

WATER ISSUES ADDENDUM
TO
COMMON GROUND
from the Mountains to the Sea

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Prepared by:

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With the assistance of:

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PREFACE

Through the California Resources Agency, the San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy, or Rivers and Mountains Conservancy (RMC), in conjunction with the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC), jointly developed a Watershed and Open Space Plan for the San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers entitled Common Ground, from the Mountains to the Sea. The RMC and SMMC adopted the Watershed and Open Space Plan at a joint meeting on October 17, 2001.

As part of Phase II of the Open Space Plan process, the RMC has been engaged in outreach to cities, agencies, non-profit groups and community-based organizations to secure approval of Common Ground, and work with those entities to expand upon or amplify the information included in the plan and extend Common Ground to those portions of the RMC territory which are outside of the watersheds of the San Gabriel and Los Angeles Rivers. This Addendum provides additional information and clarifies certain issues related to water quality, supply and rights, and the conditions under which the RMC can undertake projects.

The format of this Addendum follows that of Common Ground, with (1) an introduction that provides background, (2) a description of physical setting and conditions, and (3) a Vision for the Future, which describes guiding principles, opportunities, and next steps. Only those sections of Common Ground that are being revised via this Addendum are included herein.

It is the intent of the RMC to adopt this Addendum as a supplement to Common Ground, and upon the next printing of Common Ground, to incorporate this information into the main body of the document. As additional relevant information is developed (e.g., from other Addenda, or from detailed planning related to specific issues, such as River Parkways or habitat), that information will also be incorporated into Common Ground, so that Plan continues to evolve and expand over time, to better inform the Conservancy's activities and projects.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Executive Summary of Common Ground provided an overview of the concepts and principles included in the main body of the document. This Addendum provides an opportunity to reflect changes in the body of the Common Ground, which are described more fully in the subsequent sections of this Addendum.

C. OPPORTUNITIES

The discussion of Water Resources on page 5 of Common Ground is modified as follows:

“Surface Water: Improve water quality to optimize water supplies and protect beneficial uses. Where consistent with regulatory requirements, water quality protection standards, plans, and policies, encourage infiltration of urban runoff into groundwater to extend the water supply and reduce reliance on imported water.

Groundwater: When consistent with local water management policies, plans and regulatory requirements, expand and enhance groundwater infiltration and recharge wherever possible.

D. NEXT STEPS

The 2nd full paragraph on page 7 is modified as follows:

“California State Parks will implement the urban park strategy for the Los Angeles area. The California Coastal Conservancy will develop wetlands restoration projects. The California Department of Fish and Game will work on habitat conservation planning. The Wildlife Conservation Board will work on acquisition of critical habitat and public access funding. CalTrans will develop bikeways and restoration projects. The Los Angeles and Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Boards will coordinate water quality improvements with interested parties. The US Forest Service will complete a Forest Plan Update that includes the Angeles National Forest. The US Army Corps of Engineers will continue work on wetlands restoration and flood control projects. The US National Park Service will prepare a River Parkways Study (if funded) and develop the De Anza Trail. The Los Angeles County Department of Public Works will complete the San Gabriel River Master Plan and work on river-related projects. The Orange County Office of the Chief Executive will complete a subwatershed plan for Coyote Creek (with the assistance of the Army Corps) and implement watershed related improvements. Water entities, in cooperation with LACDPW and other appropriate agencies, will implement policies, programs and projects that enhance water supplies and protect and improve water quality. Individual Cities will identify new projects and consider incorporation of the Guiding Principles into the next update of their General Plans.”

