



**CITY OF ORANGE  
LOCAL IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (LIP)**

**SECTION A-12  
WATERSHEDS**



## SECTION A-12, WATERSHEDS

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### **A-12.0 Watersheds**

#### **A-12.1 Introduction**

This section describes the efforts undertaken by the City to manage watersheds within its jurisdictions. As the lead Permittee, the County of Orange is responsible for coordinating efforts with all cities that drain to watersheds within the County of Orange. Efforts to coordinate activities within the watersheds are essential to minimize pollutant and hydromodification impacts.

#### **A-12-2 City Watersheds**

Storm water runoff from Orange drains to three major watersheds. The majority of the City's runoff (91%) is to the Santa Ana River, which has its headwaters in the San Bernardino mountains and discharges into the Pacific Ocean between Newport Beach and Huntington Beach. The remainder of the runoff is divided between the Newport Bay watershed (7%) and Westminster watershed (2%). Monitoring of storm water runoff for these watersheds is provided by the Principal Permittee. Currently there are no impairments within the Santa Ana River. The Newport Bay and Westminster watershed (Huntington Harbour) are listed in the State's 303 (d) list as impaired for a number of pollutants as noted in Table A-1.1. Newport Bay has a number of TMDLs as discussed below while there are no TMDLs in Huntington Harbour at this time.

#### **A-12.3 Newport Bay Watershed**

As noted above, Newport Bay has a number of TMDLs, which include sediment, nutrients, pathogens and proposed toxics TMDLs that include selenium and organochlorides. The City participates along with other cities in the watershed through a cooperative agreement where it pays its fair share of costs to implement programs required by the TMDLs.

Activities undertaken by the City as part of the cooperative agreement include: review and comment of studies undertaken; review of annual program budget; review of proposed TMDLs; attendance at meetings; involvement in program subcommittees; field trips to assess watershed conditions and other activities.

Work was initiated in 2005 to form a nutrient - selenium management program (NSMP) to develop BMPs and other solutions to the selenium problem in the watershed. A TMDL is also proposed to supersede the EPA TMDL. The City has been and continues to be involved in that group since its inception. This group serves as the model for future work on the organochlorides TMDL.

As other TMDLs come up for review or development within the watershed the City will play an active role in their review and development.