

Episode 002 - Malibu Creek Watershed - Beautiful and Fragile

Natural beauty surrounds the Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority (JPA), but this natural beauty is fragile. Join LVMWD Water Reclamation Manager Veronica Hurtado in exploring issues facing the Malibu Creek Watershed and North Santa Monica Bay and how the Las Virgenes-Triunfo Joint Powers Authority - a partnership between LVMWD and Triunfo Water & Sanitation District (TWSD) - is meeting our region's water challenges with the Pure Water Project Las Virgenes - Triunfo.

Definitions and Terms:

Benthic Macroinvertebrates - Small aquatic animals and insects in the larvae stage that biologists use as indicators of stream health.

Breakpoint Chlorination - A treatment process where chlorine is added until there is a residual of free chlorine, signifying that disinfection has been achieved.

Joint Powers Authority - A partnership between the TWSD and LVMWD to collect and treat the Malibu Creek Watershed region's wastewater at the Tapia Water Reclamation Facility. Areas served include Calabasas, Agoura Hills, Oak Park, Westlake Village and Parts of Thousand Oaks.

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit - This permit is required to discharge water from Tapia into Malibu Creek. This permit outlines what can be discharged, how much of each constituent, as well as monitoring and reporting requirements.

Ocean Outfall - A common way that wastewater treatment plants discharge their effluent into the ocean far offshore.

Rancho Las Virgenes Composting Facility - The JPA's facility that turns bio-solids captured during the wastewater treatment process at Tapia into high quality compost that is given out to area residents.

Santa Monica Bay - Generally the area between Pt. Dume to the north and Palos Verde Peninsula to the south and is home to some of the world's most famous beaches such as Surfrider Beach.

Sodium Bisulfite - Chemical compound commonly used to dechlorinate water.

Steelhead Trout and Tidewater Goby - Two recognized endangered species of fish that may be found in Malibu Creek.

Tapia Water Reclamation Facility (Tapia) - The JPA's wastewater treatment plant. Located along Malibu Creek Watershed, Tapia tertiary treats the JPA's wastewater to create high quality recycled water.

Tertiary treatment - An additional level of filtration and disinfection in the wastewater treatment process to create the highest quality recycled water.

Title 22 Tertiary Treated Recycled Water - The recycled water that the JPA provides that due to additional treatment can be used for irrigation including on food crops.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) - The maximum amount of something - nitrogen for instance - that is allowed to be discharged into a receiving water - Malibu Creek for the JPA.