, and SJC001B) are downstream of Whittier Narrows Dam on the San Gabriel River, and are supplied by the 8-mile-long SJC Outfall Pipeline that conveys recycled water from the San Jose Creek WRP to these downstream discharge points. The other two discharge points (SJC002 and SJC003) discharge to San Jose Creek and the San Gabriel River, respectively, above the Whittier Narrows Dam (see Table 1-1).

**TABLE 1-1  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS WRP SAN GABRIEL WATERSHED DISCHARGE POINTS**

Discharge Point	Receiving Water	Channel Type	NPDES Annual Average Daily Discharge (MGD) (Water Year <sup>1</sup> 2014–2018)	Annual Average Discharge Days (Water Year <sup>1</sup> 2014–2018)
<b>San Jose Creek WRP</b>				
SJC001	San Gabriel River	Concrete-lined	5.44	77
SJC001A	San Gabriel River	Soft-bottomed	7.30	74
SJC001B	San Gabriel River	Soft-bottomed	4.90 <sup>2</sup>	83 <sup>2</sup>
SJC002	San Jose Creek	Soft-bottomed	9.48	169
SJC003	San Gabriel River above Whittier Narrows Dam	Soft-bottomed	0.04	2
<b>Pomona WRP</b>				
POM001	South Fork San Jose Creek	Concrete-lined	3.27	361
<b>Los Coyotes Creek WRP</b>				
LC001	San Gabriel River	Concrete-lined	17.0	365
<b>Long Beach WRP</b>				
LB001	Coyote Creek	Concrete-lined	6.72	348
<b>Whittier Narrows WRP</b>				
WN001	San Gabriel River	Soft-bottomed	1.19	72

<sup>1</sup> The water year runs from October 1 of the previous year to September 30 of the labeled year.

<sup>2</sup> Discharge from SJC001B began in March 2016; therefore, Annual Average shown is for Water Year 2017-2018.

Discharge Point No. SJC001A is located in the unlined portion of the San Gabriel River near the headworks of the SGSG and just upstream of Rubber Dam No. 2. Discharge Point No. SJC001B is located in the unlined portion of the San Gabriel River downstream of Rubber Dam No. 4.

Discharge Point No. SJC001 is located in the concrete-lined portion of the San Gabriel River near Firestone Boulevard. Flow from the SJC Outfall Pipeline can also be diverted for recycled water use by pump stations to purveyors' distribution line or into the SGSG via two diversion points (SGSG B1 and SGSG B2).

## Historical and Current Operations

The San Jose Creek WRP discharge location may vary depending on the recharge facility availability, maintenance activities, or other factors. The County attempts to recharge the entire volume available at any time in the array of groundwater recharge facilities within the Montebello Forebay.

Recycled water from the San Jose Creek WRP can be recharged within the SGSG, the Rio Hondo Coastal Spreading Grounds, or unlined portions of the San Gabriel River via Discharge Point Nos. SJC001A, SJC001B, SJC002, and SJC003. Discharge into San Jose Creek or the San Gabriel River above the Whittier Narrows Dam (Discharge Points No. SJC002 and SJC003) recharge groundwater above the Whittier Narrows Dam, which is in the south-western edge of the Main San Gabriel Groundwater Water Basin. The County has the ability to divert surface water from the San Gabriel River to the Rio Hondo River and Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds via the Zone 1 Ditch. (Figure 1-2). Discharges to Discharge Point Nos. SJC001A and SJC001B, accessed via the SJC Outfall Pipeline, recharge the Central Groundwater Water Basin via the unlined San Gabriel River channel.

Table 1-1 summarizes a 5-water-year average from 2014 through 2018 of discharge volumes at each point. These various discharge points are historically used interchangeably throughout the year. Discharge Point No. SJC003 is historically rarely used.

## Existing Permits

The San Jose Creek WRP is currently covered by three permits: one for groundwater recharge in the Montebello Forebay (Order No. 91-100), one for the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) discharge into surface waters (Order No. R4-2015-0070 and NPDES No. CA0053911), and one for reuse of recycled water for non-potable purposes (Order No. 87-50 and readopted under Order No. 97-072). The San Jose Creek WRP is permitted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (LARWQCB) to discharge to the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek pursuant to the NPDES Order.

## Pomona Water Reclamation Plant

The Pomona WRP is located at 295 Humane Way in the city of Pomona. The plant occupies 14 acres northeast of the intersection of CA-60 and the California State Route 57 Freeway (CA-57). The original plant, known as the Tri-City Plant, was owned by the Cities of Pomona, Claremont, and La Verne. It was placed into operation in July 1926, with reuse beginning in 1927. The Sanitation Districts took over operations in 1966 and increased the plant capacity to 4 MGD. In 1970, the plant capacity was expanded to 10 MGD with the construction of additional primary, aeration, and final sedimentation tanks. In 1977, the plant capacity increased to 15 MGD with the implementation of tertiary-level water treatment, including activated-carbon gravity

filters, chlorine contact tanks, and a dechlorination system. In the early 1990s, the plant underwent a third expansion with the construction and retrofit of the activated-carbon gravity filters to deep-bed anthracite filters and the addition of a third chlorine contact tank for additional disinfection capacity.

## **Current Operations**

The Pomona WRP provides primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment for up to 15 MGD. The plant serves a population of approximately 130,000 persons. Approximately 2.6 MGD of the recycled water during water year 2018 was used at over 210 different sites. Reuse applications include landscape irrigation of parks, schools, golf courses, greenbelts, etc.; irrigation and dust control at the Spadra Landfill; and industrial use by local manufacturers. The remainder of the recycled water is discharged into San Jose Creek, where it flows through a concrete-lined portion for 16 miles until it reaches the unlined portions of the San Gabriel River, where it percolates into the groundwater. Table 1-1 summarizes a 5-water-year average from 2014 through 2018 of discharge volumes.

## **Existing Permits**

The Pomona WRP is currently covered by three LARWQCB permits: an NPDES Permit to discharge into surface waters (Order No. R4-2014-0212-A01 and NPDES No. CA0053619), a permit for groundwater recharge in the Montebello Forebay (Order No. 91-100), and a recycled water use permit for non-potable purposes (Order No. 81-34 and readopted under Order No. 97-072).

## **Whittier Narrows Water Reclamation Plant**

The Whittier Narrows WRP is located at 301 North Rosemead Boulevard in the city of El Monte. The plant occupies 27 acres south of the CA-60. The plant was originally constructed for the purpose of demonstrating the feasibility of large scale water reclamation. The original plant was placed in operation on July 26, 1962, and consisted of primary sedimentation and secondary treatment with activated sludge.

## **Current Operations**

The Whittier Narrows WRP was the first reclamation plant built by the Sanitation Districts. It provides primary, secondary and tertiary treatment for up to 15 MGD. The plant serves a population of approximately 150,000 persons. Reclaimed water produced by the WRP is reused for irrigation and groundwater recharge at the Rio Hondo and San Gabriel Coastal Spreading Grounds. Table 1-1 summarizes a 5-water-year average from 2014 through 2018 of discharge volumes.

## **Existing Permits**

The Whittier Narrows WRP is currently covered by three permits: an NPDES Permit to discharge into surface waters (Order No. R4-2014-0213-A01 and NPDES No. CA0053716), a permit for groundwater recharge in the Montebello Forebay (Order No. 91-100), and a recycled water use

permit for non-potable purposes (Order No. WQ 2016-0068-DDW, File No. 88-040, CI No. 6844).

## Los Coyotes Water Reclamation Plant

The Los Coyotes WRP is located at 16515 Piuma Avenue in the city of Cerritos and occupies 34 acres at the northwest junction of the I-605 and the California State Route 91 Freeway (CA-91). Of the 34 acres, 20 are occupied by the Iron Wood Nine Golf Course, which is built on adjoining Sanitation Districts' property. The plant was placed in operation on May 25, 1970, with an initial capacity of 12.5 MGD, and consisted of primary treatment and secondary treatment with activated sludge.

### Current Operations

The Los Coyotes WRP provides primary, secondary, and tertiary treatment for up to 37.5 MGD. The plant serves a population of approximately 370,000 persons. Approximately 3.2 MGD of the recycled water is used at over 310 sites. Reuses include landscape irrigation of schools, golf courses, parks, nurseries, and greenbelts and industrial use at local companies for carpet dying and concrete mixing. The remainder of the recycled water is discharged to the San Gabriel River. Table 1-1 summarizes a 5-water-year average from 2014 through 2018 of discharge volumes.

### Existing Permits

The Los Coyotes WRP is covered by an NPDES Permit to discharge into surface waters (Order No. R4-2015-0124 and NPDES No. CA0054011) and a recycled water use permit for non-potable purposes (Order No. 87-51 and readopted under Order No. 97-072).

