

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

**STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2011
Prepared on January 10, 2011**

ITEM NUMBER: 18

SUBJECT: Summary of Water Board Grant Funding for Agriculture

DISCUSSION

Water Board Statewide Funding for Agriculture Related Projects: Over \$600 Million Since 2000

Since the year 2000, the State and Regional Water Boards have made available over \$608 million of public grant funds to address agricultural issues (Table 1, below). These funds came from Propositions 13, 40, 84, and 50, and addressed a myriad of water quality projects, watershed protection, and nonpoint source pollution control throughout the State. In addition, the State Water Board also allocates approximately \$4.5 million per year in 319h program funding to address non point source pollution.

**TABLE 1: Statewide Grant Funding for Agriculture Related Projects
State Water Resources Control Board
Propositions 13, 40, 84, and 50 Funding Programs**

Prop	Grant Program	Local Assistance Available (\$)
50	Agricultural Water Quality through FY05	20,215,736
40	Agricultural Water Quality through FY05	2,500,000
50	Agricultural Water Quality	9,284,264
40	Agricultural Water Quality	8,900,000
50	Coastal Non Point Source	33,200,000
40	Non point Source	19,000,000
40	Integrated Watershed Management	47,500,000
50	CALFED Drinking Water	20,500,000
50	Dairies	5,000,000
50	CalFED Watershed	20,000,000
50	Integrated Regional Water Management	183,000,000
13	Watershed Protection	82,800,000
13	Nonpoint Source Pollution Control	92,000,000
13	Coastal Nonpoint Source Pollution Control	50,502,000
84	Agricultural Water Quality	13,725,000

TOTAL \$608,127,000

The \$608 million in Table 1 does not include other agriculture related funding provided by many other state and federal agencies.

Recent Central Coast Grant Funding Related to Agriculture: Over \$55 million

The amount of public Water Board grant funds recently awarded on the Central Coast for agriculture related projects is over \$55 million. Most of these funds were awarded in the last ten years.

There are several grant programs that have provided (or are providing) funding for agriculture related projects on the Central Coast. The Integrated Watershed Regional Management (IWRM) grant funds are providing over \$14 million for agriculture related projects, summarized below in Table 2. These projects are managed by the State Board or the Department of Water Resources.

TABLE 2: Central Coast Integrated Watershed Regional Management Grants Related to Agriculture

Funding Area	Grantee	Amount	Notes	Grant #
Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District	\$690,000	Watsonville Sloughs Integrated Watershed Restoration	07-507-550-0 Component 12
Santa Cruz	Santa Cruz County Environmental Health	\$350,000	Coordinated Monitoring Program – Implementation Monitoring of Watershed Restoration	07-507-550-0 Component 15
Greater Monterey	Monterey County Water Resources Agency	\$997,000	The Salinas Valley Fish Habitat and Monitoring Program	Prop 50 Supplemental (see below)
Pajaro	Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency	\$4,664,640	Coastal Distribution System (Subset of larger project)	4600007652
Pajaro	City of Watsonville	\$6,825,300	Recycled Water Treatment Facility (Subset of project below)	4600007652
Pajaro	Resource Conservation District of Santa Cruz County	\$503,656	Erosion Control, Vegetative Treatment and Riparian Restoration (subset of larger project)	4600007652

TOTAL: \$14,030,596

In addition, Table 3 lists Central Coast specific projects related to agriculture funded by the Proposition Bonds and Central Coast Water Board settlement funds. These agriculture related projects include research, BMP implementation and demonstration, treatment systems, monitoring, and habitat conservation and restoration. Table 3 is a PARTIAL list. The Water Board funded MANY more agriculture related projects in the 1980s, and 90s. The total from Table 2 and Table 3 is over \$48 million.

