

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region**

**Executive Officer's Report
Dennis A. Dickerson, Executive Officer**

July 27, 2000

INSIDE THIS REPORT:

Groundwater Division
Enforcement and Stormwater
Remediation
Underground Storage Tanks
Surface Water Division
Watershed Regulatory
Regional Programs
Watershed/Coastal Waters
Outreach
Administrative Services

*** The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption

*** For a list of simple ways to reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see the tips at: <http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/news/echallenge.html>

GROUNDWATER DIVISION

ENFORCEMENT AND STORMWATER

Enforcement

Water Recycling

Wendy Phillips

During a meeting with the State Department of Health Services (DHS) on July 11, 2000, staff discussed several issues related to ensuring safe and effective recycling of effluent from wastewater treatment plants, as permitted by Water Recycling Requirements (WRRs) issued by the Regional Board. Among various issues discussed were: updated regulations in Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations; a need to ensure that the Regional Board's WRRs specify monitoring frequencies (e.g. daily sampling for coliform) in conformance with Title 22 regulations; a way to ensure that all additions and expansions of recycled water distribution systems and users, as permitted in the Regional Board's WRRs, are subject to DHS approval; and a need to clarify the Regional Board's requirements with regard to permittees' responsibilities to ensure compliance on the part of recycled water distributors and users. Future WRRs will provide such clarification.

Halaco Engineering Inc.

Rick Vergets

Halaco Engineering Inc. is a metal recycling facility located on the Ventura County coastline. Discharge from the facility flows into a large bermed unlined pond located adjacent to the beach and surrounded on three sides by wetlands. Regional Board staff conducted an investigation in August 1999, and determined that the unlined pile was discharging leachate into the surrounding wetlands. Regional Board staff then issued two Notices of Violation (NOVs), one in February, and one in March for violations of Order No. 80-58. Staff also issued tentative WDRs and a CDO to Halaco on June 26, 2000.

City of Los Angeles Sewer System – Construction Schedule, per CDO No. 98-073

Sam Unger

On September 14, 1998, the Regional Board adopted CDO 98-073 requiring the City of Los Angeles to cease and desist discharges of raw sewage onto the streets and into the waters of the state by completing repairs and upgrades to its collection system, including the nine-mile long North East Interceptor Sewer (NEIS). On November 17, 1999, the City requested that that the CDO be amended to defer or eliminate a three-mile section of the NEIS. Regional Board staff were assisted by the USEPA in a review of the City of Los Angeles' Wastewater Collection System to determine, in part, the appropriateness of the City's request. Preliminary recommendations from the USEPA support, with the inclusion of trigger conditions, annual assessments, annual maintenance and the hydraulic capacity modeling, among others, the deferment of construction of the three-mile segment of NEIS, as proposed. Staff issued a tentative amended CDO to the City on June 26, 2000. The Board will consider the amended CDO at the July 27, 2000 Board meeting.

Oxnard Forebay Septic System Prohibition

Rick Vergets

Peer review of the Oxnard Forebay Septic System Prohibition Report was conducted by Professor Michael Stenstrom from UCLA. Staff are preparing to attend a State Water Resources Control Board workshop, in Sacramento, regarding the Septic System Prohibition in September 2000. Approximately two weeks after the workshop, the State Board will conduct a hearing in Sacramento, and determine if it will approve the Prohibition. Staff will attend and make a presentation at the hearing. Pending approval of the Septic System Prohibition by the State Board, it will transmit its findings to the Office of Administrative Law for final review and approval.

CDO Issued to the Santa Catalina Island Company

Morton Price

The Santa Catalina Island Company owns and operates the Two Harbors Sewage Treatment Plant, located 0.25 mile south of Isthmus Cove in Two Harbors. Wastewater is reclaimed under Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) and Water Reclamation Requirements (WRRs) contained in Order No. 87-142, adopted by this Regional Board on October 26, 1987. Order No. 87-142 requires that the offsite disposal of sludge shall be only at a legal point of disposal. Monitoring reports submitted by the Discharger state that sludge is disposed of in the Two Harbors landfill. While in the process of updating Waste Discharge Requirements for the Two Harbors Sewage Treatment Plant, staff determined that, contrary to the Monitoring Reports, dried sludge from the sludge drying bed is now disposed of on-site. On June 21, 2000, the Regional Board adopted Cease and Desist Order No. 00-95 directing the Santa Catalina Island Company, as operator of the Two Harbors Sewage Treatment Plant, to immediately cease and desist discharging waste sludge on site. A report, detailing its findings and recommended future sludge handling proposal is scheduled to be available by September 1, 2000. Further enforcement action is pending.

