

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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF NOVEMBER 8-9, 2018

Prepared on October 18, 2018

ITEM NUMBER: 11

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report to the Board

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

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 July 30, 2018 – September 19, 2018.

401 Water Quality Certification Applications Received July 30, 2018 – September 19, 2018.

Applicant	Date Received	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Proposed Total Impact ¹	Status
City of El Paso de Robles-Ditas Esperanza	8/3/2018	Phase 1 Airport Area Infrastructure Improvements	To conduct sewer system, water pipeline, and recycled water pipeline improvements along Airport Road.	Paso Robles	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed drainage to Salinas River	0.002 acres/ 10 linear feet	Under Staff Review
Boatyard, LLC-Cliff Branch	8/3/2018	The Boatyard	To conduct repairs and maintenance to an existing, failing seawall.	Morro Bay	San Luis Obispo	Morro Bay	74 linear feet	Under Staff Review
Santa Cruz Port District-Marian Olin	8/20/2018	Aldo's Seawall Replacement	To replace the structurally unsound steel sheet pile seawall due to corrosion of sheet piles and the formation of sinkholes behind the wall.	Santa Cruz Harbor	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz Harbor	0.01 acres/ 162 linear feet	Under Staff Review
Sports Warehouse Properties II, LLC- Drew Munster	8/24/2018	Vachell Lane Venture Drive Industrial Manufacturing Development	To develop a parcel consistent with City of San Luis Obispo zoning and proposed surrounding Avila Ranch development as envisioned in the Airport Area Specific Plan.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed seasonal wetland; tributary to San Luis Obispo Creek	1.382 acres	Under Staff Review
Quin Delta, LLC- Andy Gregg	8/28/2018	Quin Delta 5 Year Pile Maintenance Replacement	To improve floating dock structures by replacement of degraded timber piles.	Moss Landing	Monterey	Moss Landing South Harbor Area	1800 linear feet	Under Staff Review
City of Santa Barbara, Public Works Department-Taylor Berryman	8/30/2018	Westmont Storm Drain Rehabilitation	To regrade the channel bed and clear debris resulting from the Thomas Fire to allow storm water passage.	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	Unnamed channel into Sycamore Creek	0.0004 acres/ 8.4 linear feet	Under Staff Review

Applicant	Date Received	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Proposed Total Impact ¹	Status
The Nature Conservancy- Jennifer Herrington	9/6/2018	Cojo Road Bridge Installation	To replace a failed culvert with a free span bridge, remove debris from the channel, and restore habitat conditions.	Lompoc	Santa Barbara	Canada del Cojo Creek	0.0006 acres/ 20 linear feet	Under Staff Review
City of San Luis Obispo- Robert Hill	9/14/2018	Laguna Lake Sediment Management Program	To conduct maintenance dredging to remove sediment deposits at the mouth of Prefumo Creek to restore lake depth, reduce flood risk, enhance recreational use, and maintain an aquatic pathway.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Laguna Lake	15.9 acres/ 126 linear feet	Under Staff Review

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

401 Water Quality Certifications Issued July 30, 2018 – September 19, 2018.

Applicant	Date Certified	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Includes LID Retention Feature ²	Total Impact ¹
US Forest Service- John Smith	7/30/2018	Agua Caliente Stream Crossing Maintenance	To allow for safe travel passage and reduce impacts to California red-legged frog, Two-Striped Garter Snake, and Southwestern Pond Turtle.	San Ynez River Valley	Santa Barbara	San Ynez River	N/A	0.3 acres/ 300 linear feet
Coastal Community Builders- Gary Grossman	8/1/2018	San Luis Ranch Development	To develop 131 acres of property in the City of San Luis Obispo for mixed-use.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Prefumo Creek	Y	0.389 acres/ 2,829.2 linear feet
San Lorenzo Valley Water District- Brian Lee	8/1/2018	Fall Creek Fish Ladder Improvement	To complete maintenance to an existing fish ladder by removing accumulated material and placing this material downstream.	Felton	Santa Cruz	Fall Creek	N/A	0.025 acres/ 100 linear feet
AT&T Corporation- Robert Wargo	8/1/2018	AT&T Removal of Segments E1 and S7 of the China-U.S. Cable Network	To remove the E1 and S7 cable segments from the ocean at Montana De Oro State Park.	Los Osos	San Luis Obispo	Pacific Ocean	N/A	0.332 acres
City of Capitola- Steve Jesberg	8/2/2018	Capitola Beach Flume and Jetty Rehabilitation	To repair the Soquel Creek flume and jetty to their original permitted configuration.	Capitola	Santa Cruz	Soquel Creek	N/A	0.35 acres/ 700 linear feet
Moondance Partners GP, LLC- R. O'Neal Gray	8/3/2018	1835 Santa Rita Road Development	To install two roadways: one to provide access to Acorn Springs Rd and a future home site and another to agricultural operations.	Templeton	San Luis Obispo	Tributaries to the Salinas River	N	0.041 acres
ECR Principal, LLC- Barry Ephraim	8/9/2018	Tract 3070 Principal Avenue	To construct residential housing and a commercial lot at the corner of El Camino Real and Principal Ave.	Atascadero	San Luis Obispo	Salinas River	Y	0.162 acres
City of Monterey Dept. Public Works- Thomas Korman	8/9/2018	Del Monte Lake Weir Improvement	To improve the performance of the weir structure to enable stormwater passage and prevent flooding of the nearby roadway during storm events.	Monterey	Monterey	Del Monte Lake	N/A	0.003 acres/ 25 linear feet
Bruce Walance	8/21/2018	8411 Hihn Road Storm Damage Repair	To repair damages caused by winter storms by removing debris and installing a culvert.	Ben Lomond	Santa Cruz	Unnamed ephemeral swale	N/A	0.025 acres/ 256 linear feet
Federal Highway Administration - Justin Henwood	9/6/2018	Sycamore Canyon Road Repairs and Safety Enhancements	To re-stabilize the road prism in spot locations and improve drainage conditions to protect the roadway from future floods.	Los Padres National Forest	Monterey	Sycamore Creek	N	0.059 acres

