

M E M O

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Environmental Analyst

SUBJECT: ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMS STATUS REPORT
WEEK ENDING SEPTEMBER 11, 2009

DATE: September 11, 2009

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that the Board of Directors review and file the Environmental Programs Status Report for the week ending September 11, 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 September 17, 2009 meeting of the Environmental Committee. Staff is preparing additional documents for a continuing discussion of fire management at the meeting.

DISTRICT'S 2008 GREENHOUSE GAS INVENTORY

Staff submitted the District's 2008 greenhouse gas emissions inventory to the California Climate Action Registry. Staff is now preparing requests for proposals for certified verifiers of the report. The verification deadline is December 15, 2009.

OLYMPIA WELLFIELD MANAGEMENT

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

The USFWS Partners grant, awarded jointly to the District and the Land Trust of Santa Cruz County, for a project to continue invasive exotic plant species at the Olympia Wellfield property and the Geyer property, is now funded. Staff is working with the land trust to organize the projects scheduled to begin this fall.

WATER CONSERVATION PROGRAM

Staff met with the District Manager, the District Operations Manager, and the District Finance Manager to finalize the new water conservation credit program procedures. Staff drafted the program description for the District website.

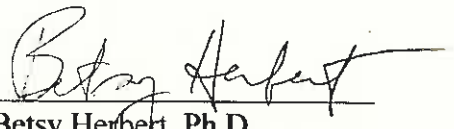
Staff met with the inter-agency Water Conservation Coalition on September 10, 2009 to continue designing the local version of the GardenSoft software. The software provides on-line information to local residents to encourage water-saving gardening through the use of drought-tolerant and native plants.

PUBLIC OUTREACH

Staff is drafting a press release to announce the District's new water conservation credit program, which goes into effect September 15, 2009.

SANTA CRUZ COUNTY CONSERVATION BLUE PRINT

Staff attended the first technical advisory workshop, "Biodiversity Planning for Vegetation and Plants" on September 2, 2009 at the UCSC Arboretum. Staff attended the second steering committee meeting for this project on September 11, 2009.



Betsy Herbert, Ph.D.
Environmental Analyst