

## South OC WMA Water Quality Improvement Plan: Pathogen Health Risk

**WHAT:** A Water Quality Improvement Plan (WQIP) for the South Orange County Watershed Management Area (South OC WMA), has been accepted by the San Diego Regional Water Board. The South OC WMA WQIP identifies high priority water quality conditions (HPWQC) and sets goals, strategies and schedules for addressing them.

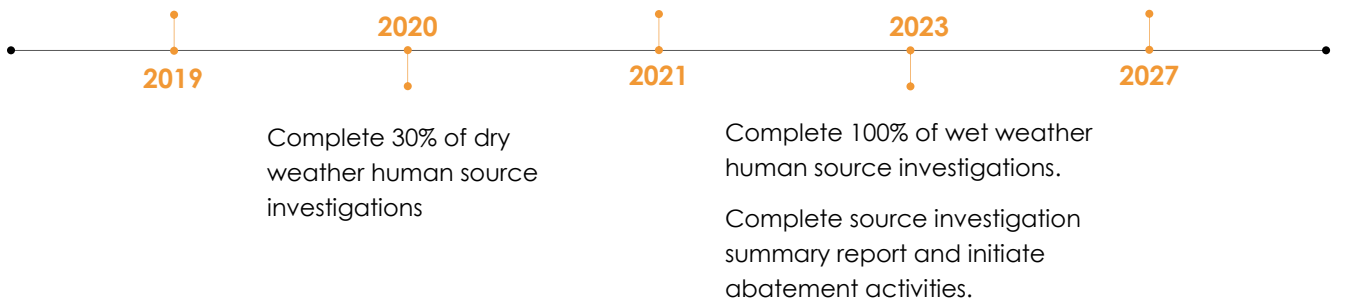
Pathogen Health Risk is one of the HPWQCs identified in the WQIP. Human waste contains viral pathogens that can increase the risk of gastrointestinal illness through recreational exposure (swimming, surfing, etc.). The goal of this strategy is to keep beaches safe and visitors healthy by honing in on sources of human waste to the municipal storm drain system.

**HOW:** Development of a Comprehensive Human Waste Source Reduction Strategy (CHWSRS) Work Plan will be the first step in addressing pathogen health risk. The work plan will focus on reducing human health risk in recreational waters by identifying and eliminating sources of human waste to the storm drain system through targeted monitoring investigations and abatement actions. It will allow for the integration of work done by multiple stakeholders and support decision-making based on the latest scientific advancements in microbial source tracking. A proposed work plan will be submitted to the San Diego Regional Water Board in June of 2019.



**WHEN:**

Complete and submit a proposed Human Waste Source Reduction Strategy Work Plan (June)	Complete 100% of dry weather source investigative activities and 25% of wet weather source investigation activities.	If exceedances are still present, implement BMPs and/or alternatives.
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**INFO:** The WQIP in its entirety is available to view in the OC Watershed [website](#). For more information about the South OC WMA WQIP, contact South OC Stormwater at [Cindy.Rivers@ocpw.ocgov.com](mailto:Cindy.Rivers@ocpw.ocgov.com).



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