1. INTRODUCTION

Common Ground was prepared and adopted to assist the Rivers and Mountains Conservancy in meeting the statutory requirement [of Public Resources Code Section 32604(d)] to prepare a “San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles Parkway and Open Space Plan” that includes “policies and priorities for the conservation of the San Gabriel River and its watershed, the Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains, in accordance with the purposes of the conservancy.” Per Section 32602 of the PRC, the purpose of the Conservancy is as follows:

- (a) To acquire and manage public lands within the Lower Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River watersheds, and to provide open-space, low-impact recreational and educational uses, water conservation, watershed improvement, wildlife and habitat restoration and protection, and watershed improvement within the territory.
- (b) To preserve the San Gabriel River and the Lower Los Angeles River consistent with existing and adopted river and flood control projects for the protection of life and property.
- (c) To acquire open-space lands within the territory of the conservancy.
- (d) To provide for the public's enjoyment and enhancement of recreational and educational experiences on public lands in the San Gabriel Watershed and Lower Los Angeles River, and the San Gabriel Mountains in a manner consistent with the protection of lands and resources in those watersheds.

Because of the broad mandate of the conservancy (open space, low-impact recreation, education uses, water conservation, watershed improvement, and wildlife and habitat restoration and protection) Common Ground was developed to address a wide range of issues related to the concept of watershed improvement. These include expansion of open space, improving access to open space, improving habitat quality and connectivity, a network of trails, landscape stewardship, sustainable growth, flood protection, water quality, water resources, coordination of planning, multi-objective planning, science as a basis for planning, education and outreach, and plan review and assessment. Many of these issues are beyond the jurisdiction or abilities of the RMC to implement. Inclusion of these issues in Common Ground was not intended to suggest that the RMC intends to assert any authority or expertise beyond those specific activities that the Conservancy is authorized by statute to perform. Rather, the inclusion of these concepts was an attempt to broaden the discussion of these issues and recognize the interrelationship of each of topics on the conditions of the watersheds in which the RMC is authorized to operate. By encouraging multiple-objective planning and projects, the RMC seeks to encourage public agencies, counties, cities, communities, neighborhoods, non-profit groups and community-based organizations to build partnerships and forge relationships that seek solutions to the myriad of urban problems that also respect the natural and biological systems that were in place before our cities and infrastructure were developed.

Because of the range of concepts covered by the Guiding Principles, the adoption of Common Ground resulted in some confusion about the role and authority of the RMC to provide open space, low-impact recreation and educational uses, water conservation, watershed improvement, and wildlife and habitat restoration and protection. Per the Conservancy’s enabling legislation (Public Resources Code Section 32600 to 32621), the conservancy may acquire and manage land, undertake projects, or fund projects to the extent those projects are consistent with the RMC’s purpose (described above).

To undertake projects, the RMC must provide prior notice to the legislative body of the affected local agency (e.g., the city or county in which the project or property is located) as follows: (1) 30 days if the RMC proposes to acquire land (or an interest in property) for open space or conservation purposes, or proposes to lease, rent, sell, exchange, or otherwise transfer any real property, the RMC must provide 30

days written notice; and (2) prior notification for a project to upgrade deteriorating facilities or construct new facilities as needed for outdoor recreation, nature appreciation and interpretation, and natural resources protection.

In addition, for any proposed action, policy, or project that may affect any water right or water delivery system, the RMC must provide 45-day notice to every water association in the conservancy territory. The RMC may not engage in activities which infringe upon water quality, supply or rights (described more fully in Section 3.4.C of this Addendum). In addition, the RMC may not levy a tax, exercise the power of eminent domain, or regulate land use except on lands it owns, manages or controls. The RMC is subject to all laws, regulations, and general and specific plans of the legislative body of any city (or county, for unincorporated areas) in which the conservancy proposes to take action. Further, nothing in the RMC's enabling legislation was intended to grant the RMC board any regulatory or governing authority over any ordinance or regulatory measure adopted by a city, county, or special district that pertains to land use, water rights, or environmental quality.

