



SAN DIEGO COUNTY

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT

**2005 5-YEAR REVISION  
FINAL**

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS  
Solid Waste Planning and Recycling

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**SAN DIEGO COUNTY**

**INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN**

**COUNTYWIDE SITING ELEMENT**

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**January 5, 2005**

**Approved by Majority of Cities with Majority of Population**

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# CHAPTER 1 INTRODUCTION

## **Purpose**

A review of the Countywide Siting Element is to occur every 5 years. The California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB) approved the Countywide Integrated Waste Management Plan (CIWMP) for the County of San Diego on February 12, 1997. This is the first amendment of the Siting Element. The Countywide Siting Element serves as a general guide and description of landfill use and capacity, rather than a specific development program. It provides a description of the landfills and a combination of strategies that will provide 15 years solid waste disposal capacity for all the jurisdictions within the county.

San Diego County's review and revision of the CIWMP began in 2002. This Countywide Siting Element projects disposal needs for the 15-year period of 2002 to 2017. The analysis was carried through to 2020 to show the point at which annual solid waste tonnage throughput intersects the disposal projection. This amendment examines physical landfill capacity and annual permitted throughput of solid waste to determine if San Diego County has enough landfill space.

**Inclusion of proposed or tentatively reserved landfill sites in this Siting Element does not advocate or in any way guarantee approval of sites by any agency or jurisdiction. Nor does it advocate their use as a disposal option. All proposals for new landfills or expansions require extensive permits, which include but not limited to, local land use approval, environmental review, and state solid waste facility permitting procedures. Review and adoption of this Siting Element Amendment does not limit any jurisdiction's or interested party's right to conduct a more in-depth review of each proposal.**

The Local Solid Waste Task Force (LTF) encourages full public participation in the discussion of solid waste and non-disposal facilities through open public comment at both its Technical and Citizens Advisory Committees whenever a change in facility or a new facility is proposed.

## **Statutory and Regulatory Overview**

The Siting Element must demonstrate that 15 years of countywide or regional permitted solid waste disposal capacity are or will be available through existing or planned facilities or other strategies.

The statutory requirements for the content and format of the Siting Element are found in Public Resources Code (PRC), Sections 41700-41721.5. The requirements are further described in regulations adopted by the California Integrated Waste Management Board (CIWMB), and approved as the California Code of Regulations (CCR), Title 14, Division 7, Chapter 9, Article 6.5, Sections 18755 through 18756.7 and Article 8.0, Sections 18776 through 18788.

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (IWMA) as amended, established an integrated system of solid waste management in the state. Under IWMA, the County is responsible for preparing a Countywide Siting Element and Summary Plan. The Act further requires each local jurisdiction to prepare and implement the following solid waste management elements:

- Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE), which provides details for the development and implementation of a comprehensive program of source reduction, recycling, and composting. The SRRE identifies specific goals and the manner in which the jurisdiction(s) will attain these goals, part of which is the mechanism to reach state mandated diversion requirements.
- Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE), specifies the means by which each regional jurisdiction shall safely collect, recycle, treat and dispose of hazardous wastes generated by households within the jurisdiction.
- Non-Disposal Facility Element (NDFE), describes all solid waste facilities in the San Diego County region required to obtain a state solid waste facility permit, except disposal and transformation facilities.

This Countywide Siting Element complies with all legal requirements cited above. The Integrated Waste Management Act (IWMA) requires that the Siting Element be prepared by the county, and approved by the County Board of Supervisors and by a majority of the cities within the county, which contain a majority of the population in the incorporated areas.

### **Environmental Justice**

In accordance with PRC 41701, the jurisdictions within the County of San Diego have a commitment to ensuring that environmental justice concerns are addressed through public and community participation, including low income and minority populations, in the development, adoption, and implementation of the 2003 Siting Element Amendment.

Input was solicited on all draft documents from impacted communities, individuals, private companies, and representatives from each jurisdiction through public meetings. During the drafting of the Siting Element, there were many public Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and Citizen's Advisory Committee (CAC) meetings. Three additional facilitated public meetings were conducted with these groups. All of the meetings were at public facilities and listed on SANDAG's website. Input and comments from these meetings were incorporated into this Amendment.

In addition, the County conducted one public hearing to receive comments on the preliminary draft of the document. The hearing was advertised 30 days in advance in widely read newspapers and on the county's website. Reminder notices were run approximately two weeks prior to the meeting. The newspapers included one countywide publication and three local publications serving the affected communities. The county received oral and written comments from community groups and jurisdictions at the hearing. An administrative record of public input is included in this Amendment as Appendix A.

The Local Task Force (LTF) held a public hearing prior to the adoption of the document, and public hearings were held by jurisdictions during their consideration process.

## **Sources of Information**

The 1997 Countywide Solid Waste Management Plan (CIWMP) serves as a baseline for this Amendment of the Siting Element. Sources of information for the current Siting Element include the California Integrated Waste Management Board, Local Enforcement Agency (LEA) and Environmental Services Department of the City of San Diego, the County of San Diego LEA, the Draft EIR for the Gregory Canyon landfill, Allied Waste Industries, Inc, consultation with the Local Task Force Technical Advisory Committee and Citizens Advisory Committee, and communications received from interested parties.

## **Siting Plan**

The Siting Element assists local governments and private industry in planning for integrated waste management and the siting of solid waste disposal facilities. The goals, policies and siting criteria established for the Siting Element will guide the selection of new disposal facilities or expansion of current facilities.

A major justification for this Siting Element Amendment is that the County of San Diego divested its public landfills to a private company since the original Siting Element was written in 1997. The only landfills currently operating within the County for public use are either privately owned or operated, or City of San Diego operated.

The IWMA required diversion rates of 25 percent by 1995 and 50 percent by 2000 for each jurisdiction. Jurisdictions in the County are at various levels of diversion. The San Diego County regional rate of diversion in 2000 was 48 percent. As mentioned above, each jurisdiction must prepare a Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) that details how they plan to achieve the required 50 percent diversion rate. Each jurisdiction in the County must report annually to the Board regarding progress it is making toward meeting state mandated diversion requirements through its annual report.

This Siting Element emphasizes the goal of all jurisdictions within San Diego County that landfill capacity be optimized through diverting materials in the most economically and environmentally sound way, using the IWMA hierarchy. The IWMA hierarchy, as defined by the CIWMB, includes reuse, source reduction, recycling, composting, and transformation. The strategy for ensuring 15 years of capacity relies on the region meeting the current state diversion requirement. Tasks associated with the 50 percent diversion vary with each jurisdiction, and are outlined in their specific SRREs. The individual jurisdictional SRREs are designed to address the complexities of their own integrated waste management needs.

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# CHAPTER 2

## SITING ELEMENT GOALS AND POLICIES

### Goals

Siting Element goals are adopted to assist jurisdictions within San Diego County to comply with the statutory requirements to demonstrate a 15 year disposal capacity through existing or planned solid waste disposal and transformation facilities or through additional strategies. Section 41700 of the Public Resources Code requires inclusion of a statement of goals and policies by the Local Task Force (LTF) of each county or region, describing how solid waste that cannot be reduced, recycled or composted will be handled in an environmentally safe manner. The jurisdictions and the County of San Diego must then approve the goals and policies. The state requirements for developing the Countywide Siting Element are summarized below.

- The Local Task Force shall develop a statement of goals, policies, and procedures to provide to the county in preparing the Siting Element.
- The goals shall be consistent with the state requirements for source reduction, recycling and composting options in order to reduce the amount of solid waste that must be disposed of by transformation and land disposal; and that environmentally safe transformation and/or environmentally safe land disposal are acceptable waste management practices for wastes that cannot feasibly be reduced at the source, recycled, or composted.
- The policies shall specify any programs, regulatory ordinances, actions, or strategies that may be established to meet the goals and assist in siting solid waste disposal facilities. An implementation schedule shall be included that identifies the tasks necessary to achieve each goal.

The following goals and policies are adopted to assist all jurisdictions to plan and implement a countywide solid waste management program.

#### 1. Waste Diversion

**Goal: Optimize the current disposal capacity by encouraging jurisdictions to meet the state diversion requirement as soon as possible by implementing their Source Reduction Recycling Elements (SRREs).**

##### Policy 1.1

Give the highest priority to reducing the production and generation of discards through waste prevention, reuse, recycling and composting as a means of conserving landfill capacity and natural resources.

#### 2. Management of Solid Waste Generated Within the County

**Goal: Provide efficient, economically and environmentally sound disposal capacity for residual wastes following the waste reduction requirements under the IWMA hierarchy.**

**Policy 2.1**

Maximize the efficient and economic use of existing solid waste disposal capacity when consistent with public interest.

**Policy 2.2**

Extend and/or expand in-county capacity as feasible.

**Policy 2.3**

Identify disposal facilities or strategies, possibly including transfer stations and export to out-of-county facilities, necessary to dispose of the solid waste generated by the jurisdictions of the county for a minimum of 15 years.

**Policy 2.4**

Site all solid waste management facilities in such a manner as to protect public health and safety, the environment, and provide for environmental justice concerns. Ensure that all solid waste management facilities are evaluated under all applicable siting criteria.

**Policy 2.5**

Promote diverse solid waste management options sufficient to manage the local solid waste stream in an environmentally responsible manner.

**3. Facility Management**

**Goal: Ensure efficient, economically and environmentally sound management of existing and proposed solid waste management facilities to meet all applicable environmental standards.**

**Policy 3.1**

Operate all solid waste management facilities in such a manner as to protect public health and safety, the environment, and provide for environmental justice concerns.

**4. Countywide Siting Element Administration**

**Goal: Maintain and update the Countywide Siting Element in accordance with the requirements of IWMA.**

# CHAPTER 3

## DISPOSAL CAPACITY REQUIREMENTS

### Purpose and Requirements

Section 18755.3 of the CCR requires counties to determine existing countywide disposal capacity and to project anticipated disposal capacity needs in the Siting Element for the next 15 years. Information is to be presented in tons and cubic yards with an explanation provided for weight-to-volume conversion. For ease of reading, the text will discuss only tonnage. All cubic yard data are located in Appendix B.

### Existing Disposal And Capacity Analysis

#### Historical and Projected Disposal Rates

To project generated, diverted, and disposed solid waste over the 15-year capacity requirement, the following assumptions were made:

1. An average *50percent diversion* rate for all San Diego county jurisdictions is reached, beginning in the year 2005.
2. Future disposal, export, and import tonnages were projected by plotting a line<sup>1</sup> representing the tons from the Disposal Reporting System (DRS) reported by the jurisdictions through the period 1995-2001, and then extrapolating the line to 2020. Demographic increases, Consumer Price Indices, and other factors as used by CIWMB were factored into the analysis (Appendix C). The annual rate of increase in the disposal rate was approximately 5.4percent from 2002 to 2003 and estimated to gradually decrease to approximately 3.4percent from 2016 to 2017. This change accommodates projected changes in growth.

A gradual increase in annual generation<sup>2</sup> and disposal is projected. Disposal is predicted to increase from 3.7 million tons in 2002 to 6.1 million tons in 2017. Based on the 1995-2001 disposal tonnages, imported and exported tonnages, and a 50percent diversion rate by the year 2005, it is estimated that San Diego County jurisdictions will need to accommodate disposal capacity for over 5.6 million tons of solid waste in 2017 (Table 3.1). Options for increased diversion rates are discussed in Chapter Eight.

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<sup>1</sup> Linear Regression Analysis, Appendix C.

<sup>2</sup> Generation is calculated: [Generation = Diversion + Disposal].

**Table 3.1  
San Diego County Rate of Disposal  
(Millions of Tons)**

Year	Total Generation (2000-2001 Actual)	Estimated Diversion %	Total Disposal (1995-2001 Actual)	Exports (1995-2001 Actual)	Imports (1995-2001 Actual)	In-County Landfill Rate of Disposal (Disposal - Exported + Imported)
1995			2.8	0.4	0.002	2.4
1996			2.7	0.3	0.002	2.4
1997			2.9	0.4	0.002	2.5
1998			3.2	0.5	0.006	2.7
1999			3.3	0.5	0.005	2.8
2000	6.6	48%	3.4	0.2	0.008	3.2
2001	6.9	46%	3.7	0.2	0.019	3.6
2002	7.2	48%	3.7 <sup>1</sup>	0.3	0.009	3.5
2003	7.5	48%	3.9	0.3	0.009	3.6
2004	7.9	48%	4.1	0.3	0.010	3.8
2005	8.2	50%	4.1	0.3	0.010	3.8
2006	8.5	50%	4.3	0.3	0.011	3.9
2007	8.8	50%	4.4	0.3	0.011	4.1
2008	9.2	50%	4.6	0.3	0.011	4.3
2009	9.5	50%	4.7	0.4	0.012	4.4
2010	9.8	50%	4.9	0.4	0.012	4.6
2011	10.2	50%	5.1	0.4	0.012	4.7
2012	10.5	50%	5.2	0.4	0.012	4.9
2013	10.8	50%	5.4	0.4	0.013	5.0
2014	11.1	50%	5.6	0.4	0.013	5.2
2015	11.5	50%	5.7	0.4	0.013	5.3
2016	11.8	50%	5.9	0.4	0.014	5.5
2017	12.1	50%	6.1	0.4	0.014	5.6
2018	12.4	50%	6.2	0.4	0.015	5.8
2019	12.8	50%	6.4	0.5	0.015	5.9
2020	13.1	50%	6.5	0.5	0.015	6.1

(1) CIWMB actual is 3.76 million tons.

### Method for Determining Future Capacity

One scenario is discussed in this Chapter to illustrate a method of achieving 15-years of disposal capacity. This scenario involves regional achievement of a 50 percent diversion rate (2005), a proposed opening of Gregory Canyon Landfill (2006), and a tentatively reserved expansion of Sycamore Canyon Landfill (2005, and 2011). Two aspects of this scenario are evaluated: (1) Will the physical capacity be adequate? and (2) Will the facilities be able to accept solid waste at the rate at which it will be disposed? Additional strategies for achieving 15 years of disposal capacity are discussed in Chapter Eight.



## Physical Landfill Capacity

The “physical landfill capacity” is defined as the remaining volumetric capacity of existing landfills (Table 3.2). Physical capacity represents the volume available to be filled, and is different from the rate at which materials may enter. The volume available is governed by design limits. The number of years of physical disposal space is affected by the rate of fill, which is limited by daily or annual permitted disposal tonnages. Physical capacity can be modified by amending the permits that regulate design limits.

