

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

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**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

PROGRAM: Enforcement

Enforcement Lead: Michael Thomas, AEO, Michael.Thomas@waterboards.ca.gov

Senior/Program Manager: Thea Tryon, P.G., Thea.Tryon@waterboards.ca.gov

Section Manager: John Robertson, P.G., John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: Two dedicated Central Coast Water Board staff (Todd Stanley and Jill North), plus assistance from the State Board Enforcement Unit.

PRIORITY PROJECTS

The Water Boards have a *separation of functions* policy that limits communication between the enforcement team, the Board members, and the Board's advisory team on specific projects. However, in general, our highest priority is the protection of drinking water and enforcement of the Central Coast Water Board's requirements that deal directly with human health and the environment. The Central Coast Water Board determines overall priorities for the organization, and the enforcement team applies those priorities to its program work. However, even low priority enforcement cases can appear before the Board because dischargers always have the option of demanding a hearing. Also, some of our enforcement work is not optional. For example, there are mandatory penalty provisions required by California Water Code section 13385 for violations of NPDES permits (and some of these are low priority violations). For violations that are subject to mandatory minimum penalties, the Water Boards must assess an ACL for the mandatory minimum penalty. The intent of these provisions of the California Water Code is to assist in bringing the State's permitted facilities into compliance with WDRs. The enforcement team strives to address all Class I priority violations with formal enforcement or an investigative order pursuant to water code section 13267 within 18 months of discovery. Also, for facilities with over \$12,000 in minimum mandatory penalties, the enforcement team's goal is to assess those violations within 18 months of accrual. Fortunately, the enforcement team settles the vast majority of enforcement cases without a hearing before the Board.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

Board members must also be careful to not discuss potential enforcement cases with responsible parties or the public, and should contact the Board's legal counsel if there are any questions or potential issues.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDER

The Enforcement Program involves all stakeholders.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

July 30, 2015 Board Item: Consider Adopting Administrative Civil Liability Order for Carpinteria Sanitary District, Santa Barbara County Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R3-2015-0011

The enforcement team cannot predict which other cases may end up before the Board. However, staff provides regular reports to the Board regarding ongoing enforcement activities and the report includes a summary of violations that are reported by the dischargers. The enforcement report also includes general information on any major enforcement actions.

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

PROGRAM: Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification

Section Manager: Lisa McCann, lisa.mccann@waterboards.ca.gov

Senior/Program Manager: Phil Hammer, phillip.hammer@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: 3 staff, 1 intern

PRIORITY PROJECTS - Top 3-10

1. Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program – This program, to be administered by the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA), involves vegetation and sediment management along approximately 90 miles of the Salinas River to reduce flooding. MCWRA will likely apply for a Water Quality Certification for this program in 2016. Staff has worked closely with MCWRA during the development of the program. A Water Quality Certification for a pilot project portion of the program, titled the “Salinas River Multi-Benefit Demonstration Project,” was issued by staff in 2014. The pilot project involved targeted flood risk reduction maintenance activities in locations where impacts to beneficial uses were minimized. Staff plans to continue to work with MCRWA to apply the assessment and implementation techniques of the pilot project to the larger program.
2. Route 46 Corridor Improvement Project – This Caltrans project involves widening Route 46 for approximately 24 miles to improve safety and reduce traffic congestion. The project is being implemented in several phases over the course of up to 20 years, and total permanent impacts to waters of the U.S. may equal approximately 8 acres, with additional potential impacts to waters of the State that are outside federal jurisdiction. Due to the size of the project and its associated impacts, staff is working closely with Caltrans to ensure already implemented compensatory mitigation will be successful, and confirm that proposed sites for future compensatory mitigation are suitable and will support mitigation habitat.
3. Assessing Compliance with Mitigation Requirements – Staff is increasing its efforts to assess applicants’ compliance with compensatory mitigation requirements included in Water Quality Certifications. These compensatory mitigation conditions typically require establishment, re-establishment, rehabilitation, and/or enhancement of waters and beneficial uses in order offset impacts to waters resulting from a project or activity. The success of compensatory mitigation is critical to ensure the region does not experience a net loss in waters and beneficial uses. Since mitigation sites are numerous throughout the region, and their success can often take five to ten years or more to achieve, assessment of mitigation success has historically proven difficult. Staff has created a new reporting system to better track and assess mitigation projects. Staff has also devoted increased resources to field inspections of mitigation sites to ensure they are implemented and maintained according to Water Quality Certification requirements. Improved report tracking and increased inspections have resulted in increased enforcement actions, which staff expects will elicit greater compliance and mitigation success.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

Water Quality Certifications are issued for projects that will conduct work within water bodies, such as projects that involve mechanized excavation and vegetation clearing or construction of structures. Such

projects can result in destruction or degradation to water bodies through loss of habitat, changes in hydrology and geomorphology, and increased pollutant discharges.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

Public agencies responsible for infrastructure development and maintenance are major stakeholders (e.g., Caltrans, cities, and counties). Agencies charged with flood control, such as the Santa Barbara County Flood Control District, Monterey County Water Resources Agency, and Santa Clara Valley Water District, are also major stakeholders. The development and building industry is also a major stakeholder.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

Water Quality Certifications are typically issued by the Executive Officer, though Water Quality Certifications for large controversial project may necessitate Board approval. It is difficult to predict future Board items, since issuance of Water Quality Certifications is dependent on project proponents' schedules. However, it is likely that the Monterey County Water Resource Agency's maintenance program for the Salinas River will appear before the Board in 2016, either as an action item or a status update.

CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015

PROGRAM: Basin Planning

Section Manager: Lisa McCann, lisa.mccann@waterboards.ca.gov

Senior/Program Manager: Phil Hammer, phillip.hammer@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: 1 staff

PRIORITY PROJECTS - Top 3-10

In 2014, staff conducted a “triennial review” of the Basin Plan. The triennial review identifies priority issues to be addressed through subsequent Basin Plan amendment projects. Basin Plan amendment projects serve to update the Basin Plan, increase its utility, and improve its effectiveness as a tool to protect water quality. The triennial review identified the three following projects as the highest priority Basin Plan amendments. Staff is currently in the planning phase for the first project listed. The other projects will be pursued upon completion of the first project.

1. Watershed and Integrated Water Resource Protection – This amendment will help ensure the beneficial uses of waters are fully protected and restored by acknowledging, clarifying, and further refining the authority to adequately address all relevant activities and factors that affect waters. The amendment will likely focus on achieving preservation and restoration of watershed processes through implementation of integrated water resource management planning and multi-benefit projects. This will maximize the efficient use of water through capture, recycling, and infiltration, while increasing beneficial use protection and reducing pollution discharges. Staff will investigate the most critical types and locations of resource issues to address and the most appropriate types of Basin Plan amendments to address them. Basin Plan amendments will be tailored to best address the types and locations of resource issues identified as highest priority. These amendments and follow-up actions may include prohibitions, beneficial use definitions, water quality objectives, implementation, policies, permit terms, guidelines, and incentives.
2. Designation of Beneficial Uses – These amendments would improve the adequacy of present and potential beneficial uses for surface and groundwaters. Amendments are needed 1) to add or change assignments of beneficial uses to specific waterbodies, 2) to clarify which beneficial uses are designated for all waterbodies in the Central Coast Region, 3) to establish a tributary rule, and 4) to clarify the designation of groundwater beneficial uses.
3. Revision of Water Quality Objectives for Specific Waterbodies – This amendment would improve our numeric water quality objectives for salts (namely, for chloride, sulfate, boron, sodium, nitrate, and total dissolved solids). These objectives should be based on site-specific, historical data. Where historical data is lacking, to be protective of water quality, these objectives could be based on data that represents the most recent, statistically-viable baseline. Additionally, these objectives could be improved by associating them with specific beneficial uses at proper thresholds that protect those uses.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The Basin Plan is a planning document for addressing all water quality issues in the region.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

The Basin Plan is assessed every three years, most recently in 2014. During that assessment, the major stakeholders involved in the assessment were agencies regulated by the Central Coast Water Board (City of Santa Cruz, City of Lompoc, City of Santa Maria, Santa Clara Valley Water District) and the Grower Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. The State Water Resources Control Board, the Office of Administrative Law and USEPA must approve substantive Regional Board Basin Plan Amendments for them to become effective. The major stakeholders involved in Basin Plan amendments vary depending on the nature of the amendments.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

None planned.

CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015

PROGRAM: GRANTS

Lead: Katie McNeill, katie.mcneill@waterboards.ca.gov

Section Manager: Lisa McCann, lisa.mccann@waterboards.ca.gov

Senior/Program Manager: Phil Hammer, phillip.hammer@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: 1

PRIORITY PROJECTS- Top 3-10

Central Coast Water Board staff has identified the highest priorities for external grant projects as Low Impact Development (LID), Irrigation and Nutrient Management, Groundwater Recharge Area Protection, and Riparian Buffer Zone Designation and Protection. Staff is currently focusing on grant funding programs generated under Proposition 1 . To foster implementation of high priority grant projects, staff conducts the following actions:

1. Provide outreach to potential grantees regarding grant funding opportunities.
2. Assist grantees with development of competitive grant projects.
3. Provide input to State Board on grant guidelines to better align grant opportunities with Central Coast Water Board priorities.
4. Review of grant project proposals to provide input to State Board staff.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

Staff works to align grant projects with Central Coast Water Board priorities, such as low impact development implementation, agricultural irrigation and nutrient management, clean drinking water supply, and riparian area and wetland are restoration.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

Common applicants for grants managed by Central Coast Water Board staff include resource conservation districts, non-profit organizations, and municipalities.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

Status Report on agricultural grant project in the Pajaro and Salinas watersheds tentatively planned for the September 2015 Board meeting.

