

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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 21-22, 2017
Prepared on August 29, 2017

ITEM NUMBER: 24

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report to the Board

STAFF CONTACT: John Robertson 805/549-3140 or John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS

[Phil Hammer 805/549-3882]

The tables on the following pages list applications received and certifications issued from June 1, 2017 - August 10, 2017.

401 Water Quality Certification Applications Received June 1, 2017 – August 10, 2017.

Applicant	Date Received	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Proposed Total Impact ¹	Status
Bringhurst LLC-Eron Bringhurst	6/9/2017	Little Basin Dam Stabilization and Channel Restoration	To complete dam site stabilization and stabilize an eroding section of the stream bank that supports property access.	Boulder Creek	Santa Cruz	Scott Creek	0.867 acres / 730 linear feet	Under staff review
State of California National Guard-Bill Kendall	6/13/2017	Camp Roberts-East Garrison MATES Access Road Repairs	To further stabilize the eroding embankment and widen the current one-way roadway back to two lanes.	Camp Roberts	Monterey	Salinas River	0.42 acres / 395 linear feet	Under staff review
Caltrans-Larry Bonner	6/14/2017	Santa Fe Undercrossing Bank Stabilization	To repair and stabilize the eroded unnamed streambank and prevent additional erosion and damage to the box culvert and highway embankment.	Un-incorporated	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed Tributary to San Luis Creek	0.009 acres	Under staff review
Alan and Rebecca Vander Horst	6/14/2017	La Lomita Ranch Conditional Use Permit	To modify existing ranch facilities into a lodging and event center for up to 52 temporary events per year.	North end of Edna Valley	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed Tributary to San Luis Creek	0.60 acres	Under staff review
Venoco, LLC-Keith Wenal	6/14/2017	Casitas Pier Fender Pile Repair	To replace corroded and damaged fenders to enable safe transfer of personnel and equipment between the pier and vessels.	Carpinteria	Santa Barbara	Pacific Ocean	0.001 acres / 26 linear feet	Under staff review
County of Santa Cruz Dept. of Public Works-Greg Jones	6/15/2017	Bean Creek PM 1.0 Repair Project	To repair storm damage to the roadway and embankment to pre-disaster conditions.	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	Bean Creek	0.03 acres / 50 linear feet	Incomplete application
California State Lands Commission-Eric Gillies	6/15/2017	Becker Legacy Wells Abandonment and Remediation Project	To abandon and seal the Becker Well to current standards to alleviate oil leaking into the environment.	Summerland	Santa Barbara	Pacific Ocean	<0.02 acres / 100 linear feet	Under staff review

Applicant	Date Received	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Proposed Total Impact ¹	Status
Monterey County RMA- Enrique Saavedra	6/20/2017	Palo Colorado Road Repair (MP 3-3.5)	To permanently repair Palo Colorado Rd and culverts at Rocky Creek and Brandon Creek due to damage caused by winter 2017 storms.	Carmel-By-The-Sea	Monterey	Rocky Creek and Brandon Creek	0.677 acres / 1994 linear feet	Under staff review
Monterey County RMA- Carl Holm	6/26/2017	Carmel River Interim Sandbar Management	To conduct sandbar management to encourage natural breaching of the sandbar at the mouth of the Carmel River lagoon to alleviate flood risk.	Carmel-By-The-Sea	Monterey	Pacific Ocean	0.6 acres / 300 linear feet	Under staff review
County of Santa Cruz Dept. of Public Works-Tim Bailey	6/29/2017	Bear Creek Storm Damage Repair Project	To restore the travel lane and embankment, replace a culvert, and pave the roadway to achieve original conditions.	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	Bear Creek	0.011 acres / 115 linear feet	Under staff review
County of Santa Cruz Dept. of Public Works-Tim Bailey	6/30/2017	Lompico Road PM 1.85 & 2.38 Storm Damage Repair Project	To repair flood damages to Lompico Road and embankment through clearing and grubbing, roadway excavation, and structural excavation.	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	San Lorenzo River	0.01 acres / 65 linear feet	Under staff review
County of Santa Cruz Dept. of Public Works-Tim Bailey	6/30/2017	Highland Way PM 7.16 Storm Damage Repair Project	To repair the roadway, headwall, and culvert eroded away from large amounts of rainfall and undercutting of the roadway.	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	Little Creek	0.04 acres / 100 linear feet	Under staff review
City of Santa Barbara-Rebecca Bjork	7/12/2017	El Estero Drain Restoration and Remediation	To restore and remediate the El Estero Drain parcel and improve habitat for the Southwestern Pond Turtle.	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	Laguna Channel	0.0149 acres	Cert. issued 7/25/2017
City of Monterey-Jeff Krebs	7/13/2017	Detention Basin Maintenance	To perform maintenance activities for six detention basins to allow proper capture and storage of storm water runoff.	Monterey	Monterey	Lake El Estero / Laguna Grande	20.08 acres	Under staff review
Caltrans-Michaela Robbins	7/18/2017	Bank Stabilization and Headwall Repair	To repair and stabilize the failed outlet wing wall at an unnamed creek and the eroded embankment caused by heavy rains.	Prunedale	Monterey	Unnamed Tributary	0.04 acres / 50 linear feet	Under staff review
County of Santa Cruz Dept. of Public Works-Tim Bailey	7/20/2017	Valencia Road at Trout Gulch	To repair damages to Valencia Road caused by storm flooding and replace a corrugated metal pipe that collapsed.	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	Trout Gulch Creek	0.025 acres / 190 linear feet	Incomplete application
City of San Luis Obispo-Michael McGuire	7/28/2017	Marsh Street Bridge Replacement	To replace a structurally deficient bridge in order to enhance safety of the one-way connection between the US 101 and downtown San Luis Obispo.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo Creek	0.14 acres / 230 linear feet	Under staff review
Moondance Partners GP, LLC-R. O'Neal Gray	8/3/2017	1835 Santa Rita Road Development	To install two roadways: one to provide access to Acorn Springs Road and a future home site and another to agricultural operations.	Templeton	San Luis Obispo	Tributaries to the Salinas River	0.233 acres / 4120 linear feet	Under staff review
Caltrans-Larry Bonner	8/9/2017	Monterey Highway 1 Culvert Replacement	To repair deteriorated culverts at several locations along State Route-1 to improve drainage conditions and provide a safe travel way for the public.	Big Sur Coast	Monterey	Unnamed tributaries to the Big Sur River and Pacific Ocean	0.074 acres / 297 linear feet	Under staff review