The inclusion of a wide range of concepts and principles in Common Ground was not intended to suggest that the RMC intends to implement any projects that contain features or program elements within the statutory jurisdiction of another agency or entity, without adequate consultation with that agency or entity. It is the intent of the RMC to involve relevant agencies and entities in the planning, development and implementation of any project that would impact flood protection, surface water quality or supply, or groundwater recharge or quality. The RMC recognizes that because of the interrelationship of the environmental issues described in Common Ground, coordination, consultation and notification of affected public agencies, cities, counties, communities, and stakeholders is vital to assuring positive outcomes for all projects undertaken by the RMC.

2. CURRENT CONDITIONS

Section 2 of Common Ground included a discussion of the physical setting of the San Gabriel and Los Angeles watersheds. This Addendum provides an opportunity expand and clarify the discussion of water supply and water quality provided in Common Ground.

E. WATER SUPPLY

1. Sources of Water

Common Ground noted (on page 33) the primary sources of water supply for the watersheds (which include imported water, local groundwater supplies; recycled water; and surface water from local streams and the upper San Gabriel River), and noted the potential for variability of those supplies. The first full paragraph on page 33 is modified as follows:

“While these supplies currently sustain a population of over seventeen million people in Southern California, they are subject to both seasonal and long-term variability depending upon climatic conditions throughout the source areas. In addition to climatic variability, the availability of existing water sources to continue providing water in the future may also be impacted by court decisions related to water rights (including adjudication of those rights), the development of cooperative agreements related to water supplies, and the need to maintain water quality to meet applicable water quality standards, plans, and policies. During drought periods, there may be less water available for importation so groundwater use may increase in some areas. During wet years, stormwater runoff and surplus imported water may be stored in reservoirs and groundwater basins for future needs. **Figure 2-9** depicts the average amount contributed to the region's water supply by each source. The percentage of groundwater and imported water varies from year to year, depending on hydrologic conditions. Groundwater contributes from 30 to 40 percent, while imported water may range from 56 to 66 percent of the total supply.

2. Groundwater

The following introductory paragraph is inserted (on page 35) to provide a brief explanation of groundwater infiltration:

“Rainfall that lands on undeveloped land (e.g., pervious surfaces) has an opportunity to infiltrate into the ground and collect in areas where the underlying rock or soil is porous enough to trap significant amounts of water. Urban and suburban development in the watersheds has reduced the amount of pervious surfaces (as the land is covered with buildings, roads, parking lots and other impervious surfaces), which has the effect of reducing the potential for natural infiltration and percolation to replenish groundwater.”

Groundwater Management

The 4th paragraph on Page 35 of *Common Ground* related to groundwater management is modified as follows:

~~“Groundwater pumping in the San Gabriel groundwater basin began to exceed recharge rates in the 1950s, leading to a lengthy legal battle that was settled in 1972. This settlement established the San Gabriel River Watermaster to adjudicate water rights and manage groundwater resources in the Main San Gabriel Basin. The water resources of the groundwater basins in the Upper Los Angeles River Area (ULARA) are managed by an agreement made in 1973. This agreement balances the groundwater rights of the City of Los Angeles with the upstream cities of Glendale and Burbank. The ULARA Watermaster is responsible for managing groundwater supplies and protecting groundwater~~

quality. Groundwater pumping in the Main San Gabriel Valley Groundwater basin began to exceed recharge rates in the 1950's, reducing the amount of water from the San Gabriel River system available to downstream users in the Central Basin, south of Whittier Narrows (Lower Area). The Lower Area parties filed a lawsuit on May 12, 1959. The dispute was settled in 1965 by entry of the "Long Beach Judgment," which allocated the available water between the Upper and Lower Areas, developed an accounting system for all water passing through Whittier Narrows, and created a three-person watermaster (the San Gabriel River Watermaster) to administer the Judgment.

Another lawsuit was filed on January 2, 1968, seeking the adjudication of all water rights in the Main San Gabriel Basin. Those rights are mainly groundwater rights, although surface water rights in the Basin were included. That Judgment was entered on January 4, 1973, and is administered by a nine-person watermaster comprised of six water producer members and three public water district representatives. The Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster administers basin water rights, manages basin replenishment, and regulates pumping for water quality improvement.

