



2020

Optimum Basin Management Program Update

Progress Report - December 2019

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.

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” were held by the Watermaster throughout 2019 to support the 2020 OBMP Update. The purpose of the Listening Sessions was 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.

Through the Listening Session process, the Chino Basin stakeholders 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 previous newsletters: http://www.cbwm.org/obmp_newsletters.htm .

2020 OBMP Update Listening Sessions Content

- History of the OBMP and its implementation
- Rationale for an OBMP Update
- Drivers, Trends and Implications for Basin Management
- Issues, Needs and Wants of the Stakeholders
- Review of OBMP Goals in 2000
- Review of OBMP Goals in 2020
- Proposed Activities of the OBMP
- Activities, Nexus and Outcomes
- 2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report Part 1 review
- 2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report Part 2 review
- 2020 OBMP Update proposed activities integration with existing Program Elements
- Integration of Storage Management Plan
- 2020 OBMP Update Report review
- 2020 OBMP Implementation Plan review
- CEQA Draft Project description (Special presentation)

2020 OBMP Implementation Plan Program Elements (PEs)

- PE1. Monitoring
- PE2. Recharge Program
- PE3. Water Supply Plan for Impaired Areas
- PE4. Subsidence Management
- PE5. Regional Supplemental Water Program
- PE6. Cooperative Program with Regulators
- PE7. Salt Management Plan
- PE8/9. Storage Management Plan/Storage and Recovery Programs

Stakeholders' input for the 2020 OBMP Update

- 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

Monthly Update

On December 11, 2019, Watermaster hosted Listening Session #8 (LS 8) for the OBMP Update, which was the last Listening Session scheduled for the OBMP Update. LS 8 was focused on the integration of Storage Management Plan as part of Program Elements 8 and 9 of the OBMP Update, and also provided an overview of the contents of the 2020 OBMP Update Report that was distributed in draft format on November 22, 2019.

On December 19, 2019, Watermaster presented the CEQA Draft Project Description for the OBMP Update with the objective of providing the stakeholders with an overview of the CEQA process, the programmatic EIR that was prepared for the 2000 OBMP, the draft project description for the 2020 OBMP Update, and the schedule for the CEQA analysis for the 2020 OBMP Update. The table below is a sample of some facilities that could be recommended after implementing the 2020 OBMP Update and their relationship to the OBMP Program Elements:

Sample List of facilities to be evaluated in CEQA	PE1	PE2	PE4	PE5	PE6	PE7	PE8/9
Construct new monitoring wells	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
New stormwater storage basins and recharge basins		✓	✓	✓			✓
Injection wells*		✓	✓	✓			✓
New production wells*			✓				✓
Regional conveyance				✓			✓
New dedicated regional treatment plants (1-10 mgd)*				✓	✓		✓
Expansion of existing treatment plants that can be upgraded to become regional*				✓	✓		✓
Expand RW TP to desalt effluent*						✓	
New ASR wells in MZ2/3 north of Highway 60*							✓

*Includes conveyance infrastructure

All of the proposed facilities in the CEQA project description have been conceptualized in previous reports, like the Storage Framework Investigation, Recharge Master Plan Updates and outside efforts like IEUA's Facilities Master Plan including its Wastewater Facilities Master Plan, IRP, and Recycled Water Program Strategy. The IEUA Facilities Master Plan PEIR included analysis of the IRP facilities (e.g., wastewater treatment plant upgrades, recycled water program, interconnections and regional conveyance systems). The OBMP PEIR will analyze facilities that were not previously included in IEUA's PEIR.

The CEQA analysis of the OBMP Update will enable the parties to pursue grant funding and move forward with project implementation if there is mutual interest in constructing any of these facilities. In other words, the CEQA process will enable but not require the parties to move forward with projects in the future if they choose to.

As the lead agency for the CEQA process, IEUA will distribute an Initial Study and a Notice of Preparation for public review in February 2020. Also in February, the Watermaster will host a series of drafting session to prepare the OBMP Implementation Plan and an implementation agreement amongst the parties.

A detailed timeline that shows the process to complete the OBMP Update by June 2020 is shown in the next page. For more information please refer to our previous Progress Reports here: http://www.cbwm.org/obmp_newsletters.htm

2020 OBMP Update Process