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

401 Water Quality Certifications Issued June 1, 2017 – August 10, 2017.

Applicant	Date Certified	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Includes LID Retention Feature ²	Total Impact ¹
Doug Filippini	6/7/2017	Las Tablas Village Project- Tract 2992	To develop approximately 15 acres of property into a commercial center with a residential mixed use component.	Templeton	San Luis Obispo	Two unnamed drainages which are seasonal tributaries to Toad Creek	Y	0.12 acres / 404 linear feet
Port San Luis Harbor District- Loch Dreizler	6/8/2017	Maintenance of Existing Structures	To repair, rehabilitate, or replace existing structures.	Avila Beach	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Bay	N/A	Varies
Santa Cruz Harbor- Marian Olin	6/9/2017	Santa Cruz Harbor Pile Replacement	To remove and replace existing piles, pile guides, and appurtenant hardware.	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz Harbor	N/A	0.0067 acres
Santa Barbara Flood Control- Seth Shank	6/13/2017	Santa Barbara County Annual Routine Maintenance Plan	To maintain the capacity of key watercourses in the County, preserve exiting conveyance capacity, and prevent the accumulation of obstructing vegetation and sediments.	Varies	Santa Barbara	Varies	N/A	Varies annually
ExxonMobil Corporation- Jack Jones	6/16/2017	Permanent Culvert Replacement Venadito Canyon Road	To replace a temporarily repaired culvert with a permanent, properly sized culvert.	Goleta	Santa Barbara	Tributary to Venadito Canyon Creek	N/A	0.045 acres / 126 linear feet
San Luis Obispo County, Public Works Dept.-Dave Flynn	6/26/2017	Avila Beach Drive Seismic Retrofit Project	To seismically retrofit the existing Avila Beach Dr. Bridge over San Luis Obispo Creek to improve public safety and to satisfy current bridge safety and seismic standards.	Avila Beach	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo Creek	N/A	0.22 acre / 100 linear feet
Gaviota Terminal Company- Paul Patterson	6/27/2017	GTC Remediation / Restoration Project	To remediate and restore an industrial gas processing site.	Unincorporated Santa Barbara County	Santa Barbara	Alcatraz Creek	N/A	0.613 acres / 850 linear feet
City of Santa Barbara- John Ewasiuk	6/27/2017	Quinientos Street Bridge Replacement Project	To remove the functionally obsolete bridge and replace it with a new bridge.	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	Sycamore Creek	N	0.03 acres / 240 linear feet
Larry Bonner - Caltrans	7/20/2017	Salsipuedes Creek Bridge Scour Mitigation Project	To insure the long term serviceability of the bridge and roadway by addressing stream bank and bed erosion which is threatening the integrity of the existing bridge and roadway.	South of City of Lompoc	Santa Barbara	Salsipuedes Creek	N/A	0.434 acres
Santa Barbara Public Works Dept.- Morgan Jones	7/25/2017	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	N/A	0.086 acres
City of Santa Barbara- Rebecca Bjork	7/25/2017	El Estero Drain Restoration and Remediation	To restore and remediate the El Estero Drain parcel and improve habitat for the Southwestern Pond Turtle.	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	Laguna Channel	N/A	0.0149 acres
Allen Shay	7/25/2017	Shay Road Project	To provide a secondary access road to Highway 41, allowing for the expansion of grazing production and secondary emergency access.	Creston	San Luis Obispo	Tributary to Huer Huero Creek	Y	0.165 acres

Applicant	Date Certified	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Includes LID Retention Feature ²	Total Impact ¹
Moss Landing Harbor District-Linda G. McIntyre	7/26/2017	Moss Landing Harbor District Maintenance Dock Erosion Repair	To prevent shoreline erosion by installing a shoreline protection structure using riprap.	Moss Landing	Monterey	Moss Landing Harbor	N/A	0.046 acres / 100 feet
Santa Clara Valley Water District-Stephen Ferranti	7/27/2017	Upper Llagas Creek Flood Protection Project	To provide for public safety to manage flood risk in the Upper Llagas Creek Watershed.	Morgan Hill	Santa Clara	Little Llagas Creek and Llagas Creek	Y	40.2 acres
Don Faye	8/4/2017	Watsonville Road Widening	To widen Watsonville Road to the northwest from Monterey Road to Calle Sueno.	Morgan Hill	Santa Clara	Little Llagas Creek	Y	0.036 acres / 126 linear feet
Pebble Beach Company-Mark Stilwell	8/4/2017	Area I-2 Residential Subdivision	Construction of 16 new residences.	Pebble Beach	Monterey	Unnamed tributary to ocean	Y	0.16 acres / 711 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 BUCKLEY ROAD TRICHLOROETHYLENE GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATION
[Dean Thomas (805) 549-3690]

Trichloroethylene (TCE) is present in several private and industrial water supply wells. Currently, 14 out of 67 wells tested have concentrations above the drinking water standard (maximum contaminant level or MCL) 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. A map 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

Well Sampling: In June 2017, Water Board staff conducted another round of sampling of 12 select private and industrial supply wells in the Buckley Road area to assess current TCE concentrations in groundwater and to see if the rains this year have caused changes in the groundwater TCE distribution. Out of 12 wells sampled, 10 had lower TCE concentrations compared with historical results, indicating the rains diluted groundwater concentrations. Two of 12 wells showed a small increase (<20%) in TCE concentrations. Currently, the highest concentration of TCE detected in groundwater is 53 micrograms per liter in the industrial well located at 795 Buckley Road, which is almost ten times greater than the MCL of five micrograms per liter. The highest concentration of TCE in a private well is 31 micrograms per liter. Note that 12 wells were sampled as part of this effort, as staff did not receive responses from some well owners contacted in the Buckley Road area.