CDO issued to Rose Hills Memorial Park

Morton Price and Rafael Maetsu

On June 5, 2000, staff conducted an inspection of Rose Hills Memorial Park located at 388 South Workman Mill Road, in the City of Whittier. The purpose of the inspection was to evaluate compliance with Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) issued in 1987, and to determine the need for revisions to the WDRs. Staff identified violation of the existing WDRs (Order 87-89), which included a septic tank in the concrete vault fabrication area not being properly maintained, two evaporation ponds that do not have adequate freeboard, and evidence of contamination of the adjacent watercourse with materials contained in the evaporation ponds. In addition, Rose Hills is delinquent in submittal of monitoring reports, going back to 1996. At the July 27th Board meeting, staff will propose adoption of a Cease and Desist Order, directing Rose Hills to immediately comply with the requirements of Order No. 87-089, and to hook up to the existing sewer system by January 27, 2001.

Non-Chapter 15 Inspections

Hugh Marley

A total of 333 Non-Chapter 15 inspections of facilities with Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) issued by this Regional Board for discharges of wastes (liquid to the subsurface) were completed during the fiscal year. The inspections completed exceeded the baseline requirement and supplemental workplan commitments. 256 of these inspections were for backlogged industrial sites, with WDRs, that had not been inspected since as far back as the 1950s. As a result of these inspections, WDRs will be rescinded for about 77% of those sites. WDRs for the remainder of the sites will be updated as resources become available.

Storm Water Program

Standard Urban Stormwater Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) Workshop

Dennis Dickerson

The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board and the Los Angeles County Department of Public Works co-sponsored the workshop that was held on June 9, 2000. The workshop was designed to help individuals understand and comply with the final SUSMP, approved on March 8, 2000. Workshop topics included the latest information and details on the SUSMP requirements; complying with the treatment standard; residential and commercial compliance examples; and experiences with treatment control Best Management Practices (BMPs). The workshop also featured display booths showcasing the latest treatment control BMP technology. The workshop was attended by 300 people, including strong participation by consultants and city representatives.

Post Hearing SUSMP Petition Brief

Xavier Swamikannu

The Regional Board submitted its Post-Hearing Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan (SUSMP) Brief on July 7, 2000, to the State Board. The Brief states the Regional Board's response to four questions that the State Water Board requested parties to the SUSMP Petition to address. A copy of the brief can be viewed at the Regional Board's website www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4 under "News."

Storm Water Inspections and Annual Report Reviews

Xavier Swamikannu and Robert Tom

Regional Board staff completed 641 inspections of industrial facilities and construction sites, exceeding the goal of 632 inspections that was set in the 1999/00 workplan. Board staff also achieved the workplan goal of completing the review of all Annual Reports (ARs) submitted, for program year 1998/99, by industrial facilities covered under the statewide industrial storm water permit. A total of 2586 reports were received for 1998/99. Staff is following up on the less than three percent of facilities that did not submit a report.

As of July 13, 2000, 2220 out of 2840 (78%) ARs have been received for program year 1999/00. All ARs received have been logged in for receipt, and incomplete ARs are being returned for completion. The objective for staff for the coming year is to substantially increase field inspection and assure field compliance.

Municipal Storm Water Permit for Ventura County

Xavier Swamikannu and Wendy Phillips

The draft tentative Ventura County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer (MS4) Permit was released for public comment on June 26, 2000. The current draft is similar to the one that was discussed by the Regional Board at its May 25th hearing. Staff has made limited changes to make it consistent with the City of Long Beach MS4 permit and the Los Angeles County Standard Urban Storm Water Mitigation Plan. Board staff is scheduled to meet with Permittee representatives on July 19th to

review final issues the Co-permittees have raised in their letter dated July 13th.

Notice to Meet and Confer (NTMC) for Los Angeles County MS4 Permittees Xavier Swamikannu and Parvaneh Khayat

In January, the Regional Board issued NTMC letters to municipalities in the Ballona Creek and Los Angeles River watersheds to meet and document implementation of permittee programs to control anthropogenic trash from entering the storm drain system. Board staff has met with 15 MS4 Permittees to date and expects to meet with the remaining 13 before August 31. At the end of the process, the Regional Board will make a determination of compliance and require amendments, where necessary, to existing programs to reduce the discharge of trash in storm water.

REMEDIATION

Record of Decision for Long Beach Naval Complex

Ana Townsend

Long Beach Naval Complex, which is made up of the former Long Beach Naval Station (LBNST) and former Long Beach Naval Shipyard (LBNSY), has a total of fourteen Installation Restoration (IR) sites. Remedial investigations completed at two IR Sites, 1 and 2, in 1996 identified five Areas of Concern (AOC). The contaminants of concern at these sites include chlorinated and non-chlorinated volatile organic compounds and metals. Two of the five AOCs required additional remedial action.