## Long Beach Water Reclamation Plant

The Long Beach WRP is located at 7400 E. Willow Street in the city of Long Beach. The plant occupies 17 acres west of the I-605 and began operation in 1973.

### Current Operations

The Long Beach WRP provides primary, secondary and tertiary treatment for up to 25 MGD. The plant serves a population of approximately 250,000 persons. Approximately 3.9 MGD of the recycled water is used at over 60 sites. Reuses include landscape irrigation of schools, golf courses, parks, and greenbelts by the City of Long Beach, the repressurization of oil-bearing strata off the coast of Long Beach, and the replenishment of the Central Basin groundwater supply from water processed at the Leo J. Vander Lans Advanced Water Treatment Facility. The remainder is discharged to the Coyote Creek. The advanced water treatment facility uses microfiltration, reverse osmosis, and ultraviolet disinfection to produce near distilled quality water, and is blended with imported water and pumped into the Alamitos Seawater Barrier to protect the groundwater basin from seawater intrusion. Table 1-1 summarizes a 5-water-year average from 2014 through 2018 of discharge volumes.

## Existing Permits

The Long Beach WRP is covered by an NPDES Permit to discharge into surface waters (Order No. R4-2015-0123 and NPDES No. CA0054119) and a recycled water use permit for non-potable purposes (Order No. 87-47 and readopted under Order No. 97-072).

## 1.5 Project Objectives

The objectives of the proposed project are as follows:

- Support increased water recycling in the San Gabriel River watershed through maximizing availability of treated effluent otherwise discharged to flood control channels
- Create a more efficient utilization of treated effluent to support both recycled water reuse and sensitive riparian habitat.
- Sustain sensitive habitat supported by historic treated effluent discharges to the San Gabriel River watershed

## 1.6 Relationship of Project to Local Recycled Water Programs

The proposed project would facilitate the increased reuse of treated wastewater consistent with state law and policy, including Water Code Sections 461, 13500 et seq., and 13575 et seq.; Government Code Section 65601 et seq.; the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB's) Policy for Water Quality Control for Recycled Water (Recycled Water Policy); and the Executive Order issued by the Governor on April 25, 2014. The Executive Order promotes the development of recycled water to serve areas in need, and encourages the SWRCB to expedite requests to change water permits to enable those deliveries. The Sanitation Districts is proposing to submit a Wastewater Change Petition pursuant to California Water Code Section 1211 to change the place and purpose of use of recycled water, while maintaining sensitive habitat supported by historic effluent discharges.

In its Recycled Water Policy, the SWRCB has set a goal of increasing the use of recycled water over 2002 levels by at least one million acre-feet (MAF) per year by 2020 and by at least 2 MAF per year by 2030. Included in its conservation goals is to substitute as much recycled water for potable water as possible by 2030. "The purpose of the [Board's Recycled Water Policy] is to increase the use of recycled water from municipal wastewater sources...." (SWRCB "Recycled Water Policy," Jan. 22, 2013). ([http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board\\_decisions/adopted\\_orders/resolutions/2013/rs2013\\_0003\\_a.pdf](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/resolutions/2013/rs2013_0003_a.pdf))

**Table 1-2** summarizes the new purpose-of-use for each diversion that primarily includes expanded landscape irrigation and increased groundwater recharge subject to California Code of Regulations Title 22 water quality requirements for recycled water use. The reduced discharges from the San Jose Creek WRP would facilitate a more efficient delivery of recycled water to reuse projects including the recently completed Albert Robles Center (ARC) by the Water Replenishment District of Southern California.

**TABLE 1-2  
EXISTING AND PROPOSED FUTURE ANNUAL DAILY AVERAGE DISCHARGES**

<b>Treatment Plant</b>	<b>Existing Annual Daily Average Discharge (MGD)*</b>	<b>Proposed Future Annual Daily Average Discharge (MGD)</b>	<b>New Purpose of Use</b>
San Jose Creek WRP (SJC001)	5.44	0	All Title 22 Recycled Water Uses Allowed
San Jose Creek WRP (SJC001A)	7.30	Variable***	All Title 22 Recycled Water Uses Allowed
San Jose Creek WRP (SJC001B)	4.90**	Variable***	All Title 22 Recycled Water Uses Allowed
San Jose Creek WRP (SJC002)	9.48	5	All Title 22 Recycled Water Uses Allowed
San Jose Creek WRP (SJC003)	0.04	0	All Title 22 Recycled Water Uses Allowed
Pomona WRP	3.27	0	All Title 22 Recycled Water Uses Allowed
Whittier Narrows WRP****	1.19	1.18	All Title 22 Recycled Water Uses Allowed
Los Coyotes WRP	17.0	2	All Title 22 Recycled Water Uses Allowed
Long Beach WRP	6.72	0	All Title 22 Recycled Water Uses Allowed
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>55.34</b>	<b>8.18</b>	

\* Based on average flow data from Water Year 2014-2018.

\*\* Discharge from SJC001B began in March 2016; therefore, Annual Average shown is for Water Year 2017-2018.

\*\*\* Discharge point is used in conjunction with SGSG as part of the Montebello Forebay groundwater recharge project. Actual discharge from this location may vary with the overall recharge volume being approximately 40 MGD (44,400 acres-feet per year [AFY])

\*\*\*\* As explained above, the Whittier Narrows WRP discharges to both the Rio Hondo/LA River watershed and the San Gabriel River watershed. The proposed project and table only assesses changes in discharges to the San Gabriel River watershed. Proposed reductions to the Rio Hondo/LA River watershed are a separate project and distinct project and the environmental impacts of those reductions will be considered in a separate CEQA document.

The ARC project includes a new Advanced Water Treatment Plant designed to provide additional treatment to tertiary-treated effluent from the San Jose Creek WRP. The highly-treated ARC effluent will be directly injected into the underlying groundwater aquifer or conveyed to the SGSG or Rio Hondo Coastal Basin Spreading Grounds to replenish the Central Groundwater Basin.

In addition, the Long Beach WRP would increase contributions to the Alamitos Seawater Intrusion Barrier injection well system and may increase recycled water available for other non-potable reuse projects such as landscape irrigation or industrial uses. Los Coyotes, Pomona, and Whittier Narrows WRPs would also increase contributions to recycled water use projects.



## 1.7 Discharge Operation Modifications

The District is proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from the San Jose Creek WRP, the Pomona WRP, the Whittier Narrows WRP, the Los Coyotes WRP, and the Long Beach WRP. The District is not proposing to construct any new facilities. The proposed use of the recycled water would be implemented by water agencies and other users over time. The District will continue to maintain the ability to discharge treated water at the same points but anticipates lesser quantities. Table 1-2 summarizes the existing and proposed future annual daily average discharges for each treatment plant. A brief description of this information is provided below:

- The San Jose Creek WRP discharge is currently rotated between five discharge locations within the San Gabriel River watershed as shown in Figure 1. The use of the discharge locations is irregular throughout the year and varies year-to-year, depending on the availability of groundwater recharge facilities and channel maintenance activities. Under the proposed project, discharges from the San Jose Creek WRP at discharge point SJC002 would be reduced from an annual average of approximately 9.48 million MGD to a minimum monthly average of approximately 5 MGD. Although the total annual volume would be reduced, the new monthly average discharge would provide a more consistent discharge rate compared to existing conditions. Discharges would be timed to more efficiently meet the water demand needs of sensitive habitat. The diverted water would be conveyed for beneficial reuse to groundwater recharge basins or other reuse facilities.
- The Pomona WRP discharges into a concrete-lined portion of San Jose Creek which contains no sensitive habitat. As San Jose Creek nears the San Gabriel River, the concrete lining gives way to a soft-bottom reach. Current and historic groundwater upwelling occurs within the lined portion of San Jose Creek upstream of the transition location. The proposed project would result in zero discharge from the Pomona WRP. Habitat in the soft-bottomed portion of San Jose Creek would continue to be sustained by rising groundwater.
- The Whittier Narrows WRP has three discharge locations but only one tributary to the San Gabriel River. A recently approved modification to discharge from the Whittier Narrows WRP will reduce discharges to the San Gabriel River by approximately 1 percent (0.01 mgd).
- The Los Coyotes WRP discharges into a concrete-lined portion of the San Gabriel River. Discharge flow is contained within the low-flow channel of the river under typical dry-weather conditions. The proposed project proposes to maintain a minimum discharge flow of 2 MGD to prevent the low-flow channel from going completely dry downstream of the plant.
- The Long Beach WRP discharges into the concrete-lined Coyote Creek approximately 3,000 feet before the start of the San Gabriel River estuary. Urban runoff and natural flows in Coyote Creek upstream of the Long Beach WRP maintain a consistent flow in the creek at the discharge location. The proposed project proposes a minimum discharge flow of zero from the Long Beach WRP.

## 1.8 Project Construction

No construction activities would be associated with the proposed project, as the project entails reductions in the rate and volume of recycled water discharged into the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek. As such, no construction would occur and no physical changes to the environment, aside from reduced discharges to the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek, would occur under the proposed project.

