

State Water Resources Control Board

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE October 29, 2003 SWRCB 03-003 **Contact:** Beth Jines 916-341-5254

CALIFORNIA 2003 NONPOINT SOURCE (NPS) CONFERENCE RESTORING CLEAN WATER: NPS POLLUTION PREVENTION AND TMDLs

Dates: November 5 - 7, 2003

SACRAMENTO – The State Water Resources Control Board, the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency will host the 2nd biennial Nonpoint Source (NPS) Conference from November 5 – 7, 2003 in the City of Ventura. Unlike pollution from industrial and sewage treatment plants, Nonpoint source pollution is runoff, which has become contaminated with oil, pesticides, fertilizers, salts, bacteria, sediments and other residues of modern life. The California 2003 NPS Conference will examine past and current NPS pollution control and prevention projects, and focus on restoration of impaired water bodies through implementation of Total Maximum Daily Loads.

This conference will bring together watershed coordinators, water quality specialists, nonprofit organizations, landowners, and others to exchange ideas, successes, and lessons learned while restoring clean water. The conference aims to promote technology transfer and innovation and to enhance community and agency partnerships. Conference participants will hear from more than 50 speakers who are implementing on-the-ground projects that prevent NPS pollution and restore impaired waterbodies using federal and state funds. Speakers include Mr. Arthur J. Baggett, Chair of the State Water Resources Control Board, and Ms. Alexis Strauss, Director of the Water Division at Region 9 of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

This conference will include plenary sessions, concurrent sessions, a poster session/reception, field trip, and ample opportunity for networking with other NPS experts. This event will build on the successful 2001 NPS Conference, which was attended by more than 300 people. The conference will take place at the Sheraton Four Points Hotel, at 1050 Schooner Drive, Ventura, California 93001. Driving directions are available on the hotel's Web site (www.fourpointsbysheraton.com). For more information on the conference, visit the conference Web site at www.swrcb.ca.gov/nps/fall2003.html.

-30-

The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption. For a list of simple ways you can reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see our Web-site at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov