Agenda: 11.19.09 Item: 9a3v

MEMO

TO:

District Manager

FROM:

Environmental Analyst

SUBJECT:

ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS STATUS REPORT

WEEK ENDING NOVEMBER 13, 2009

DATE:

November 12, 2009

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the District Manager review and file the Environmental Programs Status Report for the week ending November 13, 2009.

BACKGROUND:

WATERSHED PLAN

Staff distributed an errata sheet and revised acknowledgments to Part I: Existing Conditions Report. Staff has assembled recreation policies from Santa Cruz County Parks for consideration and discussion at the November 19, 2009 meeting of the Environmental Committee.

DISTRICT'S 2008 GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY

Staff has begun supplying E.H. Pechan with additional information so that they can verify 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

The USFWS gave the District the go-ahead on November 6, 2009 to proceed with burning of downed acacia and broom, which should begin as soon as burn crews can be scheduled.

Staff met with Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, local consultants, and the District Operations Manager on site on November 11, 2009 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 finished reviewing and selecting photographs for the prototype local version of the GardenSoft software. The finished package will provide 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 is scheduled to attend the fifth technical advisory workshop of the Conservation Blue Print effort led by the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County. The workshop will address recreation and environmental education, and will take place on November 17, 2009.

EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

Staff is reviewing two 2009 Education Grant completion reports for consideration at the December 3, 2009 Board Meeting.

SANTA MARGARITA GROUNDWATER BASIN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Staff attended this advisory committee meeting on November 4, 2009.

Betsy Herbert, Ph.D. Environmental Analyst

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