

# Beneficial Uses

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# Overview

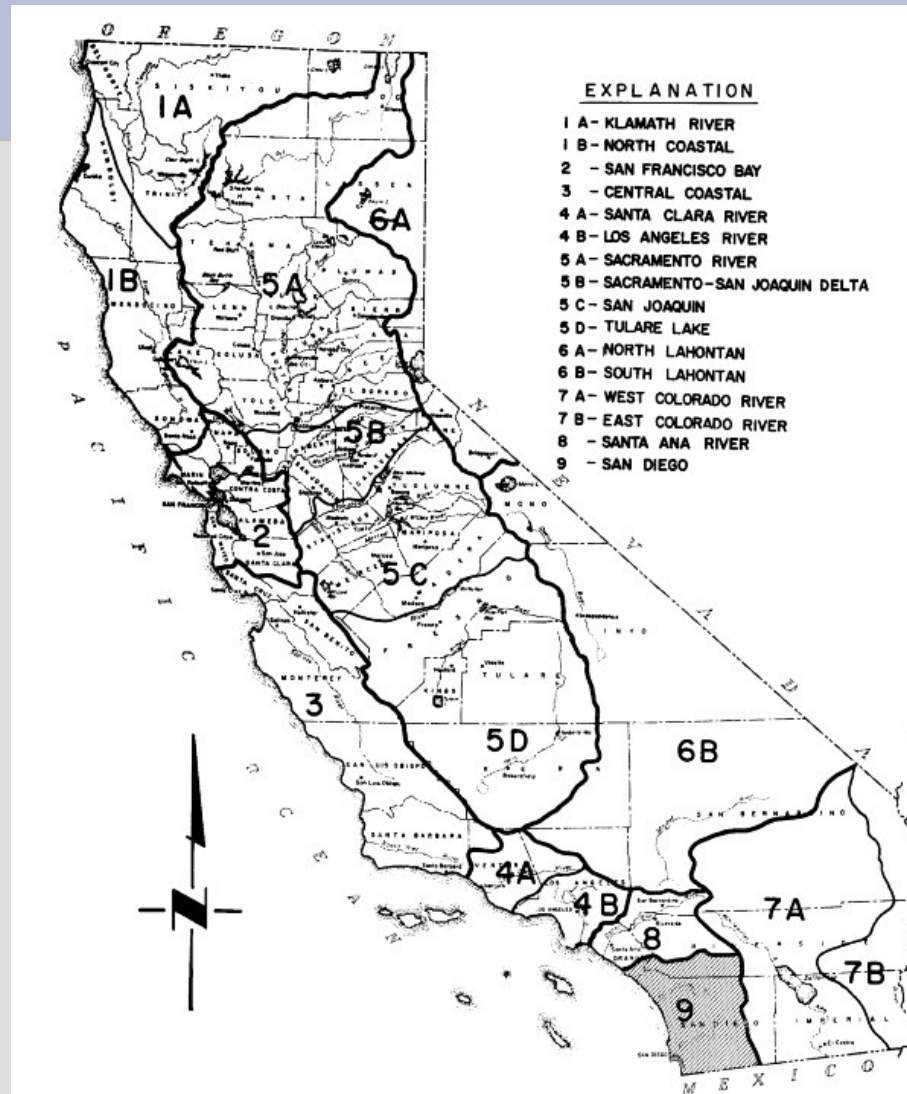
- Origins of Beneficial Uses
- Definition of Beneficial Uses
- Beneficial Uses in Your Watershed
- Protecting Your Beneficial Uses
- References

# Origins of Beneficial Uses

- **Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972**
  - a.k.a. Clean Water Act.
  - 2 Goals:
    - Eliminate discharge of pollutants to navigable waters
    - Water quality for the protection and propagation of fish, shellfish, and wildlife and provide for recreation in and on the water
- **California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act 1969**
  - Preserve, Enhance, Restore
  - 9 Regional Boards
- **Water Quality Control Plan for San Diego(Basin Plan)1975**
  - Designate beneficial uses of the Region's surface and ground waters.
  - Designate water quality objectives for the reasonable protection of those uses.
  - Establish an implementation plan to achieve the objectives.

# Origins of Beneficial Uses

## 9 Regional Boards



VICINITY MAP, BASIN PLANNING AREAS

Figure 1 - 1.

