



Happy New Year! Catherine Kuhlman

David Noren speaks on Water Quality and Landscaping



David Noren took center stage at the Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) roll out of their new “The Russian River-Friendly Landscape Guidelines”. The seminar drew 150 people from landscaping industry including contractors, designers, and architects.

David highlighted the link between water quality, storm water, and good design and maintenance practices. The new Guidelines are available at:
<http://www.rrwatershed.org/stormwater.html>

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Reflecting on the past year I am very proud of what we have done from the Klamath TMDL and DO objective, to the USFS waiver, to the amazing number of underground tank sites cleaned up. We were incredibly productive with the resources we had, and our admin staff, their resources down too, kept the office humming.

We have big plans for the coming year. Some highlights for the year will be the adoption of permits for dairies, county roads, Bear Creek watershed, Central landfill, and updates to a slew of NPDES and WDR permits. We will have a major enforcement hearing on Confusion Hill and the enforcement staff is taking on pot growers at Post Mountain in Trinity County. The TMDLs for the Laguna de Santa Rosa and Russian River will be

gathering steam, along with a major Basin Plan Amendment to protect our groundwater resources. We will continue to clean up contaminated sites, conducting good investigations and remedial actions. In all an ambitious agenda. Additionally we are committed in a number of ongoing activities that are tracked at both the state and national level. Those commitments for 2011 are listed below.

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- 0 of UAA Adopted
- 2 of Water Quality Objectives Adopted
- 2 of Implementation Provisions Adopted
- 0 of TMDLs Adopted
- 0 of Pollutant/Water Body Combinations Addressed
- 118 of SWAMP Site Visits
- 382 of SWAMP Analyses Conducted
- 14 of NPDES Wastewater Majors Inspected
- 5 of NPDES Wastewater Majors Renewed
- 5 of NPDES Wastewater Majors Renewed
- 0 of NPDES Wastewater Minor Generals Inspected
- 6 of NPDES Wastewater Minor Individuals Inspected
- 0 of NPDES Wastewater Minor Individuals Inspected
- 9 of NPDES Wastewater Minors Renewed

- 0 of NPDES Stormwater Municipal (Phase I/II) Audited
- 2 of NPDES Stormwater Municipal (Phase I/II) Inspected
- 50 of NPDES Stormwater-Construction Inspected

- 35 of NPDES Stormwater-Industrial Inspected
- 5 of Non-15 Facilities "Industrial" Inspected (170*)
- 15 of Non-15 Facilities "Municipal" Inspected
- 5 of Non-15 Permits Past Review Date Revised
- 15 of Land Disposal Facilities Inspected
- 1 of Land Disposal Permits Revised
- 30 of UST Sites Projected Closed
- 5 of SCP Sites Projected Closed
- 15 of UST Sites New into Active Remediation
- 9 of SCP Sites New into Active Remediation
- 0 of DoD Sites New into Active Remediation
- 100 of MMP Violations Addressed with 18 Months of Discovery

Financial Assistance Programs – Grants and Loans

The following grants and loans were made by the State Board to communities within Region 1:

City of Crescent City

\$43,814,176 for wastewater plant upgrades

Del Norte County Service Area No. 1

Sewer Collection System Rehabilitation Project, \$695,255

California Land Stewardship Institute

(Mendocino County) \$375,542 to implement the Fish Friendly Farming Program

City of Rio Dell

\$2,176,657 to improve the solids handling and disinfection processes at its wastewater treatment plant

Covelo Community Services District

\$1,694,356 to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant

Del Norte County Service Area No.1

\$2,021,268 to replace outdated sewer collection lines

Garberville Sanitary District

\$2,290,415 to upgrade its wastewater treatment plant

Pacific Coast Fish, Wildlife and Wetlands Restoration Association

(Humboldt County) \$1,417,318 to reduce erosion from logging roads in the upper basin of the Redwood Creek watershed

Trinidad Rancheria

\$1,790,107 to construct a wastewater treatment plant to replace septic tanks that are affecting beach and harbor water quality.

