

WATER QUALITY

Lake Skinner was originally filled with Colorado River water. However, future Imports to the Reservoir will consist of a blend of Colorado River water and State project water. Initially, the blend will be 50 percent from each source with a higher proportion of State project water to be introduced in later years. Table 1 permits the comparison of several quality parameters of the naturally occurring waters in the area of Lake Skinner and the blended water Metropolitan plans to import initially. The table indicates that the quality of the imported supply compares favorably with all naturally occurring waters with the exception of storm flows. In view of this comparison and the fact that the Drainage Basin contributes only about one tenth of the total storm flow in the Santa Margarita Basin, the import of Releases on the general water quality will be inconsequential. Metropolitan's water supplies are utilized throughout Southern California for Groundwater replenishment and are considered adequate for all intended uses.

TABLE 1

Constituent (mg/liter)	Average Values for Year Ending 12-31-73					
	Colorado River Water	State Project Water	50/50 Blend	Murrieta Creek Rising Water	Murrieta Creek Storm Flows	Auld & French Groundwater Basins
TDS	719	336	527.5	500-700	200	889
Chlorides Cl	96	62	79	130	30	148
Nitrates NO <sub>3</sub>	0.6	0.9	0.75	6.0	2.0	13
Sulfates SO <sub>4</sub>	312	91	201.5	90	25	189
Boron B	0.11	0.2	0.16	0.4	0.1	1.3

I. "Comprehensive Water Quality Management Study" by Joint Administration Committee of the Santa Margarita and San Luis Rey Watershed Planning Agencies, Volume 1, 1973. (Rising water is normal surface flow as opposed to that which occurs immediately after a large storm.)