## 1.9 Project Approvals

The proposed project would require approval from the California SWRCB for the Wastewater Change Petition pursuant to California Water Code Section 1211. No other approvals would be required.

## SECTION 2

### Environmental Checklist / Initial Study

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1. **Project Title:** San Gabriel River Watershed Project to Reduce River Discharge in Support of Increased Recycled Water Reuse
2. **Lead Agency Name and Address:** Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
1955 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601
3. **Contact Person and Phone Number:** Jodie Lanza  
562-908-4288 ext. 2707
4. **Project Location:** San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek
5. **Project Sponsor's Name and Address:** Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
1955 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601
6. **General Plan Designation(s):** N/A
7. **Zoning:** N/A
8. **Description of Project:**

The District is proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from the San Jose Creek WRP, the Pomona WRP, the Whittier Narrows WRP, the Los Coyotes WRP, and the Long Beach WRP, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River, San Jose Creek, or Coyote Creek. The District is not proposing to construct any new facilities. The proposed use of the recycled water would be implemented by water agencies and other users over time. The District will continue to maintain the ability to discharge treated water at the same points but anticipates lesser quantities.
9. **Surrounding Land Uses and Setting.**

Land uses in the areas of the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek range from predominantly open space in the upper watershed to urban land uses in the middle and lower parts of the watershed including, but not limited to, residential, commercial, industrial, public facilities, and recreation uses.
10. **Other public agencies whose approval is required**

California SWRCB

- 11. Have California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area requested consultation pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1? If so, is there a plan for consultation that includes, for example, the determination of significance of impacts to tribal cultural resources, procedures regarding confidentiality, etc.?**

Yes, under Assembly Bill 52 (AB 52), the Districts prepared and mailed notification letters to California Native American tribes traditionally and culturally affiliated with the project area on March 23, 2018. The Gabrieleño Band of Mission Indians responded and requested consultation, which was completed on May 18, 2018. No additional requests for consultation have been received to date.

## Environmental Factors Potentially Affected

The environmental factors checked below would be potentially affected by this project, involving at least one impact that is a "Potentially Significant Impact" as indicated by the checklist on the following pages.

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aesthetics                         | <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture and Forestry Resources | <input type="checkbox"/> Air Quality                        |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Biological Resources    | <input type="checkbox"/> Cultural Resources                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Energy                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Geology/Soils                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Greenhouse Gas Emissions           | <input type="checkbox"/> Hazards & Hazardous Materials      |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Hydrology/Water Quality | <input type="checkbox"/> Land Use/Planning                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Mineral Resources                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Noise                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Population/Housing                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Public Services                    |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Recreation              | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Tribal Cultural Resources          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Utilities/Service Systems          | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildfire                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Mandatory Findings of Significance |

### DETERMINATION: (To be completed by the Lead Agency)

On the basis of this initial study:

- ☐ I find that the proposed project COULD NOT have a significant effect on the environment, and a NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, there will not be a significant effect in this case because revisions in the project have been made by or agreed to by the project proponent. A MITIGATED NEGATIVE DECLARATION will be prepared.
- ☒ I find that the proposed project MAY have a significant effect on the environment, and an ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required.
- ☐ I find that the proposed project MAY have a "potentially significant impact" or "potentially significant unless mitigated" impact on the environment, but at least one effect 1) has been adequately analyzed in an earlier document pursuant to applicable legal standards, and 2) has been addressed by mitigation measures based on the earlier analysis as described on attached sheets. An ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT is required, but it must analyze only the effects that remain to be addressed.
- ☐ I find that although the proposed project could have a significant effect on the environment, because all potentially significant effects (a) have been analyzed adequately in an earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION pursuant to applicable standards, and (b) have been avoided or mitigated pursuant to that earlier EIR or NEGATIVE DECLARATION, including revisions or mitigation measures that are imposed upon the proposed project, nothing further is required.

Jodie Lamy

2/6/19  
Date

Signature

Date

# Environmental Checklist

## Aesthetics

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>		<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>I. AESTHETICS — Except as provided in Public Resources Code Section 21099, would the project:</b>					
a)	Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vista?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b)	Substantially damage scenic resources, including, but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c)	In non-urbanized areas, substantially degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the site and its surroundings? (Public views are those that are experienced from publicly accessible vantage point). If the project is in an urbanized area, would the project conflict with applicable zoning and other regulations governing scenic quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d)	Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect daytime or nighttime views in the area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The District is proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs: the San Jose Creek WRP, the Pomona WRP, the Whittier Narrows WRP, the Los Coyotes WRP, and the Long Beach WRP, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River, San Jose Creek, or Coyote Creek. The proposed reduction in discharges of recycled water would not involve any construction activities or other physical changes to the environment other than the decreased volume of discharge. The proposed use of the recycled water would be implemented by water agencies and other uses over time. The District will continue to maintain the ability to discharge treated water at the same points but anticipates lesser quantities. The project study area includes the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek, which contain no designated scenic resources and do not provide views of such resources. Views of the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek from publicly available viewpoints might be considered as providing a scenic vista; however, implementation of the proposed project would have no measurable effect on the scenic value of the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. As discussed in Section 2.4, *Biological Resources*, below, the proposed flow reductions would not result in significant adverse effects on downstream habitat such that visible reduction in vegetation or other visible features of the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek would occur. As such, impacts to scenic vistas would be less than significant.
- b) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The project study area is entirely urbanized with no scenic resources including trees, rock outcroppings, or historic buildings (including those within a state scenic highway) occurring on-site. As discussed above, the proposed

project would incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River, San Jose Creek, or Coyote Creek. The San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek could both be considered a valued scenic resource. Nonetheless, as also discussed above, the proposed reductions in discharges to the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek are not expected to result in measurable changes to the appearance of the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek, as flow reductions and related effects on water levels and vegetation would not be noticeable to viewers. As such, while the proposed project would incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water to the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek, its implementation would not substantially damage scenic resources in the project study area, including the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek as viewed from surrounding locations. A less than significant impact would occur.

- c) **Less than Significant Impact.** As discussed in Responses 2.1.a. and 2.1.b. above, while the proposed project would reduce the flow levels and vegetation within the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek, the project does not involve any other physical changes to the environment such that its implementation could substantially adversely affect visual resources on- or off-site. As noted previously, San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek are surrounded by urban areas and are not considered to be valuable scenic resources. Portions of the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek are concrete-lined. Given the minimal effect of the proposed discharge reductions on the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek's water levels and associated vegetation, it is anticipated that the reduced flows in the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek will not have the potential to degrade the existing visual character or quality of public views of the project study area and its surroundings. Impacts would be less than significant.
- d) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not propose development or change in current operations beyond the incremental reduction in discharges of recycled water from the five WRPs. The proposed project would not create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect the day or nighttime views in the area. As such, no impacts would occur in this regard.

## Agriculture and Forestry Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>II. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY RESOURCES —</b> In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Land Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepared by the California Department of Conservation as an optional model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture and farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Range Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment project; and forest carbon measurement methodology provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the California Air Resources Board. <b>Would the project:</b>				
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, or a Williamson Act contract?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezoning of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government Code section 51104(g))?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Involve other changes in the existing environment which, due to their location or nature, could result in conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** No agricultural uses or related operations are present within the project study area or the immediate vicinity. No portion of the project study area is located on designated Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland) as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program. Therefore, the proposed project would not convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance to non-agricultural uses. No impact would occur in this regard.
- b) **No Impact.** As discussed above, no agricultural zoning is present within the project study area and no portion of the site is enrolled in a Williamson Act contract. As such, the proposed project would not conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use or a Williamson Act contract and no impact would occur in this regard.
- c, d) **No Impact.** As discussed above, the project study area's existing zoning designations do not include agricultural or forestry-related uses or activities. No forest land or timberland zoning is present on the project study area or in the surrounding area. The proposed incremental reduction in discharges of recycled water from the five WRPs to the San



Gabriel River and San Jose Creek would not have the potential to affect forest land. As such, the proposed project would not have the potential to conflict with existing zoning for forest land or timberland nor result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use. No impact would occur in this regard.

- e) **No Impact.** Since there are no agricultural uses or related operations on or near the project study area, and the proposed project would only involve the reduction in discharges of recycled water from the five WRPs to the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek, the proposed project would not involve the conversion of farmland to other uses, either directly or indirectly. No impacts to farmland or agricultural uses would occur.

## References

State of California Department of Conservation, California Important Farmland Finder, <https://maps.conservation.ca.gov/dlrp/ciff/>, accessed February 2018.