The water resources of the groundwater basins in the Upper Los Angeles River Area (ULARA) are managed by an agreement made in 1973. This agreement balances the groundwater rights of the City of Los Angeles with the upstream cities of Glendale and Burbank. The ULARA Watermaster is responsible for managing groundwater supplies and protecting groundwater quality."

3. Imported Water

The last paragraph on page 35 (which continues to page 36) is modified as follows:

"Construction of the first Los Angeles Aqueduct from the Owens Valley began in 1908. Under the supervision of William Mulholland, this 233-mile aqueduct was constructed in five years. In 1940 the aqueduct was extended 105 miles north to Mono Basin. A second aqueduct from Owens Valley was completed in 1970 to further increase capacity. Approximately 480,000 acre-feet of water are delivered to the City of Los Angeles each year. The amount the aqueduct delivers varies from year to year due to fluctuating precipitation in the Sierra Nevada. In addition, the diversion of water from Mono Lake has been reduced by a decision of the State Water Resources Control Board and export of water from the Owens Valley limited by the Inyo-LA Long Term Water Agreement (and related Memorandum of Understanding) and an additional Memorandum of Understanding between the Great Basin Air Pollution Control District and the City of Los Angeles (to reduce particulate matter air pollution from the Owens Lake bed). As a result of these legal restrictions on water transfers to protect the source environment, future deliveries are expected to be reduced to an average of 321,000 acre-feet annually over the next twenty years."

The first full paragraph on page 36 is modified as follows:

"The 242-mile Colorado River Aqueduct, completed in 1941 to deliver water to the Southern California coastal plain, has a capacity of 1.3 million acre-feet. Annually, California is ~~allowed~~ allotted 4.4 million acre-feet of Colorado River water. California has traditionally received in excess of that amount when there is excess water available, in wet years or when other states drawing from the Colorado River do not use their full allotment. Future water allotments to California ~~supplies~~ from the Colorado River may be reduced due to competing demands as other states increase their diversions in accord with their authorized allotments. The Metropolitan Water District recently completed the Eastside Reservoir project, which created Diamond Valley Lake, to store 800,000 acre feet of Colorado River water.

The second full paragraph on page 36 is modified as follows:

The State Water Project (SWP) was created in 1960 to deliver water to regions of the state where resources are scarce. The SWP brings water 444 miles from the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

to Southern California via the California Aqueduct. The SWP has delivered up to 3.6 million acre-feet annually, although significantly less water is available during dry-year periods. ~~One of the goals of the CALFED Bay-Delta Program is to improve water supply reliability for the Delta, therefore the potential for future increases in water supplies from the SWP for Southern California is uncertain. The CALFED Bay-Delta Record of Decision (in August 2000) established a framework to protect water quality, ecosystem quality, water supply and vulnerability of natural delta functions in the delta of the Sacramento, San Joaquin and Mokelumne Rivers. Future actions necessary to implement that decision could reduce the amount of bay-delta water that can be diverted via the State Water Project for delivery to Southern California. The growing demand for water could result in additional water transfers (the movement of water from willing sellers to buyers in water-short areas) which may become available to augment urban water supplies.”~~

B. WATER QUALITY

1. Responsibility for Managing Water Quality

The discussion of water quality management on pages 36 and 37 is modified as follows:

~~“As noted above, the principle sources of water supply in the watersheds are imported water and groundwater, with recycled and surface water providing relatively small amounts. Thus, the majority of water utilized in the watersheds is potable water which must meet drinking water standards. The federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA), passed by Congress in 1974, requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to develop drinking water standards that must be implemented nationwide. In California, EPA has delegated implementation of drinking water regulations to the State. The California Department of Health Services has responsibility to protect the quality of drinking water, in accord with California’s Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Programs, which were developed in response to the 1995 reauthorization of the Federal Clean Water Act. Drinking water standards for the State of California are specified in the Health and Safety Code (Division 20, Chapter 6.75, Sections 25299.57 to 25299.99.3, and Division 104, Part 12, Sections 116270-117130).~~

Protection of water quality in California is primarily the responsibility of the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and, on a regional basis, the nine California Regional Water Quality Control Boards. The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code) authorizes the State Board to adopt policies for all waters of the state and directs each Regional Board to prepare a Basin Plan to protect water quality. The water quality in the watersheds is primarily under the jurisdiction of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (LARWQCB). The Santa Ana Regional Board has jurisdiction over a portion of the Coyote Creek subwatershed.

