California Regional Water Quality Control Board
San Francisco Bay Region

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT

A Monthly Report to the Board and Public

December 2006

The next regular scheduled Board meeting is December 13, 2006.
*See **http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/** for latest details and agenda*

Items in this Report (Author[s])

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Oyster Point Project, South San Francisco (Randy Lee)

Complaints of dust by houseboat owners located in the vicinity of a construction site in South San Francisco, known as Britannia Oyster Point II, attracted media attention recently and resulted in story coverage in local newspapers and on KTVU evening news (Channel 2).

The nine-acre Brownfield site is located at 333 Oyster Point Boulevard and is undergoing extensive grading to provide foundation support for construction of three 3- to 4-story research and development laboratory buildings with underground parking. The area was filled from the 1930s through the early 1960s with up to 36 feet of material from a variety of sources, including metal slag from a local steel foundry. The dense, rock-like slag ranges in size from several inches to several feet. Removal of the larger pieces of slag from the fill material is required in preparation of building construction. The Water Board was

designated as the lead agency in March 2006, following an application by the site developer, Slough Estates USA Inc., to Cal/EPA.

Board staff has taken several steps in response to complaints about dust and other aspects of the project. Staff has inspected the site, met with the developer and its consultants, required a dust management plan, and circulated a fact sheet to nearby residents about the environmental aspects of the project.

Throughout the project duration, air and dust monitoring has been conducted and has shown no violation of allowable dust levels at the project perimeter. The Bay Area Air Quality Management District has also inspected the site frequently and has not been able to document any violations. The City now has a full-time inspector at the site to check implementation of and compliance with the dust management plan, as well as other potential construction related impacts, such as stormwater runoff. We are confident the best management practices contained in the dust management plan will effectively keep the dust emission under control.

In the fact sheet we also notified the public of a recent discovery that certain portions of slag were found to contain naturally occurring radioactive material (NORM), consisting of uranium and its decay products. Slag is a byproduct of the steel manufacturing process and consists of impurities that separate from the molten steel during processing. As the name suggests, NORM occurs naturally within some environments. In this case, the NORM was caused by past steel manufacturing and processing operations that caused impurities, including uranium, to accumulate in the slag at concentrations above background levels (i.e., "technologically-enhanced" NORM).

The radioactivity found in the NORM-containing slag at the site is present at a level that does not present a health risk to on-site workers or the public during redevelopment activities. Estimated radiation exposure associated with the excavation and handling of the slag is less than 1% of acceptable criteria for on- and off-site populations and is insignificant when compared to routine exposure to radiation from natural sources. Since the slag itself is chunky metallic pieces that do not breakdown easily into smaller pieces, it is not considered a source of dust.

Staff recently attended a special public meeting called by the South San Francisco City Council to address our and other agencies' roles and the steps the agencies have taken to address the environmental issues at the site. We will continue monitoring the dust emission at the site and making sure the NORM-containing slag is managed properly without unacceptable risk to the public.

Potrero Power Plant Permit Challenged (Bill Johnson)

Communities for a Better Environment and the Environmental Law and Justice Clinic of Golden Gate University School of Law filed a petition with the State Board for review of the Potrero Power Plant NPDES permit. The Water Board adopted the controversial permit in May 2006 following a lengthy and contentious hearing.

As we indicated in an EO Report item in June 2006, the petitioners initially requested that the petition be held in abeyance. Recently, they asked the State Board to take it out of abeyance. The petitioners raised three primary points. A summary of these points and our responses to them that we sent to the State Board are as follows:

1. The petitioners contended that new evidence demonstrates that heat from the plant's cooling water discharge harms the aquatic environment so that the Regional Water Board should have prohibited the power plant's discharge. We disagree that there was any new information, but pointed out that new information is necessary and is required by the permit adopted by the Regional Water Board.

2. The petitioners objected to allowing intake credits for polychlorinated biphenyls (PCB) discharges. We disagree because the State Implementation Policy allows intake credits, and such credits make sense because the plant appears to discharge only those pre-existing PCBs that it takes in from San Francisco Bay.

3. The petitioners asserted that the Basin Plan prohibits the discharge because it lies too close to shore. We explain, however, that the Basin Plan's prohibition of near-shore discharges was intended to apply to wastewater treatment plants, and the Water Board has never applied the prohibition to once-through cooling.