In May of 2002, it was estimated that 62.9 million tons of existing permitted in-county physical capacity remained, excluding the San Onofre and Las Pulgas landfills (Table 3.2). Given the scenario discussed in this chapter, if no additional in-county capacity is added, the county is estimated to possibly run out of physical capacity in approximately 2016 (Table 3.3). The proposed Gregory Canyon landfill, if permitted, would provide an additional 33.4 million tons of capacity. The approval of the tentatively reserved expansion for the Sycamore Canyon Landfill would add 116.6 million tons to the capacity in the county. The additional capacity of both proposals would provide an excess of 140.8 million tons of capacity in 2017 (Table 3.3). Several strategies discussed in Chapter Eight would extend the use of existing landfill capacity and may be explored by individual jurisdictions.

**Table 3.2**  
**San Diego County Remaining Landfill Capacity**

	<b>Current Remaining Capacity (cubic yards)</b>	<b>Current Remaining Capacity (May 2002) (tons)</b>
Total All Landfills	99,491,870	68,880,267
Las Pulgas and San Onofre	-10,447,351	-5,986,572
<b>Remaining Capacity</b>	<b>89,044,519</b>	<b>62,893,695</b>

**Table 3.3  
San Diego County Physical Landfill Capacity Projection  
(Millions of Tons)**

Year	In-County Landfill Rate of Disposal	Existing Physical Capacity	Sycamore Canyon Expansion <sup>2</sup>		Proposed Gregory Canyon <sup>2</sup>		In-County Excess <sup>1</sup> (Existing + Sycamore + Gregory)
			In-County Excess <sup>1</sup>	Proposed Expansion Capacity	Proposed Additional Capacity	In-County Excess <sup>1</sup> (Existing + Gregory)	
1995	2.4						
1996	2.4						
1997	2.5						
1998	2.7						
1999	2.8						
2000	3.2						
2001	3.6						
2002	3.5	62.9	59.4				59.4
2003	3.6	59.4	55.8				55.8
2004	3.8	55.8	52.0				52.0
2005	3.8	52.0	48.2	116.6			164.9
2006	3.9	48.2	44.3		33.4	77.7	194.3
2007	4.1	44.3	40.2			73.6	190.2
2008	4.3	40.2	35.9			69.3	186.0
2009	4.4	35.9	31.5			64.9	181.6
2010	4.6	31.5	27.0			60.4	177.0
2011	4.7	27.0	22.3			55.7	172.3
2012	4.9	22.3	17.4			50.8	167.4
2013	5.0	17.4	12.4			45.8	162.4
2014	5.2	12.4	7.2			40.6	157.2
2015	5.3	7.2	1.8			35.2	151.9
2016	5.5	1.8	-3.6			29.8	146.4
2017	5.6	-3.6	-9.3			24.1	140.8
2018	5.8	-9.3	-15.1			18.3	135.0
2019	5.9	-15.1	-21.0			12.4	129.0
2020	6.1	-21.0	-27.1			6.3	123.0

(1) Excess is calculated: [Existing Physical Capacity + Proposed Capacity – Rate of Disposal]. The difference is defined as the additional tons per year that could be handled.

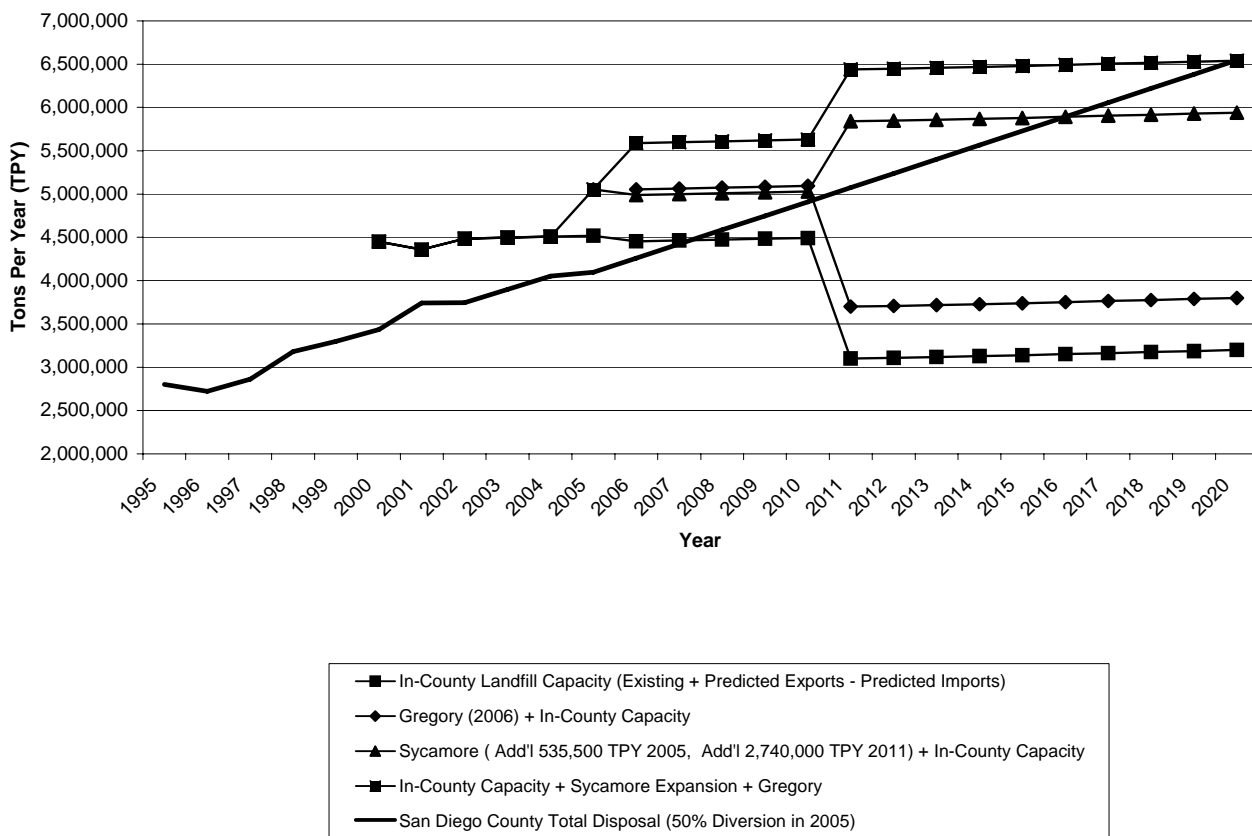
(2) The opening dates and annual permitted tonnages for these landfills are proposed at this time. The Local Enforcement Agency and local land use authority must approve both proposals. CIWMB votes to concur. Issues and concerns of the region and the adjoining jurisdictions will be addressed during the permitting processes.

### Annual Permitted Rate of Acceptance of Solid Waste at Landfills

The rate at which materials may enter the landfills is restricted by annual and/or daily traffic and tonnage limits at disposal and transfer facilities, even though there may be sufficient physical capacity. The permitted daily and annual disposal tonnages are specified in the Solid Waste Facility Permit (SWFP) for the facility, and sometimes in other permits. These limits are a matter of traffic control and health and welfare protection, and are changed through the permit review process.

Using current disposal projections, if the permitted limits on the rates at which waste enter the landfills are not changed, the region would run out of the ability to accept all of the waste destined for disposal in 2007 (Figure 3.1 and Table 3.4). Increasing the annual rate of acceptance at the existing Sycamore Canyon Landfill by 535,000 tons in about 2005 and by 2.7 million tons in 2011<sup>3</sup> would provide adequate capacity until approximately 2016 (Figure 3.1). If opened, the proposed Gregory Canyon Landfill combined with Sycamore would provide adequate capacity until 2020.<sup>4</sup> The use of both proposals and/or several of the strategies discussed in Chapter Eight would probably be adequate to meet the 15-year capacity requirement.

**Figure 3.1**  
**San Diego County Annual Rate of Disposal Projection**  
**(Based on Annual Permitted Disposal Tons)**



<sup>3</sup> Figures provided by Allied Waste Industries.

<sup>4</sup> The opening dates and annual permitted tonnages for these landfills are proposed at this time. The Local Enforcement Agency and local land use authority must approve both proposals. Issues and concerns of the region and the adjoining jurisdictions will be addressed during the permitting processes.

**Table 3.4  
San Diego County Landfill Rate of Acceptance  
(Millions of Tons)**

Year	In-County Landfill Rate of Disposal	Existing Annual Permitted Rate of Acceptance	Sycamore Canyon Expansion <sup>2,3</sup>		Proposed Gregory Canyon <sup>3</sup>			
			In-County Excess <sup>1</sup>	Proposed Increase in Rate of Acceptance	In-County Excess <sup>1</sup> (Existing + Sycamore)	Proposed Rate of Acceptance	In-County Excess <sup>1</sup> (Existing + Gregory)	In-County Excess <sup>1</sup> (Existing + Sycamore + Gregory)
1995	2.4							
1996	2.4							
1997	2.5							
1998	2.7							
1999	2.8							
2000	3.2	4.2	1.0					
2001	3.6	4.2	0.6					
2002	3.5	4.2	0.7					
2003	3.6	4.2	0.6					
2004	3.8	4.2	0.5					
2005	3.8	4.2	0.4	0.5	1.0			1.0
2006	3.9	4.1	0.2	0.5	0.7	0.6	0.8	1.3
2007	4.1	4.1	0.0	0.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	1.2
2008	4.3	4.1	-0.1	0.5	0.4	0.6	0.5	1.0
2009	4.4	4.1	-0.3	0.5	0.3	0.6	0.3	0.9
2010	4.6	4.1	-0.4	0.5	0.1	0.6	0.2	0.7
2011	4.7	2.7	-2.0	2.7	0.8	0.6	-1.4	1.4
2012	4.9	2.7	-2.1	2.7	0.6	0.6	-1.5	1.2
2013	5.0	2.7	-2.3	2.7	0.5	0.6	-1.7	1.1
2014	5.2	2.7	-2.4	2.7	0.3	0.6	-1.8	0.9
2015	5.3	2.7	-2.6	2.7	0.2	0.6	-2.0	0.8
2016	5.5	2.7	-2.7	2.7	0.0	0.6	-2.1	0.6
2017	5.6	2.7	-2.9	2.7	-0.2	0.6	-2.3	0.4
2018	5.8	2.7	-3.0	2.7	-0.3	0.6	-2.4	0.3
2019	5.9	2.7	-3.2	2.7	-0.5	0.6	-2.6	0.1
2020	6.1	2.7	-3.3	2.7	-0.6	0.6	-2.7	0.0

(1) Excess is calculated: [Existing Physical Capacity + Proposed Capacity – Rate of Disposal]. The difference is defined as the additional tons per year that could be handled.

(2) The tentatively reserved Sycamore Canyon Landfill expansion scenario in this document increases the current permitted 3,300 tons per day (tpd) to 5,000 tpd in 2005 and 12,000 tpd in 2011 (Allied Waste, Inc. personal communication, January, 2003). Allied Waste, Inc has also suggested a scenario to increase the daily permit to 6,000 tpd upon approval, with an increase in 2011 to a maximum of 9,400 tpd. Subsequent increases in disposal limits would be in 2016 to 10,700 tpd, 11,800 tpd in 2021, and to 13,000 tpd in 2026.

(3) The opening dates, daily and annual permitted tonnages for these landfills are proposed at this time. The Local Enforcement Agency and local land use authority must approve both proposals. Issues and concerns of the region and the adjoining jurisdictions will be addressed during the permitting processes.

# CHAPTER 4

## EXISTING DISPOSAL FACILITIES AND EXPANSIONS

### **Purpose and Requirements**

This chapter includes a description and location map of each solid waste disposal facility within the county that has a state Solid Waste Facility Permit. Specific requirements for the content of this chapter are contained in CCR Section 18755.5(a) and (b).

The Siting Element identifies existing disposal facilities and other alternatives, such as new facilities, transfer out of the region, and/or additional waste reduction, to assure 15 years of disposal capacity. Chapter Four describes the existing facilities and their possible expansions.

### **Existing Solid Waste Disposal Facilities**

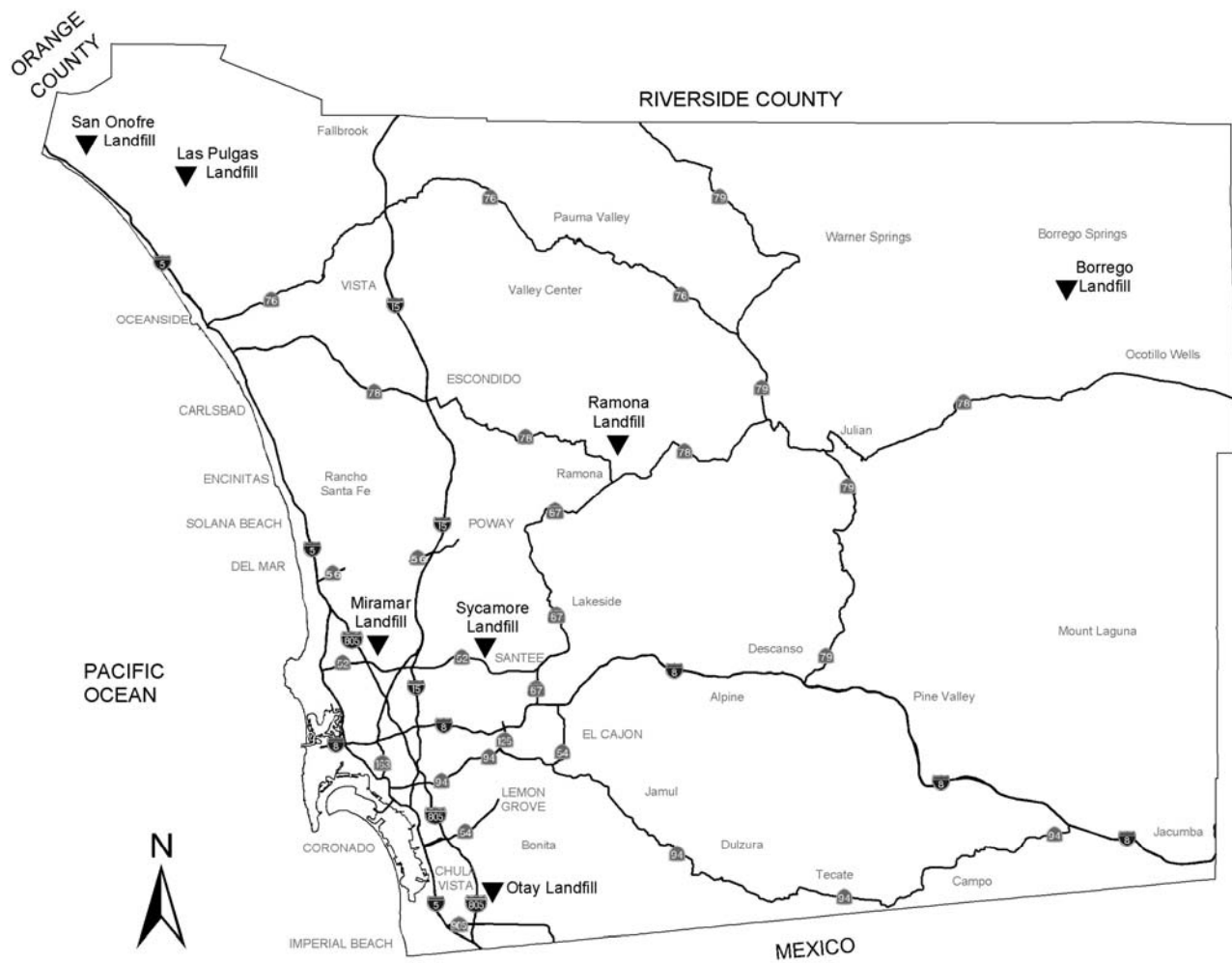
There are seven existing landfills in San Diego County. Five accept municipal solid waste and Las Pulgas and San Onofre only accept military waste. Of the five landfills that accept municipal solid waste, four are privately owned and operated by Allied Waste Industries, Inc. The fifth, Miramar Landfill, is operated by the City of San Diego, on land owned by the United States Navy.

