EXECUTIVE OFFICERS REPORT
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

September 2011

North Coast Regional Water Board TMDL Program Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Accomplishments & Challenges

Rebecca Fitzgerald

This summary identifies accomplishments and challenges of the North Coast Regional Water Board's TMDL Program for fiscal year 2010-2011 that are not reflected in the End-of-Year Report generated by Planner Tracker.

The North Coast Regional Water Board's TMDL priorities are focused on TMDL implementation, addressing impaired waters through existing mechanisms and new policies, and developing TMDLs where analysis is needed. In support of these priorities, the North Coast Region was allocated 10.7 PYs for its TMDL Program in FY 10/11. Staff utilized these resources to address five general categories of projects: the Integrated Report (6%), TMDL development (34%), TMDL implementation (39%), implementation planning (12%), and program management (9%). Approximately 1.5 PYs were dedicated to the Klamath River TMDLs, which were approved and took effect this fiscal year, and which staff began implementing in earnest. Another 1.0 PY became vacant in FY 10/11 due to a promotion and the inability to backfill. This PY was intended to support TMDL development for the Laguna de Santa Rosa and the resource loss resulted in an extension of the timeline by approximately one year.

Since 2006, as more TMDLs have been adopted, Region 1 has increasingly shifted more of its TMDL resources toward TMDL implementation in an effort to maintain momentum within a watershed and achieve real water quality results. This trend continued in FY 10/11 with 39% of PYs devoted directly to TMDL implementation projects in the Garcia, Klamath, Lost, Salmon, Scott, and Shasta River watersheds.

The North Coast Region continued to focus resources on addressing impaired waters by utilizing regulatory implementation mechanisms before, and hopefully in place of, technical TMDL analyses when sources and solutions are well understood. Examples are Region 1's dairy permit program, the county road general waiver, the general timber harvesting WDRs and waiver, and the U.S. Forest Service waiver. Additionally, TMDL funds in FY 10/11 supported the development of the regional Irrigated Lands Discharge Program, the regional Temperature Policy, amendments to the regional Dissolved Oxygen Water Quality Objective, and the statewide Grazing Regulatory Action Plan. All of these efforts are designed to improve water quality more efficiently and effectively. Once these programs are in place they should provide reasonable assurance that standards will be achieved in a reasonable period of time, thereby allowing 4b categorization on the 303(d) List and negating the need to develop TMDLs for several impaired waters.

There are, however, instances where impacts, sources, and potential solutions to impairments are poorly understood and TMDLs are absolutely necessary. Impairments to the Laguna de Santa Rosa, Russian River, Elk River, and Freshwater Creek are four such cases in the North Coast Region. Additionally, Region 1 staff are collaborating with other regions and State Board staff to more efficiently use resources to develop TMDLs. For example, the Statewide Mercury TMDL will provide a mechanism for addressing six mercury-impaired water bodies in the North Coast Region. In FY 10/11, approximately one third of PYs were devoted to these TMDL development efforts.

Accomplishments:

2010 Integrated 303(d)/305(b) Report: The 2010 Integrated Report was approved by the State Water Board on August 4, 2010, and partially approved by the USEPA on November 12, 2010, without any changes to the version of the 303(d) List adopted by the North Coast Regional Water Board in June 2010. Staff are proud that both the State Water Board and USEPA concurred with the regional decisions and supporting documentation for approx. 550 waterbody-pollutant-pairs.

Elk River Sediment TMDL - Development: Technical TMDL development work resumed in December 2010 with the return of the lead staff from leave. The public review draft of the Sediment Source Analysis for the Upper Elk River Watershed was released in May 2011. The analysis is data rich and is largely based upon data generated pursuant to Regional Water Board requirements for monitoring, reporting, and cleanup of sediment sources. Outreach to individual landowners prior to its release resulted in the identification of areas of agreement and disagreement, and broad confidence in the source analysis product.

Freshwater Creek Sediment TMDL - Development: Developing the sediment TMDL for Freshwater Creek has been a slow process due to ongoing litigation. Nevertheless, staff made progress in FY 10/11 and completed drafts of the TMDL staff report introduction, watershed description, and sediment problem statement. Staff continued development of the sediment budget. Additionally, staff worked with the largest landowner in the watershed, Humboldt Redwood Company, to coordinate data analysis for their revised watershed analysis. Funding for the development of the Freshwater Creek Sediment TMDL is provided through the timber program.

