

**From:** Susan Fregien  
**To:** 'Rachel West'; Michael L. Johnson  
**CC:** 'Francisca Johnson'; 'Lara Reising'; 'MelissaTurner'; 'ParryKlassen'; Chris Jimmerson; Jelena Hartman; mjniemi@tid.org  
**Date:** 3/14/2012 11:18 AM  
**Subject:** RE: ESJWQC E. coli, nutrient, inorganics and metals Exceedance Report-February 2012

Hi Mike,

Thanks for taking the time to explain the status of the copper management plan in Livingston Drain and your knowledge concerning potential sources.

I realize that your Management Plan Update Report will include a discussion of the management plan efforts. We will review the report and ask questions then, if we have any more.

Susan

>>> "Michael L. Johnson" <mjohnson@mlj-llc.com> 3/14/2012 9:44 AM >>>

Susan,

Rachel passed this to me for a response. The short answer to your question is no, we do not have a definitive source for the copper. There are three potential sources; 1) applications of copper in the watershed that drift into the drain, 2) naturally occurring copper in the water draining into Livingston Drain from the source water, and/or 3) soils in the Livingston Drain area have naturally elevated copper concentrations. Because of the dry winter, many growers are irrigating and it is possible that water delivered by the irrigation district contains naturally elevated amounts of dissolved copper from the source water in the Sierra Nevada. Alternatively, there have been applications of copper by growers to orchards in the area. Livingston Drain is a 3rd priority (2011-2013) subwatershed and focused outreach just began last year. The Coalition contacted 11 targeted growers farming 335 acres (23% of direct drainage area). The growers in the subwatershed use microsprinklers or drip irrigation, so it is unlikely that the copper is from irrigation return flows. If the copper is a result of spray drift, the Coalition believes its outreach program will eliminate the exceedances. At this time, the Coalition has not taken additional steps to identify the source(s) of copper in any of its drainages that regularly experience exceedances.

Mike

-----Original Message-----

From: Susan Fregien [<mailto:sfregien@waterboards.ca.gov>]

Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2012 12:15 PM

To: Rachel West

Cc: Lara Reising; Francisca Johnson; Michael Johnson; MelissaTurner; [mjniemi@tid.org](mailto:mjniemi@tid.org); ParryKlassen; Chris Jimmerson; Jelena Hartman

Subject: Re: ESJWQC E. coli, nutrient, inorganics and metals Exceedance Report-February 2012

Rachel,

Does the Coalition know what the source of copper exceedances is for this site?

Susan

>>> Rachel West <[rwest@mlj-llc.com](mailto:rwest@mlj-llc.com)> 3/13/2012 9:34 AM >>>

Hello Susan,

Livingston Drain @ Robin Ave is located in the Coalition's Zone 4 which is in Merced County.

Cottonwood Creek @ Rd 20 is in Zone 6 in Madera County so the two waterbodies do not drain from the same area. Livingston Drain @ Robin Ave receives water from Hammatt Lateral, Arena Canal, Livingston Canal and storm water from the city of Livingston.

For your reference, the AMR 2012 includes a site description (page 42) and site map (Appendix VIII) for Livingston Drain @ Robin Ave.

Please let me know if you have any other questions.

Thanks,  
Rachel

On Tue, Mar 13, 2012 at 9:13 AM, Susan Fregien  
<[sfregien@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:sfregien@waterboards.ca.gov)>wrote:

> Hi Rachel,  
>  
> Thank you for submitting the ESJWQC February 2012 Exceedance Report.  
> Can you tell me in which zone and county the Livingston Drain @  
Robin  
> Ave is located? Does this water body drain from the same area that  
> Cottonwood Creek drains? Does it receive water from Madera  
Irrigation  
> District?  
>  
> Susan  
>  
>  
> Susan Fregien, Senior Environmental Scientist Monitoring and  
> Implementation Unit Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Central Valley  
> Regional Water Quality Control Board  
> 11020 Sun Center Drive Suite 200  
> Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114  
>  
> phone: 916-464-4813  
> fax: 916-464-4780  
>  
> >>> Rachel West <[rwest@mlj-llc.com](mailto:rwest@mlj-llc.com)> 3/12/2012 10:35 AM >>>  
> Dear Susan,  
>  
> As required in the Monitoring and Reporting Program (Order No.  
> R5-2008-0005) for Coalition Groups, an Exceedance Report is being  
> submitted to address the following issues a) the exceedances, b) the  
> follow-up monitoring, and c) any analysis or other actions the  
> Coalition Group may take to address the exceedance.  
>  
> a.) On February 7, 2012, Normal Monitoring (NM) and Management Plan  
> Monitoring (MPM) were conducted in the ESJWQC region. Water was  
> collected for the analysis of physical parameters, nutrients, metals,  
> and bacteria. During this monitoring event two sites were sampled as  
> non-contiguous waterbodies (Dry Creek @ Rd 18 and Duck Slough @ Hwy  
> 99). There were three dry sites during this monitoring event (Berenda

- > Slough along Ave 18 ½, Cottonwood Creek @ Rd 20 and McCoy Lateral @
- > Hwy 140). Final data for this
- event
- > were
- > received from the laboratory on March 7, 2012. Exceedances of
- > receiving water limitations for \*E. coli, \*total dissolved solids
- > (TDS), dissolved copper and nitrate-nitrite occurred. Details on the
- > sites and constituents sampled and associated exceedances are provided
- > in an excel spreadsheet attached to this email. Raw data are
- > available upon request. Site pictures and flow data from this event
- > were provided by email on February 13, 2012, and are also available on
- > the MLJ-LLC Sharepoint website (<http://sharepoint.mlj-llc.com/mlj-db/database/forms/allitems.aspx>).
- >
- > b.) Sampling occurred at sites in the ESJWQC region again on March
- 6,
- > 2012.
- >
- > c.) All new exceedances requiring Management Plans as well as
- > Management Plan Monitoring results will be evaluated in the ESJWQC
- > Annual Management Plan Update Report due April 1, 2013.
- >
- > Michael Johnson
- >
- > Thanks,
- > ~~~~~
- > Rachel C. West
- > Environmental Scientist
- > Michael L. Johnson LLC
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