

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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 11-12, 2017
Prepared on April 3, 2017

ITEM NUMBER: 11

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report to the Board

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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

[Phil Hammer 805/549-3882]

The tables on the following pages list applications received and certifications issued from January 19, 2017 - March 21, 2017.

401 Water Quality Certification Applications Received January 19, 2017 - March 21, 2017.

| Applicant | Date Received | Project Title | Project Purpose | Location | County | Receiving Water | Proposed Total Impact ¹ | Status |
|---|---------------|---|---|---------------------------------|-----------------|--|------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| San Benito County, Public Works Division-- James Polfer | 1/17/2017 | Hospital Road Low Water Crossing Bridge Replacement | To replace the existing seasonal low-water crossing with a year-round bridge crossing to improve the bridge approach, in order to meet a 45 MPH design speed along Hospital Road. | South of Hollister | San Benito | San Benito River | 0.253 acres/ 195 linear feet | Denied Without Prejudice |
| City of Capitola-- Danielle Uharriet | 1/18/2017 | Soquel Creek Lagoon Management | To provide seasonal recreational use, to enhance and improve creek habitat for listed fish species, and to reduce water pollution. | Capitola | Santa Cruz | Soquel Creek | 0.5 acres/ 1000 linear feet | Under Staff Review |
| Santa Barbara Flood Control-- Seth Shank | 2/2/2017 | Santa Maria Airport Ditch Improvements | To install drainage system improvements in the existing earthen and unlined portion of a trapezoidal drainage ditch to eliminate ongoing erosion that is threatening Skyway Drive. | Santa Maria | Santa Barbara | Airport Ditch | 0.52 acres/ 2300 linear feet | Under Staff Review |
| SoCal Gas-- Dani Henning | 2/3/2017 | 2017 Pipeline Replacement Projects | To replace existing SL36-9-09N pipeline sections in San Luis Obispo County, pursuant to the California Public Utilities Commission's pipeline safety requirement mandate for high pressure pipelines. | Atascadero, Arroyo Grande | San Luis Obispo | Paloma Creek, San Luis Obispo Creek, Arroyo Grande Creek | 0.18 acres/ 340 linear feet | Under Staff Review |
| Santa Barbara County Public Works Dept.-- Morgan Jones | 2/4/2017 | Bridge Over Toro Creek Scour Repair | To utilize buried articulated concrete blocks for the scour protection repairs of the bridge pier. | Carpinteria | Santa Barbara | Toro Canyon Creek | 0.15 acres/ 60 linear feet | Incomplete Application |
| San Mateo County Dept. of Public Works-- Julie Casagrande | 2/6/2017 | Emergency Gazos Creek Road Slip-Out Repair | To repair a failed section of embankment to prevent imminent roadway failure and sediment delivery to Gazos Creek. | Unincorporated San Mateo County | San Mateo | Gazos Creek | 0.016 acres/ 115 linear feet | Under Staff Review |

| Applicant | Date Received | Project Title | Project Purpose | Location | County | Receiving Water | Proposed Total Impact¹ | Status |
|--|----------------------|---|---|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|--|------------------------|
| Monterey Peninsula Water Management District-- Larry Hampson | 2/8/2017 | Sleepy Hollow Steelhead Rearing Facility Raw Water Intake and Water Supply System Upgrade | To maintain and improve the facility's ability to operate and contribute to the restoration and conservation of steelhead populations. | Unincorporated Monterey County | Monterey | Carmel River | 0.047 acres/ 43 linear feet | Under Staff Review |
| City of Pismo Beach-- Ben Fine | 2/9/2017 | City of Pismo Beach Pier Repair | To ensure public safety and continued public access to Pismo Pier, an important fishing and recreational resource. | Pismo Beach | San Luis Obispo | Pacific Ocean | 0.0045 acres/ 213.5 linear feet | Under Staff Review |
| Santa Barbara Flood Control-- Seth Shank | 2/15/2017 | Santa Barbara County Annual Routine Maintenance Plan | To maintain the capacity of key watercourses in the County, to preserve existing conveyance capacity, and to prevent accumulation of flow obstructing vegetation and sediment. | Varies | Santa Barbara | Varies | Varies annually | Under Staff Review |
| Monterey Peninsula Water Management District-- Thomas Christensen | 2/23/2017 | Carmel River Maintenance and Restoration | To maintain, repair, and restore the streambanks, aquatic habitat, and terrestrial habitat along 18.6 miles of the Carmel River | Carmel Valley | Monterey | Carmel River | Varies | Under Staff Review |
| County of Santa Barbara-- Morgan Jones | 3/2/2017 | Bike Path and Pedestrian Bridge Over San Jose Creek | To install a bike path and pedestrian bridge. | Goleta | Santa Barbara | San Jose Creek | 0.263 acres | Under Staff Review |
| Robbins Reed, Inc.--Shawn Reed | 3/3/2017 | West Creek Development Project | To construct approximately 67 single family homes and 105 multi-family condominium units in seven buildings. | San Luis Obispo | San Luis Obispo | Orcutt Creek | 0.44 acres | Incomplete Application |
| Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County-- Chris Coburn | 3/6/2017 | Watsonville Airport Groundwater Recharge Project | To address water management concerns near the airport and groundwater overdraft in the valley by constructing a groundwater recharge system to collect and infiltrate peak storm flow, reducing localized and downstream flooding hazards and improving groundwater supply. | Watsonville | Santa Cruz | Swale adjacent to Struve Slough within the Pajaro River Watershed | 0.0001 acres/ 6 linear feet | Incomplete Application |
| Phillips 66-- Gabe Munoz | 3/15/2017 | Santa Maria Pump Station Anomaly Dig | To excavate, inspect, and repair a section of crude oil pipeline. | Nipomo | San Luis Obispo | Unnamed Tributary to Nipomo Creek | 0.001 acres/ 8 linear feet | Incomplete Application |
| Santa Cruz County Parks Dept.-- Sheryl Bailey | 3/16/2017 | Heart of Soquel Storm Drain Repair | To repair and replace an existing storm drain pipe that failed in 2015/16, resulting in an eroded gully at the top of the creek bank. | Soquel | Santa Cruz | Soquel Creek | 0.030 acres/ 17 linear feet | Incomplete Application |

