

**State Water Resources Control Board
October 18, 2011 Board Meeting
Item 10 -- Executive Director's Report**

DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Proposition 84 Storm Water Grant Program: On October 6, 2011, DFA staff announced plans to solicit projects for the Proposition 84 Storm Water Grant Program beginning on November 15, 2011. Proposition 84 provides \$82 million for storm water projects statewide, and funds will be made available in multiple solicitations. Funds will be available to assist local agencies with permit compliance, with a focus on projects that implement low impact development practices, and comply with TMDLs. DFA staff announced six applicant workshops in December throughout the state, including areas with communities that will be subject to the revised MS4 Phase II permit. DFA staff is coordinating closely with the Division of Water Quality, the Regional Water Quality Control Boards, and Department of Water Resources staff.

Program Activity:

Cleanup and Abatement Account

Eleven disbursements were made during the month of September totaling \$285,223.

- One request was approved in the month of September: the Shipyards Sediment Site EIR Project for \$20,000 in the San Diego Region. This project will assist with the draft Environmental Impact Report for contaminated sediment cleanup sites in San Diego. The San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board intends to recover the funds from the responsible parties.

Underground Storage Tank

The following are the dates the Cleanup Fund is currently paying out by priority:

Priority A – Paying out all reimbursements to date

Priority B – Reimbursement Requests received through 07/15/2011

Priority C – Reimbursement Requests received through 06/30/2011

Priority D – Reimbursement Requests received through 09/30/2011

State Revolving Fund

Between September 8, 2011, and October 4, 2011, the Deputy Director of the Division approved the following Preliminary Loan/Grant Commitments:

East Palo Alto Sanitary District

Cured-In-Place Pipe - Siphon To Treatment Plant Project

The proposed Project is to rehabilitate approximately 5,000 linear feet of existing 24-inch diameter trunk line that transports wastewater from the District's service area to the WWTP and to rehabilitate 11 sanitary sewer manholes. Repair and rehabilitation will be done by inserting a flexible cured-in-place pipe (CIPP) liner into the existing trunk line at a number of locations, using existing manholes as access points. This Project is needed to reduce groundwater infiltration into the sewer system. It will reduce sanitary sewer overflows, as well as the volume of influent treated at the WWTP.

Total CWSRF Funding: \$1,700,000

**City Of Vista
Vista/Carlsbad Interceptor Project**

The Project will provide greater collection system reliability. The addition of Force Main B in parallel with Force Main A will provide reduced pipeline pressure during peak wet weather flows. The City's Project includes the rehabilitation 3,635 feet of 24" DIP force main (Force Main A) and the installation of a new 3,635 feet of 24" DIP and HDPE force main (Force Main B). The Force Main A rehabilitation consist of trenchless relining of the existing 2,400 feet of 24" DIP force main using cured-in-place pipe (CIPP), replacement of 915 feet of DIP with HDPE, and replacement of 320 feet of existing DIP with new DIP that is epoxy lined and coated for corrosion resistance. The rehabilitation of defective pipelines using the CIPP method does not reduce the wastewater carrying capacity of the pipeline.

TOTAL CWSRF FUNDING: \$3,878,370

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA): Additional functionality was added to the GeoTracker GAMA information system that will allow links to other state and federal data systems and web pages. The newly designed interface is at <http://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/gama/>. On the left side of the page is "Data Sources". It is anticipated that additional Water Board data will be co-displayed on this Google maps interface in the near future.

Composting Facilities Statewide Order: Following informal staff workshops on August 31, 2011 (Chino) and September 1, 2011 (Sacramento-Cal/EPA), staff has scheduled four sets of meetings with a workgroup to discuss the draft concepts for a statewide order that would waive waste discharge requirements contained in California Code of Regulation Title 27 for waste piles, surface impoundments and landfills. The draft concepts include Water Quality Protection Measures, such as barriers to reduce percolation of waste waters to groundwater, that are tiered based on facility size, waste type, and proximity to groundwater that is used for drinking. The workgroup is invited to propose alternative Water Quality Protection Measures that reduce percolation of wastewaters to groundwater.

The first set of workgroup meetings was held September 27, 2011 (Riverside) and September 28, 2011 (Sacramento-Cal/EPA).

The remaining workshops are tentatively scheduled for:
October 19 (So. Cal) and October 20 (Sacramento-Cal/EPA)
November 16 (So. Cal) and November 17 (Sacramento-Cal/EPA)
December 14 (So. Cal) and December 15 (Sacramento-Cal/EPA)

A draft order is expected to be presented to the Board in the summer of 2012.

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Update Report: The Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program update report is attached as Appendix 2.

Ocean Plan Amendment: Desalination / Brine Provisions: State Water Board staff and the Southern California Coastal Research Project (SCCWRP) held a stakeholder meeting on Tuesday July 5, 2011 to discuss convening a panel of experts to address scientific questions regarding the disposal of brine into the ocean. The panel will be composed of approximately four scientists from different disciplines. Suggested questions include: (1) How can the effects of these discharges be minimized through proper disposal strategies; (2) What models should be applied in order to predict how these plumes will behave; (3) Can cumulative water quality effects associated with multiple plumes be evaluated with models; and (4) What are appropriate monitoring strategies for these discharges?

The purpose of the meeting was to provide the interested public with the specific qualifications and names of potential individuals who may be asked to participate on the panel and to seek comment from the public on this effort.

On-site Wastewater Treatment System (OWTS): State Water Board released the public draft Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Management of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)—Septic Systems and the associated Supplemental Environmental Document on Friday, September 30, 2011 for a 45 day comment period. Staff has scheduled four workshops during the comment period to answer questions and take comments from the public. Dates and locations of the workshops are listed below.

Monday, October 24, 2011 - San Luis Obispo

Friday, October 28, 2011 - Redding

Wednesday, November 2, 2011 - Santa Rosa

Monday, November 7, 2011 - Riverside

The Policy Documents and specific information about the workshops can be found at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/owts/index.shtml.

Storm Water Caltrans Permit: The statewide NPDES permit for discharges by the California Department of Transportation of storm water from municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) is targeted for reissuance. This permit is commonly referred to as the Caltrans Permit. The current Caltrans Permit (State Water Board Order No. 99-06-DWQ) was issued on July 15, 1999. The current permit regulates all storm water discharges from Caltrans-owned MS4s, maintenance facilities and construction activities. The revisions to the Caltrans permit are expected to follow many of the approaches in the Storm Water Construction General Permit (State Water Board Order No. 2009-0009-DWQ). A draft for public review was released on January 7, 2011. Comments were due on March 14, 2011. A public hearing on the draft Caltrans permit was held on July 19, 2011. A revised draft of the permit was released for public review and comment on August 18, 2011. A workshop on the revised draft was conducted on September 21, 2011. Staff is reviewing the comments received on the revised draft.

Storm Water Industrial General Permit: The statewide General NPDES permit for discharges of storm water associated with industrial activities (commonly referred to as the Industrial General Permit) is targeted for reissuance. The current Industrial General Permit is State Water Board Order 97-03-DWQ. On January 28, 2011, staff released the draft revised Industrial General Permit for review. Staff level workshops were held on February 14 in the Cal/EPA Building and on February 23 at the Irvine City Council Chambers. A third workshop was conducted via the web on March 15, 2011. A public hearing was conducted on March 29, 2011. The comment deadline was extended, and comments were due on April 29, 2011. Staff is in the process of evaluating over 250 individual comment letters received.

Storm Water Phase II MS4 Permit: The statewide General NPDES permit for discharges of storm water from small municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4s) (commonly referred to as the Phase II Permit) is targeted for reissuance. The current Phase II MS4 Permit is State Water Board Order No. 2003-0005-DWQ. It provides permit coverage for smaller municipalities, including non-traditional Small MS4s, which are governmental facilities such as military bases, public campuses, and prison and hospital complexes. On June 7, 2011, staff released a draft revised Phase II MS4 Permit for public comment. A workshop was held on August 17, 2011. Staff is in the process of evaluating the comments received.

Statewide Trash Policy: On August 30, 2011, staff conducted the second meeting of the Public Advisory Group (PAG) that will provide input on efforts to develop a Statewide Trash Policy. The PAG consists of 10 individuals who have knowledge and expertise relative to trash and debris.