The existing landfills, their owners, operators and remaining capacity as of May 2002 are shown in Table 4-1. Tonnage and cubic yard conversions are based on individual compaction rates provided by the landfill operators. The general location of these existing landfills is shown in Figure 4.1 followed by a Fact Sheet on each, including a description of any expansion, and an individual landfill site location map (Figures 4.2 through 4.8). The current Solid Waste Facility Permit lists specific waste types accepted at each landfill.

**Table 4.1  
Existing Landfills in San Diego County**

<b>Landfill</b>	<b>Owner</b>	<b>Operator</b>	<b>Current Remaining Capacity (cubic yards)</b>	<b>Current Remaining Capacity (May 2002) (tons)</b>
<b>Borrego</b>	Allied Waste Industries, Inc.	Borrego Landfill, Inc.	491,000	147,300
<b>Miramar</b>	United States Navy	City of San Diego	21,618,249	13,835,679
<b>Otay</b>	Allied Waste Industries, Inc.	Otay Landfill, Inc.	42,346,170	31,336,166
<b>Ramona</b>	Allied Waste Industries, Inc.	Ramona Landfill, Inc.	589,100	294,550
<b>Sycamore</b>	Allied Waste Industries, Inc.	Sycamore Landfill, Inc.	24,000,000	17,280,000
<b>Las Pulgas</b>	US Marine Corps	US Marine Corps	9,038,158	5,422,895
<b>San Onofre</b>	US Marine Corps	US Marine Corps	1,409,193	563,677
		<b>Total All Landfills</b>	<b>99,491,870</b>	<b>68,880,267</b>
		<b>Las Pulgas and San Onofre</b>	<b>-10,447,351</b>	<b>-5,986,572</b>
		<b>Remaining Capacity</b>	<b>89,044,519</b>	<b>62,893,695</b>

**Figure 4.1  
Landfill General Locations in San Diego County**



## West Miramar Landfill Fact Sheet

### 1. FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name	West Miramar Landfill
Facility Owner	United States Navy
Facility Operator	City of San Diego Environmental Services
Department	

### 2. PERMIT INFORMATION

Solid Waste Facility	37-AA-0020
Date of Last Permit Review	21-Nov-00
Permit Review Due Date	21-Nov-06
Permitted Remaining Capacity	21,618,249 cubic yards
Permitted Remaining Capacity	13,835,679 tons
Estimate of Remaining Site Life <sup>5</sup>	2011 (if current rate of use continues)

### 3. MAXIMUM PERMITTED RATE OF DISPOSAL

Daily	8,000 tons
Yearly	1,400,000 tons

### 4. AVERAGE RATE OF DAILY WASTE RECEIPT

Tons	3,500
Cubic yards	5,469 (1 cubic yard = 0.64 tons)

### 5. PERMITTED WASTE TYPES

 Class III Landfill<sup>6</sup>

In addition, the City of San Diego has a recycling center, household hazardous waste drop-off facility, and extensive composting, mulching, chipping and grinding facility adjacent to the landfill.

### 6. FUTURE LAND USE

 Open Space

### 7. EXPANSION DESCRIPTION<sup>7</sup>

 Currently the City of San Diego is considering its options regarding vertical expansion of the Miramar Landfill. Miramar Landfill has the potential for

<sup>5</sup> City of San Diego LEA Permit (1999).

<sup>6</sup> A Class III Landfill is lined, and accepts domestic and commercial solid waste, but not hazardous materials.

<sup>7</sup> Communication, Environmental Services Department, City of San Diego, dated March 18, 2003.

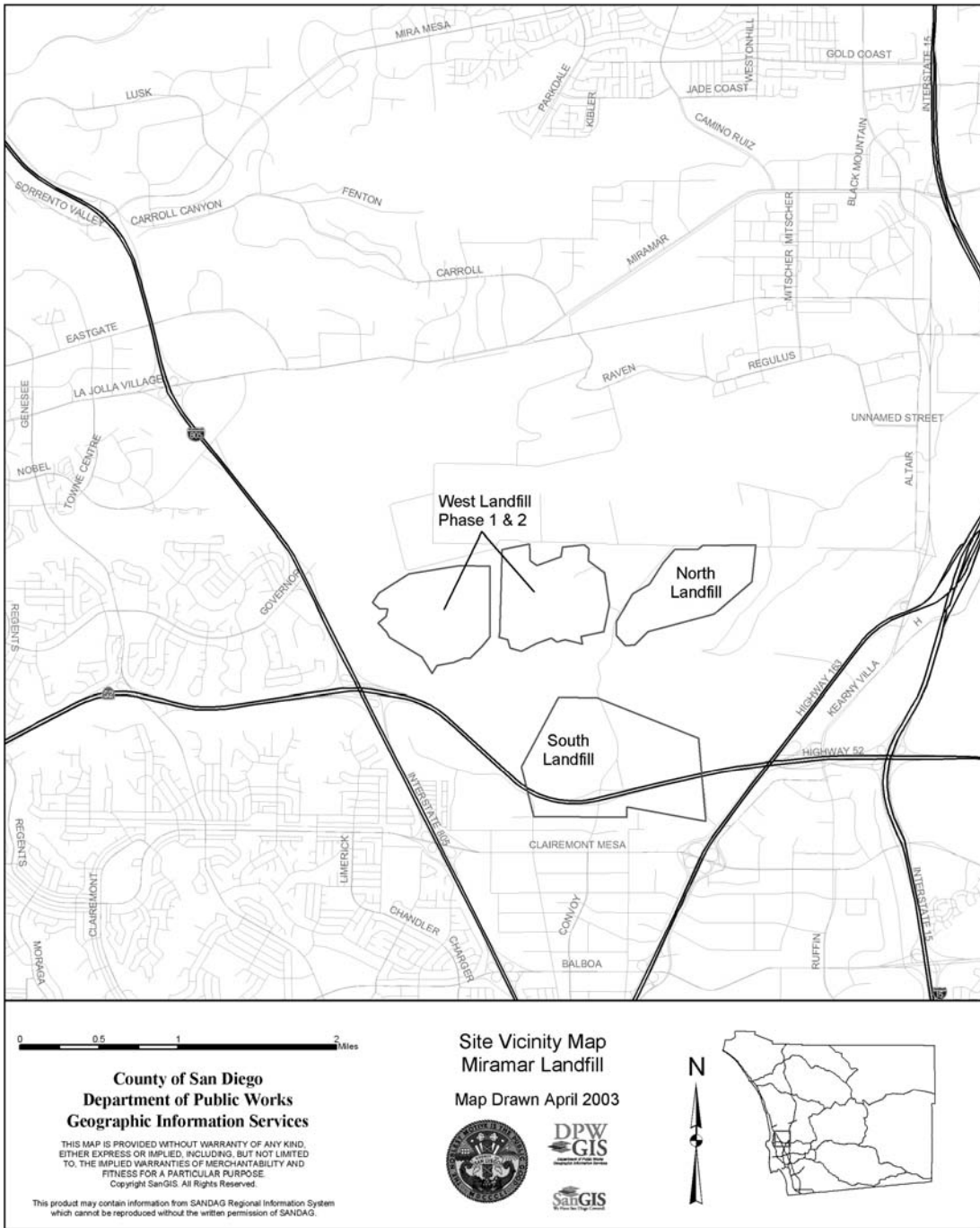


WEST MIRAMAR  
EXPANSION CONTINUED

vertical expansion to extend its capacity to accept waste for an additional three to ten years, depending on final elevation. Should the City of San Diego decide to consider this option, the United States Navy, owner of the property, would be asked to approve a lease amendment to permit a change in the final elevation of the site.

Should the decision be made to pursue this proposed expansion, a Solid Waste Facility Permit application would be filed with the LEA, along with the requisite environmental documentation.

**Figure 4.2  
Miramar Landfill Vicinity Map**



## Sycamore Canyon Landfill Fact Sheet

### 1. FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name	Sycamore Landfill
Facility Owner	Allied Waste Industries, Inc.
Facility Operator	Sycamore Landfill, Incorporated

### 2. PERMIT INFORMATION

Solid Waste Facility	37-AA-0023
Date of Last Permit Review	2-Aug-99
Permit Review Due Date	2-Aug-04
Permitted Remaining Capacity	24,000,000 cubic yards
Permitted Remaining Capacity	17,280,000 tons
Estimate of Remaining Site Life	2017 (if current rate of use continues)

### 3. MAXIMUM PERMITTED RATE OF DISPOSAL<sup>8</sup>

Daily	3,300 tons
Yearly	909,996 tons (calculated at 75,833 tons per month)

### 4. AVERAGE RATE OF DAILY WASTE RECEIPT

Tons	3,300 tons
Cubic yards	4,583 (1 cubic yard = 0.72 tons)

### 5. PERMITTED WASTE TYPES

Class III Landfill

In addition, there are chipping and grinding activities at the landfill. There is also a private household recycling center located next to the landfill.

### 6. FUTURE LAND USE

Open Space

### 7. EXPANSION DESCRIPTION

Sycamore Landfill Inc. and Allied Waste of North America have applied to the City of San Diego for a Planned Development Permit, Site Development Permit, and a Community Plan Amendment to expand the Sycamore Canyon Landfill and to allow ancillary development on ten parcels of land that are outside of the current landfill boundary.

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<sup>8</sup> City of San Diego LEA Permit (1999). Allied Waste Industries has proposed that daily permitted disposal tonnage may be increased to 5000 tons per day in 2004-2005, then to 12,000 tons per day in 2010-2011.

SYCAMORE CANYON  
EXPANSION CONTINUED

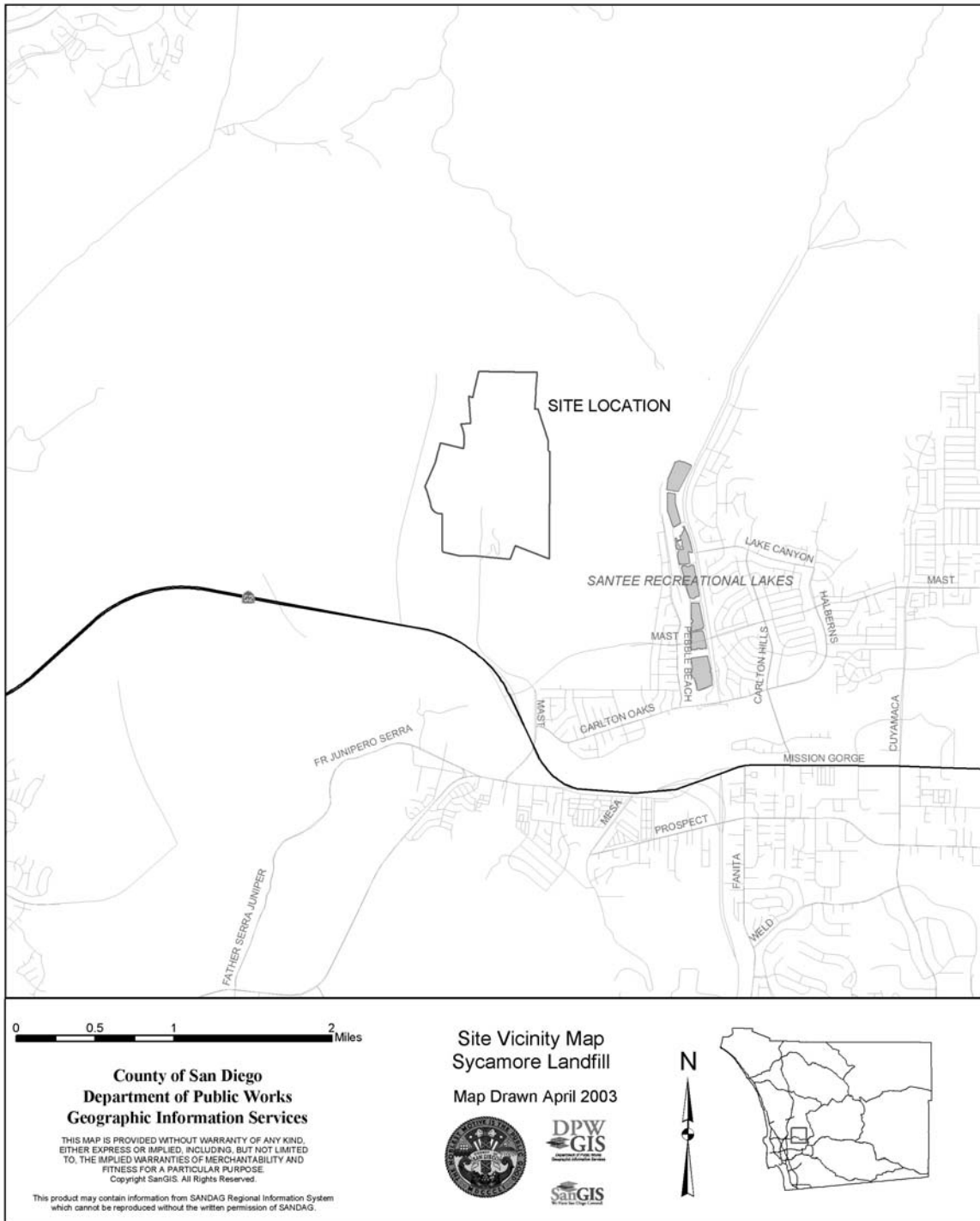
Increased daily tonnages must be approved by the Local Enforcement Agency and local land use authority. Issues and concerns of the region and the adjoining jurisdictions will be considered and addressed during the permitting processes.

