



2020

# Optimum Basin Management Program Update

## Background

The Chino Basin Judgment gave the Chino Basin Watermaster (Watermaster) the discretionary authority to develop an Optimum Basin Management Program (OBMP) for the Chino Basin, including both water quantity and quality considerations. Watermaster, with direction from the Court, began the development of the OBMP in 1998 and completed it in July 2000. The OBMP was developed in a collaborative public process that identified the needs and wants of all stakeholders; described the physical state of the groundwater basin; developed a set of management goals; identified impediments to those goals; described a series of actions that could be taken to remove those impediments and thereby achieve the management goals; developed and executed agreements to implement the OBMP; and certified a programmatic Environmental Impact Report (PEIR) pursuant to CEQA with IEUA as the lead agency.

By 2019, many of the projects and management programs envisioned in the 2000 OBMP have been implemented, while some have not. The OBMP goals have been partially achieved. The understanding of the hydrology and hydrogeology of the Chino Basin has improved since 2000, and new water-management issues have been identified that necessitate that the OBMP be adapted to protect the collective interests of the Chino Basin parties and their water supply reliability. For these reasons, the Watermaster parties are preparing a 2020 OBMP Update to set the framework for the next 20 to 30 years of basin-management activities.

## 2020 OBMP Update Goals



Enhance Basin  
Water Supplies



Protect and Enhance  
Water Quality



Enhance Management of  
the Basin



Equitably Finance the  
OBMP

## 2020 OBMP Update Listening Sessions

Listening Session 1 (January 15, 2019):

- History of the OBMP and its implementation
- Rationale for an OBMP Update

Listening Session 2 (February 12, 2019):

- Drivers, Trends and Implications for Basin Management
- Issues, Needs and Wants of the Stakeholders

Listening Session 3 (March 21, 2019):

- Review of OBMP Goals in 2000
- Review of OBMP Goals in 2020

Listening Session 4 (May 16, 2019):

- Proposed Activities of the OBMP
- Activities, Nexus and Outcomes

Listening Session 5 (July 31, 2019)

- 2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report Part 1 review

Listening Session 6 (September 11, 2019)

- 2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report Part 2 review

Listening Session 7 (TBD)

Listening Session 8 (TBD)



## Activities Being Considered for the 2020 OBMP Update

- Construct new and improve existing recharge facilities
- Develop, implement, and optimize storage-and-recovery programs to increase water-supply reliability, protect or enhance Safe Yield, and improve water quality.
- C/G. Identify and implement regional conveyance and treatment projects/programs to enable all stakeholders to exercise their pumping rights and minimize land subsidence.
- Maximize the reuse of recycled water produced by IEUA and others
- E/F. Develop and implement a water-quality management plan and strategic compliance to address current and future water-quality issues and protect beneficial uses
- K. Develop management strategy within the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan to ensure ability to comply with dilution requirements for recycled water recharge
- L. Perform the appropriate amount of monitoring and reporting required to fulfill basin management and regulatory compliance

## **Monthly Update**

In July and August, the OBMP team drafted the 2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report to (1) define the scope of work required to perform the activities and (2) prepare reconnaissance-level engineering cost estimates of the scope of work. The 2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report is currently being circulated for review and comment.

Through the drafting process of the 2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report, the team consolidated some of the proposed activities that were similar in scope to simplify the analysis of each of them. The consolidated list resulted in the following 7 activities:

- A. Construct new and improve existing recharge facilities
- B. Develop, implement, and optimize storage-and-recovery programs to increase water-supply reliability, protect or enhance Safe Yield, and improve water quality.
- C/G. Identify and implement regional conveyance and treatment projects/programs to enable all stakeholders to exercise their pumping rights and minimize land subsidence.
- D. Maximize the reuse of recycled water produced by IEUA and others.
- E/F. Develop and implement a water-quality management plan and strategic compliance to address current and future water-quality issues and protect beneficial uses.
- K. Develop management strategy within the Salt and Nutrient Management Plan to ensure ability to comply with dilution requirements for recycled water recharge.
- L. Perform the appropriate amount of monitoring and reporting required to fulfill basin management and regulatory compliance.

The Scoping Report will subsequently be refined based on the feedback obtained through Listening Sessions 5 and 6, and will be formulated into a recommended management plan that incorporates the existing 2000 OBMP Program Elements. The management plan will be developed over a series of listening sessions with the stakeholders and will be documented in the 2020 OBMP Update Report.

In July, Watermaster convened Listening Session 5 to educate stakeholders and obtain their feedback on scope of work for Activities A, B, D, and E/F as defined in the Scoping Report. In September, the Watermaster will convene Listening Session 6 to review the remaining activities: K, C/G, and L.

In September, the Watermaster will convene the Listening Session 6 to finalize the discussion around proposed activities, scope and estimated timeline and budget. The OBMP team will then present a final version of the 2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report and also an initial outline of the 2020 OBMP Update Report and the 2020 OBMP Implementation Plan for the parties to discuss.

### **In case you missed it...**

The 2020 OBMP Update is being conducted using a collaborative stakeholder process like that employed for the development of the 2000 OBMP. A series of public “Listening Sessions” are being held by the Watermaster throughout 2019 to support the 2020 OBMP Update. The purpose of the Listening Sessions is to obtain information, ideas, and feedback from the Chino Basin stakeholders to define their issues needs and wants, their collective goals for the 2020 OBMP Update, the impediments to achieving the goals, the management actions required to remove the impediments. The objective is for the ideas and opinions of every stakeholder to be heard and considered.

Thus far through the Listening Session process, the Chino Basin stakeholders have achieved the following:

- 1. Identified Drivers, Trends, and Implications for Basin Management.*
- 2. Defined Goals of the 2020 OBMP Update.*
- 3. Proposed Activities of the 2020 OBMP Update.*

For more details on the process and achievements of the listening sessions please refer to our July 2019 newsletter.

# 2020 OBMP Update Process



## Timeline

