State Water Resources Control Board September 19, 2012 Item 15 - Executive Director's Report

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

Aquatic Weed Control Permit: A public hearing was conducted on August 7, 2012 on the proposed Draft Statewide General National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit for Residual Pesticide Discharges to waters of the United States from Algae and Aquatic Weed Control Applications (Draft Aquatic Weed Control Permit). The Draft Aquatic Weed Control Permit covers discharges of residual algaecides and aquatic herbicides from direct applications to surface waters to control algae and aquatic weeds. The public comment period closed on August 21, 2012. Staff will ask the State Water Board to consider the adoption of the Draft Aquatic Weed Control Permit at its November 6, 2012 Board Meeting.

Communities That Rely on Contaminated Groundwater: Assembly Bill (AB) 2222 (Caballero, 2008) required the State Water Board submit to the Legislature a report that identifies communities that rely on contaminated groundwater as a primary source of drinking water. Staff worked with the California Department of Public Health and solicited input from other state agencies. The final draft report was posted on the AB 2222 Web site for public comment (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water-issues/programs/gama/ab2222/index.shtml). The public comment period ended on April 2, 2012. The final report is scheduled to be delivered to the Governor's office later this fall.

Nitrate Pilot Projects in the Tulare Lake Basin and Salinas Valley: SBX2 1 (Perata, 2008) required the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), and other agencies (including Regional Water Quality Control Boards), to develop pilot projects in the Tulare Lake Basin and the Salinas Valley to study nitrate contamination, identify remedial solutions and funding options to clean up groundwater. It also directed staff to prepare a report to the Legislature. The State Water Board contracted with the University of California at Davis (UCD) to produce a comprehensive, independent report. This 1,300-page report was released in March 2012. Information on the UCD Report is posted on the SBX2 1 Web site (http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nitrate_project/index.shtml). The State Water Board held a public workshop on Wednesday, May 23, 2012, to take public input on the options outlined in the UCD Report. State Water Board staff has been working with interagency group members to receive input on the initial draft outline of the report to the legislature. The final report is scheduled to be delivered to the Governor's office later this fall.

<u>Ocean Plan Amendment - Desalination/Brine Provisions</u>: Three studies will support the desalination/brine amendments to the Ocean Plan. A panel of five scientific experts (Brine Panel) convened to address scientific questions regarding the disposal of brine into the ocean. The Brine Panel's <u>final report</u> is posted on the website.

Another Expert Review Panel (ERP) for desalination intakes and seawater intake mitigation, at Moss Landing Marine Lab, has completed its <u>draft final report</u>. The ERP's final report has been completed and posted to the website. The third scientific project conducted by the UC Granite Canyon Lab evaluated brine toxicity and the final report is posted at: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water issues/programs/ocean/desalination/.

A Board Workshop was held on August 22, 2012, to present results and recommendations from the three studies. Staff anticipates public release of the amendments in early 2013 with a Board hearing scheduled for spring 2013.

Ocean Plan Amendments - Model Monitoring, Vessels, and Marine Protected Areas (MPAs): The public hearing for the MPA amendment was held on May 1, 2012. A Board workshop was held on August 22, 2012. Staff is planning to present the Ocean Plan Amendments for adoption in October 2012.

<u>Once-Through Cooling (OTC) Policy</u>: Staff is also continuing to meet with the Nuclear Review Committee and the consultant (Bechtel) on the Special Studies regarding alternatives for the two nuclear generating plants (SONGS and Diablo Canyon). The Phase I of the study has been completed and presented to the Nuclear Review Committee, and Bechtel has initiated work on Phase II.

NPDES permitting is progressing. A contractor with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency is assisting with drafting all the permits with the exception of the Pittsburg Power Plant which has been drafted by the staff of the San Francisco Bay and State Water Boards. State Water Board staff anticipates the permit will be considered for adoption in early 2013. http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/cwa316/

On-site Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS): The State Water Board adopted the Water Quality Control Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Maintenance of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS Policy) on June 19, 2012. Staff is now preparing the administrative record to submit the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). Staff expects OAL approval in the latter half of September. The OWTS Policy takes effect six months after OAL approval.

<u>Sanitary Sewer System Waste Discharge Requirements (SSS WDRs)</u>: Staff is proceeding to update the MRP at this time with expected re-issuance by the Executive Director in November of 2012. Updating of the WDRs will proceed at a later date.

<u>Sediment Quality Objectives, Phase II</u>: Fish and Wildlife Objectives were adopted by the State Water Board April 6, 2011 and approved by OAL in June 2011. Phase II Human Health objectives are in progress. Staff met with the Advisory Committee, stakeholders, and the Agency Coordinating Committee representatives on May 24, 2012, to discuss the Scientific Steering Committee recommendations regarding human health amendments to the Enclosed Bays and Estuaries Plan. Staff is working on the suggestions from both groups.

Storm Water Caltrans MS4 Permit: The Second Revised Draft Tentative Order for Caltrans MS4 permit was released for public review on April 27, 2012, and a staff workshop was held on May 21, 2012. The permit will address the storm water discharges associated with the operation of the State highway system. At the close of the comment period on June 26, 2012, 131 comments from 31 commenters had been received. Staff is now reviewing and preparing responses to the comments received during the public comment period. A public hearing before the State Water Board was held August 7, 2012. The State Water Board will consider the adoption of this permit at the September 19, 2012 Board Meeting.

Storm Water Industrial General Permit: Staff conducted informal workshops on the revised draft Industrial General Storm Water Permit in August. The Industrial General Storm Water Permit regulates the storm water discharges from specific industrial sectors. Approximately 9,000 individual facilities are covered by the current permit. The purpose of the workshops was to provide a forum for the stakeholder community to ask questions regarding the revised draft Industrial General Storm Water Permit to help them in preparing formal comments. The public comment period originally scheduled to close on September 21, 2012 has been extended to October 22, 2012. A public hearing will be conducted on October 17, 2012.

Storm Water Phase II MS4 Permit: A public hearing was conducted on the revised draft Phase II Small MS4 Storm Water Permit. This permit will address the storm water discharges from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (those that serve populations of less than 100,000 persons). At the close of the comment period, July 23, 2012, more than 105 comment letters had been received. Staff is now reviewing and preparing responses to the comments received during the public comment period and at the public hearing. The State Water Board will consider adoption of the revised draft Phase II Small MS4 Storm Water Permit on December 5, 2012.

<u>Trash – Amendments to Statewide Plans</u>: Staff continues to work with the Public Advisory Group (PAG) to develop a policy to address trash in waters of the State. The PAG consists of 10 individuals who have knowledge and expertise relative to trash and debris. A preliminary draft Staff Report/Substitute Environmental Document (SED) has been prepared by Tetra Tech and staff, and sent to the PAG. A PAG meeting was held on August 13, 2012 to discuss the changes and recommendations. The target for release of the Draft SED and amendments for public comment is October 2012.

<u>Statewide Policies/Significant General Permits</u>: Appendix 1 (attached) provides the current status of Statewide Policies and Significant General Permits. Please visit: http://waternet/dwg/policies_permits/.

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Update Report: See attached Appendix 2.

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

Workshops on Comprehensive Review of the Bay-Delta Plan: The State Water Board held the first of three workshops on September 5 and 6, 2012, to receive information and conduct discussions regarding the scientific and technical basis for considering potential changes to the 2006 Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary (Bay-Delta Plan) as part of the State Water Board's Phase II comprehensive review of the Bay-Delta Plan. The first workshop addressed Ecosystem Changes and the Low Salinity Zone – including the effects of the low salinity zone on various estuarine species, the interaction of salinity with non-flow related factors, and the identification of modeling or other tools that can be used to measure and reasonably protect estuarine habitat. Comments related to the first workshop were due on August 17, 2012. The State Water Board received hundreds of documents comprising thousands of pages from 14 different groups representing various Bay-Delta interests. The second workshop will be held October 1 and 2 (and 3 if necessary) and will address Bay-Delta Fisheries Resources. The third workshop will be held November 13 and 14 and will address analytical tools for evaluating the water supply, hydrodynamic, and hydropower effects of the Bay-Delta Plan. Comments for the second workshop were due on September 14, 2012, and comments for the third workshop are due October 26, 2012.

