

MEMO

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Environmental Analyst

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS STATUS REPORT
WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 25, 2009

DATE: September 24, 2009

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review and file the Environmental Programs Status Report for the week ending September 25, 2009.

BACKGROUND:

WATERSHED PLAN

Staff is drafting objectives and policies for Chapter 6, "Recreational, Cultural, Historical & Educational Resources," Part II of the District's watershed plan, to be discussed at the October 15, 2009 meeting of the Environmental Committee. Staff is preparing a revised outline for the Watershed Management Plan, Parts II and III.

DISTRICT'S 2008 GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY

Staff has submitted requests for proposals to three certified vendors with respect to certification of the District's 2008 greenhouse gas emissions report, which staff submitted to the California Climate Action Registry last month. The verification deadline is December 15, 2009.

OLYMPIA WELLFIELD MANAGEMENT

Staff is coordinating with the District Operations Manager to plan and prepare for burning of downed acacia and broom for the coming wet season.

Staff has scheduled a meeting of the District staff, the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County staff, and local consultants to discuss the work plan for this fall as described in the USFWS Partners for Fish and Wildlife grant agreement. The project involves control of invasive exotic plant species on the District's recently acquired parcels of the Olympia Wellfield property and the land trust's Geyer property.

WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Staff is scheduled to meet with the inter-agency Water Conservation Coalition on September 28, 2009 to continue designing the local version of the GardenSoft software. The software

provides on-line information to local residents to encourage water-saving gardening through the use of drought-tolerant and native plants.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CONSERVATION BLUE PRINT


Staff attended the second technical advisory workshop, "Biodiversity Planning for Aquatic Habitat" on September 23, 2009 at the Aptos Village Park facility.

SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAINS BIOREGIONAL COUNCIL

Staff is scheduled to attend a board meeting of the Santa Cruz Mountains Bioregional Council on October 1, 2009 at the Skyline Field Office of the Mid-peninsula Regional Open Space District. The group plans to discuss various management issues related to publicly managed open space.

CONVERSATION OF 100

Staff has been invited to attend a panel discussion and workshop on Saturday, October 3, 2009 at Humboldt State University to address the future management and protection of the coast redwoods throughout their range. The panel is sponsored by Save the Redwoods League and addresses issues discussed in the article about redwoods in the October issue of National Geographic.


Betsy Herbert, Ph.D.
Environmental Analyst