

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Valley Region**

14 June 2001

ITEM: 4
SUBJECT: **Executive Officer's Report**

DISCUSSION:

WATERSHED ACTIVITIES

Watershed Priorities Discussed

On 18 April 2001, Jeanne Chilcott, Jerry Bruns, Betty Yee, and Guy Chetelat facilitated a meeting of regional stakeholders to discuss watershed priorities in the Central Valley. Participants included representatives from the Sacramento River, San Joaquin River, and Tulare Lake Basins as well as Calfed, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and US EPA. Water quality concerns within the Central Valley were discussed as well as potential projects to address those concerns. Some of the issues identified ranged from developing a drinking water policy to designating appropriate beneficial uses for intermittent streams. These issues will be incorporated into the annual update of our Watershed Management Initiative Chapter. Specific projects identified ranged from increasing watershed education at the K through 12 levels to installing a flow-monitoring network to facilitate pollutant load source identification. Project suggestions have been incorporated into a table of priority Central Valley projects to be utilized during statewide ranking of potential 319h, 205j, and Proposition 13 grant recipients. (JEC)

Update on Prop 13 Water Quality Grants

On May 17th, the State Board approved a final list of the first set of Proposition 13 grant recipients. A second request for proposals will likely be released in June 2001. The legislature has indicated an intent to utilize up to \$20-million of the available funding to serve as the State's share of the CalFED program. Such a shift would substantially increase the amount of water quality improvement projects potentially funded in the Central Valley and also the amount of staff effort required to review and manage such projects. Staff is tracking the final allocation of funding in order to better prepare for future workloads. (JEC)

Selenium in Wetland Supplies

The Grassland Bypass Project (GBP) was designed to remove subsurface agricultural drainage generated in a 97,000-acre drainage project area, from approximately 90-miles of wetland water supply channels. The goal was to bring selenium concentrations in the channels below the 2 µg/L water quality objective protective of wetland habitat. Since the GBP began operation in September 1996, selenium concentrations in the wetland channels have decreased substantially, particularly in Salt Slough where mean monthly selenium concentrations remain below 2 ug/L. However, some channels have continued to exceed the objective. Expanded monitoring in the wetland water supply channels during the past year has documented selenium concentrations slightly above 2 ug/L in a number of the channels. The elevated concentrations correspond to concentrations above 2 ug/L in the supply water itself. Staff is working with local water and drainage districts as well as the US Bureau of Reclamation to characterize flows into the wetland water supply channels and determine sources of elevated selenium concentrations in both the channels and the supply water. (JEC)

WDRs for Grassland Bypass Project

Staff is currently updating the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) for the Grassland Bypass Project. The update will use load allocation values developed in the Selenium Total Maximum Daily Load for the Lower San Joaquin River. The WDR update will be circulated for public review and comment in June 2001. The WDRs will be submitted for Board consideration at the July 2001 meeting. (MJM, RJS, LFG)

CALFED Funded Algae and Fathead Minnow Toxicity Projects

The Sacramento River, San Joaquin River, and Delta waterways appear on the 1998 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies due to toxicity from unknown causes. In 1999, the Regional Board received funding from CALFED to investigate algae and fathead minnow toxicity in the Central Valley. Regional Board staff has drafted two documents summarizing fathead minnow and algae toxicity studies previously conducted in the Central Valley. In addition, staff is directing the current survey of toxicity. Previous studies have revealed widespread fathead minnow toxicity throughout the Sacramento River watershed including the McCloud, Feather and American Rivers and in the Sacramento River between Keswick Reservoir and Sacramento.

Minnow mortality is intermittent and source identification studies have been inconclusive. In addition, more recent studies suggest that the mortality may be due to the presence of pathogens and not a chemical contaminant. A CALFED study is underway to characterize the role of pathogens in the observed mortality and determining the ecological significance of the presence of pathogens in surface waters.

Algae toxicity also has been observed in waterways throughout the Central Valley. Past toxicity identification evaluations (TIEs) have identified diuron as one toxicant, but results indicate that more than one agent is responsible for the observed toxicity. The goals of the CALFED study are to determine the cause and ecological significance of the observed toxicity. (KLL)

Rice Pesticides

Last March, the Board conditionally approved Department of Pesticide Regulation's Rice Pesticide Control Program for a three-year period. The approval resolution directs staff to schedule reconsideration of the program if concentrations of thiobencarb (a herbicide) exceed the maximum level detected at the City of Sacramento intake during the period of 1998 to 2000. The sampling points for determining compliance with this condition are the drinking water intakes for the Cities of Sacramento and West Sacramento. The 21 May sample from the City of West Sacramento contained 0.59 mg/L thiobencarb. This is below the 1.0 mg/L secondary MCL, but is above the 0.34 mg/L maximum detected in the previous three years. Staff will schedule a Board review of the pesticide control effort prior to the 2002 rice-growing season. (RJS)

Status of Voluntary Survey of Orchard Management Practices

Regional Board staff is developing TMDLs for diazinon in the Sacramento River, Feather River, San Joaquin River and the Delta. In order to complete a TMDL, it is essential that we understand the factors (on farm practices, pesticide use patterns, hydrology, etc.) that contribute to impairments in receiving waters. Without this information, we cannot evaluate proposals to correct the problems or monitor the effectiveness of implemented programs.

The Agricultural Implementation Group (a subgroup of the Sacramento River Watershed Program OP Focus Group) agreed to take responsibility for conducting a survey this summer of dormant spray management practices in the Sacramento River watershed. (RWH)

ENFORCEMENT

Cleanup and Abatement Order for Aquatic Pesticides

A recent federal appellate court decision states that parties using aquatic pesticides may require an NPDES permit. In response, the State Board is preparing a general NPDES permit for this category of dischargers, but it will not be considered until at least July. In recognition of the ongoing need to control mosquitoes, weeds and other aquatic pests using pesticides, the State Board has drafted and the Executive Officer has signed a Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) that will apply to parties that submit a notice of intent (NOI) to comply with the general NPDES permit. The CAO shows that the operations are regulated under the State's water quality control program and requires the dischargers to conduct water quality monitoring, maintain records and submit reports. It will be rescinded upon adoption of the general NPDES permit. (RJS)

Sediment Discharge from Weber Dam to the North Fork of Weber Creek.