Laguna de Santa Rosa TMDLs - Development: Staff continued the technical TMDL analysis for the phosphorus, nitrogen, dissolved oxygen, temperature, and sediment TMDLs for the Laguna de Santa Rosa, a complex ecosystem of streams, wetlands, and ponds/lagoons. Staff selected, calibrated, and evaluated both land cover loading and surface water response models. Staff also conducted an analysis of pre-European settlement conditions in the Laguna watershed prior to help assess natural background sources and estimate historical loading. Outreach efforts also continued with Board presentations in July 2010 and January 2011, stakeholder meetings in March 2011 to present initial nutrient analysis results, and discussions and meetings throughout the fiscal year.

Russian River Pathogens TMDL - Development: In FY 10/11, TMDL staff efforts in the Russian River were focused

on monitoring. Staff developed a comprehensive water quality monitoring program to help answer questions about recreational and land use impacts on pathogenic indicator bacteria occurrence, abundance, and spatial and temporal variability during both wet and dry weather periods. Staff began sampling in May 2011 to measure both traditional pathogenic indicator bacteria and apply new microbial source tracking methods. Indicator bacteria samples are being analyzed in the Region's new in-house laboratory.

Garcia River Sediment TMDL - Implementation: Staff continued to be involved in inventory and erosion control work along many miles of road, the completion of sediment inventories across the 23,000 acre Garcia River Forest property, and several instream large wood augmentation projects. Staff have also continued the watershed-wide water quality monitoring program being conducted through a partnership between the Regional Water Board and The Nature Conservancy.

Mendocino County Sediment TMDLs - Implementation: One mechanism to help reduce sediment discharges in nine sediment-impaired watersheds in Mendocino County is the Mendocino County Permit Coordination Program, which will establish a one-stop-shop for landowners to obtain permits for restoration and sediment control work. In FY 10/11, staff began a collaborative effort with the Mendocino County RCD and the NRCS to develop and partially fund this program.

Klamath River TMDLs - Implementation: The Klamath River Temperature, Dissolved Oxygen, Nutrient, and Microcystin TMDLs and Implementation Plan were adopted by the State Water Board in September 2010 and approved by the USEPA in December 2010. Region 1 staff played a significant role in preparing for State Board consideration and compiling a substantial and complete electronic administrative record. Implementation efforts have begun in earnest. Staff are on the steering committee of the Klamath Basin Monitoring Program, which created and maintains a basin-wide coordinated monitoring network involving over thirty monitoring entities. Staff also participated in the development of the Klamath Tracking and Accounting Program, which is a basinwide framework for tracking water quality improvement projects and a pollutant offset and trading program. The Regional Water Board also served as a cooperating agency in the Secretarial Determination process evaluating possible removal of four mainstem Klamath River dams, the Klamath Hydropower Settlement Agreement (KHSA), and several water quality improvement interim measures. The later includes water quality pilot projects for KHSA Interim Measure 11 and the planning for a Klamath Basin Water Quality Workshop for evaluation of large scale pollutant reduction projects. Finally, Region 1 staff also continued involvement in the Klamath and Statewide Blue-Green Algae Work Groups including leading coordination for health advisory postings at the Klamath reservoirs and downstream.

Salmon River Temperature TMDL - Implementation: Staff continued to implement the 2005 temperature TMDL in the Salmon River watershed and worked closely with the U.S. Forest Service, which manages more than 98% of the watershed. Staff have also worked with the Salmon River Restoration Council and partially supported their efforts through TMDL contract funds.

Scott River Sediment and Temperature TMDLs - Implementation: In FY 10/11, staff finalized and released the Scott River Watershed Compliance and Trend Monitoring Plan. Staff worked in close coordination with the Siskiyou Resource Conservation District on the development of 2 grants to implement the Scott Valley Community Groundwater Study Plan and a second grant to develop and implement the Riparian Restoration Strategy. Staff also hosted two information sharing workshops in which the community summarized efforts to implement the Groundwater Study Plan and TMDL Action Plan. Staff prepared a short-term renewal of the waiver currently in place to allow time to adequately incorporate information presented in conjunction with the workshops. Additionally, staff participated in the timber harvest review process and enrolled timber harvest plans under the WDRs consistent with the TMDL Action Plan. Finally, staff responded to complaints, some of which resulted in inspections, compliance assistance, and water quality sampling.

Shasta River Temperature and Dissolved Oxygen TMDLs - Implementation: Staff continued implementation efforts with particular focus on protecting cold water refugia downstream of Dwinnell Dam and in Parks Creek. Staff focused on implementing tail water management actions, contract and grant management, endangered species issues, implementing the U.S. Forest Service waiver, and the Shasta TMDL implementation plan and waiver. Additionally, fencing was installed to protect approximately 10 mile of stream and cold water springs.