As a result of the investigations, the Second Record of Decision (ROD) at the Long Beach Naval Complex was signed on June 9, 2000. The signatories to the ROD include the Department of the Navy, the Department of Toxic Substance Control (DTSC), and the Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) (Regulatory Agencies). The USEPA also provided concurrence on the ROD. This decision document presents the selected remedial actions for IR Sites 1 and 2 in accordance with CERCLA procedures. The selected remedies are protective of human health and the environment, comply with federal and state applicable or relevant and appropriate requirements, and are cost-effective permanent solutions for remediation and productive re-use of the two sites.

Investigation of 318 Areas of Concern Completed at Long Beach Naval Shipyard

Ana Townsend

The Areas of Concern (AOC) investigation at the Long Beach Naval Shipyard (LBNSY) was completed in May 2000 with the approval of the Final Preliminary Assessment/Sampling Report. Between 1996 and 1998, the Navy and Regulatory Agencies, which includes USEPA, the Department of Toxic Substance Control, and the Regional Water Quality Control Board, identified a total of 318 AOCs at the LBNSY. The Navy performed an investigation of these 318 AOCs with oversight by the Regulatory Agencies. Of the 318 AOCs, only 57 were recommended for further action and most of those have actions underway or are completed. The remaining 261 AOCs received concurrence for no further action by the Regulatory Agencies in May 2000, October 1999, September 1999, August 1998, July 1998, and June 1997.

Two Regional Board staff, Hugh Marley and Ana Townsend, received Letters of Appreciation from the Department of the Navy, in recognition of their contributions to this investigation.

US EPA Issued Unilateral Administrative Orders in Baldwin Park

Arthur G. Heath

On June 30, 2000, the (USEPA issued Unilateral Administrative Orders to 19 responsible parties for

the groundwater cleanup in the Baldwin Park Operable Unit. The Orders direct the Potentially Responsible Parties (PRPs) to complete the remedial design and make arrangements for the construction and operation of the Baldwin Park Operable Unit groundwater extraction wells, treatment systems, and related cleanup facilities.

Recipients of the Order are: Aerojet General Corporation; Allegiance Healthcare Corporation; Azusa Pipe and Tube Bending; Azusa Gas Systems (BFI); Fairchild Holding Company; Hartwell Corporation; Huffey Corporation; J.H. Mitchell and Son Distributors Inc.; Lockheed Martin Corporation; Mobil Oil Corporation; Oil and Solvent Process Company; Phaostron Instrument and Electronic Company; Philip Morris Inc.; Reichhold Inc.; Rubber/Urethanes Inc.; Screwmatic Inc.; Valspar Corporation; White and White Properties; and Wynn Oil Company.

The USEPA expects that the design process will be completed in 2000 and construction by the end of 2001. In terms of local water supply needs, USEPA expects that the potentially responsible parties (PRPs) should make every effort to provide drinking water to utilities forced to shut down groundwater wells due to the contamination. Under the Order, PRPs were asked to notify USEPA by July 14, 2000 if they intended to comply with the terms of the Order.

Landfills

Sunshine Canyon Landfill

Rod Nelson

Under contract with the State Water Resources Control Board, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) provides technical assistance in reviewing seismic stability design for landfill containment features. DWR completed their review of the Phase III-A area of the Sunshine Canyon Landfill located in the County of Los Angeles. The DWR applied the same thorough review as they applied to the review of phase II at Sunshine Canyon Landfill. Based on their review, utilizing the Maximum Probable Earthquake, DWR determined the design for the Phase III-A area to be acceptable and consistent with the previously completed and approved Phase II stability analyses. Both phases represent interim conditions and will need to be analyzed for Maximum Credible Earthquake loading for their final fill configuration. Construction of the liner for phase III-A will begin in early August.

UNDERGROUND TANKS

Updated Laboratory Testing Requirements

David Bacharowski

Periodically the California Regional Water Quality Control Board-Los Angeles Region updates its laboratory testing requirements to reflect changes to approved procedures and methods. On June 22, 2000, the UST Program issued updated "General Laboratory Testing Requirements for Petroleum Hydrocarbon Impacted Sites," that are to be used at all petroleum fuels impacted sites within the Los Angeles Regional Board area. This is to include all sites being managed by the Local Implementing Agencies and/or the Local Oversight Program.

The basis for many of the changes to the testing procedures are the result of updated laboratory testing methods identified within Test Methods for Evaluating Solid Waste Physical/Chemical Methods (SW 846), and the result of experience gained over the past several years in evaluating sites where fuel oxygenates, primarily MTBE, are of concern together with the need to consistently obtain high quality data necessary to make regulatory decisions.

A copy of the updated "General Laboratory Testing Requirements for Petroleum Hydrocarbon Impacted Sites," can be downloaded from the Regional Board website. The address is

<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb4>. Once at the website, the information can be located by going to the quick menu and scrolling down to "Lab Report Forms."

If you would like the Regional Board to send you a copy of the updated laboratory testing procedures, you can call Theresa Rodgers at (213) 576-6621.

You can obtain copies of the laboratory testing procedures by downloading the document from the USEPA Website listed below.

<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/test/sw846.htm>

If you do not have access to the Internet, you can also obtain printed copies of the documents by contacting the US Government Printing Office at (202) 512-1800 or the National Technical Information Service at (800) 553-6847.

Charnock Sub-basin MTBE Investigation Area

Harry Patel

At present there are 26 active sites in the Charnock Sub-Basin. Of the 26 active sites, site assessment has been completed at 15 sites, whereas there are 11 sites where additional site assessment work is required. Groundwater monitoring is being performed at all the sites. A total of six sites have approved remediation workplans for the cleanup of the soil and groundwater. Soil and groundwater remediation has begun at two of the sites, on-site soil remediation is underway at two sites, limited offsite remediation has been initiated at one site, and a pilot plan for dual phase extraction has been approved at an additional site.

On March 10, 2000 EPA issued a Water Replacement Order to ARCO, Best California Gas Company, Chevron, CONOCO, Douglas Oil Co. of CA, Exxon, Mobil, Tosco, Unocal, Kazuho Nishida and HLW West Corporation (other PRPs). The Board issued a support letter on March 14, 2000. On March 10, 2000, the Agencies issued draft scope of work (SOW) to perform Initial Regional Response Activities SOW for regional investigation and propose remediation alternatives. The draft SOW was issued to Shell/Shell Products/Equilon and other PRPs. Shell/Shell Products/Equilon has submitted a good faith offer that met some of the requirements of the Initial Regional Response Activities Scope of Work. The offer from the other PRPs had contingencies that the Agencies could not agree to.

On July 5, 2000, the Regional Board Staff mailed a final copy of the Stipulated Agreement along with a specified Scope of Work to perform regional investigation and analysis of alternatives for both Interim Water Replacement and Interim Regional Response Actions. As part of this investigation, a number of groundwater monitoring wells will be installed in the Upper Silverado Aquifer to determine the plume source and characteristics and perform periodic groundwater monitoring. This work will require development of a basin-wide flow model, develop a GIS database, evaluate alternate drinking water sources within the Charnock Sub-Basin, evaluate methods of treating polluted groundwater and restoring the Charnock Sub-Basin Investigation Area to its full beneficial use, and provide a community relations plan. The work specified in the SOW is a necessary step to restore the drinking water supply at the Charnock Wellfields.

Arcadia Wellfield MTBE Investigation

Jay Huang

The shallow aquifer and lower aquifer in the vicinity of the former Mobil Station 18-LDM have been treated with a pump and treat system since October 1997. To date (6/15/00) the treatment system has pumped 8.63 million gallons of groundwater and removed an estimated amount of 58 pounds of TPH and 176 pounds of MTBE. The average MTBE concentration in the combined influent has

decreased from over 2,000 mg/L in 1998 to 280 mg/L. Currently, the wells of the shallow aquifer are not being pumped in order to monitor groundwater elevation changes from the pumping of Arcadia Well No. 5. Approximately 35 GPM of groundwater are being pumped from 5 groundwater extraction wells of the lower aquifer and treated at the Mobil facility. The impacted soil in the vadose zone has been treated with a vapor extraction system (VES). The cumulative VOC mass removed is 9,208 pounds since May 1999. The VES has remained off during May 2000 due to decreased vapor concentrations. The VES will resume operation when the lower aquifer air sparging and vapor wells are activated.

Production Aquifer Remediation System (PARS) using activated carbon filtration to clean up the production aquifer has been in operation since May 17, 2000. PARS is composed of four carbon vessels each containing 24,000 pounds of carbon. Currently groundwater from Arcadia Well No. 5 is being pumped at 300 GPM, treated, and then discharged to the storm drain under permit. The PARS has pumped approximately 4.79 million gallons of groundwater and removed 0.05 pounds of MTBE. The average daily influent concentrations of MTBE ranged from 0.3 mg/L (May 17) to 1.6 mg/L (May 30).

The PARS is currently undergoing a demonstration test. Raw water operations and spiking test are being completed, which will be followed by reliability test which will last for 120 days. After the PARS has been tested and approved for operation by the State Department of Health Services, the treated water from Arcadia Well No. 5 will be routed to Santa Monica treatment plant for distribution.