The notice for the workshops can be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/docs/pubnot_phs2 wrkshps.pdf and additional information concerning the State Water Board's review of the Bay-Delta Plan can be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water issues/programs/bay delta/

Workshop on Truckee River Hearing Draft Decision: On July 18, 2012, the Division of Water Rights released for public review a draft decision following a July 2010 public hearing regarding applications and petitions in the Truckee River watershed. The purpose of the applications and petitions is to implement the Truckee River Operating Agreement (TROA). In the draft decision, the State Water Board conditionally approves two water right applications of the United States Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to appropriate water from Independence Creek, the Little Truckee River, and Prosser Creek for beneficial use. In the draft decision, the State Water Board also conditionally approves four petitions to change an existing permit and three licenses of Reclamation, Washoe County Water Conservation District, and the Truckee Meadows Water Authority on the same source streams. The State Water Board held a public workshop on September 17, 2012, to receive comments on the draft decision. Written comments on the draft decision were due by August 30, 2012. The State Water Board will consider the draft decision for adoption at a future Board meeting.

Interagency Instream Flow Workgroup Meeting: On August 23, 2012, the Division of Water Rights staff met with staff from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG), United States Fish and Wildlife Services (USFWS), and the State Coastal Conservancy (SCC). CDFG staff provided updates on its priority tributaries, projected schedules for instream flow studies, and effort to develop standard operating procedures for its instream flow program. These interagency meetings began in the summer of 2011 to facilitate information exchange between agencies, allow for status updates regarding ongoing agency projects, and provide an opportunity for collaboration on instream flow related efforts to achieve mutual benefits. The next quarterly Interagency Instream Flow Workgroup meeting is anticipated in early November 2012.

Issuance of Water Quality Certification for the Revised McArthur Swamp Management Plan – Implementation of the Waterfowl Restoration Project: On August 30, 2012, the State Water Board issued a water quality certification for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E's) Revised McArthur Swamp Management Plan – Implementation of the Waterfowl Restoration Project (Project) with conditions to protect water quality standards and beneficial uses. The Project is part of PG&E's Pit 1 Hydroelectric Project (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 2687). The Project area encompasses approximately 475 acres of jurisdictional wetland habitat located on the southern shore of Big Lake in Shasta County. The Project involves the construction of approximately 133 acres of meandering swales and 18 acres of elevated mounds in the areas known as Ash Field, Rat Farm Pond, and a portion of Hollenbeak Field. Upon completion of the Project, water will be diverted from Big Lake in order to flood the Project area and create waterfowl habitat. All construction will be done in dry weather. The water quality certification can be viewed on the Division of Water Rights website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water issues/programs/water quality cert/401 certifications.shtml

Notice of Intent to Sue Related to the Pit 1 and Hat Creek Hydroelectric Projects:

On August 9, 2010, American Whitewater and Friends of the River filed a Notice of Intent to Sue the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC), Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for violation of sections 7 and 9 of the Endangered Species Act (ESA) relating to the Pit 1 and Hat Creek Hydroelectric Projects. The notice states the projects have caused adverse, population-wide impacts to the last remaining native crayfish species in California, the Shasta crayfish (*Pacifastacus fortis*). In a related action, on June 14, 2012, the State Water Board issued Order WQ 2012-0008-EXEC continuing the temporary suspension of flushing flows for the Pit 1 Hydroelectric Project (FERC Project No. 2687) through the 2012 calendar year. The continued suspension allows PG&E to continue studies of the effects of flushing flows on the ESA-listed Shasta crayfish. These studies will be used to inform the State Water Board's California Environmental Quality Act analysis of the effects of permanently suspending flushing flows. Additional information can be found on the Division of Water Rights' website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/ceqa_projects.shtml#ferc2687

DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Cleanup and Abatement Account:

- On August 16, 2012, the Division of Financial Assistance (DFA) approved additional funding for CAA 346, Riverdale Community Well Project for \$7,300.
- On August 28, 2012, DFA also approved additional funding for CAA 281, Richgrove Community Services District for \$21,315.
- For other previously approved projects, 20 disbursements were made between August 1, 2012, and August 31, 2012, totaling \$1,622,219.

Site Cleanup Program:

• A total of \$240,986 was collected during the month of August.

Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF):

 On August 14, 2012, DFA, in Determination No. 2012-14, approved \$368,926 in Principle Foregiveness funding from the CWSRF Program for the Bay Foundation of Morro Bay; Implementation Effectiveness Program Project; CWSRF No. C-06-6701-110.

Water Recycling Funding Program (WRFP):

CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE RECYCLED WATER SYSTEM EXPANSION

The Project consists of the expansion of the City's 2.2 MGD Water Reclamation Plant, the expansion of the recycled water pump station, conversion of a two million gallon potable water reservoir to a recycled water reservoir, and the installation of approximately 50,000 linear feet of recycled water distribution pipelines. These improvements will double the treatment plant capacity for production of recycled water and deliver 932 AFY of additional recycled water to schools, residential communities, municipal facilities, golf courses, commercial and industrial use.

Total CWSRF Financing \$12,370,000

OFFICE OF DELTA WATERMASTER

Informational Report by the Office of Delta Watermaster on Improving Water Right
Enforcement Authority: Senate Bill X7 1, the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Reform Act of 2009 established the position of Delta Watermaster. The Delta Watermaster was granted "specified and delegated authority" from the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) over water diversions in the Delta. The position also requires the Delta Watermaster to submit regular reports to the State Water Board and Delta Stewardship Council on water rights administration, water quality, conveyance operations, and related water rights issues.

On September 19, 2012, the Delta Watermaster will present an informational report on Improving Water Right Enforcement Authority. The report discusses the State Water Board's responsibility to monitor and enforce the terms and conditions of water right permits, licenses, certifications, and registrations and take enforcement action when violations occur. The State Water Board is also responsible for investigating illegal diversions of water. The report evaluates the current processes for penalties and civil liabilities imposed for violations and unlawful diversions of water.

<u>Term 91 Notice</u>: On July 24, 2012, the State Water Board Office of Delta Watermaster mailed 27 water diversion curtailment notices to licensees and permittees within the Delta Watershed to cease diversion of water during August under Standard Term 91. Standard Term 91 prohibits the diversion of water when the State Water Project or Central Valley Project release stored water (supplemental water) to meet water quality objectives in the Delta. On August 23, 2012, the Office of Delta Watermaster mailed a Notice of Cease and Order to a Licensee who failed to comply with Term 91 compliance.

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT

Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) and Cleanup and Abatement Actions During August 2012:

a. ACL Complaint(s) Issued: NONE FOR AUGUST 2012

b. ACL Order(s) Issued:

Region	Discharger/Facility	Violation(s) Addressed	ACL Order Amount	Date Issued	
WATER QUALITY					
2	American Canyon City / WWTP	Effluent limit violations (zinc, BOD, coliform, ammonia, chlorine)	\$6,000 (MMP)	8/7/2012	
2	Browning-Ferris Industries / Corinda Los Trancos Landfill	Effluent limit violations (benzene)	\$3,000 (MMP)	8/13/2012	
2	Phillips 66 Company / San Francisco Refinery	Effluent limit violation (chlorine residual)	\$3,000 (MMP)	8/13/2012	
2	Morton International, Inc., Morton Salt Division / Newark Facility	Effluent limit violations (pH, oil and grease, TSS)	\$3,000 (MMP)	8/20/2012	
4	Liberty Metals	Failure to submit NOI for coverage under general industrial stormwater permit	\$5,000	8/2/2012	
4	West Hollywood City / Library Construction Project	Effluent limit violations (turbidity, TSS, settleable solids)	\$24,000 (MMP)	8/9/2012	
4	California Department of Water Resources / William E Warne Power Plant	Effluent limit violations (copper, lead, zinc, chlorine, tetrachloroethylene, chlorodibromomethane, turbidity, dichlorobromomethane, BOD, dissolved oxygen)	\$429,000 (MMP)	8/14/2012	
4	Bevcon I, LLC / Beverly Connection Mall	Effluent limit violation (chlorine)	\$3,000 (MMP)	8/17/2012	
4	Shell Oil Products – Carson / Shell Carson Distribution Terminal	Effluent limit violations (copper, turbidity, TSS)	\$12,000 (MMP)	8/17/2012	
5S	James G. Sweeney and Amelia Sweeney / Sweeney Dairy	Failure to submit 2010 annual report	\$7650	8/2/2012	
58	Jon Maring and Lee Del Don & Bernard N. and Barbara C. O'Neill Trust / Del Mar Farms	Discharge of sediment-laden water to the Amaral Line, tributary to the San Joaquin River	\$50,600	8/3/2012	
58	Van Leeuwen, Clara / JAB Dairy	Failure to submit 2010 annual report	\$3,700	8/13/2012	
58	Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District / Wastewater Treatment System	6 spills of secondary effluent to surface water (10,531,729 gallons Jan-2010 to Apr-2011)	\$190,000	8/20/2012	
58	Angela Pimentel / Pimentel Dairy	Failure to submit 2010 annual report	\$2,629	8/22/2012	
	WATER RIGHTS— A	IO ACL ORDERS ISSUED AUGUST 2	012		

- b. Cleanup and Abatement Order(s) Issued: NONE FOR AUGUST 2012
- c. Litigation: The Attorney General filed a motion on behalf of the State Water Board to enforce a stipulated penalties clause in the E2C judgment. The motion seeks \$150,000 in stipulated penalties for submitting false invoices.

