

Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region

Executive Officer's Summary Report  
March 14, 2013 8:30 a.m.  
Santa Rosa

- ITEM: 9
- SUBJECT: Russian River Watershed Association Update (*Mona Dougherty & Jake Mackenzie*)
- BOARD ACTION: This is an informational update on future and recently completed activities of the Russian River Watershed Association.
- BACKGROUND: The Russian River Watershed Association (RRWA) is a coalition of public agencies in the Russian River Watershed that have come together to coordinate regional programs to protect water quality, restore fisheries, and protect and enhance the watershed. RRWA, which is in its tenth year, currently has nine member agencies: the Cities of Ukiah, Cloverdale, Healdsburg, Santa Rosa, Rohnert Park and Cotati; the Town of Windsor; the County of Sonoma; and the Sonoma County Water Agency. RRWA's cooperative approach to designing and implementing projects results in regional consistency in the methods and the message, and also cost savings to RRWA member agencies.
- ISSUES: Each year RRWA adopts a Work Plan and budget to support administration of the organization and implementation of specific projects. Many of the projects target compliance with requirements overseen by the Regional Water Board. RRWA staff consistently seeks input from Regional Water Board staff on project priorities, and design and implementation strategies.
- Here are some key projects in the current RRWA Work Plan:
- Storm Water and Watershed Awareness Tracking Survey for Municipal storm water Phase I agencies;
  - NPDES Storm Water Phase II Forum – for RRWA member agencies and Phase II agencies (continuing next year);
  - Sponsorship of Watershed Clean-ups (continuing next year);
  - Laguna de Santa Rosa TMDL forum (continuing next year);
  - "Take it from the Tap" drinking water messaging, including 2012 High School Video Contest topic (continuing next year);
  - Russian River Friendly Landscape Guidelines – event and signage; and
  - Safe Medicine Disposal Program (continuing each year).

In addition to RRWA's ongoing projects, their 2013-2014 Work Plan (copy attached) includes developing a Russian River Watershed Urban Creek Care Guide for residents and property owners, special safe medicine collection events, and a new forum for collective comments on wastewater NPDES topics.

**SIGNIFICANT  
CHANGES:**               None

**RECOMMENDATION:** This is an informational item.

**SUPPORTING  
DOCUMENTS:**               Russian River Watershed Association Draft 2013-2014 Work Plan

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