

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board-Los Angeles Region
Contracts and Grants Program**

Project Summary: 04-090-554

Project Number: 04-090-554	Project Status: Active	Grant Manager: C Urrunaga
Project Name: Assessment of Effectiveness of Tx Wetlands for SW BMPs & Compatability w/ Wildlife	Project on Schedule: No	

Project Details

Watershed: Multiple Watersheds

Project Description: Treatment wetland effectiveness and compatibility with wildlife beneficial use will be assessed by first inventorying current and future planned projects, compiling technical and project monitoring data, and assessing what existing information will contribute to project objectives. Wildlife beneficial uses in treatment wetlands can be evaluated by characterizing stressors such as contaminants and condition of the wetland habitat (physical and biological structure). This project will examine existing monitoring data from current projects and determine what additional preliminary data is needed to evaluate wildlife beneficial uses in these systems. Based on this evaluation, additional preliminary information will be collected in a baseline survey of representative treatment systems of each type/class. Results of the project inventory and baseline survey will be used to recommend interim guidance on minimal monitoring criteria and siting, design and management that improve BMP effectiveness and mitigate risk wildlife.

Problem Statement: With the rising urbanization of the coastal watersheds of southern California, wetlands and riparian areas have been rapidly disappearing from the landscape, and those that remain are often highly degraded. Concurrent with the loss of wetland habitat, increased runoff from urbanized watersheds and discharges of nonpoint source pollution have created a demand for effective, low-cost solutions to improve surface water quality and attenuate storm flows. As a result, there is increasing pressure to restore, enhance, and create natural or constructed wetlands with multiple objectives. Those who manage wetlands for multiple objectives often claim that all these benefits accrue in treatment wetlands. Many of these same managers and other authors have asserted that use of wetlands for treatment purposes may pose a threat to wildlife that should be accounted for in design and siting. The extent to which multiple benefits are actually provided, the actual risk to wildlife, and the trade-offs between these different objectives is often not clear.

Outcomes: The goal of this project is to address the questions of the effectiveness of wetlands for urban runoff BMPs and their compatibility with wildlife beneficial uses in Southern California. Treatment wetland effectiveness and compatibility with wildlife beneficial use will be assessed in several stages. First current and future planned projects will be inventoried and all relevant technical and project monitoring data will be compiled. Second, a baseline habitat survey will be conducted to evaluate wildlife beneficial use in a variety of treatment wetland system types. Results of the project evaluation and baseline habitat survey will be used to recommend interim guidance on minimal monitoring criteria and siting, design and management criteria. These criteria will help improve BMP effectiveness and mitigate risk to wildlife. Third, a detailed study of treatment wetland effectiveness and compatibility with wildlife beneficial use will be conducted for at least one class/type of treatment wetland.

Contract

Execution Date: 9/1/04	End Date: 9/1/40
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Contractor

Contractor Type: PR	Project Director	Project Assistant
Contractor Name: Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP)	Name: Martha Sutula	Bryan Neece

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Contractor Department:		Phone Number:	(714) 372-9222	(714) 372-9201
Street Address:	7171 Fenwick Lane	Phone Extension:		
Suite:		Fax Number:	7148949699	7148949699
City:	Westminister	Email Address:	marthas@sccwrp.org	bryann@sccwrp.org
State:	CA	Zip:	92683-	

Funding and Invoices

Funding Source: Prop-13-III

Fund Summary

Project Amount: \$689,334

Match Amount: \$150,000

	Award	Match
Allocation	\$689,334.00	\$150,000.00
Used	\$83,248.05	\$63,122.00
Balance	\$606,085.95	\$86,878.00

Deliverables

Line Item	Description	Date		Task Completed
		Due	Receive	
1.3	Signed cover sheets for all permits	3/15/05		
2.1	QAPP	3/15/05	9/30/05	Yes
3.1.1	List of Steering Committee Members	12/15/04		
3.1.2	Steering Committee Agendas and Minutes			
3.2.1	Final List of Target Treatment Wetlands	11/15/04		
3.2.3	Electronic Copy of GIS Database	6/15/05		
3.2.4	Technical memo recommending minimum monitoring requirements	3/15/05		
3.3.2	Approved Sampling and Analysis Plan	3/15/05		
3.3.4	Electronic Copy of Habitat Survey Database	6/15/06		
3.3.5	Report Summarizing Results of Habitat Value Survey	3/15/06		
3.4.1	Prioritized List of Monitoring Questions	3/15/06		
3.4.3	Approved Study Design and Sampling and Analysis Plan	4/15/06		
3.4.5	Electronic Copy of Treatment Effectiveness and Habitat Value	2/10/07		
3.4.6	Report on Findings of Study of Treatment Effectiveness and Habitat Value	2/10/07		
3.5.1.1	Meeting Materials form Project Updates for Stakeholder Groups			
3.5.2.1	Presentation Materials from Scientific Conferences	1/10/07		
3.5.3.1	Presentation Materials for Workshop	1/10/07		
3.6.1	Draft Project Report	1/10/07		
3.6.2	Final Project Report	2/10/07		

Events

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Date:	6/30/06	Comments:	
Type:	Status report	QAPP completed	
Subject:	Status	No Steering Committee meetings were held.	
Status:			
