

Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

Executive Officer's Summary Report
Thursday, February 2, 2017
Regional Water Board Office
Santa Rosa, California

ITEM: 7

SUBJECT: Presentation on the Russian River Independent Science Review Panel's *Conceptual Model of Watershed Hydrology, Surface Water and Groundwater Interactions and Stream Ecology for the Russian River Watershed* (Dr. Matt Kondolf, UC Berkeley and Laurel Marcus, California Land Stewardship Institute)

BOARD ACTION: This is an information item; no action will be taken by the Board.

BACKGROUND: The Russian River Independent Science Review Panel (ISRP) was formed in 2012 to provide a process-based understanding of stream flow in the Russian River and its tributaries. The ISRP is made up of nine members and represents an interdisciplinary group of professionals with expertise in Resource Economics, Hydrogeology, Watershed Ecology, Hydrology, Fluvial Geomorphology, Entomology, and Hydraulic Engineering. With funding by a group of local water suppliers (Sonoma County Water Agency and the Russian River Mendocino County Flood Control and Water Conservation District), agricultural groups (Russian River Water Conservation Council), and watershed organizations (California Land Stewardship Institute), the ISRP was established to develop a sound scientific basis for future water supply and watershed management decision making in the Russian River. In 2016 the ISRP released the report *Conceptual Model of Watershed Hydrology, Surface Water and Groundwater Interactions and Stream Ecology for the Russian River Watershed* (<http://www.russianriverisrp.org>).

DISCUSSION: The focus of the ISRP report is stream flow processes, salmonid habitats and water uses. Though the report chronicles land use changes and some of the associated water quality effects, water quality issues were not fully evaluated. Nonetheless, the report's findings and recommendations are relevant to various on-going programs and activities of the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board. The ISRP Chair Dr. Matt Kondolf of UC Berkeley and Laurel Marcus of the California Land Stewardship Institute will provide an overview of the reports key findings and recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION: This is an information item only.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS:

1. Executive Summary – ISRP Report

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