

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2011

Prepared on January 6, 2011

ITEM NUMBER: 22

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report to the Board

This item presents a brief discussion of issues that may interest the Board. Upon request, staff can provide more detailed information about any particular item.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS

[Kim Sanders 805/542-4771]

The tables on the following pages list applications received and certifications approved from November 8, 2010 – December 22, 2010.

For inclusion in the EO Report for February 3, 2011 Board Meeting

Table 1: 401 Water Quality Certifications Received November 8, 2010 – December 22, 2010.

Applicant	Date Received	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Total Acreage	Status
Michael Sharpe - Property Owner	11/9/10	Sharpe Residence, Huasna Creek Restoration Project	The purpose of the proposed project is to remove the creosote treated railroad tresses from the stream channel and restore areas impacted by existing bridges, retaining walls, and ornamental plantings.	Huasna	San Luis Obispo	Huasna Creek	0.19	A cert has been drafted and is being reviewed by Water Board staff.
Dave Flynn -County San Luis Obispo	11/18/10	Old Los Berros & Sand Canyon Culvert Relining and Sand Canyon Flap Gate Replacement Project	Reline culverts and replace a flap gate to improve existing flood control facilities which will reduce local flooding in the community of Oceano.	Oceano	San Luis Obispo	Old Los Berros Creek, Arroyo Grande Creek, Meadow Creek	0.024	A cert has been drafted and is being reviewed by Water Board staff.
Rosemarie Gaglione - City of Goleta	11/18/10	San Jose Creek Capacity Improvement Project with Fish Passage	To remove and replace the entire existing concrete channel with an improved channel design that provides for fish passage, removes an existing secondary steel bridge, and increases the channel cross-sectional area.	Goleta	Santa Barbara	San Jose Creek	2.56	A cert has been drafted and is being reviewed by Water Board staff.
Nick Nichols - Monterey Co. Redevelopment & Housing Office	11/19/10	Boronda Redevelopment Area Storm Drain Improvement	Improve existing storm drains in conformance with the Draft Boronda Redevelopment Area Storm Drain Master Plan	Salinas	Monterey	Markely Swamp	0.04	Water Board staff is reviewing the application package.

Applicant	Date Received	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Total Acreage	Status
Timothy Robinson - Cachuma Operation & Maintenance Board	11/29/10	Bottomless-Arched Culvert Installation at Crossing 2 on Quiota Creek	To improve migration conditions for endangered southern California steelhead that spawn and rear in Quiota Creek by replacing the current Arizona crossing with a bottomless-arched culvert.	Santa Ynez	Santa Barbara	Quiota Creek	0.05	A cert has been drafted and is being reviewed by Water Board staff.
Seth Shank - Santa Barbara County Flood Control District	12/10/10	Santa Maria River: Guadalupe Pilot Channel	Protect the Guadalupe WWTP by directing flow in the Santa Maria river away from the plant by creating a pilot channel approximately 2,000 feet long, 50 feet wide, and 4 feet deep.	Guadalupe	Santa Barbara	Santa Maria River	4.5	Water Board staff is reviewing the application package.
Andrew Smith - PG&E	12/10/10	Hollister 115kV Power Line Reconductoring Project	Reconductoring the current power line in order to improve transmission capacity and reliability in the Hollister area.	Near Hollister	San Benito & Monterey	San Benito River, Gabilan Creek	0.14	Water Board staff is reviewing the application package.
Seth Shank - Santa Barbara County Flood Control District	12/16/10	Flood Control Maintenance Activities in the Goleta Slough	Remove up to 250,000 cubic yards of material from Goleta Slough over a 5-year period, depositing suitable material on Goleta Beach for beach replenishment and unsuitable material to an upland disposal site.	Goleta	Santa Barbara	Goleta Slough	11	The application package was incomplete. Water Board staff is waiting on a more thorough project description.
David Gittleson -City of Morgan Hill	12/21/10	Butterfield Boulevard South Extension	Connect Butterfield Boulevard to Watsonville Road, creating a north-south arterial thoroughfare for the City of Morgan Hill. In addition, Butterfield Channel will be extended and additional detention basins will be constructed to ameliorate flooding in the local watershed	Morgan Hill	Santa Clara	West Little Llagas Creek	0.154	Water Board staff is reviewing the application package.

[1] Total Acreage includes both temporary and permanent impacts to riparian, streambed, and/or wetland environments within federal jurisdiction.

Table 2: 401 Water Quality Certifications Approved November 8, 2010 – December 22, 2010.

Applicant	Date Certified	Project	Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Total Acreage ¹
Liz and Robert Silveira - Home Owners	11/8/10	Silveira Bank Stabilization	To stabilize and restore the streambank to stop further erosion and sedimentation, loss of property, and to re-vegetate the streambank.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Garden Creek	0.0096
Matthew Roberts - City of Carpinteria	11/18/10	Carpinteria Winter Protection Berm	To provide seasonal flood and storm wave damage control for public and private improvements along the Carpinteria City Beach.	Carpinteria	Santa Barbara	Pacific Ocean	1350 linear feet
Steven Greig - Venoco, Inc.	11/18/10	Repair South Wall on 421-2 Caisson	To repair and strengthen the existing 421-2 oil well caisson which has been rapidly deteriorating due to continual wave and environmental action.	Goleta	Santa Barbara	Pacific Ocean	0.004
Dina El-Tawansy - Department of Transportation	11/23/10	Realignment and Signalization of Route 152/Ferguson Rd. Intersection, SCL, EA 2A2600	The proposed improvements are designed to reduce cross traffic accidents at this intersection by signalizing, realigning the intersection, and constructing a left turn pocket.	Gilroy	Santa Clara	Johnson Creek	0.009
Richard Llantero - City of Monterey	12/2/10	Wharf 1 Structural Repairs and Wharf 2 Reconstruction	Replace, treat, and or repair certain timber pilings, caps, stringers, decking, bracing and walers; replace certain pile wraps, concrete spalls and concrete foundations on Wharf 1. Install metal flinch plates to strengthen the pile caps on Wharf 2.	Monterey	Monterey	Pacific Ocean (Monterey Bay)	0.1
Maureen Spencer - SB Co. Flood Control District	12/6/10	Santa Maria River Bonita School Road and Flap Gate Pilot Channels	Excavate three pilot channels in the Santa Maria River: Two pilot channels in front of flap gates, one pilot channel that is an extension of the existing "LaBrea Fire" pilot channel.	Santa Maria	Santa Barbara	Santa Maria River	15.012

Applicant	Date Certified	Project	Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Total Acreage ¹
Dong Kim - CSC Of America, Ltd.	12/6/10	CSC Property Parking Lot Expansion	Construction of a parking lot to accommodate 40 new spaces.	Watsonville	Santa Cruz	None	0.23
Daniel Van Beveren – City of San Luis Obispo	12/6/10	Higuera Street Storm Drain Culvert Repair	To repair the existing storm drain box culvert under Higuera Street.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Tributary to San Luis Obispo Creek	0.028
Lisa Arroyo – City of Santa Barbara	12/10/10	Ortega Street Bridge Replacement	To remove and replace the structurally deficient and functionally obsolete existing bridge. The project will also improve hydraulics under the new bridge and provide transition walls to the existing creek features.	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	Mission Creek	0.24

^[1] Total Acreage includes both temporary and permanent impacts to riparian, streambed, and/or wetland environments within federal jurisdiction.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Presentations, Education, and Training [Roger Briggs 805/549-3140]

Leadership Education

As we have discussed many times with the Board, we continue to pursue our Vision for Healthy Watersheds through becoming a performance based organization. That organizational and cultural change must be concurrent with our own increase in understanding of ourselves as well as all those people with whom we interact. To provide that needed broader perspective and awareness, many Regional Water Board staff have participated in leadership education opportunities provided by way of classes conducted by University of California Extension, from the UC Davis Executive Program. UCDE has provided these classes in our office over the last 4.5 years. Our recent trend has been to have quarterly one day (partial day) classes, and we have four classes scheduled for 2011. Most classes have reading assignments prior to the class, which we students complete on our own time. These educational opportunities have increased our skills in dealing with increasing complexity in our work. We see increased importance and value of our ensuing higher order thinking among staff, in our constant reevaluation of priorities as we deal with our reduced budget during these unprecedented fiscal times for State government.

Concurrently, the State Board has taken steps towards being a performance based organization. We discussed the initial phases of the Water Boards' statewide performance measures, as well as our own additional performance measures, at our July Board meeting. More recently, this Board's Executive Officer and Assistant Executive Officer proposed leadership education, for the reasons stated above, for the Water Boards' leadership team. Executive Director Tom Howard assigned the task of developing this proposal to a subcommittee of the leadership group, which consists of Tom Howard, a Division Chief, an AEO, and three Executive Officers including me.

