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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 9, 2005

Prepared on August 12, 2005

ITEM NUMBER: 31

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report to the Board

Brief discussion of some items of interest to the Board follows. Upon request, staff can provide more detailed information about any particular item.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS

[Sandy Cheek 805/542-4633]

In general, staff recommends "Standard Certification" when the applicant proposes adequate mitigation. Measures included in the application must assure that beneficial uses will be protected, and water quality standards will be met.

Conditional Certification is appropriate when a project may adversely impact surface water quality. Conditions allow the project to proceed under an Army Corps permit, while upholding water quality standards.

Staff will recommend "No Action" when no discharge or adverse impacts are expected. Generally, a project must provide beneficial use and habitat enhancement for no action to be taken by the Regional Board. A chart on the following pages lists applications received from June 1, 2005 to July 31, 2005.

WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION APPLICATIONS RECEIVED FROM JUNE 1, 2005 THROUGH JULY 31, 2005

Applicant	Project	Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Received	Action
Pacific Gas and Electric Company	Pacific Gas and Electric Company's 34-inch Gas Line Pigging Project - "B" Line	Pigging activities on PG&E's 34" gas line 300B, and to repair the gas line according to the results from the pigging activities.	PG & E 34" Gas Line 300B	Fresno County to San Benito County	About 78 creeks	08-Jun-05	Pending
County of Monterey - Enrique Saavedra	State Route 68/Laureles Grade - Intersection Improvement Project	Modify the 3-way intersection of SR-68 and Laureles Grade.	Between cities of Salinas and Monterey	Monterey County	Tributary to Canyon Del Rey, and ultimately into Monterey Bay	08-Jun-05	Standard Certification 7/21/05
Mike Harrod - Althouse and Meade, Inc.	Cool Valley Estates (Harrod Tract 2609)	Construct a new city street across an ephemeral drainage. Place a 42" CPP culvert to convey storm flow under the new street.	Paso Robles	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed tributary to Stoney Creek	17-Jun-05	Pending
Central Coast Water Authority	2005 Wiester Abandoned Pipeline Removal (Santa Ynez River)	Removal of 850' of abandoned, and emptied pipeline and three 20' "I" beams.	Buellton	Santa Barbara	Santa Ynez River	29-Jun-05	Pending
California Polytechnic State University	Farm Shop Storage Building Removal	Demolition and removal of storage building. Enhance the riparian corridor, instream gradient control and improvement of fish habitat.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Brizzolara Creek	30-Jun-05	Pending
C.S. Nino Builders Corp.	Posada Tract 2549	Culvert extension, storm drain outfall, fill and grading for construction.	Templeton	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed tributary to Toad Creek	05-Jul-05	Pending

Jim Mazza - The Land Trust of Santa Barbara County	El Capitan Creek Bridge Crossing	Remove "Arizona" crossing and replace with 42-foot span concrete bridge for the purpose of restoring the fish migratory path of El Capital Creek.	Gaviota	Santa Barbara	Pacific Ocean	30-Jun-05	Pending
Martin Resorts	Shore Cliff Lodge	Sea wall and storm drain repair	Pismo Beach	San Luis Obispo	Pacific Ocean	01-Jul-05	Pending
Chad Wittstrom	South El Pomar Box Culvert Installation Vesting Tentative parcel Map CO 04-0530	Install an aluminum box culvert into an un-named seasonal drainage. Fill will be placed at the back of the headwall on the existing bank to raise the grade for the driveway crossing	Templeton	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed drainage to the Salinas River.	01-Jul-05	Pending
County of San Mateo, Department of Public Works (Mark Chow)	Upper Gazos Creek Road Culvert Replacements	Replaced six culverts and associated headwalls.	Gazos Creek Road, east of Cloverdale Road	San Mateo	Gazos Creek	05-Jul-05	Pending
Ron Walsh - Monterey Bay Area Council, Boy Scouts	Camp Pico Blanco Steelhead Passage Improvement and Habitat Enhancement	Modify an existing flashboard dam structure, and impoundment area, to improve juvenile and adult fish passage. Install habitat enhancement structures in the vicinity of flashboard dam.	Big Sur Coast/Big Sur Quandrangle	Monterey	Little Sur River, tributary to the Pacific Ocean	07-Jul-05	Pending
Michael English	Marquita Industrial Park	Install an onsite conveyance system and catch basin designed for a 25-year storm event, and to perform as a detention basin with limited discharge into the unnamed tributary to the Salinas River.	Templeton/Paso Robles	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed tributary to the Salinas River	08-Jul-05	Pending