OFFICE OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

Electronic Self-Monitoring Reporting Program Update: The Water Boards require individual, non-stormwater NPDES permittees to submit electronic self-monitoring reports (eSMRs) to the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS). Until mid-2011, Office of Information Management and Analysis (OIMA) staff focused efforts on getting major dischargers reporting eSMRs to CIWQS. In July 2011, staff initiated eSMR training for the 290 minor dischargers with the goal of training all of them within 12 months, and having all dischargers (major and minor) submitting eSMRS within 60 days of training. To reach this goal, we offered remote training sessions by region via WebEx, significantly reducing staff travel and associated costs. OIMA also offered self-paced training videos via the Water Board's website. Staff also provided one-on-one training sessions for the few dischargers who required additional assistance.

To date, staff has met the training goal. As of August 21, 2012, all major and minor dischargers have been trained by Water Board staff, and have received written notification of their requirement to submit eSMRs. Excluding dischargers who met the criteria for having their electronic reporting requirement waived and dischargers whose reporting deadline has yet to pass, 91% of our dischargers now submit eSMRs.

eSMR is environmentally friendly and allows us to better utilize point source data. Having dischargers submit data electronically eliminates the need for staff to perform hard copy report processing and review. Through eSMR, the data now appear in a format that is easy for staff and the public to analyze. This streamlines compliance assessment and populates our performance reports. We can perform trend analyses and see changes over time. In addition, in the next few months the receiving water data will be ported to the California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) for use in larger assessments such as the Integrated Report and the My Water Quality portals. The data can be queried by regulated facility, constituent, waterbody or hydrologic unit, to manage from a watershed perspective. The public can access the eSMR at-a-glance query tool at

http://ciwqs.waterboards.ca.gov/ciwqs/readOnly/PublicReportEsmrAtGlanceServlet?inCommand=reset

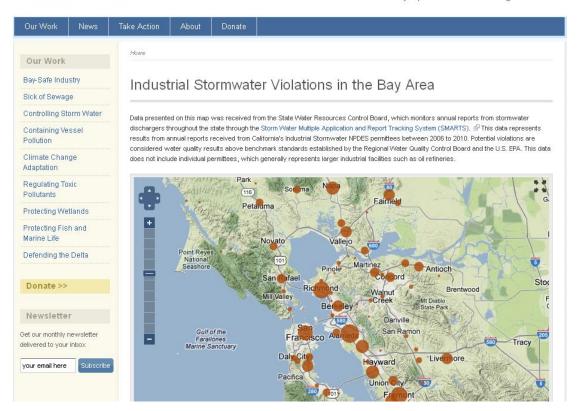
San Franciso Baykeeper Makes Use of CIWQS and SMARTS Regulatory Data:

Baykeeper scientist, Ian Wren has been using data pulled from the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) and Stormwater Multiple Application and Report Tracking System (SMARTS), two of the Water Boards' regulatory databases, to develop several mapping tools. These maps include turbidity data from construction stormwater sites, industrial stormwater violations in the Bay Area, ammonia discharges to the San Francisco Bay, and sewage spills occurring in the Bay Area in 2012 by district. The map in the screen shot below is created from annual report data in the SMARTS database. Each circle represents a city. Clicking on the circle drills to more information about the industrial stormwater dischargers within that city and shows the number of exceedances of permit benchmarks for each discharger. This has proven a helpful tool for Baykeeper staff, but could also prove an effective tool for Water Board staff in determining which facilities need inspection.



San Francisco Bay's pollution watchdog since 1989

SEARCH



This map can be found at: http://baykeeper.org/mapping/stormwater/all-cities.

OFFICE OF RESEARCH, PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE

<u>Water Board Academy</u>: The following table includes highlights of our recent and ongoing classes.

Current classes	
	Analytical Laboratory Tour What happens to a water quality sample when it reaches the laboratory? In this ½ day class students gain a better understanding of analytical laboratory processes and the conditions under which laboratory analyses are performed, monitored, recorded and reported. Students also learn about the importance of quality systems to ensure that data is accurate within reported limits and is representative of environmental samples using standardized methods. This course is designed to be beneficial for everyone who uses water quality analytical data.
	Water Board Enforcement Staff Training The Office of Enforcement is conducting enforcement training for and the Southern California Regional Water Board enforcement staff. It will focus on tools to identify property, assets, and responsible parties, warrants and inspections, and multi-agency prosecutions. It will provide a two year update on the Enforcement Policy, discuss specific information needed to do a BEN/ABEL analysis, and teach effective techniques for cross examination and depositions.
Recent classes	Job Search Jump Start, Resume Writing and Interviewing Skills This series of 3 half-day classes helped prepare our students to find new jobs. The introductory session taught students to outline a career transition plan to better target their job search, to identify ways to show employers they are the best person for the job, to make use of your most powerful job source - the people they know, and to leverage Social media. "Resume Writing" was designed for anyone needing to create or update their resume for an upcoming interview and help students create a market-driven resume that will distinguish them from the competition. "Interview Skills" reviewed different interview formats, the advantages and disadvantages of each and how to best prepare for them. It also taught students what employers are really looking for behind behavioral interview questions and outlined the do's and don'ts of making a positive impression before, during and after the interview.

Appendix 1 Statewide Policies/Significant General Permits

Status Code Key:

White = Active effort (A)	Note: * indicates Board Priority	
Orange= Targeted for completion in 2012 (A-12)	Lavender= Targeted for completion in 2013 (A-13)	
Green= Targeted for completion in 2014 (A-14)		
Grey = Suspended or No statewide effort at this time or Pending (P)		
Blue = Completed 2012, 2011, 2010 (C2012, C2011, C2010)		

Statev	Statewide Policies/Significant General Permits		
Р	Antidegradation Policy / Implementation Triennial Review	(updated: 2012-08-22) Scoping meeting held on 11/17/08. Work delayed by petitions.	
A-12	Aquatic Pesticide General Permit – Weed Control, Aquatic Application	(updated: 2012-08-30) The public notice was published in newspapers and posted on website on July 6, 2012. A public hearing was held on August 7, 2012. Staff plans to present the draft permit to the State Water Board on Nov. 6, 2012 for adoption consideration.	
A-12	Aquifer Storage and Recovery Statewide General WDRs	(updated: 2012-08-30) The draft statewide Order and Initial Study have been publicly noticed and a hearing before the State Water Board is scheduled for September 19, 2012.	
A-13	Bacterial Objectives for Inland Surface Waters	(updated: 2012-07-02) DWQ staff are preparing a draft policy and a staff report for public release targeted for late 2012. Staff anticipates being able to release a policy shortly after U.S. EPA releases the final updated bacteria criteria document which is scheduled for release in October 2012 with the U.S. EPA document being final in December 2012.	
A-12	Biological Objectives Development	(updated: 2012-08-08) The work to establish statewide reference condition is complete. Statewide biological scoring tools based on reference condition currently are being tested. All technical work is scheduled for completion by the end of calendar year 2012. CEQA scoping meetings are scheduled in Riverside on September 5, in Sacramento on September 7, in Redding on September 12, and in Oakland on September 14.	
Р	Blue Green Algae Action Levels	(updated: 2012-07-12) The State Water Board funded OEHHA to develop action Levels for Blue Green Algae toxins (Cyanotoxins) in water and fish. OEHHA completed a draft report, which was then submitted to peer review. The Peer Review was complete in 2011 and the Final Report was completed in May 2012. A possible next step is to adopt statewide objectives for cyanotoxins, pending management prioritization.	
A-13	Cadmium Objective and Implementation Policy	(updated: 2012-08-06) New staff was hired in July to work on this project and is currently reviewing background information.	
Р	Chlorine Residual Objectives and Implementation	(updated: 2012-08-06) Scientific Peer review received. Report and policy will be revised as necessary to address peer review comments. Due to loss of key staff this project is currently on hold.	

