

# county of ventura



July 23, 2019

Board of Supervisors  
Ventura County Watershed Protection District  
800 South Victoria Avenue  
Ventura, CA 93009

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**Joseph Pope**, Director  
  
Watershed Protection  
**Glenn Shephard**, Director

**Subject:**      **Approval of, and Authorization for the Ventura County Watershed Protection District Director, or his Designee, to Execute, a Cooperative Agreement for the Coliphage Evaluation Study at Two Ventura County Beaches with the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project at a Maximum Fee of \$189,324 over Three Years; Project No. P6010565, All Supervisorial Districts, WPD Zones 1 and 2.**

**Recommendations:**

1. Approve the attached Cooperative Agreement with the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) to provide microbiological services to the Ventura County Watershed Protection District (District) in support of the Coliphage Evaluation Study at two Ventura County beaches at a maximum fee of \$189,324 over three years.
2. Authorize the Director of the District, or his designee, to execute the approved Cooperative Agreement.

**Fiscal/Mandates Impact:**

Mandatory:	Yes
Source of Funding:	Watershed Protection District Benefit Assessment and Co-Permittee Contribution
Funding Match Requirement:	No
Impact of Other Department(s):	None

	FY 2019-20	FY2020-21 through FY 2021-22
<b><u>Summary of Revenue and Total Costs</u></b>		
Revenue:	\$ 0	\$ 0
Costs:		
Direct	\$ 63,108	\$ 126,216
Indirect – Agency/Department	0	0
Indirect – CAP	0	0
<b>Total Costs:</b>	<b>\$ 63,108</b>	<b>\$ 126,216</b>
<b>Net District Costs, including indirect</b>	<b>\$ 63,108</b>	<b>\$ 126,216</b>
<b>Recovered indirect costs</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>	<b>\$ 0</b>



Current FY 2019-20 Budget Projection for WPD Zone 2 – Unit 4222				
	Adopted Budget	Adjusted Budget	Projected Budget	Estimated Savings/(Deficit)
Appropriations	\$902,600	\$902,600	\$902,600	\$0
Revenue	\$583,200	\$583,200	\$583,200	\$0
Net Cost	\$319,400	\$319,400	\$319,400	\$0

Appropriations are included in the Fiscal Year 2019-20 Zone 2 Adopted Budget.

### **Background:**

The District is required by Order R4-2010-0108 NPDES Permit No. CAS004002 (Permit) to participate in the Southern California Bight Regional Monitoring Program (hereinafter called “Bight Program”). The Bight Program is an ongoing regional marine monitoring collaboration that examines how human activities affect the health of Southern California coastal waters. Via the Bight Program, which is organized and managed by SCCWRP, a California Joint Powers Authority, dozens of participating organizations pool their resources and expertise to investigate the condition of marine ecosystem across both time and space. Since 2000, the District has been an associate member of SCCWRP, with District staff participating in quarterly meetings of both the SCCWRP Commission and the Commission Technical Advisory Group.

The Bight Program began in 1994 and runs on a five-year cycle. The current Bight Program includes five major study elements: sediment quality, ocean acidification, harmful algal blooms, trash, and microbiology. The Ventura Countywide Stormwater Quality Management Program (VCSQMP), which consists of the District, County of Ventura, and the ten cities of Ventura County, elected to participate in the microbiology study element for the current Bight Program to meet the Permit requirement.

### **Discussion:**

Research within the Bight Program’s microbiology study element is intended to identify better methods of determining health risk to swimmers, which in turn could result in fewer unnecessary beach closings, and cost savings for compliance with bacteria total maximum daily loads (TMDLs).

This microbiology study element will use a new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) method (EPA Method 1642) for calculating levels of coliphage, a bacterial virus, in recreational waters. Coliphage measured by EPA Method 1642 has been proposed by the EPA for use as a new beach water quality indicator. The project is a collaborative effort between SCCWRP, California State University at Channel Islands (CSUCI), Ventura County Environmental Health Division (VCEHD), and the District. The project consists of collection and analysis of 30 dry weather samples and 30 wet weather (defined as days with 0.1 inch of rain or greater following at least three dry days) samples collected by VCEHD at each of two existing beach water quality monitoring sites. Samples will be taken at two proposed sites: Surfer’s Point at Seaside and Surfer’s Knoll Beach. CSUCI Chemistry and Biology departments have teamed up and will be performing EPA Method 1642 on the ocean water



samples. Results of their weekly analysis will be compared to the fecal indicator bacteria *Enterococcus* results from the same location, as *Enterococcus* is currently used for beach water quality monitoring.

The study proposes to answer the following questions: (1) Is Method 1642 performance consistent across Southern California beaches? (2) How do measurements of *Enterococcus* compare to those of somatic and male-specific coliphages in beach water? (3) Is there a seasonal difference in magnitude and frequency of somatic and male-specific coliphages in beach water between wet and dry weather?

Transmitted herewith is a cooperative agreement (Exhibit 1) that has been negotiated with SCCWRP. The agreement authorizes and formalizes the District's participation in the Coliphage Evaluation Study at two Ventura County beaches, Surfer's Point at Seaside Beach and Surfer's Knoll Beach. The parties to this agreement are the District and SCCWRP, a California Joint Powers Authority.

The term of this Cooperative Agreement is July 23, 2019 to December 31, 2021. The Scope of Work (Exhibit A of the Cooperative Agreement) describes all services, schedules, and deliverables. Payment for SCCWRP's services shall not exceed \$189,324 without modification of this Cooperative Agreement. The District will receive a contribution from the Co-Permittees (the ten cities and the County) of at least 50 percent of this total cost as part of the adopted County-wide Stormwater Implementation Agreement.

This item has been reviewed by the County Executive Office, the Auditor-Controller's Office, and County Counsel.

If there are any questions regarding this item, please contact the undersigned at (805) 654-2040.

Sincerely,



Glenn Shephard, P.E.  
Director, Watershed Protection District

Attachment:

Exhibit 1 – SCCWRP Cooperative Agreement and Exhibits A and B

