



State Water Resources Control Board

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State Water Board OKs Stimulus Funding for 15 Clean Water Projects

Projects Estimated to Create or Retain at least 238 jobs.

SACRAMENTO -- The State Water Board has awarded \$42.55 million for 15 projects to protect public health and the environment and create jobs for Californians. The funding has been allocated in the last ten days. Most of the money (\$35.487 million) was allocated to California for clean water projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA). The remainder (\$7.063 million) is from California's ongoing Clean Water State Revolving Fund.

These projects range from Humboldt County in the north to San Diego County and from the Pacific shore to the Nevada state line.

The Recovery Act money was made available to the State Water Board by the U.S. EPA.

The money awarded is in the form of grants and ultra-low interest zero and one-percent loans for projects that include wastewater treatment plant construction, upgrade and infrastructure improvements as well as "green" projects such as wastewater recycling.

"The State Water Board identified these shovel-ready projects so we can both get people back to work and protect water quality," said Charlie Hoppin, Chair of the State Water Board. "Even in routine years, we handle more than \$200 million dollars in loans for these important purposes. This year, the need is more urgent and our staff started early to identify potential recipients so that we can distribute the federal money quickly and responsibly. California has a verified need and we have validated applications for more dollars than are currently available. We will put any additional funds to good use quickly and efficiently."

Under the stimulus program, the State Water Board is handling \$270.5 million in addition to more than \$200 million normally loaned by the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (SRF) each year. The Water Board approved the first Stimulus project the same day that it received money from the U.S. EPA.

The stimulus money is available for projects in communities that might not normally be able to qualify for an SRF loan. The stimulus money is being granted or loaned at rates even lower than normally available from the SRF.

The State Water Board received the stimulus money on May 21, 2009 and made its first award under the program on the same day. It has been working with local governments and others to make sure their clean water projects were ready to begin work and qualify for stimulus money as quickly as possible.

The State Water Board assists local communities in preventing and cleaning up water pollution. Its financial assistance, through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund, concentrates on wastewater (sewer) projects and treatment plants.

The newly approved projects are:

Central Coast Vineyard Team: \$138,302 Implementation of Best Management Practices to Protect Water Quality. The Project will reduce erosion and integrate pest management practices to protect water quality. (San Luis Obispo County)

Regents of the University of California: \$2,644,400 La Jolla Shores Area of Special Biological Significance (ASBS). The Project will eliminate dry weather urban runoff to protect areas of special biological significance adjacent to La Jolla Shores. (San Diego County)

City of Long Beach: \$583,919 Los Angeles River vortex separation system (VSS) Unit. The Project will remove trash, debris, and sediment from urban runoff before they reach the Los Angeles River.

Western Shasta Resource Conservation District: \$101,538 Integrated Ecosystem Improvements for Shasta County Watersheds. The Project will implement watershed activities to reduce pollutant runoff in three major watersheds in Shasta County (Stillwater Creek, Churn Creek and Cow Creek). (Shasta County)

City of Kerman: \$7,821,898 Wastewater Treatment Plant Expansion and Upgrade. The Project will increase treatment capacity and efficiency at the City's wastewater treatment plant. (Fresno County)

Delta Diablo Sanitation District: \$8,855,136 Antioch Recycled Water Project. The Project will provide additional recycled water to customers for

landscape irrigation in the District's service area to offset the use of potable water. (Contra Costa County)

Inland Empire Utilities Agency: \$773,045 Magnolia Channel. The Project reduces stormwater runoff by re-establishing a natural urban stream, using retention ponds to reduce flow and encourage infiltration, and build managed wetlands/riparian habitat. (Riverside County)

Cher-Ae Heights Indian Community of Trinidad Rancheria: \$1,662,708 Trinidad Harbor and Beach. The Project will construct a wastewater treatment plant to replace septic tanks that are affecting beach and harbor water quality. The wastewater will be treated to meet recycled water standards to ensure protection of groundwater quality. (Humboldt County)

City of Long Beach: \$403,200 Los Angeles River Trash Nets. The Project will capture trash and debris before they reach the Los Angeles River.

City of Long Beach: \$551,845 Los Angeles River Trash Separation Device. The Project will remove trash and debris from urban runoff before they reach the Los Angeles River.

Tahoe Resource Conservation District: \$220,090 Polaris Creek. The Project will reduce urban stormwater runoff, restore wetlands, and provide habitat for several special status species. (Placer County)

Beaumont Cherry Valley Water District: \$16,108,100 Recycled Water Facilities. The Project is the backbone of a non-potable water system around the District's service area. The Project will offset the use of potable water supplies for irrigation purposes. (Riverside County)

City of Santa Cruz: \$489,308 Dry Weather Diversion at San Lorenzo River Pump Stations 1b and 3. The Project diverts urban runoff to protect beach water quality.

Central Coast Agricultural Water Quality Coalition: \$430,269 Demonstrating Compatibility of Water Quality and Food Safety through Research and Implementation. The Project will reduce agricultural pollution in the Salinas and Pajaro River Watersheds. The Project will assess the effectiveness and the risks to food safety associated with these practices. (San Luis Obispo County)

City of Los Angeles Department of Public Works: \$1,766,568 Mar Vista Recreation Center Retrofit. The Project will collect and treat all dry weather, and a portion of the wet weather, urban runoff from the Sawtelle Channel. Treated runoff will be re-used at the adjacent Mar Vista Recreation Park or returned to the Sawtelle Channel.

