

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA**

315




FROM: Waste Management Department

SUBMITTAL DATE:
December 7, 2011

SUBJECT: Diversion of Holiday Trees to the California Department of Fish and Game for Beneficial Reuse/Recycling

RECOMMENDED MOTION: That the Board of Supervisors authorize the General Manager-Chief Engineer of the Waste Management Department (WMD) to coordinate with the California Department of Fish and Game to divert Holiday Trees collected at the County's landfill sites for the creation of fish habitat.

BACKGROUND: Holiday Tree Recycling is one of the diversion programs identified in the County's Source Reduction and Recycling Element (SRRE) implemented and maintained by the Waste Management Department, established to help the County meet the recycling mandates of AB 939. This program encourages residents to prepare their trees for recycling by removing all ornamentation and tree stands and recycling the tree through their curbside recycling program or by bringing the trees to a free drop-off site for recycling. The department offers two landfill sites for free drop-off, Lamb Canyon Landfill and Badlands Landfill. (continued)



 Hans W. Kernkamp
 General Manager-Chief Engineer

FINANCIAL DATA	Current F.Y. Total Cost:	\$ 0	In Current Year Budget:	Yes
	Current F.Y. Net County Cost:	\$ 0	Budget Adjustment:	No
	Annual Net County Cost:	\$ 0	For Fiscal Year:	FY 11/12

SOURCE OF FUNDS: Waste Management Department Enterprise Fund	Positions To Be Deleted Per A-30	<input type="checkbox"/>
	Requires 4/5 Vote	<input type="checkbox"/>

C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE
 BY: 
 Alex Gann

County Executive Office Signature

- Policy
- Policy
- Consent
- Consent
- Dept's Recomm.:
- Per Exec. Ofc.:

Prev. Agn. Ref.: None | District: All | Agenda Number: **12.1**

BACKGROUND (continued):

Typically, the Department collects trees from December 26th for two weeks and then transports them to a local green waste processing facility for recycling at no charge to the Department. The amount of trees collected is approximately 2 tons per year.

WMD is requesting authorization to instead divert the trees collected at the landfill sites to the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) for beneficial reuse to create fish habitat. The Department was recently contacted by DFG and learned that the trees are needed for local lakes (Elsinore, Gregory, Hemet, and Perris) to create a beneficial fish habitat to protect small fish from larger predatory fish. Trees are sunk to a depth of 10 to 15 feet in lakes that have very little vegetation to provide a place for the smaller fish to hide. Each tree is drilled at the base and a rope is tied to a concrete block weight and then sunk. The DFG office in Hemet is interested in using any trees that WMD collects.