

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

**STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 20-21, 2018**  
Prepared on August 30, 2018

**ITEM NUMBER: 11**

**SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report to the Board**

**STAFF CONTACT: John Robertson 805/549-3140 or [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov)**

**This item presents a brief discussion of issues that may interest the Board. Upon request, staff can provide more detailed information about any particular item.**

**WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATIONS**

[Phil Hammer, [phillip.hammer@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:phillip.hammer@waterboards.ca.gov) 805/549-3882]

The tables on the following pages list applications received and certifications issued from May 5, 2018 – July 29, 2018.

**401 Water Quality Certification Applications Received May 5, 2018 – July 29, 2018.**

Applicant	Date Received	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Proposed Total Impact <sup>1</sup>	Status
WC Taylor Ranch, LLC- Adrienne Burns	5/8/2018	Orcutt Road Improvement	To extend an existing culvert underneath Orcutt Road and widen it by approximately 20 feet to provide a new center turn lane, curb and gutter, and sidewalk.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo Creek	0.013 acres/ 41 linear feet	Under Staff Review
San Lorenzo Valley Water District- Brian Lee	5/21/2018	Fall Creek Fish Ladder Improvement	To complete maintenance to an existing fish ladder by removing accumulated material in two of the chambers and placing this material downstream to improve streambed habitat.	Felton	Santa Cruz	Fall Creek	0.025 acres/ 100 linear feet	Under Staff Review
SWEPI LP- Warren Joshak	5/29/2018	East Cat Canyon Remediation	To remove and manage high viscosity surface oil flow to ensure conditions are protective of human health and the environment.	Santa Maria	Santa Barbara	Cat Canyon Creek	5.2 acres	Incomplete Application
Love's Country Stores of California- Rick Shuffield	5/30/2018	Salinas Travel Center	To develop a portion of a 64-acre site with a regional travel center/hotel. An intermittent man-made ditch is proposed to be replaced by a new underground storm drain pipe as a part of the project.	Salinas	Monterey	Alisal Creek Reclamation Ditch	0.23 acres/ 1,115 linear feet	Under Staff Review
3250-3282 Via Real, LLC- Neil Botts	5/31/2018	Santa Barbara Polo Villas Residential Development	To provide an 8-foot wide multi-use public trail easement consistent with the Toro Canyon Community Trails Plan.	Carpinteria	Santa Barbara	Garrapata Creek	0.8 acres	Under Staff Review
City of Santa Cruz Dept. of Public Works- Mark Dettle	5/31/2018	City of Santa Cruz Resource Recovery Facility Ponds Restoration	To excavate recent sediment accumulations and restore two man-made ponds to original design grades.	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	Lombardi Creek	0.3408 acres/ 300 linear feet	Under Staff Review

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**Executive Officer's Report**