Plume Characterization Effort: Water Board staff continues to wait for our source identification work through the SB445 grant to be carried out. This work is different from the Thread Lane property owner work discussed above, and would be conducted by a private contractor under the supervision of Central Coast Water Board staff. The State Water Board is working through

the contracting process, including selection of a contractor to implement various state-wide projects of which our approved workplan is one. The Central Coast Water Board staff workplan was submitted in April 2016 and conceptually approved for SB445 funding last October. The workplan includes approximately \$300,000 of investigation, and includes installation of monitoring wells and collection of soil gas and grab groundwater samples in the area in and around Thread Lane. Recent communication with State Water Board staff indicates that the contracting process is nearing completion.

Background/Source Identification: In 2016, Central Coast 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 extensive investigations provided no evidence to support a source of TCE present on the airport property that could result in the groundwater pollution observed in the Buckley Road area. Based on this, Water Board staff determined that the source of TCE was likely near Thread Lane. Water Board staff required three Thread Lane business property owners to perform environmental investigations and submit reports summarizing the results of the investigations by May 5, 2017. Two of the three property owners submitted results of their investigations. The two investigations did not show evidence that a source of TCE was present beneath their properties for the area they tested. The third property owner has claimed financial hardship and applied for a grant under the Site Cleanup Subaccount Program (SCAP) to perform the necessary scope of work. Both Central Coast and State Water Board staff support the funding application and are working together to ensure that the funded scope of work will address data gaps in the Thread Lane area.

Communication and Outreach: Central Coast Water Board staff will continue to update the community and the Board as more detailed information becomes available on both the source area investigation and well water quality. Water Board staff have tentatively planned a community meeting for early November 2017. Notices will be sent members of the community and media will be noticed of the meeting in early October with the exact time, location, and date.

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK CLOSURE UPDATE:
Aptos Village Project, Soquel Drive, Aptos, Santa Cruz County
[Tom Sayles - 805-542-4640]

This section is in response to information that Ms. Becky Steinbruner submitted to the Board at its July meeting in Watsonville. See Attachment 4 for her original submittal.

Aptos Village is a proposed mixed-use redevelopment project including residential, retail, restaurants, and parks land uses.

An underground storage tank (UST) was discovered and removed at the site on March 1, 2016, during grading activities. The tank was removed and sent to A&S Metal Recycler. Santa Cruz County Environmental Health Services (SCCEHS) staff was made aware of the potential release associated with the removal of the former UST on March 4, 2016. During a subsequent site visit, SCCEHS staff observed significant petroleum odors, staining of the soil, and associated piping in the open tank pit area. SCCEHS staff directed soil sampling in the tank pit to assess the extent of any contaminants released during the UST removal.

Based on the initial soil sampling results, the responsible party completed several soil excavations along with additional soil sampling to confirm the removal of any residual soil contaminants. An estimated 235 cubic yards of soil was stockpiled on the site. The stockpiled soil was characterized

and profiled for proper disposal at the John Smith Road Landfill in Hollister. Groundwater was never encountered during field excavation activities.

Water Board staff correspondence with Mr. John Gerbrandt from SCCEHS confirmed that there was no dispute on the location of the UST removed from the site. Mr. Gerbrandt stated in an email correspondence on January 17, 2017, "there is no dispute on where the original location of the UST was located, which would be where we conducted our excavation and sampling investigation. Significant petroleum odors, staining, sheening on water surfaces, and tank associated piping were removed from the excavation and sampling area our agency had investigated." In addition, on January 19, 2017, Mr. Gerbrandt stated in an email that "he witnessed a pipe in the UST tank pit and floating product in the rain filled UST pit...and there was sidewall staining on the western and southern wall of the UST pit." These in-field observations are consistent with a typical tank pit/excavation.

