



EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

March 2004

NORTH BASIN

1. *Spalding Community Service District, Eagle Lake - T. Jerrold Peacock*

Spalding CSD has completed all project design and environmental compliance documentation for the wastewater collection and treatment system for the Spalding Tract. Assisted by an approximately \$500,000 grant from the SWRCB for planning and engineering, the District has secured necessary land and complied with all necessary regulations to prepare the \$8.5 million project for construction. Throughout this process, a comprehensive funding package for the project has been identified, including a Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) from the California Department of Housing and Community Development, other grants from the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and other governmental agencies, SWRCB loans from Proposition 40 monies and, after approval by property owners, assessments on properties within the Spalding subdivision. The vote of the property owners has not yet been scheduled.

Arrangements with other major funding sources have been predicated on construction starting in 2003 or 2004. However, the SWRCB has not yet acquired small community bond funds or established the framework for small community grant applications. For that reason, other funding sources cannot finalize offers for their funding.

The District has now been told by the State Department of Housing and Community Development that funds committed from 2003 CDBG grant funds must allow property owners to connect to the system before the end of the contract term in January 2006. Insofar as the project will take two construction seasons to

complete, construction must start in 2004 to meet this deadline. For that reason, the CDBG has told the District they will disencumber these funds unless SWRCB approval is given by March 5, 2004.

Because it greatly affects the required contribution of individual homeowners for the construction of the project, property owner approval is heavily contingent on CDBG funding. The inability of the SWRCB to consider funding this project by March 5, 2004 will require the District to start over in preparing a new viable funding package.

The District has developed this project to comply with Regional Board enforcement actions. Because of delays in the SWRCB Small Community Grant Program, the District has prepared a letter and position statement which they have forwarded to RWQCB and SWRCB members and to governmental officials to inform them of the uncertain future of the project that could affect compliance with the existing enforcement actions.

2. *Status of Basin Plan Amendments - Judith Unsicker*

At the October 2003 Board meeting I stated my intent to provide semiannual reports to the Board on the status of Basin Plan amendments. The following discussion focuses on previously adopted amendments and items that may come before the Board as plan amendments in 2004 or early 2005.

July 2000 Basin Plan Amendments. In late 2003, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) staff notified Regional Board staff of the need for formal USEPA approval of several

changes to the Basin Plan's surface water beneficial use table that had received earlier state agency approvals as corrections of typographical errors. The USEPA approved the changes on January 12, 2004.

Revisions to Waste Discharge Prohibitions for the Mojave River Watershed (San Bernardino County). The plan amendments adopted by the Regional Board in September 2003 were approved by the State Water Resources Control Board in January 2004. The State Board expects to transmit the amendments and its administrative record to the California Office of Administrative Law (OAL) in February 2004. The amendments may be approved by OAL and take effect by late March or early April. USEPA approval of these amendments is not required.

Site-Specific Standards for Paiute Ponds, Rosamond Dry Lake, and a Segment of Amargosa Creek (Los Angeles County). The proposed amendments would set site-specific ammonia toxicity objectives for waters affected by effluent from the Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts' (LACSDs') Lancaster wastewater treatment plant, and designate site-specific beneficial uses for these waters and Rosamond Dry Lake. LACSD has provided consultants' reports and other information to support development of the amendments. Draft amendments are currently planned for release for public review in June 2004, with Regional Board action at the September 2004 meeting.

Squaw Creek Sediment TMDL (Placer County). The proposed amendments would incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for sediment and a TMDL implementation program into the Basin Plan. Draft amendments and supporting documents will be released for public review this summer, and Regional Board action is tentatively scheduled for the October 2004 Board meeting.

Lake Tahoe Shorezone Amendments (Placer and El Dorado Counties). These amendments would change language in Chapter 5 of the Basin Plan to maintain consistency with proposed revisions to the shorezone provisions of the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency's (TRPA's) regional land use plan. Regional Board staff's for maintain the Basin Plan

amendments depends upon TRPA's plan update schedule. TRPA anticipates completing its draft shorezone planning documents and releasing them for public comment in about May 2004. Information on the status of TRPA's shorezone planning process will be provided to the Regional Board in a future Executive Officer's Report.

Revisions to Water Quality Objectives for Percent Sodium, Carson and Walker River Watersheds (Alpine and Mono Counties). The proposed amendments would replace water quality objectives for "Percent Sodium" with objectives for Sodium Adsorption Ratio (SAR), a more modern criterion for irrigation water, and eliminate the need for TMDLs for two reaches of the West Fork Carson River. Considerable staff work has already been done on this topic, including a literature review and assembly of available historical data. Work on these amendments will be resumed in late 2004, and they could be ready for Board consideration in early 2005.