The proposal includes a staged expansion of annual and daily permitted tonnage over time. The first increase in permitted disposal tonnage could occur about 2005 from the current 3,300 tons per day to 5,000 tons per day. The second increase in 2011 could increase the daily throughput to 12,000 tons per day<sup>9</sup>. This tentatively reserved expansion could result in an estimated ultimate capacity at Sycamore of about 162 million cubic yards.

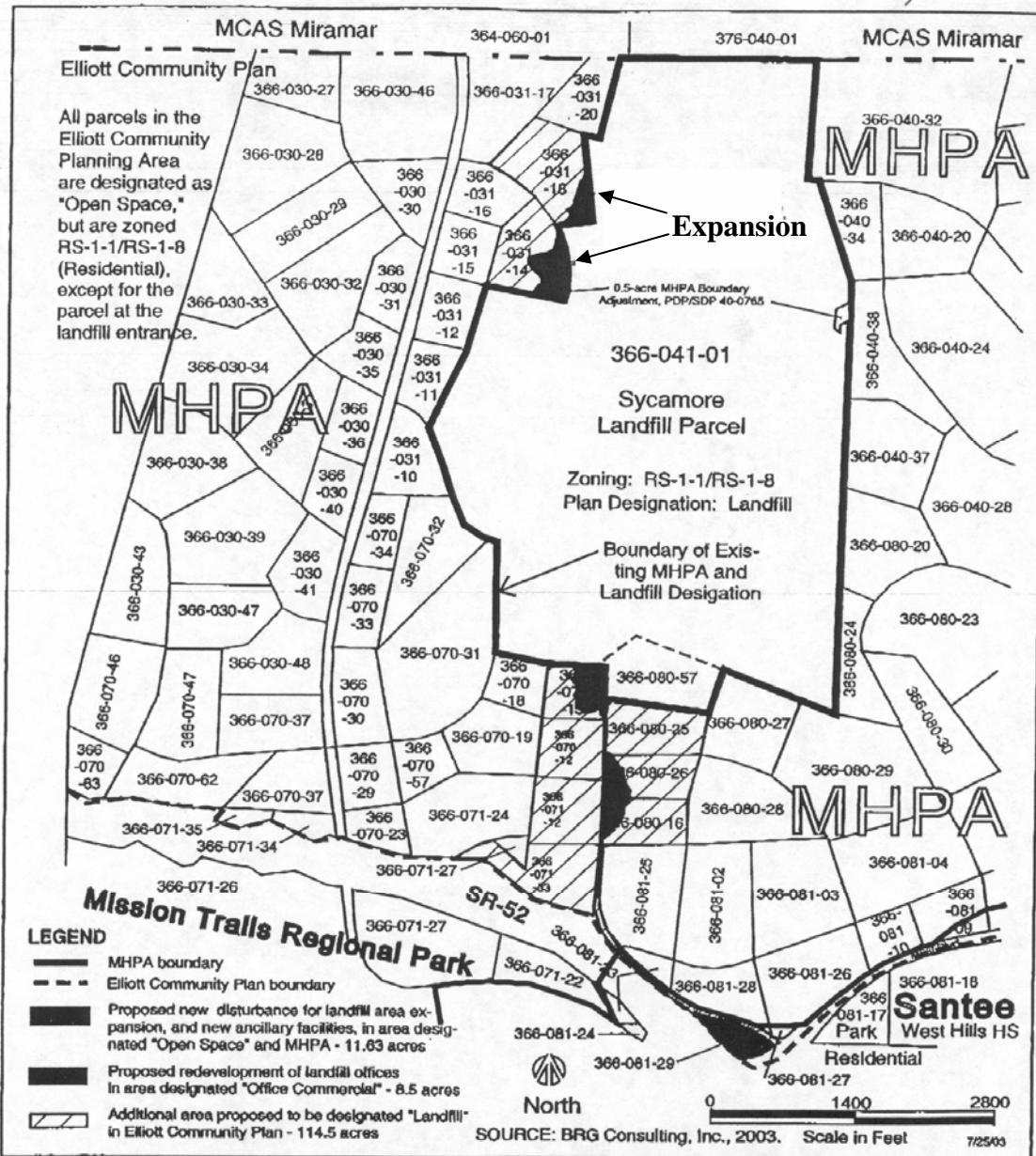
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<sup>9</sup> Figures provided by Allied Waste Industry. Allied Waste, Inc has also suggested a scenario to increase the daily permit to 6,000 tpd upon approval, with an increase in 2011 to a maximum of 9,400 tpd. Subsequent increases in disposal limits would be in 2016 to 10,700tpd , 11,800 tpd in 2021, and to 13,000 tpd in 2026.

**Figure 4.3**  
**Sycamore Canyon Landfill Vicinity Map**



**Figure 4.3a**  
**Sycamore Canyon Tentatively Reserved Expansion Map**



**Proposed Additional Area to be Designated "Landfill" in Elliott Community Plan**

## Otay Annex Landfill Fact Sheet

### 1. FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name	Otay Annex Landfill
Facility Owner	Allied Waste Industries, Inc.
Facility Operator	Otay Landfill, Inc.

### 2. PERMIT INFORMATION

Solid Waste Facility	37-AA-0010
Date of Last Permit Review	20-Dec-00
Permit Review Due Date	20-Dec-05
Permitted Remaining Capacity	42,346,170 cubic yards
Permitted Remaining Capacity	31,336,166 tons
Estimate of Remaining Site Life	2027 (if current rate of use continues)

### 3. MAXIMUM PERMITTED RATE OF DISPOSAL

Daily	5000 tons
Yearly	1,825,000 tons (calculated at 365 days per year)

### 4. AVERAGE RATE OF DAILY WASTE RECEIPT

Tons	2,260 (base data used was FY 2000)
Cubic yards	3,774 (1 cubic yard = 0.74 tons)

### 5. PERMITTED WASTE TYPES

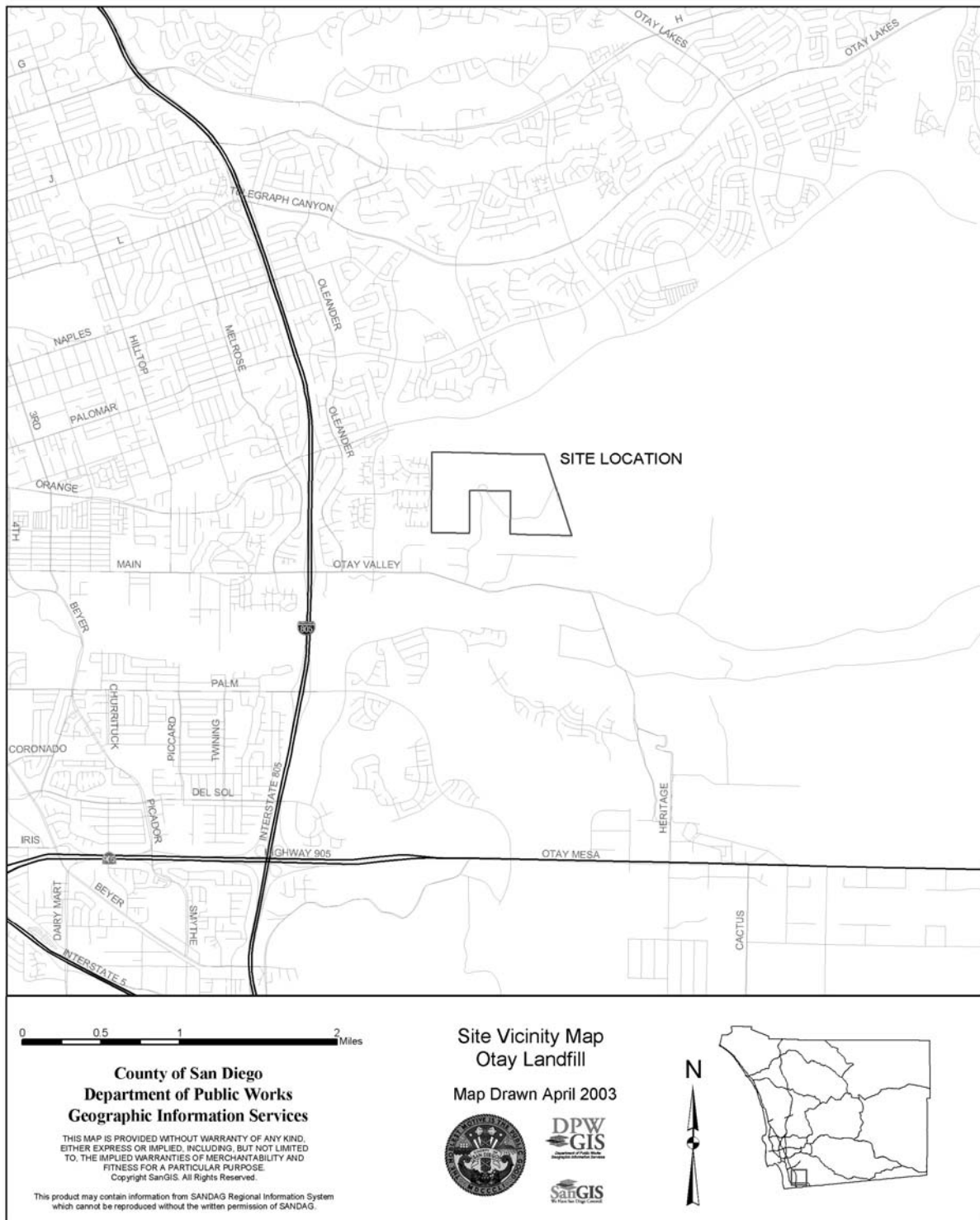
Class III Landfill

In addition, there are chipping and grinding activities at the landfill.

### 6. FUTURE LAND USE

Open Space

**Figure 4.4  
Otay Landfill Vicinity Map**





## Ramona Landfill Fact Sheet

### 1. FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name	Ramona Landfill
Facility Owner	Allied Waste Industries, Inc.
Facility Operator	Ramona Landfill, Inc.

### 2. PERMIT INFORMATION

Solid Waste Facility	37-AA-0005
Date of Last Permit Review	29-Dec-00
Permit Review Due Date	29-Dec-05
Permitted Remaining Capacity	589,100 cubic yards
Permitted Remaining Capacity	294,550 tons
Estimate of Remaining Site Life	2006 (if current rate of use continues)

### 3. MAXIMUM PERMITTED RATE OF DISPOSAL

Daily	295 tons	
per year)	Yearly	75,815 tons (calculated at 257 days)

### 4. AVERAGE RATE OF DAILY WASTE RECEIPT

Tons	190 tons/day (base data used was Feb. 1999 calculated on 6 days/week)
Cubic yards	113.8 (1 cubic yard = 0.5 tons)

### 5. PERMITTED WASTE TYPES

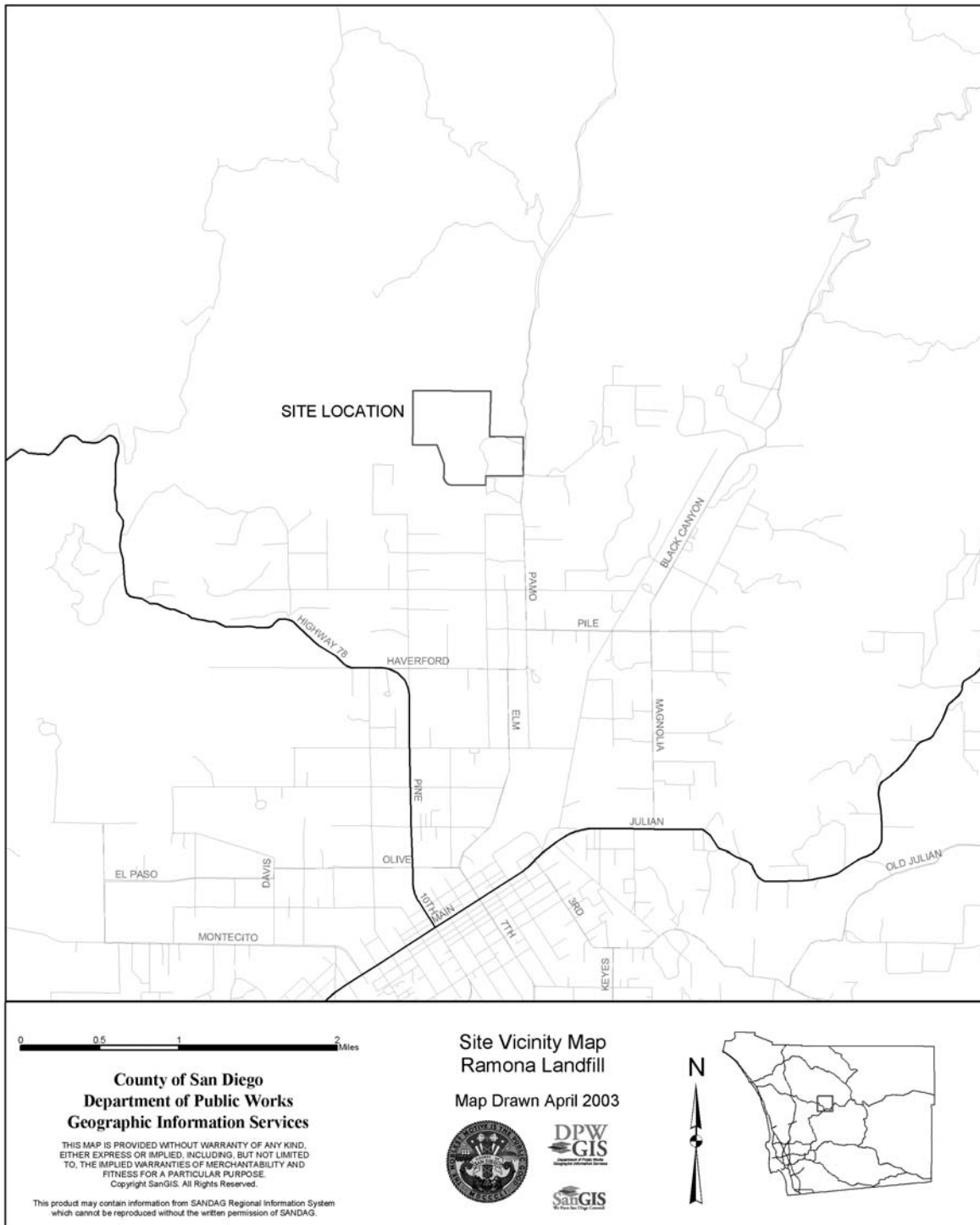
Class III Landfill

In addition, there are chipping and grinding activities at the landfill.