Other interested parties (e.g., Mirant, City of San Francisco) also sent their responses to the State Water Board, who will now consider these arguments and render a decision based on the case's merits. The State Board could reject the petitions or order the Water Board to address specific issues raised in the petitions. The time frame for a final decision will be in 8 to 10 months.

It is worth noting that the number of NPDES permit petitions has risen of late. Chevron appealed its Richmond Refinery permit in July, and San Francisco BayKeeper appealed the Shell refinery permit in November. Both are currently being held in abeyance. Before these, the last permit petitioned was in 2003.

Walker Creek Mercury TMDL (Jill Marshall)

Staff has revised the TMDL for mercury in the Walker Creek watershed (West Marin), and re-released it for public comment. The new comment period concludes on January 4, 2007, and we expect to bring it before the Board for final consideration at the January 23 meeting.

Since we presented a proposed Basin Plan amendment at the October Board meeting, staff has worked with EPA to ensure that the TMDL meets all federal water quality standards and requirements. We joined staff from the Marin Municipal Water District (MMWD) on a field trip to Soulajule Reservoir, where we observed remains of mercury mining and processing operations along the shores of the reservoir. Because we did not find any processed mine waste along the shoreline or in subsequent aerial photo analysis, we have modified the TMDL to focus only on in-reservoir mining waste.

In December, we plan to meet with MMWD to discuss the proposed TMDL and future monitoring in the watershed. We will work with MMWD staff to help them capitalize on the monitoring and implementation work that the Santa Clara Valley Water District has done in the Guadalupe Watershed's mercury impaired reservoirs.

The revised draft Basin Plan amendment and Staff Report are available for downloading from the Board's website at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/TMDL/walkermercurytmdl.htm.

Napa River Sediment TMDL hearing in January (Mike Napolitano)

Staff is in the process of preparing responses to comments on the sediment TMDL and habitat enhancement plan for the Napa River watershed. We plan to bring the TMDL before the Board for final consideration at the January 23 meeting.

We expect to post the Response to Comments document early in the week of January 8, 2007, at
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/TMDL/napariversedimenttmdl.htm .

Staff is also planning meetings with key stakeholders, including the County of Napa and the Living Rivers Council. We look forward to continuing our dialogue with these commenters, and to explaining our approach to the TMDL and habitat plan.

Executive Officer's Correction of the Urban Creeks Pesticide-Toxicity Basin Plan Amendment (Tom Mumley)

The Board adopted a Basin Plan amendment to establish a water quality attainment strategy and TMDL for diazinon and pesticide-related toxicity in all of our region's urban creeks in November 2005. The resolution used to adopt the amendment grants the Executive Officer the authority to make minor, non-substantive changes to the amendment, and requires the Executive Officer to inform the Board of any such changes.

State Board staff found an incorrect word in the language of the Basin Plan amendment. We mistakenly used the word "biannually" rather than "biennially" to describe an implementation action tied to the State Board's biennial (every two year) review and update of its list of the state's impaired waters. Therefore, I am changing this word pursuant to the resolution.

Public Workshop for Copper in San Francisco Bay (Richard Looker)

Staff is holding an informational workshop and CEQA scoping meeting on December 7, 2006 for a Basin Plan amendment project to establish site-specific water-quality objectives and implementation actions for copper in segments of the Bay north of the Dumbarton Bridge. Site-specific objectives for copper in the Bay south of the Dumbarton Bridge have already been adopted. The project description is available
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/basinplan/amend/copper/Cu_SSO_BPA_project_description_11-30-06.pdf .

Workshop on Health Risks due to Contaminated Bay Fish (Dyan Whyte)

On December 19, Dyan Whyte and I will be participating in a Clean Estuary Partnership-sponsored stakeholder workshop aimed at identifying approaches to reducing human health risks resulting from the consumption of Bay fish. While this effort is being initiated as part of early implementation of the SF Bay mercury TMDL, the scope is much broader and aimed at reducing risks for people who eat Bay fish, which may contain harmful amounts of PCBs, dioxins, PBDEs, mercury, and pesticides. One goal is to bring together scientists involved in risk reduction and key representatives of communities most impacted by the consumption of Bay fish contaminated by these constituents, especially representatives of environmental justice groups. We will keep you updated on both this workshop and the Partnership's longer term efforts to address the issue of risk reduction.