National Park Service - Channel Islands National Park	Installation of two Bridges on Santa Rosa Island, Channel Islands National Park	Install two bridges on Santa Rosa Island.	Santa Rosa Island, Channel Islands National Park	Santa Barbara	Cherry Creek and Windmill Creek	14-Jul-05	Pending
Plains Exploration and Production (PXP)	Battles Pipeline Removal	Remove, or abandon in place, out of service 6" pipeline from Lompoc and Gas Plant (LOGP) to the Stubblefield	Lompoc to Orcutt	Santa Barbara	San Antonio Creek, Unnamed Tributary of Santa Ynez River, Stubblefield Creek, and Harris Creek	13-Jul-05	Pending
Santa Barbara County Public Works Department	Gaviota Bridge Replacement Project	Replace existing bridge and roadway with a full span structure, elevated roadway, rock slope protection, temporary detour road, and reconfigured Park entrance. Project includes placement of two piers, dewatering, channel desilting and habitat restoration.	Gaviota State Park	Santa Barbara	Gaviota Creek	12-Jul-05	Pending
Joe McCarthy - The McCarthy Ranch	McCarthy Business Park	Construction of two bridge crossings over Princevalle Drain, and one storm drain outfall along the Mille Slough. Additionally, the proponent proposes to widen the entire Pricevalle Drain channel on the site as part of the City of Gilroy's capital improvement projects.	City of Gilroy	Santa Clara	Miller Slough, and Princevalle Drain (Tributaries to the Pajaro River)	18-Jul-05	Pending

Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI)	Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) Monterey Accelerated Research System (MARS) Project.	The goal of this project is to install and operate a single submarine fiber optic cable route tied to the end of an offshore pipeline to the north of MBARI facilities off Moss Landing (Monterey Bay).	Moss Landing	Monterey	Pacific Ocean, Monterey Bay	21-Jul-05	Pending
Redtree Properties, LP (Baycreek, LLC)	Capitola Center Renovation	To install a silting and grease trap and rock energy dissipater to the City of Capitola, California's approved remodel and expansion of the Capitola Center (Nob Hill) Shopping Center.	Capitola	Santa Cruz	Soquel Creek (Tributary to Monterey Bay)	26-Jul-05	Pending
Broad Street Partners, LP	Broad Street Partners, LP	Replace existing bridge with a new structure that completely spans the drainage. Enhance drainage with riparian landscape plantings and removal of exotic plants. Remove old bridge abutments from banks. Install utility pipeline underground and two storm flow outlets. Create 252 square feet of compensatory mitigation area at each work site by expanding channel bottom.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Orcutt Creek	25-Jul-05	Pending

City of Atascadero	Atascadero Creek, City Annex Building, Bank Stabilization	Stabilize Atascadero Creek bank under City Hall Annex building.	Atascadero	San Luis Obispo	Atascadero Creek to Salinas Creek	25-Jul-05	Pending
Santa Barbara Waterfront Department	Sediment Management Plan	Maintain ideal beach controus, groom beaches, and maintain stormdrain outlets in the vicinity of the Santa Barbara Waterfront.	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	Pacific Ocean	27-Jul-05	Pending

Watershed Reports

Storm Water Municipal General Permit [Jennifer Bitting, 805/549-3334]

Phase II Regulations required designated small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) to obtain coverage under a State Board issued general permit by March 10, 2003. Due to delays that resulted from a Ninth Circuit Court decision, the permit was not adopted until April 30, 2003. The adopted permit set new dates by which the MS4s are required to submit a Notice of Intent to comply with the terms of the permit.

A small MS4 is defined as any unpermitted MS4 located in an "urbanized area" (an area with a population of 50,000 and a population density of 1,000/square mile) or an "urban cluster" (an area with a population of 10,000 and a population density of 1,000/square mile), as defined by the Bureau of the Census. A small MS4 could be designated to be covered by the Phase II program in either of two ways:

1. Automatic Nationwide Designation. The Storm Water Phase II Regulations require automatic nationwide coverage of all small MS4s that are located within the boundaries of an urbanized area as determined by the Bureau of the Census based on data from the latest Census. Attachment 1 of the permit is a list of automatically designated MS4s.
2. Designation by the Regional Board. Operators of small MS4s located in an urban cluster, as defined by the Bureau of the Census, could be designated if the Regional Board determines that storm water discharges from the small MS4 into a local water body cause, or have the potential to cause, a threat to water quality. Regional Board staff used the following criteria to recommend additional small MS4s for designation:

    a. Discharge to a 303d listed water body;
    b. High growth;
    c. High tourism;
    d. Discharge to a Marine Sanctuary

Attachment 1 of the permit is a list of **26 MS4s designated due to the automatic nationwide designation criteria.** These MS4s were required by the permit to submit a complete application for permit coverage by August 8, 2003.

