
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Information Regarding Settlement Fund Allocation

In 2009, the Central Coast Water Board allocated \$950,000 from its Guadalupe Enforcement Settlement Funds (Funds) to the Wild Cherry Canyon Conservation Project (Project). The Project was not successful and the Funds allocated to the Project were not used. Therefore, the Central Coast Water Board will consider allocating these Funds to other projects, or project concepts, at its regular meeting on July 31, 2014, in Santa Barbara.

These Funds are governed by a court issued Consent Judgment, which provides the Central Coast Water Board with authority to allocate the Funds and define criteria for selecting projects. The Central Coast Water Board periodically modified its criteria for allocating these Funds over the past several years to focus on top priority water quality issues. In 2012, the Central Coast Water Board defined these top priorities:

- 1. Preventing and Correcting Threats to Human Health*
- 2. Preventing and Correcting Degradation of Aquatic Habitat*
- 3. Preventing Degradation of Hydrologic Processes*
- 4. Preventing/Reversing Seawater Intrusion*
- 5. Preventing Further Degradation of Groundwater Basins from Salts*

Also in 2012, the Central Coast Water Board allocated all remaining Funds (\$1.54 million) to: 1) The priority tasks identified in its Groundwater Assessment and Protection (GAP) program, and 2) technical support for Basin Plan amendments. Information on the GAP program, the GAP work plan, and the Central Coast Water Board's 2012 Resolution are located here: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/gap/index.shtml

For the July 31, 2014 Board meeting, Central Coast Water Board staff will provide background information and options for allocating the \$950,000 that was previously allocated to the Project.