

State Water Resources Control Board

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State Water Board Approves \$84 Million Project List to Fund Water Quality Projects Throughout California

Sacramento - The State Water Resources Control Board, in close coordination with state and federal agencies including the CALFED program and the California Coastal Commission, today approved the funding of \$84 million to support the development and implementation of more than 160 water quality projects throughout California.

The majority of the grant awards (\$78 million), comes from Proposition 13 funding. Federal funding, through the Clean Water Act, is the source of the remaining \$6 million grants to be considered.

Governor Gray Davis championed the Water Bond of 2000 (Proposition 13), which led the drive to authorize \$2 billion in funding for clean water and safe parks. Projects funded by Proposition 13 support safe drinking, water quality, flood protection and water reliability projects throughout California. Proposition 13 provided \$695 million for water quality projects.

Projects seeking funding from the latest priority list range from an agricultural runoff study in the Central Valley and creek restoration project in Laguna Niguel to a sewer system project in Ventura County and an auto brake pad pollution project in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Approximately \$15 of the funding will be used to fund projects that also meet the objectives of the CALFED Drinking Water Quality and Watershed Programs which support protection of water quality and watersheds associated with waters of the San Francisco-San Joaquin Delta. These projects were selected through a joint selection process. In addition, a portion of the funds will be used specifically to fund small community watershed projects.

The State Water Resources Control Board administers the grant program through an annual grant solicitation and award process. The Board approved the project priority list at its public meeting today. The California Coastal Commission previously assisted in the preparation of a funding list for the \$30 million devoted to coastal projects.

Also approved Thursday: The Board approved \$2.5 million from its penalty funds to assist its Lahontan Regional Water Board in its continuing efforts to clean-up Leviathan Mine, an inactive sulfur mine in Alpine County.

Project funding lists can be found at the following link:
<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/agendas/2002/october/1017mtg.html>