Attachment 2 of the permit is a list of **10 MS4s designated by the Regional Board.** On November 1, 2002, this list was presented to the Board for comment. These MS4s were required by the permit to submit a complete application for permit coverage by October 27, 2003.

Federal and State Facilities are also required to obtain permit coverage, either individually, or as a co-permittee with a contiguous municipality. Attachment 3 of the permit is a list of **91 designated State or Federal MS4s.** These MS4s were required by the permit to submit a complete application for permit coverage by April 30, 2004, a date the Regional Board decided upon at the July 11, 2003 Board meeting.

Attachment A (see attached) shows the status of the MS4 permit applications for all MS4s listed in Attachment 1 and Attachment 2 of the permit, and two Attachment 3 MS4s.

[See Attachment A]

Cleanup Reports

Underground Tanks Summary Report dated July 26 , 2005 [Burton Chadwick 805/5424786]

[See Attachment B]

Regional Monitoring

Regional Monitoring Report [Karen Worcester 805/549-3333]

CCAMP staff, agricultural waiver program staff, and our Quality Assurance officer have conducted field audits of the Cooperative Monitoring Program for agriculture. We were pleased with the results; monitoring is well organized and conducted in a manner that is, for the most part, compatible with our activities and the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program. We have provided formal comments to the program on small adjustments they need to make in order to be consistent with our program and with the Quality Assurance Program Plan.

We have also reviewed and prepared comments on the first comprehensive data delivery from the Cooperative Monitoring Program. Dave Paradies has developed a unique data delivery tool that checks files for correct formatting and automatically feeds information back to the submitter. This will allow consultants and other users to very quickly get feedback on formatting, missing data, required information, etc., without waiting for staff turnaround time. We are currently testing it in an interactive mode with Cooperative Monitoring Program contractors. We anticipate, however, that it can be adapted more broadly for use by other programs, such as the Timber Waiver program, storm water programs, grant recipients who are collecting data, and volunteer monitors who wish to submit data to us for our use. It has been structured to allow us to quickly port it into the data format for web site development, and to port into the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program's database.

The data and management practice tracking tools developed for the agricultural waiver program were demonstrated at the California Nonpoint Source Tracking and Monitoring Council workshop on July 20th. This interagency group was originally the State Board's Nonpoint Source Monitoring Council, and has been named in recent legislation (AB 1070) to become the California Water Quality Monitoring Council. The tracking tools are of great interest at the state level, and State Board nonpoint source program management staff have offered us additional funds through Tetratech to support upgrades to the system, in exchange for outputs in support of their reporting needs. We have received many other inquiries about the system since the demonstration. Dave Paradies will be meeting soon with Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program and California Data Exchange Network (Department of Water Resources) staff to discuss application of the tools at a statewide level.

CCAMP is collaborating with the Coastal Commission and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary on a state-wide pilot effort determine how well our data and data collected through other efforts in the Region can answer the State's nonpoint source questions. These include things like:

- What is the quality of water in California?
- What is the extent of impairments associated with nonpoint sources?
- What are the nonpoint sources that are impairing or threatening water quality?
- Is water quality getting better or worse?
- Is the California Program investing resources consistent with water quality problems?
- Are investments effective in protecting and restoring water quality?

After we have determined the extent to which these questions can be answered using existing data, we will do a "gaps analysis" to determine what additional monitoring is needed. The proposal will include funding to place a part-time contract employee in our office to assist in data management and analysis. We will use this as an opportunity to compile major data sources into our new format, and to develop a version of our website that includes multiple data sources. Funding is anticipated through the Resources Legacy Foundation and U.S. EPA 319.

Karen Worcester has been participating in a series of discussions with U.S. EPA, California Coastal Commission staff, and State and Regional Board staff regarding integration of regional and statewide monitoring programs. We anticipate that this will require a series of conversations over the next six months or so, and are involving statistical experts in addition to monitoring staff. At this point the state-wide approach is modeled after EPA's Environmental Monitoring and Assessment Program (EMAP), where 50 sites are randomly placed throughout the state. Though this answers very large-scaled questions related to what proportion of waters support beneficial uses, it is difficult to use in support of regional or local management decisions. We are seeking ways to integrate or "nest" regional monitoring efforts within state efforts, to make more efficient use of scare monitoring resources.