3. ***USEPA Directs Atlantic Richfield Company (ARC) to Submit an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis for the Interception and Treatment of Known Sources of Acid Mine Drainage at Leviathan Mine – Chris Stetler***

On November 17, 2003, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) directed Atlantic Richfield Company to submit an Engineering Evaluation and Cost Analysis (EECA) for year-round capture and treatment of acid mine drainage (AMD) at Leviathan Mine. USEPA's requirement for an EECA represents a significant change from its previous directives for "early response actions" and "time-critical removal actions," which tend to result in short-term projects. The EECA process is much more formalized and may lead to a permanent site remedy. The EECA will examine a limited number of options for the year-round capture, treatment and discharge of the known sources of acid mine drainage, specifically the Channel Underdrain, Delta Seep, Adit Seep, Pit Underdrain, and Aspen Seep. The EECA will address issues of power for the site, equipment and personnel access, road maintenance, health and safety, system monitoring and control, reliability and effectiveness. The EECA requires ARC to coordinate all EECA activities with

ongoing and planned Regional Board activities including stream monitoring, infrastructure maintenance and repair, and slope stabilization activities. ARC is required to submit the EECA by March 31, 2004. As it prepares the EECA, ARC is consulting with Regional Board staff and other interested groups including the Washoe Tribe of California and Nevada, United

States Fish & Wildlife Service, United States Forest Service, and the Nevada Department of Environmental Protection. There will be a meeting of the various interested parties to discuss ARC's progress in preparing the EECA on March 17, 2004 in Carson City, Nevada.

SOUTH BASIN

4. *Town of Mammoth Lakes - Doug Feay*

As part of the efforts to reduce stormwater pollution, the Town of Mammoth Lakes staff has provided a complete 2004 project winterization report to ensure appropriate winter erosion control measures are implemented at construction sites. Town staff communicates with Board staff and has provided photos documenting the status of implementation of stormwater Best Management Practices used at the 31 on-going construction project sites. Town staff has carried out and continues to carry out winter inspection of construction activities within the Town.

Several new construction projects are in the planning stages. Town staff is expecting a very busy construction schedule for 2004. One of the larger construction projects proposed is the Swiss Chalet Project, which will encompass 259,000 square feet on a 4.5-acre site. The Swiss Chalet will feature a hotel, private resort club and condominiums. The Village Market has also submitted a proposal to rebuild the market. Snow Creek Phase VI has indicated that it may start construction this spring.

5. *IMC Chemicals Inc., (IMCC) - Elizabeth Lafferty*

Compliance Status for Interim Effluent Limits

Daily reporting data from IMCC shows that the interim effluent limits set forth in the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) were not exceeded during the month of January 2004.

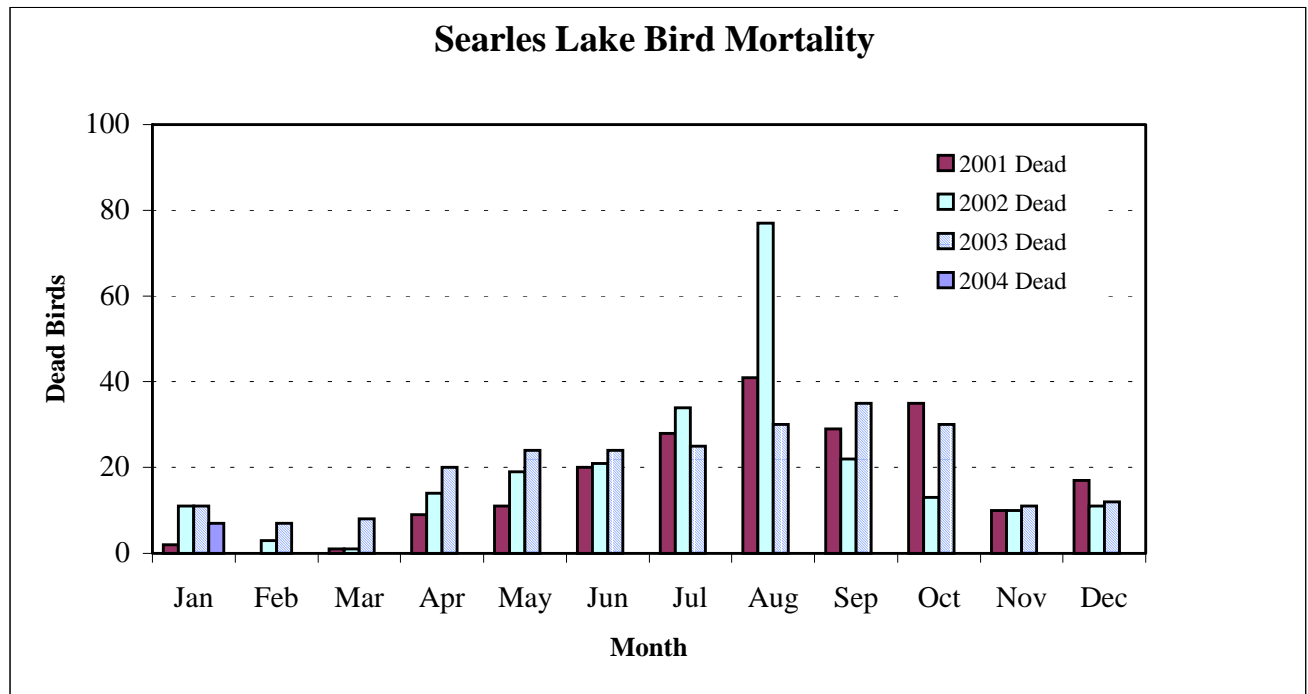
Sixteen total birds were reported in the area during the month of January. Seven were found dead. The total number of birds found during