The responsible party submitted a UST removal report to SCCEHS on June 6, 2016, summarizing the UST removal and soil excavations. SCCEHS issued a UST case closure letter on June 30, 2016. In addition, SCCEHS issued Enforcement Order No. 44-16-001 on July 26, 2016, for violations previously documented during the initial grading activities.

Central Coast Water Board staff has reviewed all of the documents and information associated with the subject case. Although the June 6, 2016 UST Removal Report assumed the depth to groundwater in the area was greater than 120 feet below grade, the Central Coast Water Board staff did not use this depth to water level when evaluating the case with the State Water Board's Low Threat Closure Policy. Drilling records from a former UST site located at 8060 Soquel Drive, Aptos, which is approximately 500 feet southeast of the subject site, indicate that groundwater was not encountered to depths of up to 60 feet below ground surface during that investigation. The depth to groundwater determined by the drilling records near the subject site, the removal of the UST, and the subsequent soil over-excavation activities indicate that there is no evidence that groundwater was impacted by a release of petroleum hydrocarbons at this site. In addition, all of the existing data from this site meet all criteria associated with the State Water Board's Low Threat Case Closure Policy, and Central Coast Water Board staff believes there is no significant threat to groundwater resources, human health, or the environment from this site and recommends no further action.

Pilot Testing of UCLA's Remotely Managed Reverse Osmosis Water Treatment Systems for Remote Communities Impacted by Nitrate

[Kristina Olmos 805-549-3121]

Staff from UCLA's Institute of the Environment and Sustainability, Water Technology Research Center, and Henry Samueli School of Engineering and Applied Science (UCLA) are using Cleanup and Abatement Account funding obtained in July 2013 to conduct pilot tests of "Smart Water [Treatment] Systems" to address nitrate contamination in rural (often disadvantaged) communities' drinking water. Numerous rural communities throughout the region do not have access to safe drinking water from their small water systems. Groundwater quality in many of these communities is not safe for drinking due to one or more pollutants, often this pollutant is nitrate. The advantage of using the Smart Water System is that UCLA personnel can manage the treatment system from a remote location. Remote water system management (virtual consolidation) minimizes the need for each individual system to have onsite monitoring and supervision, which should result in reduced system operation and maintenance costs. The Smart Water Systems uses reverse osmosis (RO, a proven treatment technology certified by the State Water Board's Drinking Water Program) to remove nitrate from the communities' drinking water, thereby providing safe drinking water for the duration of the pilot test.

UCLA staff selected three communities to test RO Smart Water System remote management; these sites are:

- (1) Pryor Farms Labor Camp in Soledad
- (2) Santa Teresa Village in Soledad
- (3) Bluerock View Apartments in Salinas

Nitrate impacts at these water systems range from slight exceedances of the maximum contaminant level (MCL; 10 milligrams per liter as N) to nearly six times the MCL. Each of the three communities houses about 35 people and has an average water consumption ranging from 1,000 gallons per day (gpd) to 2,000 gpd. UCLA project staff have conducted extensive outreach to each community and each is aware that their well water is unsafe to drink. All three communities are currently drinking bottled water. These communities each have septic systems for wastewater management, and all are adjacent to agricultural operations. Central Coast Water Board staff have reviewed and approved the disposal management plans for each of these treatment systems.

RO systems use pressure to push water through a membrane, rejecting a fraction of the source water along with the concentrated pollutants held back by the membrane. The concentrated stream is known as the RO brine or residual. Based on pilot testing, UCLA estimates that the total nitrogen mass disposal to the septic system will increase by about 11% due to the RO residual. Water Board and UCLA staff have worked together to determine appropriate disposal and management strategies for RO residuals at each location.

UCLA submitted a Report of Waste Discharge for each of the three community RO systems. UCLA proposes to discharge the RO residual to 1) existing onsite septic systems, or 2) when water can be used at agronomic rates in drier months, it will be stored in tanks and used for agricultural and irrigation supply. UCLA estimates that nitrate in the residual will be reduced in the septic tank by up to 50%, through denitrification.