Total Maximum Daily Load Program [Lisa Horowitz McCann 805/549-3132]

Staff will continue work on the following TMDL tasks or reports:

- Aptos and Valencia Creek Pathogen- Data Collection and Analysis Reports
- Carbonera Creek Pathogen TMDL- Data Collection and Analysis Report
- Corralitos Creek Pathogen TMDL- Data Collection and Analysis Report

- Monterey Harbor Lead TMDL- TMDL Project Report or Delisting Proposal
- Pajaro River Nutrient TMDL- Final Project Report, Staff Report and Resolution
- Pajaro River Sediment TMDL- Draft Basin Plan Amendment
- Salinas River Nutrient TMDL- Final Project Report
- Salinas River Pesticides TMDLs –Final Project Report
- Salinas River Pathogens TMDL- Data Collection and Analysis
- Watsonville Sloughs Pathogen TMDL - Draft Basin Plan Amendment

Staff will also initiate investigations and status of remaining impaired waters, for which we have not yet initiated any investigation, to determine which new TMDL projects to pursue and appropriate efforts for these new projects. Many of these impaired waters are located in Santa Barbara County.

Beginning in 2006, staff will be increasing emphasis on implementing TMDLs and connecting implementation progress to measurable changes in water quality. This will require increased staff time preparing and implementing TMDL implementation plans consistent with the State's Policy for the Implementation and Enforcement of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program. We will need to more directly identify and communicate with a greater variety and number of potential nonpoint source dischargers (e.g. rural residential landowners, grazing lands owners and managers) than we have in the past. We will also need to insure that we establish reporting and monitoring mechanisms and funding that provide us the capability to assess measurable water quality changes from our staff's outreach and regulatory efforts, coupled with changes to or additional management practices by dischargers. The Pajaro River Sediment TMDL and Watsonville Slough Pathogen TMDL Implementation Plans pilot this new approach and are scheduled to be presented to the Board for approval in December 2005 or February 2006.

We have recently hired a new staff person to join the Watershed Assessment Unit. Peter Osmolovsky is an engineering geologist and is transferring from the Central Valley Water Board, Fresno Office, to the Central Coast Water Board. Pete has worked in both groundwater cleanup programs and the irrigated lands program regulating agriculture in the Central Valley. He is very familiar with the process for developing Total Maximum Daily Loads, their relationship to implementation, and has extensive public outreach experience.

Administrative Reports

Presentations and Training [Roger Briggs 805/549-3140]

A two-day "Train the Trainer" workshop was sponsored by the Morro Bay Volunteer Monitoring Program on July 15 - 16. Karen Worcester gave presentations on CCAMP and new data management strategies, and on quality assurance and data validation. Mary Adams trained attendees on the new benthic monitoring protocols being adopted this year by the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program.

Karen Worcester demonstrated our new tools for tracking agricultural practices and water quality data at two venues in Sacramento. The first was the SWAMP Roundtable, on July 19. The second was at the Tracking and Monitoring Council workshop on July 20th.

John Goni, Water Resource Control Engineer, attended MTBE and TBA comprehensive site assessment and successful groundwater remediation training sponsored by the US EPA on August 10-12 in San Francisco.

David Athey, Kristina Seley, Lou Blanck, John Goni and Karen Worcester attended the Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) Program informational meeting sponsored by State Water Board and USGS, August 3, 2005 in Salinas. The meeting was attended by various agencies and businesses, including the Department of Water Resources, various Monterey County Cities, local water purveyors, and the Department of Health Services. The intent was to provide information on ambient groundwater quality in the Salinas area and how to use and share information.

Kristina Seley and Karyn Steckling completed a 24-hour hazwoper training in Pismo Beach, August 8-10, 2005.

On August 5, 2005, Grant Himebaugh participated in an Army Corp of Engineers taping of a short documentary for the Monterey Peninsula Airport groundwater cleanup. Stakeholder representatives from the local neighborhood association, City of Monterey, Army Corps of Engineers and Water Board met at the two groundwater treatment facilities located near the airport. Army Corps media staff taped stakeholder's responses to questions concerning the cleanup process and why they believe it's been successful. The resulting material will be played in public areas at the Pentagon in Washinton D.C.

David Athey attended a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) training at San Francisco State University on August 17-19, 2005. GIS training will help staff improve use of detailed electronic mapping, particularly for plume migration and cleanup project applications.

David Athey and Nathan Schreiner participated in the Perchlorate Community Advisory Group meeting, August 5, 2005 in San Martin.

Dominic Roques presented a case study of removing a beneficial use at a workshop for regulators sponsored by and held at USEPA Region 9 headquarters in San Francisco on July 21, 2005. The proposed use removal is based on a Use Attainability Analysis, which he and Shanta Keeling prepared for the Watsonville Slough shellfish harvesting beneficial use during development of a pathogen Total Maximum Daily Load for that waterbody. The three-day workshop on designated uses was attended by approximately 60 state and federal water quality agency staff involved in standards setting and review. Dominic's case study provided the opportunity to discuss among this select group of regulators the various options for addressing inappropriate use designations.

ATTACHMENTS

A. Phase II Municipal Storm Water Permit Status
B. Underground Tanks Summary Report

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