Applicant	Date Received	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Proposed Total Impact <sup>1</sup>	Status
US Forest Service- John Smith	6/4/2018	Agua Caliente Stream Crossing Maintenance	To allow for safe passage by the public and the Forest Service and to also reduce impacts to California red-legged frog, two-striped garter snake, and southwestern pond turtle.	San Ynez River Valley	Santa Barbara	San Ynez River	0.25 acres/ 170 linear feet	Under Staff Review
City of Monterey Dept. of Plans and Public Works- Thomas Korman	6/7/2018	Del Monte Lake Weir Improvement	To improve the performance of the weir structure to enable proper passage of stormwater overflow and prevent flooding of the nearby roadway during storm events.	Monterey	Monterey	Del Monte Lake	0.003 acres/ 25 linear feet	Under Staff Review
Graniterock- Pat Mapelli	6/11/2018	Graniterock A.R. Wilson Quarry	To accommodate the placement of overburden soil and rock removed from the quarry to the South Canyon portion of Brigantino property.	Aromas	San Benito	Unnamed tributary	0.23 acres	Under Staff Review
City of Carpinteria- Erin Maker	6/11/2018	Carpinteria Creek Debris Removal Emergency	To obtain an after the fact permit for emergency debris removal and creek stabilization work.	Carpinteria	Santa Barbara	Carpinteria Creek	0.29 acres/ 375 linear feet	Withdrawn
AT&T Corporation- Robert Wargo	6/15/2018	AT&T Removal of Segments E1 and S7 of the China-U.S. Cable Network	To remove the E1 and S7 cable segments from the ocean at Montana De Oro State Park.	Los Osos	San Luis Obispo	Pacific Ocean	1.86 acres	Under Staff Review
NKT Development, LLC- Nick Tompkins	6/15/2018	NWC Broad Street and Tank Farm Road Mixed Use	To develop a mixed-use retail shopping center and assisted living facility.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed tributary to Orcutt Creek	0.2 acres/ 380 linear feet	Under Staff Review
City of San Luis Obispo- Michael McGuire	6/15/2018	Marsh Street Bridge Replacement	To replace a structurally deficient and seismically inadequate bridge.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo Creek	0.2 acres/ 230 linear feet	Incomplete Application
Federal Highway Administration, Central Federal Lands Highway Division- Justin Henwood	7/12/2018	Sycamore Canyon Road Repairs and Safety Enhancements	To re-stabilize the road prism in spot locations and improve drainage conditions to protect the roadway from future floods.	Los Padres National Forest	Monterey	Sycamore Creek	0.018 acres/ 245 linear feet	Under Staff Review
King Ventures- John King	7/12/2018	Ontario Road Site Restoration	To restore a drainage that was impacted by unpermitted activities.	Avila Beach	San Luis Obispo	Unnamed tributary to San Luis Obispo Creek	0.06 acres/ 450 linear feet	Under Staff Review
City of Capitola- Steve Jesberg	7/12/2018	Capitola Beach Flume and Jetty Rehabilitation	To repair the Soquel Creek flume and jetty to their original permitted configuration.	Capitola	Santa Cruz	Soquel Creek	0.35 acres/ 700 linear feet	Under Staff Review
City of San Luis Obispo- Violeta Esparza-Reniere	7/13/2018	City of San Luis Obispo Sediment Removal	To restore conveyance capacity within three stream locations within the City of San Luis Obispo.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo Creek	0.34 acres/ 702 linear feet	Under Staff Review

<sup>[1]</sup> Total Impact includes both temporary and permanent impacts to waters.

