

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

SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 17-18, 2016
Prepared on March 15, 2016

ITEM NUMBER: 14

SUBJECT: Executive Officer's Report

STAFF CONTACT: Phil Hammer (805/549-3882)

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

SALINAS RIVER STREAM MAINTENANCE PROGRAM

[Phil Hammer 805/549-3882]

As previously reported in the Executive Officer's Report for the March 17-18, 2016 Central Coast Water Board meeting, the Monterey County Water Resources Agency (MCWRA) has submitted an application for Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification for the Salinas River Stream Maintenance Program. The Program is a coordinated approach to vegetation and sediment management in the river and some tributaries within Monterey County. Central Coast Water Board staff has completed its initial review of the application. On March 14, 2016, Central Coast Water Board staff met with MCWRA staff to discuss comments and questions regarding the application and program. Topics discussed included impact avoidance, mitigation approaches, and sediment management. The meeting was productive, in that MCWRA staff provided substantial information that clarified various aspects of the program. Staff for both agencies also identified areas where additional information was needed. Central Coast Water Board staff plans to continue working with MCWRA and stakeholders to develop and certify a stream maintenance program for the Salinas River that reduces flood risk while protecting beneficial uses and water quality. Central Coast Water Board staff expects to be able to issue a water quality certification for the program prior to Fall 2016, when MCWRA plans to start program implementation.