

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S SUMMARY REPORT  
8:30 a.m., Thursday, June 12, 2008  
Regional Water Board Office  
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A  
Santa Rosa, California

ITEM: 11

SUBJECT: Public Hearing to consider proposed Resolution No. R1-2008-0057 for adoption, regarding the *Regional Water Board Staff Work Plan to Control Excess Sediment in Sediment-Impaired Watersheds* (Staff Work Plan).

## DISCUSSION

### Purpose of the Hearing

The purpose of the hearing is for the Regional Water Board to consider proposed Resolution No. R1-2008-0057 for adoption, which pertains to the Staff Work Plan.

### Overview of the Staff Work Plan

The Staff Work Plan, dated April 8, 2008, is a staff-level planning document that describes the tasks that Regional Water Board staff are currently taking and intend to take over the next ten years, as resources allow, to reduce and control excess sediment in the sediment-impaired waterbodies of the North Coast Region. The Staff Work Plan fulfills the Regional Water Board's direction under the *Total Maximum Daily Load Implementation Policy Statement for Sediment Impaired Receiving Waters in the North Coast Region* (Resolution No. R1-2004-0087).

Excess sediment is defined as soil, rock, and/or sediments (e.g., sand, silt, or clay) from human related activities that is discharged to waters of the state in an amount that could be deleterious to beneficial uses or cause a nuisance.

The Staff Work Plan includes:

- 35 regional sediment control tasks and many watershed-specific tasks for each of the 27 sediment-impaired waterbodies.
- Priority rankings for each regional task and for each watershed.
- A ten year time line for executing the tasks, assuming resources are available.
- An estimate of resources and staff needs.

The Work Plan focuses on the following 27 waterbodies that are listed as sediment impaired per the 2006 303(d) List. Approximately 61% of the North Coast Region drains to these sediment-impaired waterbodies.

Albion River	Estero Americano	Noyo River
Big River	Freshwater Creek	Redwood Creek
Eel River, North Fork	Garcia River	Russian River
Eel River, Middle Fork	Gualala River	Scott River
Eel River, South Fork	Jacoby Creek	Stemple Creek & Estero de
Eel River, Upper Mainstem	Klamath River (downstream	San Antonio
Eel River, Middle Mainstem	of Weitchpec)	Ten Mile River
Eel River, Lower Mainstem	Mad River	Trinity River, Mainstem
Eel River, Van Duzen River	Mattole River	Trinity River, South Fork
Elk River	Navarro River	

### **Public Comments & the Final Version**

The Public Review Draft Work Plan was released on November 14, 2007. Since that time, Regional Water Board staff have engaged in outreach activities and have received written and oral comments from the public, interested parties, and the Regional Water Board. The written comment period closed on March 17, 2008. The *Summary of Public Comments and Responses* was finalized by staff on April 14, 2008.

Staff made numerous changes to the Staff Work Plan in response to oral and written comments. These changes are incorporated into the final Staff Work Plan dated April 8, 2008.

### **Resource Needs**

The Staff Work Plan identifies the need for approximately 20 additional permanent technical staff to execute all the tasks listed in the Work Plan in the next ten years and to maintain the program in subsequent years. Staff will seek additional resources through all possible avenues. Staff will continue to leverage existing resources to execute the sediment control tasks in the most efficient and effective manner. This includes continuing to work on tasks currently underway and focusing existing resources on the U.S. Forest Service and activities in the Region's National Forests and on county roads.

### **PRELIMINARY STAFF RECOMMENDATION:**

Adopt Resolution No. R1-2008-0057 as proposed.