

2020 Optimum Basin Management Program Update

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

1. What is the 2020 OBMP Update?

The 2020 OBMP Update is an inclusive process to bring the 20-year old planning document up to date, acknowledging the current challenges that the region faces and recognizing opportunities. The objective is to identify solutions through cooperation in developing and implementing the updated Program.

2. What is the process to update the OBMP?

Stakeholders will convene in a series of Listening Sessions to discuss the changed conditions from the original 2000 OBMP as well as new challenges and opportunities that drive the 2020 OBMP Update. Watermaster staff and consultant will act as scribe and recorder of all the discussions, activities proposed, concerns and questions and will prepare a document that reflects the parties' needs, proposals and concerns (2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report (TM1)); The Pool Committees and Advisory Committee will provide advice and assistance before the Watermaster Board adopts the 2020 OBMP and Implementation Plan Report (TM2). The parties will develop an implementation agreement based on what activities they decide to implement.

3. What will happen with the current agreements (Peace and Peace II)?

The current agreements remain in effect. The parties can choose to develop a new implementation agreement following the 2020 OBMP Update.

4. Has the Watermaster already fulfilled its obligation to develop and implement an Optimum Basin Management Program?

Watermaster has the discretionary authority to develop and implement an Optimum Basin Management Program. The circumstances that guided the development of the 2000 OBMP and its implementation have changed. Since the adoption of the 2000 OBMP many of the activities have been implemented and objectives have been achieved. In order to continue to implement the Physical Solution, the Watermaster will update the 2000 OBMP and the Implementation Plan to reflect the changes and opportunities that the region will face in the next 20 years.

5. If an activity is chosen to be included in the final 2020 OBMP and Implementation Plan Report (TM2), will a party be committed to implement and pay for the implementation?

There is no obligation or commitment to implement unless the parties explicitly choose to and sign agreements to do so. The 2020 OBMP Update Scoping Report (TM1) and the 2020 OBMP and Implementation Plan Report (TM2) are documents that reflect the activities that parties proposed for the achievement of the Goals of the 2020 OBMP.

6. Is Watermaster expanding its scope or authority with the activities in the 2020 OBMP Update?

None of the activities proposed by the parties suggest a change in Watermaster's scope or authority. Watermaster's tasks are to enforce the Chino Basin Judgment and to develop and facilitate the implementation of an Optimum Basin Management Program. Each Activity has a generalized scope to allow a high level cost estimate to be developed; in several instances the first step is to form a stakeholders committee to guide the next steps maintaining a proper balance of parties' and Watermaster participation.

7. Why does the Scoping Report (TM1) include efforts that are already ongoing or being done in other venues?

The Scoping Report is the collection of all the activities that were suggested by the parties along with high level reconnaissance engineering and estimated timeline and costs. The 2020 OBMP Update will include all activities that the parties select and will leverage existing efforts and any work already performed as it pertains to specific activities to avoid duplication of efforts. The programmatic environmental review of the 2020 OBMP and the Implementation Plan will provide program level CEQA analysis for all projects including cumulative effects that will help the parties implement the activities, creating efficiencies at the time of implementation by reducing the level of analysis needed otherwise.