

San Diego Basin Study

Contact: Leslie E. Cleveland, Southern California Area Office, 951-695-5310, lcleveland@usbr.gov
Sarah Brower, Ph.D., City of San Diego, Public Utilities Department, 619-533-5248,
SBrower@sandiego.gov

The San Diego Basin Study (study) is a 50-50 cost share partnership between the City of San Diego Public Utilities Department (SDPUD) and the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation). The purpose of the study is to assess the region's water supply and demand and determine the potential effects from climate change impacts within the San Diego Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) planning region; and analyze the region's existing infrastructure and develop adaptation strategies that can assist with addressing the uncertainties associated with climate change. The study will also focus on optimizing the region's sub-basin infrastructure and reservoir systems and further the development of potential new water supply sources through detailed scientific, engineering, and economic analyses.

The study will begin in the spring 2015 and is expected to be completed at the end of 2018. The estimated cost is \$2.06 million. SDPUD will contribute \$1.06 million as their share of the study cost. San Diego watersheds encompass approximately 2,900 square miles and are home to 3.1 million residents; millions more visit the region annually. Most of the living area along the coast are highly urbanized, and the region's population is expected to increase 30% by 2035, to 4 million.

Imported water represents approximately 70-90% of the total water supply, and its reliability is uncertain. Local water agencies are encouraged to develop local sources to ease the burden on the imported water sources. The region's 11 sub-watersheds include the San Juan, Santa Margarita, San Luis Rey, Carlsbad, San Dieguito, Peñasquitos, San Diego, Pueblo, Sweetwater, Otay and Tijuana Rivers. As the study findings are developed, alternatives will be explored and trade-off analyses will be conducted and reports prepared. All reports will be available online for review, at: www.usbr.gov/lc/social/basinstudies/index.html.



For more detailed information please contact one of the co-study managers listed above.