### 6. FUTURE LAND USE

Open Space

**Figure 4.5  
Ramona Landfill Vicinity Map**



## Borrego Springs Landfill Fact Sheet

### 1. FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name	Borrego Springs Landfill
Facility Owner	Allied Waste Industries, Inc.
Facility Operator	Borrego Landfill, Inc.

### 2. PERMIT INFORMATION

Solid Waste Facility	37-AA-0006
Date of Last Permit Review	4-Dec-92
Permit Review Due Date	20-Oct-02
Permitted Remaining Capacity	392,000 cubic yards
Permitted Remaining Capacity	117,600 tons
Estimate of Remaining Site Life	2040 (if current rate of use continues)

### 3. MAXIMUM PERMITTED RATE OF DISPOSAL

Daily	50 tons
Yearly	12,700 tons (calculated on a 112 days per year)

### 4. AVERAGE RATE OF DAILY WASTE RECEIPT

Tons	24 (base data used was FY 2000 calculated on 3 days/week)
Cubic yards	40 (1 cubic yard = 0.3 tons)

### 5. PERMITTED WASTE TYPES

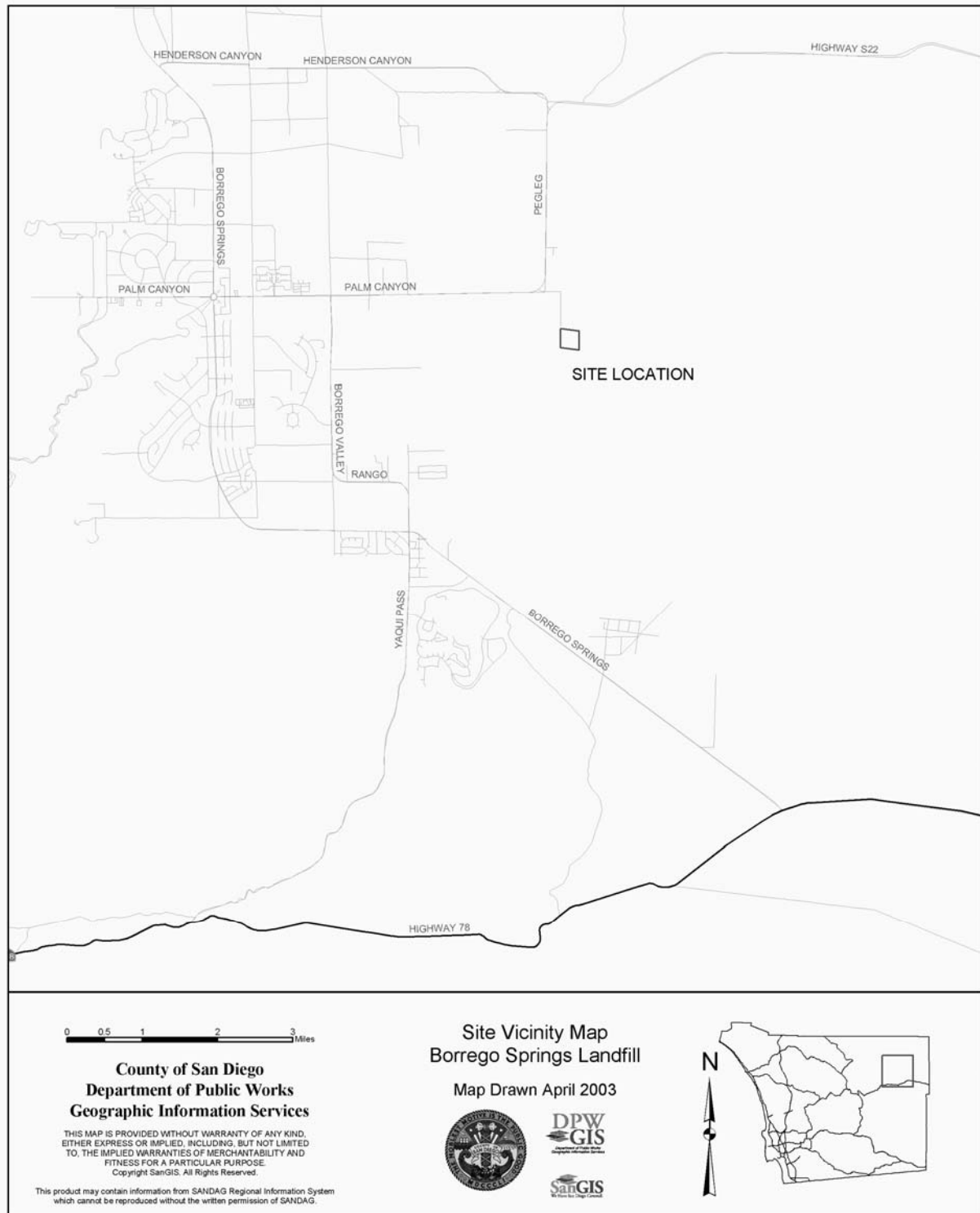
Class III Landfill

In addition, there are chipping and grinding activities at the landfill.

### 6. FUTURE LAND USE

Open Space

**Figure 4.6  
Borrego Springs Landfill Vicinity Map**



## Las Pulgas Landfill Fact Sheet

### 1. FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name	Las Pulgas Landfill
Facility Owner	US Marine Corps
Facility Operator	United States Marine Corps Camp Pendleton

### 2. PERMIT INFORMATION

Solid Waste Facility	37-AA-0903
Date of Last Permit Review	23-Nov-98
Permit Review Due Date	23-Nov-03
Permitted Remaining Capacity	9,038,158 cubic yards
Permitted Remaining Capacity	5,422,895 tons
Estimate of Remaining Site Life	2184 (if current rate of use continues)

### 3. MAXIMUM PERMITTED RATE OF DISPOSAL

Daily	270 tons
Yearly	70,200 tons (calculated at 260 days per year)

### 4. AVERAGE RATE OF DAILY WASTE RECEIPT

Tons	81 (base data used was calendar year 1993 furnished by the USMC)
Cubic yards	126 (1 cubic yard = 0.6 tons)

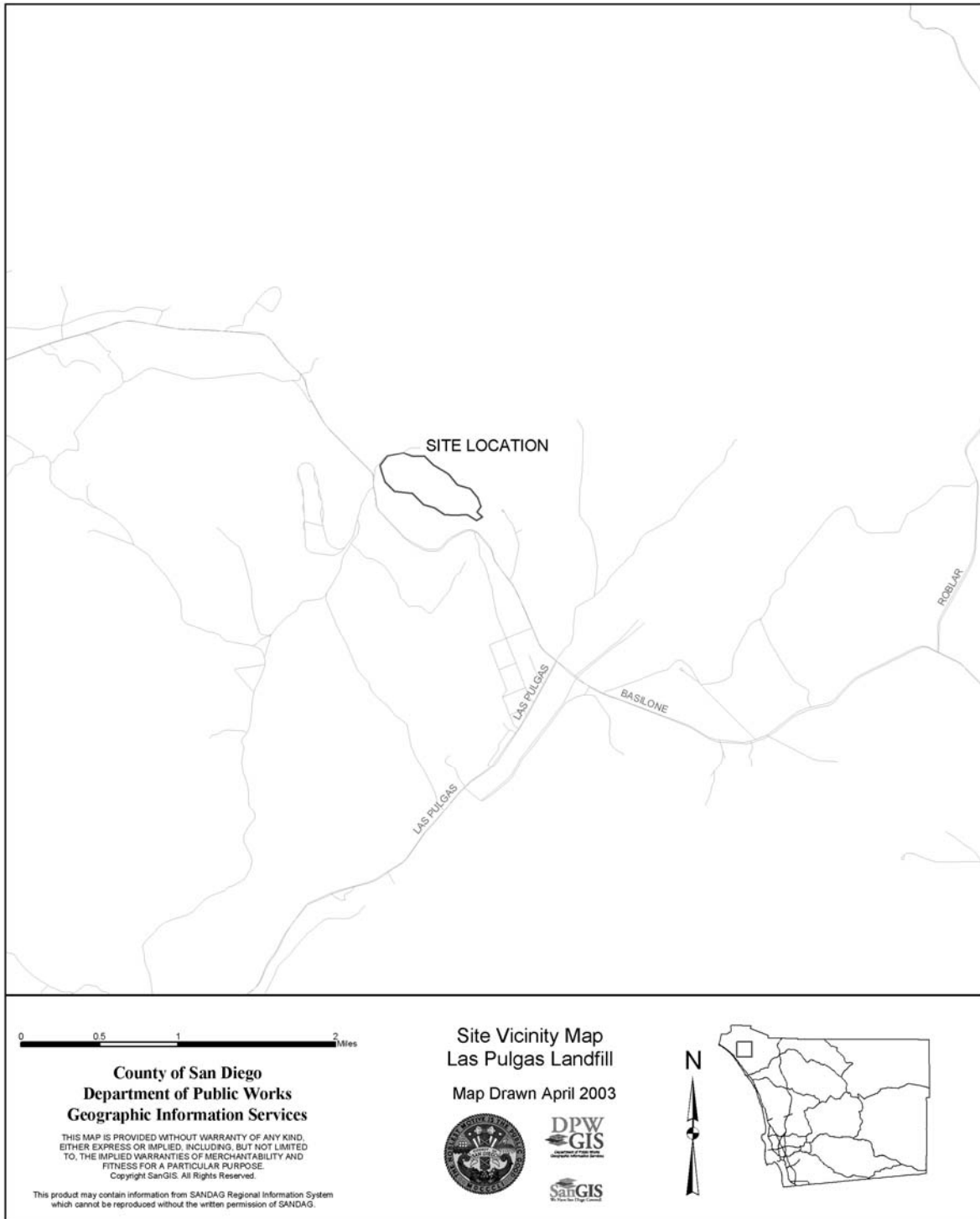
### 5. PERMITTED WASTE TYPES

Class III Landfill

### 6. FUTURE LAND USE

Artillery Area

**Figure 4.7  
Las Pulgas Landfill Vicinity Map**



## San Onofre Landfill Fact Sheet

### 1. FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name	San Onofre Landfill
Facility Owner	US Marine Corps
Facility Operator	United States Marine Corps Camp Pendleton

### 2. PERMIT INFORMATION

Solid Waste Facility	37-AA-0902
Date of Last Permit Review	4-Mar-99
Permit Review Due Date	4-Mar-04
Permitted Remaining Capacity	1,409,193 cubic yards
Permitted Remaining Capacity	563,677 tons
Estimate of Remaining Site Life	2257 (if current rate of use continues)

### 3. MAXIMUM PERMITTED RATE OF DISPOSAL

Daily	50 tons
Yearly	5,200 tons (Calculated at 104 days per year)

### 4. AVERAGE RATE OF DAILY WASTE RECEIPT

Tons	15 (base data used was calendar year 1993 furnished by the USMC)
Cubic yards	23 (1 cubic yard = 0.4 tons)

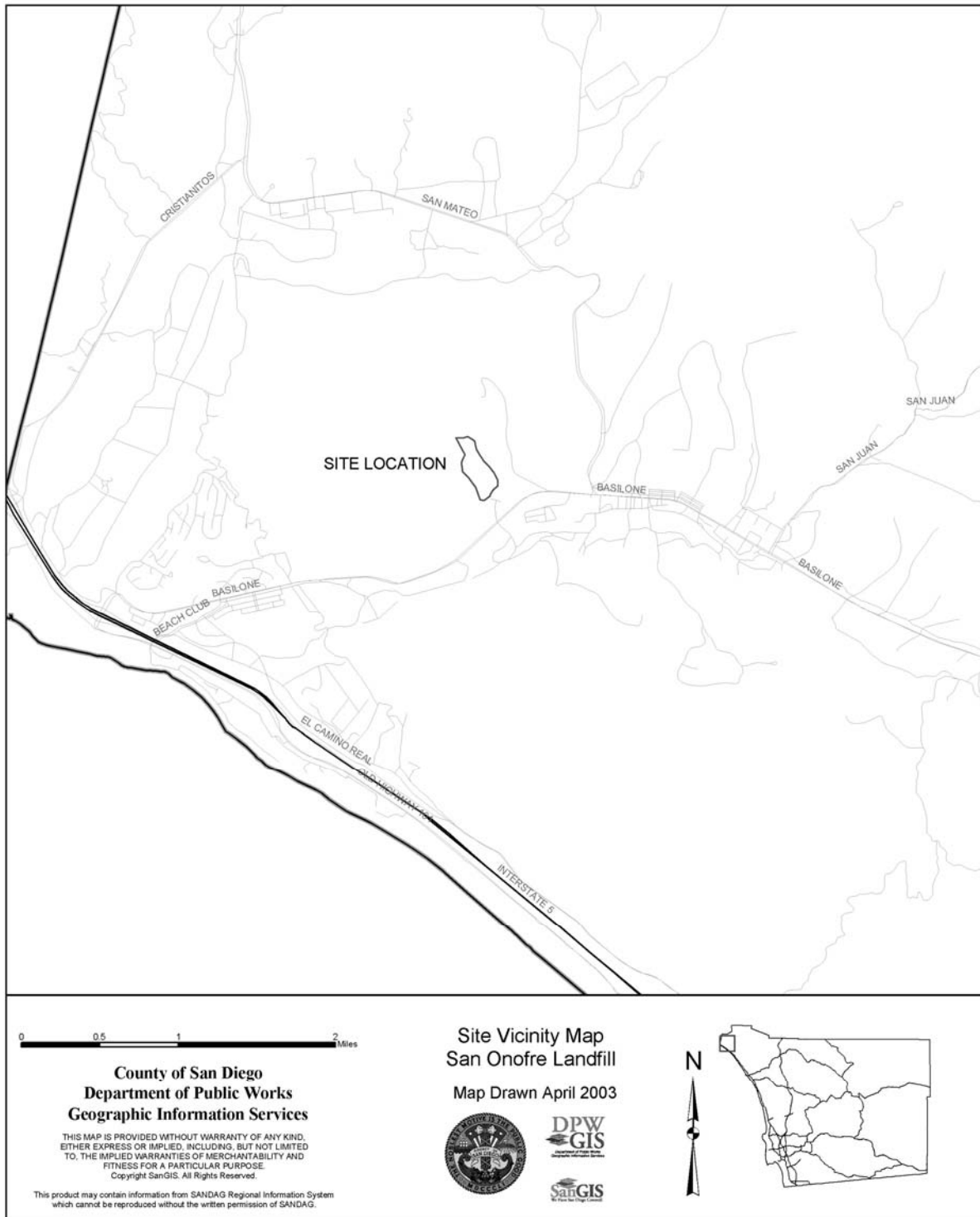
### 5. PERMITTED WASTE TYPES

Class III Landfill

### 6. FUTURE LAND USE

Artillery Area

**Figure 4.8**  
**San Onofre Landfill Vicinity Map**





# CHAPTER 5

## SITING CRITERIA

### **Purpose and Requirements**

Chapter Five sets forth criteria for the evaluation of new or expanded solid waste disposal facilities. Specific requirements for the Siting Criteria are contained in CCR Section 18756.