A-12	Composting Facilities Statewide General Order	(updated: 2012-08-30) Two public workshops to solicit input on the draft order were held on August 27th and 28th in Sacramento and Riverside, respectively. Staff plan to present the order and the environmental documents to the State Water Board for consideration on October 16, 2012.
A-12	Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC) in Aquatic Ecosystems	(updated: 2012-08-29) The State Water Board received a final report from the scientific advisory panel on April 27, 2012. Staff plans to present an information item on the report at the October 16, 2012, State Board Meeting. The report was partially funded by a grant from the State Water Board.
A-13*	Draft WQCP update for San Joaquin River flows and southern Delta salinity objectives	(updated: 2012-09-04) Draft SED science chapter was released October 29, 2010. Workshop held on SED science chapter January 6 and 7, 2011. Additional scoping meeting held June 6, 2011. Final Draft Technical Appendices released for public review in February 2012. Informational session on economic impacts and hydropower impacts appendices held on March 20, 2012. Draft SED planned for release in fall of 2012 with a workshop in late fall/early winter. Draft plan amendment to be brought to the Board for consideration in early 2013.
A	Grazing	(updated: 2012-08-28) The Water Boards have formed a work team to develop this project (titled Statewide Grazing Regulatory Action Project or Grazing RAP). The work team is under the lead of Region R6 with active participants from R1, R2, R3, R4, R5 and DWQ. The work team has been convened and meets monthly. At the November 2011 MCC meeting, the Grazing RAP workplan and schedule were approved by MCC. As part of the August 2012 update to MCC by the work team, MCC approved the Objectives/Problem Statement and the short summary of the work team's activities to date that will posted on the NPS DWQ website (the first formal public outreach activity) The work team is continuing its work on grazing implementation tools.
A-13	Instream Flow Policy (AB 2121)	(updated: 2012-08-17) The Board adopted the Policy on May 4, 2010. The Division delivered the administrative record to OAL on August 11, 2010. OAL approved the administrative record in September 2010. The Division filed a Notice of Decision with the Secretary for Resources on September 28, 2010. The Alameda Superior Court set aside the Policy on August 9, 2012 for inadequate CEQA compliance. The Board must decide by the 2nd week of October to appeal the decision or vacate the Policy and correct the CEQA deficiencies.
A-13	Integrated Report Adoption (2012)	(updated: 2012-08-30) State Water Board Staff is developing the lines of evidence (LOEs) for the 2012 report. Regional Boards will then review the LOEs and make assessments recommendations. State Board staff will review Regional Board staff's recommendation before Regional Board Staff present their recommendations to their respective Boards for approval. Following approval by all Regional Boards, the State's Integrated Report will be presented to the State Water Board for approval before being sent U.S. EPA. U.S. EPA make the final approval decision on the Integrated Report and may change the State's recommendations.
Р	Listing Policy Update (Sediment Quality Objectives)	(updated: 2012-08-07) CEQA Scoping Meeting held on March 29, 2010. Comment period closed April 12, 2010. Delay due to loss of key staff. Staff has prepared amendment language to address the Sediment Quality Objectives component but further work is contingent on completion of the current 303(d) listing cycle.
Р	Marina Permit	(updated: 2012-08-02) Permit is postponed while working with other agencies and Marina and Boating groups to develop interim approaches.

Р	Mercury Offset Policy	(updated: 2012-06-06) Partial economic analysis received from contractor (SAIC). No further contract funding available to complete economic analysis.	
Α	Mercury TMDL (Reservoirs)	(updated: 2012-08-07) In March 2012, staff held CEQA Scoping meetings in Sacramento, Oakland, Riverside and Redding. Staff has developed a straw policy document for the reservoir TMDL and its implementation plan. The straw policy is currently under review by legal. Staff from regions 2 and 5 is working on a draft staff report (source analysis, linkage, targets, implementation plan) and CEQA analysis, and is coordinating efforts with the State Water Board team working on the methylmercury objectives project.	
А	Methylmercury Objectives	(updated: 2012-07-30) Staff are working on a draft staff report and coordinating with efforts to develop statewide mercury TMDL.	
А	Natural Sources	(updated: 2012-06-06) A draft natural source issue paper has been submitted to the Basin Planning Roundtable for review and comment. Issues include recommendation for how to deal with designations where natural background exceeds the water quality objectives.	
A-13	Nonpoint Source (NPS) Implementation and Enforcement Policy Amendments	(updated: 2012-08-02) The NPS Implementation and Enforcement Policy (NPS Policy) is being updated at the direction of the SWRCB to preclude the use of prohibitions of waste discharge for addressing NPS discharges for those land uses (e.g.; irrigated lands) already covered under other regulatory mechanisms (e.g.; waivers of waste discharge requirements) for which discharger enrollment fees are being assessed. Recommended language to amend the NPS Policy has been provided to OCC for their consideration and comment.	
A	Nutrient Numeric Endpoints Tools	(updated: 2012-08-29) A CEQA Scoping meeting was held on October 27, 2011. Staff is currently working with technical advisory groups to produce an implementation strategy document. U.S. EPA has contracted to have Nutrient Numeric Endpoint protocol updated with results of case studies and lessons learned. Technical aspects are to be peer reviewed by winter 2013.	
A-13*	Ocean Plan Amendment: desal/brine provisions	(updated: 2012-08-30) State Water Board staff is working on amendments to the Water Quality Control Plans for Ocean Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries to address Desalination Facilities and Brines Disposal. The amendment is currently envisioned to contain the following elements: (1) provisions to minimize adverse impacts to aquatic life associated with the intakes for desalination facilities; (2) a narrative water quality objective for salinity to ensure that brine discharges from desalination facilities and other sources do not cause adverse impacts; (3) implementation provisions. Scoping meeting took place on March 30, 2012, and several written comments were received by the April 6, 2012 deadline. The three scientific studies to support the amendments are complete. A Board workshop was held on August 22, 2012, where the results and recommendations from the three projects were presented. During the workshop the three lead scientists from the studies, environmental groups and industry participated.	
A-12	Ocean Plan Amendment: Marine Protected Areas and Water Quality Protection Areas	(updated: 2012-08-28) Draft amendment, draft SED, and public notice released January 12, 2012. The comment period ended April 18, 2012 and several comments were received. The public hearing was held on May 1, 2012. A Board workshop was held on August 22 in the afternoon. The written comment period ends on August 31, 2012. Staff will work on responses to comments and plans to bring for adoption in October 2012.	