Dissolved Oxygen Objective Amendment: Staff continue to develop a Basin Plan amendment to revise the DO water quality objective. Staff determined it is necessary that the amendment not only address DO in free-flowing water, but in wetlands, estuaries, lakes/reservoirs, and ephemeral streams as well. The need for revised DO objectives for wetlands has particularly become clear through work currently being conducted on the Laguna de Santa Rosa TMDL.

Irrigated Lands Discharge Program: Staff began work in FY 10/11 on this program to address discharges from row crops, irrigated pasture, vineyards, orchards, and other irrigated lands in the North Coast Region. The program began as a requirement of the Klamath TMDLs to develop a conditional waiver for agricultural lands in the Klamath Basin. Staff expanded the geographic scope to the entire region due to the regional need to regulate agricultural discharges and improved consistency and fairness, and staff concurrently excluded discharges from dryland grazing as these activities will be addressed via the Statewide Grazing Program. Staff presented to the Board and the public to solicit feedback and direction in June 2010 and May 2011.

Restoration Policy Amendment: In FY 10/11, staff continued work on the Restoration Policy Basin Plan Amendment, formerly known as the Exemption Criteria Amendment. The goal of the amendment is to clarify the mechanism necessary to ease the permitting of large-scale restoration projects which sometimes result in significant short-term water quality impacts before their long-term water quality benefits are realized (e.g., the Trinity River channel reconfiguration project and possible decommissioning of Klamath River dams). By the end of FY 10/11, staff completed the scooping document and

drafted amendment language suitable to legal counsel and management.

Temperature Implementation Policy: Staff initiated work this year on a basin planning effort to comprehensively address temperature impairments and prevent new temperature impairments region-wide. The first step in this process is the development of a Board resolution that describes the need and rationale for a temperature policy, presents the factors and land use activities that contribute to elevated water temperatures, defines the board's authority, identifies opportunities for collaboration, and directs staff to implement temperature and shade controls in regulatory actions as appropriate. The resolution was presented to the Board for early input in June 2011.

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Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program Update Rich Fadness

Background: The Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) began in FY 2000-01 as a comprehensive state-wide surface water quality monitoring program, independent of, yet coordinated with, other water quality regulatory programs. The SWAMP, as envisioned, serves as a measure of: (1) the overall status of the beneficial uses of the State's water resources, and (2) the overall effectiveness of the prevention, regulatory, and remedial actions taken by the State Water Resourced Control Board and Regional Water Boards.

In the North Coast Region, the SWAMP used a two-component approach to address regional and site-specific monitoring in the early years of the program: 1) long-term monitoring sites for trend analysis, and 2) rotating intensive basin surveys. The long-term trend sites are located at the base of large watersheds and are designed to detect and evaluate changes in the concentrations of water-quality contaminants in large watersheds to assist and support appropriate management decision making. The rotation schedule for the basin surveys was designed to collect and analyze additional data within each hydrologic unit on at least one occasion every five years.

Funding cuts and outsourcing the monitoring work forced the Regional SWAMP to severely curtail the scale of the rotating basin surveys in the latter years, with most of the effort focusing on maintaining the data collection at the Region's long-term trend stations.

Currently, SWAMP is monitoring the Long-Term Trend sites on a 4-year rotational basis, collecting data on 10-12 sites per year. In 2009-2010, SWAMP focused on the Eel River watershed, in 2010-2011 SWAMP focused on the Russian River watershed, while in 2012 the focus will be on the Coastal watersheds.

SWAMP
Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program

As funding allows, the Regional program conducts additional monitoring studies each year. Each year, a work plan is developed to outline the components of the regional program. Staff are in the process

of developing a work plan for FY 2011-2012. The FY 2010-2011 work plan projects are summarized below:

2011 SWAMP Projects:

In FY 2010-2011 the Regional SWAMP projects included:

- *Region-wide: Reference Condition/Healthy Streams Initiative Program*
- *Russian River Watershed : Long-Term Trend Monitoring Stations – 2011*
- *Russian River Watershed: Nutrients and Biostimulation Assessment*
- *Garcia River: TMDL Implementation Monitoring*
  - *Augmentation of TNC Garcia River BMI Sampling*
- *Russian River: BMI-pHab*
- *Klamath Basin Monitoring Program Support*
- *Bacteria Lab:*
  - *Freshwater Beaches Bacteria Monitoring Program*
  - *Russian River TMDL Development*

