



**Section 10 Coordination with Existing Local/Regional Plans**

**10.1 NOC WMA Plan and Linkages to Other Plans**

In order to ensure that the NOC WMA is a fully integrated plan which addresses any potential conflicting projects, policies, land uses, and resource management activities, the North Orange County region will coordinate with planning efforts within the region and those in neighboring regions. In addition, by building on these existing local efforts, the NOC WMA region is creating a plan that is cohesive, cost effective, and more fully meets the needs and goals of the region. The objectives and strategies discussed in previous sections of this plan as well as the identified projects are consistent with other local plans, with goals that will serve to further improve water quality, habitat conditions, ecosystems and local water supply reliability.

**10.2 Consistency with Local Plan**

The NOC WMA Plan is consistent with land use planning efforts in the region, which is included in each of the cities' General Plans. The NOC WMA Plan is also consistent with adopted plans for local agencies with water resource management responsibilities, such as drinking water supply, wastewater treatment, flood control, water quality, and stormwater management. These include Urban Water Management Plans, Sewer Management Plans, Master Plans, and the DAMP. The NOC WMA region supports the policies and recommendations of these adopted plans to ensure, among other things, reliable water supplies, water quality, and protection of life and property. The NOC WMA Plan is also consistent with adopted local plans for habitat protection and enhancement to ensure that no regulatory conflicts arise.



These plans are listed in Table 10-1.

Table 10-1 Local Planning Documents Consistent with the NOC WMA Plan
Land Use: General Plans and Specific Plans – for each city and the County
Water Supply Master Plans, Urban Water Supply Plans.
Urban Water Management Plans for: IRWD, Mesa Consolidated WD, City of Santa Ana, City of Fullerton, City of Anaheim, City of Huntington Beach, East Orange County WD, MET, MWDOC, Yorba Linda WD, Golden State Water Company
Wastewater Master Plans
Sewer System Management Plans: Orange County Sanitation District
Master Plans for Water, Wastewater, Recycled Water, and Natural Treatment Systems
Central/Coastal Orange County Natural Community Conservation Plan/Habitat Conservation Plan
Groundwater Management Plan for: OCWD 2009 update.
Westminster Watershed Reconnaissance Study, Coyote Creek Watershed Management

Many of the projects identified in this NOC WMA Plan are from these plans. Further, these plans and studies assisted in forming the objectives and strategies of this NOC WMA Plan.

### **10.3 Coordination with Land Use Agencies**

Land use data have assisted in the regional planning and projections of water demands, water use classifications, infrastructure master planning, and reliability planning for the future as well as the identification of appropriate locations for water quality projects and habitat protection. The NOC WMA will continue the essential link to local land use plans and can be in turn considered a planning document to reference many local land use plans.

Among the stakeholders that were involved in the NOC WMA process, several represented the local land use agencies. The involvement of these stakeholders in these early phases, has allowed for a plan that is coordinated and takes into account the goals and requirements of land use planners. Coordinating water resources and land use management will result in a plan that can maximize the benefits of both.

The NOC WMA Plan planning process involves a broad stakeholder group, including representatives from each of the local agencies with land use authority. This level of involvement ensures that there is coordination with local land use planning agencies so that the planning efforts maximize the potential benefits for both land use and water resource management. Specifically, land use agency participation will occur through the NOC WMA Executive Committee and the NOC WMA Stakeholders. The agencies with land use authority will participate in these groups, which will provide an effective means for coordination.



### 10.4 Coordination with Local and Regional Plans

This section identifies local and regional plans and describes their link to the NOC WMA Plan.

#### ***Urban Water Management Plans (UWMP)***

California's Urban Water Management Planning Act requires that urban water suppliers providing water for municipal purposes to more than 3,000 customers, or supplying more than 3,000 AF of water annually, prepare and adopt an Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP). UWMPs describe current and future water supplies and demands and must be updated every five years. In the North Orange County region, the following agencies have approved UWMPs: MWDOC, Yorba Linda WD, East Orange County WD, Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority (SAWPA) and the Cities of Anaheim, Fullerton, Huntington Beach, and Santa Ana.