Weber Dam, which is owned and operated by El Dorado Irrigation District (Discharger), is located on the North Fork of Weber Creek, approximately 1.5 miles south of Camino in El Dorado County. Between 5 February 2001 and 3 March 2001, the Discharger left open the lower valve on the dam, which released sediment built up behind the dam. The sediment discharge resulted in significant damage to the downstream aquatic ecosystem in the North Fork and main stem of Weber Creek. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. 5-01-705 on 26 April 2001 to the Discharge. The Order requires the Discharger to remove the sediment from the creek and restore the aquatic ecosystem by 1 November 2001.

City of Sacramento Pays Administrative Civil Liability for Sewage Spill.

During work being conducted on the Sacramento Combined sewer system in September 2000, approximately 950,000 gallons of raw sewage was accidentally bypass pumped into a storm drain which discharged into the American River. The Central Valley Regional Board imposed a \$400,000 Administrative Civil Liability fine against the city, which has been paid. The City has implemented improved measures to prevent future accidents. (PHL)

Burney Creek Turbidity Problems Caused by Wild Rice Farming Operation

On 24 April 2001, Board staff received a complaint of turbid water in Burney Creek in Shasta County. Board staff investigated and identified irrigation tailwater from Goose Valley Ranch, a wild rice farming operation, as the source of the turbidity. California Department of Fish and Game (Fish and Game) also responded and ordered the Discharger to contain the tailwater in a manner to prevent downstream impacts. The ranch has physical controls in place to prevent the tailwater

releases but did not operate the controls until ordered by Fish and Game. Additionally, toxic concentrations of copper sulfate, used as an agricultural pesticide, may have been discharged to downstream waters. The turbid discharge reached the falls at McArthur-Burney Falls Memorial State Park and caused a plume in Lake Britton. Board staff is preparing a Cleanup and Abatement order to require the operator to use the physical controls to prevent the discharge of turbid water, and water containing copper sulfate, to Burney Creek. The C&A Order will also request a management plan to identify and implement best management practices. Board staff is coordinating with Fish and Game, State Parks, and the Environmental Prosecutor to determine what other enforcement action may be warranted.

Staff Discovers Water District Discharging without a Permit

On 18 May 2001, staff inspected the Yuba County Water District Forbestown Water Treatment Plant in Butte County. The facility currently operates under WDRs, but in years past has discharged filter backwash water to surface waters. The Discharger was notified on 9 May 2000, that such a discharge requires an NPDES permit. The Discharger was notified on 2 January 2001 that discharging without a permit is subject to enforcement action. The Discharger began discharging on 15 May 2001. During the 18 May 2001 inspection, the Discharger was verbally notified again that the discharge was in violation of the WDRs. The Water District ceased the discharge after our inspection, but anticipates discharging later this summer. Staff is in the process of preparing an enforcement action. SSM

ACL Complaint, Pinecrest Permittees Association and Tuolumne Utilities District, Tuolumne County

On 16 April 2001, the Executive Officer issued a \$50,000 ACLC to Pinecrest Permittees Association (Association) and Tuolumne Utilities District. The Association has reported five overflows from its sewer system to surface water bodies since 26 December 2000. The total reported volume of those spills is in excess of 36,000 gallons. The spills were caused by a plug in the sewer line that was not cleared, but was unknowingly pushed further down the line during each attempt at clearing. Staff met with the Dischargers on 8 May 2001 to discuss the circumstances surrounding the overflows. As a result of the meeting, the Executive Officer agreed to reduce the liability to \$35,000. The Dischargers have verbally agreed to the reduction, and have until 8 June 2001 to submit payment. Staff is preparing a Cleanup and Abatement Order requiring the Discharger to better maintain and operate its collection system. (JRM)

Walnut Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant Discharges Partially Disinfected Wastewater, Sacramento County.

The Walnut Grove Wastewater Treatment Plant, operated by Sacramento County sanitation District No. 1, experienced a malfunction in the chlorination system on 16-18 March 2001, causing a discharge of approximately 160,000 gallons of partially disinfected wastewater to an agricultural drain which was subsequently pumped to Snodgrass Slough. The plant was not staffed during this time, and alarms were not in place to notify operators of the violation. Upon knowledge of the incident, the District did not provide adequate notification to the Office of Emergency Services, did not adequately assess the impact of the discharge, and did not attempt to prevent the discharge from the agricultural drain to the Slough. A Notice of Violation was issued 16 May 2001. The District has developed a new emergency response plan to better deal with any future incidents. (REL)

Cleanup and Abatement Order, Amador Regional Sanitation Authority (ARSA), Amador County

Effluent produced from City of Sutter Creek's wastewater treatment plant is discharged to the ARSA pipeline and then stored in a series of reservoirs. Wastewater is then discharged to the Preston Youth Correctional Facility for use in flushing toilets, irrigating landscape, and fire protection. The remaining wastewater is piped from the last reservoir to the City of Ione's tertiary treatment plant. After treatment, the wastewater is used for irrigation on the Castle Oaks Golf Course.

On 31 October 2000, approximately 3,600 gallons of wastewater spilled from an ARSA storage reservoir and into surface waters. On 3 November 2000, an inspection of the ARSA system found numerous violations. In particular, seepage from two of the reservoir dams was allowed to flow into surface waters, blow off valves used for pipeline cleaning were located in surface water courses, and wastewater applied to pastureland was flowing into surface waters. In addition, the distribution system was not labeled as a recycled water system and the flow control systems for the reservoirs had not been well maintained. On 10 April 2001, the Executive Officer issued a C&A to the Discharger, requiring that the Discharger immediately cease discharging wastewater to surface waters and specifying the operational and facility improvements to be completed to prevent wastewater overflows from the reservoirs and pipeline. All facility improvements must be completed by 15 May 2002. (ASB)

ACL Complaint and Cleanup and Abatement Order, Groveland Community Services District, Tuolumne County

Since 8 January 2000, the Groveland Community Services District has reported six overflows (totaling in excess of 20,000 gallons) from its sewer system to surface water bodies, and one release of treated effluent (approximately 35,000 gallons) from its disposal area to surface waters. Because of the numerous overflows, on 16 April 2001, the Executive Officer issued a \$40,000 ACLC to the District. The Executive Officer has since met with the District and has agreed to settle the ACLC for \$35,000, of which \$30,000 will be in the form of a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP) and \$5,000 will

be in the form of a fine. The SEP will consist of an assessment of the impact of septic systems on the First Garrotte Creek watershed. On 18 May 2001, the Discharger submitted a formal letter indicating agreement to the conditions described above and waived its right to a hearing within 60 days. Staff have also prepared a draft Cleanup and Abatement Order, which has been sent to the Discharger for comment. The C&A will require the Discharger to better maintain and operate the collection system.