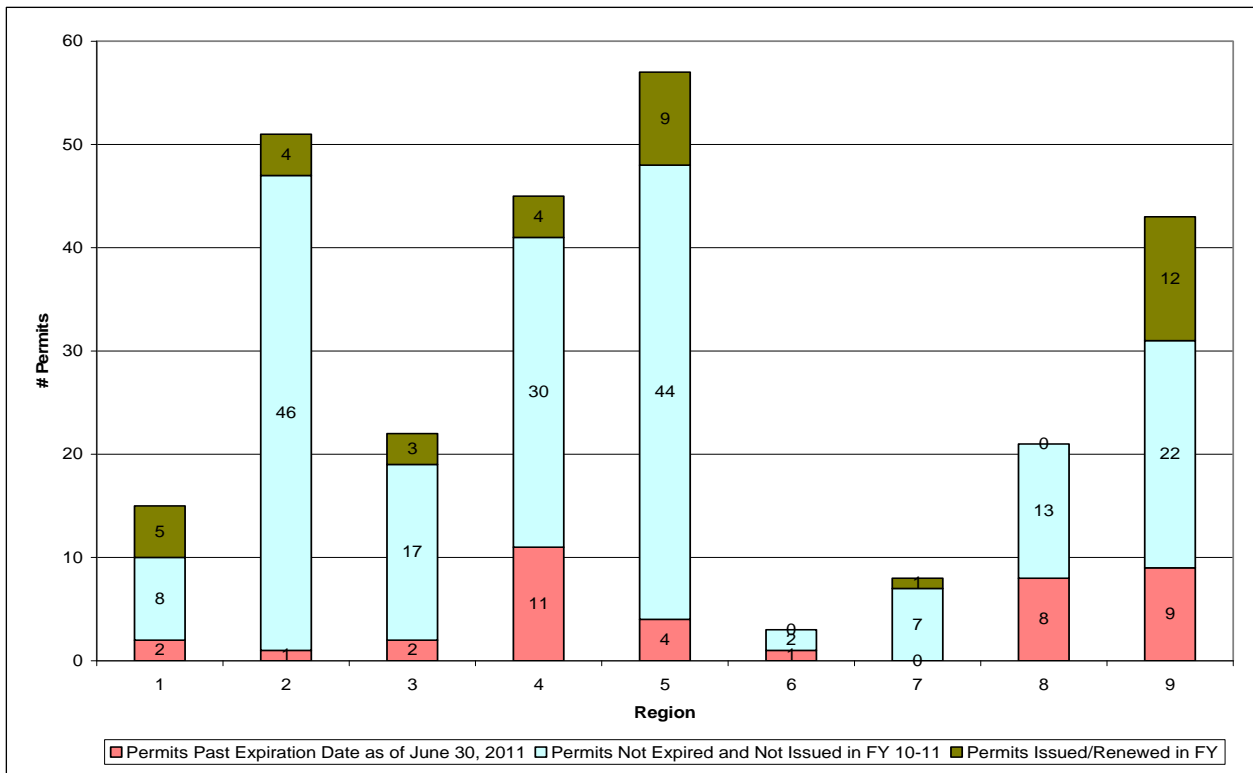
Proposed Policy for Nutrients for Inland Surface Waters of the State of California: The CEQA scoping meeting was delayed due to room availability. The meeting will now be held on October 27, 2011 in Sacramento. Staff prepared a Notice of Availability of Scoping Documents and Notice of Public Scoping Meetings for the CEQA Substitute Environmental Document for the Policy for Nutrients for Inland Surface Waters of the State of California. The purpose of the scoping document and meetings will be to seek input on the environmental analysis of the project. The comment period will close in November 2011. Additional information can be found at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/nutrients.shtml

Proposed Policy for Toxicity Assessment and Control: A staff-level workshop was held on August 22, 2011 to discuss responses to comments and solicit feedback on alternatives for policy revisions. Staff is currently revising key aspects of the draft Policy, including effluent limitation expression and exceptions for small, disadvantaged communities. In addition, staff will be sending the draft Policy out for peer review, as U.S. EPA headquarters has declined staff's request to release the peer review responses for the TST. This process will likely delay the adoption of the draft Policy for an additional 3–4 months. As such, staff anticipates an Adoption Hearing by early summer 2011.

NPDES Permit Backlog: NPDES permits are effective for a fixed term not to exceed five years (40 CFR Part 122.46). They must be reissued prior to expiration to ensure that they reflect new requirements and discharges to surface waters do not adversely affect the quality of such waters. Typically, permit requirements remain in effect until the permit is reissued. Reissuing permits requires a significant amount of time and resources and is considered an indicator of overall program performance. The tables below summarize the status of the backlog for the major and minor permits. See next three pages for tables and charts.

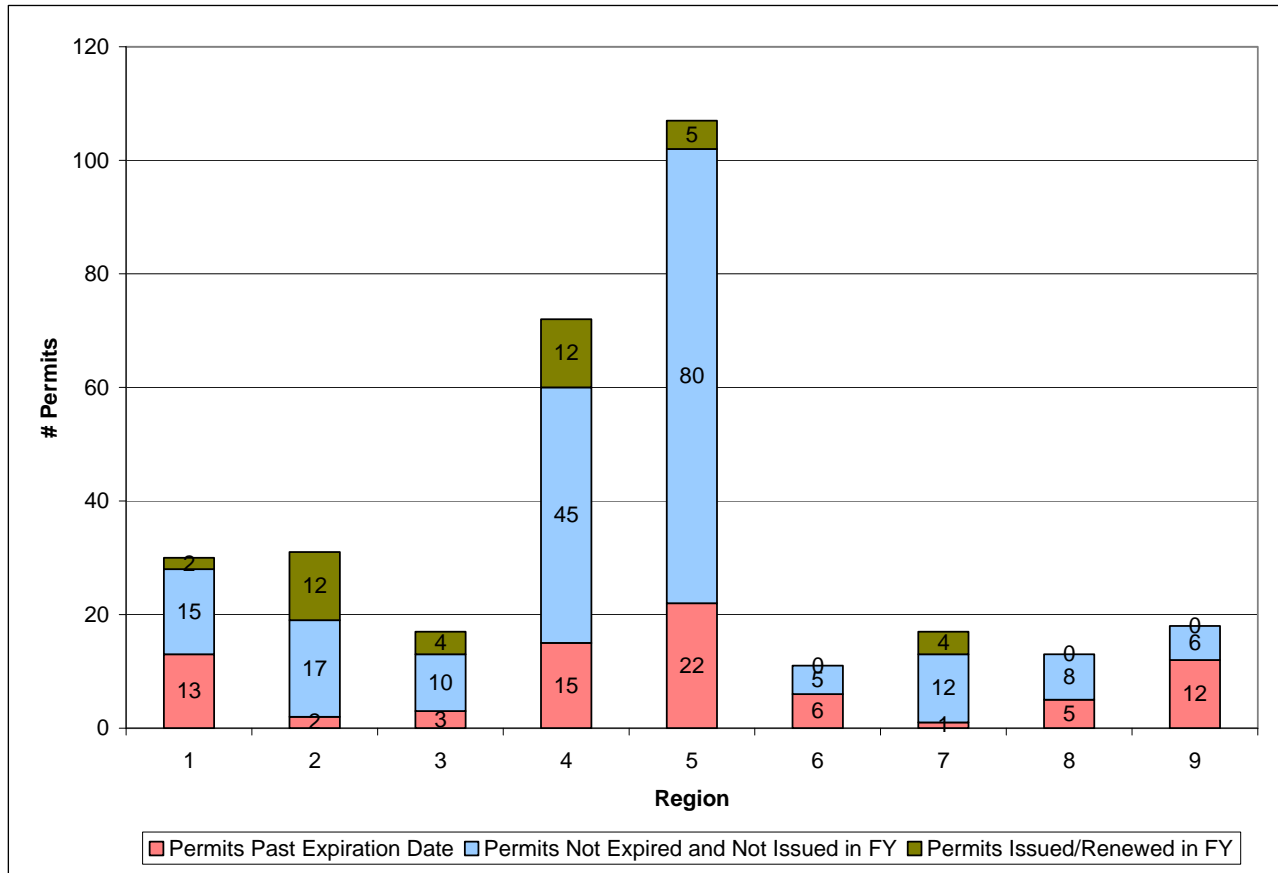
Major Permits

Region	Number of Active Facilities	Permits Past Expiration Date as of June 30, 2011	Percentage of Facilities With Current Permits
1	15	2	87%
2	51	1	98%
3	22	2	91%
4	45	11	76%
5	57	4	93%
6	3	1	67%
7	8	0	100%
8	21	8	62%
9	43	9	79%
TOTAL	265	38	86



Minor Permits

Region	Number of Active Facilities	Permits Past Expiration Date as of June 30, 2011	Percentage of Facilities With Current Permits
1	30	13	57%
2	31	2	94%
3	17	3	82%
4	72	15	79%
5	107	22	79%
6	11	6	45%
7	17	1	94%
8	13	5	62%
9	18	12	33%
TOTAL	316	79	75%



Low-Threat UST Closure Policy

Stakeholder Outreach Meetings

Stakeholders who helped to develop the draft Low-Threat UST Closure Policy have made seven outreach presentations to date. These meetings were held at Regional Board offices and were primarily informational in nature. Presenters discussed the makeup of the stakeholder group, provided insight into the thought processes that led to the development of specific sections of the policy, and reviewed the main points of each section. Presentations generally lasted about one hour followed by one-half hour of question/answer and discussions. Audiences provided many good suggestions for improving the clarity of the document. Feedback and suggestions received at these outreach meetings were discussed at an additional stakeholder meeting on October 7, 2011. Stakeholders anticipate incorporating some of the revisions suggested at the outreach meetings.

CEQA Scoping Meetings

An environmental scoping document was noticed for a public comment period that ends on November 8, 2011. Two public scoping meetings were held September 28 and 29 in Riverside and Oakland.

Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy: Staff is working on a draft EIR for the proposed Wetland Area Protection Policy (Policy), Dredge, and Fill Regulations (Regulations). This work includes finalizing the language for the draft Policy and Regulations, considering public comments received on the Initial Study/NOP DEIR (comment deadline closed May 20, 2011). The peer reviews requested by the State Water Board staff for the Technical Advisory Team's (TAT's) wetland definition were received in September for review and consideration by the Policy Drafting Team. The TAT wetland definition is proposed in the Policy for use by the California Water Boards in all programs.

Statewide Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements (Conditional Waiver) Nonpoint Source Discharges from National Forest System (NFS) Lands in California:

In August 2009, the State Water Board adopted Resolution 2009-0064 directing its staff to work with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Regional Water Boards to establish a single statewide regulatory mechanism in lieu of the several Regional Water Board waivers that partially regulate activities on the NFS lands. On November 30, 2009, the State Water Board and USFS staff conducted a public workshop to solicit comments and establish a multi-interest stakeholders' group, which met several times. This process has resulted in the development of the Statewide Conditional Waiver and strengthening of the USFS Water Quality Management Handbook. The public review and comment period for the conditional waiver and the mitigated negative declaration (MND), which describes and evaluates potential environmental impacts associated with the Conditional Waiver, ended on August 24, 2010. On September 20, 2011, the State Water Board held a public workshop to consider adoption of the Conditional Waiver and the MND. Many stakeholders presented oral comments at the workshop. Based on the written and oral comments, State Water Board staff will propose revisions to the draft Conditional Waiver. There will be opportunity for stakeholders to review the revised draft and make comments on the revisions. The dates for the release of the revised draft Conditional Waiver and the public comment period for the revisions have not yet been established. It is anticipated that the State Board will consider adoption of the Conditional Waiver at the December 6, 2011 Board meeting.

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

San Joaquin River Restoration Program – Temporary Transfer and Change Petitions Filed by U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation): On July 28, 2011, Reclamation filed petitions for the temporary transfer of water and change to existing water rights to implement restoration of San Joaquin River flows below Friant Dam. The petitions requested authorization to change the method of operation of the Friant Division of the Central Valley Project (CVP) in order to restore fishery flows. The program has been implemented under two previous one-year transfers.

Reclamation proposes to transfer a maximum of 389,355 acre-feet of water to instream use for fish and wildlife preservation and enhancement and subsequently divert water from the San Joaquin River at various locations, including the federal and State Delta pumping facilities. Water may be temporarily stored in San Luis Reservoir. On September 30, 2011, the Division of Water Rights approved the petitions. On October 1, 2011, Reclamation began the third year of interim San Joaquin River restoration flows.

Implementation of the Small Irrigation Use Registration Program: On October 8, 2011, Governor Brown signed AB 964 into law. This bill added changes to the Water Code allowing the registration of small irrigation water use projects to the existing water rights registration program for small domestic use and livestock stockpond projects administered by the State Water Board. Under this law, the State Water Board could allow as many as 70 pending water right applications for small irrigation use of 20 acre-feet/year or less or 42,000 gallons/day or less into this new, streamlined water right registration process. The State Water Board must establish general conditions for small irrigation use before it can accept small irrigations projects for registration.

AB 964 required the State Water Board to first adopt general conditions for small irrigation use for facilities used for frost protection in the Northern California Coastal Streams area covered by the AB 2121 Policy, not later than June 30, 2012, unless the State Water Board determines that sufficient funds are not available for that purpose. Due to the anticipated cost savings to the overall Water Rights permitting program, the Division of Water Rights will redirect existing resources to attempt to meet the June 30, 2012 requirement.

Division of Water Rights Contract for Completing Work Required by CEQA for

Appropriative Water Right Actions: On October 3, 2011, pursuant to the authority granted to the Executive Director by State Water Board Resolution 2011-0005, the Executive Director entered into an agreement with Impact Sciences, Inc. The agreement will allow the State Water Board to evaluate the relative efficiency of two different approaches for completing environmental activities to comply with CEQA for appropriative water right actions. The Division currently utilizes a memorandum of understanding between the Division, applicant, and a CEQA consultant, whereby the Division directs the work of the consultant, but the consultant is reimbursed by the applicant. Instead, this contract allows the Division to direct and reimburse the CEQA consultant. For a limited time, the Legislature granted the State Water Board authority to recover up to \$1,000,000 per year to support this effort. Division staff is seeking a candidate project and will begin work once one is identified.

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT

MMP Backlog Enforcement Initiative Update: In the last update on the MMP Backlog Enforcement Initiative, there were still 39 facilities with violations that occurred prior to December 31, 2007, and for which a formal enforcement action had not been either initiated or completed. As of August 31, 2011, enforcement actions have been completed with another eight facilities confirming 375 violations and resulting in the assessment of \$1,125,000 in liabilities. Two of the facilities petitioned the regional board's determination of their respective liabilities to the State Water Board.

Tracking Unpaid ACL Liabilities: The Office of Enforcement has asked the regional enforcement staff to determine the amount of outstanding liabilities associated with administrative liability actions completed in the past three years. The table below shows the uncollected amounts as of August 2011:

Table of Unpaid ACLs for Last Three Years:
(Status as of September 12, 2011)

Region	Unpaid ACLs Over Last 3 Years:	Total Amounts
1	R1-2009-0009 R1-2009-0032, Evergreen Pulp, Inc.	\$ 453,000 \$ 453,000
2	- R2-2008-0084, Leona Heights Sulfur Mine, \$200,000 - R2-2008-0088, Storybook Mountain Winery, \$10,000 (petition of case to SB denied) - R2-2010-0003, Art Cleaners, \$25,646	\$ 235,646
3	R3-2007-0089, Paul Trucking Co. and Destiny Transportation Inc, \$20,000	\$ 20,000
4	R4-2008-056-M, 750 Garland, LLC, \$252,000	\$ 252,000
5	None	0
6	(not available)	
7	None	0
8	R8-2008-032,RP - Orozco International, \$4,000 R8-2008-0039, L & H Mold & Engineering, Original assessment \$5,000, but only one installment paid. Remaining balance is \$3,750 R8-2008-074, Carson Hall,\$20,000 R8-2010-0056, Star Ranch Management, \$233,000	\$ 260,750

9	<p>R9-2011-0031, Healthy Times, \$9,492. Includes Sec 13399.33 mandatory penalty R9-2011-0015, Lite Stone Concrete, \$3,766. Includes Sec 13399.33 mandatory penalty R9-2011-0014, Jesus E Sandoval, \$4,916. Includes Sec 13399.33 mandatory penalty</p> <p>R9-2009-0084, Dickerson's, Gunning's, Perry & Paupenhausen. \$45,900. Regional staff have recorded judgment, placed lien, and referred to collections.</p>	<p>\$ 18,174*</p> <p>* doesn't include R9-2009-0084</p>
total		\$1,693,570 tentative

Staff will propose actions at the next Management Coordinating Committee to prioritize and recover these past due amounts.

People v. Golden Gate Petroleum et al. - \$6 million Judgment: On August 29, 2011, the Contra Costa County Superior Court entered a consent judgment against Golden Gate Petroleum to resolve allegations of widespread violations of environmental rules on storage of petroleum in underground tanks owned or operated by GGP. The judgment covers violations at approximately 30 gasoline stations located in 17 counties throughout Northern California.

Under the terms of the judgment, GGP will pay \$3 million in cash over a period of five years including \$500,000 to the Cleanup and Abatement Account. The remaining \$3 million will be suspended, conditioned on GGP maintaining compliance with underground storage tank requirements. GGP must also employ an environmental coordinator to oversee compliance in the future. The amount of the liability was based on the financial inability of GGP to pay higher penalties.

A two-year investigation conducted by the State Water Board's Office of Enforcement and various county's environmental protection staff revealed that GGP had extensive violations including the failure to install and repair leak detection equipment designed to prevent releases of petroleum to the environment. The judgment does not resolve any liability or responsibility that GGP has to clean up leaks of petroleum from its tank systems.

Parties to the lawsuit include district attorney's offices in Alameda, Butte, Colusa, Contra Costa, Glenn, Humboldt, Kings, Lake, Mendocino, Monterey, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, Sonoma, Sutter, and Yuba Counties.

A copy of the complete judgment which was filed with the Contra Costa County Superior Court, can be found on the State Water Board's website at:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/enforcement/orders_actions.shtml

People v. Chevron USA Inc. et al. – Proposed Judgment Requiring Payment to Cleanup and Abatement Account of \$2 Million: On September 2, 2011, the Attorney General's Office and several local prosecutor offices lodged a proposed Judgment against Chevron USA. The proposed judgment addresses violations of the leak prevention requirements of the Health and Safety Code for underground storage tank systems. The action by the Attorney General is in her independent capacity.

The proposed Judgment contains injunctive requirements as well as financial payment obligations totaling \$24.5 million. As part of the proposed penalties, \$2 million will be paid to the State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA). As with a similar, previous judgment against Equilon Enterprises by the Attorney General's Office, the penalties paid to the CAA can be used for a variety of purposes including "activities associated with the investigation and/or enforcement of underground storage tank requirements and the investigation and/or protection of the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund. These activities may include, but are not limited to, training State and local enforcement staff, hiring State enforcement staff, expert witness support, and criminal investigation development and support."

No date has been set for approval of the proposed Judgment by the court.

Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Actions during August 2011:

a. ACL Complaints Issued

Region	Discharger/Facility	Violation(s) Addressed	ACL Complaint Amount	Date Issued
1	DG Fairhaven Power, LLC / Fairhaven Power Plant	Effluent limit violations, deficient reports, 12,000 gallons unauthorized discharges	\$172,950 (\$21,000 MMP)	8/5/2011
1	Crescent City / Crescent City WWTP	Effluent limit violations	\$186,000 (MMP)	8/23/2011
5R	Dunsmuir City / Dunsmuir STP	Effluent limit violations	\$9,000 (MMP)	8/3/2011
7	Imperial Irrigation District / Grass Carp Hatchery	Effluent limit violations	\$21,000 (MMP)	8/22/2011

b. ACL Orders Issued

Region	Discharger/Facility	Violation(s) Addressed	ACL Order Amount	Date Issued
4	Crestview Mutual Water Company / Well No. 6	Late reporting violation	\$3,000 (MMP)	8/11/2011
4	City of Beverly Hills / Parking Site "A" South	Effluent limit violations	\$54,000 (MMP)	8/11/2011
4	Certified Alloy Products, Inc. / Certified Alloy Products, Inc.	Effluent limit violations	\$33,000 (MMP)	8/18/2011
4	Calleguas Municipal Water District	Effluent Limit Violations	\$9,000 (MMP)	8/30/2011
4	EDCO Stations, Inc.	Late reporting violations	\$6,000 (MMP)	8/30/2011
5R	Winemucca Trading Company Limited Inc / Former Shasta Paper Mill WWTP	Failure to comply with Cleanup and Abatement Order	\$682,500	8/5/2011

OFFICE OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)

The SWAMP produced four ecosystem outcome measures describing the condition of water quality using four water quality indicators: water and sediment toxicity, biological condition (benthic macroinvertebrate), and sport-fish contamination in lakes and coastal waters. Data for these measures came from SWAMP's statewide and regional monitoring programs collected over the past decade through 2010. Each outcome measure presents the data in pie and bar charts with a map of California with color-coded sampling locations corresponding to the water quality condition at each sampling location. Good, fair, and poor water quality are depicted as green, yellow, and red points. The measures are presented as part of the State Water Board's [Performance Report](#).

California Water Quality Monitoring Council (Monitoring Council) – Data Management Workgroup

The Monitoring Council is working to integrate data from disparate systems, conduct broad-based assessments, and deliver the information to decision makers and the public via the *My Water Quality* theme-based web portals. Each portal is developed and managed by a theme-specific workgroup. Each of the workgroups encounters similar data management, web development, and geospatial information system (GIS) issues. As outlined in the Council's [Comprehensive Strategy](#), the Data Management Workgroup was created to provide uniform solutions to these issues. The Data Management Workgroup's first meeting was held on September 16 and included participants from the following organizations:

- State Agencies – Natural Resources Agency, DWR, State Water Board, CDPH, DFG, California Technology Agency
- NGOs – San Francisco Estuary Institute, Southern California Coastal Water Research Project, Ocean Science Trust – Marine Protected Area Monitoring Enterprise
- Technology Providers – IBM, Microsoft, 34 North
- Environmental Organizations – Heal the Bay
- Academia – Lawrence Berkeley National Lab, San Francisco State University (CSU, Council on Ocean Affairs, Science and Technology), UC San Diego (Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System)

Common themes that arose from this first meeting included:

- An emphasis on sharing spatial data between existing agency and organizational databases and systems using exchange networks and application programming interfaces rather than data replication or creating new large databases;
- Using key management questions to determine when data should be brought together;
- Ensuring sufficient data quality to allow data integration;
- The importance of serving data and assessment information to the public; and
- Developing a library of shared tools for data integration and data visualization.

The workgroup's next meeting will be in November. For more information on the Data Management Workgroup, see their web page at www.waterboards.ca.gov/mywaterquality/monitoring_council/data_management_workgroup/.

DIVISION OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

DFA State Clean-Up Fund Budget Tracking Functionality in SCUFIS: Beginning FY 2010/11, DFA is mandated to track budget information for projects funded by the State Clean-Up Fund. SCUFIS does not have the functionality required for budget tracking; furthermore, there is no maintenance contract in place at this time to support a development effort. DIT is developing a budget-tracking module to address this immediate need, namely new budget tracking functionality in SCUFIS. Future approval for any contracted maintenance or development activities in SCUFIS will require a CTA approved Feasibility Study Report. OIMA and DIT are working closely with DFA to complete an FSR that will document requirements for an application/system replacement.

DAS ACL Accounting - New functionality to invoice ACL's: DIT is working with DAS Accounting to create new functionality to invoice ACLS using CIWQS and FMS. DAS will work with Mitchell Humphrey to identify the modifications needed in FMS. DIT will build and test the interface file structure and the feedback loop, as well as assist with data clean-up activities as needed. Once the interface is completed for CIWQS, a similar project will be launched to create interfaces between eWRIMS and FMS, and between SMARTS and FMS, for this same purpose.

DFA Operator Certification - System Replacement and Upgrade: The Office of Operator Certification in DFA relies on a Microsoft Access database placed into service in 1995. This system has not been upgraded since that time and has become outdated and increasingly unstable. An internal effort to replace the existing system was instigated with the approval of an internal FSR in July 2010. Phase I of the project, the development of a new Oracle based application with enhanced functionality, will be put into production on Monday, October 10, 2011. Phase II, which will include a public interface to make information readily available to examinees, renewal applicants and the public, will be initiated in January 2012.

DFA Fiscal Unit Bonds and Grants Tracking - System Development Effort: The DFA Fiscal Unit is responsible for tracking budget authority for funds available from various Proposition Bond sales. They currently use an Excel spreadsheet for this purpose. Given all of the nuances in tracking multi-year projects with funding from a variety of Bond Acts over time, the spreadsheet has become obsolete and is not the most efficient tool for this task. DFA approached DIT about developing a database that would offer more flexibility to streamline the cumbersome manual processes they had developed to overcome the limitations of the spreadsheet. DIT has completed the formal analysis for the system and is in the design phase of the project.

DAS Property Inventory System - System Replacement and Upgrade: The existing system used by DAS Business Management is a Microsoft Access 2000 database that no longer meets the business needs and is not maintained by DIT. DAS has requested a system replacement to include existing functionality as well as some needed enhancements, including the ability to perform inventory using bar code scanning technology. Development of the new system is nearly complete and implementation is pending the creation of new business procedures to obtain more complete and accurate enterprise wide procurement information.

DAS Personnel Position Control System - System Replacement and Upgrade:

Implemented in 1988, the existing Personnel Position Control Tracking System is the oldest application maintained by DIT. It is written in Informix 4gl, antiquated software that is no longer supported. The server on which it resides is also at end of life and is at risk of failing. DIT is currently working on a prototype to present to DAS as a model for replacing and upgrading this system.

Electronic Content Management – ECM System Support: Anticipating the data requirements for ECM, DIT implemented a Master Data Repository in 2009 containing facility and organizational data from the CIWQS, SMARTS, EWRIMS, and Geotracker data systems. DIT continues to support the data needs of ECM. Most recently, a data integration component from Geotracker to allow ECM to index ~478,000 public records from Geotracker has been completed.

Electronic Lines of Evidence Program: In 2010, DIT was approached by the DWQ Waterbody Assessment Unit to modify an existing tool created in RB3. This excel based tool creates lines of evidence (LOE) from SWAMP data used to assess Waterbodies throughout the state. Before this tool, Waterbodies were assessed manually where an assessor can generate LOEs at the rate of 20 LOEs per day. When this tool was introduced, we were able to generate 10,000 LOEs in 5 hours. A custom collaboration tool was also developed for state board staff and regional board staff to finalize the LOEs generated. During the last listing cycle (2010), the group generated 22,168 LOEs. This coming listing cycle (2012), we are anticipating tripling that amount.

Region Circuit Upgrades

There have been circuit bandwidth upgrades in the last 6 months to the following regions:

1. **Region 4 (Los Angeles)** – Went from 3 MB to 50 MB – The bandwidth was 80 to 100% full and we were to bring ECM on line in Oct 2011 and CES. We upgraded and it is ready for testing of the ECM application and can be used for future applications as well.
2. **Region 5 (Redding)** – Moved and is getting an upgrade from 3 MB to 15 MB. The three offices for Region 5 are using Video conferencing and will require a larger pipe to function.
3. **Region 6 (Tahoe)** – Moved their Annex and is receiving a partial bandwidth upgrade from 3MB to 15MB. That circuit was also maxing out.
4. **Region 7 (Palm Desert)** – Was remodeled taking out the chemical lab and putting in a large conference room. All the wires for Ethernet were replaced and upgraded to current SWRCB standards. Wireless was put in the region for public use. The server room was upgraded with seismic rack for equipment. Power was upgraded as well as server and switched equipment.
5. **Region 9 (San Diego)** - Went from 3 MB to 50 MB – The bandwidth was 90 to 100% full and we were to bring ECM on line in Oct 2011 and CES. We upgraded and it is ready for testing of the ECM application and can be used for future applications as well.

Wireless: We have been incorporating various regions with wireless as we move or upgrade that region. So far Regions 7 (Palm Desert) is done. Next, we will be doing Region 6 (Tahoe) and Region 5 (Redding).

CES (California Email Service) Project Status: To comply with AB2408 and as part of the first wave of agencies, we are working with Cal/EPA, Microsoft and CES contractors to meet the requirements for CES. We are moving from GroupWise to Exchange and there are many requirements to be completed at the Regional and State Board level. With the help of the LAN (Local Area Administrators) out in the regions, we will be also moving from Novell's E-directory to Microsoft's AD (Active Directory). We will be testing the Outlook client for Exchange by January 2012 and pushing out the software client by February 2012. Training will be provided before this is pushed out to all the users.

OFFICE OF RESEARCH, PLANNING AND PERFORMANCE

Annual Performance Report: On September 19, 2011, the Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Annual Performance Report was released. This year's report, which includes over 30 new performance measures, is available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/about_us/performance_report/. New this year is a series of performance measure cards describing the water quality outcomes resulting from implementation of TMDLs previously adopted. The performance report website has received more than 40,000 visits since last year's launch on September 4, 2011.

Water Board Academy

The following table includes highlights of our recent and ongoing classes.

Recent classes	<p>Water Rights 101 Topics include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surface water rights — pueblo, riparian, pre-1914 appropriative, and post-1914 appropriative rights; federal reserved rights; and prescriptive rights. • Groundwater rights — subterranean streams and overlying and appropriative rights to percolating groundwater. • Public trust and public interest requirements and effects on water rights. • Water right adjudications — groundwater, statutory stream system, and court referenced. • Water rights and water quality — links and disconnects.
Current classes	<p>Introduction to Environmental Statistics This 3-day course provides an overview of basic statistics with applications relevant to water quality data analysis. Topics covered include descriptive statistics, basics of statistical intervals and hypothesis tests for common situations, and how to handle censored data sets (data with some or all values reported as below the detection / reporting limit). Students also learn how to use "R" and "R Commander", free statistical software packages, for data analysis.</p>
	<p>8 – Hour Hazwoper The course is required for field staff and includes identifying potential hazards, evaluating potential exposures, and controlling exposures through safe work practices, use of personal protective equipment, and other protective measures. It also covers health and safety regulations, decontamination practices, health and safety planning, use of monitoring equipment, and biological and environmental hazard awareness.</p>

Appendix 1

Statewide Policies/Significant General Permits

Division of Water Quality		
Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
A*	Anti-Degradation Policy / Implementation Triennial Review	Scoping meeting held on 11/17/08. Reviewing the 30+ comment letters received. Preparing recommendation for the Board. Work delayed by petitions.
A-11	Aquatic Pesticide General Permit – Weed Control, Aquatic Application	Expect to release formal draft in Fall 2011.
A-12	Aquifer Storage and Recovery Policy	The Water Boards have formed a work team to develop a statewide general order for ASR. The work team is under the lead of Region 5. Various stakeholder groups have been participating including the City of Roseville, Sacramento Suburban Water District, Orange County Water District, and the Groundwater Resources Association. The work team has met several times and a draft general order has been discussed with the stakeholders and will be circulated for MCC review within the next several months.
A-11	Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS): Special Protections	Public Notice released on January 20, 2011. Public Hearing rescheduled for May 18, 2011. Written comment period closed on May 20, 2011. The Board will consider this Ocean Plan amendment at a meeting in October 2011.
A-11	Bacterial Objectives for Inland Surface Waters	Staff preparing draft policy and staff report Public hearing targeted for November 2011. Due to communication from U.S. EPA on revisions to the recommended bacterial criteria documents, which will be finalized in October 2012, staff will prepare a white paper with options on going forward now or delaying the project until the new Recommended Water Quality Criteria documents are finalized.

Division of Water Quality

Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
A	Biological Objectives Development	Established Stakeholder and Scientific Advisory Groups. Will brief Regional Board staff on the project in spring and summer 2011.
A-12	Cadmium Objective and Implementation Policy	Final internal review of draft policy and staff report prior to upcoming release for public comment. Requested technical support from Central Coast Water Board staff on hardness calculation protocol. Targeting Public Hearing in January 2012.
A-11	Constituents of Emerging Concern (CEC) Monitoring – Recycled Water Policy	Staff report released November 18, 2010. Public Hearing held on December 15, 2010. Comment deadline extended until 12:00 noon on January 10, 2011. Reviewing comments and coordinating with CDPH to revise staff recommendations. DWQ reviewing first draft of revised Recycled Water Policy.
A-11	Chlorine Residual Objectives and Implementation Policy	Scientific Peer review received. Report and policy will be revised as necessary to address peer review comments. Due to loss of key staff, this project is currently on hold.
A	Composting Facilities Statewide Waiver	Informal staff workshops August 31 in Chino and September 1 at CalEPA outlining concepts developed with Water Boards' internal working group. Using concepts of Water Quality Protection Areas and Water Quality Protection Measures. Continuing to meet with Cal Recycle and Regional Boards on preparing draft statewide waiver. Expect State Water Board to consider adoption of statewide order and approval of CEQA documents June 2012.

Division of Water Quality

Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
P	Grazing	<p>The Water Boards have formed a work team to develop this project (titled Statewide Grazing Regulatory Action Project or Grazing RAP). The work team is under the lead of Region R6 with active participants from R1, R2, R3, R5, and DWQ. The work team has been convened and meets monthly. At its June meeting, the work team reviewed a draft scope of work with tasks and schedule. Based on this review, a revised scope was then provided to the work team for further review and discussion at its next meeting in late July. The team is working on further revision to the scope and schedule with final revisions to the draft to be completed by August 31. The next step is to finalize the scope; task, schedule, and staff resources needed at the September meeting, then, transmit the final drafts to MCC its consideration and acceptance by November 2011. Concurrently with finalizing the scope of work and schedule, the work team has started the tasks of defining the problem (summary of extent of impact from grazing), summarizing Water Board actions to date to correct or prevent the grazing impacts, and identifying potential final products.</p>
A	Listing Policy Update (Sediment Quality Objectives and Procedural Changes)	<p>CEQA Scoping Meeting held on March 29, 2010. Comment period closed April 12, 2010. Developing new schedule due to loss of key staff. Staff anticipates this will be delayed until 2013.</p>
A	Marina Permit	<p>Permit is postponed while working with other agencies, Marina, and Boating groups to develop interim approaches.</p>
P	Mercury Offset Policy	<p>Partial economic analysis received from contractor (SAIC). No further contract funding available to complete economic analysis.</p>
A-12	Methyl mercury Objectives	<p>Staff are working on draft staff report and coordinating with efforts to develop statewide mercury TMDL. Updating economic analysis. Board Workshop targeted for summer 2012.</p>

Division of Water Quality

Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
A	Nutrient Numeric Endpoints Tools	Freshwater: to be peer reviewed. Contract with SCCWRP to develop estuary nutrient framework and numeric endpoints underway. Technical, stakeholder, and regulatory (Water Boards and U.S. EPA) advisory groups have been formed. CEQA Scoping meeting for inland waters scheduled for October 27, 2011.
A-11*	Ocean Plan Amendment: model monitoring provisions, vessel discharges, and non-substantive changes.	Staff drafting Substitute Environmental Documentation. Public Hearing will be conducted on November 1, 2011
A	Ocean Plan Amendment: desal/brine provisions	Stakeholder workshop held on April 18, 2011. Workshop also addressed disposal of brackish water. Results of stakeholder workshop will inform a future Board Workshop.
P	Ocean Plan Amendment: vessel provisions	Pending completion of other Ocean Plan Amendments. Hearing is targeted for October 2011.
A	Off-Highway Vehicle (OHV) WDRs/Waiver	Developing concepts for WDRs/waiver for OHVs at State Parks.

Division of Water Quality

Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
A-12*	Onsite Waste Water Treatment Regulations/Waiver	<p>State Water Board released the public draft Policy for Siting, Design, Operation, and Management of Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS)—Septic Systems and the associated Supplemental Environmental Document on Friday, September 30, 2011 for a 45 day comment period. Staff has scheduled four workshops during the comment period to answer questions and take comments from the public. Dates and locations of the workshops are listed below.</p> <p>Monday, October 24, 2011-----San Luis Obispo Friday, October 28, 2011-----Redding Wednesday, November 2, 2011—Santa Rosa Monday, November 7, 2011-----Riverside</p> <p>The Policy Documents and specific information about the workshops can be found at:</p> <p>http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/owts/index.shtml.</p>
A	Rapid Diagnostic Tests for Bacterial Indicators in Coastal Waters	Results and lessons learned transmitted to U.S. EPA for consideration in national standards setting work for a new Rapid Method. Task Force preparing results report. Task Force working with City of Los Angeles as next possible pilot testing location.
A-11	Sanitary Sewer System (SSS) WDR Update	Information Item presented to Board on September 21, 2010. Draft revised SSS WDR was released on March 24, 2011. Public Hearing to be scheduled later. The comment period closed on Friday, May 13, 2011. Staff is reviewing the comments received.
P	Sediment Quality Objectives (SQOs) for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries: Phase III	Pending completion of Phase II and availability of funding

Division of Water Quality

Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
A-11*	Storm Water Caltrans Permit	Released on January 7, 2011. Reviewing comments, which were due on March 14, 2011. Public hearing scheduled for July 19, 2011. Revised draft circulated for public comment on August 19, 2011. Board workshop was conducted for September 21, 2011.
A-11*	Storm Water Industrial General Permit	Released on January 28, 2011. Staff workshops held February 14 and 23, 2011. Additional on-line staff workshop scheduled for March 15, 2011. Public Hearing conducted on March 29, 2011. Reviewing comments, which were due on Friday, April 29, 2011. Staff is revising the permit in response to the comments received.
A-12*	Storm Water MS4 Phase II Permit	Revising to incorporate similar provisions to Construction General Permit and to incorporate TMDLs. Administrative draft released on February 22, 2011, with comments due on March 18, 2011. Released on June 7, 2011. Comment deadline extended from August 8, 2011 to September 8, 2011. A workshop on the draft permit was conducted on August 17, 2011. Staff is now evaluating the comments received. Board consideration in February 2012.
P	Suction Dredge General Permit	On hold and working instead with Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to coordinate with their suction dredge regulation and permit revision. On February 28, 2011, DFG released the SEIR/draft regulation and permit revision package for public comment. State Water Board staff has now received scientific peer reviewers' comments on the water quality portions of the SEIR. State and Regional Water Board staff comments, along with the scientific peer reviews, were submitted to DFG by the comment deadline.

Division of Water Quality

Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
A-11*	Timber Activities on National Forest System Lands	Drafting Statewide Waiver for USFS, based on Region 1 waiver. Staff released a Notice of Availability to Comment and Notice of Intent to Adopt the Waiver on June 10 as well as supporting CEQA documentation. Public comments are due by July 25, 2011. The Board held a public workshop in September 2011. The policy will be considered for adoption in several months.
P	Timber Activities on Non-federal Lands	Work with California Board of Forestry, Department of Forestry and Fire Protection, and Regional Water Boards. Work delayed pending the outcome of a petition.
A-11*	Toxicity Control Provisions for the SIP	Staff held a staff-level workshop on August 22, 2011 Staff is now working on revisions to the policy and staff report. U.S. EPA headquarters has declined a request to release the peer review response to comments. As a result, in an abundance of caution State Board staff is initiating independent peer review of the policy. Due to the time for peer review staff anticipate the public hearing in April 2012.
A-11*	Trash Policy	CEQA Scoping Meetings held on October 7, 2010 in Rancho Cordova and October 14, 2010 in Chino. Staff is putting together a stakeholder advisory group to assist in development of the Policy. A Public Advisory Group (PAG) has been appointed to provide input to Water Board staff on the development of this policy. The PAG has met on July 26, 2011 and August 30, 2011.
A-11	UST Low-Threat Case Closure Policy	Staff has convened a small work group to develop recommendations regarding low-threat UST sites. Targeting Board consideration for 2012.

