

M E M O

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Betsy Herbert, Ph.D.

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS STATUS REPORT
WEEK ENDING September 26, 2008

DATE: September 25, 2008

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review and file the Environmental Programs status report for the week ending September 26, 2008.

BACKGROUND:

CLIMATE CHANGE

Staff issued a press release about the District's adoption of a resolution addressing climate change and water resources.

Staff is attending a workshop entitled "Carbon Sequestration in Forests," at Oregon State University from September 29 – October 2. The workshop will address science, economics and policy relating to carbon sequestration. Field work will involve carbon storage measurement techniques at the H.J. Andrews Experimental Forest outside of Eugene.

CALIFORNIA CLIMATE ACTION REGISTRY (CCAR)

Staff signed the contract with the selected verifier for the District's greenhouse gas emissions reporting to the California Climate Action Registry (CCAR) for the years 2006 and 2007. The verifier is E.H. Pechan, which is accredited by CCAR. The work with Pechan is scheduled to begin on October 6, 2008. Verification must be completed by December 15, 2008.

Staff is working on minor revisions to the CCAR report involving optional reporting of annual greenhouse gas emissions from the daily commutes of District's employees.

WATERSHED PLAN

Staff prepared a summary of the region's major public water agency management plans, including goals, objectives and policies for addressing fire. Staff presented the summary to the Environmental Committee for their consideration on September 25, 2008. Staff continues to update the Administrative Draft of the District's Watershed Management Plan to reflect comments submitted by the public.

MANANA WOODS HCP

Staff attended a meeting with the District Manager, Operations Manager, and consulting ecologist Jodi McGraw on September 24, 2008 regarding the status of the Manana Woods HCP. Staff is proofing the documents to expedite their submittal to USFWS.

OLYMPIA WATERSHED SHADED FUEL BREAK PROJECT

Staff attended a meeting with the District Manager, Operations Manager, and consulting ecologist Jodi McGraw on September 24, 2008 regarding a future project under consideration by the District in partnership with the Zayante Fire Department, the Zayante Equestrian Center and others. The purpose of the project is to reduce the fuel load and reduce exotic invasive vegetation at the southwest edge of the District's Olympia watershed property.

Betsy Herbert, Ph.D.
Environmental Analyst