Completion of Corrective Action at Leaking Underground Fuel Storage Tank Sites

Regional Board staff have reviewed corrective actions taken for soil and/or groundwater contamination problems from leaking UST's for the time of June 6, 2000, through June 30, 2000, and determined that no further corrective actions are required:

Dorothy Haase Property, Fillmore (C-99045)

Long Beach Memorial Medical Center, Long Beach (908061134)

Salco Facility, Carson (I-01463)

Los Angeles County Fire Station No 141, San Dimas (R-10765)

Equillon Enterprises, LLC-Carson Terminal, Santa Fe Springs (906700316)

J. E. DeWitt Incorporated, South El Monte (I-01187)

Arrowhead Syrup Sales, Cerritos (907010152)

Los Angeles County Fire Station No. 47, Los Angeles (900320107)

City of Burbank-Former Continental Hagen Facility, Burbank (915100034)

ARCO Service Station No. 0103, West Covina (I-12040)

SURFACE WATER DIVISION

WATERSHED REGULATORY

NPDES INSPECTIONS

Albert Novak

The Surface Water Regulatory Section completed 534 inspections of NPDES-permitted facilities during the 1999/00 fiscal year. This exceeded the augmented workplan goal of 494 inspections, and was accomplished with the help of staff loaned from the Underground Tank and the WIP Sections.

LA Regional Volunteer Monitoring Steering Committee

Mark Pumford

The Los Angeles Regional Volunteer Monitoring Steering Committee held a meeting on July 13, 2000. Participants included staff from the State and Regional Boards, Heal the Bay, BayKeeper, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, SCMI, Surfrider, and other volunteer groups. Discussion topics included but were not limited to the next snapshot event, intercalibration meeting, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project's (SCCWRP) TMDL data collection project for the Los Angeles River, the Clean Beach Partnership Pilot Source Identification Project, and different types of grants and funding that may be available to volunteer monitoring groups.

Matilija Dam Removal Task Force Meeting

Mark Pumford

The Matilija Dam Removal Task Force meeting was held on June 26, 2000. The COE presented an update on the status of the Matilija Dam Section Analysis. Federal interest has been identified and the COE will recommend that the Matilija Dam Feasibility Study proceed into the feasibility phase. Ventura County is working on funding via Congress and the CalFed Southern California Watershed - Water Development Initiative. The Demo/Evaluation project is scheduled for October 12, 2000, and Secretary of Interior, Bruce Babbitt has confirmed his presence at this event. USBR also provided details on future key issues that need to be addressed. Examples of these issues include sediment management and environmental compliance. Glen Greenwald of FWS informed the task force members of his findings during the habitat assessment and wetland delineation of the Matilija Reservoir area. The next meeting is scheduled for July 31, 2000.

Fish and Game Advanced Bioassessment Workshop

Mark Pumford

An Advanced Bioassessment Workshop was held on June 7-9, 2000, in Rocklin, California. This workshop introduced the use of California Stream Bioassessment Procedure and the concepts of biocriteria development. Some of the advanced topics included basic sampling statistics, elements of stream reconnaissance, site selection, sampling strategies, ambient water chemistry and stream physical/habitat characteristics. This 3-day workshop consisted of lecture, classroom exercises, and field demonstration of sampling reach delineation. Bioassessment is a necessary tool and can be combined with water chemistry and physical habitat assessment to give a more comprehensive evaluation of watershed and stream health.

California Toxics Rule and State Implementation Policy Training

Veronica Cuevas-Alpuche

Staff attended three two-day training courses in June and July given by the State Water Resources Control Board regarding the recently promulgated California Toxics Rule and "Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California (the Policy)." The training provided guidance to NPDES permit writers on how to determine when California Toxics Rule (CTR) limits need to be included in a permit, i.e., how to conduct reasonable potential analysis (RPA) for toxic pollutants. This new RPA involves a three-tiered approach, where the CTR criteria are adjusted and compared to water quality of the effluent

and receiving water upstream of the discharge point.

REGIONAL PROGRAMS

Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and Basin Plan Amendments

East Fork San Gabriel River Trash TMDL

Rod Collins

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) adopted the East Fork San Gabriel River Trash TMDL on June 15, 2000. The unanimous vote sent a strong message of support for the Los Angeles Region's first TMDL and marked an important milestone in the TMDL program. The East Fork Trash TMDL is the first trash TMDL to be adopted within the country. The TMDL establishes a numeric target and load allocation of zero (0) trash in the river, and requires the United States Forest Service to comply with the load allocation by April 1, 2003.