#### ***OCWD's Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) 2009 Update***

The Orange County Groundwater Basin underlies most of the North Orange County region. The GMP identifies basin management strategies to improve the use and sustainability of groundwater resources. The plan outlines monitoring activities to evaluate supplies, recharge, and water quality. The GMP objectives relate to preventing and remediating groundwater contamination, protecting recharge water quality, increasing recharge supply and capacity, exploring conjunctive use options, managing groundwater production, and protecting sensitive areas and natural resources. Implementing the NOC WMA PLANP resource management strategies and projects will contribute to the GMP objectives.

#### ***Westminster Reconnaissance Study***

The reconnaissance study evaluates if a Federal interest exists by the US Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) in participating in a feasibility study to address water resource problems and opportunities in the Westminster, Coyote Creek, and Carbon Creek watersheds. Problems in the watersheds are related to flooding, environmental degradation and water quality. The study identifies planning objectives for the Westminster watershed, the East Garden Grove – Wintersburg Channel, Bolsa Chica Channel, Bolsa Bay, Huntington Harbour, and Anaheim Bay, Coyote Creek watershed, and Carbon Creek watershed. The study concludes a Federal interest for cost sharing in the Feasibility Study.

#### ***Coyote Creek Watershed Management Plan***

The Coyote Creek Watershed Management Plan outlines a path for improving the health of the watershed through multi-objective projects, policies and site design guidelines. Implementation of the plan will enhance aquatic and terrestrial habitat, improve water quality, enhance local water supplies, increase recreation and open space opportunities, reduce sediment and erosion and aid in flood protection.

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### ***Orange County Stormwater Program 2003 Drainage Area Management Plan (DAMP) and Watershed Action Plans (WAPs)***

The 2003 DAMP addresses the requirements of the National Pollution Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Stormwater Permit and evaluates the impacts of urban storm water discharges on receiving waters. The DAMP includes a Local Implementation Plan that describes how water quality improvements will be accomplished for individual watersheds. The DAMP will also include watershed action plans specific to each watershed.

### ***Santa Ana RWQCB Santa Ana River Basin Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan)***

The Basin Plan establishes surface and ground water quality objectives for the Santa Ana River Basin, which includes the upper and lower Santa Ana Watersheds, the San Jacinto Watershed, and other small drainage areas. The water quality objectives are meant to protect and enhance beneficial uses of water in the region. The Basin Plan identifies beneficial uses of ocean waters, bays, estuaries, tidal prisms, inland surface streams, lakes and reservoirs, wetlands, and groundwater basins.

### ***Santa Ana River Parkway Feasibility Study***

This study focuses on potential recreation and multi-objective improvements along the river to provide increased opportunities for recreation and the enjoyment of nature and awareness of the Santa Ana River as a valuable open space asset. This study will result in a prioritized list of 40+ multi-objective projects along the Santa Ana River such as open space, habitat, treatment wetland, potential groundwater recharge, education and recreational opportunities including the identification of new park lands in disadvantaged communities. The input process includes stakeholders from community groups, special districts, Cities, County Board of Supervisors and a Technical Advisory Committee.

### ***OCSD's Interim Strategic Plan Update 2002***

In an effort to move from a blend of primary and secondary treatment levels as identified in the 1999 Strategic Plan, the Interim Strategic Plan was prepared. The Interim Strategic Plan examined the various treatment alternatives, including secondary treatment standards and revisited planning assumption (i.e. flow projections, peak weather, dry-weather flow diversions, including point sources, infiltration, the Santa Ana River Interceptor (SARI) flow routing options, the Groundwater Replenishment System, water conservation), air quality, biosolids management, disinfection treatment technologies, toxicity and nitration issues, to provide recommended near-term and long-term activities.