North Bay Storm Water Program Audits (Selina Louie)

The Board has regulated stormwater runoff from municipalities in most of the populous areas of the Bay Area since the early 1990s under Phase I of the federal stormwater regulations. Phase I covers our major urban areas, including the municipalities within Santa Clara, Alameda, San Mateo, and Contra Costa Counties, and the Cities of Vallejo and Fairfield-Suisun. Phase II of the federal stormwater regulations address smaller communities, which include most of the remaining urban areas in our Region, including the municipalities within Marin, Napa, Solano, and Sonoma Counties. The State Board's Statewide Stormwater Phase II NPDES Municipal General Permit was adopted April 2003. These Phase II municipalities have had Permit coverage varying in length of time between 1 ½ - 3 years.

Between June and September 2006, Board staff audited the Construction and Municipal Operations portions of eight of the Phase II municipalities' Storm Water Management Plans (SWMP), including the Cities of Benicia, Calistoga, St. Helena, Sonoma, Town of Yountville, and Napa, Solano, and Sonoma Counties. Staff found that all of these municipalities have made progress laying the foundation of their newly established stormwater management programs. Almost all of the municipalities have adopted stormwater ordinances. Staff found that most programs regularly inspect their construction sites to ensure compliance with stormwater ordinances. Many programs have enacted enforcement response plans. And to ensure consistent implementation of the activities through the years as staff changes occur, some programs have developed checklists for plan review and site inspections; written instructions on how to use the checklists; and written standard operating procedures for the different municipal operation activities.

However, the biggest problem Board staff found during the audits was documentation of activities performed. Most of the municipalities did not keep good records to show that they implemented their respective stormwater management plans. For example, many of the municipalities did not have records to show that they inspected their construction sites for effective erosion and sediment controls, and effective material management. As another example, many of the municipalities did not have records to show that they provided training to their staff on how to implement the different sections of their

stormwater management plan. Staff has issued audit reports detailing specific findings. Staff is currently working with all municipalities to ensure they have the appropriate tools to implement a consistent and effective program and to improve documentation.

In June 2005, staff joined US EPA's consultant, Tetra Tech, in its auditing of the entire stormwater management programs of three of the largest Phase II communities, the Cities of American Canyon, Napa, and Petaluma. The results of Tetra Tech's audit of these cities stormwater programs were similar to staff's findings of the other eight Phase II communities described above. In addition, Tetra Tech found that these cities needed to develop and implement mechanisms to demonstrate that their respective stormwater management programs were reducing pollutants. Staff has been working with all municipalities to better demonstrate program effectiveness at reducing pollutants.

California Product Stewardship Council (Naomi Feger)

On November 17, 2006, the California Product Stewardship Council (Council) held a retreat to develop an action plan for promoting Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) in California. Local government bears the burden of addressing the management of wastes, many of which are considered household hazardous waste. Therefore, local government representatives make up the Steering Committee of the Council. Local wastewater treatment plants also bear a burden of addressing management of some of these wastes, e.g., pharmaceuticals.

Last February, a statewide ban went into effect in California making it illegal to put certain commonly used products (batteries, fluorescents lights, computers, TV monitors and electronic products) in the trash. Local governments are asking why they should manage these hazardous products. EPR would shift the responsibility away from local government to a reliance on producers. Some Canadian provinces have adopted Product Stewardship Principles through a Recycling Regulation, requiring businesses to develop Product Stewardship Business Plans. They have developed EPR programs for paint, pesticides, flammable liquids, medications, tires and electronics.

Staff was invited to participate in an all-day meeting to gather information and understand agency perspectives with the goal of moving forward on the development of an EPR strategy for California, including prioritizing potential products to collaborate on and developing model regulation. Protection of surface waters and groundwater is a major driver for better management of these household wastes, including plastics in trash. Board staff will continue to follow the progress of the Council. Carol Misseldine, Sustainability Director for the City of Oakland, is a contact person for this effort.

Golden Guardian 2006 (Wil Bruhns and Alan Friedman)

The State's Office of Emergency Services (OES) and its Homeland Security organization conducted a disaster training exercise, Golden Guardian 2006, on November 15 and 16. The exercise simulated a repeat of the 1906 earthquake, a 7.9 quake striking at 5 in the morning, centered just off the Golden Gate. Simulated damage throughout the Bay Area was extensive. Board staff's role in such a scenario is two fold. First we support the State's

overall response by advising and helping OES. We also need to establish and stabilize our office after such an event and do what's possible to protect water quality.