On 11 May 2001, the Discharger's main collection system lift station failed and a major sewer system overflow was narrowly avoided. The Discharger was able to intercept the sewer line immediately above the lift station, and three vacuum trucks were mobilized to transport sewage to the treatment plant, until a portable pump could be retained and the lift station could be by-passed. The Discharger has taken this opportunity to upgrade the lift station, which is in serious need of repair. The Discharger was very responsible and proactive in avoiding any overflow, and staff commends the efforts made.

On 15 May 2001, staff issued a Draft Cleanup and Abatement Order to formalize operational and facility improvements to prevent sewer system overflows. The C&A includes requirements that the Discharger submit a draft and final Wastewater Master Plan; prepare, submit, and implement a Sewer Overflow Prevention and Mitigation Plan and Overflow Response Plan for preventing, minimizing and mitigating overflows from the sewer collection system. (JRM)

Cleanup and Abatement Order, Tuolumne Utilities District, Tuolumne County

The Tuolumne Utilities District (TUD) has contracted with the Jamestown Sanitary District (JSD) for the disposal of wastewater effluent from the JSD wastewater treatment plant. Effluent is conveyed from the JSD plant to the TUD storage reservoir by means of a pumping/force main system, which is owned and operated by TUD. However, this conveyance system does not have adequate capacity to handle peak wet weather flows during certain storm events, resulting in three overflows from JSD's plant to Woods Creek since 1997. Because of this problem, the Executive Officer recently issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order requiring TUD to increase the capacity of the conveyance system no later than 1 November 2001. (JRM)

Cleanup and Abatement Order, City of Riverbank Wastewater Treatment Plant, Stanislaus County

On 5 March 2001, the City of Riverbank reported that freeboard in all ponds at the City's Wastewater Treatment Plant was significantly less than required. Because of a levee failure in 2000 that released over 20 million gallons of treated effluent and a subsequent engineer's report questioning the stability of the levees, the Executive Officer issued a Cleanup and Abatement Order requiring the Discharger to develop and implement a Contingency Plan to prevent a release and long-term measures to improve the levees, improve percolation capacity, and reduce winter inflow and infiltration. (ALO)

SPILLS

Three Leaks at Leprino Foods Threaten Surface Waters, Tracy, San Joaquin County

In December 2000, a Leprino Foods wastewater line leaked to a storm drain. In January 2001, a tank truck spilled vinegar to a storm drain; and in March 2001, a contractor spilled ammonia into a storm drain. In each case, action by Leprino kept these discharges from reaching surface waters in Sugar Cut. Board staff inspected the site and requested Leprino to file a Notice of Intent and obtain coverage under the General Permit for Discharge of Storm Water from Industrial Activity. Leprino complied with this request. As part of its storm water program, Leprino is maintaining a plug in its storm water outfall and uses rubber mats during product transfers to ensure that spills do not enter its storm water collection system and discharge to surface waters. (PSI)

Lamont Public Utilities District Spills Wastewater, Kern County

On 2 then 3 May, the WWTF spilled 1,000 gallons and over 100,000 gallons, respectively, of partially treated wastewater to land. The spills were due to mechanical failures in the system that pumps wastewater from the aeration basins to the settling ponds across the street. The District disinfected a portion of the spill areas surrounding the WWTF. However, the District did not realize the extent of the second spill until a farmer adjacent to the WWTF informed it that the spill flooded approximately four acres of mature winter wheat intended for animal feed. Staff referred the District to the California Department of Health Services regarding the use or cleanup of the crop affected by the spill. The District was advised to disk the crop back into the soil. The District is repairing two of its three pumps and is using auxiliary pumps to handle peak flowrates. Staff is still investigating whether enforcement is appropriate. (ARP)

Hydraulic Oil Spill Closure, Mendota Biomass, Mendota, Fresno County

Hydraulic oil spills had impacted soil at three different locations at the Mendota Biomass facility in Mendota, Fresno County. Impacted soils at each location were excavated and properly disposed of off-site. Confirmation sampling and chemical analysis were conducted. Upon review of the summary report, a letter of closure was issued to Mendota Biomass on 30 April 2001. (GJI)

Sewage Spill to Lake Camanche, East Bay Utilities District Camanche South Shore, Calaveras County

On 26 January 2001, a sewer line overflowed at the South Shore Camanche Mobile Home Park and discharged sewage to Lake Camanche for a 24-hour period. The volume of spilled sewage is estimated at approximately 12,000 gallons. The Discharger reported that a root intrusion caused the spill and has subsequently replaced a 10-foot section of sewer line. (ASB)

Sewage Spill to Sutter Creek, City of Sutter Creek, Amador County

On 28 April 2001, an estimated 500 gallons of raw sewage overflowed the City of Sutter Creek's collection system and was discharged to surface waters. A second sewage spill from the collection system occurred on 30 April 2001, in which almost 4,000 gallons of raw sewage overflowed into Sutter Creek. Both spills were created from sewer line blockages. The City collection system has a history of sewer spills, which have generally occurred during the wet season. The City recently initiated a smoke testing project for the collection system to locate sources of inflows. Staff are preparing a Cleanup and Abatement Order to require the City to further assess, repair, and maintain its collection system. (ASB)

Raw Sewage Release to Surface Water, Grayson Community Services District, Stanislaus County

On 8 May 2001, approximately 8,000 gallons of raw sewage overflowed from a malfunctioning lift station in the community of Grayson. The wastewater spilled on the ground and flowed to a nearby slough that is tributary to the San Joaquin River. Grayson Community Services District staff responded to the spill, repaired the malfunction, and disinfected the affected ground surface. Additional modifications and retrofits are planned to provide emergency containment and backup power supply for the lift station. Staff are preparing a Cleanup and Abatement Order to require the Discharger to better operate and maintain its collection system. (ALO)

Madera County Maintenance District No. 22A (Oakhurst) Spills Wastewater, Madera County

On 4 May, staff inspected the locations of two spills reported by the District. The first spill occurred on 2 May upstream of the District's main lift station and resulted in a discharge of approximately 11,000 gallons to the Fresno River. The spill was caused by the gradual erosion of a sewer line crossing under China Creek, a tributary to the Fresno River. Due to the nature of the failure, the spill may have been occurring for a long time. The District repaired the crossing on 3 May 2001. The second spill occurred on 3 May downstream of the main pump station and resulted in a discharge of 73,000 gallons of raw sewage to the Fresno River. The spill was caused by a split section of the force main from the lift station to the WWTF. The District repaired the section and disinfected the affected land around the spill area with chlorine solution. The District placed warning signs upstream and downstream of both spill sites. The District is in violation of a CAO for correction of collection system problems. It has constructed a replacement lift station and intends to replace the force main this summer. The case is still under investigation. (HA)