## Air Quality

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>III. AIR QUALITY —</b> Where available, the significance criteria established by the applicable air quality management district or air pollution control district may be relied upon to make the following determinations. <b>Would the project:</b>				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the applicable air quality plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase of any criteria pollutant for which the project region is non-attainment under an applicable federal or state ambient air quality standard?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutant concentrations?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Result in other emissions (such as those leading to odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The project study area is located within the 6,745-square-mile South Coast Air Basin (SoCAB). Air quality planning for the SoCAB is under the jurisdiction of the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD). The proposed project would be subject to the SCAQMD's Air Quality Management Plan (AQMP), which contains a comprehensive list of pollution control strategies directed at reducing emissions and achieving ambient air quality standards. These strategies are developed, in part, based on regional population, housing, and employment projections prepared by the Southern California Association of Governments.

The District is proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. This proposed reduction would not require the construction of additional facilities or grading-related activity. The District is not proposing to construct any new facilities. The District will continue to maintain the ability to discharge treated water at the same points but anticipates lesser quantities. As such, the proposed project would not generate any additional air pollutant emissions that would conflict with the AQMP. No impact would occur in this regard.

- b) **No Impact.** The proposed project would not generate any additional air pollutant emissions that could exceed the SCAQMD significance thresholds. As such, no impact would occur in this regard.
- c) **No Impact.** Land uses that are generally considered more sensitive to air pollution than others are as follows: hospitals, schools, residences, playgrounds, child care centers, athletic facilities, and retirement/convalescent homes. The project study area is located in a highly urbanized area with a wide variety of land uses, and although there are a number of sensitive receptors located within the project study area, the project does not propose

physical development or changes in current operations other than the decreased volume of discharge. As such, no impacts would occur in this regard.

- d) **No Impact.** As no development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project, aside from the decreased volume of discharge, no odors adversely affecting a substantial number of people are expected as a result of project implementation. As such, no impacts would occur in this regard.
-

## Biological Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES — Would the project:</b>				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly or through habitat modifications, on any species identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special-status species in local or regional plans, policies, or regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian habitat or other sensitive natural community identified in local or regional plans, policies, regulations, or by the California Department of Fish and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on state or federally protected wetlands (including, but not limited to, marsh, vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal, filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species or with established native resident or migratory wildlife corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nursery sites?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state habitat conservation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project would reduce discharges from five WRPs. The sensitive species and related habitat within the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek vary depending on the segment. Reduction in discharges from SJC 002 could affect vegetation used by sensitive species in the channel. Reduction in discharges from other WRPs could reduce freshwater availability in concrete-lined channels. Impacts are considered potentially significant and further analysis of this issue will be included in an EIR.
- b) **Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed reduction of recycled water discharged to the San Gabriel River could affect riparian vegetation or other sensitive natural communities. As such, impacts are considered potentially significant and further analysis of this issue will be included in an EIR.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed reduction in discharges of recycled water will not result in any discharge of dredge or fill material to waters of the United States or wetlands subject to regulatory protection under the Clean Water Act. The proposed project will not result in the filling of any such "waters" or wetlands. The existing

channels would remain unchanged. The proposed project would reduce discharges, but as described above, the modified hydrology would not result in habitat conversion of existing wetlands.. Impacts would be less than significant.

- d) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed reduction in discharges of recycled water will not interfere substantially with the movement of any native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species. No anadromous fish or other terrestrial migratory species presently occur in the study area. Migratory birds will not be impeded from moving within or through the study area. The proposed incremental reduction of discharges of recycled water will not interfere with wildlife movement or obstruct any wildlife corridor as compared with existing conditions. No known nursery sites or rookeries occur within the study area that could be affected by the reduced discharge.
  - e) **No Impact.** The reduced discharges would not conflict with any local wildlife protection plan or ordinance. The existing habitat values would be maintained. No impact would occur.
  - f) **No Impact.** The reduced discharge would not affect any habitat conservation planning area. The existing habitat values would be maintained. No impact would occur.
-

## Cultural Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>V. CULTURAL RESOURCES — Would the project:</b>				
a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant to §15064.5?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The District is proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. The proposed reduction in discharges of recycled water would occur over time, and would not involve any construction activities or other physical changes to the environment other than the decreased volume of discharge. As such, project implementation would not have any physical effect on historical resources in the area. Thus, the proposed project would not cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource. No impact would occur in this regard.
- b) **No Impact.** As no physical development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project other than the decreased volume of discharge, project implementation would not result in construction or excavation, or any other activities that could cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource. No impact would occur in this regard.
- c) **No Impact.** As no physical development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project other than the decrease in discharges of recycled water, project implementation would not result in construction or excavation, or any other activities that could disturb human remains, including those interred outside of dedicated cemeteries. No impact would occur in this regard.

## Energy

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>VI. ENERGY — Would the project:</b>				
a) Result in potentially significant environmental impact due to wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources, during project construction or operation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The project proposes to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. The Districts is not proposing to construct new facilities and will continue to maintain the ability to discharge treated water at the same points but anticipates lesser quantities. As no construction activities or changes in current operations are proposed by the project, project implementation would not result in wasteful, inefficient, or unnecessary consumption of energy resources. No impact would occur in this regard.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed reduction in discharges of recycled water would occur over time, and would not involve any construction activities or physical changes to the environment other than the decreased volume of discharge. As such, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct a state or local plan for renewable energy or energy efficiency. No impact would occur in this regard.

## Geology and Soils

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>VII. GEOLOGY AND SOILS — Would the project:</b>				
a) Directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving:				
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineated on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the area or based on other substantial evidence of a known fault? (Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Special Publication 42.)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Landslides?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a result of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-site landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefaction, or collapse?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table 18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating substantial direct or indirect risks to life or property?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting the use of septic tanks or alternative waste water disposal systems where sewers are not available for the disposal of waste water?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a.i) **No Impact.** Fault rupture is displacement that occurs along the surface of a fault during an earthquake. The project study area is currently developed with the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek, which is located in a seismically active area, as is the case throughout the Southern California region. Major faults and fault zones characterize the region. Faults located within the vicinity of the project study area include the Whittier Fault, Chino Fault, San Jose Fault, Norwalk Fault, and the Inglewood Fault. The Whittier Fault traverses the San Gabriel River. Although portions of the project study area may be located within one or more designated Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault Zones, since no physical development or changes in the current facilities or operations are proposed by the project, its implementation would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving rupture of a known earthquake fault or active fault trace. No impact would occur in this regard.



- a.ii) **No Impact.** Seismicity is the geographic and historical distribution of earthquake, including their frequency, intensity, and distribution. The level of ground shaking at a given location depends on many factors, including the site and type of earthquake, distance from the earthquake, and subsurface geologic conditions. The type of construction also affects how particular structures and improvements perform during ground shaking. As discussed above, the project study area is located in a seismically active region. There is potential for significant ground shaking within the project study area during a strong seismic event on active regional faults in the southern California area. The Whittier Fault traverses the San Gabriel River. However, as no physical development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed beyond the decreased volume of discharge, the proposed project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving strong seismic ground shaking. No impact would occur in this regard.
- a.iii) **No Impact.** Liquefaction is a process that occurs when saturated sediments are subjected to repeated strain reversals during a seismic event. The strain reversals cause increased pore water pressure such that the internal pore pressure approaches the overburden stress and the shear strength approaches zero. Liquefied soils are subject to flow or excessive strain. Liquefaction occurs in soils below the groundwater table. Loose to medium dense sand and silty sand are particularly susceptible to liquefaction. Predominantly fine-grained soils, such as silts and clay, are less susceptible to liquefaction. Portions of the project study area are located within liquefaction zones. However, as no physical development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project, its implementation would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction. No impact would occur in this regard.
- a.iv) **No Impact.** The project study area is located in a highly urbanized area. The vast majority of the project area is not located within an area susceptible to landslides. Further, as no physical development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed beyond the decreased volume of discharge, the proposed project would not directly or indirectly cause potential substantial adverse effects, including the risk of loss, injury, or death involving landslides. As such, no impact would occur in this regard.
- b) **No Impact.** As no physical development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed beyond the decreased volume of discharge, the proposed project would not result in any site disturbance or grading activity that could expose soils susceptible to erosion. As such, project implementation would not result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of topsoil. No impact would occur in this regard.
- c) **No Impact.** Refer to Responses 2.7.a.i.-iv. As no additional development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project, no impacts would occur in this regard.
- d) **No Impact.** Expansive soils are defined as fine-grained clayey soils that have the potential to shrink and swell with repeated cycles of wetting and drying. As no

development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project, the project would not have the potential to be affected by expansive soils or otherwise result in adverse effects related to such soils. The proposed project would not cause any disturbance to the existing soils that are beneath the site or in any off-site areas. No impact would occur in this regard.

- e) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not include the use or development of septic tanks or alternative wastewater disposal systems. Thus, no impacts would occur in this regard.
- f) **No Impact. No Impact.** As no physical development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project, project implementation would not result in construction or excavation, or any other activities that could cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature. No impact would occur in this regard.

