

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT
MEETING DATE: June 13, 2012

ITEM **9**

SUBJECT: **The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority – What It Is and Where It’s Headed** – Presentation by Samuel Schuchat, Authority Governing Board Chair and Executive Officer of the California State Coastal Conservancy

DISCUSSION: The San Francisco Bay Restoration Authority (Authority) is a new regional government agency charged with raising and allocating resources for the restoration, enhancement, protection, and enjoyment of wetlands and wildlife habitat in the San Francisco Bay and along its shoreline. The Authority was created by the Legislature in 2008 with the enactment of AB 2954. The creation of the Authority implements the primary recommendation of the report, *Greening the Bay: Financing Wetland Restoration in San Francisco Bay*, by Save the Bay, the sponsor of AB 2954. The Board heard a presentation on this report by Save the Bay in November 2007.

The Authority is guided by a seven-member Governing Board, whose members are appointed by the Association of Bay Area Governments. The Governing Board is charged with exploring, promoting and coordinating local and regional public revenue mechanisms to help fund the restoration of wetlands on more than 36,000 acres around the Bay already in public ownership. The Governing Board is working to develop priorities and sequencing for allocating any funds received to wildlife habitat restoration, related public access, recreation, and flood management projects. The Governing Board is also reviewing and selecting appropriate revenue mechanisms that may require voter approval.

Sam Schuchat, in his role as Chair of the Governing Board, will make a presentation to us on the Authority and its plans for carrying out its mission.

RECOMMENDATION: No action needed – information item.