A-12	Ocean Plan Amendment: model monitoring and vessel provisions	(updated: 2012-08-28) A Public Hearing was conducted on November 1, 2011. Changes to the draft Substitute Environmental Documentation and staff's proposed changes to the amendments were presented at the Board Workshop on August 22, 2012. The written comment period ended on August 31, 2012. Staff will work on responses to comments and plans to bring for adoption in October 2012.
Р	Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) WDRs/Waiver	(updated: 2012-06-05) Developing concepts for WDRs/waiver for OHVs at State Parks.
A-13	Once-Through Cooling (316b) Policy Amendment	(updated: 2012-08-07) An amendment to change section 3(c), from State to Regional Board re-issuance of NPDES permits for exisiting Once-Through Cooling plants, is planned by staff, based on prioritization by management, for completion in early 2013.
Р	Potable Water General Order	(updated: 2012-06-06) Not assigned due to higher priorities.
A	Rapid Diagnostic Tests for Bacterial Indicators in Coastal Waters	(updated: 2012-06-06) This project is being coordinated by the Southern California Coastal Water Research Project (SCCWRP) in collaboration with the Water Boards. Results and lessons learned transmitted to U.S. EPA for consideration in national standards setting work for a new Rapid Method. The pilot demonstration that began in Orange County (2010) was partially repeated in Los Angeles County in summer 2011. The SCCWRP Task Force, with participants from the Water Boards, will be preparing a final results report in 2012.
A-12	Recycled Water Policy Amendment - Constituents of Emerging Concern	(updated: 2012-08-02) Staff released a draft amendment to the Recycled Water Policy proposing monitoring requirements for constituents of emerging concern in recycled water on May 9, 2012. Written comments on the draft amendment were due on July 3, 2012. Concurrently with the public review, a scientific peer review was conducted on the draft amendment and the scientific advisory panel report with comments due on August 1, 2012. Comments from the peer reviewers and public are being reviewed. The amemendment is scheduled for consideration of adoption on October 16, 2012.
Р	Russian River Frost Protection Regulation	(updated: 2012-08-17) On September 21, 2011, the State Water Board held a hearing during its Board Meeting to hear comments on the proposed adoption of the Russian River Frost Protection Regulation and the Draft Environmental Impact Report prepared in support of that proposed regulation. After hearing, the Board unanimously voted to adopt the proposed regulation with a minor edit and certified the draft EIR. The Board Resolution adopting the proposed regulation and certifying the draft EIR, also directs the Executive Director to prepare a Final Statement of Reasons with required responses to comments and submit the entire rulemaking documents to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for approval. OAL filed the regulation with Secretary of State on December 29, 2011 when it became effective. However, in January 2012, two lawsuits were filed against the regulation and the Mendocino County Superior Court issued an order that stayed the enforcement of the regulation. A court hearing was held in June 2012, and a decision is pending.
A-12	Sanitary Sewer System (SSS) MRP Update	(updated: 2012-08-07) After discussion with Executive Management, staff updated the MRP with expected re-issuance by the Executive Director in November 2012. Staff included inputs from the Office of Enforcement in revising the MRP. Staff will present the draft at stakeholder meetings in Northern and Southern California in late August. A final draft MRP will be routed for management review in September-October 2012.

A-13	Sediment Quality Objectives (SQOs) for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries: Phase II*	(updated: 2012-08-01) Phase II Human Health objectives are in progress. Training sessions for regional board implementation of SQOs being planned. A joint meeting of the advisory committee and the agency coordinating committee took place on May 24, 2012. Staff informed upper management through MCC presentation (July 27, 2012) about the different Tier I, II and III. Staff is working on the suggestions from advisory committee and the agency coordinating group.
A-12*	Storm Water Caltrans Permit	(updated: 2012-08-29) The statewide NPDES permit for discharges by the California Department of Transportation of storm water from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) is being reissued. This permit is commonly referred to as the Caltrans Permit. The current Caltrans Permit (State Water Board Order No. 99-06-DWQ) was issued on July 15, 1999. The current permit regulates all storm water discharges from Caltrans-owned MS4s, maintenance facilities, and construction activities. A draft Tentative Order was released for public review on January 7, 2011. The public comment period closed on March 14, 2011. A public hearing on the draft Tentative Order was held on July 19, 2011. A revised draft Tentative Order was released for public review and comment on August 18, 2011. A workshop on the revised draft was conducted on September 21, 2011. Staff met with Caltrans on a bi-weekly basis in October through December 2011, to identify and resolve concerns upraised at the hearing, workshop, and in written comments. A second revised draft tentative order was posted for public comment on April 27, 2012, and a staff workshop was held on May 21, 2012. The comment period for the second revised draft closed on June 26, 2012. A public hearing was held on August 7, 2012. The State Water Board will consider the adoption of this permit at its September 19, 2012 meeting.
A-12*	Storm Water Construction General Permit Amendments (NELs removed)	(updated: 2012-08-02) Staff prepared an amendment to the State Water Board to delete narrative effluent limits to respond to a decision by Superior Court. The State Water Board adopted amendments to the Construction General Permit on July 17, 2012. Staff is waiting for the Order number from the Clerk to publish the final documents.
A-12	Storm Water Industrial General Permit	(updated: 2012-08-29) Released on January 28, 2011. Staff workshops held February 14 and 23, 2011. Additional on-line staff workshop scheduled for March 15, 2011. Public Hearing conducted on March 29, 2011. Permit was revised to address the comments received during 2011 and was noticed for public comment on July 18, 2012. The public comment period originally scheduled to close on September 21, 2012 has been extended to October 22, 2012. Staff workshops were held on August 8, 2012 in Diamond Bar and August 10, 2012 in Sacramento. A public hearing has been scheduled for October 17, 2012.
A-12*	Storm Water MS4 Phase II Permit	(updated: 2012-08-29) The draft permit was revised to address comments received during 2011. The revised draft permit was noticed for public comment on May 21, 2012. Public comment period closed on July 23, 2012 and a Public Hearing was held on August 8, 2012. The revised draft permit will be presented to the State Water Board for consideration of adoption on December 5, 2012.
A	Storm Water Statewide Permitting (MS4 Phase 1)	(updated: 2012-06-06) Staff are meeting with stakeholders to determine how to improve statewide permitting consistency for Phase 1 Storm Water Permits. Options may include a statewide general permit, multi-region permit for coastal southern California or a standard permit template with standard conditions common to all MS4 Phase 1 permits. The workgroup anticipates it will complete the initial stages of this work by September 2012.

Р	Suction Dredge General Permit	(updated: 2012-08-06) Suspended indefinitely now that the suction dredging moratorium has been extended indefinitely. Senate Bill 1018 (ch. 39, stats. 2012) removed the previous date on which the existing suction dredging moratorium had been scheduled to end. Suction dredging, including the method known as "booming", continues to be prohibited within 100 yards of any California river, stream or lake (Fish & G. Code, § 5653 subd. (d).).
A-13	Timber Activities on National Forest System Lands	(updated: 2012-08-28) On December 16, 2011 the Board adopted a mitigated negative declaration for a Statewide Conditional Waiver for USFS, but did not adopt the Waiver. Since then alternatives have been developed including state-wide regulatory actions with the option of exempting certain Regional Boards where the activities do not currently exist. The next step will be a determination of these exempted Regional Boards in consultation with Regional Board AEOs. A new staff person has been hired as the project lead and to address other wildland issues (e.g., forestry and grazing). Individual State Water Board member briefings were scheduled for late August through early September 2012 to present the recommended alternative(s).
Р	Timber Activities on Non-federal Lands	(updated: 2012-08-02) Work with California Board of Forestry, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and Regional Water Boards. Work delayed pending the outcome of a petition.
A-12*	Toxicity Control Provisions for the SIP	(updated: 2012-08-30) In June, staff released for public review the revised policy and supporting documentation. A Board hearing was held on August 21, 2012, concurrent with the close of the public comment period. Staff is currently responding to the 59 comment letters received. Consideration for adoption is expected in fall 2012.
A-13*	Trash Policy	(updated: 2012-08-28) Statewide water quality control plans to be amended to include trash policy. CEQA Scoping Meetings held on October 7, 2010 in Rancho Cordova and October 14, 2010 in Chino. A Public Advisory Group (PAG) has been appointed to provide input to Water Board staff on the development of this policy. PAG met previously on July 26, 2011, August 30, 2011, October 12 and 13, 2011, May 22, 2012 and August 13, 2012. The draft Substitute Environmental Document has been prepared and provided to the PAG for review and comments. Staff expects to release the draft SED and amendments to statewide water quality control plans in October 2012.
A-12	UST LUFT Manual Update	(updated: 2012-06-08) The Leaking Underground Fuel Tank (LUFT) Manual is being updated to reflect the Low-Threat UST Case Closure Policy that was adopted by the Board on May 1, 2012. Targeted for completion in October, 2012.
A-13	Wastewater Discharges to Land (Revision to Order 97- 10) General Order	(updated: 2012-09-05) The draft order and initial study were a topic of discussion at the August 2012 MCC. The permit writing team is waiting for comments from S/RB Management as well as the RB Program Managers and key participants. The comments are due back by September 21st. Then comments will be reviewed and discussed so that the final documents can be prepared for a presentation at the November WDR Roundtable and for a final legal review before public notice beginning about the first week of December.
Р	Water Effects Ratios	(updated: 2012-08-07) No staff assigned and pending completion of other priorities.