**TABLE 3: Summary of Central Coast Water Board Grants
Related to Agriculture**

<u>Grant No.</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Project Name</u>	<u>Grant Amount</u>	<u>Grantee/ Project Director</u>	<u>Final Invoice</u>
05-102-553-0 05-102-553-1 05-102-553-2	Prop 40 AWQGP	Long term, high res nutrient/sediment monitoring and characterizing	\$499,999	UC Santa Cruz Marc Los Huertos	11/1/2008 11/1/2008 12/1/2008
06-128-553-0	319(h)	Morro Bay On-Farm Coastal Water Quality Implementation Project	\$500,000	Coastal San Luis RCD Deborah Barker	2/1/2008
06-161-553-0 06-161-553-1	Prop 40 IWM	Integrated Watershed Restoration Program Ph II	\$4,048,135	Santa Cruz Co. RCD Karen Christensen	2/1/2010
06-273-553-0 06-273-553-1	Prop 40 Prop 50 AWQGP	Research Implement. BMP's Protect Water Qual, Cent. Coast Vineyard	\$499,830 \$499,830	Santa Cruz Co. RCD Karen Christensen	5/1/2009
06-274-553-0	Prop 40 Prop 50 AWQGP	Demonstrate Capability Water Quality/Food Safety through Research Implementation	\$600,000 \$400,000	Central Coast Ag. Quality Coalition Dawn Mathes	4/1/2009
06-275-553-0	Prop 40 Prop 50 AWQGP	Research/Implement BMP's/ Protect Water Quality Cent. Coast Vineyard	\$340,000 \$340,000	Central Coast Vineyard Team Kris O'Connor	4/1/2009
7-090-253-0	319h NPS	San Lorenzo River Watershed Mgmt	\$120,700	Coastal San Luis RCD	Closed
7-104-253-0		NPS Pollution in Salinas Valley-Carr Lake	\$191,970	CA State University Monterey Bay	Closed

7-116-253-0	319h NPS	Nitrate Management	\$80,000	Monterey County Water Resources Agency	Closed
8-065-253-0	319h NPS	Volunteer Monitoring Marine Sanctuary	\$75,000	Center for Marine Conservation	Closed
8-115-253-0	319h NPS	Salinas Valley Eastside Watershed Project -Farm/Ranch Outreach	\$102,000	Monterey County RCD	Closed
8-117-253-0	319h NPS	Reduce NPS Pollution in the lower Salinas River-Implementing regulatory coordination for ag management practices.	\$60,000	Monterey Bay National Marine Foundation	Closed
8-257-130-0		Elkhorn Slough Watershed Ag Outreach Project	\$327,647	Monterey County RCD	Closed
9-078-253-0	319h NPS	Monterey Bay Regional Marketing Initiative-Collaborate with ag community to develop programs to encourage BMPs.	\$145,820	Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF)	Closed
9-193-130-0	319h NPS	Citizens Monitoring Group	\$49,998	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Found.	closed
00-097-253-0	319h NPS	Demonstration Farm & Outreach Program	\$345,600	Ag Land Based Training Assoc, Inc (ALBA)	Closed
00-147-253-0	319h NPS	Erosion and Nutrient Mgmt I Salinas and Pajaro Valleys	\$310,800	Monterey County RCD	Closed
00-148-253-0	319h	Outreach and Education Elements of the Salinas Valley Nitrate Mgmt Plan	\$288,000	Monterey County Water Resources Agency	Closed
00-152-253-0		Morro Cojo Slough-Remediate NPS Pollution	\$340,000	San Jose State University Found.	Closed
00-202-130-0	Cost Savings	Oso Flaco Creek Watershed Run-off Assessment and Outreach Plan	\$200,000	Cachuma RCD	Closed