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Freshwater Tissue Company to Abandon Plans to Reopen Samoa Pulp Mill

Freshwater Tissue Company President Bob Simpson has announced that the company is selling off spare parts and pulping equipment from the Samoa pulp mill and intends to scrap the plant's two old recovery boilers and its bleach plant as part of a multi-phase project to facilitate future development at the mill site on the Samoa Peninsula. Phase I of the project is expected to begin in early 2011, pending approval of a coastal development permit.

Built in 1964 and operated for many years by Louisiana Pacific Corporation, the pulp mill has endured a tumultuous history before ceasing operation in October 2008. The pulp mill appeared on the verge of closure in 2009 when Freshwater Tissue Company bought the mill and proposed to perform a massive retrofit to convert it to a pulp and tissue paper plant. The company failed to find money for that venture and scaled back its plans to operating a chlorine-free pulp facility. Ultimately, Freshwater Tissue Company was unable to obtain financing to restart the mill.

The Samoa Pulp Mill is authorized to discharge wastewater generated from the paper pulp production process, energy and chemical recovery processes, and water treatment plant under a National Pollutant Elimination Discharge System (NPDES) permit. The NPDES permit was adopted by the Regional Water Board in July 2010 and is set to expire in 2015. At the same hearing, the Regional Water Board also adopted a companion cease and desist order that established a timeline for Freshwater Tissue Company to construct wastewater treatment facilities at a cost of about \$26 million that would enable the discharge to consistently meet effluent limitations before the wastewater would be discharged to the Pacific Ocean. Future actions by the Regional Water Board related to the NPDES permit and cease and desist order are pending.

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Status of Implementation of New USFS Waiver

On June 10, 2010, the North Coast Regional Water Board adopted *Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Nonpoint Source Discharges Related to Certain Federal Land Management Activities on National Forest System Lands in the North Coast Region* (Order No. R1-2010-0029). This new Waiver covers discharges from nonpoint sources associated with timber harvesting, roads, grazing, recreation, vegetation management, restoration, and fire suppression on U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands, and replaces

Order No. R1-2004-0015, which covered only USFS timber harvest activities. Approximately 55% of the North Coast Region is contained within portions of six national forests.

After the new Waiver was adopted, a team of Regional Water Board staff was established to roll out the new Waiver to each of the National Forests within the Region (e.g. Klamath, Modoc, Shasta-Trinity, Six Rivers and Mendocino National Forests). The team includes the Division Chief, the division Seniors, and division staff having responsibility for nonpoint source discharges for each forest. The intent of the team visits are to provide background on the State and Regional Boards, present the Waiver in some detail, and answer questions. It was the intent to have a field day following each meeting at locations chosen by the Forest to discuss how the new Waiver applies to specific projects, sites, or conditions. Weather and field access may postpone some field visits until the spring or summer of 2011.

The first team visit was to Klamath National Forest (KNF) on October 20 and 21, 2010. A full day meeting at the Supervisor’s Office in Yreka on October 20 was well attended by over 20 KNF staff and managers. A representative of Modoc National Forest was also in attendance. The next day was a field visit to the Oak Knoll Grazing Allotment, and included representatives from the California Cattlemen’s Association and the California Farm Bureau.

The second team visit was to Six Rivers National Forest (SRNF) on December 7 and 8, 2010. Two days of meetings

were conducted at the Supervisor's Office in Eureka to discuss details of the new Waiver and the preparation of watershed restoration plans. These meetings were attended by over 30 SRNF staff and managers. A field day with SRNF staff is planned for the spring of 2011.

Team visits to Shasta-Trinity and Mendocino National Forests are planned for the winter and early spring 2011, with follow up field visits later in the spring of 2011. Regional Water Board and USFS staff all agreed that the team visits to Klamath and Six Rivers National Forests were a success, providing answers and clarifications on key issues. The team is maintaining a list of questions and concerns raised at each meeting, and will provide formal answers and solutions to these questions/concerns at an annual meeting with all of the Forests, to be held in the summer/fall of 2011.