Applicant	Date Certified	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Includes LID Retention Feature ²	Total Impact ¹
Monterey County WRA-Elizabeth Krafft	9/7/2018	Salinas River Weir	To monitor steelhead trout during upstream migration.	Marina	Monterey	Salinas River	N/A	0.0013 acres/ 140 linear feet
Frantoio Grove- Jeff Martin	9/10/2018	Frantoio Grove (Lands of Martin)	To realign and widen approximately 2,237 linear feet of West Llagas Creek to meet flood protection standards.	San Martin	Santa Clara	West Branch Llagas Creek	Y	0.77 acres/ 2,273 linear feet
San Luis Obispo Public Works Dept.- Dave Flynn	9/18/2018	Estrella River Bridge on River Grove Drive Rehabilitation	To rehabilitate the existing, structurally deficient, historic bridge to improve safety.	Paso Robles	San Luis Obispo	Estrella River	N/A	0.56 acres/ 287.08 linear feet
Santa Cruz Port District-Marian Olin	9/19/2018	Aldo's Seawall Replacement	To replace the structurally unsound steel sheet pile seawall due to corrosion of sheet piles and the formation of sinkholes behind the wall.	Santa Cruz Harbor	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz Harbor	N/A	0.01 acres/ 162 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, infill, etc.

GRANTS PROGRAM

[Katie McNeill 805/549-3336]

This report provides an update on grant funding in the region.

319(h) Nonpoint Source Grant Program

In August 2018, US EPA and State Water Resources Control Board approved the Carpinteria Creek Watershed: Post Fire/Flood Habitat & Sediment Assessment project described in the following table. Funding for this planning and assessment grant comes from unencumbered Clean Water Act (CWA) 2013 319(h) Nonpoint Source (NPS) Grant Program funds. Central Coast Water Board staff assisted with the development of the planning components for successful upland and instream post-fire rehabilitation projects. This grant will be managed by Central Coast Water Board staff.

Project Title	Grantee	Project Description	CWA 319(h) Grant Request (\$)
Carpinteria Creek Watershed: Post Fire/Flood Habitat & Sediment Assessment	South Coast Habitat Restoration / Earth Island Institute	The project will assess the impacts of the Thomas Fire and subsequent rain/debris flow events in the Carpinteria Creek Watershed, Santa Barbara County, and develop a restoration plan and site-specific concept designs, including erosion and sediment source control management measures, to benefit water quality and aquatic habitat.	\$99,557

For more information on the CWA 319(h) NPS Grant Program, visit the following website:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/319grants.shtml

Prop 1 Groundwater Grant Program

In January 2018, US EPA and State Water Resources Control Board approved funding for the two Prop 1 Groundwater Planning Grants in the Central Coast described in the following table. Staff participated in the selection review and scoring of Prop 1 project proposals and scopes of work. State Board staff will manage these two grants. Central Coast Water Board staff will participate on Technical Advisory Committees to provide input on the project planning and development process.

Project Title	Grantee	Project Description	Prop 1 Grant Request (\$)
Regional Groundwater Sustainability Project	City of Pismo Beach	The Project is the planning phase to inject advanced treated recycled water into the groundwater basin to prevent groundwater contamination caused by seawater intrusion, increase groundwater recharge, and improve groundwater quality.	\$1,730,025 (with \$346,000 in local matching funds)
Pure Water Soquel	Soquel Creek Water District	The Project is the planning phase to use purified recycled water to replenish the groundwater basin, protect the drinking water supply, and optimize groundwater supplies.	\$1,000,000 (with \$3,031,760 in local matching funds)

For more information on the Prop 1 Groundwater Grant Program, visit the following website: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/proposition1/groundwater_sustainability.html

Avila Beach Water Quality Trust

In 2016, the remaining Avila Beach Water Quality Restoration Funds were allocated to UC Davis for pesticide monitoring and assessment (based on impairments in the Santa Maria watershed) and The Nature Conservancy for rangeland improvements at the Andre Ranch, located in the Irish Hills near Avila Beach. UC Davis finished their assessment and The Nature Conservancy will not be spending the full grant amount.

