

## M E M O

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Betsy Herbert, Ph.D.

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS STATUS REPORT  
WEEK ENDING September 28, 2007

DATE: September 27, 2007

### **RECOMMENDATION:**

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review and file the Environmental Programs status report for the week ending September 28, 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 meetings. An Environmental Committee meeting is scheduled for October 25, 2007. Staff continues work on activities associated with Part Two of the Watershed Management Plan; Policies, Practices and Recommendations.

#### WATER CONSERVATION

Staff received several phone calls District constituents regarding the District's new signs posted throughout its service area. Comments were favorable regarding the educational message to conserve water for watershed health.

#### EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

Staff is scheduling a special joint meeting of the Education Program Grant Advisory Commission and the Board on November 8, 2007. Your Board approved the date for this meeting at your September 6, 2007 meeting. The purpose of the meeting is for the commissioners to discuss their ideas and recommendations with the Board regarding the District's Education Grant Program. Staff reviewed the Education Program Grant Completion Report from the Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District.

## CLIMATE CHANGE

Staff cancelled the planning meeting scheduled for September 19, 2007 with other public water agencies in the county to discuss a climate change/water resources forum and a research proposal. The meeting was cancelled because representatives from most other water agencies were unable to attend. The meeting will be rescheduled at a later date.

## SEDIMENT MONITORING

Staff attended a county-wide sediment monitoring meeting at the County Planning Department on September 20, 2007. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss approaches for a pilot sediment monitoring program for three to six watersheds in Santa Cruz County, including the San Lorenzo River, to be conducted from fall 2007 through fall 2008. Other attendees included representatives from County Environmental Health, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, US Geological Survey, City of Santa Cruz, and Santa Cruz County Resource Conservation District.

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Betsy Herbert, Ph.D.  
Environmental Analyst