Illegal Winery Wastewater Discharge, Chatfield Winery, San Joaquin County

On 8 May 2001, as a result of investigation of a spill of stillage wastewater from the East-Side Winery, staff found that the Chatfield Winery was discharging winery wastewater to an area next to the Mokelumne River. Chatfield Winery is not covered by WDRs, and is therefore not permitted to discharge waste to land or surface waters. When interviewed, Chatfield Winery personnel did not know where their wastewater went after it entered floor drains at the facility. Chatfield Winery was ordered to immediately cease its discharge until proper disposal procedures could be implemented and WDRs could be adopted. The spilled material was pumped into the East-Side Winery wastewater ponds by East-Side Winery staff responding to the reported spill. Regional Board staff inspected the area, no indication of wastewater entering the Mokelumne River was observed. (TRO)

City of Fresno Spills Wastewater, Fresno County

On 17 May, the City of Fresno spilled approximately 3000 gallons of wastewater from its collection system to a residential street. A grease plug in a sewer line caused the wastewater to back out of a manhole. Maintenance crews responded within 20 minutes, unplugged the blockage, and disinfected the area. The incident did not result in discharges to the area's storm water collection system. Staff anticipates no further action on the incident. (WDH)

NON-COMPLIANCE***Mariposa PUD Fails Chronic Toxicity Tests, Mariposa County***

The WWTF discharges an average 0.245 mgd into Mariposa Creek, an effluent dominated ephemeral stream. Chronic toxicity testing in November indicated $TU_c > 8$ for *Ceriodaphnia dubia* (*C. dubia*) reproduction and *Selenastrum capricornutum* (*S. capricornutum*) growth and prompted a series of six biweekly tests. Second test showed toxicity for *C. dubia* reproduction only. The PUD determined the toxic source to be the chlorine injection system and began adjusting chlorination and dechlorination flow proportioning equipment. Third, fourth and fifth tests indicated no toxicity. The Public

Utility District subsequently replaced the flow proportioning equipment for more precise adjustment of the Cl₂ and SO₂ dosing. (DSS)

Notice of Violation, Woodbridge Sanitary District, Woodbridge, San Joaquin County

On 11 May 2001, Woodbridge Sanitary District was issued a Notice of Violation for failing to perform its required wastewater self-monitoring and failing to report the results to the Regional Board on a monthly basis. According to the Board's log of reports received, Woodbridge Sanitary District has not submitted a monthly monitoring report since August 2000. (TRO)

Notice of Violation, Ironhouse Sanitary District Wastewater Treatment Facility, Contra Costa County

On 23 April, the Executive Officer issued a Notice of Violation and request for reports pursuant to Section 13267 of the Water Code to the Discharger for failure to submit several technical and monitoring reports. These reports are necessary to address comments on the tentative WDRs, which were issued for review in early 2000, and develop revised tentative WDRs for the facility. The Discharger may be subject to administrative civil liability if the delinquent reports are not submitted by 30 May 2001. (ALO)

Reporting Violations, Hetch Hetchy Water and Power, Tuolumne County

Hetch Hetchy Water and Power operates a wastewater treatment facility that serves the Moccasin Powerhouse and administrative complex of the agency. WDRs No. 5-00-265, adopted by the Board on 8 December 2000, required the immediate implementation of a Monitoring and Reporting Program, which included the submittal of monthly monitoring reports. The Discharger did not monitor or report all the required parameters in its January, February, or March 2001 reports. Following the submittal of the January report, staff informed the Discharger that all required parameters must be reported for the report to be considered complete. However, the reports are still incomplete. On 11 May 2001, an NOV was issued, and the Discharger was reminded that, pursuant to Sections 13267 and 13268, failure to submit complete monitoring reports could result in fines of up to \$1,000 per day late. (JRM)

Calaveras County Water District, La Contenta WWTP, to Increase Size of Storage Pond, Calaveras County

On 25 October 2000, staff issued a NOV to CCWD for freeboard violations at its La Contenta WWTP storage ponds, and requested that CCWD describe the changes necessary to maintain an adequate freeboard. On 27 November 2000, staff received a letter from CCWD stating that they had hired an engineering firm to design an increase in the size of their lower winter storage pond. CCWD also stated in the letter that it was their intent to begin construction on the project in the spring of 2001, and complete the project in time for the winter 2001/2002. In the meantime, CCWD has taken aggressive measures to prevent any wastewater from spilling from the ponds, including buying and installing two Turbo misters that evaporated 600,000 gallons of wastewater within two weeks. (JSK).

Incomplete Title 22 Engineering Report, Preston Youth Correctional Facility, Amador County

The Department of Youth Authority operates a chlorination and filtration treatment plant for production and distribution of recycled wastewater at the Preston Youth Correctional Facility in Ione. During an inspection on 25 October 2000, staff found significant problems with the system, and determined that the Discharger had never completed a Title 22 Engineering Report. This report is required by Title 22 of the California Code of Regulations and documents how a Discharger will produce and distribute recycled wastewater in accordance with all applicable regulations. An NOV was issued to the Discharger, requiring the submittal of a Title 22 Engineering Report by 15 March 2001. However, the Discharger only submitted a "Maintenance and Operations Manual" which did not contain all the required information. Staff then sent an 8 January 2001 letter informing the Discharger that the report was inadequate and again requesting that a complete Title 22 Engineering Report be submitted. On 4 May 2001, the Discharger submitted another report, which again did not contain the information required by Title 22. On 8 May 2001, the Discharger was required, per Section 13267 of the Water Code, to submit a complete Title 22 Engineering Report no later than 15 June 2001. (ASB)

Incomplete Monitoring Report, Signor, Silva Ranches I & II, Sacramento County

Synagro applies municipal biosolids on the Silva Ranches I & II, which are located in Sacramento County. The WDRs requires the Discharger to semi-annually collect grab samples of stormwater runoff from each of the 17 stormwater retention basins located on the property. The Discharger is also required to conduct vadose monitoring around the biosolids storage area. Staff have reviewed the monitoring data and found that the Discharger had only collected a single composite sample of all the basins, instead of individual samples. In addition, vadose monitoring data for the biosolids storage facility at Silva Ranch II showed elevated nitrate concentrations in the soil pore water when compared to background levels, indicating that nitrate concentrations have increased in the area around the storage facility. In order for staff to determine the potential impact to the groundwater, additional monitoring information is required around the biosolids storage facility. An NOV was

issued requiring the Discharger to collect an individual sample from each retention basin and to submit a workplan proposing the installation of additional lysimeters around the storage facility. (ASB)

