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## Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### For the first time, local agencies join forces to consider a regional approach to expanding recycled water output

San Marcos, CA – When Vallecitos Water District and other water and sanitation districts in the region decided that they wanted to increase recycled water availability, they didn't build new or expand existing wastewater treatment facilities. They tore down established jurisdictional boundaries instead.

A total of 15 water and wastewater agencies came together, combining knowledge and resources to start the North San Diego County Regional Recycled Water Project (SDCRRWP). The group's goal: devise a plan to connect the various recycled plants, distribution lines and storage to increase output to meet 16,500 acre feet of demand by 2020.

By increasing availability, this alternate source used primarily for irrigation purposes will lower the regional demand and associated costs of importing water from the overtaxed Colorado River and Northern California's Bay Delta. It will also reduce discharge into the Pacific Ocean, the alternate final destination for treated wastewater that isn't recycled.

Critical to the SDCRRWP is building on each individual agency's existing recycling water systems and deciding as a group on the best option to meet all established long-term and short-term goals.

A Facility Plan Report identifying necessary upgrades to make the project feasible and maximize local, state and federal funding has already been created. With far-reaching benefits for North San Diego County residents leading to increased agency participation, the group has already secured \$1.5 million of a grant the region is pursuing from the state.

Additional opportunities for financing for various amounts will continue to be sought at the local and state level and climb even higher to a lobbying agreement

executed with participating partners that will seek up to \$50 million at the federal level.

The North San Diego County Regional Recycled Water Project is a collaboration among 15 agencies that includes the Carlsbad Municipal Water District; City of Carlsbad; City of Escondido; City of Oceanside; Vallecitos Water District; San Dieguito Water District; Vista Irrigation District; Olivenhain Municipal Water District; Santa Fe Irrigation District; Rincon del Diablo Municipal Water District; City of Encinitas; Buena Sanitation District; Leucadia Wastewater District; San Elijo Joint Powers Authority and Camp Pendleton (pending).

With boundaries expanding from the coast north to Camp Pendleton, south to Solana Beach and Poway and east to Pauma Valley and Ramona, the SDCRRWP could significantly conserve imported water supplies by providing recycled water to be used for irrigation purposes to approximately 750,000 current residents and potentially 1.1 million residents living in the vicinity in the future.

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*Vallecitos Water District is an independent, special district dedicated to providing water, wastewater and reclamation services to approximately 94,000 people in a 45-square-mile area that includes San Marcos; the community of Lake San Marcos; portions of Carlsbad, Escondido and Vista; and other surrounding unincorporated areas. The public is invited to Board meetings, taking place at 4 p.m. the first and third Wednesday of each month at Vallecitos' Administration, Maintenance, and Operations Facility - 201 Vallecitos de Oro, San Marcos.*