

M E M O

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Betsy Herbert, Ph.D.

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS STATUS REPORT
WEEK ENDING November 9, 2007

DATE: November 9, 2007

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review and file the Environmental Programs status report for the week ending November 9, 2007.

BACKGROUND:

WATERSHED MANAGEMENT PLAN

This project consists of a complete review and update of the District's Watershed Protection Plan adopted November 4, 1985. Staff is completing the administrative draft for Part One of the Watershed Management Plan; Existing Conditions Report. The administrative draft for this section of the report has been reviewed by the Environmental Committee at their January 25, 2007, March 1, 2007, March 15, 2007, April 19, 2007, May 3, 2007, May 24, 2007, June 11, 2007, July 19, 2007, August 16, 2007, and September 6, 2007. At the November 1, 2007 meeting, the committee discussed the review process and drafted a list of peer-reviewers for the administrative draft. An Environmental Committee meeting is scheduled for December 6 for final review of the draft and the review process. Staff continues work on activities associated with Part Two of the Watershed Management Plan; Policies, Practices and Recommendations.

EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

A special joint meeting of the Education Program Grant Advisory Commission and the Board took place on November 8, 2007. The purpose of the meeting was for the commissioners to discuss their ideas and recommendations with the Board regarding the District's Education Grant Program. Staff prepared a summary of all of the Education Program Grants to date, and attended the meeting.

CLIMATE CHANGE

Staff has scheduled an initial planning meeting for water agency staff on November 14 at the Scotts Valley Water District. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss a local climate change/water resources forum and a research proposal. Agencies confirming their attendance include the City of Santa Cruz Water Department, Scotts Valley Water District, County of Santa Cruz, Soquel Creek Water District, and Lompico County Water District.

Staff has scheduled a meeting with the District Manager and the Director of Operations on November 29. The purpose of the meeting is to discuss and design the District's facilities database for use with the California Climate Action Registry's on-line inventory and tracking system for carbon emissions.

WATER CONSERVATION

Staff participated in the District's October 31 Drought Contingency Planning meeting. Staff ordered 200 linen and towel cards for placement in local hotels as part of the inter-agency Water Awareness Committee's effort to save water. Cards advise hotel guests to help in reducing unnecessary towel and linen laundering.

Betsy Herbert, Ph.D.
Environmental Analyst