### **The Siting Process**

Siting a new solid waste disposal facility or a major expansion is an intensive and lengthy process. Areas of suitability are successively identified and evaluated. The use of established criteria ensures the objectivity of the site selection process.

When the jurisdictions of San Diego County completed several landfill siting studies in the mid 1990s, they established criteria to evaluate potential landfill sites within their jurisdictions. The criteria were developed with extensive input from the communities. Additionally, a Siting Study Advisory Committee reevaluated and refined the siting study criteria and incorporated into the 1997 Siting Element. This Amendment further refines the criteria, which will be used to assess new candidate landfill sites. If future candidate sites don't pass the criteria, a jurisdiction may choose to drop the site from further consideration, unless potential environmental impacts can be mitigated and/or overriding considerations prevail. Consideration of a landfill by a jurisdiction using the siting criteria would be followed by an in-depth environmental analysis as required by The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), and on federal lands by The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Construction and operation permits cannot be issued without review through the environmental process.

### **Approval by Local Agencies**

All disposal facilities in the county must be included in this Siting Element Amendment. Proposals for new or expanded facilities not appearing in the Siting Element require that an amendment to the Siting Element be filed with the County Department of Public Works, which is responsible for administration of the Element. New proposals must include a full project description, along with a request to amend the Element.<sup>10</sup>

When disposal facilities are proposed within an incorporated area, the local land use procedures of the appropriate jurisdiction within which the facility is proposed, and the provisions of applicable laws, will govern the permitting requirement.

Each jurisdiction in the county will be requested to act upon the Siting Element and its amendments. The county and a majority of the cities with a majority of the incorporated population must approve any amendment. Failure by any city or county governing body to act

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<sup>10</sup> County of San Diego Correspondence June 9, 1997.

upon a Siting Element or an amendment within 90 days from the date of the recommendation of the Local Task Force is considered as an approval. The resolutions from the jurisdictions will be placed in an appendix to the Siting Element.

### **Disposal Facility Siting Criteria**

This section describes criteria for evaluating proposed new and expanded solid waste disposal facilities. The categories of criteria required by the CIWMB in CCR Title 14, Div.7, Ch.9, Art.6.5, Sect.18756 are included within the criteria of this Siting Element Amendment.

The Section 18756 criteria are consistent with the Goals, Policies and Implementation Tasks described in Chapter 9, in particular under Facility Management (3). The county, cities, regional agency, and member agencies approving the Siting Element may include additional criteria.

### **Evaluation Criteria**

The proposed site evaluation consists of a general analysis of the sites' suitability for proposed landfill uses. Ten categories of evaluation criteria are to be used. Categories and corresponding sub-categories are outlined in Table 5-1, followed by a description of how each category will be evaluated.

In addition to the evaluation criteria, all landfill disposal projects, public or private, are required to obtain operating permits, local land use approval, and a solid waste facility permit. Landfill disposal facility projects must comply with the (CEQA), unless they are located on federal or tribal lands. In the latter instances, the projects must comply with (NEPA), where there is a federal involvement requiring major federal action.

**Table 5.1  
County of San Diego Landfill Siting Evaluation Criteria**

<b>CATEGORIES OF EVALUATION</b>	<b>SUB-CATEGORIES OF EVALUATION</b>
GROUNDWATER and AQUIFERS	Natural Protection Groundwater Quality Depth to Groundwater Depletion Potentials, Quality Potentials, and Current Use Evidence of Faulting
SURFACE WATER	Beneficial Surface Water Site Runoff Sources Water Bodies Precipitation
FLOODPLAINS	Floodplains
SEISMIC STABILITY	Active Faults Landslides and Slumping Liquefaction
BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES	Threatened or Endangered Species Rare or Sensitive Species Ecosystem Integrity
CULTURAL RESOURCES	Cultural Resources
AESTHETIC	Visibility Noise Odors Vibrations
LAND USE	Adjacent Land Use Buffer Area Proximity to Airports, Passenger Railroads, Hospitals and Schools Current Site Use
HEALTH AND SAFETY	Groundwater Protection Proximity to Aqueducts Air Quality Vector Control, and other Factors listed in the text
TECHNICAL SITE SUITABILITY	Hauler Route Network Access Routes Proximity to Airports Site Soils Site Capacity

## Evaluation Criteria to be Used in Landfill Site Evaluations

### Criterion No. 1 - Groundwater and Aquifers

The purpose of this criterion is to protect groundwater resources in the state. Alluvial aquifers and fractured rock aquifers are particularly sensitive to degradation; therefore, proposed sites which include these features are considered less desirable than sites without them.

- **Natural Protection:** Addresses the amount of natural protection that site geological conditions provide to groundwater. The application of this criterion involves the estimation of site substrate permeability, thickness during site reconnaissance, and potential for alternate design of the liner system.
- **Groundwater Quality:** Proposed projects must rate the quality of existing groundwater resources underlying the site. Sites with poor groundwater are more desirable than sites with good quality groundwater.
- **Depth to Groundwater:** Addresses the vertical and horizontal distance to groundwater. The deeper the groundwater, the more effective natural protection becomes. Baseline monitoring is requisite during site analysis of groundwater.
- **Depletion Potentials, Quality Potentials, and Current Use:** Considering present and projected use, groundwater potentials for depletion must be determined at each landfill site. Potential for water quality change by the project must be estimated.
- **Evidence of Faulting:** The existence of fault dislocations, and their disrupting effect on bedrock geology, must be considered as factors to maintaining the integrity of groundwater at candidate sites for landfills. Each proposed landfill must be evaluated for faults on, or adjacent to the site.

### Criterion No. 2 - Surface Water

**Beneficial Surface Water:** The Clean Water Act National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) regulations require any discharges of run-off from landfills achieve strict water quality standards.

- **Site runoff sources:** Addresses sources of surface water crossing a proposed landfill site that could increase the potential for negative impacts on water quality. The presence of water springs at landfills poses a major threat to water quality. Perennial streams crossing the site will be more difficult to effectively mitigate and comply with NPDES than intermittent drainages.
- **Precipitation:** This criterion evaluates the amount of precipitation at the site. Precipitation can penetrate landfill cover and lead to the creation of leachate. It can also erode landfill surfaces by causing run-on and run-off. Sites with low annual precipitation generally present low erosion potentials to landfills.

### **Criterion No. 3- Floodplains**

Title 23 Section 2533 of the California Code of Regulations and 40 CFR 257.3-1, specify that Class III landfills cannot be sited within a 100-year floodplain. Proximity to floodplains must be determined for proposed landfill sites. Measures to ensure safety must be developed and implemented.

Proposed projects must determine the flow volumes that would result from a 100-year frequency storm event occurring on the contributing watershed. Sites with low flow volumes would require less run-on/run-off controls than sites prone to flooding.

### **Criterion No. 4 - Seismic Stability**

- Active Faults: Seismic events in areas with active faults can threaten the integrity of landfills, and be associated with landslides, slumping and liquefaction. When engineering mitigation is not possible because of fault lines, sites should be eliminated from consideration. Each proposed landfill must be evaluated for faults on, or adjacent to the site.

### **Criterion No. 5 – Biological Resources**

Biological resources are to be considered when evaluating potential landfill sites. Numerous local, state and federal agencies and laws regulate proposed activities that can affect biological resources. Some of the agencies are the Army Corps of Engineers, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Environmental Protection Agency, and California Department of Fish and Game, plus jurisdiction planning and environmental services departments. Local Multiple Species Conservation Programs and Habitat Conservation Plans provide guidance for project evaluations of impacts on biological resources.

- Threatened and Endangered Species: Proposed landfills should not be located where there is the known occurrence of threatened or endangered species, if the development would result in impacts that cannot be mitigated to a level of insignificance. Several laws regulate impacts to threatened or endangered species, including California Environment Quality Act (CEQA), the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA).
- Rare and Sensitive Species: Sites should be surveyed for rare and sensitive species and mitigations proposed to minimize impacts (ref. California Native Plant Society, 2003).
- Ecosystem Integrity: Proposed landfill projects must also identify habitats with regard to the presence of unique associations and/or species of local interest and/or economical importance that are not listed as threatened or endangered. Evaluations must consider the degree to which habitats would be impacted and the extent to

which it could be enhanced, replaced, or protected in other areas as mitigation for disturbances on the landfill site.

### **Criterion No. 6 - Cultural Resources**

The presence and importance of cultural resources on or adjacent to all proposed landfill sites must be determined. All archeological sites must be considered in the siting process pursuant to CEQA, and The National Historic Preservation Act. This criterion recognizes the need to preserve national, state and local registered historical and prehistoric sites, as well as sites known to be eligible for registration. Proposed sites within 1000 feet of a national, state or local register site or sites known, via record searches, to be eligible for registration, are less desirable than locations not in proximity to cultural resources.

### **Criterion No. 7 – Aesthetics**

Weighs the aesthetic impact to the local community.

- Consideration of visibility must be given to the existing environment, the location and number of viewers, state and locally designated scenic highways, and the sensitivity of viewers to aesthetic impacts.
- Odor, noise and vibration potentials must be evaluated at all proposed landfill sites.

### **Criterion No. 8 - Land Use**

- **Adjacent Land Use:** The compatibility of a solid waste facility in the context of General Plan policies, including zoning, degree of build out on adjacent lands, and incompatible uses of adjacent land, must be identified at each proposed landfill site. The following land uses are considered undesirable at proposed landfill sites:
  - Paved state or federal highways, or county circulation element roads,
  - Improved municipal, county or state parks,
  - Residential use on or in proximity to the site,
  - Heavily developed commercial or industrial areas,
  - National Parks, or recreation areas having intensive use,
  - Schools, hospitals and cemeteries.
  - Passenger railroads and airports
- **Extent of Buffer Area:** Considers the potential impacts that landfill operations can have on adjacent land uses, and the need of buffer zones to protect proximal areas.
- **Current Site Use:** Considers the cost to acquire land and the level of potential opposition by landowners.

### **Criterion No. 9 - Health and Safety**

Proposed landfill sites must consider existing health and safety standards for construction, operation, and post closure. Sites must account for assurances to mitigate factors such as fires, run-off, air quality control, vector management, leachate prevention, and least pressure on existing infrastructure. Siting evaluations must consider the protection of ground water quality from leachate.

- Proximity to Aqueducts: Protection of aqueducts is an important consideration in siting landfills, and is subject to the regulations of the Regional Water Quality Control Board.

### **Criterion No. 10 - Technical Site Suitability**

- Hauling Route Networks: Considers the economic feasibility of a facility location in relation to trip distances from sources and the adequacy of access.
- Access Routes: Addresses the potential for environmental impacts caused by truck and rail traffic related to landfill operations, and new developments of access roads.
- Proximity to Airports: Federal regulations pursuant to the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (40CFR 258) specify that no landfill shall be located within specified distances from commercial airport runways. Sites need to meet minimum buffer requirements.
- Site Soils: Proposed landfill sites must evaluate the economic importance of the availability of cover and liner materials throughout the operating life of the landfill. Landfills require soil to cover trash. Sites are ranked on the distance from the site that suitable liner and cover materials are available.
- Site Capacity: The evaluation process must describe the volume and tonnage of waste that could be accommodated at the site.

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# CHAPTER 6

## PROPOSED NEW DISPOSAL FACILITIES

### DESCRIPTION AND LOCATION

#### **Purpose and Requirements**

Chapter Six describes and locates each proposed new disposal facility within the county and describes how each facility contributes to the 15 years of permitted disposal capacity. Specific requirements for the content of Chapter Six in the Siting Element are contained in CCR Sections 18755(c) and 18756.1.

Section 18756.3(a) of the California Code of Regulations requires that a resolution, notarized statement or affidavit, regarding land use consistency of any proposed area be obtained from each affected jurisdiction and included in the Siting Element. New facility sites that are not consistent with the applicable general plan may be included in the Siting Element as “tentatively reserved” sites or expansions in Chapter Seven.

When a site proponent wishes to have a site included in the Siting Element or in any future amendments, a proposal must be presented to the local task force, as required under PRC §50001(c). The description shall include the type of facility, location, size, volumetric capacity of the facility expressed in cubic yards and in tons, life expectancy (years), expansions options of the facility, and post-closure uses.