00-239-130-0	TMDL NPS	Pajaro River Watershed Enhancement Planning	\$179,544	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Found.	Closed
01-066-253-0	Prop 13	Central Coast Vineyards-reduce off-site movement of silt and water	\$256,680	Central Coast Vineyard Team	Closed
01-113-130-1	TMDL	Volunteer Monitoring Program	\$34,999	Monterey Bay Sanctuary	Closed
01-134-253-0	Prop 13	San Antonio Coordinated Resource Mgmt Plan	\$20,000	Cachuma RCD	Closed
01-142-253-0		Outreach and Education of BMPs	\$130,000	Upper Salinas Las Tablas RCD	closed
01-204-130-0	TMDL	Watsonville Slough-Develop and implement specs for pathogens and sediment	\$166,437	University of CA Foundation	Closed
01-244-130-0	TMDL	Santa Margarita Ranch Ag Run-off Monitoring	\$28,930	Regents of University of CA	Closed
02-071-253-0	Prop 13	Vegetative Conservation Practices-Pajaro Valley	\$331,298	CAFF	Closed
02-056-130-1	TMDL	Pajaro River Watershed Nutrient Loading Assessment	\$149,853	Regents of University of CA	Closed
01-051-253-0		Farm WQ Planning	\$345,004	Regents of University of CA; Ag and Natural Resources	Closed
03-069-553-0	319h	Central Coast Farmland Demonstrating WQ Improvements	\$347,346	Cachuma RCD	Closed
03-174-253-0	TMDL	Regional Mapping and Pesticide Data Replication	\$19,900	CSUMB	Closed
03-184-553-0	Prop 13	Soquel Creek Lagoon	\$344,900	City of Capitola	Closed
03-187-553-0	Prop 13	Pajaro River Watershed WQ Protection & Wetland Restoration	\$2,271,877	Santa Cruz Co. RCD	Closed

03-193-553-0	Prop 13	Gabilan Watershed- address pollutants, restore natural function of watershed, reduce erosion and sedimentation,	\$1,400,184	San Jose State University Found - Moss Landing Marine Lab.	closed
04-133-553-0	319h	Arroyo Grande Creek On-farm Coast WQ Implementation Projects	\$277,645	Coastal San Luis RCD	Closed
04-138-553-0	Prop 13	Biologically Integrated Farming Systems	\$680,500	Central Coast Vineyard Team	Closed
04-143-553-0	Prop 13	Irrigation & Fertilization Mgmt Assistance	\$899,995	Santa Clara Valley Water District	Closed
04-145-553-0	Prop 13	Gabilan Watershed Identification of Toxic Pesticides - determine effectiveness of Ag conservation practices & stream restoration	\$190,000	Monterey County RCD	Closed
04-320-553-0	Prop 50 AWQGP	Vineyard Ag Waiver	\$242,762	Central Coast Vineyard Team	Closed
04-326-553-0	Prop 50 AWQGP	WQ Practice Implementation on Irrigated Ag Lands	\$1,000,000	Monterey County RCD	Closed
04-400-553-0	Prop 50 AWQGP	Mgmt Practices to Improve WQ San Luis Obispo and Santa Barbara Counties	\$999,133	Central Coast WQ Preservation Inc	Closed
05-103-553-0	Prop 40 AWQGP	Determine Ag Sources of Persistent Impairment to WQ Reg 3	\$499,900	Central Coast WQ Preservation Inc	Closed
05-105-553-0	Prop 50 AWQGP	Mgmt Practices to Improve WQ Pajaro, Salinas, Elkhorn Watersheds	\$999,133	Central Coast WQ Preservation Inc	Closed
05-122-553-0	319h	Reduction Nutr. Pesticide Loads, Wetlands Treatment	\$500,000	Monterey County RCD	Closed