# Definition of Beneficial Uses

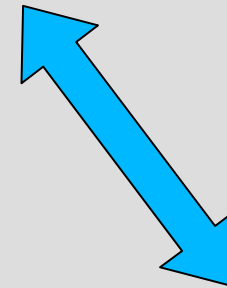
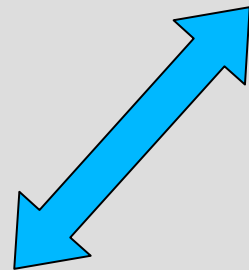
- Beneficial uses are defined as the uses of water necessary for the survival or well being of man, plants, and wildlife.
- Beneficial uses form the cornerstone of water quality protection under the Basin Plan. Once beneficial uses are designated, appropriate water quality objectives can be established and programs that maintain or enhance water quality can be implemented to ensure the protection of beneficial uses.

# Definition of Beneficial Uses

Beneficial Uses

Protection and  
Enjoyment of  
Watershed

Water Quality  
Objectives



# Definition of Beneficial Uses

- Beneficial Uses Protect:
  - Existing Uses
    - Uses that occurred since 1975 (CWA)
    - Uses for which the necessary quality has been attained (Antidegradation Policy 68-16)
  - Designated Uses
    - Uses that are officially recognized by the state in water quality standards

**All existing uses must be protected by the designated uses.**

# Beneficial Uses in Your Watershed

Table 2.2 of the Basin Plan

Inland Surface Waters <sup>1, 2</sup>	Hydrologic Unit Basin Number	BENEFICIAL USE														
		MUN	AGR	IND	PROC	GWR	FRSH	POW	REC1	REC2	BLO	WARM	COLD	WILD	RARE	SPWN
<b>San Diego River Watershed - continued</b>																
San Vicente Creek	7.22	●	●	●	●				●	●		●		●		
Darney Canyon	7.22	●	●	●	●				●	●		●		●		
Longs Gulch	7.22	●	●	●	●				●	●		●		●		

- Existing Beneficial Use
- Potential Beneficial Use
- + Excepted from MUN (See Text)

<sup>1</sup> Waterbodies are listed multiple times if they cross hydrologic area or sub area boundaries.

<sup>2</sup> Beneficial use designations apply to all tributaries to the indicated waterbody, if not listed separately.

# Beneficial Uses in Your Watershed

## Table 2.2 of the Basin Plan

Inland Surface Waters <sup>1, 2</sup>	Hydrologic Unit Basin Number	BENEFICIAL USE														
		MUN	AGR	IND	PROC	GR	FRSH	POW	REC1	REC2	BIO	WAR	COLD	WILD	RARE	SPWN
<b>San Onofre Creek Watershed – continued</b>																
Las Flores Creek	1.52	+	●						●	●		●	●	●	●	
Piedra de Lumbre Canyon	1.52	+	●						●	●		●	●	●	●	
unnamed intermittent coastal streams	1.52	+	●						●	●		●		●		
Aliso Canyon	1.53	+	●						●	●		●	●	●	●	
French Canyon	1.53	+	●						●	●		●		●	●	
Cockleburr Canyon	1.53	+	●						●	●		●		●		
<b>Santa Margarita River Watershed</b>																
Santa Margarita River	2.22	●	●	●					●	●		●	●	●	●	
Murrieta Creek	2.31	●	●	●	●				○	●		●		●		
Bundy Canyon	2.31	●	●	●	●				○	●		●		●		
Slaughterhouse Canyon	2.31	●	●	●	●				○	●		●		●		
Murrieta Creek	2.32	●	●	●	●				○	●		●		●		
Murrieta Creek	2.52	●	●	●	●	●			○	●		●		●		
Cole Canyon	2.32	●	●	●	●				○	●	●	●		●		
Miller Canyon	2.32	●	●	●	●				○	●		●		●		
Warm Springs Creek	2.36	●	●	●	●				○	●		●		●		
Diamond Valley	2.36	●	●	●	●				○	●		●		●		

