

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

420



**FROM:** Waste Management Department

**SUBMITTAL DATE:**  
November 17, 2014

**SUBJECT:** Diversion of Holiday Trees to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for Beneficial Reuse/Recycling, 5/5 [\$0 - Waste Management Department Enterprise Funds]

**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 Wildlife to divert Holiday Trees collected at the County's landfill sites for the creation of fish habitat.

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary**

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. (continued)

Departmental Concurrence

  
Hans Kernkamp  
General Manager-Chief Engineer

FINANCIAL DATA	Current Fiscal Year:	Next Fiscal Year:	Total Cost:	Ongoing Cost:	POLICY/CONSENT (per Exec. Office)
COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Policy <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
NET COUNTY COST	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	\$ 0	

<b>SOURCE OF FUNDS:</b> Waste Management Department Enterprise Fund	Budget Adjustment: No
	For Fiscal Year: FY 14/15

**C.E.O. RECOMMENDATION:** APPROVE  
BY:   
Alex Gann  
County Executive Office Signature

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

- Positions Added
- Change Order
- A-30
- 4/5 Vote

Prev. Agn. Ref.: 12/20/11 (12.1), 11/27/12 (12.1) | District: All | Agenda Number: COUNTY

**12-1**

**SUBMITTAL TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF RIVERSIDE, STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
FORM 11: Diversion of Holiday Trees to the California Department of Fish and Wildlife for  
Beneficial Reuse/Recycling**

**DATE: November 17, 2014**

**PAGE: 2 of 2**

**BACKGROUND:**

**Summary (continued)**

The WMD offers three landfill sites for free drop-off, Blythe Landfill, Lamb Canyon Landfill and Badlands Landfill. Typically, the WMD 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 two or more tons per year.

WMD is requesting authorization to instead divert the trees collected at the landfill sites to the Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) for beneficial reuse to create fish habitat as needed. The WMD has again been contacted by CDFW and the trees are needed for local lakes (Elsinore, Gregory, Hemet, and Perris) and waterways (Colorado River tributaries) 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 local CDFW offices in Hemet and Blythe are interested in using any trees that WMD collects.

**Impact on Citizens and Businesses**

There is no negative impact on citizens or businesses in the County of Riverside.