Water Board staff does not typically issue permits for discharges from small treatment systems; therefore, staff developed a robust monitoring program for each of the three RO systems to evaluate:

- The actual RO residual concentrations,
- The amount of waste generated by the systems,
- The ability of each septic system to treat the residual and nitrate, thereby reducing nitrate re-loading to groundwater, and
- If residual reuse is a viable alternative to disposal.

Water Board staff approved the reports of waste discharge and issued monitoring programs to UCLA on August 11, and August 15, 2017 for the respective systems. Water Board staff will use the monitoring results to develop appropriate longer-term requirements for anticipated residual discharges from future similar treatment systems. This virtual consolidation of small drinking water systems is one of several strategies for ensuring safe drinking water in nitrate-challenged groundwater basins.

Monterey County Public Health Department staff will also review the projects to determine appropriate operation and monitoring requirements of the drinking water RO systems prior to system construction.

SALINAS BASIN AGRICULTURAL STEWARDSHIP GROUP – STATUS OF INTERIM REPLACEMENT WATER AGREEMENT

[Angela Schroeter 805/542-4644]

In April 2017, the State Water Board's Office of Enforcement, Central Coast Water Board, and the Salinas Basin Agricultural Stewardship Group signed an interim replacement water agreement which enables farmers and landowners to avoid replacement water-related enforcement for up to two years, in exchange for the provision of interim replacement drinking water to individuals and communities who rely on small water systems and domestic wells in the Salinas Basin that currently have unsafe drinking water due to nitrate pollution.

This report provides an update on the status of the replacement water agreement, including implementation activities, coordination with local agencies and existing drinking water efforts, and public outreach. Additionally, the performance metrics below provide a measure of the Stewardship Group's current progress to implement the replacement water agreement based on the minimum targets for Year 1 of the two-year agreement.

KEY PERFORMANCE METRICS	YEAR 1 TARGET	CURRENT*
Number of Water Systems Receiving Replacement Water (Total = 58)	35	8
Number of Individuals Receiving Replacement Water	~560	162
Number of Gallons of Replacement Water Provided	~134,000	1110
Number of Domestic Wells Receiving Replacement Water (Opt-in)	---	0
Number of Water Systems Declining Replacement Water	0	3
Number of Missed Replacement Water Deliveries	0	0
Number of Replacement Water Complaints	0	0

*Reported by SBASG as of August 11, 2017

IMPLEMENTATION STATUS

Membership –

- As of July 27, 2017, the Stewardship Group membership included approximately 56 Salinas Basin growers, landowners, and shippers, and represents approximately 140,000 acres (75%) of the total 186,000 acres for the Salinas Basin (including the 180/400, East Side, Forebay, and Upper Valley groundwater subbasins)

Replacement Water –

- As shown in the performance metric table above, as of August 11, 2017, the Stewardship Group has provided 1110 gallons of replacement water to eight (8) of the 35 water systems targeted for Year 1 (serving 162 individuals from 14 residences and businesses). An additional 12 systems were part of existing drinking water projects (EJCW and UCLA) and are now in the process of transitioning to the Stewardship Group's replacement water program.
- Five (5) water systems are on property enrolled in the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program and are not part of the replacement water agreement. The Stewardship Group will confirm if well users are receiving replacement water from responsible parties.
- Three (3) water systems have declined replacement water; one system has reverse osmosis treatment and the others are not interested in receiving replacement water.

Drinking Water System and Domestic Well Outreach-

- The Stewardship Group's contractor, the Center for Urban Rural Environmental Stewardship (CURES), is continuing to contact drinking water systems and domestic well owners to provide testing and identify potential replacement water recipients.
- The Water Board is coordinating with existing drinking water grant projects implemented by Environmental Justice Coalition for Water (EJCW) and University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA) to ensure interim replacement water is provided as appropriate, not disrupted where existing, and synchs with existing efforts for long-term replacement water already in progress.
- The State Board's Office of Public Participation is providing assistance to develop bilingual outreach materials for distribution at public events and made available at schools, churches, and local health clinics in Monterey County, including attendance at a community resource fair in Soledad on August 14, 2017.
- Central Coast Water Board staff is considering providing grant funds to EJCW to inform Salinas Basin communities of opportunities for drinking water well testing and replacement water programs, focusing on domestic well owners and disadvantaged communities.