Reference Condition Management Program: The SWAMP at each Region has been directed by State Water Board management to develop reference sites within each Region. Establishing, monitoring and maintaining reference sites in each Region is the responsibility of each Regional program. We began this work through a contract with Department of Fish and Game in May 2010. This program requires the development of monitoring locations in reference streams as well as maintaining an ongoing monitoring program at these sites. This monitoring is equivalent to the on-going monitoring that we are conducting in the Garcia River (see below). Our Regional SWAMP program funded the development of seven sites in 2010 and 2011 and plan to continue to fund the development of seven additional sites in 2012.

Long-Term Trend Monitoring: The North Coast Region has collected an extensive amount of data at each of our long-term trend monitoring stations. At most of these stations, the data collection occurred every year beginning in 2001, while at others, the trend stations were developed at a later date or sampling has occurred less than every year. This is an important dataset which will be maintained. Our Regional SWAMP program will be sampling a subset of 10-12 of these sites on a four-year rotation rather than sampling all 40 sites on a yearly basis. This rotational effort consists of five site visits per year under differing hydrologic conditions.

- FY 0910 (9/09-07/10) focused on ten long-term Eel River Watershed stations.
- 2011 (9/10-11/11) focused on ten long-term Russian River Watershed stations.
- 2012 (3/12-12/12) will focus on twelve long-term Coastal Watershed stations

Nutrients and Biostimulation – A Study to Develop Nutrient Numeric Endpoints: In response to TMDL Unit staff solicitation of data and information for assessment of water quality conditions as part of the 2008 303(d) List update, Core Regulatory staff provided anecdotal information that suggests possible nutrient/bio-stimulatory substances impairment of reaches of the South Fork Eel and Russian Rivers. In 2010 the Regional SWAMP collected nutrient samples at five locations within the lower SF Eel River between Redway and Myers Flat. There were also five

continuous monitoring datasondes deployed in the lower SF Eel. These samples and datasondes bracketed the towns of Redway, Phillipsville, Miranda, and Myers Flat. In addition, we collected algae samples at three locations and Benthic Macro-Invertebrate (BMI) samples at one location. These samples were once every three weeks. This effort began in June 2010 and completed in early October 2010.

Russian River BMI-pHab: We are collaborating with the Sotoyome and Gold Ridge RCDs, collecting Benthic Macro-Invertebrate (BMI) and physical habitat (pHab) samples in some of the tributaries in the lower Russian River watershed. There has been limited BMI sampling efforts in the Russian River since the development of the Russian River B-IBI. Staff is working with the RCDs, collecting data from three sites with each RCD.

Garcia River TMDL Implementation Monitoring: The Regional SWAMP effort has provided funding for the analysis costs of the Garcia River TMDL Implementation monitoring program. This is a collaborative effort that is conducted with The Nature Conservancy (TNC). The Garcia River watershed is a high priority watershed. The USEPA has included the Garcia River as a "Measure W" watershed, and we are required to demonstrate improvement of water quality conditions within a defined timeframe. This effort will also augment the development of a North Coast Algal-IBI (A-IBI), the SWAMP Perennial Streams Survey, and may lead to the refinement of the North Coast B-IBI. Regional Board staff have been monitoring ten sites per year, while TNC has completed monitoring on 60 sites.

Augmentation of TNC Garcia River BMI Sampling: The Garcia River TMDL Implementation monitoring program is a collaborative effort with The Nature Conservancy (TNC), complimenting the work that TNC began in 2007. As part of the SWAMP protocols, additional parameters have been added to the sampling plan that were not incorporated or budgeted for in the TNC workplan. SWAMP staff are assisting TNC by sampling algae and WQ at three sites this year. This additional information will help complete an overall understanding of the Garcia River watershed.

Klamath Basin Monitoring Program Support: Following the 2002 fish kill on the Klamath River, Regional Water Board staff and other state and federal agencies, tribal entities, PacifiCorp, and various watershed groups in the Klamath Basin identified the need for better collaboration and coordination of sampling efforts. Grant funding for such a collaborative effort was provided by the USEPA and the State Water Board NPS program. The Klamath Basin Monitoring Program (KBMP) has brought together these diverse and discrete parties to coordinate water quality monitoring in the Klamath Basin including. The goal of the KBMP is to:

- create a comprehensive and inclusive monitoring strategy;
- develop an effective and efficient way of using resources;
- generate a holistic picture on the health of the basin; and
- further develop interagency partnerships to improve the health of the basin.