A-12	Wetland Area Protection and Dredge and Fill Permitting Policy – Phase I	(updated: 2012-08-06) Phase 1 of the Wetland Area Protection and Dredge and Fill Permitting Policy (Policy/project) now includes all of the following elements: a wetland definition, a wetland delineation method, an assessment and monitoring framework, and supplemental dredge and fill procedures. This is a change from the project description in the 2011 Notice of Preparation (NOP) for the project Environmental Impact Report (EIR). The project description in the NOP included a wetland policy and dredge and fill regulations as separate elements. Now the Policy includes all elements with the addition of the dredge and fill procedures. On March 9, 2012, the draft Policy was posted for public informational purposes only at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/cwa401/wrapp.shtml Since all project elements will be addressed by the Policy, a Substitute Environmental Document (SED) was prepared instead of an EIR. Staff are currently revising the draft Substitute Environmental Document and also finalizing comments on the wetland definition peer review. The Policy and SED are scheduled for public release in fall 2012. A public hearing will be scheduled during the 60-day public comment period.
A	Wetlands and Riparian Areas Policy – Phase II	(updated: 2012-08-02) With U.S. EPA grant funding, preliminary work has begun on Phase II. This work is focused on categorizing wetland beneficial uses.
P	Wetlands and Riparian Areas Policy – Phase III	(updated: 2012-08-02) Pending completion of Phase II.

Policies/General Permits Completed in 2012

	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
C2012	Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS)	General exception adopted by the State Water Board on March 20, 2012, and the State Water Board made non-subtantive edits to the exception in June 2012. Staff is now working with stakeholders on implementation and monitoring. A particluar emphasis is being placed on organizing and approving regional monitoring programs on the southern, central and north coasts.
C2012	Once-Through Cooling (316b) Policy Amendment	Staff released draft amendment on May 17, 2011. Amendments were adopted on July 19, 2011. OAL approved on March 12, 2012.
C2012	Onsite Waste Water Treatment Systems Policy	The Onsite Waste Water Treatment Systems Policy was adopted by the State Water Board On June 19, 2012. Staff are preparing the administrative records to send to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for approval. OAL approval is expected in the later half of September 2012. Staff are working on implementation of the policy.
C2012	UST Low-Threat Case Closure Policy	The Low-Threat UST Case Closure Policy was adopted by the State Water Board on May 1, 2012. OAL approved the administrative record on July 30, 2012. Staff are working on implementation of the policy.
C2012	Aquatic Pesticide General Permit – Aquatic Animal Invasive Species	The State Water Board adopted this permit on March 1, 2012.

Policies/General Permits Completed in 2011

Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
C2011	Aquatic Pesticide General Permit – Aquatic Animal Invasive Species	(updated: 2012-06-05) Adopted by State Water Board on March 1, 2011.
C2011	Aquatic Pesticide General Permit – Vector Control, (Adulticide/Larvicide)	(updated: 2012-06-05) Adopted by State Water Board on March 1, 2011.
C2011	Ocean Plan Triennial Review	(updated: 2012-06-05) Adopted by State Water Board on March 15, 2011.
C2011	Sediment Quality Objectives (SQOs) for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries: Fish and Wildlife	(updated: 2012-08-01) Adopted by State Water Board on April 6, 2011. Approved by the Office of Administrative Law on June 13, 2011. Staff has submitted to U.S. EPA.
C2011	Aquatic Pesticide General Permit – Spray Applications Permit (CDFA and USDA-Forest Services)	(updated: 2012-06-05) Adopted by State Water Board on March 1, 2011.
C2011	Storm Water MS4 Effectiveness Assessment Document (AB 739, Ch. 610, Statutes of 2007)	(updated: 2012-06-05) On October 27, 2010, staff issued a revised Notice of Staff Workshops and Opportunity for Public Comment on draft document. Workshops scheduled for November 4 in Sacramento and November 9 in Rancho Cucamonga. Comments were due 12:00 noon on November 30, 2010. Information Item presented to the Board on April 19, 2011.
C2011	Integrated Report Adoption (2010)	(updated: 2012-08-07) Board approved 303(d) list on August 4, 2010. Transmitted to U.S. EPA on October 13, 2010, and awaiting their approval. On October 11, 2011, U.S.EPA issued its final decision regarding the water bodies and pollutants added to the California 303(d) List.
C2011	Leaking Underground Fuel Tank (LUFT) Manual	(updated: 2012-06-05) The LUFT manual was drafted as a guidance document with state-of-the-art information on the cleanup of leaking UST sites. The LUFT manual is considered a draft/evergreen document that will be updated periodically in response to comments.

Policies/General Permits Completed in 2010

	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
C2010	Once-Through Cooling (316b) Policy*	(updated: 2012-06-06) Approved by Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on September 27, 2010. Effective date October 1, 2010. Staff is working with stakeholders and state agencies on implementation.
C2010	Once-Through Cooling (316b) Policy Limited Revisions	(updated: 2012-06-05) Adoption Hearing held on December 14, 2010. No changes made to Policy.
C2010	South Bay Power Plant	(updated: 2012-06-05) Notice of Cancellation of Public Hearing issued on November 2, 2010 due to permit application withdrawal.

	Division of Water Rights						
Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status	Statewide Collaborative Project	Lead	Active Participants		
(A-13*)	Draft WQCP update for San Joaquin River flows and southern Delta salinity objectives	Draft SED science chapter was released October 29, 2010. Workshop held on SED science chapter January 6 and 7, 2011. Additional scoping meeting held June 6, 2011. Final Draft Technical Appendices released for public review in February 2012. Informational session on economic impacts and hydropower impacts appendices held on March 20, 2012. Draft SED planned for release in fall of 2012 with a workshop in late fall/early winter. Draft plan amendment to be brought to the Board for consideration in early 2013.	Yes	SB (DWR) Diane Riddle	SB (DWR) Bay Delta Unit, R5 Jerry Bruns		
(P)	Russian River Frost Protection Regulation	On September 21, 2011, the State Water Board held a hearing during its Board Meeting to hear comments on the proposed adoption of the Russian River Frost Protection Regulation and the Draft Environmental Impact Report prepared in support of that proposed regulation. After hearing, the Board unanimously voted to adopt the proposed regulation with a minor edit and certified the draft EIR. The Board Resolution adopting the proposed regulation and certifying the draft EIR, also directs the Executive Director to prepare a Final Statement of Reasons with required responses to comments and submit the entire rulemaking documents to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for approval. OAL filed the regulation with Secretary of State on December 29, 2011 when it became effective. However, in January 2012, two lawsuits were filed against the regulation and the Mendocino County Superior Court issued an order that stayed the enforcement of the regulation. A court hearing was held in June, 2012, and a decision is pending.	No	SB (DWR) John O'Hagan	SB (DWR) Aaron Miller, Jim Kassel SB (OCC) David Rose		

A-13	Instream Flow Policy	The Board adopted the Policy on May 4, 2010.	No	SB (DWR)	SB (DWR) Kathy Washburn,
	(AB 2121)	The Division delivered the administrative record to		Phil Crader	Karen Niiya,
		OAL on August 11, 2010. OAL approved the			
		administrative record in September 2010. The			SB (OCC) Dana Heinrich
		Division filed a Notice of Decision with the			
		Secretary for Resources on September 28, 2010.			
		The Alameda Superior Court set aside the Policy			
		on August 9, 2012 for inadequate CEQA			
		Compliance. The Board must decide by the 2 nd			
		week of October to appeal the decision or vacate			
		the Policy and correct the CEQA deficiencies.			

Status Code Key:

White = Active effort (A)	
Orange = Targeted for completion in 2012 (A-12)	
Orange – Targeted for completion in 2012 (A-12)	
Lavender = Targeted for completion in 2013 (A-13)	
Green = Targeted for completion in 2014 (A-14)	
Blue = Completed 2012, 2011, 2010 (C2012, C2011, C2010)	
Gray = Suspended or No statewide effort at this time or Pending (P)	
Note: * indicates Board Priority	

APPENDIX 2

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

This month's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) monthly report covers the August 2012 period and provides an update on the activities of the North Coast, San Francisco, Central Coast, Los Angeles, Colorado River Basin, Santa Ana, and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Boards) ILRPs.

Future monthly reports will alternate between the status of the ILRP from the Central Valley Regional Water Board for one month, and the status of other Regional Water Board ILRPs for the alternate month. Current and past ILRP monthly reports can be found on the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) ILRP website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water issues/programs/agriculture/

For additional information on the statewide ILRP, please contact State Water Board staff:

Johnny Gonzales (916) 341-5510 <u>jgonzales@waterboards.ca.gov</u> Gita Kapahi (916) 341-5501 <u>jgonzales@waterboards.ca.gov</u>

ILRP contact information for each Regional Water Board is found at the end of each report below.