This year's exercise ran 36 hours straight through. In our OES support role, staff represented all CalEPA agencies in the Bay Area. We covered the day shifts and DTSC spent all night at the OES regional office. The first day's main issues centered on initial response to spills of hazardous materials from industrial facilities, pipelines, trains and other places. By the second day, the main environmental issue was debris management, since roads needed to be cleared of debris to allow access to devastated areas. How to handle thousands of tons of debris rapidly and safely and not cause further environmental problems is difficult. What we learned from the exercise was that OES willingly accepts our help during these situations. Board staff advised OES and others on the nature of the chemicals involved and on their potential environmental impacts. We also proposed initial cleanup efforts. We also concluded that having knowledge of how the OES emergency response system works is useful for the Board, primarily so that we can assume the role of technical advisor most efficiently, for both us and OES, during emergencies. Future participation in these exercises is needed in order to maintain and build this knowledge base within the Board.

For our own internal functions we tested our staff emergency call in system, successfully. We also worked on our priorities during these kinds of events. First we would need to stabilize office functions and establish a communication network for staff, given that movement to and from the office may be difficult. After that our first task would be to contact all major dischargers to determine the extent of damage and efforts under way to minimize water quality impacts.

Based on what staff knows so far, from a statewide perspective, it appears the exercise went relatively well. There were some glitches in the computer system that tracks emergency responses. Also, just before the exercise began there was a real 8.1 earthquake off of Japan, which generated a Tsunami, so OES was simultaneously dealing with an exercise and a real event. Better training and other modifications should be the result of this exercise. A Golden Guardian 2007 is expected next year.

Stream Policy Field Trip and Upcoming Workshop (Ben Livsey)

Board staff held a field trip for Stream and Wetlands System Protection Policy (Policy) stakeholders on October 5. Approximately 40 people attended, including representatives from city governments, water districts, flood control agencies, state and federal resource agencies, homebuilder associations, environmental consulting firms, and creek and open space groups.

The field trip offered participants an opportunity to learn Policy concepts while visiting three stream sites in El Cerrito and Richmond. The tour included stops at:

- An innovative residential stormwater project on Baxter Creek at Poinsett Street, demonstrating how creek daylighting can be an alternative to an expensive storm drain repair project;

- A streambank stabilization project on Wildcat Creek at Church Lane, displaying bioengineering approaches to erosion control; and,
- A multi-objective floodplain project on Wildcat Creek, illustrating how a watershed council substituted a conventional channelized flood control project with a multi-objective floodplain project based on natural river science principles.

Board staff Ann Riley led the tour, offering a unique perspective on the design, construction, and maintenance of urban restoration sites in the East Bay. The field trip offered participants an opportunity to learn about the water quality effects of urbanization, watershed science, and stream protection in the context of the goals of the Policy.

Board staff will hold its next Policy stakeholder public workshop on Wednesday, January 24, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon in room 1 at the Elihu Harris State Building. At the public workshop, Board staff will present an overview of the scientific and technical principles underlying the Policy and will discuss potential elements that are being considered, including new water quality standards and an implementation plan to achieve these standards. This public workshop will offer stakeholders an opportunity to learn about the current status of the Policy and to provide comments on all aspects of the Policy, including implementation planning. More information on this upcoming public workshop will become available on the Policy website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/streamandwetlands.htm.

Hookston Station – Final Site Cleanup Order (Mary Rose Cassa)

On November 22, Board staff circulated a Tentative Order that would establish final Site Cleanup Requirements for the Hookston Station site, located in Pleasant Hill, Contra Costa County. The Tentative Order sets cleanup standards and an implementation schedule for various cleanup tasks. We expect to bring this matter to the Board during its January meeting.

Key elements of the cleanup plan are summarized below:

- In-situ treatment of groundwater, using a permeable reactive barrier for the first groundwater zone and chemical oxidation for the second groundwater zone;
- Soil management plan for a single location of arsenic-impacted subsurface soil on the Hookston Station site;
- Continued use of vapor intrusion prevention systems at affected homes;
- Continued efforts to identify and abandon private wells at residences that overlie the groundwater contamination plume; and,
- Institutional controls to restrict new wells within the groundwater plume area until final ground water cleanup goals are achieved.

