

## **Expand EIR to Include Analysis of Additional Water for Future Needs**

In response to public comments received on the 1998 Draft Supplemental EIR on the Carmel River Dam Project, the scope of the report was expanded in 1999 to include an analysis of whether dam and non-dam alternatives could provide additional water to meet future water needs within the Cal-Am service area. The expanded study, known as the DSEIR-2, will also analyze the environmental effects of not building a water supply project, as well as other technical issues.

District staff worked throughout the year to assess how each alternative in DSEIR-2 would affect plants, fish and wildlife on the Carmel River. Plans are being developed to mitigate for any adverse environmental effects of the proposed alternatives.

## **Significant Progress Toward Preservation of Native American Resources**

Representatives from both the Esselen Tribe and Nation met several times during the year with the District, Cal-Am and other agencies to develop an agreement on measures that will avoid, minimize or mitigate for project impacts to cultural resources.

## **Provided Information to PUC on Plan B Contingency Plan**

If the Carmel River Dam and Reservoir Project is not approved or cannot be built, a contingency plan is being developed by the California Public Utilities Commission (PUC) that could be implemented instead of a dam. The contingency plan is known as Plan B.

In 1999, the PUC contracted with a private consulting firm, EDAW, to develop Plan B. District staff provided EDAW and its subcontractors with background information, documents and data from its Carmel Valley simulation computer model as requested.

EDAW proposes that Plan B, which is focused on non-dam alternatives, will provide only enough water to make up for the 10,730 acre-foot shortfall identified in SWRCB Order 95-10. As defined, Plan B will not address development of additional water supply projects required to meet future water needs of communities within the District.

## **Testing of Seaside Injection/Recovery Project Continues**

Between January and May 1999, District staff successfully injected 195 acre-feet of water into the Seaside groundwater basin. This was accomplished during the first full year of testing to determine the feasibility of utilizing the Seaside basin to store excess water from the Carmel River during the winter months. If injection proves successful, 1,700 to 2,080 acre-feet of Carmel River water stored in the Seaside basin could be produced by the Cal-Am system in the summer months.

## **Prepared for Full-Scale Testing of Groundwater Injection**

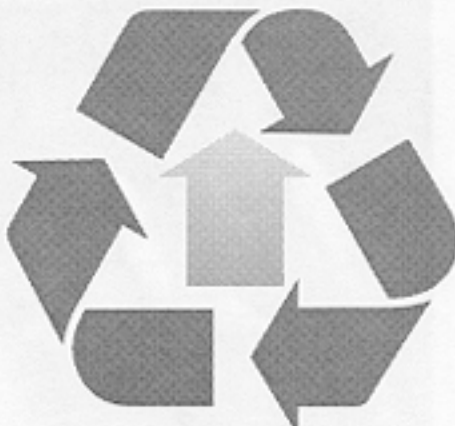
A final report summarizing the findings of the successful injection/recovery test was completed in October 1999. In response the District prepared for full-scale testing to be carried out in the year 2000. A permit was obtained from the SWRCB authorizing the withdrawal of water from the Carmel River for the 2000 test period. The District also applied for a permit from the City of Seaside to construct a new full-scale injection well.

Once the State Order is satisfied, production from a full-scale injection/recovery project could provide additional water for new construction and remodel projects.

## **Wastewater Recycling To Be Expanded**

The largest wastewater reclamation project within the District is planned to be expanded as a result of negotiations held in 1999. The Carmel Area Wastewater District/Pebble Beach Community Services District Wastewater Reclamation Project was designed to provide 800 acre-feet of reclaimed water annually. Improvements could boost the project yield to over 1,000 acre-feet per year.

In 1999, approximately 691 acre-feet of reclaimed wastewater and 270 acre-feet of potable water were applied to golf courses and open spaces within the scope of this project. The District collected approximately \$1.2 million from the sale of the reclaimed water, which was used to cover project operating expenses.



*Wastewater Recycling Capacity is planned to be expanded from 800 to 1,000 acre-feet per year in the Del Monte Forest.*