



Santa Margarita  
Water District



SAN JUAN  
**WATERSHED**  
PROJECT

## **SJWP NGO Meeting: Notes**

### **September 22, 2016**

Attendees: Sandra Jacobson, Roger Butow, Penny, Richard Gardner, Rick Wilson, Ray Hiemstra, George Sutherland, Cathrene Glick, Don Bunts, Jim Leach, Nicole Stanfield

#### **Phase 1**

- Uncaptured Water
  - 24,000 AFY – be specific on what this is
  - Secondary effluent going to ocean
- Existing Facilities
  - San Juan Capistrano Desalter
  - South Coast Water District Desalter
- CEQA
  - Hired ESA
- Design
  - Final selection of design firm
- Permits required
  - Regional Board
  - Army Corp.
  - Fish & Wildlife (sec 1602)
- Comment Period
  - Notice of Preparation (late Nov./Dec. – 30-45 days)
  - March 2017 Draft EIR
  - No significant meetings or public review during holidays
- SMWD Board committed \$1.7 million
- Penny keen on OCTA involvement & who SMWD is working with at other agencies/cities

#### **Phase 2**

- Discussion on where the recycled water is coming from (as pictured on Phase 2 map animation)
- Roger Butow requested a brief overview of Trampas Reservoir
- South Coast Water District 20% partner in San Juan Watershed Project
- Richard Gardner recommended a regional analysis of recycled water storage and potable water.

## Next Steps

- CEQA
- Public Advocacy
- Grant Opportunities
  - OCTA
  - Steelhead trout (restoration efforts)
  - Habitat restoration
  - Fish passages
  - Sandra Jacobson interested in helping

## Discussion

- Timeframe of full project completion: 2023-2025
- Coast Keeper (Ray Hiemstra)
  - Goal to restore to natural habitat and some SJWP may help
  - Direct potable reuse may be in effect prior to project completion
  - IPR & DPR regulations are being developed
    - IPR regulations expected within the year
  - Red flag: MS4 requirements; long standing disagreement with County
    - BMP
- Sierra Club (Penny Elia)
  - Reduce runoff from customers
  - Penny – ask us to help push the state for IPR regulations
  - Water supply dream? Don: “50% local”
  - Disturbing to hear how difficult the regional board has been; they’re our (NGO) friend
- CalTrout/South Coast Steelhead Coalition (Sandra “Sandi” Jacobson)
  - Dam inflations
    - Tied to hydraulic models
    - Passive infiltration
    - Promotes infiltration
    - Sediments – concrete structures provide velocities that don’t imbed creek
      - Allows for sediment transport
  - Phase 2 clarification – no injection

- Technical Memo 4 provides overview of final phases
- Rick Wilson
  - How do rubber dams withstand sediment and flow?
- Richard Gardner
  - How will SMWD restore the creek after this project? Don clearly separated SJWP from watershed responsibilities
  - Orange County Flood Control
  - Supports San Juan Watershed Project; will help get grant position