The KBMP has produced a Quality Assurance Program Plan (QAPrP), a communications plan, a water quality

database, a web-based portal for uploading and downloading water quality data consistent with CEDEN, various Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) providing consistent sampling protocols for all KBMP members, and a basin-wide monitoring plan designed to address management issues and concerns.

The grant funding has provided the KBMP with the financial capability to build the program, but did not provide for the continued sustainability of the program. The program must investigate ways to secure a sustainable funding source to assure continued success and further development of the KBMP. In the interim, the program will be administered through the voluntary efforts of the various monitoring agencies and volunteer organizations in the basin, including Regional Board staff. This voluntary effort will assure the continued collaboration of the various water quality monitoring efforts, but does not assure the continued use and management of the database and web-based portal.

Regional SWAMP funding will provide for the continued development of the web-based portal and database, as well as managing and populating the database with data from each of the entities within the basin.

Freshwater Beaches Bacteria Monitoring Program and Russian River Indicator Bacteria TMDL Development*:* In the past Sonoma County and the Regional Water Board have been working under a cooperative cost-sharing program to monitor bacteria concentrations (Coliforms and Enterococcus) at six swimming beaches on the Russian River. Under the cost-sharing arrangement, Regional Water Board staff collected the grab samples and the Sonoma County lab processed the samples. However, Sonoma County is unable to fund the analysis of bacteria samples now and into the future.

The Regional SWAMP received our Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) certification in mid-June 2011, which allows us to process bacteria samples in-house, providing the Region with greater flexibility to monitor additional locations as well as monitoring at different times of the day or year, factors critical to the development of the Russian River Indicator Bacteria TMDL. In-house sampling/analysis also provides the Region with the ability to process and receive the results from sampling in a more timely manner. In addition, the savings generated through in-house sampling/ analysis provides us with the ability to expand our freshwater bacteria sampling program without incurring additional costs to the State or Region.

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Ownership-Wide WDR for Green Diamond Resource Company

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Staff have begun developing an ownership-wide Waste Discharge Requirements (WDR) for Green Diamond Resource Company. The development of ownership-wide WDR for Green Diamond is identified in the 2008 Work Plan to Control Excess Sediment as a watershed-specific task for each watershed in which Green Diamond owns property. An ownership-wide WDR for Green Diamond would provide programmatic regulatory coverage for nonpoint source discharges associated with timber harvest operations and forest

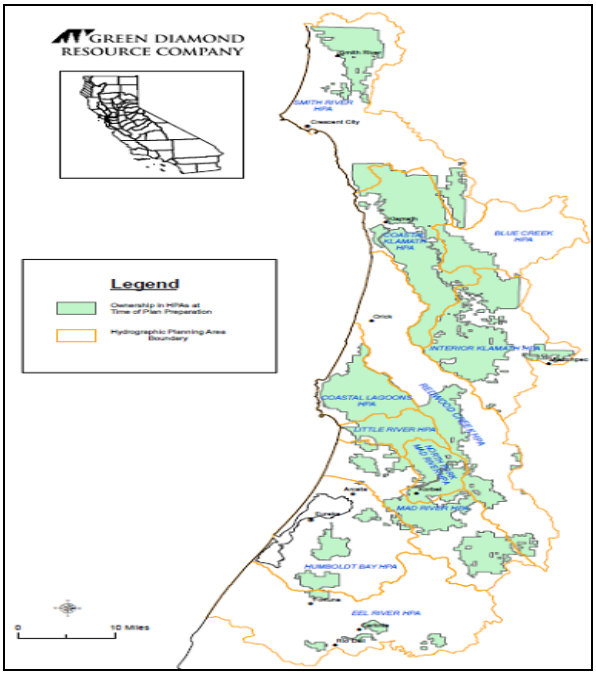
management activities on approximately 400,000 acres of industrial timberland in Humboldt and Del Norte counties.

The intent of an ownership-wide WDR is to streamline the regulatory process, thereby reducing staff time devoted to individual projects, while promoting water quality protection measures and ensuring that the highest threats to water quality are addressed across Green Diamond's ownership. Green Diamond is seeking such a permit in order to provide regulatory certainty associated with their land management activities.