~~The California Department of Health Services also has responsibility to protect the quality of drinking water, in accord with California’s Drinking Water Source Assessment and Protection Programs, in response to the 1995 reauthorization of the Federal Clean Water Act. The Water Replenishment District of Southern California (WRD) is also authorized under the California Water Code to engage in activities to protect groundwater in the Central and West Coast groundwater basins. The Main San Gabriel Basin Watermaster and the ULARA Watermaster also have responsibility for water quality protection for their respective basins. In addition, the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority was established to develop, finance and implement groundwater cleanup programs in the San Gabriel Basin.~~

The Basin Plan for the Los Angeles Region was originally prepared in the 1970s and has been updated several times with the latest comprehensive update occurring in 1994 (several TMDL Basin Plan amendments have been adopted since). The Santa Ana River Basin Plan was first adopted in 1975, with a major update in 1995. These plans ~~address beneficial uses for surface waters in the re-~~

gion, as required by the Federal Clean Water Act, water quality objectives for protection of beneficial uses, and a plan for enhancing and maintaining water quality. designate beneficial uses for surface and ground waters, set narrative and numerical objectives that must be attained or maintained to protect designated beneficial uses and describe implementation programs to protect all regional waters.”

3. Water Quality Concerns

Surface Water

The last sentence of the first paragraph is modified as follows:

EPA 303(d) listed surface water constituent of concern, including lakes, are shown in the table below.

A corrected table for page 37 is as follows:

Drainage	Alage	Ammonia	Arsenic	Chlorpyrifos	Coliform	Cadmium	Copper	Lead	Mercury	Selenium	Silver	Zinc	Odors	Oil	Historic Pesticides	pH	Toxicity	Trash	Volatile Organic Compounds
San Gabriel	X	X	X		X		X*	X	X*				X*		X*	X	X	X	
Los Angeles	X	X		X	X	X	X	X		X		X	X	X	X	X		X	X

*Lakes only

The figure at the top of page 38 will be updated to include some of the same pollutants of concern as the table, the San Gabriel River Estuary will be listed separately, and major lakes will be listed with their impairments.

Second full paragraph on Page 37 under Water Quality Concerns – Surface Water: The entire paragraph (which is talking about remediation), except for last sentence, will be moved to Page 39, at end of “Source Control and Remediation Efforts Planned” header section but before the subsection “Control of Point Source Pollutants” – TMDLs apply to both point and nonpoint sources and so should precede the more specific discussions.

Groundwater

The 1st paragraph related to groundwater quality concerns on page 38 is modified as follows:

“As described earlier in this document, groundwater supplies most of the watersheds’ local potable water supply. Specific groundwater quality concerns include volatile organic compounds, perchlorate, hexavalent chromium, and NDMA from industrial activities, ~~and~~ nitrates from agricultural

practices, septic tanks and leach fields, and potential contaminants associated with infiltration of stormwater runoff. The infiltration of contaminated stormwater runoff, if not properly treated and regularly monitored, could result in additional groundwater contamination. Low levels of hexavalent chromium have been detected in San Fernando Valley drinking water wells and in Central Basin aquifers. The United States EPA has designated portions of the San Gabriel and San Fernando basins as Superfund sites, and has initiated cleanup operations. Other Superfund sites have been identified within the watersheds, such as the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in La Cañada Flintridge, Lockheed in the San Fernando Valley and the Pemaco site in Maywood. Some water supply wells have been taken out of production where contaminant levels exceed drinking water standards. Efforts of local cities, water companies, ~~and~~ water agencies, watermasters, water associations and special-purpose entities such as the San Gabriel Basin Water Quality Authority have been instrumental in protecting groundwater quality and developing and implementing plans to clean up many of these sites existing contamination.”