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

PROGRAM: Stormwater and Low Impact Development Program

Senior/Program Manager: Dominic Roques, dominic.roques@waterboards.ca.gov

Manager: Lisa McCann, lisa.mccann@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: 5 (plus 1 on leave)

PRIORITY PROJECTS, TOP 3-10

Municipal:

1. Municipal: Continue oversight of Post-Construction Requirement implementation by municipal Permittees: inspections and follow-up enforcement
2. Municipal: Assist municipal Permittees with implementation of a Catchment-Scale, Load-Based Approach to Assessing Urban Runoff Program Effectiveness (assisted by Central Coast LID Initiative)
3. Municipal: Explore potential for municipal Permittees to pursue watershed-scale stormwater capture and reuse projects; evaluate City of Santa Maria proposed Watershed Plan as Alternative Compliance for Post-Construction Stormwater Management Requirements
4. Industrial: Transition almost 500 existing Permittees to new Industrial General Permit and enroll newly designated industrial dischargers
5. Industrial: Improve compliance at industrial sites with history of water quality benchmark exceedances
6. Construction and Caltrans: Improve compliance with post-construction requirements and construction BMPs at construction sites
7. Stormwater Resource Plans: contribute to development of State Board guidelines for Stormwater Resource Plans to be adopted December 2015 (assisted by Central Coast LID Initiative)

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The purpose of the Storm Water Program is to prevent stormwater runoff from acting as the vehicle for transporting pollutants to surface water bodies. The Storm Water Program carries out its purpose by permitting three categories of stormwater discharge from potential pollution sources:

- Urban Areas (Municipalities)
- Industrial Activities
- Construction Activities

Stormwater runoff from urban areas remains one of the great challenges of modern water pollution control and is a principal contributor to water quality impairment of waterbodies nationwide. In addition to entraining chemical and microbial contaminants as it runs over roads, rooftops, and compacted land, stormwater poses a physical hazard to aquatic habitats and stream function, owing to the increase in water velocity and volume that inevitably result on a watershed scale as many individually managed sources are combined. The magnitude of this stormwater problem on the Central Coast has the potential to grow with increasing population.

Recently re-issued State-wide General Permits for Municipal and Industrial Stormwater have activated the stakeholder communities as they confront the cost of compliance and the complexity of permit requirements. Municipal stormwater dischargers are in the second year of implementing Post-Construction Stormwater Management Requirements adopted by the Central Coast Water Board in July 2012. These requirements address future growth throughout the region and require Low Impact

Development (LID), including retention and infiltration of runoff from larger projects where feasible. The Water Board's Central Coast LID Initiative, funded by the settlement agreement resulting from penalties for the Guadalupe oil spill, is an important vehicle for assisting municipalities and developers with implementing LID, consistent with the Post-Construction Requirements.

The Industrial General Permit addresses stormwater discharges from a broad range of industrial facilities, from agricultural chemical facilities to wineries, and from auto dismantlers to concrete manufacturers. The number – now approaching 500 – of industrial facilities enrolled under the Permit in the Central Coast Region is expected to grow as the renewed permit expanded the types of facilities subject to regulation.

As these General Permits are being implemented, other Regional Boards are revising municipal stormwater permits, the State Board is issuing precedential decisions, and State grants programs are developing grant guidelines all with a clear message: stormwater is a resource best managed through watershed approaches. The Central Coast Region's Phase I Salinas Municipal Stormwater Permit and the General Permit for Phase II Municipalities offer a strong foundation for the permitted municipalities to pursue these watershed-based solutions to stormwater management. However, the municipalities will need other institutional partners to fully embrace the new era of integrated water resource management and reap the benefits of projects that address water quality as well as water supply, flood control, habitat enhancement, open space preservation, recreation, and climate change. Water Board staff will be challenged to optimize our resources to support these new partnerships, while continuing to provide adequate oversight of our existing regulatory programs.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

Municipal Stakeholders:

- Phase I Permittee: City of Salinas
- Phase II Permittees (Traditional): 37 cities and counties
- Phase II Permittees (Non-Traditional): 27 school districts, State parks, universities, federal penitentiaries, community services districts
- Cal Trans

Industrial Stakeholders: Almost 500 General Permit enrollees

Building Industry

Environmental advocates

2015 BOARD ITEMS IN 2015

The Stormwater Program will bring an update on the Salinas Municipal Stormwater Permit to the September 24th meeting, and an update on the Central Coast LID Initiative to the October or December meeting.

CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015

PROGRAM: Nonpoint Source Program (NPS)

Senior/Program Manager: Alison Jones, Alison.Jones@waterboards.ca.gov

Section Manager: John Robertson, John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: 1.6 positions (7 part time staff)

PRIORITY PROJECTS, TOP 3-10

Each year, approximately \$4 million in federal 319(h) funds is allocated statewide through a competitive grants process. Each region identifies priority projects that are included in the Request for Proposals. Region 3 has identified draft priorities that will be finalized by August 2015. Our current draft priorities for 319(h) grant funding for fiscal year 2015-16 include projects that address nutrient and pesticide discharges in the Salinas, Pajaro, and Santa Maria/Oso Flaco watersheds. Of particular interest to Region 3 are projects that develop industry-led sustainability certifications for strawberry operations to address nutrient discharges.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

NPS pollution comes from many diffuse sources. NPS pollution occurs when rainfall flows off the land, roads, buildings and other features of the landscape and carries pollutants in surface waters. NPS pollution can also occur when water infiltrates into soil and carries pollutants to groundwater. Land use activities such as agriculture, urban development, forestry, boating and others contribute to NPS pollution.

The NPS program in the Central Coast Region allocates most of its resources (1.2 positions) to the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program to address agricultural impacts, which account for the majority of water quality impairments in the region. Water quality impacts from agriculture include nutrients (primarily nitrates) in surface and groundwater, and pesticides in surface water and sediments. Agricultural pollutants impact beneficial uses such as drinking water and aquatic habitat. In particular, groundwater in many agricultural areas is unfit for drinking and is impacting people who rely on domestic wells and small water systems for their drinking water.

Besides irrigated agriculture, a small part of our NPS program resources are allocated to managing federal Clean Water Act Section 319(h) grants to address NPS impacts. We are currently managing four 319(h) grants: two projects in the Morro Bay and San Lorenzo watersheds (San Luis Obispo County and Santa Cruz County, respectively) to address erosion of sediment from rural roads; a project in Morro Bay to address agricultural impacts; and a project to address cyanobacteria in Pinto Lake (Santa Cruz County).

MAJOR STAKEHOLDER

Agricultural stakeholders include owners and operators of irrigated farmlands and residents of the agricultural areas of the region. The majority of irrigated acreage is in the Salinas, Santa Maria and Pajaro watersheds.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015

The NPS program has no items to bring before the Board in 2015.

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JANUARY 22, 2015**

PROGRAM: Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

Senior/Program Manager: Jennifer Epp, Jennifer.epp@waterboards.ca.gov

Manager: Lisa McCann, lisa.mccann@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: 5 (3 of which work part time, or part time in other programs). We are in the process of filling one vacancy in the unit, which would increase the size to 6.

PRIORITY PROJECTS- Top 3-10

Our current priority projects include the development of the following Total Maximum Daily Loads:

- Pajaro River Watershed Nutrient
- San Antonio Creek Nutrient and Dissolved Oxygen
- Elkhorn Slough and Bennett Slough Dissolved Oxygen
- Pinto Lake Catchment Nutrients and Algal Toxins
- Salinas River Watershed Sediment Toxicity
- San Simeon Creek Nutrients
- Santa Ynez River Basin Nutrients
- Warden Creek Nitrate
- Carpinteria Marsh Watershed Nutrients

In addition, we are assisting with the update to the region's impaired waters list.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The Central Coast Water Board has been approving Total Maximum Daily Loads since 2002.

We use water quality monitoring data to assess all the surface waterbodies in our Region. Waterbodies that contain enough pollutants to be considered "impaired" are placed on our impaired waters list. The Total Maximum Daily Load program then uses this list to prioritize the projects for which we will develop a plan to restore the waterbody.

Total Maximum Daily Load projects are strategies or plans to restore clean water. They are planning tools that can recommend or propose new or additional regulatory measures to address a water quality problem.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDER

The major stakeholders vary with each Total Maximum Daily Load project. For each project, the stakeholders tend to be the parties that will be impacted by the Total Maximum Daily Load. This includes stakeholders that are aware of the water quality issue and want us to identify a path for the waterbody to be cleaned up. Stakeholders also include parties that may be impacted financially or operationally by the implementation of the plan. Typical example stakeholders are: environmental groups, municipalities (discharging stormwater or wastewater), industry, and agricultural interests.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

July 2015 – Pajaro River Watershed Nutrient Total Maximum Daily Load. Multiple waterbodies within the Pajaro River Watershed are on our list of impaired waterbodies. Staff will be bringing the Total Maximum Daily Load to the Board for approval.

November 2015 – San Antonio Creek Nutrient and Dissolved Oxygen Total Maximum Daily Load. San Antonio Creek is on our list of impaired waterbodies. Staff will be bringing the Total Maximum Daily Load to the Board for approval.