Timber operations and forest management activities that would be covered by the ownership-wide WDR include timber harvesting, yarding, hauling, site preparation, and planting, as well as road work, and restoration projects. The Green Diamond Roads WDR (Order No. R1-2010-0044), which the Regional Water Board approved in 2010, would, most likely, be merged into the ownership-wide WDR, as would features of the General WDR for timber harvest activities (Order No. R1-2004-0030).

Green Diamond's ownership covered by its Aquatic Habitat Conservation Plan (AHCP) would be eligible for coverage, including property in the following watersheds: Smith River, Lower Klamath River, Redwood Creek, Little River, Maple Creek, Mad River, and tributaries to Humboldt Bay. Many of these watersheds have sediment, turbidity, and/or temperature TMDLs. The ownership-wide WDR would include conditions to implement the TMDLs.

Staff will coordinate with representatives of Green Diamond to incorporate into the ownership-wide WDR the water quality and habitat protection measures, monitoring programs, and adaptive management principles currently included in the company's operating conservation program. It is expected that an ownership-wide WDR for Green Diamond would be brought before the Regional Water Board in the summer of 2012.



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Mattole Programmatic Timber Environmental Impact Assessment (Mattole PTEIR) Joelle Geppert

Recognizing that 72,000 acres of the Mattole River watershed -- more than one-third of the watershed -- were last logged before 1962 and that these areas are approaching the age when they might be harvested for timber, the Mattole Restoration Council (MRC) through their Future Forests program, sought a mechanism to encourage landowners to practice "light-touch" forestry in the watershed. From a survey of more than

100 landowners, the MRC found that most landowners in the Mattole would consider harvesting timber from their land, a figure that rises to 80 percent for owners of parcels over 640 acres, who control the majority of the private land base. The MRC has taken an active role in promoting restoration based forestry activities including sediment reduction from roads and tree planting to promote riparian shade conditions. Reducing the costs of developing Timber Harvesting Plans (THPs), as a trade off for using lighter-touch forestry methods could further reduce potential water quality impacts from silvicultural practices and work to improve water quality through increases in shade canopy and reduction of sediment sources.

Water Board Funding 319(h) Grant: The MRC received a 2005-2006 Proposition 40/13 grant (the Grant) to prepare a Programmatic Timberland Environmental Impact Report (PTEIR) that will provide the analysis to support the development and implementation of Programmatic Timber Harvest Plans (PTHPs) which utilize a variety of "light-touch" forestry prescriptions. The Grant provides $3.2 million to the MRC for a variety of water quality improvement activities. Using a watershed scale environmental analysis should give landowners a streamlined permitting process for their logging plans, provided they are conducting light-touch harvesting as described in the PTEIR. For full details, please visit the MRC website at: http://www.mattole.org/content/mattole-forest-futures-pteir

Regional Water Board Permitting: Regional Water Board staff are working with the MRC to evaluate the need for a Mattole specific permit.

Rainbow Ridge in the Mattole, Humboldt Co., CA

Water Quality Benefits of the Mattole PTEIR: Timber Harvesting on private lands in the Mattole River watershed are likely to continue in the coming years. Providing a more streamlined approach to the regulatory approval and permitting process could substantial reduce the cost of THP development. In exchange, landowners that utilize the PTEIR and implement PTHPs, practice more sustainable, restoration focused silvicultural practices that will improve water quality.

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Decommissioning of the Wells Fargo Center WWTP and Construction of the Sutter Medical Center Rachel Prat

The secondary wastewater treatment plant serving the Santa Rosa Wells Fargo Center for the Arts has been torn down to make way for the new Sutter Medical Center. The site is located on the east side and directly adjacent to Highway 101 in Santa Rosa, near the River Road exit. A Closure Plan prepared by Brelje & Race Engineers on behalf of Sutter Health Center was approved by Regional Water Board staff on

July 22, 2010. Ghilotti Construction completed the approved decommissioning activities in February of this year.

The wastewater treatment plant began operation in 1977 when it was constructed to serve the former Christian Life Center, a religious institution and school. The wastewater treatment pond system, located northwest of the Center was designed to provide secondary treatment for up to 25,000 gallons per day of wastewater. Treatment consisted of an aeration pond followed by disinfection, prior to being discharged into an evaporation/percolation pond for disposal.

WWTP December 1976

Proposed decommissioning activities included the following:

- Collection of confirmation biosolids samples for the purpose of identifying land application requirements;
- Removal and disposal or reuse as a compost material of the vegetation surrounding the ponds;
- Excavation and disposal of biosolids including the top three inches of soil beneath the pond liner of the aeration pond and the top six inches of soil from the bottom of the evaporation/percolation pond;
- Abandonment of all above and below-ground infrastructure associated with the wastewater treatment plant;
- Disposal of residual wastewater to the Airport Larkfield Wikiup Sanitation Zone collection system; and
- Excavation of the soft soil material below the pond bottoms and the backfilling with a “bridging” layer for structural support.