NORTH COAST REGION AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY PROGRAM

Water Quality Compliance Program for Discharges from Agricultural Lands
Staff of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board are developing a water quality
compliance program to address water quality impacts associated with discharges from
agricultural lands.

To help develop the program, staff has formed a stakeholder advisory group composed of representatives from various interests related to agriculture in the North Coast Region. The group's purpose is to provide input to Regional Water Board staff on the different elements of the program. The advisory group meets as a full group and also as subgroups representing four different geographic areas in the North Coast Region. Advisory group meetings started in December 2011 and are scheduled through summer 2013, with a Regional Water Board adoption hearing scheduled for fall 2013.

Staff is currently working on updating the draft program scope and framework document based on comments received at the June 26, 2012 full advisory group meeting. The revisions will be sent to the advisory group by August 31, 2012. Staff and the advisory group will then begin discussing the next draft program document that will address program enrollment and permit requirements. A draft enrollment and permitting requirements document will be provided to the advisory group for comment prior to another round of subgroup meetings in October 2012. Staff will receive comments from the subgroups at those meetings and make revisions to the draft to prepare it for the next full advisory group meeting that will be held in spring 2013. These draft program documents will be used to develop the draft permit language of the primary permitting mechanism for the Agricultural Lands Discharge Program.

For additional information on the North Coast Regional Water Board's water quality compliance program for discharges from agricultural lands, please see the following website or contact Ben Zabinsky at BZabinsky@waterboards.ca.gov or (707) 576-6750.

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/agricultural_lands/

SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

CONDITIONAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR GRAZING OPERATIONS IN THE TOMALES BAY WATERSHED No update for this period.

CONDITIONAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS (WDRs) FOR GRAZING OPERATIONS IN THE NAPA RIVER AND SONOMA CREEK WATERSHEDS

Background

The State Water Board adopted a Conditional Waiver of WDRs for Grazing Activities in the Napa River and Sonoma Creek Watersheds (Napa/Sonoma Grazing Waiver) in September 2011. The Napa/Sonoma Grazing Waiver implements the Napa River Sediment and Pathogen Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), the Sonoma Creek Sediment and Pathogen TMDLs, and anticipates implementation of the nutrient TMDLs that are in development for both watersheds. The Napa/Sonoma Grazing Waiver was modeled after the Tomales Bay Grazing Waiver and hence, shares the common goals of reducing and controlling the discharge of sediment, nutrients, and pathogens to receiving waters, in this case the Napa River and Sonoma Creek watersheds and its tributaries.

Ranchers in the Napa River and Sonoma Creek watershed that have grazing operations that meet the eligibility criteria of the permit are required to enroll in ILRP. They must prepare a Ranch Plan, or amend an existing plan, and provide an implementation schedule for the management practices identified in the plan. Unlike the Tomales Bay Grazing Waiver, the Napa/Sonoma Grazing Waiver applies only to ranches larger than 100 acres in size, based on recommendations from the Technical Advisory Group which concluded that ranches 100 acres or larger account for approximately 90 percent of all the grazing lands acreage in the Napa River and Sonoma Creek Watersheds.

Outreach

Regional Water Board staff continues working with UC Cooperative Extension (UCCE), and the Napa and Sonoma Resource Conservation Districts in identifying and contacting eligible ranch operations that have yet to enroll in the Grazing Program. Nine months following Board adoption of the Waiver, of the approximately 50 ranch operations potentially subject to the Napa/Sonoma Grazing Waiver, 36 (72 percent) are currently enrolled in our program. Twenty-two operations are enrolled in the Napa River watershed and 14 operations in the Sonoma Creek watershed.

Next Steps

Staff estimates that approximately seven ranch operations per watershed have yet to enroll in ILRP. To capture these 14 operations, our next steps will include verification of existing ranches via Napa and Sonoma County Planning Department file reviews and Geographic Information Systems mapping, and potential enforcement actions, including but not limited to, targeted field inspections to confirm the existence of waiver-eligible ranches, followed by targeted enforcement (Notices to Comply and/or Notices of Violation to facilitate enrollment in the program).

Additional information about the Napa/Sonoma Grazing Waiver may be found at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/TMDLs/grazing/index.shtml

CONDITIONAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR VINEYARDS IN THE NAPA RIVER AND SONOMA CREEK WATERSHEDS (VINEYARD WAIVER)

Background

Regional Water Board staff is developing a conditional waiver of WDRs for vineyards and roads (Vineyard Waiver) in the Napa River and Sonoma Creek watersheds. This Vineyard Waiver will require that effective management practices be implemented to control discharges of pollutants from vineyard facilities and it will apply to existing vineyards, vineyard replants, and new vineyards. The Vineyard Waiver will affect about 67,000 acres of planted vineyards in the two watersheds.

Stakeholder Advisory Group and Outreach

Regional Water Board staff created a stakeholder advisory group in 2011 to help refine the requirements and conditions of the draft Vineyard Waiver. The stakeholder advisory group is comprised of representatives from Napa and Sonoma counties, Sonoma County Grape Growers, Napa County Vintners, Sonoma and Napa County Farm Bureau, the Resource Conservation Districts, UC Cooperative Extension, other agencies, and environmental groups.

Since our last stakeholder advisory group meeting on May 15, 2012, Regional Water Board staff has revised the draft Vineyard Waiver to incorporate their concerns and has scheduled an additional follow-up advisory group meeting for August 21 to discuss the changes staff made to the Vineyard Waiver.

Regional Water Board staff has met on several occasions with parities that are interested in developing third-party technical assistance groups, as well as individuals concerned with how compliance with the permit could affect their current operations, and/or limit future efforts to expand or replant their vineyards.

Next Steps

The next step is completion of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) analysis and preparation of a public review draft of the Vineyard Waiver for public comment in early to mid-October. Adoption of the Vineyard Waiver is tentatively scheduled for December.

Additional Information

Additional information about the Vineyard Waiver may be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/water_issues/programs/TMDLs/vineyard/index.shtml

CENTRAL COAST REGION AGRICULTURAL REGULATORY PROGRAM

Petitions for Review of Agricultural Order No. R3-2012-0011

The State Water Board received five petitions for review of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's Order No. R3-2012-0011, Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands, and Monitoring and Reporting Program Order Nos. R3-2012-0011-01, R3-2012-0011-02, and R3-2012-0011-03 (Agricultural Order).

On August 30, 2012 the State Water Board held a hearing to consider issuance of a stay of certain provisions of the Agricultural Order. To review the petitions and the Hearing Notice, please go to the Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public notices/petitions/water quality/a2209centralcoast ag.sht ml

Implementation Update

<u>Updates to Monitoring and Reporting Program Add Time and Flexibility for Growers</u>
On August 19, 2012, the Central Coast Regional Water Board updated the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) for Agricultural Order R3-2012-0011. The changes relate to groundwater and photo monitoring and reporting requirements due this calendar year and are summarized below. The changes provide additional time, flexibility, and cost savings for growers to comply with the Agricultural Order. The updated MRPs for the Agricultural Order are posted on the State Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/ag_waivers/index.shtml

Groundwater Sampling Timeframe:

This change affects all growers enrolled in the Agricultural Order (Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3). Growers now have additional time to sample groundwater wells. The first round of sampling must be conducted from September – December 2012. The second round of sampling must be conducted from March – June 2013. See changes in MRP Part 2A (3).

Groundwater Depth Measurement:

This change affects all growers enrolled in the Agricultural Order (Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3). Growers <u>DO NOT</u> have to measure depth to groundwater during groundwater monitoring. See changes in MRP Part 2A (2) and Table 3.

Groundwater Reporting:

This change affects all growers enrolled in the Agricultural Order (Tier 1, Tier 2, and Tier 3). Growers DO NOT have to submit photos of well condition and backflow prevention by October 1, 2013. Growers must maintain digital photos in the Farm Plan and submit upon request. See changes in MRP Part 2B.

Photo Monitoring and Reporting:

This change affects Tier 2 and Tier 3 growers who have a farm or ranch that contains or is adjacent to a creek impaired for sediment, turbidity, or temperature. Growers DO NOT have to submit photos to the Regional Water Board with the Annual Compliance Form. Growers must maintain digital photos in the Farm Plan and submit upon request. See changes in MRP Part 2A (2) and Table 3. Photo monitoring protocols approved by the Executive Officer are now available on the Regional Water Board's website.