January 2016 – Salinas River Watershed Sediment Toxicity Total Maximum Daily Load. Multiple waterbodies within the Salinas River Watershed are on our list of impaired waterbodies. Staff will be bringing the Total Maximum Daily Load to the Board for approval.

Other Total Maximum Daily Loads may be brought to the Board for approval late in the fiscal year. For example, the San Simeon Creek Nitrate, and the Elkhorn Slough/Bennett Slough Dissolved Oxygen may be on an agenda in the spring or summer of 2016.

CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015

PROGRAM: Monitoring and Assessment

Lead: Karen Worcester, Senior Env. Scientist, Specialist; Karen.worcester@waterboards.ca.gov

Section Manager: Lisa McCann, Lisa.Mccann@waterboards.ca.gov

Program Manager: Karen Worcester, Senior Env. Scientist, Specialist;
Karen.worcester@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: Two Water Board staff (one is located in TMDL unit); one full-time software developer, one full-time field coordinator, and one part-time field assistant funded by CCAMP Endowment

PRIORITY PROJECTS- Top 3-10

- CCAMP data collection and management
- 303(d) listing
- Healthy Watersheds web report cards
- Neonicotinoid pesticide and toxicity monitoring and regulatory support
- Follow-up on findings related to mercury in rockfish
- Flow and riparian methodology development and pilot studies
- QAPP reviews for Individual Ag Dischargers and Phase 2 stormwater agencies
- Data management, data deliveries, data checking
- Monitoring data and knowledge support for other Water Board programs
- State cyanotoxin monitoring program development

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

- Status, trends and loads of nitrate and other pollutants in surface water
- Pesticides and toxicity
- Metals
- Bioaccumulation
- Bioassessment
- Emerging contaminants (cyanotoxins, new pesticides, endocrine disruptors)
- Monitoring program development (methodologies, monitoring approaches, regionalized program development, permit monitoring support)
- Integrated Report - 303(d) listing; 305(b) Report
- Quality Assurance and Data Management
- Web data displays and report cards
- Data to support enforcement actions, permit requirements, Basin Planning, TMDL development and assessment

MAJOR STAKEHOLDER

Water Board staff is the primary stakeholder for CCAMP data, interpretations, and web tools. Others include other agencies, organizations, policy makers, and the general public.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

An update on the CCAMP program will be planned for late 2016. In addition, CCAMP will periodically report to the Board through the Executive Officer's report on observations from the field and issues of concern.

An update to the impaired waters list will be brought to the Board sometime in 2016. Timing is dependent on steps currently being worked on by State Water Board staff.

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

PROGRAM: Active Oilfield Regulation (Underground Injection Control, Aquifer Exemption, Oilfield Production Water Disposal, Hydraulic Fracturing, etc.)

Senior: Vacant

Section Manager: John Robertson, PG, John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: One full time staff (Aaron Katona), plus technical support from two part-time staff (Grant Himebaugh and Rich Chandler),

Note: Anticipate two additional positions provided in 2015-2016 budget.

PRIORITY PROJECTS

- Evaluate status of production water disposal sumps/ponds on leases throughout the 45 oilfields in the Central Coast region.
- Evaluate production water disposal practices (i.e., injection wells, sumps, etc.) of all operators and all leases within each of 45 oilfields in the Central Coast region.
- Evaluate technical responses regarding injection wells in <3,000 ppm TDS aquifer at Arroyo Grande oilfield.
- Review and comment on Aquifer Exemption application submitted by Freeport McMoRan for Arroyo Grande oilfield, located in Price Canyon south of San Luis Obispo.
- Participate in review and development of SB4 Model Criteria Draft Regulation for groundwater monitoring associated with hydraulic fracturing projects in active oilfields.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY/REQUIREMENTS

- California Senate Bill No. 4 requiring the Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) to adopt water resource protective regulations specific to oil well stimulation (i.e., hydraulic fracturing, etc.). Final protective groundwater monitoring regulations from local well stimulation operations will be in place by July 2015:

http://leginfo.ca.gov/pub/13-14/bill/sen/sb_0001-0050/sb_4_bill_20130920_chaptered.htm

- State Water Resources Control Board and Division of Oil, Gas, and Geothermal Resources (DOGGR) 1988 Memorandum of Agreement

General supporting authority:

- Federal Clean Water Act
- Federal Safe Drinking Water Act
- State Water Code (Porter-Cologne) water quality protection standards and methods
- Central Coast Regional Water Board Basin Plan

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The program addresses potential impacts to water resources, primarily groundwater, from petroleum industry disposal of oilfield formation water via Class II injection wells, well stimulation, and enhanced oil recovery practices (i.e., hydraulic fracturing, steam injection, etc.); and the. Well stimulation and enhanced recovery practices include hydraulic stimulation and fracturing, a.k.a. fracking, acid

stimulation, and water/steam injection. These enhanced oil recovery and oilfield water injection practices can pose a threat to surface- and groundwater quality if improperly managed.

Injection wells (classified as Class II under federal regulations) can be used for either enhanced petroleum resource recovery or the disposal of fluids associated with oil and gas production. Injection activities can pose a threat to groundwater resources if targeted injection zones are not effectively isolated from drinking water zones. For a number of reasons including the large volumes of formation water typically re-injected as part of oil recovery, injection represents a larger risk to water quality in this region than do oil well stimulation activities.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDER

Stakeholders include Central Coast residents currently and potentially utilizing groundwater supplies in the vicinity of existing oilfields for drinking water and other beneficial uses, the petroleum producing industry, petroleum service companies, land/mineral lease holders and owners of producing properties; numerous public beneficiaries of petroleum production taxes.

ISSUES

Re-injection of oilfield formation water, generated in the process of extracting oil, poses a larger threat to water resources, as described above. Staff will be working with both petroleum companies and DOGGR to review projects that threaten water quality and implement strategies that will prevent these impacts. The State and Regional Water Board's involvement in these types of oilfield activities is relatively new, and as such the working relationship with DOGGR, as well as the associated MOUs are in a state of rapid change.

Hydraulic fracturing, one of many oilfield well stimulation strategies, has garnered significant attention in both the media and political forums. Hydraulic fracturing is not widely used in the Central Coast region because it is not well suited to much of the oilfield geology in this area. This practice is considerably more prevalent in the southern San Joaquin Valley (Central Valley Region).

The State has contracted with Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory and others to provide a comprehensive report, of which the first of three volumes was completed in January 2015, evaluating the potential for petroleum industry well stimulation practices in the State to threaten State water resources. In volumes two and three, to be completed by July 2015, the report will also contain recommendations for effective groundwater monitoring programs to protect current beneficial uses of potable groundwater adjacent to well stimulation operations. Senate Bill 4 will be amended to contain the previously mentioned groundwater monitoring program standards which will be completed by July 2015. The State and Regional Water Boards are involved in the development of these new regulations as well as in the subsequent implementation and review of protective groundwater monitoring operations and data.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015

Staff anticipates providing informational updates to the Board following completion of development of the SB4 groundwater monitoring program in fall of 2015.

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**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

PROGRAM: Groundwater Assessment and Protection (GAP) – of Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program (CCAMP)

Lead: Matthew Keeling, Matthew.Keeling@waterboards.ca.gov

Section Manager: John Robertson, John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov

Senior: Vacant

Number of Staff: One full time (0.8) staff plus a part time student and technical staff as needed for various projects (primarily for GIS support).

PRIORITY PROJECTS

- Implementation of region-wide **Domestic Well Sampling Project** (described in more detail in the Water Quality Issues section below)
 - Funding sourced from the Cleanup and Abatement Account and GAP
- Providing assistance to disadvantaged communities (DACs) with unsafe drinking water due to nitrate pollution. Assistance ranges from identification of impacted communities to outreach and provision of temporary replacement water. (Additional information provided below in the “Nitrate Pollution”

LINKS AND REFERENCES

Associated programmatic webpage:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/gap/index.shtml

Statutory Authority/Requirement (note: blue headings are hyperlinks to relevant documents or webpages):

[Groundwater Quality Monitoring Act of 2001 \(AB 599, Liu\)](#) - calls for, in part, the integration of existing monitoring programs and design of new program elements to establish a comprehensive statewide groundwater quality monitoring program and increase the availability of information about groundwater quality to the public.

[California Water Board's Strategic Plan Update 2008-2012](#) - GAP is consistent with or otherwise informs goals 2, 4, 5, and 7, and various associated objectives and actions thereof, of the Strategic Plan with regard to groundwater quality protection, data availability and resource effectiveness/efficiency. Moreover, one of the “Desired Conditions” within the Strategic Plan is that, “water quality is comprehensively monitored to plan, carry out, and evaluate protection and restoration efforts.

[Central Coast Water Board Vision for Healthy Watersheds](#) – GAP is consistent with or will otherwise help identify and inform our highest priorities and evaluate our performance in achieving our stated goals and addressing our highest priorities. Moreover, GAP provides technical information and support to Water Board programs regarding regional-scale and statewide groundwater issues.

[Resolution No. R3-2012-0024](#) (Funding for the Central Coast Ambient Monitoring Program-Groundwater Protection Program, and Special Projects) – This resolution documents the Central Coast Water Board’s approval of the initial GAP workplan and funding.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The GAP Program supports all Water Board programs with respect to regional-scale groundwater issues as needed to inform the priorities and effectiveness of the programs and to evaluate and achieve our stated measurable goals. This includes the collection and assessment of groundwater quality data to inform and support programmatic activities and Water Board actions. GAP staff also provides review of regional and statewide documents to inform Central Coast Water Board programmatic staff and management, and provide comments as needed to ensure Central Coast Water Board issues and priorities are clearly identified and addressed. For example, GAP staff coordinated with the Department of Water Resource (DWR) on the most recent [CA Water Plan Update \(2013\)](#) for the development of the regional report for the Central Coast Hydrologic Region.