Upon adoption of the Waiver in June 2010, it was identified that some revisions to the Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) may be necessary. Regional Water Board staff are in the process of drafting MRP revisions, considering public comments and a revised proposal drafted by the USFS Regional Hydrologist. The draft revised MRP will undergo a 30-day public review period, and staff anticipate completing the revised MPR in late winter 2011.

On a related subject, Regional Water Board staff continue to work with State Board and other Regional Board's staff in development of a statewide Waiver

for nonpoint source discharges from USFS lands, as well as revisions to the USFS Water Quality Management Plan. As drafted, this statewide Waiver is modeled after the new Region 1 USFS Waiver. State Board staff estimate this Waiver may be consider by the State Board for adoption in March 2011. The statewide Waiver is not proposed to supersede the Region 1 Wavier.

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Five Counties (5C) Road Maintenance Waiver

Staff has developed a draft Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements (Waiver) for nonpoint source discharges related to routine road maintenance activities that are conducted under the guidance of the Five Counties Salmon Conservation Program's' *Water Quality and Stream Habitat Protection Manual for County Road Maintenance*. Known as the 5C Program, it encompasses the Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Mendocino, Siskiyou, and Trinity. Staff are currently working with 5C Program managers to refine the draft and present it to the individual counties for review. The waiver will address nonpoint source discharges associated with road maintenance activities covered in the 5C Program. The draft Waiver addresses sediment source reduction, riparian protection, training, emergency work notification, includes monitoring and reporting, and provides TMDL compliance.

Staff plans to provide the Board with an update during the March 2011 Regional Water Board meeting and bring the

Waiver and Resolution before the Board for adoption in June 2011.

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Development of a Water Quality Compliance Program for Grazing and Irrigated Agriculture in the Klamath Basin

Regional Water Board staff are developing a water quality compliance program for grazing activities and irrigated agriculture in the Klamath Basin consistent with the Klamath River Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation plan and the State Nonpoint Source Policy. The program will address nonpoint source discharges of waste from grazing and irrigated agriculture. Staff intend to develop a program that is both feasible for growers and ranchers to implement and reasonably protective of water quality.

Staff's approach to the program is evolving. At the time of the update presented to the Board in June 2010, staff were considering using a conditional waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) as the regulatory mechanism to implement the program requirements. Based partly on stakeholder input, staff have since revised the approach to include WDRs as a potential regulatory mechanism as well as conditional waiver. WDRs may be a better programmatic fit for some categories of discharges or a particular discharger, and staff do not want to presuppose the appropriate mechanism.

Regional Water Board staff continue to plan the stakeholder involvement process, which will include a technical working group and opportunities for public input. The Regional Water Board is contracting with the Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP) to facilitate the process and assist staff with the development of the program. The CCP is a unit within the College of Social Sciences at Sacramento State University. The State Water Board's Office of Statewide Initiatives maintains a contract with the CCP that will serve as the contract mechanism. Regional Water Board staff have been working with the CCP on the stakeholder assessment and have also met with UC Davis public participation trainers for a consulting session that has helped define the initial approach.

Staff are planning a presentation to the Board in Weaverville on March 24, 2011, to give an update on stakeholder outreach efforts and the program's development. Board consideration of program adoption is currently scheduled for December 2012.

Staff have established a web page for the program where stakeholders can stay informed and also subscribe to the mailing list for e-mail notifications. The webpage is: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/grazing_and_irrigated_agriculture/.

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QSP/QSD Construction Stormwater Permit Training

Regional Water Board staff took part in helping to develop expertise in the control of pollutants in stormwater runoff from construction sites over 1 acre in size. The recently adopted Construction General Permit for stormwater requires that persons both developing plans for controlling construction site pollutants (Qualified SWPPP Developer or QSD), and those now charged with inspecting sites (Qualified SWPPP Practitioner or QSP), get specific training and testing in

order to perform these critical duties. Regional Board staff helped in this endeavor by proctoring exams both in Eureka and in Santa Rosa this past December. Over 80 participants took part in this testing. Their training and testing will help ensure that construction sites in Region 1 will get the full attention they need in order to minimize the discharge of construction site pollutants in stormwater runoff.