### ***Orange County Sanitation District Facilities Master Plan 2009***

The Master Plan serves as a planning guide to providing effective wastewater collection, treatment and recycling through the year 2050. The

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document provides a phased- program of projects to replace and rehabilitate the regional sewer collection system, expand and upgrade its treatment facilities, provide adequate discharge capacity for project peak flows, and provides highly treated water to the Groundwater Replenishment System.

### ***Santa Ana River Water Quality and Health (SARWQH) Study and the Report of the Scientific Advisory Panel***

The SARWQH Study was conducted by OCWD to evaluate the safety of Santa Ana River water as a source for recharging the Orange County Groundwater Basin. The concern, expressed by DHS, was that the river's baseflow has a high percentage of treated wastewater. The SARWQH Study included an examination of hydrogeology, microbiology, water chemistry, organics, toxicology, and public health. A Scientific Advisory Panel, formed by the National Water Research Institute (NWRI), provided independent review and guidance on the Study. This panel met annually from 1996 to 2003. The study concluded that recharging the groundwater basin using Santa Ana River water is protective of public health. Since 2005, OCWD publishes a Santa Ana River Water Quality Monitoring Report on an annual basis.

### ***Santa Ana RWQCB Watershed Management Initiative (WMI)***

The WMI is an integrated planning process implemented by the USEPA, SWRCB, and the nine RWQCBs to identify high priority water quality activities. The Santa Ana Chapter of the WMI describes the region's approach to watershed planning and integrates TMDLs, non-point source pollution, watershed management, monitoring and assessment, core regulatory, water quality standards and basin planning, wetlands, and groundwater resource protection and clean up in the planning process.

### ***Citywide Urban Runoff Management Plan***

Huntington Beach adopted a Citywide Urban Runoff Management Plan (CURMP) which includes a Water Quality and a Drainage Element. The CURMP is used as a guidance document to identify and prioritize both drainage capacity enhancement and urban runoff water quality projects. The CURMP was a cooperative effort of a Council Sub-Committee Focus Group that consisted of representatives from the City Council, City staff, community, business and environmental interest groups.

## **10.5 Local Planning and Water Management Strategies**

Within the NOC WMA region, the nexus between land use decisions, water resource management, and coastal zone impacts has been firmly established through a number of studies conducted within the watersheds. As a result, the dynamic relationship between water management strategies, local agency planning documents and wastewater management strategies benefits the NOC WMA planning process. Incorporating the use of a broad range of strategies increases the benefits and minimizes the

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potential for conflicts with local adopted plans. For example, a number of strategies may be appropriate for certain areas or project types as they directly support the policies and goals of the planning documents. However, in some cases, a particular strategy may not be appropriate due to differences or conflicts with local land use or water resource plans. For example, a strategy combination that would improve water quality and create or restore habitat would be appropriate within an open space area identified within a land use plan, whereas it would not be suitable for an area designated as high density residential. Projects that create wetlands for water quality and stormwater management are appropriate in areas where the facilities can be managed and will not result in a public safety issue.

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Table 10-2, Strategies and Local Agency Plans, provides examples of the relationships between water management strategies and local agency plans.

Strategy/Plan Type	General Plans	UWMPs	Water Master Plans	Wastewater Master Plans	Recycled Water Master Plans	NCCP /HCP
Ecosystem Restoration	X			X	X	X
Habitat Protection	X			X	X	X
Water Supply Reliability	X	X	X	X	X	
Flood Management	X			X		X
Groundwater Management	X	X	X	X	X	
Recreation/ Public Access	X			X		X
Stormwater Management	X			X		X
Water Conservation	X	X	X	X	X	
Water Quality Protection	X	X	X	X	X	X
Water Recycling	X	X	X	X	X	
Wetlands Enhancement/ Creation	X			X	X	X
Conjunctive use		X	X	X	X	X
Desalination		X	X			
Imported Water	X	X	X		X	
Land Use Planning	X	X	X	X	X	X
NPS Pollution Control	X			X		X
Surface Storage	X	X	X		X	X
Watershed Planning	X	X	X	X	X	X
Water Transfers		X	X			