● Existing Beneficial Use

○ Potential Beneficial Use

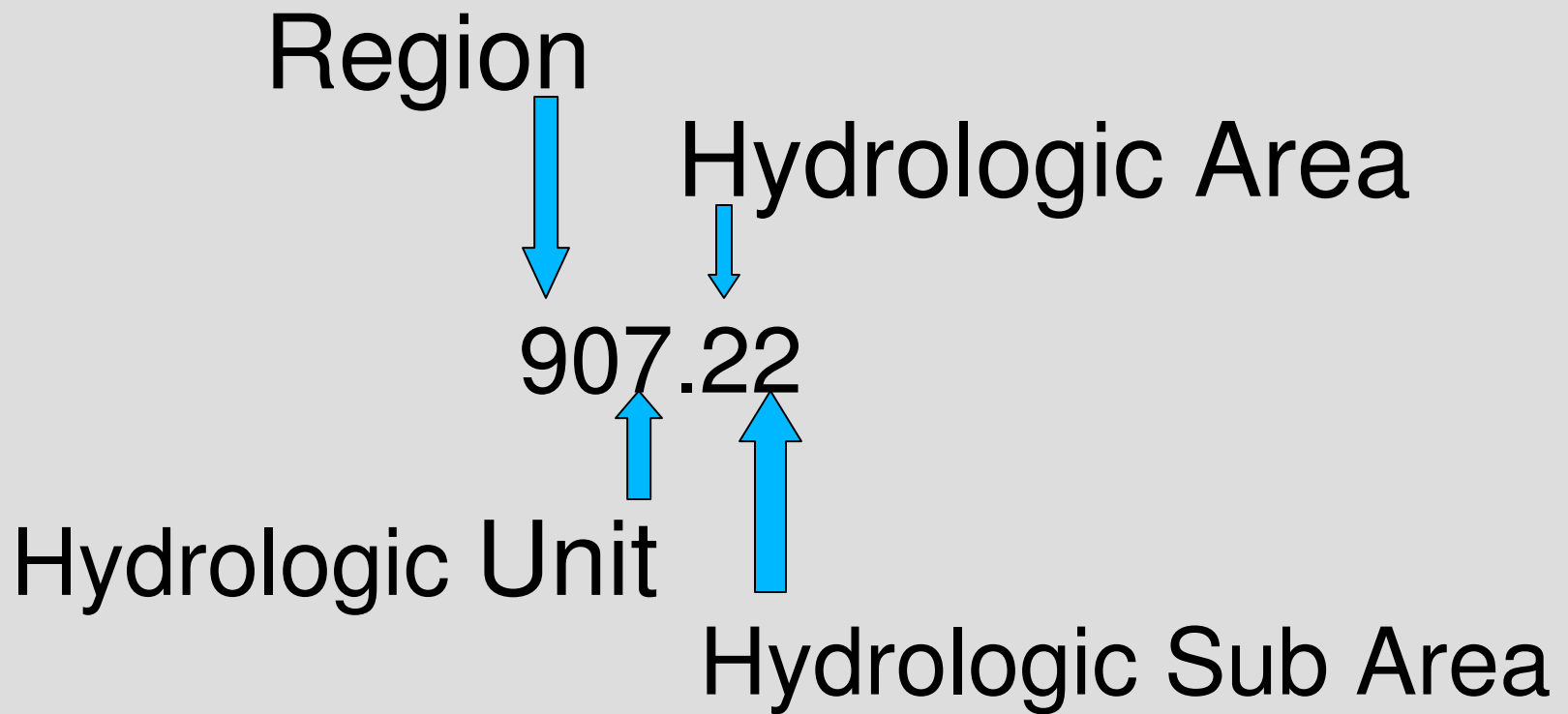
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# Beneficial Uses in Your Watershed

San Diego River Watershed-San Vicente Creek



# Beneficial Uses in Your Watershed

- ❖ **Recreation** (REC1, REC2)
- **Aquatic Life** (WARM, COLD, WILD, RARE, SPWN, SHELL, BIOL)
- **Municipal and Domestic Supply** (MUN)
- **Industrial and Agricultural Supply** (IND, PROC, AGR)
- **Other** (GWR, FRSH, NAV, POW, COMM, AQUA, SAL, EST, MAR)

# Protecting Your Beneficial Uses



San Diego Coastkeeper. 2008

- Water Monitoring
  - Data collection
  - Background levels
- 303(d) List of Impaired Waterbodies
  - Data Analysis
  - TMDLs

# Protecting Your Beneficial Uses

- Water Quality Standards
- Antidegradation
- NPDES Permits
  - National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
  - Discharge to Surface Waters
- 401 Certifications
  - Water Quality Standards Compliance
- WDRs
  - Waste Discharge Requirements
  - Discharge to Ground Waters

# References

- River Network. *The Clean Water Act, Owner's Manual, 2<sup>nd</sup> Edition*. March, 1999.
- California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region. *The Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin*. September 8, 1994.
- San Diego Coastkeeper. "San Diego Coastkeeper, Our Work, Water Monitoring." <http://www.sdcoastkeeper.org>. August 28, 2008.