4. Source Controls and Remediation Efforts Planned

For waters on the 303(d) list, and where the US EPA administrator deems they are appropriate, the states are to develop Total Maximum Daily Loads or TMDLs. A TMDL defines the total amount of a particular pollutant that is acceptable in the waterbody consistent with its designated beneficial use. Federal regulations require that each TMDL account for all sources of the pollutants that caused the water to be listed, both contributions from point sources (federally permitted discharges) and contributions from non-point sources. The Los Angeles Regional Board has adopted a schedule for development of a wide range of TMDLs to address 303(d) listed waters throughout the watersheds

Control of Non-point Source Pollutants

The 4th paragraph on page 39 is modified as follows:

In addition to the general approach to non-point source pollution control, the Los Angeles Regional Board has adopted a TMDL for trash for the East Fork of the San Gabriel River and ~~has proposed a draft TMDL for trash in the Los Angeles River~~ and adopted a schedule for adoption of a wide range of TMDLs to address 303(d) listed waters throughout the watersheds. The watersheds are also subject to a NPDES permit for stormwater runoff that are designed to protect the beneficial uses of water bodies in Los Angeles County by reducing pollutants in storm water. The Los Angeles County permit was issued in 1990 by the Regional Water Quality Control Board and renewed in 1996 and 2002. The permit covers 3,100 square miles in the Los Angeles basin and spans several watersheds, with the County of Los Angeles and 85 incorporated cities as the listed permittees. The Board also adopted a requirement for development of a Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) for construction and operational BMPs for certain types of projects which mandates the collection and treatment the first 3/4 inch of stormwater runoff from the site. The City of Long Beach was issued a permit in 1999 by the Regional Water Quality Control Board. Approximately 44% of the approximately 50 square miles area covered by the permit drains to the Los Angeles River, while 7% drains to the San Gabriel River. Orange County’s Environmental Resources department also administers a countywide stormwater program of water quality protection initiatives backed by a 1997 water quality ordinance.

3. A VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Section 3 of Common Ground included the Guiding Principles, and a discussion of strategies, opportunities, and next steps. This Addendum provides an opportunity to modify the guiding principles related to water, clarify the discussion of opportunities related to water resources and insert an additional statement related to next steps.

B. GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The 6th paragraph on page 47 is modified as follows:

“To restore the watersheds, create an open space network, enhance waters and waterways, and improve coordination of planning throughout the region, plans and projects need consistent goals. The Guiding Principles represent an over-arching set of goals that can be used to guide future projects and enhance current open space planning in the watersheds. The Guiding Principles are intended to serve as a reference or a touchstone for all concerned with watershed planning. They set forth general directions without attempting to define responsibilities for implementation. They are guides, not directives. They imply a wide perspective and a long view. They are not intended to suggest that the RMC has any authority to implement projects beyond those specific activities that the Conservancy is authorized by statute to perform. The Principles were developed through a consensus-building process involving state and county agencies, cities, environmental groups, local councils of government, and individuals having a stake in the evolution of the watersheds.