05-176-553-0	Prop 50 AWQGP	Ag NPS Reduction Demonstration and Outreach	\$206,463	Ag Land Based Training Assoc, Inc	Closed
05-185-553-0	Prop 50 AWQGP	Irrigated Ag BMP Implementation	\$770,104	Cachuma RCD	Closed
06-045-553-0	319h	Vegetative Treatment Systems and Far WQ Plans (FWQP) Implementation	\$999,397	Santa Cruz Co. RCD	closed
06-353-553-0	Prop 50 CNPS	Assessment of State- Funded Wetland Restoration Projects Region 3	\$400,000	San Jose State University Found. - Moss Landing Marine Labs	Active
09-348-553-0	Prop 50 AWQGP	Nutrient, Pathogen & Sediment Pollution Reduction from Livestock Facilities	\$999,689	Ecology Action of Santa Cruz	Active
09-350-553	Prop 50 AWQGP	Pajaro Watershed Ag Irrigation and Nutrient Mgmt Project	\$750,000	Santa Cruz Co. RCD	Pending
10-415-553-0	Prop 84 AWQGP	Implementation of Irrigation and Nutrient Mgmt Projects in the Lower Pajaro Watershed	\$500,000	Santa Cruz Co. RCD	Pending
10-423-553-0	Prop 84 AWQGP	Central Coast Irrigation and Nutrient Mgmt Program, Santa Maria Watershed	\$1,250,000	Cachuma RCD	Pending
10-424-553-0	Prop 84 AWQGP	Salinas Valley Watershed Irrigation and Nutrient Mgmt Program	\$1,250,000	Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation	Pending
10-440-553-0	319h NPS	Morro Bay Ag WQ Enhancement Program	\$465,500	Coastal San Luis RCD	Pending
Following Projects Awarded by Regional Board from Settlement Funds					
01-RB-06	Unocal, Avila Settlement	South SLO Creek- restore functional wetland, improving WQ, reduce NPS pollution discharges	\$50,000	SLO County Land Conservancy	Closed
98-289-8	Unocal, Guadalupe Settlement	Santa Maria Estuary Plan	\$440,000	CA Coastal Conservancy	Closed

98-289-12	Unocal, Guadalupe Settlement	Central Coast Watershed Coordinator	\$658,103	Central Coast Wine Growers Assoc.	Closed
98-289-15	Unocal, Guadalupe Settlement	Central Coast Farm WQ Courses	\$49,924	UC Cooperative Extension SLO County	Closed
98-289-16	Unocal, Guadalupe Settlement	Central Coast Cooperative Monitoring	\$622,321	Central Coast WQ Preservation Inc	Closed
2004-0579	PGE Monitoring Funds	Monitoring of long- term large scale watershed level	\$250,000	Central Coast Ag WQ Coalition	Active
2004-0582	PGE Monitoring Funds	Watershed scale WQ trend monitoring for Carneros and Corn Cob Canyon Creek	\$49,999	CSUMB	Active
2006-0387	PGE Monitoring Funds	Ambient Monitoring in Elkhorn Slough	\$49,680	Elkhorn Slough Foundation	Active
2004-0575	PGE Project Funds	Design and Implement conservation practices to improve WQ in Moss Landing Harbor and tributaries	\$282,290	Monterey County RCD	Active
2004-0576	PGE Project Funds	Plan, design supervise construction of conservation practices to arrest erosion at three gully sites on two properties	\$49,925	Monterey County RCD	Active
2005-0438	PGE Project Funds	Irrigation and Nutrient Mgmt-Implement enhanced irrigation and nutrient mgmt practices in North Monterey County	\$49,843	Monterey County RCD	Active
2004-0680	PGE Project Funds	Elkhorn Slough Watershed- underground pipe installation and sediment basin construction	\$49,893	Monterey County RCD	Active

2004-0681	PGE Project Funds	Moro Cojo/Santa Rita Creek-underground pipe installation and sediment basin retrofits	\$49,883	Monterey County RCD	Active
2004-0682	PGE Project Funds	Carneros Creek-underground pipe installation and sediment basin construction	\$49,870	Monterey County RCD	Active
2005-0734	PGE Project Funds	1) Convert existing on-farm drainage canals and ditches into vegetated treatment systems/monitoring. 2) Stabilize 1000-foot section of Santa Rita Creek & parcel immediately upstream.	\$500,000	Monterey County RCD	Active
2005-0735	PGE Project Funds	Vegetative Treatment Systems-modeling calculations	\$49,999	CSUMB	Active
2005-0437	PGE Project Funds	Wetland Restoration-Plans	\$179,543	Ag Land Based Training Assoc, Inc	Active
2006-0384	PGE Project Funds	Wetland Restoration-Implementation	\$190,000	Ag Land Based Training Assoc, Inc	Active
2006-0385	PGE Project Funds	Vegetative Waterways	\$200,000	Central Coast Ag WQ Coalition - CAFF	Active
2008-0481	PGE Project Funds	Irrigation & Nutrient Mgmt	\$49,980	UC Davis	Active
2009-0179	PGE Project Funds	Demonstrating Best Mgmt Practices for Coastal Vegetable Production	\$47,897	UC Davis	Active
TOTAL			\$34,191,652		