#### **Further Review Process**

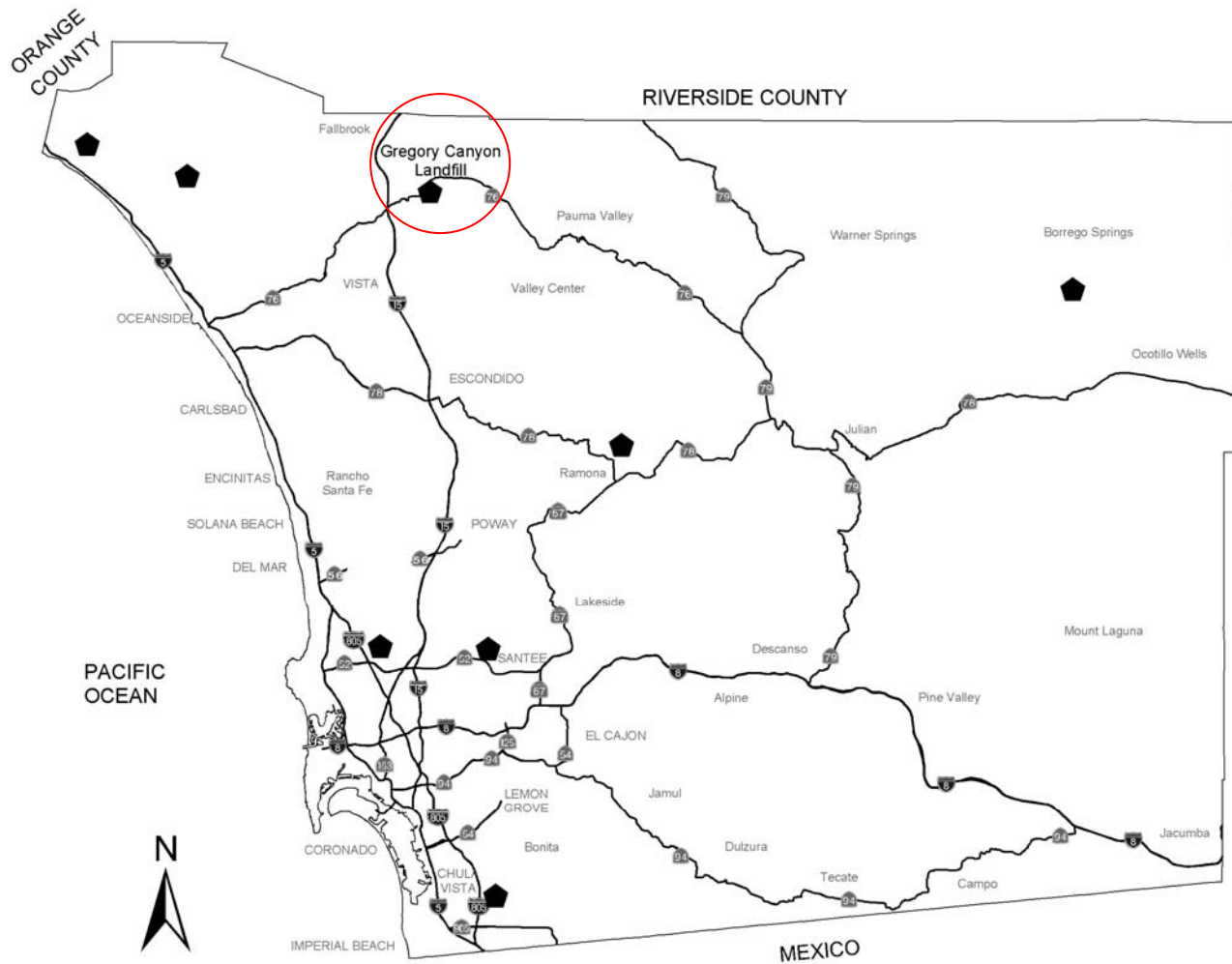
The discussion of proposals in the Countywide Siting Element is only one step in the review and approval process. State and federal environmental review are separate from the Siting Element. The inclusion of a proposed facility in this Element does not substitute for any required review process nor does it guarantee approval of the facility. Each proposed facility in the county is considered individually through the local jurisdiction's land use permitting process, which requires environmental review in accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Proposed landfills on federal or tribal lands are subject to their own specific permitting procedures.

#### **Proposed New Landfills**

At this time, there is one proposed new landfill in San Diego County. Gregory Canyon was a “tentatively reserved” site in the 1997 Siting Element, and is now included as a “proposed” site. Gregory Canyon was incorporated into the County of San Diego's General Plan by a voter initiative on November 8, 1994 as a possible landfill site. It is therefore listed as a proposed site. The County of San Diego's Local Enforcement Agency recently reviewed and certified the Environmental Impact Report. The future date of opening of Gregory Canyon landfill remains uncertain because of opposition to the facility by concerned municipalities, agencies and private parties.

A description and site map for the Gregory Canyon proposal are provided in the following pages.

**Figure 6.1**  
**Proposed Landfill Locations in San Diego County**



## Gregory Canyon Landfill Site Fact Sheet

### 1. FACILITY INFORMATION

Facility Name	Gregory Landfill
Facility Owner	Richard Chase 991 C-404 Lomas Santa Fe Dr. Solana Beach, CA 92075
Facility Operator	Gregory Canyon Ltd. 3 Embarcadero Center Ste 2360 San Francisco, CA 94111
Facility Location	Approximately 3.5 miles east of Interstate 15 in Northern San Diego County

### 2. PERMIT INFORMATION

Solid Waste Facility	37-AA-032
Date of Permit Issue	17-Dec-40
Permitted Remaining Capacity	49.5 million cubic yards
Permitted Remaining Capacity	33.4 million tons
Estimate of Site Life Expectancy	30 years

### 3. MAXIMUM PERMITTED RATE OF DISPOSAL

Daily	3,200 tons
Daily Peak	5,000 tons

### 4. AVERAGE RATE OF DAILY WASTE RECEIPT

Tons	1,950
Cubic yards	2,889

### 5. PERMITTED WASTE TYPES

Class III Landfill

In addition, a recyclable goods center is planned at the site.

### 6. FUTURE LAND USE

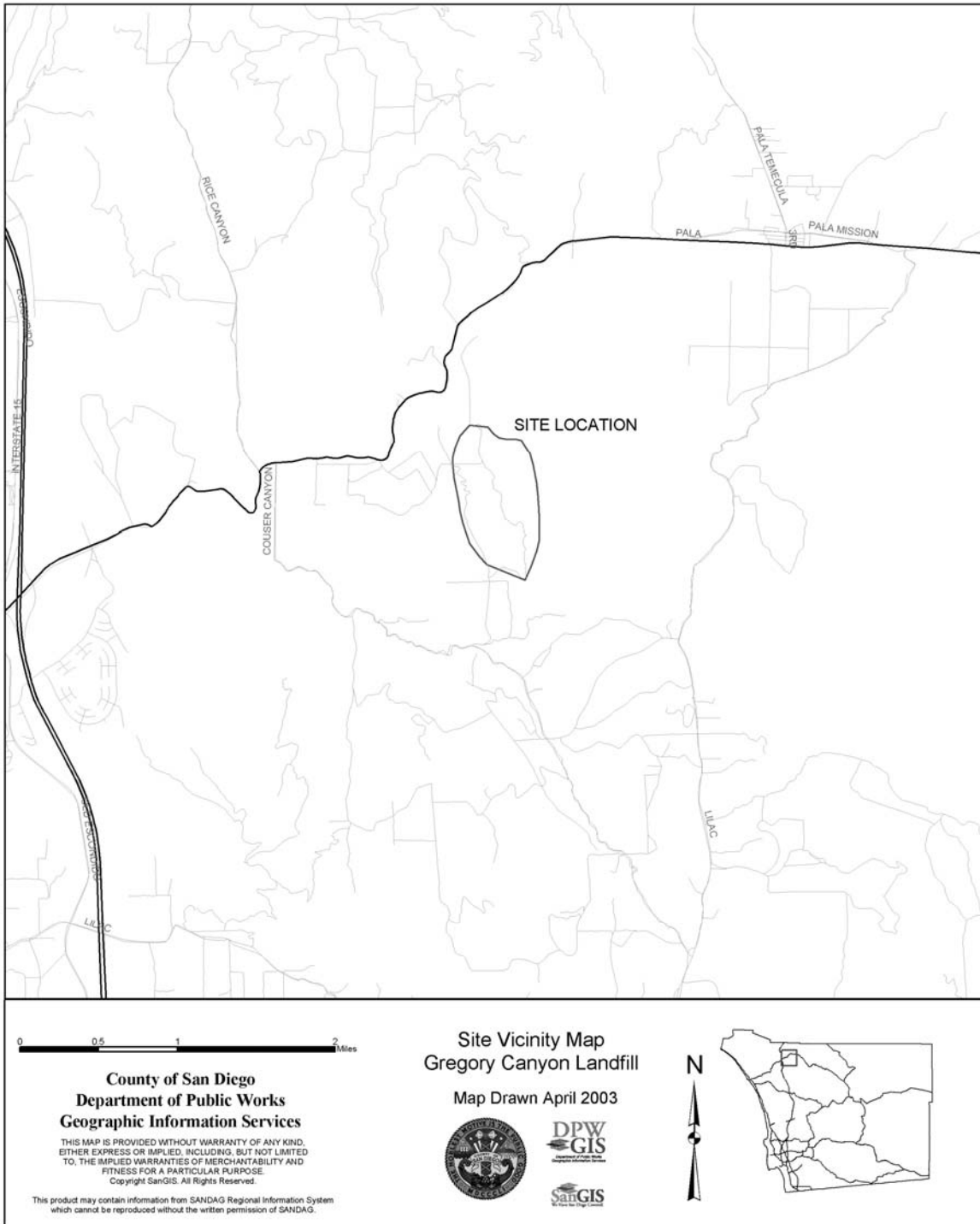
Open Space

### 7. GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Approximately 196 acres refuse area footprint for disposal with a total of approximately 308 acres occupied by the landfill and recycling center. There would be 87 acres for soil stockpile and borrow areas and 25 acres for the main access roads and bridge, desilting basins, stockpile borrow area haul road and ancillary facilities. The

total acreage of the site is estimated at 1770 acres.

**Figure 6.2  
Gregory Canyon Landfill Vicinity Map**



# CHAPTER 7 TENTATIVELY RESERVED SOLID WASTE DISPOSAL FACILITIES

## **Purpose and Requirements**

Chapter 7 describes and locates tentative new disposal facilities within the county and describes how such facilities contribute to 15 years of disposal capacity. Tentatively reserved sites included in the Siting Element must be found to be consistent with the applicable General Plan by the next five-year Siting Element update, or they must be removed from the Siting Element. Requirements for this chapter are contained in Public Resources Code sections 41710-41712 and CCR section 18756.3.

## **Tentatively Reserved Disposal Sites**

The County and City of San Diego cooperated in 1990 to fund and manage a study to identify potential landfill and other solid waste facility sites needed in southwestern San Diego County to replace existing landfills expected to close in the late 1990's (1990 Dames and Moore). In 1994, the City and County completed a detailed investigation into the five most desirable landfill sites, two in the City of San Diego and three in the unincorporated southern part of the County (1994, Ogden Environmental and Energy Services).

Of the five sites investigated, only the East Otay Mesa site was described in a general County planning document. The East Otay Mesa site was described in the July 1994 East Otay Mesa Specific Plan. While the County is no longer pursuing landfill siting, and no private siting efforts are currently proposed for the East Otay Mesa area, the property owner of the tentatively reserved East Otay Mesa site has requested that the "tentative" reservation classification, as described in the 1997 Siting Element, be continued while potential development opportunities are evaluated. The East Otay Mesa site at present does not hold a Major Use Permit, and therefore is not found to be consistent with the County General Plan and is not continued as a tentatively reserved disposal site in this Siting Element Amendment. The East Otay Mesa site may be proposed again for landfill development through an application for a Major Use Permit.

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# CHAPTER 8

## STRATEGIES FOR ADDITIONAL CAPACITY

### **Purpose and Requirements**

Chapter Eight identifies additional strategies for disposing of solid waste that could be explored to help meet the region's 15-year disposal needs. These strategies were developed because the approval of proposals for new and expansion of existing landfills in Chapter Three is uncertain at this time. CCR Sections 18755(c) and 18756.5 contain the specific requirements for this chapter.

### **Strategies To Prolong Current Capacity**

The region recognizes that diversion of organics, paper, and construction and demolition materials is essential for decreasing the region's dependence on landfilling. It is recommended that a more thorough feasibility study be conducted to determine the best long-term strategy. This strategy should include a combination of strategies including a cost/benefit analysis and recommendations on the diversion and market development programs necessary to preserve existing landfill capacity.

The strategies discussed in this Chapter are a discussion of available options and are not in order of preference.

### **1) Diversion Rate**

The California Integrated Waste Management Act of 1989 (AB939, Sher, Chapter 1095, Statutes of 1989) originally mandated that all jurisdictions reach 50 percent diversion by 2000. The region has experienced a great fluctuation in diversion percentages since the 1997 Siting Element was approved. In 1997 the diversion percentage for 1995 was calculated to be 31 percent. Since then, the region has made great progress and by 2002 the countywide diversion rate reached 48 percent.

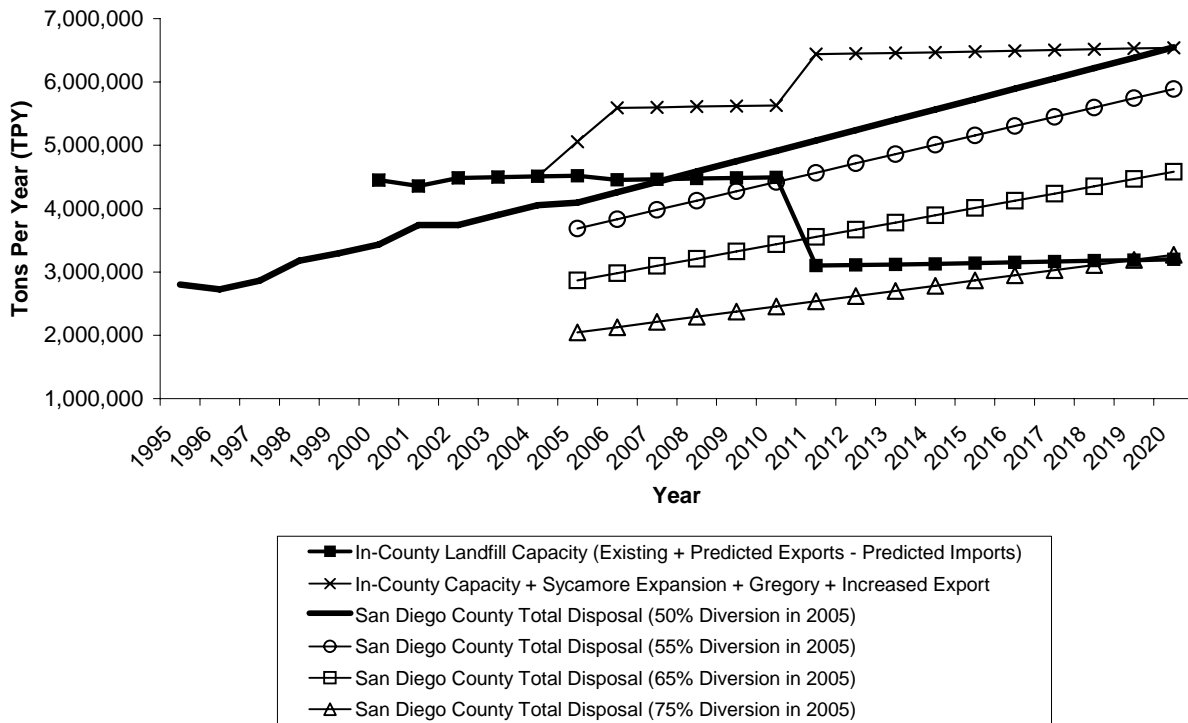
Although the diversion rate has increased, so has the amount of waste that is disposed. The 1997 Siting Element estimated that the 2001 generation rate for the region would be 5.3 million tons and the disposal amount would be 2.6 million tons. The 2001 actual generation amount was calculated to be 6.9 million tons and disposal was 3.7 million tons.