One of the goals of CCAMP and GAP is to integrate surface water, groundwater and land use data for the development of web-based watershed assessment tools and report cards (see CCAMP briefing notes for additional information). Inherent to this goal is the need to develop regional groundwater monitoring and assessment tools and fill data gaps (see “Issues” discussion below for more information).

GAP staff also coordinates with and provides support to State Water Board programs regarding regional and statewide groundwater issues. For example, GAP staff is currently the regional liaison and technical work group participant for the development of a new [statewide policy for the application of the Antidegradation Policy \(Resolution 68-16\) for groundwater](#). GAP staff is also the regional liaison for the [Recycled Water Policy \(Resolution No. 2009-0011\)](#) salt and nutrient management planning efforts. Historically, GAP staff has participated in a number of coordinated statewide efforts associated with evaluating and developing recommendations addressing groundwater nitrate pollution. For example GAP staff was the regional representative for the SBX2-1 (UC Davis Nitrate Study) Interagency Task Force and the [Governor’s Drinking Water Stakeholder Group](#), and participated in the State Water Board’s GAMA Program nitrate high-risk area mapping effort.

Domestic well sampling project: GAP staff is currently focused on implementing a region-wide domestic well sampling project in coordination with and funded by the State Water Board. The project is focused on nitrate pollution and includes a significant outreach and education component – with an emphasis on disadvantaged communities - to inform Central Coast residents of the nitrate pollution problem and available resources, including the voluntary and free sampling program. Bidding documents for the project will be released sometime this spring. In 2012-2013, GAP staff coordinated with the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) to implement a localized domestic well sampling effort in the Monterey-Salinas Area Study Unit. This project was funded with \$50,000 in GAP funds and federal matching funds of \$20,000. Information regarding this sampling effort and the resulting data are available on the GAP webpage as well as within the [Item No. 11 staff report regarding CCAMP-Groundwater Assessment and Protection \(GAP\) Update and Summary of Groundwater Basin Data with Respect to Nitrate](#), for the July 31 –August 1, 2014 regular meeting.

See “Issues” discussion below for additional information.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

GAP Program related stakeholders are broad and varied, and consist of internal and external agency programs and associated staff, groups associated with various industries, NGOs focused on social and environmental issues, and the general public. This is because groundwater issues are relevant to a

diverse group of stakeholders and individuals. The State Water Board's Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) Program is one of our most significant collaborative stakeholders.

ISSUES

Reliance on Groundwater - Whereas groundwater accounts for over one-third of the water use statewide, groundwater accounts for approximately 86% of the water use in the Central Coast Hydrologic Region. In many areas of the region groundwater is the sole source of supply, particularly for domestic drinking water purposes. Existing groundwater use is not sustainable throughout many areas of the state, including the Central Coast, given many groundwater basins are in overdraft (i.e., extraction exceeds recharge). In some areas groundwater overdraft is resulting in the loss of water supply for beneficial uses due to wells going dry, the loss of groundwater storage and infrastructure damage due to inelastic subsidence, degraded water quality due to seawater intrusion and concentration effects, and the depletion of interconnected surface water and the associated impairment or loss of surface water beneficial uses. Our dependence on groundwater and the risks to beneficial uses will increase with ongoing economic developmental pressure and the associated increase in water supply demand. Climate change and prolonged drought conditions also have the potential to increase our dependence on groundwater and the risks to beneficial uses. The [Sustainable Groundwater Management \(SGM\) Act of 2014](#) establishes a statewide policy for the sustainable management of the State's groundwater resources via the development and implementation groundwater sustainability plans (GSPs) by local authorities (i.e., groundwater sustainability agencies, or GSAs) per prescribed timelines. It is anticipated that the GAP Program will provide regional coordination and support for the implementation of the SGM Act.

Nitrate Pollution – Nitrate loading to groundwater from irrigated agriculture and other sources and the associated pollution of drinking water is currently one of the Central Coast Water Board's highest priorities. Nitrate pollution is severe and widespread throughout the region with major portions of our largest and most viable groundwater basins exhibiting nitrate concentrations exceeding the drinking water standard. Our Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) is focused on addressing the ongoing sources of loading and GAP is providing technical support to ILRP regarding this regional-scale issue. Most recently, GAP provided an assessment of regional groundwater nitrate data from a variety of available sources, including Ag Order groundwater monitoring compliance data. The assessment was provided within the Item No. 11 staff report hyperlinked above. In addition to providing technical support regarding the sources and relative loading of nitrate to groundwater and the resulting water quality impairment, GAP staff is also focused on identifying at-risk communities and individuals, providing outreach and education, and helping identify and implement replacement water solutions for the most at-risk and in-need communities within the Central Coast. The latter involves ongoing coordination with environmental justice groups and other NGOs such as third party service providers, and funding program staff to help facilitate the timely implementation of replacement water solutions. The biggest challenge is breaking down institutional obstacles faced by disadvantaged communities and overcoming a general lack of funding programs for non-public water systems (i.e., domestic wells and water systems below the public water system threshold of 15 service connections).

Regional Monitoring and Assessment – We currently have no systematic, region-wide tools to effectively and efficiently assess and track the quality of our groundwater in the region. Instead of building a regional monitoring program from the ground up, as we largely did with our surface water monitoring program (i.e., CCAMP), the proposed GAP strategy is to collaborate extensively with various stakeholders to leverage (with supplemental funding and technical support) existing groundwater monitoring programs currently being implemented by local agencies. There are a number of

organizations currently implementing groundwater monitoring programs with dedicated monitoring well networks within the Region. In addition to leveraging existing programs, we intend to help develop monitoring programs in priority groundwater basins where these monitoring programs currently do not exist. Although GAP staff has verbal agreements from four of the eleven organizations identified in the region with existing groundwater monitoring programs to coordinate with us, this effort is on hold pending the development of tools within the State Water Board's GeoTracker GAMA information system to effectively integrate and manage regional groundwater monitoring data. GAP staff submitted a concept proposal for these tools to the State Water Board on March 25, 2013. This proposal is currently under consideration by the Division of Water Quality, primarily the GAMA Program, with respect to developing statewide groundwater monitoring and assessment tools associated with the Recycled Water Policy, the SGM Act of 2014, and the pending antidegradation policy for groundwater.

Data Gaps - Data associated with the number, location, and water quality conditions of municipal supply wells are readily available for analysis by Water Board staff via the State's GeoTracker GAMA information system. Similar data for other unregulated wells are generally not available, unless through voluntary monitoring. Consequently, the Water Boards currently do not know the number, location and water quality of hundreds of thousands of wells throughout the state, making it difficult to effectively determine the degree to which existing beneficial uses are at risk of degradation or pollution. Consequently, the Water Boards are unable to effectively evaluate whether discharges have degraded beneficial uses and to what extent.

Of particular concern are wells associated with individual residences (i.e., private domestic wells) and water systems below the threshold for public water systems (i.e., local small water systems with 2-4 residential service connections and state small water systems with 5 to 14 residential service connections). These wells/systems are more at-risk of certain types of pollution (e.g., nitrate) because of their shallow depths and rural locations. Moreover, these wells and water systems are essentially unregulated. Although these domestic and small water system water supply wells only provide potable supply to about two to five percent of the population in California, there are several hundred thousand more of them in the State than there are public supply wells. In some areas of the State, the population is more reliant on domestic wells than the statewide average. This is particularly true for the Central Coast Region. Preliminary estimates by GAP staff indicate that upwards of 15 percent of the population in various Central Coast counties get their drinking water from domestic wells or small unregulated water system wells. Data gaps also exist for agricultural and industrial process and supply wells (i.e., the AGR and IND beneficial uses).

Many county level drinking water and well permitting programs are currently requiring various levels of water quality monitoring as part of the initial well or water system permitting action. GAP staff is coordinating with county level programs to capture these data. These data are generally not available in electronic or consistent formats.

2015 BOARD ITEMS IN 2015

It is currently anticipated that a GAP program update will be provided to the Board later in the year as either an individual informational item or as part the Executive Officer's report.

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

PROGRAM: Land Disposal Program

Senior: Vacant

Section Manager: John Robertson, P.G., John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: 2.5 (Martin Fletcher, WRCE; Ryan Lodge, WRCE; Dan Niles*, EG)

*Note: Dan Niles splits his time between the Land Disposal Unit and the Cleanup Program.

