



Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan Update

2008–2013

Governing Board Meeting

April 18, 2013



Top Ten Issues

Issue 1	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
<p>TMDL implementation (Nutrient load reduction in Malibu Creek, reduction of metals and other pollutants in Ballona Creek)</p>	<p>Develop and adopt TMDLs scheduled for waterbodies in the Santa Monica Bay watershed and Achieve waste load and load allocations of adopted TMDLs. (Objective 1.1)</p>	<p>Development of TMDLs in the Santa Monica Bay watershed under the consent decree is near completion. Several adopted TMDLs are already out of compliance or behind schedule. The LARWQC adopted a new MS4 permit in 2012 as the key mechanism for achieving TMDL compliance.</p>	<p>Shift focus from developing and adopting TMDLs to TMDL implementation. Assess TMDL implementation progress. Participate and contribute to development of watershed management plans under the new MS4 permit and other programs.</p>
	<p>Decrease nutrient loads to Malibu Creek from both point and nonpoint sources through enhanced groundwater movement study and implementing the existing Malibu Creek nutrient TMDL and additional regulatory measures.(Objective 1.2)</p>	<p>EPA is in the process of updating the nutrient TMDL for Malibu Creek and incorporating public input. Other regulatory measures have been put in place.</p>	<p>Facilitate and participate in the new nutrient TMDL development and implementation. Work with Malibu TAC, EPA, LARWCB, and watershed cities/districts to provide input in the TMDL process. Drop the groundwater study milestone. Emphasize implementation of new nonpoint source control measures, eg. improved fertilizer management.</p>



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Issue 2	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
<p>Promoting LID/green infrastructure for urban runoff pollution control</p>	<p>Incorporate green infrastructure into standard street design and maintenance practices. Develop and adopt model LID ordinances by at least five cities. Establish policies to standardize use of green infrastructure. Develop policies directing a portion of public works budgets to green infrastructure. Implement green infrastructure pilot projects. (Objective 2.1)</p>	<p>LA County and a few cities in the watershed have adopted LID ordinances, many have not. Many pilot LID projects were implemented, but more are needed to effectively reduce contaminants in waterbodies.</p>	<p>Put more emphasis on adoption of LID ordinances and promotion of more LID projects. Incorporate LID standards into local (re)development plans. Promote and fund more LID projects (rain barrel program, rain gardens). Replicate Culver City rain gardens program where appropriate. Work with the Park agencies to do master LID planning in SMMs. Evaluate suitability LIDs best for different settings and conditions.</p>



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Issue 3	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
Wetlands protection and restoration	Restore Ballona Wetlands. Complete feasibility study, baseline monitoring, and EIR/EIS. Secure funding source for Phase I restoration. (Objective 7.1)	Ballona Wetlands feasibility study and baseline monitoring completed. EIR/EIS process is ongoing.	Update existing milestones to reflect the latest restoration planning status. Complete Ballona EIR/EIS process. Develop and implement long-term monitoring plan. Continue to seek implementation funds.
	Fully implement the restoration plan for Malibu Lagoon. Acquire and restore additional lands surrounding the Lagoon and along the lower Malibu Creek. (Objective 7.2)	Malibu Lagoon restoration is near completion.	Implement post-restoration monitoring & maintenance for Malibu Lagoon.



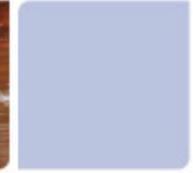
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Issue 4	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
<p>Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) monitoring and management</p>	<p>Complete the data gap analysis and monitoring for MPA process input. Complete the state MLPA process and establish an MPA network in the Southern California Bight by 2011. (Objective 4.2)</p>	<p>Two MPAs were established in Santa Monica Bay. State initiated a monitoring program of the new MPAs since 2011 for the next five years. The SMBRC conducts aerial surveys of fishing activities in and out of MPAs and contributes to subtidal SCUBA-based biological monitoring of MPAs. So Cal Bight and other studies contribute data.</p>	<p>Shift focus to monitoring and education for established MPAs. Aerial survey and long-term habitat surveys. Participate in future MPA assessment and promote an adaptive MPA management strategy. Add intertidal surveys.</p>



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Issue 5	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
<p>Fishery Management and sustainable seafood (Objective 4.3)</p>	<p>Develop reliable population estimates for fish and invertebrate species with heavy fishing pressures. Develop reliable assessment of recreational fishing effort. Prioritize and establish fishery management plans (FMPs) for key species of concern. Establish more stringent restrictions on collection of native species. (Objective 4.3)</p>	<p>SMBRC conducted research helping recovery of species important to local fishery (halibut, sea urchin) and initiated outreach to local fishers for rocky reef restoration project. Published Urban Coast with sustainable seafood focus. Worked with partners on improved economic measures of fisheries for management. Lobster FMP in process. Member of LA FPC aquaculture committee.</p>	<p>Expand work in this area by promoting programs to increase the supply of healthy local sustainable seafood and promote involvement of local fisherman in fishery management issues (local aquaculture, reef restoration, etc.). Evaluate and support programs to develop sustainable aquaculture options for seafood.</p>



