

McGowan Consulting



Statement of Qualifications

Environmental Stormwater Quality and Watershed Protection
Consulting Services for:

City of Hermosa Beach

Overview



Our Practice

McGowan Consulting LLC provides environmental consulting services to municipalities in Southern California. Ours is a specialized consulting practice focused on small cities and the specific challenges they face in responding to rapidly changing environmental regulatory requirements, primarily in the area of storm water quality and watershed protection.

Differentiators

- Expertise in permit negotiation with in-depth understanding of Municipal Stormwater Permit Requirements, State and Federal water quality regulations, and long-term working relationships with Regional Water Quality Control Board staff
- Intimate familiarity with South Santa Monica Bay cities, watersheds and Total Maximum Daily Load pollutant limitations
- High-quality customized service to meet unique needs of individual municipal clients and watershed groups
- Successful track record in preparing winning grant applications for stormwater capital projects
- Knowledgeable in the scientific mechanisms governing pollutant fate and transport in the environment and the engineering principles for controlling these pollutants

Experience

Our two senior staff members have more than 25 years of experience in municipal stormwater consulting. We are adept at synthesizing technical and regulatory issues into coherent analysis on which clients can rely for decision-making and policy setting. We have won favorable regulatory decisions and permit modifications for clients through effective research, analysis, comment and testimony.

Contact:

Kathleen McGowan, P.E., Principal kathleen@mcgowan.consulting

Active Municipal Projects

Beach Cities Watershed Management Group. Coordination of the watershed group's joint activities since August 2015. Responsibilities include: planning and leading watershed group monthly meetings, coordination of watershed implementation activities, development of memoranda of agreement for the funding of joint efforts, review and comment on work performed by the contract monitoring team, development of joint public outreach materials for print and online distribution, preparation of the watershed joint annual report consistent with municipal stormwater permit requirements, pursuit of grant funding for joint implementation projects. Recent accomplishments include: assisting the group in winning \$3.1 million in Prop 13 Coastal Nonpoint Source grant funding for the Hermosa Greenbelt Infiltration joint regional project and obtaining Regional Board approval of modifications to interim implementation milestones in the Beach Cities Enhanced Watershed Management Program (EWMP).

Palos Verdes Peninsula Watershed Management Group. Implementation of joint watershed tasks required of the Peninsula Watershed Management Group since 2016. Scope of work includes: preparation of the Watershed Annual Report, assistance in adaptive management of the EWMP and CIMP, development of public outreach materials for print and online, and most critically, the pursuit of alternative compliance options for the Machado Lake TMDLs. Recent accomplishments include: obtaining Regional Board approval of modifications to implementation milestones in the Peninsula EWMP, development of a regional outreach brochure targeting small construction site developers, and development of Integrated Pest Management and Environmentally Friendly Gardening webpages targeted at residents of the South Bay of Los Angeles.

Hermosa Beach. Ongoing consulting services since 2006 to assist in implementation of the requirements of the Los Angeles Municipal Stormwater Permit as well as technical and regulatory support to the City in addressing Santa Monica Bay Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for bacteria, trash, and DDT & PCBs. Scope of work has included: preparation of annual stormwater reports, management of Clean Bay Restaurant certifications, commercial and industrial facility inspections, grant application and administration, and staff training. Accomplishments include: securing \$2.2 million in USEPA ARRA grant funding for two award-winning water quality projects to address TMDLs, preparing the City's revised stormwater ordinance to incorporate low impact development (LID) provisions and green building runoff reduction requirements. In 2017 the City's beaches were removed from the statewide 303(d) list of waterbodies impaired for indicator bacteria.

Manhattan Beach. Providing consulting services since 2006 to assist in the implementation of the requirements of the Los Angeles Municipal Stormwater Permit. Current scope of work includes:

preparation of annual stormwater reports, staff training, assistance in development of plans and tools for stormwater quality control measures, development of public outreach materials, managing the Clean Bay Restaurant Certification program and pursuit of grant funding for capital projects. Recent accomplishments include: revising the City's stormwater code to incorporate LID requirements, conducting field assessments of municipal facilities and preparing an inventory of opportunities for stormwater retrofits, and assisting the City and its watershed partners in obtaining Regional Board approval of the Beach Cities EWMP and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Program (CIMP).

Palos Verdes Estates. Ongoing municipal stormwater consulting services since July 2012. Current scope of work includes: preparation of the City's annual stormwater report, staff training, assistance in development of plans and tools for implementing stormwater control measures, managing the Clean Bay Restaurant Certification program, and management of dry weather source tracking within the municipal separate storm sewer system. Recent accomplishments include: providing assistance in securing Prop 1 IRWMP Implementation Grant funding for a new recycled water line to supply the City's golf course, conducting field assessments of municipal facilities and preparing an inventory of opportunities for stormwater retrofits.