Annual Compliance Form

Staff has completed the Annual Compliance Form and beta-testing with selected growers enrolled in the Agricultural Order. The Annual Compliance Form will be available to growers in GeoTracker in early September. Staff has scheduled a workshop for technical assistance providers to learn about the Annual Compliance Form and is also scheduling workshops to provide compliance assistance to growers.

<u>Compliance Assistance – Groundwater Monitoring</u>

On July 25, 2012, staff held a workshop for laboratories and consultants interested in providing growers with groundwater monitoring and data submittal services, in compliance with the Agricultural Order. State Water Board staff, Mr. Hamid Foolad, presented an overview of the GeoTracker data management system and the Electronic Submittal of Information requirements process to upload grower groundwater data.

The Regional Water Board is in the process of providing \$10,000 in grant funds to provide free groundwater sampling and data collection services for limited resource farmers. The compliance assistance program prioritizes small and/or economically disadvantaged growers who qualify as "Limited Resource Farmers/Ranchers or Socially Disadvantaged Operators" as defined by the U.S Department of Agriculture.

Enforcement

Staff issued administrative civil liability complaints to six growers for failure to pay cooperative program monitoring fees and individual monitoring reports. For more information, please go to the Regional Water Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml

For additional information on the Central Coast Regional Water Board's Agricultural Regulatory Program, please contact Ms. Angela Schroeter at (805) 542-4644 or by email at ASchroeter@waterboards.ca.gov.

LOS ANGELES REGION CONDITIONAL WAIVER FOR IRRIGATED LANDS

Compliance with the Renewed Conditional Waiver

The Nursery Growers Association Los Angeles County Irrigated Lands Group (NGA-ILG) and the Ventura County Agriculture Irrigated Lands Group (VCAILG) are the two discharger groups in the Los Angeles Region that have formed to comply with the Conditional Waiver. To comply with the 2010 Conditional Waiver, water quality monitoring must be performed at representative sites twice during the dry season and twice during the wet season. This data is then reported to the Regional Water Board in Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR). NGA-ILG submitted an AMR for the 2011-2012 sampling season to Regional Water Board staff on June 29, 2012. Staff is still reviewing the document. VCAILG submitted their preliminary data from one wet season and two dry season events on August 16, 2012. VCAILG also made a request to alter the submittal dates for their annual reports and Water Quality Management Plans (WQMP). Staff reviewed the request and approved the changes in reporting dates on August 3, 2012. The first AMR from VCAILG is now due February 26, 2013, and the first WQMP will be due March 15, 2013.

Chronic toxicity testing is required to evaluate compliance with the narrative toxicity objective in the Basin Plan. During the first year of sampling, the discharger must conduct toxicity tests on three different species to determine which is the most sensitive. Once the most sensitive

species is determined, further chronic toxicity tests will be conducted only on that one species. VCAILG submitted the results from their three species chronic toxicity tests and gave recommendations for the most sensitive species on June 18, 2012. Regional Water Board staff reviewed the results and sent an approval letter for the single species recommendations on June 28, 2012.

The discharger groups are currently complying with water quality management plans (WQMPs) that were developed in accordance with the previous waiver.

Enrollment

Regional Water Board staff sent Notices to Re-enroll in the Conditional Waiver to over 300 growers in Ventura County on April 16, 2012. The Regional Water Board has received dozens of calls and letters in response to the Notice, and VCAILG informed staff that as of August 2, 2012, 114 more growers have enrolled in the Conditional Waiver as a result of the notices.

Staff has conducted meetings with NGA-ILG representatives to determine the best way to improve enrollment in Los Angeles County. A list of growers who should be regulated under the Waiver is currently being updated by Regional Water Board staff with the assistance of NGA-ILG. Growers who have received several notices to comply will be targeted for enforcement action during the fall of 2012.

Education Workshops

VCAILG submitted requests for approval of seven educational events for growers in Ventura County to be conducted September through November 2012. NGA-ILG also organized a nursery seminar at Pierce College on July 17, 2012, which Regional Water Board staff attended. Since renewal of the waiver, both VCAILG and NGA-ILG have provided numerous opportunities for their members to receive all eight hours of education credit required by the Conditional Waiver.

Grant Management

Staff continues to manage a Clean Water Act section 319(h) grant for grower education and outreach to implement best management practices (BMPs) in the Calleguas Creek and Santa Clara River Watersheds. Staff is working with the grantee to ensure that the grant effectively implements the renewed Los Angeles Region Conditional Waiver for Irrigated Lands, and specifically implements BMPs according to VCAILG's WQMP.

Staff is overseeing a Proposition 84 grant for a mobile irrigation laboratory to improve irrigation efficiency on farms in Ventura County (Grant Agreement No. 10-417-554). The grantee is the Ventura County Resource Conservation District (RCD). Under the grant, RCD staff travels to farms, evaluates irrigation efficiency, recommends improvements, and provides cost share funding to implement the recommended improvements. The goal of the grant is to reduce dryweather loading of agriculture-related pollutants. Regional Water Board staff attended one of the evaluations of a small avocado orchard on August 8, 2012.

On March 7, 2012, a new Clean Water Act section 319(h) grant was executed for the purpose of identifying the contribution of and reducing metal loadings from nurseries and other irrigated agricultural lands in the San Gabriel River Watershed (Grant Agreement No. 11-098-554). The grantee is the Council for Watershed Health. The grantee will identify priority locations for BMP implementation, implement procedural BMPs at the priority locations, evaluate BMP

effectiveness, and submit an Implementation Recommendation Report to Regional Water Board staff. The grantee submitted their first invoice and progress report on April 19, 2012.

For additional information on the Los Angeles Region Conditional Waiver for Irrigated Lands, please contact Jenny Newman at (213) 576-6691 jnewman@waterboards.ca.gov or Barbara Barry at (213) 576-6681 bbarry@waterboards.ca.gov.

COLORADO RIVER BASIN CONDITIONAL WAIVER FOR AGRICULTURAL DISCHARGES

Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board staff has prepared draft Board Order R7-2012-0047, a proposed Conditional Waiver of WDRs for agricultural wastewater discharges and discharges of wastes from drain operation and maintenance activities within the Palo Verde Valley and Mesa, Riverside and Imperial Counties. A workshop on the Waiver Program was held in Blythe at the Palo Verde Irrigation District's office on August 23, 2012. A second workshop is scheduled for September 11, 2012, at the Blythe City Hall. CEQA documents and a staff report are currently out for public review. The Regional Water Board intends to consider adopting the Conditional Waiver during a public hearing on September 20, 2012 in Palm Desert.

Regional Water Board staff has contacted the Bard Water District in Imperial County to initiate a Conditional Waiver of WDRs for this area across the Colorado River from Yuma, Arizona. A CEQA scoping meeting will be scheduled for September 2012.

For additional information on the Colorado River Basin Conditional Waivers for agricultural discharges, please contact Mr. Doug Wylie at (760) 776-8960, or by email at dwylie@waterboards.ca.gov.

SANTA ANA REGION CONDITIONAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR AGRICULTURAL DISCHARGES (CWAD PROGRAM)

Regional Water Board staff has developed a "CWAD Program Advisory Group" which consists of about 20 members including agricultural farmers, local growers, industry groups, and major stakeholders. The last CWAD advisory group meeting was held on August 16, 2012. The following topics were discussed:

- 1. CWAD Program updates.
- 2. The revised CWAD Program schedule.
- 3. Use of reclaimed water for crop irrigation in the project watershed areas.
- 4. Issues related to excessive manure dumping in in the project watershed areas.
- 5. Mr. Johnny Gonzales from the State Water Board gave a presentation on agricultural related water quality projects under the National Water Quality Initiative program, which drew much interest from the group members.
- 6. The internal draft agricultural conditional waiver and draft CEQA Negative Declaration, which is currently circulating in-house for edits, comments and revisions.

Next CWAD advisory group meeting is scheduled on Thursday, November 15, 2012, at Riverside County Farm Bureau office.

For more information, please contact:

Athar Khan 951 782-3219 <u>akhan@waterboards.ca.gov</u>
Mark Adelson 951 782-3234 <u>madelson@waterboards.ca.gov</u>

SAN DIEGO WATER BOARD IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

No report submitted.

For additional information on the San Diego Regional Water Boards Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program, please contact Mr. Roger Mitchell at (858) 467-2724 or by email at rmitchell@waterboards.ca.gov.