AWQGP – Agricultural Water Quality Grant Program
CAFF – California Alliance with Family Farmers

In addition to the \$48 million in grants listed above in Tables 2 and 3, the Central Coast Water Board also allocated \$7 million to the Elkhorn Slough Foundation to mitigate impacts caused by the Moss Landing Power Plant. The Elkhorn Slough Foundation has successfully leveraged these funds into tens of millions of dollars in on-the-ground projects. These projects include funding for BMP research and demonstration, sustainable farming demonstration, and extraordinary habitat conservation and restoration. When this \$7 million in funding, and leveraging, is included, the total amount of recent agriculture related grants on the Central Coast is well over \$55 million. This does not include funding from many other state and federal agencies.

CONCLUSION

The amount of funding for agricultural related projects on the Central Coast in the past 10 to 15 years is over \$55 million. With all this funding, the water quality problems, including pollution of drinking water wells, continue to get worse and the threat to public health is increasing dramatically. For water quality and public health problems of this severity and magnitude, our primary responsibility must be to establish meaningful and comprehensive requirements to reduce pollutant loading, establish meaningful time schedules to achieve compliance, have transparent on-site compliance monitoring, and initiate enforcement for non compliance. Future funding for agriculture related projects should only be done in concert with comprehensive requirements and large-scale treatment solutions. Grant funding in lieu of comprehensive requirements will only make the problems worse.

In reviewing these grants, there is a definitive lack of funding toward the Water Board's highest priority—protecting people from drinking water pollution. In preparing for the new Irrigated Agriculture Order, the Water Board and staff have learned much more about the severe impacts caused by nitrate pollution in groundwater, and that thousands of residential domestic wells may be polluted or threatened. This issue is staff's highest priority, and we are working to direct grant funds and other resources toward this priority (in addition to renewing the Irrigated Agriculture Order to address this critical issue).

RECOMMENDATION

This session is for discussion only.

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

STAFF REPORT FOR REGULAR MEETING OF FEBRUARY 3, 2011

Prepared on January 10, 2011

ITEM NUMBER: 19

**SUBJECT: Discussion Regarding Technical Services Available to the
Agriculture Industry and Potential Solutions to Water Quality
Problems**

DISCUSSION

This item is a placeholder for a discussion regarding technical services available to the agriculture industry and potential solutions to water quality and habitat issues associated with irrigated agriculture.

There are many consulting companies and hundreds of individual experts who work in the field of environmental sciences, investigations, corrective actions, treatment system design, sampling, and reporting on the Central Coast. These companies and individuals provide technical services for thousands of cases regulated by the Water Board and other agencies, and are available to assist the agriculture industry in complying with Water Board requirements. Water Board staff will be compiling a list of such companies over the next several months (not as an endorsement, but as information).

In addition, the Natural Resource Conservation District (NRDC), County Resource Conservation Districts (RCDs), and UC Extension offices provide technical services to help the agriculture industry change its farming practices and achieve compliance.

There are also many non-profit agriculture organizations and initiatives that promote and demonstrate sustainable agriculture, and provide education and support.

Also, as reported in item No. 18, the Water Boards have provided hundreds of millions of dollars in public funds to assist the agriculture industry statewide, with tens of millions provided on the Central Coast.

Solving the severe groundwater and surface water pollution problems on the Central Coast is our top priority, and will require a comprehensive regulatory program designed to require significant reductions in pollution discharges on a defined schedule, compliance monitoring, and enforcement for non-compliance. As with all other Water Board programs, this approach will provide incentive to change, innovate, and implement treatment systems on individual, group, and regional scales.

RECOMMENDATION

This session is for discussion only.