Rolling Hills. Providing consulting services to the City since 2003 to assist in implementation of the requirements of the Los Angeles Municipal Stormwater Permit. Accomplishments include: Assisting the City in adopting a revised stormwater ordinance with low impact development provisions to address legal authority requirements of the new Permit under a short time schedule, obtaining approval of Regional Board staff for the City to participate in the Peninsula watershed group's CIMP while implementing atypical permit compliance strategies, and development of a source control-based implementation plan for multi-watershed compliance with toxic pollutant TMDLs.

Rolling Hills Estates. Providing ongoing environmental consulting services since 2003 to support City staff in implementation of the requirements of the Los Angeles Municipal Stormwater Permit. Current scope of work includes: preparation of the City's annual stormwater report, staff training, development of plans and tools for implementing stormwater control measures, managing the Clean Bay Certified program, and conducting targeted trash TMDL monitoring. Recent accomplishments include: securing over \$1 million in Prop 84 IRWMP Implementation Grant funding for a Model Equestrian Center demonstrating best management practices for stormwater quality protection, and developing an updated plan for the Santa Monica Bay Debris and the Machado Lake Trash TMDLs to utilize a combined implementation approach of full capture systems and institutional controls with monitoring to demonstrate compliance, which received Regional Board approval without revisions.

Kathleen McGowan, P.E.

Education

The Johns Hopkins University, Whiting School of Engineering. B.S., Chemical Engineering.

Georgia Institute of Technology, School of Civil and Environmental Engineering. M.S., Environmental Engineering.

Registered Professional Engineer, Chemical Engineering, CA License No. CH 4989

Experience

Kathleen's environmental consulting experience spans more than 25 years of varied work for public and private sector clients including: NPDES permit implementation and negotiation, development of water quality monitoring plans, negotiation and implementation of TMDLs for impaired waters, development of watershed management plans, environmental reporting, industrial and hazardous waste management and due diligence. She has assisted clients in securing nearly \$9 million in grant funding for stormwater projects. Kathleen was involved in negotiation and comment on behalf of municipal clients during development of the 4th-term Municipal Stormwater Permit for Coastal Watersheds of Los Angeles County (LA MS4 Permit). She has spoken as an expert on the LA MS4 permit to the LA County Bar Association Environmental Section.

Examples of municipal project experience in addition to projects highlighted under McGowan Consulting's active projects include:

- Revised and implemented a municipal client's industrial and commercial facilities inspection program consistent with 2012 LA MS4 Permit requirements. Directed field assessments of more than 600 industrial facilities across a range of industrial categories from large railroad yards and heavy manufacturing facilities, to warehousing and light industrial manufacturing.
- Managed a short-turnaround project to conduct facility inspections of approximately 300 commercial and industrial facilities within a 3-month period to meet a client's regulatory deadline. The field assessments addressed stormwater best management practices as well as Fats, Oils and Grease (FOG) Control Program for Food Service Establishments.
- Assisted five municipal clients in responding to and successfully defending Notices of Violation (NOV) and Orders Pursuant to California Water Code Section 13383 issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board against 22 municipalities in 2008 for alleged exceedances of the Summer Dry-Weather objectives under the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria TMDL. Worked closely with City staffs and attorneys on short notice to conduct data review, analysis, prepare exhibits, and summarize information on a prioritized basis to meet the initial response deadline. Identified

errors in the geometric mean calculation methodology to demonstrate significant reductions in the potential number of violations. Regional Board staff ultimately withdrew the NOV and Orders.

- Prepared project assessment and evaluation plan (PAEP), monitoring plan, and Quality Assurance Project Plan for stormwater quality improvement project funded under Proposition 50 to convert 130,000 square feet of municipal parking lots to porous paving. Prepared final project grant report documenting project effectiveness in achieving Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria TMDL targets as well as multiple water quality benefits.
- Prepared extensive review and comment, both oral and written, of various drafts of the third-term municipal stormwater permit for South Orange County. Prepared and presented testimony and was subjected to cross-examination before the State Water Resources Control Board, ultimately winning a stay of the toxicity standard in the San Diego Regional Board's third-term municipal stormwater permit for South Orange County
- Prepared and implemented a city's response to a directive from the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board for violation of bacteria standards issued to all cities with storm drains discharging to Aliso Creek.

Presentations

Los Angeles County Bar Association, Environmental Section, Los Angeles, CA. May 15, 2014 Topic: Practical and Regulatory Challenges of Climate Change. January 30, 2013 Topic: Los Angeles Municipal Stormwater Permit.

CASQA Stormwater Conference, Monterey, CA, 2011. Presented with Frank Senteno, P.E., City of Hermosa Beach Public Works Director. Topic: Hermosa Strand Infiltration Trench: Alternative to Low Flow Diversions.

Headwaters to Ocean Conference, San Diego, CA, 2011. Topic: Integrating and Implementing the Clean Bay Restaurant Program in the City of Manhattan Beach.