Violations at the Caltrans Emergency Truck Escape Ramp, Grapevine, Kern County

Caltrans owns and operates a Class II surface impoundment located at an emergency truck escape ramp on northbound I-5, Grapevine, Kern County. Two recent inspections performed by staff revealed a series of violations of WDRs. The impoundment does not have the required two feet of freeboard and a bulge beneath the synthetic liner indicates that either gas or water is forcing it upward. In addition, the leachate sumps are continually filled with water indicating a failure in the liner system. Caltrans has not provided the required semi-annual and quarterly monitoring reports. Staff notified Caltrans of the violations and will closely monitor progress. (CM)

LANDFILLS

Incomplete Long-Term Liquid Waste Management Plan, Buena Vista Landfill, Amador County

Buena Vista Landfill operates a Class II pond which receives leachate, contaminated groundwater, and hauled septic waste. The pond capacity is insufficient to hold the volume of liquid waste it is currently receiving. In order to prevent the pond from overflowing, the Discharger requested to be allowed to haul approximately 40,000 gallons per day from the Class II pond to the City of Ione's wastewater treatment plant. Staff approved the transfer of waste on an interim basis but required that the Discharger submit a Long-Term Liquid Waste Management Plan to address how the Class II pond waste would be handled in the future.

On 17 April 2000, the Discharger submitted a plan proposing storage of the leachate/septage mixture in the existing Class II pond, with subsequent application to nearby land. After review, staff determined that the plan was unacceptable because the preliminary water balance indicated that the Discharger would not be able to comply with the freeboard requirements for the Class II pond as specified in California Code of Regulations, Section 20375. In addition, no treatment was proposed for the designated waste prior to land application. Staff has requested that the Discharger submit a revised proposal by 25 July 2001. The Discharger is continuing to accept approximately 300,000 gallons of septage waste per month at the Class II pond, and is continuing to haul the leachate/septage mixture to the City of Ione's WWTP. (ASB)

SITE CLEANUP

Status Update, Glennville Shopping Center Project, Glennville, Kern County

A 6 March 2001 Invitation to Bid (IFB) for a Community Water Supply Feasibility Study was sent to approximately 60 potential bidders. The IFB was advertised in response to the Glennville Shopping Center UST leak resulting in MTBE contamination of several domestic water supply wells in the community of Glennville, Kern County. A total of six bidders responded to the IFB. Bid submittals ranged from \$506,838.81 to \$2,035,407.00. Review of the bid submittals found GHH Engineering, Inc., (GHH) of Citrus Heights to be the lowest responsive/responsible bidder at \$506,838.81. A Notice of Intent to Award was submitted to the six responding bidders on 26 April 2001. Subsequently, a Notice of Contract Award was submitted to GHH on 3 May 2001. Currently, contract documents between the Board and GHH are being prepared. Contracts are expected to be signed by the end of May 2001, with work to begin immediately thereafter. An IFB is currently being prepared by staff for the investigation and removal of the UST at the Glennville Shopping Center. Anticipated release date for advertising the IFB is 1 June 2001. (GJI)

Oil Company, Hanford, Kings County

The monitoring results conducted to date indicate that groundwater under the western half of the plant is impacted with petroleum hydrocarbon contaminants. Benzene and MTBE were detected as high as 130 µg/l and 520 µg/l, respectively, in three monitoring wells. The recent groundwater monitoring results appear to indicate that contaminant levels dropped somewhat; however, the levels have fluctuated during the last five years probably due to the seasonal variations of the groundwater table. ExxonMobil indicates that current site operations by Silvas Oil might have contributed to the fluctuations.

ExxonMobil has proposed to utilize natural biodegradation with groundwater monitoring as the groundwater remediation method. Board staff reviewed the proposal and requested a time schedule for its implementation and completion. ExxonMobil will submit the time schedule once it has completed a full year of monitoring of geochemical indicator parameters. The geochemical indicator parameter results will be used to evaluate the site-specific rates of biodegradation of petroleum hydrocarbon constituents. (JYH)

In-Situ Soil Remediation, Former Puregro Facility, Visalia, Tulare County

This fertilizer and pesticide distribution facility has proposed to remediate petroleum hydrocarbon impacted subsurface soils by injecting a hydrogen peroxide solution. A crop oil spill occurred in the vicinity of a railroad spur at the site. The

proposed in-situ oxidation will enable the company to avoid removing the railroad spur and excavating the impacted soils. A 15 percent hydrogen peroxide solution will be injected into three different depths with high-pressure probes. Since the effectiveness of the proposed chemical oxidation depends on achieving adequate contact between oxidants (hydroxyl free radicals) and contaminants, a multiple injection technique that utilizes multiple screened intervals will be employed. Due to the volatility and corrosiveness of the oxidants, Board staff requested the facility to prepare a site and method specific health and safety plan. (JYH)

Sequoia Pacific Systems, Inc., Change of Ownership and Ongoing Remediation Project, Tulare County

Sequoia Pacific Systems has recently sold their property in Exeter, Tulare County. The company, which also changed its name to Sequoia Voting Systems, now leases the property from the new owners. Sequoia Voting Systems retained responsibility for soil and groundwater degradation at the site. The facility is a voting ballot printing enterprise that generates designated waste managed on-site in a Class II impoundment. A package treatment plant and domestic ponds handle all sanitary waste generated by facility personnel. Prior to the installation of the Class II impoundment, industrial waste was discharged to unlined ponds. The underlying aquifer was affected with chlorinated hydrocarbons by this practice. Over the last five years, quarterly and semi-annual monitoring of the plume has shown that natural attenuation has been effective in reducing its size and slowing its migration. However, it appears that a more aggressive approach to remediating the facility is necessary. Staff is currently reviewing Sequoia Voting Systems proposal for remediating the plume. (AM)

Fire Training Areas and USTs at Old Hammer Field, Fresno, Fresno County

The Fresno Air Terminal and surrounding property is the site of a former World War II Army airfield (Old Hammer Field). As part of the continuing investigation, cleanup, and closure of waste sites at the airfield, work was recently completed at the former fire training areas in Area 4. Two USTs that held fuels used to start fires and associated piping were removed. Following receipt of favorable analytical results, the USTs were closed. Supplementary analytical results for soil samples at three former fire training pits are pending. Initial results for VOCs, SVOCs, TPH, dioxins and PCBs in soil, soil vapor, and groundwater at the fire training areas were nondetect. Upon receipt of favorable supplementary analytical results, the fire training areas will be closed. (BEM)

