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## **WEST BASIN MUNICIPAL WATER DISTRICT PARTNERS WITH SURFRIDER FOUNDATION** District continues funding South Bay Chapter Teach and Test Program to protect the Santa Monica Bay in 2018



Photo Courtesy of West Basin Municipal Water District

**CARSON, Calif.** – <u>West Basin Municipal Water District</u> (West Basin) Division III Director Carol W. Kwan presented a \$9,000 check to the Surfrider Foundation on January 7 in support of their Blue Water Task Force "Teach and Test Program."

West Basin has supported the high school student-based program of water testing, education and clean water advocacy since 2006. The funds supply the program's equipment, materials and lab technician services to compile and analyze data.

"The success of the Teach and Test Program is a result of the strong, decade-long partnership with the West Basin Municipal Water District, whose generous support has allowed our program to grow to one of the Surfrider Foundation's strongest nation-

wide," said Craig Cadwallader, Policy Coordinator of The Surfrider Foundation South Bay Chapter. "Surfrider sincerely thanks the West Basin Municipal Water District for its continuing support of our successful Teach and Test Program."

During the program, students from South Bay area high schools collect water samples every other Sunday from October through May, to prepare and analyze at the Algalita Marine Research Institute. At the end of the year, school teams are required to conduct a final presentation that connects the project findings to other environmentally sustainable efforts around the Santa Monica Bay. West Basin's water recycling efforts and the reduction of bio-solids released into the Santa Monica Bay through the recycled water treatment process have been highlighted as a positive case study in previous years.

"The Teach and Test program is important to West Basin because it helps the next generation understand various factors affecting local water quality," said Kwan. "Each year, The Surfrider Foundation continues to help The District secure a reliable water future by providing this opportunity for local students."

The goal of the program is to maintain and improve water quality monitoring and educate the public about water quality conditions in the South Bay area. For more information on the Teach & Test program or additional West Basin education programs and partnerships, please visit <u>www.westbasin.org/community/education</u>.

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West Basin Municipal Water District (West Basin) is a wholesale water agency that provides imported drinking water to nearly one million people in 17 cities and unincorporated areas in Los Angeles County. West Basin is an industry leader in water recycling, conservation, and water education. West Basin is currently implementing a Water Reliability program to reduce the agency's dependence on imported water and develop drought-proof local water supplies. The program includes water recycling, water conservation, groundwater desalting and ocean water desalination. Visit <u>www.westbasin.org</u> to learn more.