

M E M O

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Environmental Analyst

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS STATUS REPORT
WEEK ENDING OCTOBER 9, 2009

DATE: October 8, 2009

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review and file the Environmental Programs Status Report for the week ending October 9, 2009.

BACKGROUND:

WATERSHED PLAN

Staff is reviewing revised objectives and policies for Chapter 6, "Recreational, Cultural, Historical & Educational Resources," Part II of the District's watershed plan, in preparation for discussion at the October 15, 2009 meeting of the Environmental Committee. Staff has prepared a revised outline for the Watershed Management Plan, Parts II and III.

DISTRICT'S 2008 GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY

Staff is receiving proposals from verifiers to certify 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 continues to work with the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, local consultants, and the District Operations Manager 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 October 12, 2009 to continue designing the local version of the GardenSoft software. The software

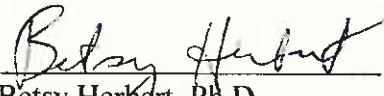
provides on-line information to local residents to encourage water-saving gardening through the use of drought-tolerant and native plants.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CONSERVATION BLUE PRINT

On October 6, 2009 staff attended the third technical advisory workshop of the Conservation Blue Print effort led by the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County. The workshop was entitled, "Conserving Terrestrial Fauna and Landscape Linkages."

ASSEMBLY MEMBER BILL MONNING'S ENVIRONMENTAL BREAKFAST

Staff attended Assembly Member Monning's environmental breakfast on October 8, 2009. Guests of this well attended event included local governmental staff and elected officials, environmental non-profit leaders, and representatives of the labor community. Staff participated in a breakout discussion group addressing water and watershed issues.


Betsy Herbert, Ph.D.
Environmental Analyst