PG&E-Kern Power Plant and Sunland Oil (World Oil) Refinery, Bakersfield, Kern County

Subsurface investigation work at the inactive Kern Power Plant continues with an upcoming round of groundwater sampling for hexavalent chromium associated with historically used cooling water systems at the plant. Previous sampling revealed mostly nondetect (<10 µg/L) hexavalent chromium concentrations except for one anomalous value higher than the associated total chromium value. A workplan for the installation of a triple-nested monitoring well at the former PG&E Kern Power Plant was approved in a continuing effort to define the petroleum hydrocarbon plume migrating beneath the PG&E site from the adjacent World Oil refinery. The potential sale of the power plant for re-operation is under review by the Public Utilities Commission. (BEM)

TECHNICAL REPORTS

Water Code Section 13267 Request for Reports, California Natural Products, San Joaquin County

California Natural Products (CNP) treats and then discharges food processing wastewater to fallow land near Lathrop. The Discharger submitted a RWD to update its WDRs to allow additional wastewater to be applied to its land. Upon a review of data, staff prepared tentative WDRs that protect the groundwater by restricting the amount of nutrients that could be applied. CNP subsequently requested that the tentative WDRs be removed from the March 2001 Board agenda. This request was approved contingent upon CNP collecting the necessary data to determine whether the application of wastewater is impacting, or has the potential to impact, the underlying groundwater. CNP is in the process of completing a Well Survey Report, a Groundwater Sampling and Analysis Report, a Wastewater Infiltration Rate Report, an Evaluation of Additional Land Application Area and/or Wastewater Treatment System Capacity Report, preparation of California Environmental Quality Act documents, a Groundwater Monitoring Well Installation Workplan, a Wastewater Application Plan, a Cropping Plan, and a Groundwater Well Installation Report. Staff anticipates that the revised WDRs will be considered at the September Board meeting. (TRO)

Water Code Section 13267 Request for Reports, Robert Mondavi Winery, San Joaquin County

As a result of a staff inspection of the Robert Mondavi Winery on 30 November 2000, an NOV was issued requiring the Discharger to (a) remove excessive floating scum, algae, and debris from the wastewater ponds, (b) furnish information on its ion exchange regeneration brine and the impact on wastewater quality, (c) initiate groundwater monitoring at the wastewater ponds and land application areas, and (d) submit an evaluation of the wastewater generation rate, including installation of a wastewater flow meter. The Discharger was initially directed to perform the investigations and prepare technical reports by

1 March 2001, however the Discharger failed to respond. The Discharger was recently ordered to complete the work by 22 June 2001, pursuant to the California Water Code Section 13267. (TRO)

Request for Technical Report, Industrial Wastewater Spill, East-Side Winery, San Joaquin County

On 8 May 2001, a spill of winery distillery wastewater (stillage) was discovered as a result of a citizen complaint. The spill occurred adjacent to the south bank of the Mokelumne River. Staff inspected the site, and found that the stillage was pooled behind a Mokelumne River levee and a small earth dam that existed in the area. The spill appeared to be caused by broken pipes from the East-Side Winery. There was no indication that the wastewater had entered the Mokelumne River. Upon notification by staff, East-Side Winery pumped the spilled stillage into its nearby wastewater ponds; however, an additional discharge was found when wastewater continued to flow out of the broken pipe after East-Side Winery had ceased its discharge. The Chatfield Winery appears to be the source of the ongoing flow. East-Side Winery was required to submit an evaluation of the material spilled, the source and volume of the spill, and identify ways to prevent future spills, including spills that occur as a result of vandalism. (TRO)

Water Code Section 13267 Request for Reports, City of Hughson Wastewater Treatment Plant, Stanislaus County

On 5 April 2001, the Executive Officer issued a request for reports to the City of Hughson pursuant to Water Code Section 13267. The revised WDRs for the facility, adopted on 15 April 2000, required that the City submit a groundwater monitoring well installation report by 30 October 2000. Although staff conditionally approved the City's workplan on 11 October 2000, the Discharger failed to install the wells and submit the required report. The City of Hughson was informed that it would be subject to administrative civil liability if the report were not submitted by 30 May 2001. (ALO)

Incomplete Report of Waste Discharge, Clay Station 1200 Rural Residential Development, Sacramento County

On 23 April 2001, staff notified the developer that the RWD for the subject project is incomplete. The project as proposed would create a residential subdivision of 220 homes on lots of three to five acres with individual domestic wells and individual septic systems. Each septic system would have its own leachfield or seepage pit. Because of the density of the proposed development and existing high quality of groundwater beneath the site, staff requested that the developer consider advanced treatment, a community wastewater treatment system, and/or a community water supply well. (ALO)

Sprayfield Improvements Underway at Valley Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant, Calaveras County

On 9 November 2000, the EO issued a Water Code Section 13267 request for the Valley Springs Sanitation District to submit a workplan describing the improvements it would make to its sprayfield to prevent wastewater from flowing offsite. On 12 February 2001, staff received a workplan outlining plans to construct a tailwater diversion ditch around the entire spray irrigation area. Staff approved the workplan and the Valley Springs Sanitation District began construction on the tailwater diversion ditch in May 2001. (JSK)

OTHER

New Co-op Takes Over Olive Plant

On 4 May 2001, California Olive Growers, a grower-owned co-op took title to the recently bankrupt Tri Valley Grower's (Oberti Olive) Processing Plant in Madera, California. The new co-op is comprised of a group of two-dozen small growers in the San Joaquin Valley south of Fresno. The co-op's plan is to focus on olives for the freezing and specialty markets rather than canning. The growers paid Tri Valley \$1 for the cannery including the former wastewater disposal ponds, and committed to spending \$9.48 million on continuing the environmental cleanup. Cleanup consists of pumping saline groundwater and discharging to the ponds. Olive processing wastewater is treated to irrigation quality via flash evaporation, ultrafiltration and reverse osmosis before discharging to land. First Western Marketing, Inc., will manage the entire operation with guaranteed cost controls. Eventually the ponds will be closed. (SRG)

Gary M. Carlton
Executive Officer
14 June 2001

Addenda that follow:

1. Public Outreach
2. Completed Site Cleanups (UST)

Addendum 1

PUBLIC OUTREACH

On 2 April, Dennis Heiman met with Sierra Valley RCD to discuss potential funding for a Watershed Assessment and attended monthly meeting of the Feather River CRM Management Committee.