This group is outlining the scope for leadership education for 2011, and as of this writing in early January, we plan to have our initial session at the end of January in conjunction with a regularly scheduled management group meeting (to save on travel costs). Michael Thomas and I have pursued this effort as a way of better realizing the potential of the water boards to be effective in improving and protecting our state's water resources. I also see this effort as important for succession planning purposes – to develop greater leadership skills across our organization in a time when our baby boomer demographics are prompting significant turnover among the water board leadership ranks.

Santa Barbara County Chief Executive Officer

Chair Jeff Young and I have a meeting with the new Santa Barbara CEO Chandra Waller on Feb 10 in Santa Barbara.

It's a short meet and greet at her request. This meeting will be an opportunity to brief her on issues we are working on that affect Santa Barbara County and for her to let us know of any questions that she has. The County, like many public agencies now, is dealing with budget shortfalls and many difficult choices on how to provide services and meet all requirements (e.g., stormwater requirements). The Board of Supervisors decided to change from four meetings a month to three a month to save some money, and is wrestling with rising pension costs, notably for fire and police personnel.

29th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference March 23-26, 2011 in San Luis Obispo

"Restoring Salmonids - Holding the Line on Species Decline"

The first two days of the conference will be filled with full-day workshops and field tours. A half-day plenary session will be followed by 1.5 days of technical, biological, and policy-related concurrent sessions. This conference will focus on a broad range of salmonid and watershed restoration topics of concern to restoration practitioners, watershed scientists, fisheries biologists, resource agency personnel, land-use planners, and landowners.

Potential Field Tours

Morro Bay Watershed, Headwaters to Mouth Tour

San Luis Obispo Creek Tour

Sustainable Vineyards Tour

Instream Structures Tour

Road Decommissioning & Erosion Control Tour

Sustainable Vineyards and Agricultural Practices Tour

Tour Coordinator: Anne Michul, Central Coast Vineyard Team

The Sustainable Viticulture and Agriculture Practices tour will include several stops throughout the Central Coast that highlight and showcase sustainable creek restoration projects. The tour will visit Cal Poly State University—San Luis Obispo's stream enhancement and water quality control project site and Wolff Vineyards which is a Sustainability in Practice (SIP)TM Certified Vineyard that will host a wine tasting at the end of the tour.

One of the workshops is on Stormwater Pollution Runoff and Water Quality - Workshop Coordinators: Cheryl Lenhardt, PE, CEO of Lenhardt Engineering, Inc. and Nicole Smith, Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District. This workshop will address a variety of storm water topics including the evolution of storm water policies, implementation of storm water regulations, Low Impact Development concepts and concerns, volunteer sampling and monitoring programs and addressing storm water issues from a watershed perspective. "Water Quality Permitting: Compliance with Construction, Industrial and Municipal General Permits," will be presented by our own David Innis, of our stormwater staff.

An item that is part presentation and part training is the assistance staff is providing to many farmers on the new Notice of Intent (NOI) for agricultural operations that we launched in November 2010, and has a due date for completion of January 31st. Staff provided assistance for those who had questions about the NOI, via email, phone, and person to person meetings – whatever the farmer or landowner preferred.

Budget Status [Roger Briggs 805/549-3140]

From the Governor's website: "Governor Jerry Brown released a balanced state budget today (1-10-11) that slashes spending by \$12.5 billion, including an eight to 10 percent cut in take-home pay for most state employees, and proposes a "vast and historic" restructuring of government operations." "The Budget proposes \$1.76 billion (\$56.7 million General Fund) and 4,701 positions for CalEPA for 2011-12. This represents a decrease of \$71 million or 3.9 percent for all funds. General Fund expenditures decrease by \$12.2 million or 17.8 percent." For the Water Boards, "the significant General Fund solution is: Fund shifts — The Budget proposes an ongoing General Fund reduction of \$12.8 million and a corresponding increase in the Waste Discharge Permit Fund and Water Rights Fund, with proposed statutory changes to

authorize the State Water Resources Control Board to assess a fee for basin planning activities. The federal Clean Water Act requires basin plans to facilitate the discharge permit development pursuant to state and federal law.”

Our understanding of the referenced salary cuts is that the existing reductions negotiated by the previous Governor with the union representing administrative staff, and those same terms ordered by the previous Governor for supervisory staff, will remain in effect. Governor Brown apparently intends to reach agreements, with similar terms as exist for administrative and supervisory workers, with remaining employee unions in order to accomplish the stated reductions across the board.

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