## References

California Department of Conservation Website, California Geological Survey, Fault Activity Map of California (2010), <http://maps.conservation.ca.gov/cgs/fam/>, accessed February 2018.

Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation Baldwin Park Quadrangle, California Geological Survey, Official Map, released March 25, 1999, [http://gmw.conservation.ca.gov/SHP/EZRIM/Maps/BALDWIN\\_PARK\\_EZRIM.pdf](http://gmw.conservation.ca.gov/SHP/EZRIM/Maps/BALDWIN_PARK_EZRIM.pdf)

Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation El Monte Quadrangle, California Geological Survey, Earthquake Fault Zones, Revised Official Map, released June 15, 2017; Seismic Hazard Zones Official Map, released March 25, 1999, [http://gmw.conservation.ca.gov/SHP/EZRIM/Maps/EL\\_MONTE\\_EZRIM.pdf](http://gmw.conservation.ca.gov/SHP/EZRIM/Maps/EL_MONTE_EZRIM.pdf)

Earthquake Zones of Required Investigation Whittier Quadrangle, California Geological Survey, Official Map, released March 25, 1999, [http://gmw.conservation.ca.gov/SHP/EZRIM/Maps/WHITTIER\\_EZRIM.pdf](http://gmw.conservation.ca.gov/SHP/EZRIM/Maps/WHITTIER_EZRIM.pdf).

## Greenhouse Gas Emissions

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>VIII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS —</b>				
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a) Generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the emissions of greenhouse gases?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

### Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** As the project does not propose development or change in current facilities or operations beyond the decreased volume of discharge, the proposed project would not generate greenhouse gas emissions, either directly or indirectly. No impact would occur in this regard.
- b) **No Impact.** No development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project, and thus its implementation would not have the potential to conflict with any applicable plans. No impact would occur in this regard.

## Hazards and Hazardous Materials

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>IX. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MATERIALS — Would the project:</b>				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through the routine transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
f) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
g) Expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed project would incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. No development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project beyond the decreased volume of discharge. No additional sources of hazardous materials or increases in activities involving hazardous materials would occur under the proposed project. No impact would occur in this regard.
- b) **No Impact.** No construction activities involving hazardous materials or other activities that could result in releases of hazardous materials would occur under the proposed project. Likewise, no changes to current facilities or operations are proposed by the project, and thus there would be no additional risks associated with hazardous materials releases relative to existing conditions. It should be noted that while recycled water is not suitable for human consumption, it is not considered a hazardous material, and thus the diverted water to supply recycled water programs implemented by other agencies would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No impact would occur in this regard.

- c) **No Impact.** Sensitive land uses are generally considered uses such as playground, schools, senior citizen centers, hospitals, day-care facilities, or other uses that are more susceptible to poor air quality, such as residential neighborhoods. The project study area is located in an urbanized area characterized by a variety of land uses, and although there are a number of sensitive receptors located within the area, no physical development or changes in current facilities and operations are proposed by the project. As such, the proposed project would not have the potential to result in hazardous emissions or handle hazardous or acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste in any greater capacity than is necessary under existing conditions. Therefore, no impact would occur.
- d) **No Impact.** According to the California Department of Toxic Substances Control website, a number of properties that are included in a list of hazardous materials sites are located within the vicinity of the project study area. Nonetheless, no physical development or other changes in current operations that could potentially result in hazardous materials releases from known hazardous materials site are proposed by the project. As such, the proposed project would not create a significant hazard to the public or the environment. No impact would occur in this regard.
- e) **No Impact.** No public airports are located within 2 miles of the project study area. Further, as noted previously, no construction or any changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project. As such, the proposed project would not result in a safety hazard or excessive noise for people residing or working in the project area related to aircraft or airport activities. No impact would occur in this regard.
- f) **No Impact.** Adopted emergency response plans or emergency evacuations plan could be located within the vicinity of the project study area. However, since no development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project beyond the decreased volume of discharge, the proposed project would not impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Thus, no impacts would occur in this regard.
- g) **No Impact.** In anticipation of increased future recycled water demand, the District is proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. No physical development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project that would expose people or structures, either directly or indirectly, to a significant risk of loss, injury, or death involving wildland fires. Thus, no impacts would occur in this regard.

## References

California Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Toxic Substances Control, Envirostor Database, <http://www.envirostor.dtsc.ca.gov/public/>, accessed February 2018.

## Hydrology and Water Quality

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>X. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALITY — Would the project:</b>				
a) Violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Substantially decrease groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that the project may impede sustainable groundwater management of the basin?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river or through the addition of impervious surfaces, in a manner which would:				
i) result in substantial erosion or siltation on- or off-site;	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ii) substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or offsite;	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iii) create or contribute runoff water that would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantial additional sources of polluted runoff; or	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
iv) impede or redirect flood flows?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) In flood hazard, tsunami, or seiche zones, risk or release of pollutants due to project inundation?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The District is proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs including the San Jose Creek WRP, the Pomona WRP, the Whittier Narrows WRP, the Los Coyotes WRP, and the Long Beach WRP, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. While the proposed reduction in recycled water discharges would occur over time, the treatment process and discharge requirements for effluent for the five WRPs would not change pursuant to the NPDES permit covering each WRP. Effluent limitations imposed by the NPDES discharge permits would not change. Thus, impacts in this regard would be less than significant.
- b) **Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project would involve the gradual reduction of discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River, San Jose Creek or Coyote Creek. The discharges from three of the five WRPs (Pomona WRP, San Jose Creek WRP, and Whittier WRP) are to the soft-bottom channel of the San Gabriel River that allows some percolation and

contribute to groundwater supplies. The proposed project would reduce river-bottom recharge. Some of the recycled water that will not be discharged to the soft-bottom channel of the San Gabriel River will be used to recharge groundwater as part of regional groundwater recharge facilities and will help meet potable demands. Impacts are considered potentially significant and further analysis of this issue will be included in an EIR.

- c.i) **Potentially Significant Impact.** The proposed project would not physically alter the existing drainage pattern of the project study area. The proposed reduction would alter surface water flow conditions within the San Gabriel River. Impacts are considered potentially significant and further analysis of this issue will be included in an EIR.
- c.ii) **Less Than Significant Impact.** While the proposed project would alter the volume of water discharged to the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek, it would not increase the rate or amount of surface runoff or alter the drainage pattern of the site or surrounding area in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site. Thus, given that flows would be reduced under the proposed project, impacts in this regard would be less than significant.
- c.iii) **Less Than Significant Impact.** Based on the projected reduction in discharges to the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek from the five WRPs under the proposed project, the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems would not be exceeded. In addition, the quality of treated effluent discharged would not change from that required by the Waste Discharge Requirements/Waste Recycling Requirements (WDRs/WRRs) for each of the five WRPs. Therefore, impacts to stormwater systems related to increased runoff volumes or polluted runoff would be less than significant.
- c.iv) **No Impact.** The project does not propose development or change in current operations beyond the incremental reduction in discharges of recycled water from the five WRPs. As such, the proposed project would not impede or redirect flood flows. Thus, no impacts would occur in these regards.
- d) **No Impact.** A tsunami is a large sea wave produced by a significant undersea disturbance. Given the proximity to the Pacific Ocean, a majority of the project study area is not susceptible to inundation by a tsunami. A seiche is an oscillation of an enclosed or semi-enclosed basin, such as a reservoir, harbor, lake, or storage tank. A portion of the project study area is located within the vicinity of the Puddingstone Reservoir while another portion is located within the vicinity of Legg Lake. The San Gabriel River estuary portion of the project study area is located near Alamitos Bay. As no physical development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project, its implementation would have no impact with regard to inundation by seiche or tsunami.

- e) **No Impact.** The project does not propose development or change in current operations beyond the incremental reduction in discharges of recycled water from the five WRPs. As such, the proposed project would not conflict with or obstruct implementation of a water quality control plan or sustainable groundwater management plan. No impact would occur in this regard.
-



## Land Use and Planning

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XI. LAND USE AND PLANNING —</b> <b>Would the project:</b>				
a) Physically divide an established community?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed project would incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. No development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project beyond the decreased volume of discharge. As such, the proposed project would not have the potential to physically divide an established community. No impacts would occur in this regard.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not propose changes to the existing land use or zoning designations within the project study area or surrounding areas. Further, the proposed project would not involve any physical development or changes in current facilities or operations beyond the decreased volume of discharge that could cause a significant environmental impact due to a conflict with any land use plan, policy, or regulation over the proposed project. Therefore, no impacts would occur in this regard.