On 4 April, Dennis Heiman met with Chico Area Urban Streams Council to discuss potential Prop 13 grant.

On 6 April, Dennis Heiman participated in a public workshop in Redding to discuss the 303(d) and TMDL program.

On 10 April, Dennis Heiman participated in interviews for a Watershed Coordinator for the Feather River CRM.

On 14 April, San Joaquin River TMDL Unit staff (Shakoora Azimi and Emilie Reyes) attended the Lockford Cover Crop Field Day sponsored by the University of California Cooperative Extension and Community Alliance with Family Farmers. Topics covered during this field day included nitrogen estimation, cover crop selection, beneficial insects found in cover crops, and seed and mowing techniques.

On 18 April, Clay Rodgers attended the final meeting of the Kern County Dairy Technical Advisory Committee (DTAC). The DTAC has recommended siting and operation standards for dairies for consideration by the Kern County Planning Commission and Board of Supervisors.

On 18 April, Anthony Toto and Pam Buford attended the Land Retirement Demonstration Project Spring 2001 Tour at the Mendota Site. The Land Retirement Demonstration Project is a 5-year, 15,000-acre project created to examine the effects of land retirement of agricultural land characterized by high selenium levels in soil and shallow ground water.

On 18 April, Pam Buford and Clay Rodgers attended Panoche/Silver Creek Coordinated Resource Management Program Steering Committee meeting.

On 19 April, Phil Crader participated in the Grassland Bypass Project Data Collection and Reporting Team meeting held by the US Bureau of Reclamation to discuss the final draft of the Water Year 2000 report and a potential revision of the current monitoring program should the project continue past October 2001. Other agencies represented included US EPA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Geological Survey, California Department of Fish and Game, Grassland Area Farmers, and Block Environmental.

On 19 April, Jim Pedri assisted in the judging of a local science fair.

On 20 April, Dennis Heiman attended CALFED Watershed Workgroup meeting in Sacramento.

On 20 April, Les Grober presented information on the Regional Board's TMDL program at the California Water Environment Association Annual Conference in Palm Springs.

On 23 April, Carole Crowe participated in a Storm Water Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) training class sponsored by the Association of General Contractors. The class provided formal training for contractors preparing SWPPPs for Caltrans projects.

On 24 April, Dennis Heiman attended SRWP stakeholder meeting in Redding and made presentation on watershed monitoring.

On 25 April, Pam Buford attended Central Sierra Watershed Committee meeting concerning water quality issues in the Madera and Mariposa Counties mountain communities.

On 25 April, Jim Pedri participated in the Environmental Agreement training in Sacramento as a panel member and presenter.

On 25 April, Dennis Heiman participated in agency and organizational tour of Fall River valley with regard to establishing conservation easements along the river corridor.

On 26 April, Philip Isorena of the Storm Water Unit gave a presentation on the regulatory history of the Storm Water Program (Program), its Phase I and Phase II requirements, and the role of the Regional Board in implementing the Program. He gave the talk at Targeted Opportunities to Prevent Pollution's (TOPPS) Solution for Compliance Workshop (Workshop). TOPPS is a public-private partnership that educates and supports business, industry, and agriculture in San Joaquin County in an effort to better the environment and improve the financial performance of facilities by minimizing pollution to air, land, and water. The Workshop is an all day seminar with presentations on pollution control issues and vendor displays.

On 26 April, three Sacramento Office staff received a Team Superior Accomplishment Award from the State Water Resources Control Board for outstanding job performance on the Statewide Needs Analysis, which was submitted to the Legislature in March 2001. The staff members are Dave Carlson, Rik Rasmussen and Leslie Laudon.

On 27 April, Jim Pedri presented a talk to the Calif. County Planning Commissioners Assoc. on on-site sewage, golf course irrigation and small winery discharge issues.

On 27 April, Dennis Heiman attended a workshop in Red Bluff on restoration project permitting sponsored by CARCD.

On 1 May, Val Connor and Lori Webber participated in a workgroup of the Effluent Dominated Water Bodies Stakeholder Group. The group discussed standards setting and the relationship to NPDES permits in effluent dominated water bodies.

On 2 May, Dennis Heiman attended a meeting of the Tehama Co RCD.

On 2 May, Lori Webber attended a meeting of the Dry Creek CRMP in Roseville. The group heard a presentation on the City of Roseville's Dry Creek wastewater treatment plant. The group also discussed potential projects for 319h grant proposals.

On 2 May, Clay Rodgers and Anthony Toto attended the San Joaquin Valley Drainage Implementation Program Management Group meeting via videoconference at DWR.

On 2 May, Anthony Toto attended the In-Valley Planning meeting. An economic model of drainage water reuse was discussed. Vashek Cervinka presented concerns and problems with drainage water reuse.

On 3 May, San Joaquin River TMDL Unit staff (Shakoora Azimi and Emilie Reyes) met with representatives from California Alfalfa and Forage Association (CAFA) to discuss pesticide management practices. CAFA representatives and Regional Board staff will collaborate on the identification and description of these management practices.

On 3 May, Amanda Smith and Rudy Schnagl participated in a meeting of the Regulatory Affairs Committee of the California Plant Health Association. Mr. Schnagl had been invited to brief the group on Board activities related to TMDLs, NPDES permits for aquatic pesticide discharges, and the review of the policy waiving waste discharge requirements for irrigation return waters.

On 7 May, Les Grober and Shakoora Azimi attended the newly created Agricultural Implementation Group (AIG). AIG was formed within CURES, a 5013 non-profit organization. The San Joaquin AIG intends to meet before or after Regional Board Organophosphorus Pesticide TMDL workshops to discuss what the group can do to assist in the TMDL effort. Members are willing to assist Regional Board staff by reviewing TMDL technical reports, doing public outreach, and recommending implementation plans.

On 8 May, Anthony Toto and Clay Rodgers attended the SJV Drainage Water Reuse Workshop sponsored by the University of California Center for Water Resources and the University of California at Riverside, Department of Environmental Sciences.

On 8 May, Dennis Heiman attended a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Cottonwood Cr. Watershed Group.

On 8 May, Rik Rasmussen attended a meeting of the Building Industry Association in Roseville and gave a presentation of effluent dominated water bodies (EDWs), issues of concern in EDWs and possible solutions including ongoing basin planning activities.