the period from January 2003 through January 2004 is 468. Of these, 244 were found dead and 224 were found alive. Dead birds reported monthly in the years 2001, 2002, and 2003 are shown on the Table below for comparison.

Birds Observed at Searles Lake

Compliance Status for the Serpentine Channel Cleanup

IMCC has removed no additional contaminated soil this month. IMCC has proposed and Board staff has accepted the workplan addressing the procedures for back filling the channel as well as capping the oil separation structure with a suitable local soil material. The workplan also includes performing final grading in the area to conform to the surrounding land contours and to promote appropriate drainage. Long term maintenance and monitoring of the site will be conducted through the WDRs and Monitoring and Reporting Program for the Argus plant.



**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY
CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION**

**REPORT ON STATUS OF STANDING ITEMS
March 2004**

The Regional Board has requested that it be kept informed of the status of a number of issues. The following table lists the items, the reporting frequency and where the report can be found.

ISSUE	REPORT FREQUENCY	STATUS/COMMENT
IMC Chemicals - Compliance Status	Monthly	Item No. 5 of March 2004 EO's Report
Status of Basin Plan Amendments	Semi-Annual	Item No. 2 March 2004 EO's Report
Eagle Lake Spalding	Semi-Annual	Item No. 1 March 2004 EO's Report
Town of Mammoth Lakes - Erosion Control	Semi-Annual	Item No. 4 March 2004 EO's Report
Los Angeles County Sanitation Districts #14 & #20	Monthly	See Agenda Item No. 8
Meyers Beacon UST Site	Quarterly	Due April 2004 Board Meeting
Mojave River/El Mirage Dairy Issues	Quarterly	Due April 2004 Board Meeting
Progress of Cleanup at Molycorp	Quarterly	Due April 2004 Board Meeting
Caltrans-General Permit	Annually	Due September 2004 Board Meeting
Caltrans-Tahoe Basin	Annually	Due November 2004 Board Meeting
Tahoe Municipal Permit	Annually	Due November 2004 Board Meeting
Wetland Restoration Progress in Mono County	Annually	Due November 2004 Board Meeting

Frequency Board Meeting Month

Quarterly January, April July, & October.
Semi-Annual March & September
Annually Varied

CASE CLOSURE REPORT
 State of California
 Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

Date Closure Issued	Site Name	Site Address	Case Number	Case Type	Remaining Groundwater Concentrations above Water Quality Objectives (in micrograms per liter)	Remaining Soil Concentrations (in milligrams per kilogram)	Distance from Site to Nearest Receptor	Remedial Methods Used
February 3, 2004	Llo-Gas Bishop Gas Station	1223 North Main St. Bishop	6B140079T	UST (waste oil, diesel)	TPHg:1,200 TPHd: 340 Ethylbenzene: 20 Xylene: 17	Benzene: 0.064 MTBE:0.057 TPHg: 3 TPHd: 3,900 Xylene: 2.5 TCE: 0.3	First groundwater 10 feet bgs; Municipal well 1,000 feet cross gradient	Monitored natural attenuation
February 23, 2004	Loading Dock Squaw Valley Ski Corporation	1960 Squaw Valley Road, Olympic Valley	6T0293A	UST (diesel)	TPHd: 100	TPHd: 2.1 TPHg: 1.3 Oil: 14	First groundwater 16 feet bgs; Municipal well 1,000 feet down gradient	Excavated 1,500 cubic yards soil; Pump and treat 200,000 gallons groundwater
March 1, 2004	Fox Gas Station	3376 Lake Tahoe Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe	6T0205A	UST (gasoline, diesel, waste oil)	TPHd: 430	TPHd: 24	First groundwater 10 feet bgs; Municipal well 4,100 feet cross gradient	Excavated 300 cubic yards soil; Pump and treat 4,900,000 gallons groundwater

Notes:

UST = Underground storage tank program
 TPHd = Total petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as diesel
 TPHg = Total petroleum hydrocarbons quantified as gasoline
 MTBE = Methyl tert-Butyl Ether
 TCE = Trichloroethene
 ug/L = micrograms per liter
 mg/Kg = milligrams per kilogram