PRIORITY PROJECTS

- Overseeing multi-cell landfill expansion/liner construction (seven acre) at John Smith Road Class III landfill near Hollister.
- Overseeing large, multi-cell landfill expansion/liner construction (41 acre) at Cold Canyon landfill, near San Luis Obispo.
- Providing technical and compliance oversight for Class II lined evaporation pond at Cambria associated with Community Services District's Emergency Water Supply facility.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY/REQUIREMENTS

Specific landfill design and siting criteria are in the following Federal and State regulations:

- **Code of Federal Regulations Title 40, Parts 257 and 258**, Solid Waste Facility Disposal Criteria.
- **California Code of Regulations Title 27**, Solid Waste

More general, State regulatory requirements associated with permitting, reporting, replacement water:

- **Water Code section 13260(a)** requires that any person discharging waste or proposing to discharge waste that could affect the quality of the waters of the State, other than into a community sewer system, shall file with the appropriate Regional Board a report of waste discharge (ROWD).
- **California Water Code section 13263** requires the Central Coast Water Board to prescribe waste discharge requirements (WDRs), or waive WDRs, for the discharge. The WDRs must implement relevant water quality control plans and the Water Code.
- **California Water Code section 13269(a)** provides that the Central Coast Water Board may "waive" the requirement to obtain WDRs for a specific discharge or specific type of discharge, under certain conditions.
- **California Water Code section 13267** provides the authority to require technical reports including reports to conduct monitoring of landfills and evaluate monitoring results.
- **California Water Code section 13304** provides the authority to require Dischargers to provide alternative water supplies or replacement water service, including wellhead treatment, to affected public water suppliers or private domestic well owners.
- **State Water Board Resolution 68-16**, Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters of the State (Anti-degradation Policy)
- **Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Region** (Basin Plan)

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The primary focus of the Land Disposal program is to protect and restore beneficial uses of surface and groundwater and minimize public health impacts from landfilled waste. The Land Disposal team's work consists primarily of developing WDRs based on individual siting conditions and proposed liner designs, compliance inspections, evaluations of groundwater monitoring data and proposed liner and cover designs; enforcement tasks for active and closed land disposal sites, proper geologic siting of future landfills and existing landfill expansions, inspecting construction of liner and cover systems, and implementation of best management practices for control of stormwater runoff.

Groundwater impacts generally result from landfill gas and leachate contacting or discharging into groundwater. Landfill gas is generated by decomposing waste and consists primarily of methane and carbon dioxide, but can contain low concentrations of hydrogen sulfide and other sulfur compounds, and volatile organic compounds. Landfill leachate is the liquid which moves through or drains from waste and often contains elevated dissolved metals, dissolved solids, nitrogen, and semi volatile and volatile compounds. Modern landfills utilize landfill gas and leachate collection systems to control landfill leachate/gas and prevent impacts to groundwater. The sites typically posing the greatest risk to groundwater are older, unlined landfills with poor underlying geologic conditions (e.g., high permeability soils [gravels, sands, etc.] and shallow groundwater beneath an unlined portion of a landfill). Because of the impacts associated with unlined land disposal, Water Board staff will continue to direct facilities toward disposal over liner systems appropriate for the geologic conditions beneath their specific sites.

Surface water impacts generally result from stormwater contact with uncovered wastes, erosion of soil covers, and/or direct leachate discharge. Landfill WDRs require landfill operators to complete wet weather preparedness activities (best management practices) annually prior to the rainy season to prevent surface water impacts, and maintain or improve these best management practices as necessary. Interestingly, the increased priority and trend of diverting and recycling waste prior to disposal has increased the potential for surface water impacts at landfills due to the temporary stockpiling and processing of these recycled wastes. To address the increased potential for surface water impacts during the rainy season, Water Board staff focuses their regular unannounced landfill inspections during the wet weather season.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDER

Major stakeholders include the various City, County military, and private (e.g., Recology, Waste Connections) landfill owners and operators, neighboring landowners, environmental interest/law groups, and several additional State and local regulatory agencies [e.g., California Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), County health/public works agencies acting as the Local Enforcement Agency for CalRecycle, and the California Air Board].

ISSUES

Most regional landfills halted expansion projects during the most recent recession due to budgetary constraints and reduced waste disposal. However, the majority of active landfills in our region are now expanding. For example, during 2014, Buena Vista, Chicago Grade, Marina, Paso Robles, and Tajiguas landfills all constructed new waste management units, and this trend is expected to continue in the near future as Buena Vista, Cold Canyon, and Santa Cruz landfills have planned expansions and construction during 2015. Landfill expansion has the potential to create additional comment or complaint from neighboring landowners. Landfill construction projects also require program staff resources since each

waste management unit construction project requires Water Board staff Design Report review and approval, numerous inspections during construction, and final Construction Quality Assurance Report review and approval.

Water Board staff have observed that diversion of waste for recycling efforts has increased the potential for surface water quality impacts due to the stockpiling and processing of waste materials at scales where typical best management practices struggle to prevent impacts to surface water. Diverted wastes such as metals, green waste, gypsum, cardboard, construction debris, plastics, ag-plastics, crushed glass, and wood, which were historically disposed and covered promptly in a landfill, are now often segregated, stockpiled, and stored in a manner that has potential to impact runoff due to exposure and increased waste concentrations. To address the increased potential for surface water impacts during the rainy season, Water Board staff inspects landfills more frequently during the wet weather season. Composting operations are another example of a waste diversion effort, which Water Board staff have documented impacts to surface water runoff including color, odor, suspended solids, nitrogen, and dissolved solids. The State Water Resources Control Board is currently developing General Waste Discharge Requirements for Composting Operations (General Compost Order). The General Compost Order will facilitate consistent regulation of compost facilities both on and off landfills. The General Compost Order will not prevent the Regional Boards from developing site specific composting WDRs, if necessary. Currently compost facilities located at landfills are regulated through the General Industrial Stormwater NPDES Permit, while many composting facilities not located on landfill sites often go unregulated. The future General Compost Order will create standardized requirements for all composting facilities while protecting water quality.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015, with approximate anticipated meeting dates

Cold Canyon Landfill Revised Waste Discharge Requirements, July 2015

Cemex Davenport Cement Plant Closure Waste Discharge Requirements, Winter/Spring 2015

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

PROGRAM: Cleanup Program

Program Manager/Senior: Thea Tryon, P.G., Thea.Tryon@waterboards.ca.gov

Thea is the Cleanup Program Manager. Other managers overseeing cleanup staff are John Robertson, Angela Schroeter, Sheila Soderberg, and Chris Adair.

Section Manager: John Robertson, P.G., John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov

Number of Staff: Available personal services = 7.3. Currently, there are two full time staff and 14 staff that work a fraction of their time on cleanup cases totaling 6.75 personal services. The Cleanup Program currently has one engineering assistant student.

Staff Timebase: Rich Chandler (1.0), Sarah Treadwell (1.0), Dean Thomas (0.8), Dan Niles (0.6), Kristina Olmos (0.6), Alison Jones (0.5), Wei Lui (0.4), Diane Kukol (0.3), Don Eley (0.1), Donette Dunaway (0.1), Sharon Denker (0.05), Grant Himbaugh (0.05).

Senior Timebase: Thea Tryon (0.5), Angela Schroeter (0.5), Sheila Soderberg (0.2), Chris Adair (0.05)

PRIORITY PROJECTS

Cleanup staff oversee the investigations, cleanup, and human health risk assessments at sites with current or historical unauthorized releases of pollutants to soil and groundwater. Although the primary focus of the program is restoration of groundwater quality, the Cleanup Program deals with all environments including surface water, groundwater, soil, sediment, and gases that can accumulate in the soil and migrate into indoor air. Currently, the Central Coast Water Board is the lead agency or co-lead for oversight on 150 cleanup cases of which 22 sites are high priority due to the high risk to human health and the environment they pose. The current top priority projects are:

1. Dutchmaid Cleaners, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County
2. Olin Corporation, Morgan Hill, Santa Clara County
3. Techknit/Tube Holding Company, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County
4. Whittaker Ordnance, Hollister, San Benito County
5. Avila Tank Farm, Avila Beach, San Luis Obispo County
6. Scotts Valley Dry Cleaners, Scotts Valley, Santa Cruz County
7. Mission Industries/Ambassador Laundry, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County
8. Regal Cleaners, Santa Barbara, Santa Barbara County
9. Don Heim & Son Dry Cleaners, Watsonville, Santa Cruz County
10. Unocal Guadalupe Oilfield, Guadalupe, San Luis Obispo County

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

Groundwater cleanup sites can take many years to clean up, depending on the volume of waste discharged, the complexity of the geology, availability of funding, litigation complexities, or other variables. One of our biggest challenges is the lack of funding or the inability to find a responsible party in order to properly investigate or cleanup the pollution at some sites or to address pollution in areas that are discovered but there is no known source of pollution. Another one of our challenges is that regulatory agencies responsible for cleanup are set up to work on each site on a case-by-case basis and

currently there is no approach to perform a cumulative assessment of risk posed by shallow groundwater pollution to the groundwater basin as a whole.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDER

The typical stakeholders in the Cleanup Program are 1) the responsible parties for the polluted sites that we regulate such as operators or property owners of industrial facilities, dry cleaners, fertilizer/pesticide manufacturing facilities, oil fields, refineries, bulk fuel storage facilities; 2) members of the public that are impacted by a polluted site or concerned about a polluted site; 3) other local and state regulatory agencies; 4) water purveyors; 5) various city and county departments (i.e., planning, public works); and 5) environmental groups.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

The Cleanup Program does not typically bring cases to Board hearings unless they are very controversial or if there are significant public concerns. We don't anticipate any Board items for your consideration or action in 2015/2016.

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

PROGRAM: ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE (EJ)

Senior: Angela Schroeter, PG; Senior Engineering Geologist

Section Manager: John Robertson

Number of Staff: No dedicated resources and no permanently assigned staff. Some staff involvement from other programs on a part-time, limited basis.