Los Angeles River and Ballona Creek Draft Trash TMDL Update

Melinda Becker

The Draft Los Angeles River Trash TMDL was public noticed on March 17, 2000. This TMDL will serve as a template for the Ballona Creek Trash TMDL which is being developed concurrently, but will be issued as a separate TMDL. The TMDL establishes a numeric target of zero (0) trash, and provides a plan for progressive reduction in waste load allocations over a 10-year period. The waste load allocations would be enforced through the Municipal NPDES storm water permit issued jointly to Los Angeles County and 87 cities as co-permittees. A baseline monitoring program was proposed to quantify the current trash loadings to the river. These data would be used to calculate progressive reduction in load allocations.

A formal workshop was conducted by the Regional Board staff on April 4 at the Los Angeles River Center. Since then, staff have met with representatives of the City of Los Angeles, Los Angeles County Department of Public Works (LADWP), and representatives of Heal the Bay and the Los Angeles River and San Gabriel River Watershed Council to discuss the draft TMDL. On May 16, staff attended a meeting convened by the LADWP. Approximately 30 cities were represented at the meeting. The focus of the discussion was on the baseline monitoring program. The County and cities met again on June 12 in an attempt to develop an alternative baseline monitoring plan. Representatives from this working group met again with staff on Friday, June 16 to discuss the monitoring issue.

Santa Clara River – Chloride Policy Public Meeting

Elizabeth Erickson

The public hearing before the Regional Board on April 13 was continued with the Board requesting more information on the costs associated with the proposed action. Staff proposes changing the chloride objectives for two reaches of the Santa Clara River, the Santa Paula reach from 80 to 100 mg/L and the Santa Clarita reaches from 100 to 143 mg/L. Compliance with these objectives may be measured as a 12-month rolling average. In addition, a maximum, not-to-exceed value of 180 mg/L will apply to both reaches. These objectives were found to be protective of the most sensitive beneficial use, which has been determined to be agricultural water supply.

The cost analysis requested by the Board is summarized and focuses on the sewer bills anticipated as a result of the proposed actions and "No Action." In addition, the addendum, sent June 26, 2000, includes discussions of new information received since the April 13 presentation. The information increases the level of uncertainty regarding staff's projection of future surface flow conditions. Furthermore, a new population of endangered fish (unarmored stickleback) has been identified in

Bouquet Canyon, adjacent to Santa Clarita. Public comment on the staff report has been extensive in the 30-day period. New and substantially higher cost estimates to attain the existing, but not proposed objective, were recently supplied by LACSD. It is not clear what portion of this rate hike is due to the impacts of growth versus the impacts of the Board's potential actions.

Calleguas Watershed-Chloride TMDL

Elizabeth Erickson

Elements of a draft Calleguas Creek Chloride TMDL were distributed to watershed stakeholders on April 25 and June 23. The proposed water quality objective for protection of agricultural water supply in Calleguas Creek is 110 mg/L. The objective is lower than the existing chloride objective and that proposed for the Santa Clarita reach of the Santa Clara River due to the diminished assimilative capacity of the Calleguas Creek watershed. A meeting to discuss the proposed objectives, reach definitions, and implementation schedule was held on July 12, at the Calleguas Municipal Water District. Stakeholders expressed concern about the treatment costs and affordability as projected by staff, as well as the technical basis for the 110 mg/L numeric target. A five-year implementation plan, revised reach definitions, and a plan to have stakeholders recommend waste load allocations were well received. A draft TMDL is planned for release for public comment in August and the item is scheduled for consideration at the Board's October meeting.

Nonpoint Source Program

Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification (WQC)

Raymond Jay

Staff participated in a WQC training session held at the Santa Ana Regional Board Office on June 21, 2000. The training session provided staff an opportunity to ask questions and discuss the recently revised WQC regulations. The revisions, which include delegating certification authority to the Regional Board Executive Officers or Regional Boards, and expanding the petition process to include all aggrieved parties, became effective on June 26, 2000. The Region is now solely responsible for issuing 401 Water Quality Certifications. We are currently consulting with our legal staff to finalize the language used in these certifications. We have several certifications prepared for final approval.

WATERSHED/COASTAL WATERS

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT

Shirley Birosik

Calleguas Creek Watershed

The ***Water Quality/Water Resources Subcommittee*** last met on July 12. Regional Board representatives gave a progress report on the chloride TMDL currently underway in the watershed. Data generated by the Surface Water Element of the Calleguas Creek Characterization Study Monitoring Program is being evaluated and a report is in progress. Monitoring associated with the Groundwater Element of the program continues. Another component of the program, funded by Clean Water Act 205(j) monies, is evaluating nonpoint source contributions and is in the data analysis stage with the goal of developing preliminary loadings for nitrogen and phosphorus. The Subcommittee is currently in the process of drafting a Water Resources/Water Quality Chapter in the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan.

The ***Flood Protection/Sedimentation Subcommittee*** last met on July 10. They are currently involved with discussions on conducting a hydrologic study of the watershed.

