

## **Attachment Four.**

### **Information Received that did not lead to 303(d) List Additions**

#### California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR)

DPR provided pesticide information. The information applies to water bodies already on the 303(d) list. Therefore, no new listings are proposed.

#### City of Santa Cruz

The City of Santa Cruz provided turbidity data for Majors Creek. The City stated this watershed is experiencing increasingly frequent periods of high turbidity associated with the heavy sedimentation attributed to natural background erosion sources, the large network of unmaintained seasonal roads, log jam related stream bank erosion, feral pig activity and other factors. In addition to the drinking water quality and production challenges posed by these conditions, the channel itself (especially the East Branch) is choked with sediment, thereby limiting habitat functions.

The City submitted turbidity data to support their request.

Staff does not have sufficient evidence to support listing Majors Creek. The City should submit clarifying information to support violation of the Basin Plan turbidity objective. The Basin Plan turbidity objective states in part:

“Waters shall be free of changes in turbidity that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.”

The City should document how, when, and why turbidity causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.

#### Monterey Bay Aquarium Data

The Monterey Bay Aquarium sent extensive water quality information regarding ocean waters in the vicinity of the aquarium. The data was for dissolved oxygen, temperature, total coliform, fecal coliform, enterococcus, total ammonia, nitrite, nitrate, phosphate, and pH. Staff reviewed the data. No listings are proposed because the weight of evidence does not support listing.

#### Santa Barbara Channel Keeper

The Santa Barbara Channel Keeper submitted citizen-based sampling data. Data was submitted for total coliform, E. Coli, Enterococcus, nitrate, phosphate, sulfate, turbidity, dissolved oxygen, water temperature, conductivity and pH.

Approximately ten areas were sampled. However, there were only a few samples for each area. Staff did not receive quality assurance procedures.

Data indicates high bacteria concentrations, but there are not enough samples to indicate impairment. Furthermore, we do not have quality assurance procedures. Staff supplemented the data we received from the channel keeper by looking at data we received from the Santa Barbara County Public Health Department. (The Health Department unitizes quality assurance procedures and has many more sampling events.)

(Staff is proposing to list three Santa Barbara County beaches based upon Santa Barbara County Public Health Department sampling.)

#### Santa Barbara County Creek Watchers

This organization provided data for approximately 250 sampling events. However, no quality assurance data was submitted.

Most sites sampled by this organization are also being sampled by CCAMP during 2001-2002. Since the CCAMP program utilizes quality assurance procedures, the Regional Board should consider this a more reliable information source. If Santa Barbara County Creek Watchers submits an adequate quality assurance program, staff will consider this organization's data for subsequent 303(d) listings.

#### Santa Barbara County Public Health Department

The Health Department has sampled approximately twenty beaches on a regular basis since 1996. Several beaches have over 200 samples each. The County utilizes quality assurance procedures to assure reliable data. For these reasons, this is useful data for the Regional Board to consider for listing purposes.

Staff analyzed County Data for violations of Assembly Bill (AB) 411 objectives and State Water Resources Control Board Ocean Plan (Ocean Plan) objectives. The Ocean Plan contains water quality standards for Total and Fecal Coliform. Where shellfish harvesting may occur, total coliform objectives apply.

Staff utilized the weight of evidence approach to determine impairment. For each beach, staff determined the number of violations of AB 411 or Ocean Plan objectives. Staff is proposing to list a water body if the number of violations is 50 percent or greater. Three Santa Barbara County beaches meet this level of evidence: Arroyo Quemado, East Beach at Mission Creek, and Jalama beach.

#### San Lorenzo Valley Water District

The Water District submitted a report titled *Comparisons of Juvenile Steelhead Densities, Population Estimates and Habitat Conditions for the San Lorenzo River, Santa Cruz County, California, 1995-99; with and Index of Adult Returns*, June 2000. This report discusses juvenile and coho salmon and steelhead trout populations within the San Lorenzo River. This report will be used by staff developing TMDLs for the San Lorenzo River watershed. This watershed is already on the 303(d) list for pathogens and siltation.

#### *Spatial Analysis of Metals and Relationship to Infauna in Monterey Bay Sediments* (A Master's Thesis prepared by Anuraag Gill, December 1998)

This thesis evaluates the spatial distribution of metals in Monterey Bay sediment and the relationship to benthic infauna in the vicinity of municipal wastewater discharges. The report indicates high levels of nickel and chromium may be related to natural geologic sources. Arsenic exceeded the Threshold Effects Level (TEL) at one site. (TEL values estimate toxic biological effects and were utilized by the State Water Resources Control Board Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup Program. The TEL is derived by taking the geometric mean of the 50<sup>th</sup> percentile of the "no effects" data and the 15<sup>th</sup> percentile of the "effects" data.) However this is not sufficient weight of evidence (per Bay Protection and Toxic Cleanup protocol) to list this site for arsenic. If other evidence was available, such as benthic assemblages' relationship to arsenic concentrations, listing could be considered.

#### United States Geologic Survey (USGS)

The USGS submitted water quality data for the Santa Ynez watershed, San Antonio watershed, Santa Maria watershed, Salinas watershed, and San Benito watershed. The USGS data does not indicate any additional impairment conditions.

#### Upper Salinas Las Tablas Resource Conservation District (RCD)

The RCD submitted data for the Upper Salinas River and tributaries. The data includes general water quality descriptions including temperature, nutrients, turbidity, and dissolved oxygen. Most stations only have one or two sampling events. The station with the highest number of samples had four sampling events. This is not enough data to determine water quality conditions. In addition, no quality assurance information was provided. If the RCD submits an adequate samples and a quality assurance program, staff will consider this organization's data for subsequent 303(d) listings.