PRIORITY PROJECTS, Top 3-10

Our current priority projects related to Environmental Justice include the following:

1. Implement the Human Right to Water Law;
2. Conduct groundwater monitoring and identify nitrate contamination in domestic drinking water wells, especially associated with disadvantaged communities in agricultural areas (e.g. ILRP and GAP);
3. Provide drinking water notifications to affected domestic well users; as well as general outreach & education to make sure the most at-risk and in-need communities are informed of nitrate pollution risks and available programs (ILRP and GAP);
4. Require replacement water when drinking water beneficial uses are impacted by waste discharge;
5. Prioritize and implement grants to provide interim safe drinking water (e.g. Safe Drinking Water Grant, IRWM, Prop 84, Prop 1);
6. Participate in pilot projects related to nitrate treatment for small community systems and domestic wells (e.g. UCLA Nitrate Water Treatment Project);
7. Partner with EJ stakeholders to conduct Environmental Justice tours for State and Regional Board Members and staff.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The Environmental Justice Program is designed to ensure the fair treatment of people of all ethnicities, cultures, and incomes with respect to the development, adoption, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Among our highest priorities is to implement the Human Right to Water law and address nitrate in drinking water. In the Central Coast Region, groundwater is severely impacted by nitrate due to fertilizer applications from irrigated agriculture. In some parts of the Central Coast Region, more than 35% of the groundwater wells included in the Water Board's GeoTracker database exceed the drinking water standard, including hundreds of drinking water wells. Groundwater contamination by nitrate is a major statewide water quality issue and can pose serious and fatal health risks at concentrations above health standards, especially for pregnant women and infants. Smaller systems and private domestic drinking water wells are particularly at risk as they are not regulated by the Division of Drinking Water and are generally not monitored. In addition, the communities drinking water in these situations are often low-income and disadvantaged, do not have the information needed to take action to protect their health, and have little to no resources for treatment or alternative drinking water supplies. Due to threats to public health, environmental justice stakeholders wish to maximize accessibility and transparency of groundwater data to the public.

The Central Coast Water Board is implementing the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) to control discharges of nitrogen from fertilizer in agricultural areas, conduct groundwater monitoring, and notify well users where domestic drinking water wells exceed the safe drinking water standard. In some cases,

the Central Coast Water Board may require dischargers to provide replacement water when drinking water beneficial uses are impacted by the waste discharge; The Central Coast Water Board also prioritizes and awards grant funds to implement the Safe Drinking Water Grant and participates in drinking water treatment demonstration projects to provide interim replacement drinking water (e.g. bottled water and/or treatment) to individuals and communities that cannot afford solutions on their own.

The Central Coast Water Board supports meaningful public participation and stakeholder involvement to allow communities to be effective participants in Board decision-making processes, including water quality issues on tribal lands and addressing translation needs for non-English speakers. For more information, see our Environmental Justice web page at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/enviro_justice/enviro_justice.shtml

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

Environmental Justice Coalition for Water

Colin Bailey, Executive Director (916) 432-3529, colin@ejcw.org
Headquarters in Sacramento, CA, community representatives in Salinas, CA.
www.ejcw.org

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.

Michael Meuter, Migrant Unit Director, (831) 757-5221, mmeuter@crla.org
Statewide, Regional Office in Salinas, CA.
www.crla.org

Environmental Law Foundation

Nathaniel Kane, Staff Attorney, (510) 208-4555, nkane@envirolaw.org
Statewide, Headquarters in Oakland, CA.
<http://www.envirolaw.org/>

Clean Water Action – California

Jennifer Clary, Program Associate, (415) 369-9171, jclary@cleanwater.org
Statewide, Headquarters in Oakland, CA.
<http://www.cleanwateraction.org>

San Jerardo Housing Cooperative, Salinas

Manager, Horacio Amezcua

Rural Community Assistance Corporation

Karen McBride, (916) 447-9832
Western States, California Office in Sacramento, CA
www.rcac.org

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

August - September 2015 (Tentative) – Environmental Justice Tours for Board Members

The first EJ tour was held in February 2015. In response to State and Regional Board Member interest, staff is coordinating with the EJCW community to conduct an additional EJ tours in late August/early September.

May 2016 (Tentative) – Environmental Justice Annual Update to the Board

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JANUARY 22, 2015**

PROGRAM: IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM (ILRP) - GROUNDWATER

Senior: Angela Schroeter, PG; Senior Engineering Geologist

***Note: ILRP responsibilities are shared by two seniors. Angela Schroeter focuses on implementation of groundwater monitoring and drinking water issues; Chris Rose focuses on overall program implementation, including surface water monitoring.*

Section Manager: John Robertson

Number of Staff: 2 (Hector Hernandez, WRCE; and Corey Walsh, EG).

PRIORITY PROJECTS, Top 3-10

Our current priority projects related to implementation of ILRP groundwater monitoring requirements include the following:

1. Implement individual groundwater monitoring requirements and evaluate compliance;
2. Implement cooperative groundwater monitoring requirements and evaluate compliance;
3. Conduct drinking water notifications where drinking water wells exceed safe drinking water standards;
4. Make data groundwater data accessible to the public in GeoTracker GAMA;
5. Coordinate with Division of Drinking Water and local county environmental health agencies;

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

Agricultural Order R3-2012-0011 and State Board Order WQ-2013-0101 emphasize the importance of groundwater monitoring data reported in compliance with the Agricultural Order due to widespread impairment of drinking water sourced from groundwater in portions of the Central Coast. The Agricultural Order requires minimal groundwater monitoring of agricultural (irrigation) and domestic drinking water wells for nitrate and other parameters. The purpose of the required monitoring and reporting is to characterize shallow groundwater quality in agricultural areas, and to identify and prioritize areas and individual farms that are at greater risk for discharge and pollutant loading, and to inform those domestic well users who may be affected by poor drinking water quality.

The Agricultural Order provides landowners and growers the option to comply with groundwater monitoring requirements by either sampling groundwater wells individually on their agricultural operations, or by joining a groundwater cooperative monitoring program approved by the Executive Officer. The Executive Officer has approved the following two cooperative groundwater monitoring programs:

- Central Coast Groundwater Coalition (CCGC)
Founded by the Grower-Shipper Association in Central California and Western Growers Association to represent landowners and growers in the Central Coast Region.
- Cooperative Groundwater Monitoring Program, Santa Rosa Creek Valley, Cambria, California
Implemented by landowners and growers in the Santa Rosa Creek Valley Watershed in San Luis Obispo County, specifically in the Santa Rosa Creek Valley.

Currently, the primary issue related to groundwater in the ILRP is nitrate, especially impacts to drinking water sources. Groundwater monitoring data indicates that groundwater is severely impacted by nitrate discharge due to fertilizer application from irrigated agriculture. In some parts of the Central Coast Region, more than 35% of the groundwater wells included in the Water Board's GeoTracker database exceeds the drinking water standard. Groundwater contamination by nitrate is a major statewide water quality issue and can pose serious and fatal health risks at concentrations above health standards, especially for pregnant women and infants. In addition, nitrate contamination can significantly limit water available for drinking water, an increasing concern especially during times of prolonged drought when alternative sources are critical.

As of April 15, 2015, approximately 3476 groundwater wells have been sampled in compliance with the Agricultural Order. Approximately 25% of the groundwater wells sampled region wide exceed the drinking water standard for nitrate, including both domestic drinking water wells and irrigation wells (approximately 884 total wells). Of these, approximately 350 domestic drinking water wells sampled indicated an exceedance of the drinking water standard. In these cases where a domestic drinking water well exceeds the drinking water standard, the Central Coast Water requires growers to notify the well users of the risk to public health and coordinates with Division of Drinking Water and local county environmental health agencies.

All ILRP groundwater data is managed in the Water Board's GeoTracker data management system. All ILRP groundwater monitoring data is displayed to the public in GeoTracker GAMA, with the exception of a small subset of groundwater wells sampled by the Central Coast Groundwater Coalition (CCGC) that is not yet displayed in order to comply with the approved workplans for CCGC. CCGC data will be displayed to the public using GeoTracker GAMA on March 15, 2016. Currently, the public can get a copy of CCGC data by submitting a Public Records Act request to the Water Board. If interested parties wish to evaluate the specific characteristics of a particular CCGC monitoring result or relate the CCGC data to an individual farm or ranch, they must also use the relational key provided to the Water Board by CCGC.

The ILRP-GW also investigates specific cases where discharge from individual farms has caused pollution, resulting in impacts to drinking water. In these cases, the Executive Officer may order responsible parties to conduct remediation and/or provide replacement water to affected individuals and communities.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

Central Coast Groundwater Coalition

Parry Klassen, Executive Director, 831-240-9533, pklassen@unwiredbb.com
www.centralcoastgc.org

Grower-Shipper Association of Central California

Abby Taylor-Silva, (831) 422-8844, abby@growershipper.com
www.growershipper.com

Environmental Justice Coalition for Water

Colin Bailey, Executive Director (916) 432-3529, colin@ejcw.org
Headquarters in Sacramento, CA, community representatives in Salinas, CA.
www.ejcw.org

California Rural Legal Assistance, Inc.