**401 Water Quality Certifications Issued May 5, 2018 – July 29, 2018.**

Applicant	Date Certified	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Includes LID Retention Feature <sup>2</sup>	Total Impact <sup>1</sup>
Caltrans-Karen Holmes	5/9/2018	Pasatiempo Shoulder Widening	To improve sight distance in the southbound lanes on State Route 17 by widening the shoulder.	Unincorporated	Santa Cruz	Unnamed Ephemeral Drainage	N	0.052 acres
Robbins Reed, Inc.-Shawn Reed	5/10/2018	West Creek Development Project	To construct approximately 67 single family homes and 105 multifamily condominium units.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Orcutt Creek	Y	0.913 acres
City of San Luis Obispo-Violeta Esparza Reniere	5/10/2018	Prefumo Creek Arm at Los Osos Valley Road Sediment Removal	To remove sediment from the Prefumo Creek Channel to prevent Laguna Lake from filling up with sediment and increase flow capacity.	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo	Prefumo Creek	N/A	0.4 acres/ 360 linear feet
City of Santa Barbara- Erin Markey	5/11/2018	Arroyo Burro Open Space Restoration	To restore 1400 linear feet of Arroyo Burro Creek and create a wider, more diverse riparian zone with increased access to newly created floodplain habitat.	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	Arroyo Burro Creek	N/A	1.61 acres/ 1,400 linear feet
UCP Soledad, LLC- Michael Cady	5/14/2018	Bryant Canyon Channel Outfall	To complete buildout of the stormwater system that was approved in the Summerfield Phase 3 residential subdivision.	Soledad	Monterey	Bryant Canyon Channel	N/A	0.016 acres
County of Santa Cruz-Shaun Deyhim	5/22/2018	Mountain View Road PM 0.47 Repair	To repair the embankment below the westbound lane of Mountain View Road that was damaged by heavy runoff from March 2011 storms.	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	Tributary to Branciforte Creek	N/A	0.024 acres
City of Monterey-John Haynes	5/29/2018	City of Monterey Waterfront Structures Maintenance	To maintain, repair, or replace existing waterfront structures for serviceable public use.	Monterey	Monterey	Monterey Bay	N/A	0.0016 acres
County of Santa Cruz Dept. of Public Works-Jeff De Los Santos	5/31/2018	Redwood Road over Brown's Creek Tributary Bridge Replacement	To replace the Redwood Road Bridge over Brown's Creek Tributary and improve the approach roadways to the bridge.	Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz	Redwood Creek	N	0.036 acres/ 120 linear feet
County of Santa Cruz-Damon Adlao	6/1/2018	Felton Public Library Bull Creek Culvert Removal	To remove a culvert from Bull Creek to improve habitat for fish and red-legged frogs and to install two new bridges for the library.	Felton	Santa Cruz	San Lorenzo River	Y	0.165 acres
Dynegy Morro Bay, LLC-Kent Nelson	6/8/2018	Morro Bay Power Plant Marine Terminal Decommissioning	To decommission the remaining components of the Dynegy Morro Bay Power Plant Marine Terminal.	Morro Bay	San Luis Obispo	Pacific Ocean and Morro Creek	N/A	4.86 acres/ 3,200 linear feet
City of Santa Cruz Water Dept.- Matt Zeman	6/26/2018	Felton Diversion Inflatable Bladder Replacement	To replace an inflatable rubber bladder that serves as a dam across the San Lorenzo River at a drinking water diversion facility.	Felton	Santa Cruz	San Lorenzo River	N/A	0.046 acres
American Tradition LLC-Eli Parker	6/26/2018	El Estero Drainage Soil Remediation and Habitat Restoration	To remove contaminated soil within the El Estero Drainage and implement a Habitat Restoration Plan.	Santa Barbara	Santa Barbara	Laguna Channel	N/A	0.274 acres
Union Pacific Railroad Company-Damian Wallner	7/2/2018	Union Pacific Railroad Coast Subdivision MP 69.65 Bridge Replacement	To replace an existing bridge structure along the Coast Subdivision at Railroad Milepost 69.65 due to its age and condition.	San Martin	Santa Clara	Little Llagas Creek	N/A	0.006 acres/ 18 linear feet
Santa Barbara County Flood Control	7/3/2018	Goleta Slough and Lower Atascadero Creek Long-Term Maintenance	To conduct desilting and vegetation removal operations for flood control purposes.	Goleta	Santa Barbara	Various creeks and the Pacific Ocean	N/A	17.22 acres/ 19,588 linear feet

Applicant	Date Certified	Project Title	Project Purpose	Location	County	Receiving Water	Includes LID Retention Feature <sup>2</sup>	Total Impact <sup>1</sup>
District- Seth Shank								
Caltrans- Larry Bonner	7/9/2018	Arroyo Paredon Bank Stabilization and Culvert Replacement	To protect the new bridge, reconstructed roadway, and adjacent stream banks, a culvert will be replaced to increase its hydraulic capacity and accommodate key design features associated with the bridge replacement.	Carpinteria	Santa Barbara	Arroyo Paredon	N	0.338 acres
Caltrans- Randy LaVack	7/10/2018	05 SB 1 PM 12.2 Culvert Invert Repair	To repair the existing culvert pipe on an unnamed intermittent drainage that flows into El Jaro Creek.	Lompoc	Santa Barbara	Unnamed tributary to El Jaro Creek	N/A	0.01 acres
Mark Shields	7/19/2018	Rancho Cuarta Bridge Repair and Creek Restoration	To provide access to proposed single-family dwelling, guest house, and agricultural operations and to restore habitat adjacent to bridge.	Gaviota	Santa Barbara	Cuarta Creek	N	0.021 acres
US Forest Service- John Smith	7/25/2018	San Ynez River Road First Crossing Maintenance	To conduct maintenance to allow for safe passage by the public and Forest Service and to reduce impacts to California red-legged frog, two-striped garter snake and southwestern pond turtle.	San Ynez River Valley	Santa Barbara	San Ynez River	N/A	0.66 acres/ 285 linear feet