Division of Water Quality		
Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
A-11	Wetlands and Riparian Areas (Dredge and Fill) Policy – Phase I	The scientific peer reviews for the wetland definition were received in September 2011. EIR contract support was finalized in August 2011 and work has begun. Initial Study released for public comment on January 5, 2011. CEQA Scoping Meetings held on January 31, 2011 and February 8, 2011. Comment deadline closed on May 20, 2011.
P	Wetlands and Riparian Areas Policy – Phase II	Pending completion of Phase I.
P	Wetlands and Riparian Areas Policy – Phase III	Pending completion of Phase II.

Note: * indicates Board Priority

Status Code Key:

White = Active effort (A)

Green = Targeted for completion in 2011 (A-11)

Orange = Targeted for completion in 2012 (A-12)

Blue = Completed (C)

Grey = Suspended or No statewide effort at this time or Pending (P)

Policies/General Permits Completed in 2011

C	Aquatic Pesticide General Permit – Aquatic Animal Invasive Species	Adopted by State Water Board on March 1, 2011.
C	Aquatic Pesticide General Permit – Vector Control, (Adulticide/Larvicide)	Adopted by State Water Board on March 1, 2011.
C	Ocean Plan Triennial Review	Adopted by State Water Board on March 15, 2011.
C	Sediment Quality Objectives (SQOs) for Enclosed Bays and Estuaries: Phase II	Adopted by State Water Board on April 6, 2011. Approved by the Office of Administrative Law on June 13, 2011. Staff will submit to U.S. EPA.
C	Spray Applications Permit (CDFA and USFS Eradication Programs)	Adopted by State Water Board on March 1, 2011.
C	Storm Water MS4 Effectiveness Assessment Document (AB 739, Ch. 610, Statutes of 2007)	On October 27, 2010, staff issued a revised Notice of Staff Workshops and Opportunity for Public Comment on draft document. Workshops scheduled for November 4 in Sacramento and November 9 in Rancho Cucamonga. Comments were due 12:00 noon on November 30, 2010. Information Item presented to the Board on April 19, 2011.

Policies/General Permits Completed in 2010

C	Integrated Report Adoption (2010)	Board approved 303(d) list on August 4, 2010. Transmitted to USEPA on October 13, 2010, and awaiting their approval.
C	Leaking Underground Fuel Tank (LUFT) Manual	The LUFT manual was drafted as a guidance document with state-of-the-art information on the cleanup of leaking UST sites. The LUFT manual is considered a draft/evergreen document that will be updated periodically in response to comments.
C*	Once-Through Cooling (316b) Policy	Approved by Office of Administrative Law (OAL) on September 27, 2010. Effective date October 1, 2010.
C*	Once-Through Cooling (316b) Policy Limited Revisions	Adoption Hearing held on December 14, 2010. No changes made to Policy.

C	South Bay Power Plant	Notice of Cancellation of Public Hearing issued on November 2, 2010 due to permit application withdrawal.
C	Storm Water Construction General Permit Limited Revisions	Adopted on November 16, 2010.
C	UST Regulatory Program Task Force	Final task force recommendations submitted to the Board in January 2010. DWQ staff updated the Board at the May 18 Board meeting in conjunction with DFA staff report on the UST Cleanup Fund.
C	Once-Through Cooling (316b) Policy Amendment	Completed/adopted on July 19, 2011.

Division of Water Rights		
Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
(A)	Draft WQCP update for San Joaquin River flows and southern Delta salinity objectives	Draft SED science chapter was released October 29, 2010. Workshop held on SED science chapter January 6 and 7, 2011. Additional scoping meeting held June 6, 2011. Draft plan amendment to be brought to the Board for a spring 2012 hearing.

(A)	Russian River Frost Protection Regulation	On September 21, 2011, the State Water Board held a hearing during its Board Meeting to hear comments on the proposed adoption of the Russian River Frost Protection Regulation and the Draft Environmental Impact Report prepared in support of that proposed regulation. After hearing comments and staff recommendations, the Board unanimously voted to adopted the proposed regulation with a minor edit and certify the draft EIR. The Board Resolution adopting the proposed regulation and certifying the draft EIR, also directs the Executive Director to prepared a Final Statement of Reason with required responses to comments and submit the entire rulemaking documents to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for approval. Staff will be preparing Final Rulemaking Documents and Administrative Records to be submitted to OAL by November 29, 2011. OAL will file regulation with Secretary of State no later than December 29, 2011. Regulation becomes effective no later than January 31, 2012.
(C)	Delta outflow recommendations (SBX7 1)	The Board adopted the final report on August 3, 2010, and provided it to the Delta Stewardship Council on August 25, 2010.
(C)	Instream Flow Policy (AB 2121)	The Board adopted the Policy on May 4, 2010. The Division delivered the administrative record to OAL on August 11, 2010. OAL approved the administrative record in September 2010. The Division filed a Notice of Decision with the Secretary for Resources on September 28, 2010. The policy is now effective.

Status Code Key:

White = Active effort (A)

Yellow = Targeted for completion in 2010 (A-10)

Blue = Completed (C)

Grey = Suspended or No statewide effort at this time or Pending (P)

Division of Financial Assistance		
Status Code	Policy/Significant General Permit	Status
A	Clean Water State Revolving Fund Regulations	Suspended. Currently no plans to complete the regulations package.
C	Orphan Site Cleanup Fund (OSCF) Proposed Rulemaking Package	Office of Administrative Law approved the OSCF regulations on September 15, 2009.
A	Wastewater Treatment Plant Classification, Operator Certification, and Contract Operator Registration Regulations	Regulations are drafted to include fiscal considerations and provisional operator. Anticipate being released for public review in Winter 2011.

Status Code Key:

Targeted for completion in 2010

Completed Items

Suspended / No statewide effort at this time

APPENDIX 2

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM SEPTEMBER 2011 UPDATE REPORT FOR THE OCTOBER 2011 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

This month's Irrigated Agricultural Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) monthly report will provide an update on activities of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) ILRP, as reported in the Central Valley Water Board's October 2011 Executive Officer's report. Current and past ILRP program monthly reports can be found on the State Water Board ILRP website: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/agriculture/

For specific program information on the Central Valley Water Board ILRP, contact Mr. Joe Karkoski, program manager, at (916) 464-4668.

For additional information on the statewide ILRP, please contact State Water Board staff:

Johnny Gonzales	(916) 341-5510	jgonzales@waterboards.ca.gov
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CENTRAL VALLEY REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM (ILRP)

Long-term ILRP/Groundwater Monitoring Advisory Workgroup

The Groundwater Monitoring Advisory Workgroup (GMAW) held a public meeting in the Rancho Cordova office of the Central Valley Water Board on 25 August 2011. The GMAW consists of groundwater experts representing state agencies, the United States Environmental Protection Agency, the United States Geological Survey, academia, and private consultants. The purpose of the meeting was to gather input from the group of groundwater experts relative to the data requirements necessary to solve the critical questions that should be answered by groundwater monitoring for the Long-Term ILRP. These questions and data requirements are meant to assist Central Valley Water Board staff in identifying how groundwater monitoring will be integrated into the ILRP. Groundwater requirements developed for the ILRP will be incorporated into monitoring and reporting programs prepared for coalition waste discharge requirements (WDRs) general orders.

Recommended data requirements for the questions that should be answered by groundwater monitoring will be discussed with stakeholders during a public meeting of the Irrigated Lands Stakeholder Advisory Work Group (SAWG) to be held on 30 September 2011. Information from these meetings will be considered as staff develops coalition group WDRs general orders for consideration by the Central Valley Water Board.