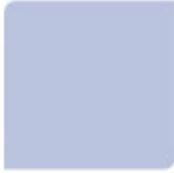
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Issue 6	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
<p>Climate Change Adaptation (Objective 4.5)</p>	<p>Develop maps projecting impacts of sea level rise in Santa Monica Bay and compile information and develop white papers on potential impacts of global warming and adaptive strategies.</p>	<p>Pacific Institute mapped sea level rise impacts. Completed white paper on CC impacts on coastal wetland restoration. Local CC adaptation initiatives underway (LARC, IRWMP). Agencies adopted CC policies for planning (SCC).</p>	<p>Expand work in this area. Facilitate vulnerability assessment and adaptation planning. Work with LARC and other regional efforts to develop CC adaptation plan for coastal cities. Investigate adaptation strategies using "soft solutions."</p>



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Issue 7	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
Storm water pollution source control (including strategy for plastic ban and other trash and runoff reduction measures	Enact and enforce residential and commercial runoff bans through improved information exchange, education, and audits of watering regimes and equipment. Enforce local prohibitions on dry-weather runoff. (Objective 1.7)	LID and water conservation workshops/ projects. Some local agencies such as LVMWD audited water use within the district. Dry-weather runoff prohibitions are required under MS4 permit and are in place in many municipalities in the watershed.	Continue to facilitate enforcement of dry-weather runoff prohibitions with emphasis on promoting good housekeeping practices for conserving water.
	Restrict the use of disposable plastics by adopting bans or establish fees on plastic fast-food containers and plastic bags at all retail stores.(Objective 2.2)	No state legislation yet but local municipalities adopted plastic bag measures.	Continue to support new state legislation and plastic bag bans enacted by watershed cities. Also, support product take back, packaging minimization, education and other programs.
	Reduce generation and discharge of trash, oil and grease, and other pollutants from commercial areas through installation of catchbasin capture devices and improved trash cans design, placement, and pick-up in high-trash areas. Install cigarette butt receptacles in front of all restaurants and bars. Expand the restaurant certification program to include all watershed municipalities. (Objective 2.5)	The County and cities in the watershed have installed thousands of catch basin screens/inserts. Restaurant certification program has expanded to seven cities: Manhattan Beach, Torrance, Redondo Beach, Hermosa Beach, Malibu, Santa Monica, Rancho Palos Verdes and more restuarants.	Install more storm drain pollutant capture devices. More emphasis on source reduction measures, expanding the restaurant certification program and increasing the value of the program to restaurants and customers. Support clean up of trash hot spots, cigarette butt receptacles and fishing line disposal eg. at Ballona creek mouth.



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Issue 8	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
<p>Regional funding mechanism for storm water quality improvement</p>	<p>Complete a feasibility study of a county-wide property assessment. Identify other financing mechanisms. Implement a funding mechanism, e.g. property assessment. (Objective 1.6)</p>	<p>The proposed County-wide funding measure will not go to voters in 2013 as proposed. It may go to a vote in the future.</p>	<p>Explore new strategies for long-term funding mechanisms.</p>





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Issue 9	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
<p>Rocky reef/kelp habitat restoration (including reuse of Rindge Dam material)</p>	<p>Restore two acres of kelp habitat by 2009 and restore five acres of kelp habitat by 2012. (Objective 9.1)</p>	<p>Exceeded kelp restoration targets. New urchin removal project funded by MSRP initiated this year. Proposed use of rock from potential Rindge Dam removal for rocky reef restoration, being reviewed for the Rindge Dam removal feasibility study.</p>	<p>Set new target for kelp restoration and urchin removal. Develop new projects using reusable materials (e.g. from Rindge dam removal) for rocky reef restoration.</p>



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Issue 10	What's in the Current BRP	What Progress has been Made since 2008	What Changes We are Proposing
Beneficial use and management of natural sediment (new)	n/a	The Los Angeles County Flood Control District is developing a 20-year regional sediment management plan. A multi-agency workgroup is developing a state coastal sediment master plan and regional coastal sediment management plans, including one for the Los Angeles County.	Add new objective/milestones. Promote research, education, policies and strategies for beneficial uses of natural sediment, eg. protecting waterways, floodplains, beaches and reefs. Promote studies and pilot projects that lead to restoration of natural sediment transport process.





And some more new ones...

- Understanding brine disposal issues/methods
- Impacts of agriculture in the Santa Monica Mountains
- Source reductions for plastics
- Impacts of fracking on water resources