Ghilotti Construction completed the decommissioning activities in April 2011, including the disposal of up to 200 cubic yards of biosolids and biosolids impacted site soils to the Recology Hay Road Landfill in Vacaville.

The Wells Fargo Center is currently connected to the Sonoma County Water Agency Airport Larkfield Wikiup collection system for wastewater treatment service. The new Sutter Medical Center will also be served by the Airport Larkfield Wikiup wastewater treatment plant upon construction completion. The Sutter Medical Center is currently under construction and Regional Water Board staff has issued a Clean Water Act 401 Water Quality Certification to address dredging and filling of surface waters onsite to construct the facility. Staff has also approved a post-construction storm water treatment plan that incorporates Low Impact Development to reduce impacts to water quality from development of the site.

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Redwood Coast Petroleum Spill, Mendocino County Craig Hunt

Regional Water Board staff has taken the lead oversight for clean up of a large fuel spill on Highway 128 north of Cloverdale, just north of the Mendocino-Sonoma county line. On August 2, a Redwood Coast Petroleum fuel truck crashed, rupturing a

cargo tank and spilling about 2,400 gallons of diesel and 1,900 gallons of gasoline. In an area where the highway is on a steep hillside, the fuel flowed onto the upslope side of the road. A local fire crew and Mendocino County hazmat personnel initially responded, reporting that the fuel quickly soaked into the soil along the road. The highway was shutdown that night. Regional Water Board staff arrived at the site the following morning. Due to the fuel entering soil, it did not flow to surface water. However, with the large volume spilled and the porous soil, groundwater and downhill creeks were clearly threatened. Regional Water Board staff conferred with Caltrans and the insurer's environmental contractor NRC Environmental Services on immediate actions being taken. Excavation work began midday and continued for four more days, removing 800-900 tons of impacted soil and pavement.

Redwood Coast Petroleum fuel truck rollover (Harvey Morrison/Press Democrat)

Regional Water Board staff inspected the downgradient hillside and creeks, finding no initial surface releases of the spill. One lane of traffic was opened during the excavation work, and both lanes were open the next week.

Excavation work on Highway 128

The Executive Officer issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R1-2011-0086 on August 4. Although some impacted soil was removed, the entire release could not be recovered with the initial excavation work. Additional surface water monitoring and subsurface investigation will be performed, driving additional cleanup action. Regional Water Board staff is working with the responsible party, the California Department of Fish and Game, the Mendocino County Environmental Health Division, Caltrans, and the neighboring property owners to protect water quality.

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North Coast Regional Water Board Meeting Schedule
2012 Proposed Schedule

Date		***Location***
January 19, 2012	Board Meeting	Regional Water Board 5550 Skylane Blvd., Ste A Santa Rosa. CA
March 15, 2012	Board Meeting	TBD
April 26, 2012	Board Meeting	Regional Water Board 5550 Skylane Blvd., Ste A Santa Rosa. CA
June 7, 2012	Board Meeting	TBD
August 23, 2012	Board Meeting	Regional Water Board 5550 Skylane Blvd., Ste A Santa Rosa. CA
October 4, 2012	Board Meeting	TBD
December 6, 2012	Board Meeting	Regional Water Board 5550 Skylane Blvd., Ste A Santa Rosa. CA

Board meetings are scheduled approximately 5 to 7 weeks a part. On site board meeting start times are 8:30 a.m. and off site board meeting times are 9:00 a.m., unless otherwise noted. There are seven (7) board meetings scheduled for 2012. Official board meetings are held on Thursdays unless otherwise noted. Dates are scheduled to allow for workshop presentations. If a workshop is scheduled, the additional board meeting day will be scheduled on a Wednesday. Additional meetings and/or Board subcommittee meetings may be scheduled.

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Enforcement Report
Diana Henrioulle

Enforcement Orders may be viewed by following the Enforcement link on the Regional Water Board's web home page.

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/enforcement/

Enforcement Report for September 2011 Executive Officer's Report

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of August 19, 2011
5/31/11	City of Ferndale	ACLC	MMPs	Discharger has expressed interest in waiving right to hearing within 90 days and entering settlement discussions.

