



## Development of the Beaumont Basin Stipulated Agreement, San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority

### Background

The San Timoteo Watershed Management Authority (STWMA) was formed in January 2001 by the Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District, the City of Beaumont, the South Mesa Water Company, and the Yucaipa Valley Water District. The purpose of the STWMA is to prepare and implement a water resources management program for the San Timoteo Watershed and the waters tributary. This Program includes conserving local water supplies, improving surface and ground water quality and quantity, protecting and enhancing groundwater storage and recreational resources, preserving open space, protecting wildlife habitat and wetlands, protecting and enhancing agriculture, and developing and enhancing the region's water resources for the benefit of the public.

The water resources management program includes watershed and basin monitoring; groundwater storage, banking and conjunctive use; stormwater capture and management; recycled water programs and projects; wetlands, wildlife, and open space protection; water

quality protection and enhancement; and water conservation and efficiency.

The STWMA, on behalf of the groundwater pumpers in the Beaumont Basin developed a groundwater management plan for the Basin. The STWMA filed a "friendly" law suit against all known significant pumpers in the Basin in 2003. The Superior Court in Riverside approved a settlement agreement among these pumpers in February 2004.

Wildermuth Environmental, Inc. (WEI) participated in the development of the groundwater management plan for the Beaumont Basin and was the engineer of record for the adjudication representing all

Parties. WEI developed the physical solution contained within the stipulated agreement.

WEI participated in the negotiations, assisted legal counsel in the development of the stipulated agreement language, and prepared all the technical exhibits including estimates of the water rights of all the Parties. One of the key features of the stipulated agreement is the innovative provisions for the transfer and assignment of overlying rights to appropriators when land use converts from non-urban to urban uses. WEI has continued on as the Engineer for the Beaumont Watermaster, and as such, prepares the annual reports and engineering reports. In this capacity, WEI continues to provide consulting services to the Watermaster, STWMA, and the Parties to improve the management of the Basin.



*Recharge basin located in the Beaumont Basin*