<sup>[1]</sup> Total Impact includes both temporary and permanent impacts to waters.

<sup>[2]</sup> Low Impact Development (LID) Retention Features are stormwater management structures designed to retain stormwater on-site, such as bioretention cells, infiltration trenches, etc.

## STAFF AND ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES

[John M. Robertson [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov) 805/549/3140]

At recent Central Coast Water Board meetings, we have introduced new staff and said goodbyes to retiring employees. During these regular items, I have mentioned the significant staff/personnel turnover. This brief EO Report item better quantifies the scale of this change, enumerates some of the impacts of a rapidly changing work force, and offers some examples of strategies we are using to combat these challenges.

### The Scale of Our Work Force Change:

We currently have 80 permanent staff, including ten vacant positions we are working towards filling. This is an increase of approximately fifteen positions from three years ago. This growth has occurred in the Cannabis (8), Active Oilfield (4), Site Cleanup Program (1), and Irrigated Lands (2) programs. In addition to these new positions, eleven staff have retired during the last three years, with seven retirements in the last nine months.

Some additional staff numbers surrounding change in our work force include (as of August 28, 2018):

Total Central Coast Water Board staff: 80  
 Staff with less than five years in this office: 27  
 Staff with less than two years: 19

This rate of change also impacts the management ranks; here are change specifics for the eighteen seniors (12), section managers (4), and executive staff (2):

Less than five years in position: 14/18

Less than two years in position: 12/18

#### The Impacts of Work Force Change:

This rapid change in both work force and assignments results in efficiency and cultural challenges. New leaders and new staff don't know their respective assignments as well as seasoned employees do and are therefore generally less efficient in their work. Similarly, we have less continuity of culture and practice due to all the newness. New staff have less familiarity with traditional work tools (i.e., Porter-Cologne, Clean Water Act, cleanup and abatement orders, permits, findings, etc.), and limited connection to, and understanding of the Central Coast Water Board's organizational [Vision](#), CCAMP, and the Basin Plan, for example.

#### Strategies to Manage These Work Force Change Impacts:

At the staff and management levels, we are having conversations about these challenges brought on by this rapidly changing work force, and strategies to combat each challenge. This information transfer also works in both directions, as we also want to be open to the innovative cultural contributions provided by our new staff and by those new to their present positions.

Some examples of strategies to combat work force change impacts include:

- Discussions during staff meetings covering what different programs, office-wide initiatives, and individual staff do within the Central Coast Water Board. The effect of this is to broaden knowledge of Water Board programs and break down organizational silos;
- Develop a "Water Boards 101" covering what's in our regulatory "tool box"; this education is targeting our newer staff;
- Using existing educational opportunities, internal (i.e., Water Board's Training Academy) and external (position-specific technical training), to accelerate learning on technical (i.e., hydrologic function) and non-technical (i.e., effective editing, negotiations) topics.
- Leadership and communication training for management; we are working towards bringing a version of some of this education to the larger organization.
- Experienced staff and management have established mentoring with newer staff or staff newer to their respective positions to accelerate learning and transferal of institutional memory.

As an organization, we will continue to explore ways to effectively manage this significant change and the associated challenges, and I will continue to provide updates on both.