The water-related Guiding Principles are modified as follows:

■ WATER: Enhance Waters and Waterways

Maintain and Improve Flood Protection

- Maintain or enhance existing flood protection at all phases of implementation
- Utilize nonstructural methods for flood management where feasible
- Reduce the volume and velocity of stormwater runoff where feasible
- Consistent with local water management practices, water rights, water quality protection standards, plans, and policies),_develop regional and subregional networks of stormwater detention areas where feasible
- Consistent with regulatory requirements, water rights, water quality protection standards, plans and policies, encourage new developments to detain stormwater onsite to mitigate runoff where feasible

Establish Riverfront Greenways to Cleanse Water, Hold Floodwaters, & Extend Open Space

- Acquire land for flood management, wetlands, cleansing of water, and compatible uses
- Create a continuous network of parks along the waterways
- Consistent with regulatory requirements, water rights, and water management practices, develop recreational opportunities along waterways
- Connect communities to the waterways by extended greenways

Improve Quality of Surface Water and Groundwater

- Reduce dry weather urban runoff discharge into waterways and the ocean
- Coordinate local planning and opportunities for water quality improvements consistent with the regional basin plan for water quality standards, plans, and policies
- Support public/volunteer water quality monitoring programs

- Assist cities in implementing water quality regulatory requirements
 - Improve Flood Safety Through Restoration of River and Creek Ecosystems*
- Consistent with water quality protection standards, plans, and policies, regulatory requirements, water rights, water management practices and flood control needs, enhance or restore the natural hydrologic functioning of subwatershed areas
- Naturalize low-flow streambeds/develop floodways for storm events where consistent with flood control needs, water rights, and water management practices
- Restore local streams to replace storm drains where consistent with flood control needs, water rights, and water management practices
- Maintain sufficient flow conditions to support riparian/riverine habitats where consistent with water rights and water management practices
- Develop sediment management strategy
 - Optimize Water Resources to Reduce Dependence on Imported Water*
- Expand groundwater recharge facilities to increase local water supplies
- Consistent with water quality protection standards, plans, policies; regulatory requirements, and water rights, encourage onsite collection of stormwater for irrigation and percolation, ~~where consistent with water quality goals and existing water rights~~
- Consistent with water quality protection standards, plans, policies, regulatory requirements and service duplication laws, extend the distribution and range of uses for reclaimed water
- Expand water conservation programs
- Publish a subwatershed-level water budget and periodically monitor performance

C. OPPORTUNITIES

The discussion of opportunities is modified as follows:

4. Water Resources

A new introductory paragraph is inserted (on page 70):

“The RMC encourages public agencies, counties, cities, communities, neighborhoods, non-profit groups and community-based organizations to develop and implement policies, programs and projects which maintain and enhance flood protection, surface waters and groundwater. By statute, the RMC may not engage in any activity which:

- Interferes or conflicts with the exercise of the powers or duties of any watermaster, public agency, or other body or entity responsible for groundwater or surface water management or groundwater replenishment as designated or established pursuant to any adjudication or statute.
- Interferes or conflicts with any provision of any judgment or court order issued, or rule or regulation adopted, pursuant to any adjudication affecting water or water management in the San Gabriel River watershed and basin.
- Impedes or adversely impacts any previously adopted Los Angeles County Drainage Area project, as described in the report of the Chief of Engineers dated June 30, 1992, including any supplement or addendum to that report as of September 1, 1999, or any maintenance agreement to operate the project.
- Results in the degradation of water quality, or interferes or conflicts with any action by a watermaster or public agency that is authorized pursuant to statute, any water right or adjudication

including, but not limited to, any action relating to water conservation, groundwater recharge, conservation or storage of water, or both, the pumping of groundwater, water treatment, the regulation of spreading, injection, pumping, storage, or the use of water from local sources, stormwater flows and runoff, or from imported or reclaimed water that is undertaken in connection with the management of the San Gabriel River or any branch, stream, fork, or tributary thereof, a groundwater basin, or groundwater resource.

- Interferes with, obstructs, hinders, or delays the exercise of, any water right by the owner of a public water system, including, but not limited to, the construction, operation, maintenance, replacement, repair, location, or relocation of any well or water pumping, treatment, or storage facility, pipeline, or other facility or property necessary or useful to the operation of the public water system.”

E. NEXT STEPS

The list of actions to be undertaken by other agencies (on pages 76 and 77) is modified to include the following:

“Water Agencies and Associations: Continue to implement policies, programs and projects that enhance water supplies and protect water quality.