^[1] Total Impact includes both temporary and permanent impacts to waters.

401 Water Quality Certifications Issued January 19, 2017—March 21, 2017.

| Applicant | Date Certified | Project Title | Project Purpose | Location | County | Receiving Water | Includes LID Retention Feature ² | Total Impact ¹ |
|---|----------------|--|--|----------|---------------|------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Semprea Utilities-- Sebastian C. Garza | 3/7/2017 | SL36-1032, Section 4 Pipeline Replacement | To replace a pipeline in order to comply with pipeline safety enhancement compliance requirements. | Lompoc | Santa Barbara | Santa Ynez River | N/A | 0.80 acres/ 1,000 linear feet |

^[1] Total Impact includes both temporary and permanent impacts to waters.

^[2] Low Impact Development (LID) Retention Features are stormwater management structures designed to retain stormwater on-site, such as bioretention cells, infiltration trenches, etc.

UPDATE ON ADOPTING TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS FOR SEDIMENT TOXICITY AND PYRETHROID PESTICIDES IN SEDIMENT IN THE LOWER SALINAS RIVER WATERSHED – RESOLUTION R3-2016-0003

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At the May 13, 2016 Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) hearing, staff recommended adoption of Resolution R3-2016-0003 which proposed Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for sediment toxicity and pyrethroids in sediment in the lower Salinas River watershed in Monterey County as an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Region (Basin Plan). At the close of the hearing, the Central Coast Water Board continued the item to a future hearing and directed staff to address several issues and to continue engaging with stakeholders. In response to the Board's direction, staff contacted each stakeholder who spoke at the hearing to discuss and compile a list of their key comments.

Staff originally continued the hearing until July 2016, but later removed the item from the July agenda to await the Sacramento County Superior Court's ruling on a petition of a similar TMDL project in the Santa Maria River Watershed. The petitioner, Pyrethroid Working Group, sought to invalidate the Santa Maria TMDLs for pyrethroid pesticides on the grounds that the Central Coast Water Board had not complied with the State Water Resources Control Board's Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List (Listing Policy). In addition, the petitioner argued that the Central Coast Water Board acted arbitrarily, capriciously, and without evidentiary support when using UC Davis criteria in the TMDL. The court denied the petition on January 17, 2017, upholding the Central Coast Water Board's arguments that compliance with the Listing Policy was not required in development of a TMDL for impairments that were not included on the 303(d) list. The court also determined that the Central Coast Water Board did not abuse their discretion when using the UC Davis criteria.

Staff now plan to present the TMDLs for sediment toxicity and pyrethroids in sediment in the lower Salinas River watershed, Resolution No. R3-2016-0003, at the July 13-14, 2017 Central Coast Water Board hearing. Project information (including the staff report and attachments prepared for the July 2016 agenda) is available on the TMDL project website at the following link:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/salinas/sed_tox/index.shtml

Update on Buckley Road Trichloroethylene (TCE) Groundwater Investigation

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TCE is present in several private wells (13 out of 67 wells tested) near Buckley Road in San Luis Obispo. Based on the TCE concentrations and distribution in wells, the primary focus area with TCE concentrations near or above the drinking water standard includes the area surrounded by: Thread Lane (also known as Noll Road), Davenport Creek Road, Evans Road, Angie Lou Lane, Mello Lane, Edna Road, Three Sisters Road, and Airport Drive.

Water Board staff required San Luis Obispo County to conduct environmental investigations at their regional airport property to determine if the airport was the source of the TCE in groundwater. The County completed their fieldwork investigation in early September 2016. The results of the County's investigations indicated that there is no evidence that a source of TCE is present on the airport property that could result in the groundwater pollution observed in the Buckley Road area. Water Board staff determined that the source of TCE was likely near Thread Lane. Water Board staff issued letters to three Thread Lane business property owners on November 17, 2016. The letters required them to submit workplans for environmental investigations by January 16, 2017. All three property owners requested extensions for submitting their workplans. After review of the extension requests, Water Board staff granted extensions for workplan submittals until mid-late February. The three property owners subsequently submitted workplans and staff approved these workplans by mid-March. Reports summarizing the results of the investigations for all three Thread Lane properties are due May 5, 2017.

A map, copies of the letters described above, and other important information are available on the Buckley Road Area TCE Investigation webpage at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/hot_topics/tce_pce_info/tce_pce_index.shtml.

Central Coast Water Board staff will continue to update the community and the Board as more detailed information becomes available on the source area investigation.

Attachments

1. Table 3 - Groundwater Section, Case Closure Performance Scoreboard
2. Table 4 - Groundwater Case Closures
3. Table 5 - Enrollments in General Orders/Waivers
4. Table 6 - Drinking Water Dashboard