

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION**

MEETING DATE: December 16, 2015

ITEM: **4**

SUBJECT: **EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT**

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT: *December 2015*

A Monthly Report to the Board and Public

NEXT MEETING: December 16, 2015 **WEBSITE:** <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/>

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Flooding of Homes in San Francisco (Lila Tang)

At the November public forum, several San Francisco residents addressed the Board regarding wet weather sewer overflows in their San Francisco neighborhoods that flood their homes before flowing back into the City's combined sewer system. San Francisco is the only area in our Region with a combined sewer system. A combined sewer system conveys both sewage and stormwater runoff in the same pipes and treats all water at a wastewater treatment plant prior to discharge. In San Francisco, overflows occur when runoff from storms overwhelms the capacity of the City's combined sewer system. Since, as described at the November public forum, some of these overflows flood neighborhoods, some San Francisco residents have filed a complaint for damages against the City.

While we regulate all of the City's discharges from the combined system, including overflows, to the Bay and Ocean, it is unclear how we regulate overflows that do not reach the Bay or Ocean. We are investigating the performance of the combined sewer system throughout the City and coordinating our regulatory response with U.S. EPA. For example, this month we are joining U.S. EPA for a three-day compliance evaluation inspection. We will keep the Board and residents informed about this matter.

Wetlands Cleaned Up at Concord Military Terminal (Adriana Constantinescu)

In November, the U.S. Army completed the successful clean up of two Suisun Bay wetland sites located in the northeastern portion of the Military Ocean Terminal in Concord (MOTCO). The two sites, known as the Mosquito Ditches and Lost Slough, were historically contaminated with arsenic and copper. The remedial action at the two sloughs consisted of placement by helicopter of a clay cap on slough sections with contaminated sediments. Refurbished Vietnam War-era helicopters were used to transport both the field personnel and the cap material to the sloughs to minimize impacts to the wetland habitat (Figures 1a and 1b).



Figure 1a. Long-line helicopters delivering clay to the sloughs at MOTCO.

Clay cap material was loaded into 3,000-lb capacity sacks or *super sacks*, which were placed adjacent to each slough to subsequently be opened by field staff. The helicopter raised each sack into the air and dumped the clay adjacent to and into each slough bottom (Figure 1c). Following cap material placement, field staff used hand tools to level off the material to a required one-foot thickness.



Figure 1b. Helicopter transporting a super sack.



Figure 1c. Placing of the cap material.

On November 9, Adriana Constantinescu and David Elias from the Groundwater Protection Division completed an inspection of the sloughs via helicopter to review the cap placement process and dewatering procedures (Figure 1d).



Photo 1d. *Adriana Constantinescu seated on helicopter.*

Because the cleanup remedy will leave waste material buried onsite, at concentrations above levels that are appropriate for unrestricted land use, base-line monitoring and sampling will be performed during the first week of December, and annual monitoring and sampling will follow for the next five years. A review will be conducted every five years thereafter to ensure that the remedy is, and will continue to be protective of human health and the environment.



Photo 1e. *Completed cap in Lost Slough.*

Cleanup Orders Amended by Executive Officer (Stephen Hill)

The Board has delegated to the Executive Officer the authority to issue or rescind site cleanup orders pursuant to Water Code section 13304. The choice between having these orders acted upon by the Board or by the Executive Officer hinges on the degree of controversy and urgency in each case. In general, I only issue or rescind these orders in situations where there is little or no controversy or when there is some urgency (e.g., cleanup action is needed promptly to address a current or imminent threat to human health or the environment). Otherwise, we bring these types of cleanup orders to the Board for its consideration and action in a public hearing.

In early December, I signed an amendment to a 2002 site cleanup order for the 1964 Williams site, an industrial site located in San Leandro. Between 1969 and 1972, trichloroethene (TCE), a chlorinated solvent, was used at the site as part of a freeze-drying process by Hills Brothers Coffee Company, a predecessor to Nestle USA – Beverage Division, Inc. Freeze-drying operations continued at the site until the equipment was dismantled in 1988. Remedial investigations beginning in 1989 confirmed the release of TCE and related breakdown products to soil and groundwater. Interim corrective actions began in 1995 and ongoing corrective action continues to be conducted under the 2002 order. The amendment I signed updates the named dischargers in the order to add Prologis USLV NewCA 7, LLC, as a discharger based on its purchase of the property in May 2015. KTR Bay East VIII, LLC, the seller of the property, was removed as a named discharger. In addition, Nestle remains a named discharger based on its operations at the site at the time of the release.

Penalty Enforcement Actions (Lila Tang)

The following table shows recently approved settlements. There are also two complaints on which Board staff and the dischargers are in settlement discussions. There is a possibility that the Board will need to consider action on one of these complaints in January 2016 if settlement cannot be reached. All complaints and proposed settlements are available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/public_notices/pending_enforcement.shtml

Settled Actions			
On behalf of the Board, the Executive Officer approved the following:			
Discharger	Violation(s)	Penalty Imposed	Supplemental Environmental Project
OG Property Owner LLC, Wilder Project, in Orinda	Discharge of sediment to San Pablo Creek from failure of erosion controls in December 2014.	\$449,000	None
City of Napa, Hennessey Water Treatment Plant, in Napa County	Discharge limit exceedances.	\$6,000	None
Crockett Cogeneration LLP, in Crockett	Discharge limit exceedances.	\$6,000	None
Intuit, Inc., in Mt. View	Late discharge report.	\$3,000	None

The State Board's Office of Enforcement includes a statewide summary of penalty enforcement in its Executive Director's Report, which can be found on the State Board website:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/eo_rpts.shtml

401 Water Quality Certification Applications Received (Keith Lichten)

The table below lists those applications received for Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification from October 31 through November 27, 2015. A check mark in the right-hand column indicates a project with work that may be in BCDC jurisdiction.

Project Name	City/Location	County	May have BCDC jurisdiction
AT&T's Alameda to Bay Farm Island HDPE Conduit Crossing	Alameda	Alameda	√
La Riviere Marsh Bridge and Marshlands Road Rehabilitation	Newark	Alameda	√
Arroyo Corte Madera del Presidio Culvert Sediment Removals	La Goma St. near Miller Ave., Mill Valley	Marin	√
Mill Valley Leaning PG&E Pole Repair Project	Mill Valley	Marin	√
Lowrie Yacht Harbor Maintenance Dredging	San Rafael	Marin	√
State Route 121 Sarco Creek Bridge Replacement	Rose Dr. and Silverado Trail, Napa	Napa	
Rollins Stormwater Pump Station Culvert and Outfall	Airport Blvd. and Beach Rd., Burlingame	San Mateo	√
Burlingame Creek Flood Prevention Project	Burlingame	San Mateo	
Pitcher Ranch Channel Stabilization	Lobitos Creek Cutoff Road, Half Moon Bay	San Mateo	
Atherton Belbrook Culvert Repair	Walsh Rd., and Belbrook Way, Atherton	San Mateo	
Charleston Retention Basin Bridges and Habitat Improvement Project	Charleston Road east of N. Shoreline Blvd., Mountain View	Santa Clara	
Lockheed Martin Channel Clearing	Near N. Mathilda Ave. and West Caribbean Dr., Sunnyvale	Santa Clara	√
Benicia Refinery Pipeline Replacement	Benicia	Solano	√
Casa Grande Box Culvert Aggregate Soil Removal	Casa Grande Road, Petaluma	Sonoma	
Rodgers Creek Improvements	Near Wautmaugh Rd. and Arnold Dr., Sonoma	Sonoma	
2645 Petaluma Blvd. South Storage	Petaluma	Sonoma	√