The **Public Education/Outreach Subcommittee** met on July 6. It has completed the first edition of a newsletter to cover watershed issues and events. Additionally, the group has produced a color brochure on the management plan process in the watershed.

A **Land Use Subcommittee** has recently been formed and will include representatives from local planning agencies. The first meeting was held on June 14.

The **Habitat/Recreation Subcommittee** met on June 6 and continues work on a wetlands study which includes a habitat mapping component. A general inventory of wetlands in the watershed is complete and potential sites for restoration have been identified. The next meeting of the group is scheduled for August 1. A Biology Advisory Group has been formed to aid this Subcommittee in review of technical materials. Meetings were held on April 11, May 2, and June 6.

The **Steering Committee for the Watershed Management Plan** met on March 30. A draft Table of Contents for the Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan being developed has been prepared.

The full Management Committee also last met on March 30. The next meeting will be in September on a date to be determined. Information about the management committee and its subcommittees can be found at www.calleguas.com/cc.htm.

San Gabriel River Watershed

A "State of the Watershed" report is available for the San Gabriel River Watershed which was prepared by Regional Board staff. The report describes the watershed, with its many diversion structures and recharge areas, and summarizes available water quality data in a manner easily understood by the layperson. The complete set of data evaluated for the report (as well as the report itself) is available electronically by contacting Shirley Birosik at sbirosik@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov. Hardcopies of the report are also available.

Santa Monica Bay Watershed

The Malibu Lagoon Task Force last met on June 20 and July 18, 2000. The Task Force is concerned with lagoon water level management and all aspects of the UCLA study of the lagoon. The UCLA study covers a hydrologic evaluation, appropriateness of various biological and water quality objectives, water level management, eutrophication issues, pathogens, and the historical condition of the lagoon. The study was funded by a California Coastal Conservancy grant with assistance by local agencies. A new facilitator is now leading the group toward refining the future goals of the Task Force which include developing a priority list of restoration options.

The Malibu Creek Watershed Advisory Council last met on July 16, 2000.

A watershed committee has been meeting in the Topanga Creek Watershed. A major near-term goal of this watershed committee is to prioritize potential actions previously identified in a draft Topanga Creek Watershed Management Study and start a coordinated resource management planning (CRMP) process. A longer-term goal is preparation of a watershed management plan that will help address a number of issues including flood control in the canyon. The committee last met on April 27; a seminar on May 13 concerning septic system regulations and fire safe vegetation management was held in lieu of a regular meeting. The group's Technical Advisory Committee met on June 15 to aid in finalization of the QA/QC Plan for the Topanga Creek Water Quality Study (funded through 205(j) monies) and review data collected thus far. The June 10 seminar on grading and drainage best management practices has been rescheduled to September 16. An "envisioning" conference is scheduled for September 30. The Committee's website address is www.TopangaOnline.com/twc/.

Other Santa Monica Bay Watershed activities are covered under the Santa Monica Bay Restoration

Project item.

Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project

The Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project is a partnership of public agencies working cooperatively to acquire, restore, and enhance coastal wetlands and watersheds between Point Conception and the International border with Mexico. Using a non-regulatory approach and an ecosystem perspective, the Wetlands Project works to identify wetland acquisition and restoration priorities, prepare plans for these priority sites, pool funds to undertake these projects, implement priority plans, and oversee post-project maintenance and monitoring.

The goal of the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project is to accelerate the pace, the extent, and the effectiveness of coastal wetland restoration in Southern California through development and implementation of a regional prioritization plan for the acquisition, restoration, and enhancement of Southern California's coastal wetlands and watersheds. Ultimately, the Wetlands Project's efforts will result in a long-term increase in the quantity and quality of the region's wetlands.

The Wetlands Recovery Project is headed by Board of Governors comprised of top officials from each of the participating agencies. The Southern California Wetlands Managers Group and the Public Advisory Committee serve as advisory committees to the Board. The Wetlands Managers Group is responsible for drafting the regional restoration plan and advising the Governing Board on regional acquisition, restoration, and enhancement priorities. The Wetlands Project has also established a panel of scientists to advise on regional goals, specific objectives, project criteria, and priorities. Governing Board meetings are public and are noticed at least 10 days prior to each meeting. If you sign up on the [Wetlands Project email list](#), you will receive email notification of all board meetings. Minutes from previous meetings and other information about the group may be found on their website at www.coastalconservancy.ca.gov/scwrp/index.html.

Each spring the Wetlands Recovery Project accepts proposals for acquisition, restoration, and enhancement projects for coastal wetlands and watersheds in Southern California. The Wetlands Recovery Project Managers Group recommended a list of priority projects for fiscal year 2000-2001 to the Governing Board at the Board's June 9 meeting. The list was adopted with a minor change (a Topanga Watershed project was added). A key consideration is whether projects will actually be able to use funds for on the ground work in the upcoming fiscal year. Other potential projects are entered into a database for re-consideration in the future. The Wetlands Recovery Project does not have adequate funds for all of the projects on the priority list, so it has adopted a policy of "first-ready, first-funded." A project is more than a wetland or watershed that needs help. It must be a specific action. To be considered a priority project, acquisitions must have willing sellers and restoration work must have a local agency or non-profit that can carry out the work with the assistance of the Coastal Conservancy. The Wetlands Recovery Project helps to identify and fund worthy projects, but does not carry out the work. Limited funds are available for planning. Projects closer to the coast or clearly benefiting coastal resources will receive preference. A list of the current priority projects is provided on the website as well.

Watershed Management Initiative Chapter

Each Regional Board has completed the process of producing a "chapter" on how that Board is implementing watershed management in the Region. The consolidated statewide chapter will become the basis for funding decisions including allocating money for monitoring, TMDL development, and grant monies disbursement. Each Region's Chapter is updated on an annual basis. The last update occurred in January 2000 and includes information on Regional Board implementation of the state's upgraded nonpoint source management program. Copies of the Los Angeles Regional Board's current Chapter (as well as Appendices) and/or its Executive Summary may be obtained by contacting the Regional Board office, Regional Programs Section secretary. The document may also be sent out electronically in MSWord97 and is also available on the Regional Board's webpage under Regional Programs at www.swrcb.ca.gov/~rwqcb4. The next

update of this document is scheduled for November of this year.

OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

AWA Presentation

Wendy Phillips

On July 18th, a presentation was given to the Ventura County Association of Water Agencies (AWA) regarding the pending adoption of the Ventura County Municipal Storm Water Permit. AWA has also asked for a brief update on the status of TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Loads).

International Exchange

Dr. Weixing Tong

Between May 30 and June 6, 2000, Dr. Weixing Tong, was invited to give talks in China at the University of Geoscience (Wuhan, China), the Hefei University of Technology (Hefei, China), the China University of Science and Technology (Hefei, China), and Maanshan City Environmental Protection Agency (City of Maanshan, Anhui, China). His presentation was entitled "Water Resource Development, Water Quality Protection and Related Environmental Issues in State of California, USA." His presentations included: 1) Water Resource Development and Management in California; 2) Environmental Protection Agencies, Policies, and Regulations in the USA; 3) Ground Water Quality Principles and Concerns; and 4) Prevention of Ground Water Contamination, Ground Water Remediation and New Challenges in Groundwater Contamination-MTBE. Over 300 people attended the presentations, including university faculty members, graduate and undergraduate students, governmental regulators, researchers, and scientists. The talks were well received and appreciated and generated extensive discussion between the speaker and audience on such topics as solutions to the existing environmental problems in China, applications of new technology in the environmental field, execution of environmental policies, and regulations.

California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance

Dennis Dickerson

On July 17, 2000, the Executive Officer participated on a panel to discuss stormwater issues in Southern California at the annual meeting of the California Council for Environmental and Economic Balance.

Blood Drive

David Rasmussen

On June 20, 2000, the Regional Board hosted a Red Cross Blood Drive which resulted in the collection of 39 pints of blood. The amount collected will help save over 117 lives. Regional Board staff David Rasmussen and Mazhar Ali, the organizers of the event, have hosted seven blood drives over the past three years. The drives have resulted in the collection of 206 pints of blood to help save approximately 618 lives. The donors included RB 4 staff, as well as staff from other agencies within the building.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Personnel Report

Dolores Renick

As of July 31 our staff total is 140 including:

- ? 123 technical staff (including 3 part-time staff)
- ? 4 permanent administrative staff
- ? 13 permanent clerical staff.

Staff is currently taking steps to fill the following positions:

- ? 1 Unit Chief
- ? 7 technical
- ? 2 administrative

Since June 29 the following appointment has been made:

Susana Nasserie, Associate Information Systems Analyst (Specialist) in the Information Technology Unit, appointed 07/12/00.

The following separated from Region 4:

Wayne Chiou, Senior Water Resource Control Engineer, transferred to California Department of Transportation.

Harry Patel, Sanitary Engineering Associate, transferred to the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Clean Water Programs.

The following were promoted:

Mark Pumford, from Chief of the Ventura Coastal Watershed Unit to Chief of the Watershed Regulatory Section, effective July 18, 2000.

PETITIONS STATUS REPORT

A table listing the petitions of Regional Board actions pending before the State Board has been included with this report. The table will be included on an ongoing basis.