We are soliciting public comments on the Tentative Order in a couple of ways. It will be reviewed and discussed at a December 7 Community Working Group meeting in Pleasant Hill. The public comment period will run through December 29, after which we will prepare a response to comments and appropriate changes to the Tentative Order. These public outreach efforts are in addition to ongoing outreach. Board staff continues to hold public

meetings in the community as well as sending fact sheets and an e-newsletter to nearby residents, city and county officials, and local and state politicians.

San Francisco Sewage Spill at Ocean Beach (Michael Chee)

On November 13, 2006, the City and County of San Francisco illegally discharged approximately 500,000 gallons of sewage from its combined sanitary and storm water sewer system. That day it rained nearly an inch in a 24-hour period. The sewer system, operating at full capacity as a result of the large rainfall, was pressurized, and popped a manhole cover in the vicinity of the Cliff House Restaurant. From there, the spill flowed over the Great Highway and on to Ocean Beach. Due to the public health hazards of the spill, the City posted "No Swimming" signs along the affected sections of the Beach, which is part of the National Park System. The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission (SFPUC), the San Francisco Department of Public Works, the San Francisco Department of Public Health and the Golden Gate National Recreation Area Park Service all helped with the cleanup efforts. We will review the facts of the spill and the follow-up actions taken by the City and County of San Francisco, and pursue appropriate enforcement.

Coyote Lakes Wetland Mitigation Project (Paul Amato)

The Santa Clara Valley Water District is nearing completion of the construction of 7 acres of freshwater wetlands adjacent to Coyote Creek in south San Jose. The project was implemented as part of the District's mitigation package for their Multi-Year Stream Maintenance Program. The wetlands will provide permanent habitat as mitigation for temporary impacts to freshwater wetlands resulting from ongoing routine sediment removal and vegetation management flood protection activities. The project provides habitat zones that include near-perennial open water, seasonal wetland, and upland vegetation. Revegetation efforts will include more than 30,000 native plants grown from seeds collected in the Coyote Watershed. Water will flow from Coyote Creek into the wetlands and drain to an adjacent quarry pond that flows back to Coyote Creek. The National Marine Fisheries Service and the District worked together to include a fish screen to ensure that all life stages of steelhead and Chinook salmon would not get stranded in the wetlands. The wetlands will be completely drained for at least two weeks every summer to control the non-native bullfrog population. Open water channels and access have also been designed to accommodate vector control for mosquitoes. Wetland plants will be irrigated until the site is inundated in spring of 2007.

These wetlands are one component of a larger mitigation program that was developed to compensate for impacts from routine stream maintenance activities.

Hamilton Army Airfield Update (John Kaiser)

Board staff have been monitoring a controversy regarding the hauling of dirt through a Novato neighborhood for the Hamilton Field wetland restoration program. Staff attended the November 15 Novato City Council Meeting where the Council heard and unanimously approved the Todd Road Working Group's recommendations for the City to assume lead CEQA role for the design and construction of an alternate construction road to existing

Todd Road, one of the main access routes for the wetland restoration project. Still to be worked out before the environmental analysis is performed is the issue of the City's liability when future trucks use the Corps of Engineers' west containment levee. City staff noted that the scope of work includes estimating the costs of continued maintenance of the alternative road and of the levee, should it need to be repaired periodically.

On a separate Todd Road issue, North Bay Construction and the Coastal Conservancy are working on a proposal to do a "swap" of soils to reduce truck traffic on Todd Road. North Bay Construction is building homes on a site south of Hamilton. The use of Hamilton soils, versus soils presently stockpiled by North Bay along Todd Road, allows for an alternate route to be used that is also closer to the North Bay construction site. While obtaining the soils from the airfield will minimize road traffic along Todd Road, there will be some increase of road traffic experienced in Hamilton neighborhoods in the south, near this development. There were several community speakers from those neighborhoods at the City Council meeting expressing their concerns on this issue.

