Completing our Water Cycle, Securing our Future



# Why is Pure Water San Diego Being Implemented?

San Diego relies on importing 85% of its water supply from the Colorado River and Northern California Bay Delta. The cost of this imported water has tripled in the last 15 years and continues to rise. With limited local control over its water supply, the City of San Diego is more vulnerable to droughts, climate change and natural disasters.

## What is Pure Water San Diego?

Pure Water San Diego is a phased, multi-year program that will provide 1/3 of San Diego's water supply locally by 2035. The Pure Water Program:

- Uses proven technology to clean recycled water to produce safe, high-quality drinking water
- Provides a reliable, sustainable, water supply
- Offers a cost-effective investment for San Diego's water needs

#### Water Purification Process



Ozonation

Biological Activated Membrane Filtration Reverse

UV/Advanced Oxidation

## Why is Miramar Reservoir the preferred location to store the purified water?

For protection of public health, regulatory agencies require the purified water has detention time in an environmental buffer, either a groundwater basin or a surface water reservoir, prior to being blended into the drinking water system. San Diego does not have viable groundwater basins, which led to the selection of a surface water reservoir.

Miramar Reservoir is the preferred reservoir to receive the purified water produced in Phase 1 of the Pure Water Program because it is the most cost-effective and environmentally preferred option and achieves the goals of City leadership to expedite the implementation schedule – providing San Diego with more local water, sooner.

By sending the purified water to Miramar Reservoir, Phase 1 will be completed and operational by 2023, two years sooner than initially planned.

The length of the pipeline from the North City Pure Water Facility to Miramar Reservoir will be eight miles instead of 28 miles if the water was sent to San Vicente Reservoir. The route of the pipeline to Miramar Reservoir will also have fewer environmental impacts to the surrounding communities during construction. Additionally, the water pumped to Miramar Reservoir will be powered with renewable energy, which provides significant environmental benefits and reduces energy costs and usage.



### **Water Quality Objectives**

Phase 1 of the Pure Water Program will convey 30 million gallons (mgd) of purified water per day to Miramar Reservoir. The purified water will be re-mineralized before being conveyed through a pipeline to Miramar Reservoir.

State regulations of the Division of Drinking Water and the Regional Water Quality Control Board require that the purified water meets specific water quality standards. More than 50,000 water quality tests at the City's Pure Water Demonstration Facility have confirmed that the purified water meets or exceeds these standards, along with all federal and state drinking water standards.

Additionally, the regulations will require that the purified water meet dilution and retention criteria in Miramar Reservoir, and will require that existing beneficial uses at the reservoir be sustained.

## **Recreation Opportunities** at **Miramar Reservoir**

Miramar reservoir has a five-mile-long paved service road that encircles the reservoir and is very popular for bicycling, jogging, walking, picnicking and other outdoor activities. Recreational users are permitted on this road seven days a week during normal operating days and hours. Also around the lake are 18 barbecues and 48 picnic tables where visitors can enjoy a picnic with friends or family.

Fishing is permitted at Miramar Reservoir. With a proper fishing license and a daily City fishing permit, patrons can fish from boats, use float tubes, waders, or simply fish from shore.

Local **residents**, community **groups**, environmental organizations and local businesses support the **Pure Water Program.** 

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### **Environmental Impact Analysis**

With the introduction of purified water at Miramar Reservoir, the City anticipates there will be improvements to the water quality and no significant impacts to the aguatic habitats or fish. The City continues to work closely with stakeholders representing various community interests to obtain their input.

The City has analyzed potential environmental impacts on the region, the fishery, and the wildlife at Miramar Reservoir as part of the Pure Water San Diego Program, North City Environmental Impact Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (EIR/EIS). The final EIR/EIS was published in March 2018, and can be accessed on the City's website at www.purewatersd.org/reports.

#### **Schedule**



Phase 1 of the Pure Water Program will be operational in 2023, with construction anticipated to start in 2019.

#### Want to Know More?

Visit www.PureWaterSD.org to sign up for a free tour of the Pure Water Facility or request a presentation for your organization.