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Enforcement Report

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Enforcement Report for January 2011 Executive Officer’s Report

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of January 4, 2011
9/16/10	G.N. Renn, Inc.	CAO rescission	N/A	Complete; no further action

Discussion: On September 16, 2010, the Regional Water Board Executive Officer (EO) issued Order No. R1-2010-0083 to G.N. Renn, Inc. rescinding Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R1-2001-0100.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of January 4, 2011
10/1/10	Steve Rector and Ann Carol Frocteau	NOV	Violation of CAO: incomplete plans submitted	Complete plans have not yet been submitted.

Discussion: On October 1, 2010, the Regional Water Board Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) issued a Notice of Violation to Steve Rector and Ann Carol Frocteau for failure to submit complete plans within the timeframes specified under CAO R1-2010-0048.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of January 4, 2011
10/1/10	Philbrick Family Partnership Properties	NOV	Violation of CAO: incomplete plans submitted.	Complete plans have not yet been submitted.

Discussion: On October 1, 2010, the Regional Water Board AEO issued a Notice of Violation to Philbrick Family Partnership Properties for failure to submit complete plans within the timeframes specified under CAO R1-2010-0050.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of January 4, 2011
10/7/10	Mrs. Jane Hofstetter	CAO	Unauthorized dredge and fill activities in the Russian River watershed	

Discussion: On October 7, 2010, the Regional Water Board EO issued Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) No. R1-2010-0089 to Mrs. Jane Hofstetter for unauthorized dredge and fill activities within and adjacent to the Russian River. The Order requires the Discharger to implement measures to prevent further discharges of sediment to receiving waters, to submit and implement pollution prevention and mitigation plans, and to submit and implement a monitoring and reporting plan.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of January 4, 2011
10/14/10	Mark Gautreaux	NOV	Failure to enroll Timber Harvest Plan for permit coverage	Discharger enrolled for permit coverage; in compliance

Discussion: On October 14, 2010, the Regional Water Board AEO issued a Notice of Violation to Mark Gautreaux for failure to enroll a Timber Harvest Plan for coverage under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Timber Harvest Activities. The NOV directed the discharger to cease timber harvest until coverage was obtained. Shortly thereafter, the Discharger enrolled the THP for permit coverage as required.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of January 4, 2011
11/22/10	Noyo Harbor District and Walter Stornetta Ranch	Rescission of 13267(b) Order	N/A	Complete; no further action

Discussion: On November 22, 2010, the Regional Water Board EO issued Order No. R1-2010-0096 to Noyo Harbor District and Walter Stornetta Ranch rescinding 13267(b) Order No. R1-2010-0046. The original 13267(b) Order was issued due to the unpermitted placement of uncharacterized dredge spoil material at the Walter Stornetta Ranch. The named parties resolved the matter by returning the dredge spoils to the Noyo Harbor upland disposal site. Staff will continue to work with the Harbor District and/or its representatives to identify appropriate methods and locations for disposal/reuse of the dredge materials.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of January 4, 2011
12/8/10	Dos Rios Family Partnership	NOV	Discharges of waste to a watercourse, in violation of Basin Plan prohibitions	Ongoing

Discussion: On December 8, 2010, the Regional Water Board Chief of Watershed Protection Division issued an NOV to Dos Rios Family Partnership for violations of the Basin Plan prohibitions established in the Action Plan for Logging, Construction, and Associated Activities, associated with discharges of woody materials, ash and sediment to a watercourse. The NOV recommends that the discharger implement corrective measures and submit and implement a remediation plan by February 28, 2011.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of January 4, 2011
12/9/10	Lee Wetzel	NOV	Unauthorized waste discharge into Lake Shastina	Ongoing

Discussion: On December 9, 2010, the Regional Water Board Chief of Watershed Protection Division issued an NOV to Lee Wetzel for unauthorized waste discharge into Lake Shastina in violation of the Water Code and the Basin Plan. The NOV directs the discharger to contact Regional Water Board staff to discuss and determine the best course of action to resolve the violations.

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