Michael Meuter, Migrant Unit Director, (831) 757-5221, mmeuter@crla.org
Statewide, Regional Office in Salinas, CA.
www.crla.org

Environmental Law Foundation

Nathaniel Kane, Staff Attorney, (510) 208-4555, nkane@envirolaw.org
Statewide, Headquarters in Oakland, CA.
<http://www.envirolaw.org/>

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

March/May 2016 (Tentative) – Status Update: Irrigated Lands Groundwater Monitoring Requirements

CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015

PROGRAM: IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM – SURFACE WATER

Senior: Chris Rose, Senior Environmental Scientist

***Note: ILRP responsibilities are shared by two seniors. Chris Rose focuses on overall program implementation, including surface water monitoring and reporting requirements. Angela Schroeter focuses on groundwater monitoring and drinking water issues.*

Section Manager: Harvey Packard

Number of Staff: four staff (Monica Barricarte, Arwen-Wyatt Mair, Elaine Sahl, Corinne Huckaby)

PRIORITY PROJECTS, TOP 3-10

The current priority projects related to ILRP surface water requirements are as follows:

1. Total nitrogen applied reporting requirements; compliance, assessment and follow-up
2. Individual discharge monitoring requirements; compliance, assessment and follow-up
3. Surface water toxicity monitoring; compliance, assessment and follow-up
4. Enrollment, annual reporting and fee requirements; compliance, assessment and follow-up

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

Monitoring and reporting requirements of Agricultural Order R3-2012-0011 and State Board Order WQ-2013-0101 focus on surface water quality impairments driven by nitrogen, toxicity and lack of vegetative cover. Several major surface water bodies in the region, and their tributaries, are impaired due to nitrate, toxicity, pesticides, biostimulation, or a combination of these. Many of these waters are assigned total maximum daily loads which rely on implementation of the Agricultural Order to address the impairment.

The Agricultural Order requires reporting that helps staff identify and prioritize causes and contributions to water quality impairment. The required reporting is a crucial step in the process of improving water quality. The Agricultural Order outlines a strategy where growers must make incremental progress towards achieving water quality standards in the waters they discharge to. Incremental progress must be gauged using the data and information reported by growers themselves or by third parties reporting on behalf of the growers. Staff must continually assess and insure compliance with requirements to maintain the flow of information used for assessing progress.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

Grower-Shipper Association of Central California

Counties: Monterey, Santa Cruz, San Benito and Santa Clara counties.

Abby-Taylor Silva

Grower-Shipper Association of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties.

Claire Wineman

Farm Bureaus:

- Monterey County; President: Jeff Pereira; Executive Director: Norm Groot; top crops are strawberries and romaine lettuce; \$4B; state rank 4
- Santa Barbara County; President: Paul Van Leer; Executive Director: Teresa Bontrager; top crops are strawberries, broccoli; \$394M; state rank 13
- San Luis Obispo; President: Carlos Castaneda; Executive Director: Lynn Diehl; top crops are wine grapes and strawberries; \$861M; 2300 members; state rank 15
- San Benito; President: Richard Bianchi; Executive Director Mindy Sotelo; top crops are vegetables and lettuce; \$298M; state rank 29

Santa Barbara County Agricultural Commissioner:

Commissioner: Cathy Fisher; Compliance Coordinator: Debbie Trupe

Private Consultants include

- Kay Mercer
- Heather Golden
- Lowell Zelinski
- Marcus Buchanan

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

September 2015: Status of petitions and legal challenges affecting Agricultural Order renewal

January/March 2015: Summary of Total Nitrogen Applied Data Analysis

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JUNE 25, 2015**

PROGRAM: Department of Defense (DoD) Program

Senior: Sheila Soderberg

Manager: Harvey Packard

Number of Staff: 4.5

PRIORITY PROJECTS, TOP 3-10

Most of the DoD program budget for the Central Coast Region covers oversight at Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB), former Fort Ord, Fort Hunter Liggett Army Base, Camp Roberts National Guard Base, and Lompoc Branch U.S. Disciplinary Barracks Federal Correction Facility. There are numerous other military-related sites in the Central Coast Region that the military classifies as Formerly Used Defense Sites. Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDs) are sites that were previously owned, operated, or leased by DoD, such as the Monterey Peninsula Airport (now a closed case). A map showing all of the DoD facilities in the region is included as Attachment 1.

Three Water Board staff (Don Eley, Carol Kolb, and Donette Dunaway) work on VAFB cleanup sites. VAFB, located on the north Coast of Santa Barbara County, is the third-largest Air Force installation in the nation, occupying almost 100,000 acres and 35 miles of coast line.

One Water Board staff person (Grant Himebaugh) works on the former Fort Ord, Fort Hunter Liggett, Camp Roberts, and the FUDs sites in our region. Fort Ord encompasses 28,000 acres between the cities of Seaside and Marina. USEPA declared the base a federal Superfund site in February 1990 based on impacts to the City of Marina's municipal water supply from facility-related groundwater wastes. The Army officially closed the base in September 1994 and most of the facility has since been transferred to civilian use.

Fort Hunter Liggett is an Army training facility consisting of approximately 165,000 acres in southern Monterey County, with current and historic Army uses of this facility including field exercises and weapons and equipment testing. Camp Roberts is a California Army National Guard installation located approximately 10 miles north of Paso Robles. The National Guard and Army currently use Camp Roberts for training.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

The major stakeholders include military (Air Force, Army, National Guard, or US Army Corps of Engineers), USEPA (at former Fort Ord only), California Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC), and appropriate county environmental health department staff and community residents in each geographical area.

Former Fort Ord and VAFB have active community-member boards that hold quarterly public meetings to provide public education and outreach for ongoing base cleanup activities. For example, VAFB's next Community Advisory Board meeting open to the public is scheduled for September 17, 2015. The Army's next community meeting is scheduled for July 18, 2015. The Army also created a website specifically related to base cleanup issues at the former Fort Ord (see <http://fortordcleanup.com/>).

ISSUES

Central Coast Water Board staff monitors the military's progress to remove wastes from soil and groundwater (and possibly surface water) at the various military installations. EPA or DTSC is the lead for indoor air/building vapor mitigation issues. Central Coast Water Board staff's primary oversight responsibilities include (1) reviewing and commenting on technical reports and studies designed to develop remedial alternatives; (2) achieving public outreach and education through the attendance at public meetings; and (3) providing oversight of leaking underground storage tank (UST) cases.

Wastes released to the subsurface vary by facility. For example, cleanup sites at VAFB include closed landfills, space launch complexes, missile silos, fuel and chemical spill areas, and underground storage tank (UST) areas. Typical chemicals of concern include jet fuels, rocket fuels, petroleum hydrocarbons, solvents, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs), pesticides, perchlorate, metals, and unexploded ordnance.

The primary water quality concerns remaining at Fort Ord involve landfill gas, one carbon tetrachloride groundwater waste plume, and three trichloroethylene (TCE) groundwater waste plumes.

Environmental Restoration Program sites at Fort Hunter Liggett include a closed landfill, former USTs, spill areas, unexploded ordnance areas, hazardous waste accumulation sites, and former fire-fighting training areas.

2015 BOARD ITEMS

No DoD program items are scheduled to go before the Board in 2015.



**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JUNE 25, 2015**

PROGRAM: National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)

Senior: Sheila Soderberg

Manager: Harvey Packard

Number of Staff: 2.2

PRIORITY PROJECTS, TOP 3-10

Drought-related actions are the highest priority projects for NPDES program staff. Many of the NPDES permitted dischargers also produce recycled water for landscape irrigation, agricultural irrigation, or aquifer injection to stop seawater intrusion. Consequently, a number of communities and agencies, such as the Goleta Sanitary District/Goleta Water District, City of Santa Barbara (as both producer and user), and City of Watsonville/Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency have approached NPDES and State Water Board Drinking Water Program staff to expand their existing water recycling areas of use consistent with their existing master reclamation waste discharge requirement (WDR) permits. For some of these NPDES permit holders, NPDES staff will have to re-open existing NPDES permits to allow discharges from other sources, such as amending Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency's permit to accept wastewater from the Salinas Industrial Wastewater Plant or California American slant well discharges.

In May 2015, Montecito Water District approached NPDES staff to permit a new desalination facility in 2016/2017 if Montecito cannot partner with the City of Santa Barbara to receive supplemental drinking water supplies from its desalination facility. In January 2016, Montecito anticipates submitting a report of waste discharge to the Central Coast Water Board to permit the new facility. Central Coast NPDES staff has asked State Board NPDES staff to ask EPA to provide subcontractor assistance to draft the new permit.

Since the Board adopted the City of Santa Barbara's NPDES permit amendment in January 2015, the City of Santa Barbara submitted the *Draft June 2015 Subsurface Desalination Intake and Potable Reuse Feasibility Studies Work Plan, Subsurface Desalination Intake Work Plan* on June 25, 2015. The City plans to enlist the services of the National Water Research Institute (NWRI) to administer a technical advisory process and submit a final work plan to the Water Board by the August 31, 2015 deadline. NWRI and the City have tentatively scheduled the first Technical Advisory Process Workshop for August 12, 2015.

In addition, the Cambria Community Services District and San Simeon Sanitary District staffs have consulted with NPDES and WDR staff to modify San Simeon's NPDES permit to accept wastes generated from Cambria's Advanced Water Treatment facility. Cambria is also considering discharging reverse osmosis (RO) reject and microfiltration (MF) wastewater into Cambria's existing, unpermitted ocean outfall. Either permitting option will allow discharges of RO and MF wastewater into the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. San Simeon is also considering an expansion of its existing wastewater water recycling program to include an aquifer replenishment project to address seawater intrusion into its groundwater basin. Even if Cambria does not partner with San Simeon, NPDES staff would need to modify San Simeon's facility permit to accept its own RO and MF wastewater discharges.