Discussion: On May 31, 2011, the Regional Water Board Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) issued an Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R1-2011-0068 to the City of Ferndale proposing a penalty of $42,000 for violations subject to Mandatory Minimum Penalties (MMPs). The Discharger has responded by letter expressing willingness to waive the right to a hearing within 90 days and to enter settlement discussions with prosecution staff. Accordingly, the prosecution team has withdrawn the hearing notice and will remove the hearing from the August 11, 2011 Board meeting.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of August 19, 2011
6/6/11	Cappy Dobbs, Cone Rock, Spyglass Residential Subdivision	NOV	Construction storm Water Permit – lack of proper sediment/ erosion controls	In compliance

Discussion: On June 6, 2011, the Regional Water Board AEO issued a Notice of Violation (NOV) to Cappy Dobbs for violation of the Construction Storm Water Permit on his Spyglass Subdivision in Del Norte County, specifically, by failing to implement adequate Best Management Practices for controlling sediment discharges from the site. The NOV directed the Discharger to submit a report, within ten days, confirming that the Stormwater Pollution

Prevention Plan (SWPPP) for the site had been updated, as necessary, and fully describing measures implemented, and proposed to be implemented, to eliminate or significantly minimize the discharge of pollutants in storm water runoff from the Spyglass Subdivision construction project

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of August 19, 2011
6/20/11	City of Crescent City	NOV	NPDES permit and federal pretreatment regulations	Ongoing

Discussion: On June 20, 2011, the Regional Water Board Chief of Watershed Protection Division issued an NOV to City of Crescent City for several violations of their NPDES permit and federal pretreatment regulations identified during a February 2011 inspection. The NOV directed the Discharger to provide confirmation, by August 1, 2011, that it had corrected the identified violations

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of August 19, 2011
7/5/11	Crescent City Harbor District	ACLC	MMPs	Discharger has expressed interest in waiving right to hearing within 90 days and entering settlement discussions.

Discussion: On July 5, 2011, the Regional Water Board AEO issued an Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R1-2011-0077 to Crescent City Harbor District proposing a penalty of $177,000 for violations subject to MMPs. The Discharger has responded by letter expressing willingness to waive the right to a hearing within 90 days and to enter settlement discussions with prosecution staff. Accordingly, the prosecution team has withdrawn the hearing notice and will remove the hearing from the September 29, 2011 Board meeting.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of August 19, 2011
7/6/11	Sonoma County Airport	ACLC	Unpermitted discharge of petroleum based seal coating into Redwood Creek	Discharger has expressed interest in waiving right to hearing within 90 days and entering settlement discussions.

Discussion: On July 6, 2011, the Regional Water Board Assistant Executive Officer (AEO) issued an Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R1-2011-0068 to the Sonoma County Airport proposing a penalty of $10,568 for the unpermitted discharge of petroleum based seal

coating into a tributary to Windsor Creek, tributary to Mark West Creek, tributary to the Laguna de Santa Rosa. The Discharger has responded by letter expressing willingness to waive the right to a hearing within 90 days and to enter settlement discussions with prosecution staff. Accordingly, the prosecution team has withdrawn the hearing notice and will remove the hearing from the September 29, 2011 Board meeting.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of August 19, 2011
8/4/11	Redwood Coast Petroleum	CAO	Spill of diesel and unleaded gasoline fuel	Cleanup underway.

Discussion: On August 4, 2011, the Regional Water Board AEO issued Cleanup and Abatement Order No. R1-2011-0086 to Redwood Coast Petroleum for a spill of an estimated 2,400 gallons of diesel fuel and 1,900 gallons of unleaded gasoline fuel associated with a tanker truck accident. The spill occurred on Highway 128 in Mendocino County, approximately 5 miles northwest of Cloverdale.

Date Issued	Discharger	Action Type	Violation Type	Status as of August 19, 2011
8/5/11	DG Fairhaven Power	ACLC	MMPs and discretionary penalties for unauthorized discharges	Discharger has expressed interest in waiving right to hearing within 90 days and entering settlement discussions.

Discussion: On August 5, 2011, the Regional Water Board AEO issued an Administrative Civil Liability Complaint No. R1-2011-0081 to DG Fairhaven Power proposing a penalty of $172,950 for violations subject to MMPs and for unauthorized discharges subject to discretionary penalties. The Discharger has responded by letter expressing willingness to waive the right to a hearing within 90 days and to enter settlement discussions with prosecution staff. Accordingly, the prosecution team has withdrawn the hearing notice and will remove the hearing from the November 3, 2011 Board meeting.

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