#### **2019 MEETING LOCATION CHANGES**

[John M. Robertson [John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:John.Robertson@waterboards.ca.gov) 805/549/3140]

Due to meeting venue unavailability and planned permitting items, the Central Coast Water Board meeting locations for 2019 have been rearranged; the table below reflects the changes. Note that the dates for the 2019 meetings have remained the same, and the number of meetings in each location has also remained the same (two). Additionally, the September 2019 meeting will be in Watsonville in coordination with a planned permitting item.

Table 2019 final meeting dates and locations

Meeting Date		Original	Final
January 31-February 1, 2019	Regular Meeting	<del>Watsonville/Monterey Bay</del>	Santa Barbara Board of Supervisor Room (4 <sup>th</sup> Floor)
March 21-22, 2019	Regular Meeting	<del>Santa Barbara</del>	Watsonville City Council Room
May 9-10, 2019	Regular Meeting	<del>Watsonville/Monterey Bay</del>	San Luis Obispo Central Coast Water Board
July 18-19, 2019	Regular Meeting	<del>San Luis Obispo</del>	Santa Barbara Planning Commission (1st Floor)
September 19-20, 2019	Regular Meeting	<del>Santa Barbara</del>	Watsonville City Council Room
December 5-6, 2019	Regular Meeting	San Luis Obispo	San Luis Obispo Central Coast Water Board

**BUILDING ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE CAPACITY IN THE CENTRAL COAST REGION**

[Angela Schroeter 805/542-4644, [Angela.Schroeter@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:Angela.Schroeter@waterboards.ca.gov)]

On June 19, 2018, the Central Coast Water Board released a Request for Proposals (RFP) establishing a regional office to increase environmental justice service capacity, assisting low-income, disadvantaged individuals and communities in obtaining access to clean, safe, and affordable drinking water. At the June 28-29, 2018 board meeting (Agenda Item 17), board members discussed the RFP and identified a board subcommittee to provide input to staff regarding the review of the RFP submittals and selection of the grantee. The subcommittee includes Vice Chair Dr. Monica Hunter, and board members Jane Gray and Michael Johnston.

In response to the RFP, staff received two submittals:

1. Community Water Center
2. Rural Community Assistance Corporation (RCAC) on behalf of the Central Coast Environmental Justice Resource Partnership Team (which includes the RCAC, Environmental Justice Coalition for Water, and others).

A review panel composed of staff from the Central Coast Water Board and Office of Public Participation (OPP) evaluated the RFP submittals for technical merit and grant agreement readiness (including scope of work, budget, and statement of qualifications) using the following specific criteria:

- Quality and relevance of completed and ongoing work;
- Demonstrated availability, reliability, and continuity of applicant's proposed staff and subconsultants;
- Description of workload, organizational capacity and demonstrated ability to meet project requirements, tasks included in the scope of work and associated schedule;
- Knowledge of the Central Coast Water Board's priorities, region's hydrology/hydrogeology and water quality issues affecting disadvantaged communities (DACs);

- Past performance on Water Board funded or other drinking water and wastewater projects; and Letters of Support and References.

Based upon the above criteria, the review panel identified the Community Water Center's proposal as the most competitive and most likely to achieve success in meeting the goal of increasing environmental justice capacity in the Central Coast region. The review panel also determined that the Community Water Center's proposal contains sufficient information to move forward with grant agreement preparation in a timely manner.

Staff met with the members of the board subcommittee individually, discussed the results of the review panel's process and evaluation of the RFP submittals, and provided staff's recommendation to fund the Community Water Center's proposal. The subcommittee concurred with staff's recommendation and directed staff to work with the Bay Foundation of Morro Bay to enter into a grant agreement with the Community Water Center, in the amount of \$385,809 for one year, using available CCAMP-GAP funds. In addition, the subcommittee also concurred with staff's recommendation that the grant agreement should allocate second year funding to the Community Water Center in the amount of \$369,000 to support long-term organizational stability, conditioned upon the successful implementation of year one and the availability of funds for this purpose.