Professional History

McGowan Consulting LLC, Huntington Beach, CA. Principal/Owner. 2015-Present

Geosyntec Consultants: Huntington Beach, CA - Associate 2013-2015, Los Angeles - Senior Engineer 2007-2008

Kathleen McGowan, P.E., Rolling Hills Estates, CA. Principal/Owner, 2003-2007 and 2008-2012

Charles Abbott Associates, Torrance, CA. Environmental Services Manager, 2000-2003

Palos Verdes Peninsula Land Conservancy, Palos Verdes Peninsula, CA: Executive Director 1995-1996, Education Director 1998-1999.

CSU Long Beach, CA. Assistant Professor, Engineering Technology, 1996-1997

MACK Analysis, Inc., Atlanta, GA. Principal/Owner, 1990-1995

CH2M Hill, Atlanta, GA. Industrial and Hazardous Waste Engineer 1986-1990

Georgia Institute of Technology, Atlanta, GA. Graduate Research Assistant 1985-1986

Environ Corporation, Washington, D.C. Staff Engineer 1983-1985

Susan Robinson

Education

University of California, Santa Barbara Bren School of Environmental Science & Management - Master of Environmental Science and Management. Coastal Marine Resources Management Specialization with Eco-Entrepreneurship and Communications Focus. Recipient: UCSB Summer Internship Fellowship Awardee, Semi-finalist International Business Model Competition

University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. Bachelor of Arts in Environmental Studies, Concentration in Marine Ecology. Research projects: Comprehensive scientific and sociological analysis of the eastern North Carolina Blue crab fishery, community structure of restored oyster reef assemblages-Albemarle Ecological Field Site, Manteo, NC

Experience

Susan's professional history includes nearly ten years of environmental science work for public clients and non-profit organizations in the coastal watersheds of California and North Carolina. Through clear analysis, insightful understanding of client needs, and effective communication skills, Susan delivers outstanding customized consulting services. Following is a summary of her project experience accumulated in addition to projects highlighted under McGowan Consulting's active projects.

Municipal Stormwater Programs:

- Administered and implemented storm water and urban runoff management programs for municipal clients in Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Performed environmental site inspections of municipal, commercial and industrial facilities and construction sites. Conducted illicit discharge investigations. Prepared Annual Municipal Stormwater Reports.
- Launched and administered the Santa Monica Bay Foundation's Clean Bay Restaurant Certification Program for multiple municipalities in Los Angeles County. Performed Clean Bay Restaurant inspections at food service establishments.
- Assisted in the development of Watershed Management Programs and Enhanced Watershed Management Programs for municipal clients.
- Assisted watershed management groups in drafting agreements to develop and implement Watershed and Enhanced Watershed Management Programs and Coordinated Integrated Monitoring Programs.
- Assisted in the development of Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Plans and Monitoring Plans for trash and nutrients.

Public Education and Outreach Programs:

- Conducted public and school outreach events on storm water runoff in LA and Orange counties using the Enviroscope® model.

- Developed and led outreach programs on the biological diversity of the North Carolina Coastal Reserve system.
- Coordinated stewardship volunteers in the maintenance and enhancement of North Carolina Coastal Reserve trails and property.
- Assisted the design and installation of interpretive signage throughout the Kitty Hawk Woods Reserve.
- Supported the drafting of press releases, maintenance of social media sites, and assisted in event planning for non-profit project groundbreaking and completion events.

Grant Funding Assistance:

- Assisted municipal clients in identifying and writing grant applications for stormwater funding opportunities.
- Researched and sourced non-profit environmental projects seeking gap funding and recommended alignments with corporate client initiatives, set meetings, and facilitated the development of partnerships and funding opportunities.
- Discovered and helped acquire non-profit partnerships with environmental project funding needs for alignment with corporate client sustainability initiatives.
- Prepared presentation decks and corresponded with corporate clients to recommend non-profit projects that aligned well with their brand image and sustainability initiatives.
- Helped identify metrics to track non-profit project impacts for corporate clients.

Environmental Monitoring:

- Assessed historical water quality data against regulatory targets to identify watershed goals.
- Conducted abiotic water quality monitoring in North Carolina's Currituck and Albemarle Sounds using grab sampling and automatic sampling equipment.
- Assisted in the research of management strategies for the invasive species *Phragmites australis* (Common Reed) and monitoring of tidal wetland restoration response.

Professional History

McGowan Consulting LLC, Redondo Beach, CA. Sr. Environmental Scientist/Project Manager 2018-present, Environmental Scientist 2015-2017.

John L. Hunter and Associates, Los Angeles, CA. Environmental Compliance Specialist II 2013-2014, Environmental Compliance Specialist 2007-2011.

CBS EcoMedia, Manhattan Beach, CA. Environmental Program Intern 2012 -2013.

North Carolina Coastal Reserve, Kitty Hawk, NC. Research Technician 2007, Intern 2005.