Long-term Program Order Development Status

The process for developing the WDRs that will collectively comprise the long-term ILRP has been modified. An additional step to allow interested parties to review an administrative draft of the geographic/commodity-based WDRs has been included. With that additional step, the schedule for developing the WDRs has changed. An updated schedule can be found at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_land/long_term_program_development/2011aug10_saw_mtg/ilrp_sched.pdf

East-side San Joaquin River Watershed WDR – Regional Board staff met with the East-side San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition board on 25 July 2011 to discuss the development of the WDR for their area. Staff also met with Coalition representatives on 25 August 2011 to discuss the WDR. Primary topics for discussion included the boundaries for the East side WDR; timing of when the groundwater quality requirements would go into effect; and the identification of “high vulnerability” (or “Tier 3”) groundwater areas. The East-side boundaries will effect the boundaries for three other WDRs (San Joaquin County and Delta; West-side San Joaquin River Watershed; Tulare Lake Basin). Regional Board staff will discuss the boundary issues with the Coalitions representing those respective areas. Staff held an initial meeting on 27 July 2011 with the Westside San Joaquin River Coalition to discuss the east-side/west-side boundary issue.

Sacramento River Watershed Rice WDR – Staff met with representatives from the California Rice Commission on 25 July 2011 and 1 September 2011 to discuss the development of a rice-specific general WDR for rice fields in the Sacramento watershed. Topics included how rice growers/rice growing parcels could be identified without conflicting with CRC’s statutory restrictions; ideas for reporting on practices employed by rice growers to protect water quality; potential improvements to the surface water quality monitoring program; identification of “high vulnerability” groundwater areas; and the unique issues regarding fertilization of rice and the associated nitrogen cycle as it applies to flooded fields.

Tulare Lake Basin WDR - Staff met with representatives of the Southern San Joaquin Valley Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) in Fresno on 24 August 2011 to discuss issues related to development of a WDRs for irrigated lands in the Tulare Lake Basin (minus the area that would be covered by the Westlands Water District). Major issues discussed included tiering criteria for both surface water and groundwater, coalition membership, and proposed Coalition boundaries. Staff and Coalition representatives have committed to meet monthly to discuss issues related to development of the new Irrigated Lands WDRs.

Westlands WDR - Staff and representatives of Westlands Water District are scheduled to meet on 27 September 2011 to begin discussions regarding WDRs under the Irrigated Lands Program.

Individual General WDR – Staff have developed an internal draft of general WDR that would apply to individual growers that are not enrolled under a third party administered WDR. The internal draft is under review.

Petitions on Program Environmental Impact Report and Conditional Waiver Renewal

The renewal of the conditional waiver and the certification of the program environmental impact report for the long-term ILRP were petitioned separately to the State Water Board by two groups – a group of environmental representatives and a group of agricultural representatives. On 1 August 2011, the State Water Board sent a memo to the Central Valley Water Board requesting the administrative record associated with the Board actions and providing the Regional Board with an opportunity to respond to the contentions contained in the petitions. The record and responses to the petitions were timely submitted on 14 September 2011.

Compliance & Outreach - Exemption Claim Inspections

In July and August 2011, Central Valley Water Board staff completed eight inspections to verify landowner exemption claims to the ILRP. Landowners can respond to ILRP staff’s postcards or CWC § 13267 Orders by claiming their land is not used for agriculture, not irrigated, or that it has no irrigation tail water or storm water runoff (no waste discharges to surface waters). These

claims create a need for verification inspections, which staff regularly conducts. Staff verified that lands associated with seven inspections were exempt from regulatory coverage under the current ILRP. The outcome of one inspection will likely lead to an enforcement action for failure to obtain appropriate regulatory coverage.

Compliance & Outreach – Postcards

Postcard mailings were on hold during July and August 2011 while staff completed a grower assessment using Geographic Information Systems (GIS). The purpose of the assessment is to identify irrigated lands lacking regulatory coverage, and to prioritize these lands based on parcel size and proximity to the Delta and other sensitive receiving waters. Staff expects postcard mail outs to resume in October 2011.

Enforcement

California Water Code section 13260 & 13267 Orders & Notices of Violation

In August 2011 the ILRP mailed 17 NOVs for failure to respond to a CWC §13267 Order. These NOVs were issued to landowners in Butte, Contra Costa, Lake, & San Joaquin counties.

Also in August 2011, the ILRP mailed 54 CWC §13260 Orders to landowners who were on the East San Joaquin County Water Quality Coalition's 2010 membership list, but are no longer listed on the 2011 membership list. This Order requires the "dropped members" to come back into compliance by either submitting a Report of Waste Discharge or by re-enrolling in the coalition. These Orders were issued to landowners in Madera, Mariposa, Merced, San Joaquin, and Stanislaus Counties.

Coalition Groups

East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition

On 19 July 2011, The East San Joaquin County Water Quality Coalition and Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition submitted a proposed plan for follow-up actions that will occur when water quality monitoring results indicate that the San Joaquin River is out of compliance with the chlorpyrifos and diazinon TMDL. The Coalitions have jointly developed a draft decision tree outlining those actions. The proposed decision tree is under staff review.

On 2 August 2011, staff held the 12th quarterly meeting with the East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) to discuss progress of implementing the Coalition's Management Plan.

Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition (SVWQC)

On August 8 2011, letters from the Executive Officer were mailed to the SVWQC in response to the Coalition's June 15, 2011 submittal for the Pilot Watershed Management Practices Plans in El Dorado County and Napa County. The Coalition's submittal demonstrated that both subwatershed areas had met Plan requirements of at least 95% adoption of best management practices on irrigated acreage. The letters confirmed that staff reviewed these results and accepted them as adequate progress in fulfillment of the Pilot Plans.

On August 9, 2011, Staff sent a letter to the SVWQC regarding 19 *E. coli* Management Plans. The Coalition had requested that these Management Plans be deemed completed. However, staff determined that the available data is insufficient to rule out agricultural sources of pathogen indicators. In addition, pending deliverables for these Plans have been suspended by the Executive Officer pending the development of a regional approach to pathogen indicator management plans.

San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition

On August 2, 2011, staff held the 12th quarterly meeting with the San Joaquin County and Delta Water Quality Coalition (Coalition) to discuss progress of implementing the Coalition's Management Plan and the Delta chlorpyrifos / diazinon TMDL.

Southern San Joaquin Valley Water Quality Coalition (SSJVWQC)

At a 24 August 2011 meeting, to discuss the Tulare Lake Basin WDRs, the Coalition provided staff with written comments on currently required surface water Management Plans for the Kaweah Sub-watershed.

Westside Coalition

On 29 July 2011, the Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition submitted their performance goals report for the Westley Wasteway, Del Puerto Creek and Orestimba Creek Subwatersheds as required by the Westside Coalition's Management Plan– General Approach and Focused Plan 2. This report outlines the performance goals and interim milestones for the Focused Plan 2 subwatersheds. The performance goals were approved on 12 August 2011.

On August 3, 2011, staff held the Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition quarterly meeting to discuss Management Plan and Focused Management Plan updates and water quality data.

Other Projects

Data Management

Data reports received through 1 September 2011 that arrived in an electronic SWAMP comparable format are currently being prepared for loading into a California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN) comparable database provided by the Central Valley Regional Data Center (CV RDC). These reports and future data sets will be sent to the CV RDC to be uploaded into CEDEN for statewide assessment efforts. At this time, 38 reports have been successfully processed and loaded into the CEDEN comparable database.

Concurrent to processing and loading of submitted electronic data, data submission feedback packages have been developed to assist the Coalitions with formatting and reviewing data prior to submission to meet the electronic data submittal requirements of the program. The feedback packages contain guidance documents, electronic versions of quality assurance project plans, review checklists and code look up lists. The Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition received a feedback package on 8 August 2011 for their 1 June 2011 quarterly data submittal. The Westside San Joaquin Water Coalition received their feedback package on 19 August 2011 for their 30 June 2011 semi-annual monitoring report.

Prop 84 Grant Funding

On 30 August 2011, the Coalition for Urban/Rural Environmental Stewardship (CURES) held a meeting with its Advisory Selection Committee (ASC) to discuss the ranking for the first round of grower applications for funding. The ASC is made up of members from state agencies (the Department of Food and Agriculture, the Department of Pesticide Regulation, State Water Board, and Central Valley Water Board), the Natural Resources Conservation Service, the UC Cooperative Extension, and the ILRP Coalition Groups. The first round of successful applicants are now being processed and should be able to start project implementation work within a