The Office of Administrative Law is reviewing the State Water Board's once-through cooling policy (OTC Policy), which applies to power plant operations statewide. In the Central Coast region, there are two operating power plants with NPDES permits: Moss Landing Power Plant and Diablo Canyon Power Plant. For Moss Landing Power Plant, the State Board and Dynegy Moss Landing LLC recently reached a settlement agreement in their pending litigation. In May 2014, State Board amended the OTC Policy to

make it consistent with the settlement agreement. Consequently, NPDES staff has requested EPA subcontractor assistance to prepare Moss Landing Power Plant's new NPDES permit in FY 2015/2016.

On August 4, 2015, The State Water Board will hold a public meeting to accept comments on a draft resolution to delegate authority to the Executive Director of the State Water Board to approve, on a case-by-case basis, the measures that owners or operators of existing power plants utilizing cooling water intake structures shall undertake to comply with requirements of interim mitigation. NPDES staff is waiting to see how this amendment will affect the two pending NPDES permits.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

Per memorandums of agreement, Central Coast Water Board staff coordinates NPDES permit development with EPA and Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary staff. Other major stake holders include cities, community service districts, county environmental health departments, California Coastal Commission, and State Water Board Drinking Water Program staff. Region-wide environmental groups include Environmental Defense Center, Surfrider, Sierra Club, and Desal Resources Group. Local environmental groups include Heal the Ocean and Channelkeeper in Santa Barbara County; Monterey Coastkeeper/Otter Project in Monterey County, San Luis Obispo Coastkeeper in San Luis Obispo County and southern Monterey County. For the power plant permits, other stakeholders include the Public Utilities Commission, the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, Chumash Tribe, and Mothers for Peace.

2015 BOARD ITEMS

If additional staff time allows, Central Coast Water Board staff will publicly notice and ask the Board to re-issue the following permits in 2015:

1. City of Pismo Beach
2. City of San Juan Bautista
3. City of Morro Bay/Cayucos Sanitary District. The permit will be modified to remove the federal Clean Water Act waiver allowing discharge of less than secondary-treated wastewater to the Pacific Ocean.
4. Avila Beach Community Services District

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JUNE 25, 2015**

PROGRAM: Timber Harvest Program

Senior: Sheila Soderberg

Manager: Harvey Packard

Number of Staff: 1 part-time engineering student intern

PRIORITY PROJECTS, TOP 3-10

The Central Coast Water Board's Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2012-0008 (Timber Order) requires harvest site landowners to submit a Notice of Intent (NOI) upon CalFire's approval of a Timber Harvest Plan. The NOI requires submittal of an accurate and complete eligibility criteria (EC) worksheet, which is available on the Central Coast Water Board's website.

The EC allows foresters and our Central Coast Water Board student intern, under the supervision of a Senior Engineering Geologist, to determine the relative risk to water quality posed by a THP and assign an appropriate level of storm-based monitoring. The EC process assigns each THP into one of four tiers, with the highest tier (IV) requiring the most storm-based monitoring.

Since 2012, no Tier IV plans have been submitted to the Central Coast Water Board for consideration. Hence, no priority projects have been received and none are anticipated this year.

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

Major stakeholders include large companies (i.e., Redwood Empire, Big Creek Lumber Co.) and small independent timber harvesters, CalFire, City of Santa Cruz, and Santa Cruz County, Santa Cruz Chapter of the Sierra Club, the Lompico Watershed Conservancy, San Lorenzo Valley Water District, Central Coast Forest Watch, owners of properties with timber harvesting operations, and concerned citizens.

ISSUES

Funding for Timber Harvest Program staff resources has dwindled over the years. In 2008, the Central Coast Water Board had full-time positions, which was decreased to one full-time position in 2009, and then completely eliminated in 2010. Despite the passage of Assembly Bill 1492, the Central Coast Water Board has not received funding to continue to support the existing program in our region.

Central Coast Water Board staff has been in communication with State Board Non-Point Source Program Manager, Central Valley Water Board, and North Coast Water Board staff. In the event that a controversial timber harvest plan comes in that requires detailed pre-harvest inspections, State Board and the other two regional boards have offered to provide us with assistance.

2015 BOARD ITEMS

There is no plan to take any Timber Harvest Program-related items to the Board in 2015.

CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015

PROGRAM: Leaking Underground Storage Tank Cleanup

Lead: Chris Adair, Chris.Adair@waterboards.ca.gov

Section Manager: Harvey Packard, Harvey.Packard@waterboards.ca.gov

Senior/Program Manager: Chris Adair

Number of Staff: 3

PRIORITY PROJECTS- Top 3-10

Implementation of the State Board Low-threat Closure Policy

- In 2013 the State Water Board adopted the Low Threat Closure Policy for the evaluation of existing Leaking Underground Storage Tanks. The Policy requires staff to continually evaluate all tank cases for closure based on threat to potential receptors (drinking water, indoor air, etc.). The State Board has determined that some cases can be closed with petroleum contaminant concentrations significantly higher than EPA-derived Maximum Contaminant Levels, depending on the contaminant's proximity to a potential receptor and the land use. More information on the Low Threat Closure Policy is available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/ust/lt_cls_plcy.shtml

Redistribution of Local Oversight Program (LOP) cases

- The Santa Cruz County LOP was not recertified for Fiscal Year 2015-2016. The UST program manager will redistribute approximately 30 addition cases amongst UST program staff.

Geotracker maintenance

- Geotracker is the primary database used to track leaking underground storage tank cases from 'cradle to grave.' As such, staff is continually entering and accessing current data for the more than 150 active cases in Region 3. In addition, the California legislature mandates that tank-case responsible parties must upload all case-related documents and data to Geotracker. Staff is responsible for receiving and reviewing this information on a daily basis.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The program is designed to oversee the cleanup of petroleum products that have leaked from underground storage tanks (predominantly at fueling stations). Leaks from underground fuel storage tanks can affect the beneficial uses of groundwater. Vapor from petroleum-contaminated soils can enter commercial or residential buildings and pose a significant health risk. More information about the program can be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ust/

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

The major stakeholders are current and former gas station owners, major oil companies, the State Board Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund, the environmental community, and the general public.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

The program manager reports case closures to Board members in Tables 3 and 4 of the Executive Officer's report in each Board meeting agenda.

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JULY 31, 2015**

PROGRAM: Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR)

Lead: Chris Adair, Chris.Adair@waterboards.ca.gov

Section Manager: Harvey Packard, Harvey.Packard@waterboards.ca.gov

Senior/Program Manager: Chris Adair

Number of Staff: 4

PRIORITY PROJECTS- Top 3-10

On-site Wastewater Treatment Policy (OWTS) implementation

- County Local Area Management Programs (LAMPs). All counties in the region are required to develop LAMPs in compliance with the OWTS policy before May 2017. Each LAMP will be presented to the Board for adoption.

Recycled water projects

- Major water recycling projects are in various stages of development throughout the region including:
 - Pure Water Monterey
 - A proposed 9-million gallon per day recycling collaboration between Monterey County Water Resources Agency, Monterey Regional Water Pollution Control Agency, the City of Salinas and others.
 - Cambria Advanced Water Treatment Plant
 - Cuyama CSD
 - Santa Ynez Tribe of the Chumash Indians

WATER QUALITY ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The program is designed to regulate the discharge of treated wastewater to land, including septic tank leach fields, spray irrigation of fodder crops, percolation ponds, etc. The WDR program is also responsible for implementing the State Water Board Onsite Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS) Policy. The program is also responsible for the regulation of recycled water projects in collaboration with the Department of Drinking Water (DDW). As the drought continues, the recycling of waste water will become more and more prevalent.

More information about the program can be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/land_disposal/waste_discharge_requirements.shtml

MAJOR STAKEHOLDERS

The major stakeholders are cities, counties, community services districts, homeowner associations, wineries, rural conference centers, RV parks, and the general public.

BOARD ITEMS IN 2015/2016

Santa Barbara County LAMP

San Luis Obispo County
LAMP

Monterey County LAMP

Santa Cruz County LAMP

San Benito County LAMP

Recycled Water Projects

- Santa Ynez Tribe
- Cuyama CSD

Winery, Fruit and Vegetable

Processing General Order

San Benito County Salts Plant

WDR renewals

**CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD
BOARD MEMBER PROGRAM BRIEFING NOTES
JANUARY 22, 2015**

PROGRAM: Administrative Services

Senior: Cyndee Jones

Manager: Michael Thomas

Number of Staff: three

ISSUES PROGRAM ADDRESSES

The Administrative Services Unit handles Human Resources, Employee Benefits and Payroll, approval of time sheets, Health & Safety, Out of State Travel and Training.

We also are responsible for Procurement, Accounts Payable, Banking, Budget (operating expenses and personnel), Facility Management & Office Security, Fleet management, and Contract/Grant Management.

The Admin unit handles all incoming and outgoing correspondence; data entry to California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) and file reviews.

Other responsibilities include; Records Retention, Internet/Intranet maintenance and uploading of documents, scanning and uploading documents to Electronic Content Management (ECM).

MAJOR STAKEHOLDER

Administrative Services provides quality service and support to internal and external customers to achieve our vision of Healthy Functioning Watersheds.

ISSUES

The major issue with the Administrative Services unit is the staffing ratio of Administrative staff to technical staff. We currently have three Administrative staff to serve 68 staff. The Admin unit has lost two Office Assistants, one Office Technician and one Seasonal Clerk in the last three years and none of these positions have been back filled.

2015 BOARD ITEMS IN 2015

None