## Mineral Resources

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XII. MINERAL RESOURCES — Would the project:</b>				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally-important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan, or other land use plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not propose any physical development or changes in current facilities or operations beyond the decreased volume of discharge. As such, the proposed project would not have the potential to result in the loss of availability of a known mineral resource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state. No impact would occur.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not propose any physical development or changes in current facilities or operations beyond the decreased volume of discharge. As such, the proposed project would not result in the loss of availability of, or access to, a locally-important mineral resource recovery site. No impact would occur.

## Noise

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XIII. NOISE — Would the project result in:</b>				
a) Generation of a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise levels in the vicinity of the project in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) For a project located within the vicinity of a private airstrip or an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** Noise sensitive areas typically include residential areas, schools, convalescent hospitals, acute care facilities, and park and recreational areas. The project area is located in a highly urbanized area characterized by a wide variety of land uses, and although there are numerous sensitive receptors located within the vicinity of the project study area, the proposed project does not propose any physical development or changes in current facilities or operations beyond the decreased volume of discharge. As such, the proposed project would not generate a substantial temporary or permanent increase in ambient noise in excess of standards established in a city's General Plan or noise ordinance. No impact would occur in this regard.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed project does not propose development or any change in current operations or facilities that could result in new or increased sources of groundborne noise or vibration. As such, project implementation would not result in generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels. No impact would occur in this regard.
- c) **No Impact.** No physical development or changes in current facilities and operations are proposed by the project. As such, the proposed project would not have the potential to expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels associated with airport operations or aircraft. No impact would occur in this regard.

## Population and Housing

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XIV. POPULATION AND HOUSING — Would the project:</b>				
a) Induce substantial unplanned population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new homes and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **Less Than Significant Impact.** The proposed project would incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. No development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project beyond the decreased volume of discharge. Increased use of recycled water to meet local demands is consistent with urban water management plans in the region, reducing dependency on imported water. As such, project implementation would not induce substantial unplanned population growth in the area, either directly or indirectly. Impacts would be less than significant.
- b) **No Impact.** The project study area is currently developed with the San Gabriel River and San Jose Creek and does not include existing housing. As discussed above, the proposed project does not propose any physical development or changes in current facilities or operations beyond the decreased volume of discharge. As such, the proposed project would have no potential to displace substantial numbers of existing people or housing. No impact would occur in this regard.

## Public Services

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XV. PUBLIC SERVICES — Would the project:</b>				
a) Result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of new or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered government facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times, or other performance objectives for any of the following public services:				
i) Fire protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
ii) Police protection?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iii) Schools?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
iv) Parks?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
v) Other public facilities?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a.i) **No Impact.** As no development or changes in current operations are proposed under the project beyond the incremental reduction of recycled water discharges from the five WRPs, it is anticipated that no increases in the demand for fire protection services or for physical or staff resources associated with fire protection would result from its implementation. In addition, the increased use of recycled water for irrigation and other non-potable uses would offset potable water supplies that could be used for potable applications, including firefighting. No impact would occur in this regard.
- a.ii) **No Impact.** As no development or changes in current operations are proposed under the project, it is anticipated that no increases in the demand for police protection services or for physical or staff resources associated with police protection would result from its implementation. No impact would occur in this regard.
- a.iii) **No Impact.** The proposed project would not involve any physical development or other changes that could generate students or increase demands for schools or other related facilities. No impact would occur in this regard.
- a.iv) **No Impact.** The proposed project would not introduce any new population that would create additional demands on existing or planned park facilities. Furthermore, the proposed project would not displace or directly impact any parks or recreational facilities. Thus, no impacts to park facilities would occur.

## Utilities and Service Systems

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XIX. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEMS —</b>				
<b>Would the project:</b>				
a) Require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment or storm water drainage, electric power, or telecommunications facilities, the construction or relocation of which could cause significant environmental effects?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project and responsibly foreseeable future development during normal, dry and multiple dry years?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impair the attainment of solid waste reduction goals?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
e) Comply with federal, state, and local management and reduction statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** Project implementation would not create water or wastewater system capacity problems. Instead, the District would continue to discharge recycled water from the five WRPs at the same locations, but in reduced quantities. The proposed project would not require or result in the relocation or construction of new or expanded water, wastewater treatment facilities or stormwater drainage, electric power, or telecommunications facilities. As such, no impacts would occur.
- b) **No Impact.** No new or expanded water entitlements would be required with implementation of the proposed project, as the project does not propose development or change in current operations beyond the incremental reduction in discharges of recycled water. The proposed use of the recycled water would be implemented by water agencies and other users over time. Thus, the proposed project would result in an increase in recycled water supplies and no impacts would occur in this regard.
- c) **No Impact.** As mentioned above, in anticipation of increased future recycled water demands, the District is proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. The proposed use of recycled water would be implemented by water agencies and other users over time. The proposed project would not require additional wastewater treatment capacity or new or expanded facilities. As such, project implementation would

not impact the treatment capacity of the wastewater treatment facilities serving the project study area. Thus, no impacts would occur in this regard.

- d) **No Impact.** As no development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project, project implementation would not generate solid waste in excess of State or local standards, or in excess of the capacity of local infrastructure, or otherwise impact the attainment of solid waste reduction goals. No impact would occur in this regard.
  - e) **No Impact.** No physical development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project such that compliance with solid waste regulations beyond what is already required would be necessary. As such, no impacts would occur in this regard.
-

## Wildfire

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XX. WILDFIRE — If located in or near state responsibility areas or lands classified as very high fire hazard severity zones, would the project:</b>				
a) Substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
b) Due to slope, prevailing winds, and other factors, exacerbate wildfire risks, and thereby expose project occupants to, pollutant concentrations from a wildfire or the uncontrolled spread of a wildfire?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
c) Require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure (such as roads, fuel breaks, emergency water sources, power lines or other utilities) that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
d) Expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **No Impact.** Adopted emergency response plans or emergency evacuations plan could be located within the vicinity of the project study area. However, since no development or changes in current operations are proposed by the project beyond the decreased volume of discharge, the proposed project would not substantially impair an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan. Thus, no impacts would occur in this regard.
- b) **No Impact.** The proposed project would incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. No development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project beyond the decreased volume of discharge. As such, no impact would occur in this regard.
- c) **No Impact.** The proposed project would incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. No development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project beyond the decreased volume of discharge. The proposed project would not require the installation or maintenance of associated infrastructure that may exacerbate fire risk or that may result in temporary or ongoing impacts to the environment. As such, no impact would occur in this regard.



- d) **No Impact.** The proposed project would incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. No development or changes in current facilities or operations are proposed by the project beyond the decreased volume of discharge. Therefore, the proposed project would not expose people or structures to significant risks, including downslope or downstream flooding or landslides, as a result of runoff, post-fire slope instability, or drainage changes. As such, no impact would occur in this regard.
-

## Mandatory Findings of Significance

<i>Issues (and Supporting Information Sources):</i>	<i>Potentially Significant Impact</i>	<i>Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated</i>	<i>Less Than Significant Impact</i>	<i>No Impact</i>
<b>XXI. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNIFICANCE —</b>				
a) Does the project have the potential to substantially degrade the quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, substantially reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of California history or prehistory?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
b) Does the project have impacts that are individually limited but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
c) Does the project have environmental effects which will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

## Discussion

- a) **Potentially Significant Impact.** As discussed above, the proposed project could potentially result in significant impacts regarding biological resources. Impacts related to biological resources could be considered a substantial degrade to the quality of the environment. This impact is considered potentially significant and will be analyzed in the EIR.
- b) **Potentially Significant Impact.** As discussed above, the proposed project could potentially result in significant impacts regarding biological resources, hydrology and water quality, and recreation. The EIR will assess potential cumulative impacts associated with these issues.
- c) **Less Than Significant Impact.** As noted previously, the District is proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of recycled water from five WRPs, each of which currently discharges into the San Gabriel River or San Jose Creek. The proposed use of recycled water would be implemented by water agencies and other users. The District will continue to maintain the ability to discharge treated water at the same points but anticipates lesser quantities. The proposed reduction in discharges of recycled water would occur over time, and would not involve any construction activities or other physical changes to the environment other than the decreased volume of discharge. The project does not propose development or change in current operations beyond the incremental reduction in recycled water discharges from the five WRPs, of which would not be considered a substantial adverse effect on human beings.

Thus, substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly, are not anticipated to occur as a result of project implementation. A less than significant impact would occur in this regard.