Aquatic Nuisance Species Task Force Meeting (Naomi Feger)

Board staff (Naomi Feger) attended the Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) National Task Force meeting on behalf of the San Francisco Estuary Project (SFEP) (an Ex-Officio member of the Task Force) from November 7-9, 2006 in Washington D.C. The Board is the lead agency for implementation of the San Francisco Estuary Project's Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan. The ANS Task Force is an intergovernmental organization dedicated to preventing and controlling aquatic nuisance species. The Task Force is comprised of 22 Federal and Ex-Officio members.

The focus of the November meeting was on rapid response protocols for addressing aquatic invasive species. The Task Force agreed to continue looking at the Incident Command System as a model for rapid response. Sources of funding are necessary to make rapid response feasible. The Task Force decided to explore options for the establishment of a funding mechanism for rapid response and to convey to the Administration and Congress that the lack of a funding mechanism is a key barrier in reducing impacts of non-native species. Another work effort of the Task Force at this meeting was updating the strategic plan.

The California State Aquatic Invasive Species Management Plan is close to being finalized and will then need to be signed by the Governor prior to its approval by the Task Force. The Plan will likely be put forward for approval at the Task Force's May, 2007 meeting. Upon approval, California's Management Plan will be eligible for some limited funding under a grant program administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

High-Resolution Site Characterization (Erich Simon and Brian Thompson)

Several Board staff attended a Groundwater Resources Association Symposium in Long Beach on November 14-16, entitled "High Resolution Site Characterization and Monitoring". World-renowned groundwater researchers, practitioners, regulators, and vendors made presentations on new technologies and approaches that are being used to

characterize contaminated sites. With these techniques, it is now possible to collect high-resolution (HR) information on how contaminants move through the subsurface. These techniques go beyond what was previously possible or cost effective compared to traditional site characterization methods. HR studies are becoming more common and, when used, can significantly improve cleanup efforts.

The first two days of the symposium focused on speaker and poster presentations that summarized current research efforts and case studies that utilized a HR site characterization approach. Techniques utilized in the studies included installation and monitoring of multilevel groundwater wells, use of vertical probes and sensors which continuously collect subsurface data, geophysical surveys, and advanced computer modeling.

On the third day of the symposium, staff observed field demonstrations on HR site characterization. There were fourteen demonstration stations set up at a nearby groundwater remediation site that showcased geophysical techniques, drilling methods, multi-level well construction, sampling probes and equipment, and software that can capture real-time data in the field. The field demonstrations emphasized tools and techniques that enable more efficient and higher quality site characterization.

Staff felt that attendance at the symposium was valuable in that staff often make decisions based on an understanding of subsurface conditions that are limited by site characterization techniques. Staff's take-home message was the idea of incorporating some HR techniques with more conventional methods to reach a level of medium resolution characterization. This level of characterization may be more practical for many of the sites regulated by the Board.

US EPA Meeting (Shin-Roei Lee)

Some of our storm water staff met with US EPA staff on November 20, 2006 to meet and greet. The goal of the meeting was to coordinate our respective priorities with regard to storm water permit reissuance, storm water permit compliance, monitoring, surveillance, enforcement, and stream and wetland protection policy development. The meeting was informal and yet very productive. There are two action items from this meeting. One is to propose pilot projects that US EPA could fund that would integrate TMDL implementation, storm water management and performance monitoring. The other is to coordinate the priority on 50 inspections of storm water facilities to be conducted by Tetra Tech, contractor to US EPA. We intend to repeat our meeting on a regular basis.

In-house Training

Our November training was on environmental issues facing the Delta, including water quality, water rights, and levee integrity ("Delta 101"). Our December training will comprise an 8-hour health and safety refresher for those staff whose work involves hazardous waste sites or emergency response (about 45 staff).

Staff Presentations and Outreach

On November 14, A.L. Riley, Keith Lichten, and Brendan Thompson gave an instructional presentation to 40 Caltrans employees. Caltrans staff included Project Managers, Hydraulic Engineers, Biology staff, and Construction and Stormwater staff. Topics included the legal basis for the Board's authority, the wetland fill permitting process, construction and post-construction stormwater practices for surface water protection, common mistakes when working in creeks and general engineering strategies to protect creek channels. Approximately 15 copies of the Board's "Primer on Stream and River Protection for the Regulator and Program Manager" were distributed to Caltrans staff at the training.

Tom Mumley gave a presentation on pesticides-related water quality regulations at the 3rd Annual Regional Integrated Pest Management Conference in San Jose on November 14.