Coordination with Local Agencies -

- The Water Board is in close coordination with local agencies, including Monterey County Environmental Health. On August 27, 2017, the Water Board, Monterey County Environmental Health and Stewardship Group shared a community outreach booth at the Dia Del Trabajador Agricola (Farmworker Day) Celebration in Greenfield to promote the opportunity to have drinking water wells tested and receive interim replacement water.

Reducing Nitrate Loading to Groundwater

- Central Coast Water Board staff and growers continue to implement Agricultural Order 3.0 and are working with stakeholders to develop the future Agricultural Order 4.0 to effectively control the sources of nitrate pollution in groundwater to improve water quality and protect current and future drinking water supplies.

Investigative Orders-

- In July 2017, the State Water Board's Deputy Director and the Central Coast Water Board's Assistant Executive Officer jointly issued six investigative orders to landowners who did not join the Stewardship Group's efforts to provide interim replacement water. All six landowners have since joined the Stewardship Group. In August 2017, the Deputy Director and the Assistant Executive Officer jointly issued three additional investigative orders.

SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY DOMESTIC WELL TESTING PROJECT

[Angela Schroeter 805/542-4644]

In August 2017, the Central Coast Water Board initiated a free domestic well testing project for San Luis Obispo (SLO) County residents, in coordination with SLO County Environmental Health Services (EHS). The project is being implemented by CivicSpark fellow Jacqueline Tkac and Central Coast Water Board staff Corey Walsh. The goal is to coordinate with the SLO County EHS to sponsor free drinking water well sampling for residents who rely on private groundwater wells and to compile a shared dataset to help inform local domestic well drinking water quality. Project outreach targeted domestic well use areas in Arroyo Grande, Santa Margarita, California Valley, and Paso Robles and community interest is very strong. The project is funded by the Groundwater Assessment Program (GAP) and will sample approximately 100 domestic drinking water wells in August and September. Staff conduct the field sampling and a certified laboratory is conducting the lab analyses, including nitrate, arsenic, chromium, perchlorate, boron, and additional metals and major ions. Results are provided to residents and data are uploaded to the GeoTracker data management system. The project website is <https://sites.google.com/lgc.org/slodwtesting/home>

An additional objective of the project is to collaborate with a Dutch research institute, Deltares, to conduct laboratory field testing of a recently developed smartphone nitrate app which uses smartphone technology to scan and analyze nitrate test strips and display the nitrate results in real-time. The SLO County Domestic Well Testing Project provides a unique opportunity to test the nitrate app in a local field setting and compare the results to certified laboratory analyses. If the results of the pilot test demonstrate positive lab-field data correlation, the nitrate app has great potential to provide reliable low-cost water quality screening for nitrate. A demonstration of the nitrate app can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WMBhIAUk3Ko>

The SLO County Domestic Well Testing Project is the first phase of a region-wide domestic well sampling program funded by the Water Board's Groundwater Assessment and Protection Program that will begin later this year in Monterey County.

NEW FISCAL YEAR ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

[John M. Robertson 805/549-3140]

As part of the new Fiscal Year 2017-2018, the Central Coast Region gained new staff resources in several existing programs. The Water Board Chair, staff, and myself all participated in developing justification for these positions in the new fiscal year budget. These new positions are as follows:

- Four new staff positions in the Cannabis regulatory unit, including one senior position,
- One new staff position in the Active Oilfield regulatory program,
- Two new staff positions in the Irrigated Lands regulatory program.

These new positions bring the total number of staff in the region to 79 employees. We are currently working on recruitment to fill these vacancies.

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. Ms. Becky Steinbruner letter