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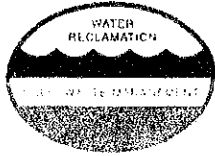


# **Appendix A**

## **Native American Tribal Consultation**







## COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601-1400  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4998, Whittier, CA 90607-4998  
Telephone: (562) 699-7411, FAX: (562) 699-5422  
www.lacsd.org

GRACE ROBINSON HYDE  
Chief Engineer and General Manager

March 23, 2018

Donna Yocum, Chairperson  
San Fernando Band of Mission Indians  
P.O. Box 221838  
Newhall, CA 91322

Dear Ms. Yocum:

**San Gabriel River Watershed Project to  
Reduce River Discharge in Support of Increased Recycled Water Reuse**

In conformance with the tribal consultation requirements of Assembly Bill (AB) 52, this letter is to inform you that the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Districts) is reviewing the proposed project described below. Per AB 52, the tribe has the right to consult on a proposed public or private project prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report. The project description is as follows:

In anticipation of increased future recycled water demands, the Districts are proposing to incrementally reduce discharges of tertiary-treated wastewater from five water reclamation plants (WRPs) including the San Jose Creek WRP, the Pomona WRP, the Whittier Narrows WRP, the Los Coyotes WRP, and the Long Beach WRP, each of which currently discharge into the San Gabriel River or the San Jose Creek; refer to **Figure 1-1, LACSD Receiving Water Stations and Discharges to San Gabriel System** and **Figure 1-2, San Jose Creek WRP Discharge Points**. The diverted water would supply recycled water programs implemented by other agencies. The proposed reduction in wastewater discharges would occur over time, and would not involve any construction activities or other physical changes to the environment other than the decreased volume of discharge. The Districts will continue to maintain the ability to discharge treated water at the same points of diversion, but anticipate lesser quantities.

You have 30 calendar days from receipt of this letter to notify us in writing that you want to consult on this project. Please provide the lead contact person's contact information. Please mail your request to:

Winnie Siau  
Project Engineer, Wastewater Planning Section  
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
1955 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601  
(562) 908-4288 x2740  
[winniesiau@lacsd.org](mailto:winniesiau@lacsd.org)

Sincerely,

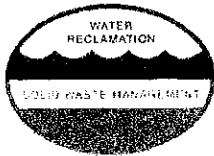
Jodie Lanza  
Supervising Engineer, Wastewater Planning  
Facilities Planning Department

JL:VC:pb

Attachments:

Figure 1-1, LACSD Receiving Water Stations and Discharges to San Gabriel System;  
Figure 1-2, San Jose Creek WRP Discharge Points

DOC#4499912



## COUNTY SANITATION DISTRICTS OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY

1955 Workman Mill Road, Whittier, CA 90601-1400  
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4998, Whittier, CA 90607-4998  
Telephone: (562) 699-7411, FAX: (562) 699-5422  
www.lacsd.org

GRACE ROBINSON HYDE  
Chief Engineer and General Manager

March 23, 2018

Temet Aguilar, Chairperson  
Pauma Band of Luiseno Indians - Pauma & Yuima Reservation  
P.O. Box 369  
Pauma Valley, CA 92061

Dear Mr. Aguilar:

**San Gabriel River Watershed Project to  
Reduce River Discharge in Support of Increased Recycled Water Reuse**

In conformance with the tribal consultation requirements of Assembly Bill (AB) 52, this letter is to inform you that the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Districts) is reviewing the proposed project described below. Per AB 52, the tribe has the right to consult on a proposed public or private project prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report. The project description is as follows:

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You have 30 calendar days from receipt of this letter to notify us in writing that you want to consult on this project. Please provide the lead contact person's contact information. Please mail your request to:

Winnie Siauw  
Project Engineer, Wastewater Planning Section  
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
1955 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601  
(562) 908-4288 x2740  
[winniesiauw@lacsd.org](mailto:winniesiauw@lacsd.org)

Sincerely,

Jodie Lanza  
Supervising Engineer, Wastewater Planning  
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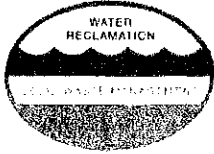
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GRACE ROBINSON HYDE  
Chief Engineer and General Manager

March 23, 2018

Charles Alvarez, Councilperson  
Gabrielino-Tongva Tribe  
23454 Vanowen Street  
West Hills, CA 91307

Dear Mr. Alvarez:

**San Gabriel River Watershed Project to  
Reduce River Discharge in Support of Increased Recycled Water Reuse**

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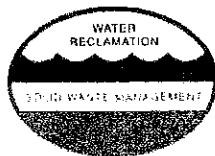
Jodie Lanza  
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GRACE ROBINSON HYDE  
Chief Engineer and General Manager

March 23, 2018

Robert Dorame, Chairperson  
Gabrielino Tongva Indians of California Tribal Council  
P.O. Box 490  
Bellflower, CA 90707

Dear Mr. Dorame:

**San Gabriel River Watershed Project to  
Reduce River Discharge in Support of Increased Recycled Water Reuse**

In conformance with the tribal consultation requirements of Assembly Bill (AB) 52, this letter is to inform you that the Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County (Districts) is reviewing the proposed project described below. Per AB 52, the tribe has the right to consult on a proposed public or private project prior to the release of a negative declaration, mitigated negative declaration, or environmental impact report. The project description is as follows:

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Project Engineer, Wastewater Planning Section  
Sanitation Districts of Los Angeles County  
1955 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90601  
(562) 908-4288 x2740  
winniesiau@lacsd.org

Sincerely,

Jodie Lanza  
Supervising Engineer, Wastewater Planning  
Facilities Planning Department

JL:VC:pb

Attachments:

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www.lacsd.org

GRACE ROBINSON HYDE  
Chief Engineer and General Manager

March 23, 2018

Sandonne Goad, Chairperson  
Gabrielino /Tongva Nation  
106 1/2 Judge John Aiso St #231  
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Dear Ms. Goad:

**San Gabriel River Watershed Project to  
Reduce River Discharge in Support of Increased Recycled Water Rense**

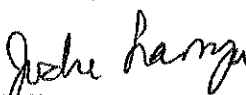
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Sincerely,

  
Jodie Lanza  
Supervising Engineer, Wastewater Planning  
Facilities Planning Department

JL:VC:pb

Attachments:

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GRACE ROBINSON HYDE  
Chief Engineer and General Manager

March 23, 2018

Anthony Morales, Chairperson  
Gabrieleno/Tongva San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians  
P.O. Box 693  
San Gabriel, CA 91778

Dear Mr. Morales:

### **San Gabriel River Watershed Project to Reduce River Discharge in Support of Increased Recycled Water Reuse**

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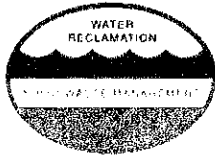
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GRACE ROBINSON HYDE  
Chief Engineer and General Manager

March 23, 2018

Andrew Salas, Chairperson  
Gabrieleno Band of Mission Indians - Kizh Nation  
P.O. Box 393  
Covina, CA 91723

Dear Mr. Salas:

### **San Gabriel River Watershed Project to Reduce River Discharge in Support of Increased Recycled Water Reuse**

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Sincerely,

Jodie Lanza  
Supervising Engineer, Wastewater Planning  
Facilities Planning Department

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GRACE ROBINSON HYDE  
Chief Engineer and General Manager

March 27, 2018

Matias Belardes, Chairperson  
Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen Nation  
32161 Avenida Los Amigos  
San Juan Capistrano, CA 92675

Dear Mr. Salas:

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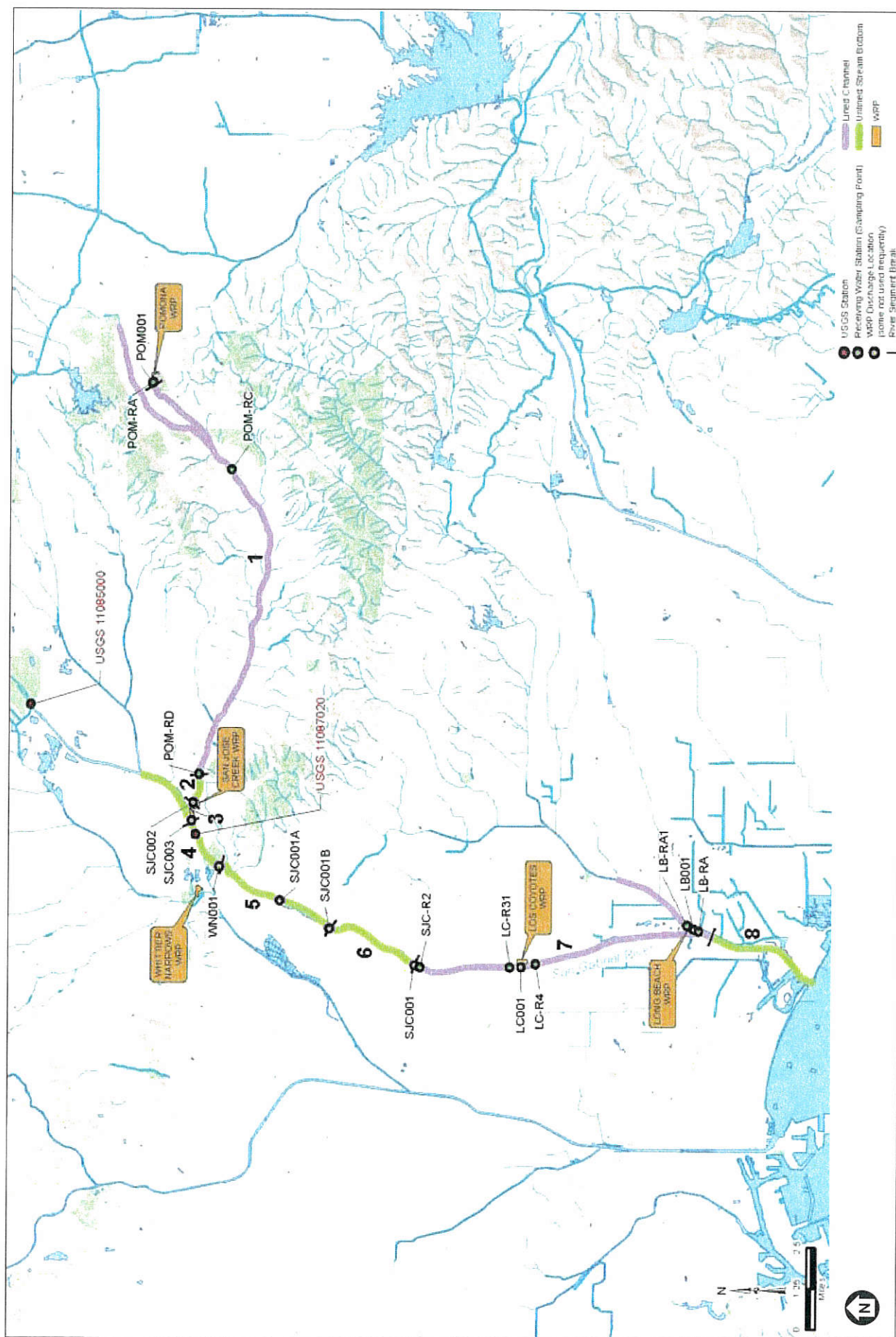
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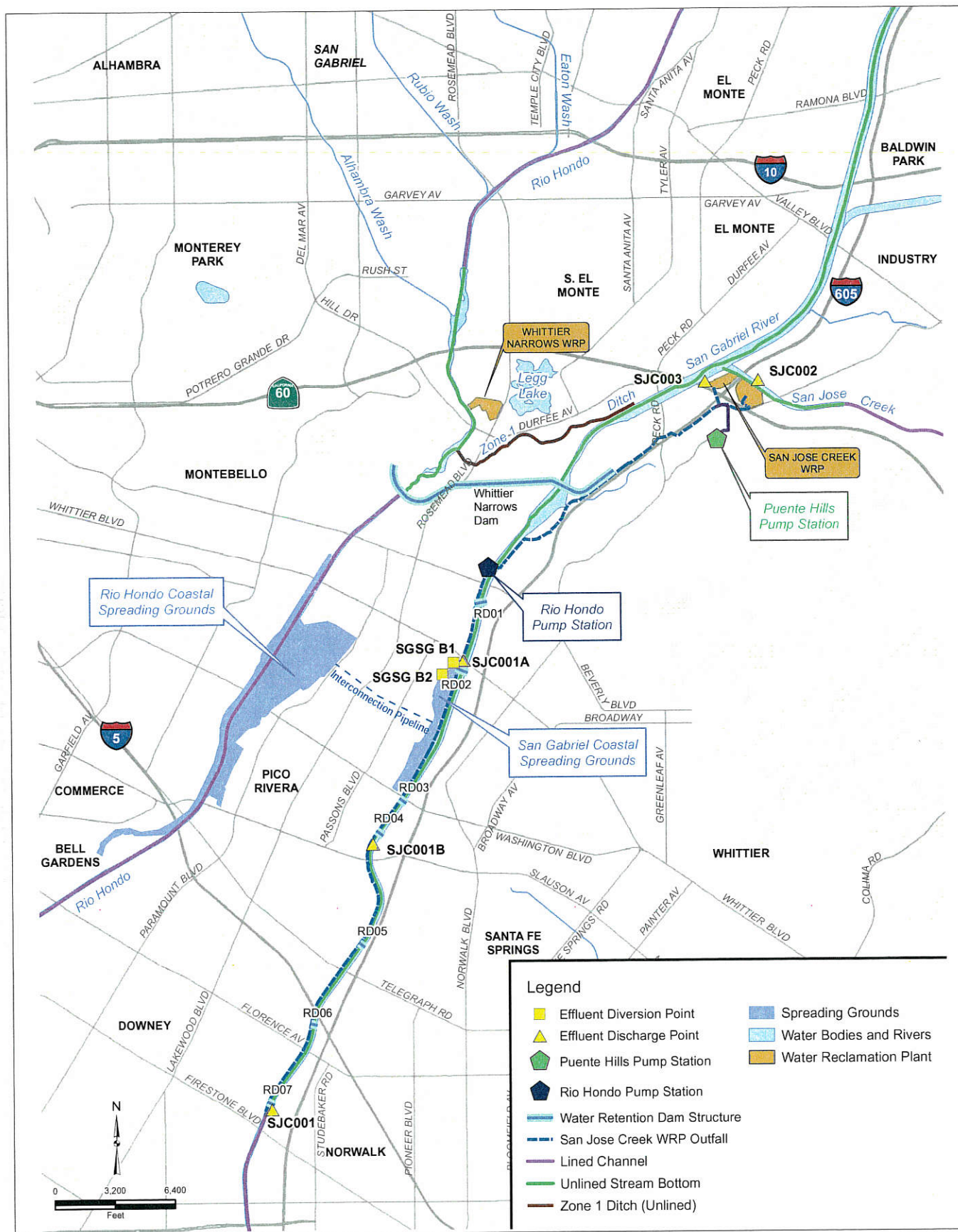


SOURCE: Clearwater EIR Segment Map, prepared by Chambers Group, Inc., 2015

LACSD San Gabriel River Wastewater Diversion Program

**Figure 1-1**  
LACSD Receiving Water Stations and Discharges to San Gabriel System





SOURCE: Amec, Foster, Wheeler, 2017

LACSD San Gabriel River Wastewater Diversion Program

**Figure 1-2**  
SJCWRP Discharge Points





# GABRIELEÑO BAND OF MISSION INDIANS - KIZH NATION

Historically known as The San Gabriel Band of Mission Indians  
recognized by the State of California as the aboriginal tribe of the Los Angeles basin

County Station District  
1955 Workman Mill Road  
Whittier, CA 90607-4998

March 29, 2018

Re: AB52 Consultation request for San Gabriel River Watershed Project

Dear Jodie Lanza,

Please find this letter as a written request for consultation regarding the above-mentioned project pursuant to Public Resources Code § 21080.3.1, subd. (d). Your project lies within our ancestral tribal territory, meaning belonging to or inherited from, which is a higher degree of kinship than traditional or cultural affiliation. Your project is located within a sensitive area and may cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of our tribal cultural resources. Most often, a records search for our tribal cultural resources will result in a "no records found" for the project area. The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), ethnographers, historians, and professional archaeologists can only provide limited information that has been previously documented about California Native Tribes. This is the reason the NAHC will always refer the lead agency to the respective Native American Tribe of the area because the NAHC is only aware of general information and are not the experts on each California Tribe. Our Elder Committee & tribal historians are the experts for our Tribe and are able to provide a more complete history (both written and oral) regarding the location of historic villages, trade routes, cemeteries and sacred/religious sites in the project area. Therefore, to avoid adverse effects to our tribal cultural resources, we would like to consult with you and your staff to provide you with a more complete understanding of the prehistoric use(s) of the project area and the potential risks for causing a substantial adverse change to the significance of our tribal cultural resources.

Consultation appointments are available on Wednesdays and Thursdays at our offices at 910 N. Citrus Ave. Covina, CA 91722 or over the phone. Please call toll free 1-844-390-0787 or email [gabrielenoindians@yahoo.com](mailto:gabrielenoindians@yahoo.com) to schedule an appointment.

\*\* Prior to the first consultation with our Tribe, we ask all those individuals participating in the consultation to view a video produced and provided by CalEPA and the NAHC for sensitivity and understanding of AB52. You can view their videos at: <http://calepa.ca.gov/Tribal/Training/> or <http://nahc.ca.gov/2015/12/ab-52-tribal-training/>

With Respect,

Andrew Salas, Chairman

Andrew Salas, Chairman

Albert Perez, treasurer

PO Box 393, Covina, CA 91723

Nadine Salas, Vice-Chairman

Martha Gonzalez [emos, treasurer]

[www.gabrielenoindians.org](http://www.gabrielenoindians.org)

Christina Swindall Martinez, secretary

Richard Gradias, Chairman of the Council of Elders

[gabrielenoindians@yahoo.com](mailto:gabrielenoindians@yahoo.com)

