CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

NOTICE OF PENDING ENFORCEMENT ACTION CALIFORNIA WATER SERVICE COMPANY

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (Regional Water Board) Prosecution Team revised and reissued Complaint R2-2009-0006 for Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) on May 25, 2010. The Complaint alleges that California Water Service Company (Discharger) discharged without a permit an estimated 137,640 gallons of unplanned potable chloraminated water into Polhemus Creek on three occasions, one of which caused a fish kill. The unauthorized discharges disrupted a creek restoration project, creating excess erosion and sediment transport to both Polhemus and San Mateo Creeks. The Complaint proposes that the Discharger pay \$200,000 in administrative civil liability and staff costs.

The Complaint and related documents, including Regional Water Board hearing procedures (with deadlines for submitting comments), are available at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/public_notices/pending_enforcement.shtml. The Prosecution Team may amend and re-notice its Complaint in response to comments from the Discharger and the public.

The Regional Water Board will hold a hearing on August 11, 2010, to consider adoption of the ACL and/or referral of the matter to the Attorney General, unless the Discharger waives its right to a hearing within 90 days. The 90-day hearing requirement may be waived to pay the penalty as proposed, extended deadlines, or pursue settlement and/or a supplemental environmental project.

For additional information and updates, please contact Habte Kifle at (510) 622-2371 or hkifle@waterboards.ca.gov or check the Regional Water Board's website address cited above.