The waste diversion goal in this Siting Element is to optimize the current disposal capacity by encouraging jurisdictions to meet the state diversion requirement as soon as possible by implementing their Source Reduction and Recycling Elements (SRREs). Each jurisdiction has an approved SRRE, which provides substantial details on the development and implementation of a comprehensive program of source reduction, recycling and composting. Implementing the programs of the SRREs, plus initiating the SB 1066 programs approved by CIWMB, where applicable, will assure improvement in reducing solid waste disposal as a part of the continuing strategy to assure sufficient landfill capacity.



Increasing diversion would extend landfill capacity. At the current landfill capacity, reaching 55 percent diversion in 2005 could give the county an additional 2 years of capacity (re. calculations in Chapter Three and Figure 8.1). Each 10 percent increase of diversion (starting in 2005) could give the county between 4 and 6 additional years of landfill capacity. At 75 percent diversion, the region would not need any new or expanded facilities during the 15-year capacity requirement (Figure 8.1).

**Figure 8.1**  
**San Diego County Annual Rate of Disposal Projection with Diversion Options**  
**(Based on Annual Permitted Disposal Tons)**



For jurisdictions which choose to achieve greater than 50 percent diversion, the strategies should be provided in their SRREs and updated in their annual reports. The SRRE is the plan for higher diversion rates for the local jurisdictions. To meet higher diversion percentages, jurisdictions and their generators would have to commit funding, additional resources, and the ordinances to enforce mandatory programs.

## 2) New Facilities and Technologies

Landfill capacity can be preserved through new technologies in waste reduction and diverse disposal options. Technologies can be applied to better manage existing capacity at landfills through waste compression and more efficient landfill management practices. The siting of more composting, resource recovery, and construction and demolition processing facilities in the region could provide environmentally safe alternatives to disposal. Adequate land should be zoned for development of composting, and construction and demolition, and recycling industries. In order to accomplish this, adequate land would need to be zoned for these industries.

In 2001, the region disposed of approximately 300,000 tons of construction and demolition material at the Miramar Landfill.<sup>11</sup> If a mixed construction and demolition processing facility were to be sited in the region, the amount of solid waste disposed could be reduced by at least 10 percent. The siting of new composting operations could divert additional tonnage because organic materials compose 40 percent of the region's waste stream. This could be accomplished by local ordinances to control generator based source separation of minimizing compostable materials from the landfills such as yard trimmings, paper, and food.

### **3) Exportation of Waste Out-of-County**

In 1997, the County sold its four landfills to the private sector. Several jurisdictions retained the right to direct waste generated from their jurisdiction to particular landfills via their franchise agreements. Most of the solid waste currently generated by residents and businesses is disposed locally, at a landfill of the hauling contractor's choice. Private companies, the City of San Diego at the Miramar Landfill, and market conditions determine waste flow and disposal locations.

Every year there has been some solid waste exported from San Diego County. The amount of export tonnage has fluctuated from year to year. In 1995, the region exported 14 percent of its waste compared to 4 percent in 2001. Given the estimates of Tables 3.4 and 8.1, if the Sycamore Canyon Landfill expansion and the proposed Gregory Canyon landfill are approved with proposed increases in daily permitted disposal tonnages, the region may need to export 7.2 percent of its waste in 2017 to meet the region's disposal need of 6.1 million tons . If neither landfill proposal is approved without using other strategies, the region may need to export up to 55 percent of its waste in 2017 (Table 8.2).

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<sup>11</sup> Communication with City of San Diego Environmental Services Department, 2002.

**Table 8.1**  
**Export Needs for San Diego County Jurisdictions**  
**(Based on Annual Rate of Acceptance)**  
**(Millions of Tons)**

Year	In-County Permitted Rate of Acceptance	Imports (2000-2001 Actual)	Available In-County (Rate of Acceptance - Imports)	Total Disposal Needs (1995-2001 Actual)	In-County Excess	Export (1995-2001 Actual)	Export % of Total Disposal
1995				2.8		0.4	14%
1996				2.7		0.3	11%
1997				2.9		0.4	12%
1998				3.2		0.5	17%
1999				3.3		0.5	15%
2000	4.2	0.01	4.2	3.4	0.8	0.2	7%
2001	4.2	0.02	4.2	3.7	0.5	0.2	4%
2002	4.2	0.01	4.2	3.7	0.5	No need to export	
2003	4.2	0.01	4.2	3.9	0.3	No need to export	
2004	4.2	0.01	4.2	4.1	0.2	No need to export	
2005	4.2	0.01	4.2	4.1	0.1	No need to export	
2006	4.1	0.01	4.1	4.3	-0.1	0.1	3%
2007	4.1	0.01	4.1	4.4	-0.3	0.3	7%
2008	4.1	0.01	4.1	4.6	-0.4	0.5	10%
2009	4.1	0.01	4.1	4.8	-0.6	0.6	13%
2010	4.1	0.01	4.1	4.9	-0.8	0.8	16%
2011	2.7	0.01	2.7	5.1	-2.3	2.4	46%
2012	2.7	0.01	2.7	5.2	-2.5	2.5	48%
2013	2.7	0.01	2.7	5.4	-2.7	2.7	49%
2014	2.7	0.01	2.7	5.6	-2.8	2.8	51%
2015	2.7	0.01	2.7	5.7	-3.0	3.0	52%
2016	2.7	0.01	2.7	5.9	-3.2	3.2	54%
2017	2.7	0.01	2.7	6.1	-3.3	3.3	55%
2018	2.7	0.01	2.7	6.2	-3.5	3.5	56%
2019	2.7	0.02	2.7	6.4	-3.6	3.7	57%
2020	2.7	0.02	2.7	6.6	-3.8	3.8	58%

San Diego jurisdictions currently send waste to, or have utilized in the past, several out-of-county facilities (Table 8.3). The continued availability of out-of-county disposal sites is not known, and other disposal sites may become available in the future. EDCO Disposal Corporation has a contract with Orange County to import 1,000 tons per day of waste until 2015. El Sobrante in Riverside County, owned by Waste Management, has a 7,000 tons per day permitted disposal rate. The Crestline Nevada landfill, for example, was proposed as a possible disposal site during the drafting of this Siting Element Amendment. The landfill at Crestline, Nevada has a 4,000 tons per day permit and is serviced by the Union Pacific Railroad. Crestline is seeking new clientele from Southern California. Landfills in the State of Arizona used by the region do not have daily disposal limits.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>12</sup> Personal communication, Allied Waste Industries, 2003.

**Table 8.2**

**Permitted Out-of-County Annual Disposal Tonnages for Landfills Used by or Available to San Diego County Jurisdictions**

<b>Landfill</b>	<b>Annual Permitted and Proposed Capacity (Tons)</b>
Copper Mountain, AZ <sup>1,4</sup>	17,915,000
Crestline, Nevada <sup>1</sup>	930,000
Orange County <sup>2</sup>	312,000
Los Angeles <sup>1,3</sup>	Unknown
El Sobrante, Riverside County <sup>1</sup>	2,340,000

- (1) Fraction of tonnage available to San Diego County unknown.
- (2) Currently EDCO Disposal Corporation has an agreement with Orange County to import waste until 2015 at 1,000 tons per day.
- (3) Los Angeles County has no restrictions on the amount of imported waste it can accept. However, each landfill (depending on the owner) has its guidelines in terms of daily and annual accepted tonnages.
- (4) Arizona landfills have no daily limit.

**4) Increased Daily and Annual Permitted Disposal Tonnages at In-County Landfills**

The combined physical capacity of existing and proposed landfills could provide sufficient disposal capacity for the region, but not without modifying the current daily and annual limits on traffic and amounts of solid waste allowed into the facilities under current Solid Waste Facility Permits (SWFP) and local land use permits. One illustration for increasing permitted daily disposal tonnages is described in Chapter Three.

**The Role of Transfer Stations**

Transfer stations have a vital role in accommodating throughput to landfills, and serving as collection and separation points of solid waste and recyclables. The stations are an essential component of all of the strategies for providing additional landfill capacity for San Diego County. Transfer stations help reduce traffic congestion, and provide the flexibility to haul to distant landfills or processing plants.

The privately owned transfer station and rural bin network currently handles approximately 60 percent of the county’s solid waste. The network services both in-county and out-of-county transportation needs. The network has a permitted throughput of about 3 million tons per year, with about 2 million tons (67 percent) of the capacity currently being used (Table 8.1).

**Table 8.3  
San Diego County Transfer Stations and Rural Bin Sites**

Facility Name	Permitted Annual Throughput (Tons)
<b>Transfer Stations</b>	
Palomar (Allied) <sup>1</sup>	291,200
Dalbergia (EDCO) <sup>1</sup>	234,000
Escondido Resource Recovery	912,500
El Cajon (Waste Management)	728,000
Ramona (EDCO) <sup>1</sup>	254,800
Fallbrook (EDCO) <sup>1</sup>	182,000
La Mesa (EDCO)	365,000
<b>Rural Bin Sites</b>	
Viejas (Allied)	38,314
Julian (Allied)	1,404
Campo (Allied)	1,560
Ranchita (Allied)	530
Barrett Junction (Allied)	780
Boulevard (Allied)	780
Palomar Rural Bin (Allied)	1,872
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,012,740</b>

(1) Proposed expansions currently in the permit process.

# CHAPTER 9 IMPLEMENTATION

## Purpose and Requirements

This chapter describes the agencies responsible for implementation of the Siting Element, the schedule and funding sources. CCR Section 18756.7 contains the requirements for this chapter of the Siting Element.

## Responsibility for Implementation and Implementation Schedule

The jurisdictions within San Diego County recognize that disposal capacity will best be met through an integrated waste management plan consisting of disposal and diversion. Further information about specific diversion programs and facilities are summarized in the Summary Plan and can be found in each jurisdiction’s Source Reduction Recycling Element (SRRE), Household Hazardous Waste Element (HHWE), and Nondisposal Facility Element (NDFE). The goals, policies, and tasks in Table 9.1 expand on the goals and policies discussed in Chapter Two of this document. Tasks have been included that provide guidance toward goal achievement and an integrated waste management system. All dates are subject to change.

The following implementation schedule identifies the policies and tasks necessary to achieve each goal.

**Table 9.1  
Countywide Siting Element Goals and Task Implementation Schedule**

### 1. Waste Diversion

**Goal:** Optimize the current disposal capacity by encouraging jurisdictions to meet the state diversion requirement as soon as possible by implementing their Source Reduction Recycling Elements (SRREs).

Policy/Task	Responsible Agency/Organization	Implementation Date
<b>Policy 1.1</b> Give the highest priority to reducing the production and generation of discards through waste prevention, reuse, recycling and composting as a means of conserving landfill capacity and natural resources.	All jurisdictions	Ongoing
<b>Task 1.1.1</b> Continue to implement individual SRREs already adopted and updated annually. Each SRRE contains program information on Source Reduction, Recycling, Composting, Special Waste, Education and Public Information, and Household Hazardous Waste.	All jurisdictions	Ongoing
<b>Task 1.1.2</b> Support waste diversion and material recovery facilities, including Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) facilities, on sites with transfer stations and disposal facilities.	All jurisdictions	Ongoing

## 2. Management of Solid Waste Generated Within the County

**Goal:** Provide efficient, economically and environmentally sound disposal capacity for residual wastes following the IWMA waste reduction requirements through the hierarchy of reuse, source reduction, recycling, composting, and transformation.

Policy/Task	Responsible Agency/Organization	Implementation Date
<p><b>Policy 2.1</b> Maximize the efficient and economic use of existing solid waste disposal capacity when consistent with public interest.</p>	All jurisdictions and landfill operators	Ongoing
<p><b>Policy 2.2</b> Extend and/or expand in-county capacity as feasible.</p>	Local Enforcement Agencies, land use authorities, and landfill operators	Ongoing
<p><b>Policy 2.3</b> Identify disposal facilities or strategies, possibly including transfer stations and export to out-of-county facilities, necessary to dispose of the solid waste generated by the jurisdictions of the county for a minimum of 15 years.</p>	All jurisdictions and private sector	Ongoing
<p><b>Policy 2.4</b> Site all solid waste management facilities in such a manner as to protect public health and safety, the environment, and provide for environmental justice concerns. Ensure that all solid waste management facilities are evaluated under all applicable siting criteria.</p>	All jurisdictions and private sector	Ongoing
<p><b>Task 2.4.1</b> Integrate environmental justice concerns to ensure public and community participation, including low income and minority populations, in the siting of solid waste management facilities.</p>	All jurisdictions and private sector	Ongoing
<p><b>Policy 2.5</b> Promote diverse solid waste management options sufficient to manage the local solid waste stream in an environmentally responsible manner.</p>	All jurisdictions and private sector	Ongoing
<p><b>Task 2.5.1</b> Promote a regional integrated solid waste management system.</p>	All jurisdictions	Ongoing
<p><b>Task 2.5.2</b> Promote competition and diversity among a choice of franchise and independent solid waste service providers.</p>	All jurisdictions	Ongoing

## 3. Facility Management

**Goal:** Ensure efficient, economically and environmentally sound management of existing and proposed solid waste management facilities to meet all applicable environmental standards.

<p><b>Policy 3.1</b> Operate all solid waste management facilities in such a manner as to protect public health and safety, the environment, and provide for environmental justice</p>	All jurisdictions and private sector	Ongoing
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concerns.

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<b>Policy/Task</b>	<b>Responsible Agency/Organization</b>	<b>Implementation Date</b>
<b>Task 3.1.2</b> Mitigate the potential impacts of solid waste management facilities upon adjoining land uses.	All jurisdictions and private sector	Ongoing

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#### **4. Countywide Siting Element Administration**

**Goal:** Maintain and update the Countywide Siting Element in accordance with the requirements of IWMA.

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### **Revenue Sources**

Countywide regional planning activities are funded through a \$0.02 CIWMP fee per ton, assessed on every ton of trash generated in San Diego County that is disposed without regard to location of disposal, not including Las Pulgas and San Onofre landfills. The County of San Diego administers this fee. Additional facility development will be funded through private industry capital. Public entities that choose to own or operate facilities will be funded through established fee mechanisms that will vary by agency.



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- City of Lemon Grove
- City of National City
- City of Oceanside
- City of Poway
- City of San Diego
- City of San Marcos
- City of Santee
- City of Solana Beach
- City of Vista

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