CMANC Winter Meetings

TMDL Panel Discussion:

Port of San Diego Implementation Approach for the Dissolved Copper TMDL in Shelter Island Yacht Basin

> January 16, 2020 Karen Holman Director | Environmental Protection





Overview of Shelter Island Copper TMDL

- Water in Shelter Island exceeds 3.1µg/L regulatory standard
- TMDL adopted in 2005
- Requires reductions in copper loading
- Approx. 2,300 slips in SIYB
- Main source identified as copper anti-fouling hull paints
- Required annual progress assessments





Implementation Approach

TMDL Compliance Schedule

Stage	Years	Loading Reduction	Load Target (kg/yr)
1	2007	0%	2,163
2	2012	10%	1,900
3	2017	40%	1,300
4	2022	76%	567

1.

2.

3.

- Find Permanent Solutions to Reduce Copper
 - Advocate and support change at state/federal level
 - Evaluate & identify new alternative products
 - Use a Phased & Integrated Approach
 - Assessments based on TMDL interim targets
 - Educate boating community
 - Incorporate regulation, when appropriate
 - Consider an Adaptive Strategy
 - Regularly evaluate & assess activities
 - Incorporate new monitoring information, when available
 - Use new and emerging technologies

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Journey Towards Compliance

- Shift management efforts over time based on data-driven results
- Efforts modified based on trajectory and trends
- Use "pause points" for program assessment and refinement





Implementation Progress

Copper Loading



Water Quality





Challenges Encountered

& Lessons Learned over the Years

- 1. Accessibility of copper hull paints
 - Low leach rate copper paints remain legal to apply
 - Alternative (non-copper paints) need to be part of solution
- 2. Hull cleaning input greater than anticipated
- 3. Multiple interpretations of scientific data
- 4. Modifying Perceptions (We're all in it together)
 - Need acceptance and "buy-in" from stakeholders
 - Changing public behavior is difficult
 - Frequent & consistent messaging
- 5. Incentive program is not sustainable
- 6. Balance interests of boating, the economy and the environment





Scientific Interpretations (Example 1):

Other Bay Sources are the Problem



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Scientific Interpretations (Example 2):

Direct Load Reductions are Necessary



Additional direct load reductions required to further reduce water quality concentrations





2022

2021

Next Phase

Moving toward the final Compliance Target

- Emphasis on In-Water Hull Cleaning
 - Policy Approaches
 - Additional Research
- Engagement with Boating Community
- Local & Statewide Regulatory Coordination

2020

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