UC Davis is seeking additional funds to conduct a neonicotinoid pesticide threshold evaluation. This effort is in line with the intent of the settlement funds and is high priority work focused on addressing neonicotinoid impairment in our region. As such, staff will reallocate the remaining funds as follows:

1. The Nature Conservancy will be allocated a portion of their awarded funds, approximately \$11,600, for rangeland improvements for off-creek livestock watering at the Andre Ranch.
2. Coastal Conservation and Research (CCR) will be allocated approximately \$27,000 for UC Davis researchers to conduct laboratory bench-scale studies to develop numeric thresholds for two neonicotinoid insecticides, clothianidin and thiamethoxam.

These actions are consistent with the Central Coast Water Board's previous direction and will close out the Avila Beach Water Quality Restoration funds.

UPDATE ON BUCKLEY ROAD TRICHLOROETHYLENE GROUNDWATER INVESTIGATION
[Dean Thomas 805/549-3690] Site Cleanup Program

Background: Trichloroethylene (TCE) is present in private and industrial water supply wells near Buckley Road, adjacent to the San Luis Obispo County airport. Currently, 12 of 67 wells tested have concentrations above the public health drinking water standard (maximum contaminant level or MCL). The highest concentration of TCE detected in groundwater wells is 53 micrograms per liter in the industrial well located at 795 Buckley Road. This concentration is approximately 10 times greater than the MCL of 5 micrograms per liter. The highest concentration of TCE in a private domestic well is 31 micrograms per liter. Based on the distribution of TCE concentrations 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), Buckley Road, Davenport Creek Road, and Evans Road, and includes Angie Lou Lane, Mello Lane, and Three Sisters Road. A map and other information are available on the Buckley Road Area TCE Investigation webpage at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/hot_topics/tce_pce_info/tce_pce_index.html

Communication and Outreach:

Staff provides updates to the public and the Board as newer and more detailed information becomes available on both the source area investigation and changing well water quality conditions. Staff continues outreach efforts to residents and businesses in the Buckley Road area and updates the Buckley Road-specific webpage as new information becomes available. Ongoing outreach includes email server list notifications when webpage updates occur.

Well Sampling: Staff last sampled several domestic and industrial wells in 2017. At that time, TCE concentrations decreased in most wells compared with historic results, suggesting that rains diluted groundwater concentrations or the source of the TCE may be slowly degrading. Water Board staff plan to conduct additional sampling during the last quarter of 2018 at 12 targeted private domestic and industrial supply wells in the Buckley Road area to provide additional assessment of TCE concentrations.

Source Identification: The County completed their environmental investigation in early September 2016 to determine if the airport was the source of the TCE in groundwater. The results of the County's investigations provided no evidence of a source of TCE associated with the airport property resulting 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 2017. Two of the three property owners submitted investigation reports in 2017. The two investigation reports did not show evidence of a source of TCE beneath their properties. The third property owner claimed financial hardship and applied for a grant under the State Water Board's groundwater quality funding program Site Cleanup Subaccount Program to perform the investigation work. The grant was awarded, and the property owner subsequently conducted soil, soil gas, and groundwater investigations in August and September 2018. Groundwater samples associated with this investigation detected an elevated TCE concentration of 783 micrograms per liter below the property. The investigation report was received by Water Board staff at the end of September and staff are reviewing it to determine if additional investigation is

needed. In the near-term, three groundwater monitoring wells are planned for as part of the existing grant to further delineate the extent of elevated TCE concentrations.

Central Coast Water Board staff will continue to provide updates to the Board on this project via the EO report.

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

[Angela Schroeter 805/542-4644]

In April 2017, the Central Coast Water Board, State Water Board, and the Salinas Basin Agricultural Stewardship Group (SBASG) initiated an Interim Replacement Water Settlement Agreement (Agreement) which enables farmers and landowners to avoid replacement water-related enforcement, in exchange for the provision of free 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 groundwater nitrate pollution. The Agreement required SBASG to implement specific replacement water activities and achieve minimum performance metrics.

As discussed at the February, March and May 2018 Board meetings, SBASG achieved the Year 1 performance metric to provide replacement drinking water to a minimum of 35 drinking water systems. Based upon the successful implementation of Year 1, the Executive Officer, the Chief Deputy Director of the State Water Board, and SBASG have all agreed to extend the Agreement for a second year of implementation (Attachment 4). The Agreement will automatically renew for additional one-year periods unless any party to the Agreement provides notice to the other parties no less than sixty days prior to the end of a term. The first quarterly report is due to the Water Boards in mid-November 2018 and staff plans to provide a detailed update to the Board in early 2019.

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. Restated and Amended Interim Replacement Water Settlement Agreement – Year 2