

CV-SALTS 2010 Accomplishments Summary

Significant Progress has been made in since September 2009, when the last Salinity Leadership Group meeting was held. Several studies have been completed, with additional products expected by the end of the year. The results are forming a basis for the work in the future.

1. Salt and Nitrate Sources Pilot Study (Completed: March 2010)

This stakeholder led, \$450K study evaluated a methodology for assessing salt and nitrate sources in three areas in the major basins of the Central Valley. The studies tested the implementation of the methodology and presented overall salt balance in the pilot areas. These studies covered more than 10% of area of Central Valley and approximately 13% of its population. The study presented recommendations and considerations for assessment of the Central Valley based on the pilot results. This type of effort will have to be extended across all areas of the Central Valley as part of the development of Salt and Nutrient Management Plans.

2. Two Outreach Workshops in Tulare and Woodland (Completed: April 2010)

The Central Valley Salinity Coalition (CVSC) and Public Education and Outreach Committee developed and facilitated these half-day workshops. The workshops asked the participants to provide input on the impacts of salt and nitrate on their communities and industries. The workshops were attended by more than 130 people.

3. Coordination Matrix of programs that impact salts (Completed: April 2010)

The Technical and Executive Committees worked with a subcommittee to develop and document all the studies, projects, programs and efforts which may significantly impact salt or nitrate in the Central Valley or may be affected by policy changes.

4. Beneficial Use Study Phase 1 (Completed: August 2010)

This \$50,000 effort produced a GIS database and beneficial use maps for the Central Valley and Delta. Stakeholders and the Boards will use this material to review current beneficial uses and objectives and develop recommendations for any changes. The project also provided an interactive web map utility and geodatabase for future efforts. Future phases of this work may add information related to numeric water quality objectives, data, and permitted limits to the water bodies, as well as various regional and jurisdictional delineations.

5. Increased Membership

The CVSC membership expanded from 6 to 22 members and the Board now has 17 Directors.

Founding Members include: California League of Food Processors*, The Wine Institute*, Western United Dairymen, City of Fresno*, San Joaquin Valley Drainage Authority*, California Assoc of Sanitation Agencies*, Central Valley Clean Water Association*. (* Denotes Board of Directors Member)

New Members 2009/2010 include: E. San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition*, City of Manteca*, California Rice Commission* Pacific Water Quality Association, City of Modesto*, Sacramento Reg. Co. Sanitation District*, San Joaquin River Group Authority*, Discovery Bay CSD, Iron House Sanitary District, City of Tracy*, City of Stockton*, Mountain House CSD, Agricultural Council of CA, Western Plant Health Association*, Tulare Lake Drainage and Water Storage Districts*, Stockton East Water District*. (* Denotes Board of Directors Member)

6. Funding Significantly Expanded in 2010

To date, CVSC Members have contributed over \$582,000 with \$100,000 raised during 2010. Additional budgeted membership commitments of over \$150,000 are in process.

Stakeholders have provided in-kind funding of more than \$392,000. The Bureau of Reclamation contributed \$300,000 of the total in-kind contributions by performing a salt and nitrate source assessment of the west side of the San Joaquin River Basin.

Additional in-kind contributions included \$36,000 for support of a committee chair and \$56,000 from consultants. The City of Sacramento, County Farm Bureaus, Edison, ACWA, Sacramento County, & Bureau of Reclamation provided facilities and technical support. Considerable time and support have also been given by Committee Chairs and staff.

7. Critical Efforts Continue in 2010

CV-SALTS will continue its efforts in 2010 to accomplish the following objectives:

- a. Establish a regional prioritization approach to assess and identify the areas and regions that should be a priority for the planning and funding of CV-SALTS studies.
- b. Begin Phase II of the Beneficial Use study to identify water bodies for in-depth assessment of beneficial uses and determination of whether changes should be proposed.
- c. Establish a technical framework for Regional Salt and Nitrate Management Plans.
- d. Develop a screening mechanism for determining effectiveness of salt and nitrate reduction management practices.