On May, 8 Patrick Morris attended a meeting of the Delta Tributaries Mercury Council. The major topics included a review of mercury studies and monitoring, mercury legislation, gravel mining practices, and strategic planning.

On 9 May, Karen Larsen participated in the SRWP Toxicity Focus Group meeting. The group discussed development of a strategy to address toxicity of unknown origin in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds and the Delta.

On 9 May, Lori Webber attended a meeting of the Auburn Ravine/Coon Creek CRMP in Auburn. The group discussed ongoing and future restoration projects in the watershed.

On 11 May, Robert Holmes and Lori Webber participated in the SRWP Biological Habitat Subcommittee meeting. The group discussed the 2001-2002 budget and the need for reference condition development in the Central Valley foothill ecoregion.

On 14 May, Karen Larsen participated in the SRWP Grants Subcommittee meeting. The group discussed allocation of Phase VII funds to the various work done under the program.

On 15 May, Loren Harlow, Bert Van Voris, Doug Patteson and Jo Anne Kipps and select staff met with members of a technical committee formed by the Wine Institute to discuss technical and regulatory issues concerning the discharge of winery waste to land. Ron Crites of Brown and Caldwell summarized work completed to date to assess waste loading effects from current winery waste disposal practices. Mr. Crites was the principal author of the 1980 Wine Institute report on stillage disposal that formed the basis of Basin Plan Guidelines. The group discussed data requirements for assessing the degree to which current disposal practices are protective of groundwater quality and discharger responsibilities for ensuring waste disposal practices are regularly evaluated for effectiveness. An initial report is expected in mid-June. (BVV)

On 15 May, Les Grober, Jeanne Chilcott, Chad Dibble, Jay Rowan, and Shakoora Azimi met with USGS staff to discuss collaboration of monitoring and assessment projects and coordination of monitoring efforts in the San Joaquin River Basin.

On 16 May, Jim Rohrbach represented the Regional Board at a meeting of the City of Corning Wastewater Treatment Plant Mitigation Monitoring Committee. The meeting was convened to consider the recent odor complaints arising from conditions at the City's plant and the adjacent Bell-Carter treatment ponds.

On 16 May, staff held a public workshop to present an overview of the completed Selenium Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) developed for the Lower San Joaquin River. The process used to develop the TMDL and the final selenium load allocations were presented. Load allocations will be incorporated into Waste Discharge Requirements for the Grassland Bypass Project. The technical TMDL is currently undergoing internal review and a final report is on schedule to be submitted to USEPA in June 2001. Meeting notices were mailed to approximately 300 individuals and groups. Approximately 40 people attended the workshop.

On 16 May, Dennis Heiman attended the annual meeting the Battle Creek Conservancy.

On 16 May, Karen Larsen participated in the SRWP Public Outreach and Education Subcommittee meeting. The group discussed the poster presentation being developed by the Organophosphate Pesticide Focus Group, transfer of the SRWP website to a private contractor, and the logistics of electing a Board of Trustees once the SRWP becomes a non-profit organization.

On 16 May, Shakoora Azimi conducted an education outreach in Gold River Elementary School. Staff presented information on importance of water quality, keeping the watershed clean, and developing TMDLs in San Joaquin River.

On 16 May, Jim Barton attended the Rio Vista Former Army Reserve Center, Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) meeting. The Army's consultants, Concurrent Technologies Corporation (CTC) and ARCADIS Geraghty & Miller, presented a Progress Report for the Clean Base Program and a summary of project findings. The Program stresses regulatory involvement in every phase of the action.

On 16 May, Les Grober and Matt McCarthy briefed the San Joaquin River Management Program Action Team on the status of the SJR Selenium TMDL.

On 17 May, Robert Reeves and Leslie Laudon attended the Beale Air Force Base Restoration Advisory Board (RAB) meeting and tour of the native grass study area and Area 17 slurry wall/phytopumping system.

On 18 May, Lori Webber attended a Monitoring Collaboration meeting of the SRWP. Representatives from several regional and statewide programs discussed collaboration of monitoring efforts in the Sacramento River Watershed. It was recognized that the SRWP can play an important role in fostering communication between local watershed groups and larger monitoring programs.

On 19 May, Dennis Heiman attended a Sierra Valley CRM meeting in Loyalton.

On 21 May, Lori Webber conducted aquatic bioassessment sampling in Dry Creek with a member of the Dry Creek Conservancy, a local watershed group.

On 22 May, Dennis Heiman attended a meeting of the Board of Directors of the Cow Creek Watershed Group.

On 22 May, Michelle McGraw and Kelly Briggs participated in the monthly Organophosphate Pesticide Focus Group meeting in Woodland. The group discussed the Phase VI workplan, the status of the Water Quality Management Strategy for Diazinon and the peer reviewer's comments on the Targets Report for Diazinon.

On 23 May, Lori Webber and Karen Larsen attended a meeting of the SRWP Monitoring and Toxics Subcommittees. Karen Larsen gave an update on the Toxicity Focus Group and the CalFed Unknown Toxicity Workgroup. The group discussed monitoring priorities for Phase VII, including a project to develop reference sites for bioassessment.

On 23 May, Janis Cooke and Patrick Morris attended a Sulfur Bank Mercury Mine technical meeting. USEPA presented information on groundwater studies, site investigations, and a feasibility study.

On 24 May, Jim Rohrbach gave a presentation to the McCloud Community Services District Board and general public explaining the reasons for the adoption of a Cease and Desist Order and Connection Ban on the District. (To appear on next month's agenda)

On 24 May, Dennis Heiman gave a presentation at the Local Rancher Field Day in Anderson.

On 24 May, Phil Crader participated in the Grassland Bypass Project Data Collection and Reporting Team meeting held by the US Bureau of Reclamation to discuss a potential revision of the current monitoring program should the project continue past October 2001. Other agencies represented included US EPA, US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Geological Survey, California Department of Fish and Game, Grassland Area Farmers, and Block Environmental.

On 25 May, John Menke of the Confined Animal Facility Regulatory Unit made a presentation to participants in the Water Education Foundation's Central Valley Tour on the potential for dairies to impact groundwater. The Water Education Foundation is an impartial, non-profit organization that promotes understanding of water resource issues. About 50 participants were on the tour that is a three-day trip through the San Joaquin Valley. The tour this year included a Stanislaus County Dairy. Other speakers included representatives of the Department of Water Resources, Department of Fish & Game, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Sierra Club, and several water districts and agricultural operations.

On 31 May, Dennis Heiman attended a meeting of the CA Watershed Management Council to provide input on efforts to establish a watershed management program statewide.