As next steps, staff will work with Community Water Center to finalize the scope of work and update the subcommittee on this, and will then work with the Bay Foundation of Morro Bay to execute the grant agreement. Staff will provide regular updates to the Central Coast Water Board on this grant's implementation.

#### **AG ORDER 4.0 TIMELINE**

[Chris Rose 805/542-4770, [chris.rose@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:chris.rose@waterboards.ca.gov) ]

The current agricultural order, known as Ag Order 3.0, was adopted on March 8, 2017. It has a three-year term, meaning it must be replaced with a new order by March 7, 2020. The replacement order, known as Ag Order 4.0, is currently under development. As part of developing Ag Order 4.0, staff has engaged stakeholders through the following efforts:

1. Listening sessions: four public listening sessions held in Salinas, Santa Maria, Watsonville and San Luis Obispo in August 2017.
2. Focused group listening sessions: private meetings with agricultural advocates, environmental advocates, and environmental justice advocates in August 2017.
3. CEQA scoping workshops: four public workshops held in Salinas, Santa Maria, Watsonville and San Luis Obispo in March 2018.
4. Board meeting agenda items: Ag Order 4.0 related agenda items developed for the December 2017, March 2018, May 2018, June 2018 board meetings.
5. Numerous additional focused group stakeholder meetings held in 2017 and 2018.

Our planned Ag Order 4.0 outreach efforts includes the following:

1. September 20-21, 2018 board meeting and workshop. Notification of the workshop included email notification to 974 subscribers to the Lyris list service (email subscription) dedicated to central coast region agricultural order issues. Staff also notified all enrolled growers who have submitted email contact information.

2. 60-day public comment period beginning November 2018 of Ag Order 4.0 draft requirement options.
3. Focused group stakeholder meetings before, during and after the November 2018 – January 2019 60-day public comment period. Participants will include advocates for growers, environmental interests, environmental justice interests, specific commodity groups, etc.
4. Public stakeholder meetings during the November 2018 – January 2019 60-day public comment period in Salinas, Watsonville, San Luis Obispo and Santa Maria.

Following the November 2018 – January 2019 60-day public comment period, staff will compile comments and continue to meet with stakeholders. Additionally, staff will bring a summary of comments and recommended options to the board for direction in March 2019. Following that meeting, in March 2019 staff will begin developing the draft Ag Order 4.0 and anticipates its release for a subsequent 60-day public comment period beginning in August 2019. Similar to the outreach events surrounding the November 2018 – January 2019 60-day public comment period, staff will host several outreach meetings, including focused group stakeholder meetings and public stakeholder meetings in Watsonville, Salinas, San Luis Obispo, and Santa Maria.

Staff will be preparing the final draft of Ag Order 4.0 from October 2019 – January 2020, and posting it on our website prior to the March 2020 board meeting.

Stakeholders have expressed interest in developing Ag Order 4.0 option/requirement proposals for staff and board consideration. These stakeholders have asked for guidance about which water quality issues staff intends to address in Ag Order 4.0. Staff has organized the water quality issues and management strategies that will be addressed in Ag Order 4.0 into five components. The five components are identified in Table 6 (Attachment 4). Proposals for Ag Order 4.0 requirements must be consistent with state and regional board plans and policies, including the state's Policy for Implementation and Enforcement of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program, also known as the Nonpoint Source Policy. Therefore, staff has included required elements in Table 6, in an effort to guide stakeholders in developing complete and feasible proposals containing all required components. For example, a proposal that addresses pesticides in surface water must describe requirements related to: numeric limits; time to achieve numeric limits (schedule); and monitoring and reporting to assess progress towards compliance. Staff is also soliciting methods for phasing or prioritization of requirements. Staff has distributed the table to all the panel leads for the September 20-21, 2018 board meeting and workshop.

### **Attachments**

1. Table 3 - Groundwater Section, Case Closure Performance Scoreboard
2. Table 4 - Groundwater Case Closures
3. Table 5 – Enrollments in General Orders/Waivers
4. Table 6 – Agricultural Order 4.0 Components