



Week of February 1, 2010

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1. **CASQA issues 2009 Annual Report** – This week, members will be receiving their e-copy of CASQA’s 2009 annual report. The report provides a summary of the organization and key activities and accomplishments in 2009, as well as a summary of fiscal 2008 finances.
 2. **CASQA testifies at two EPA sessions** – The week before last, CASQA and some its key members organized and provided testimony at two sessions hosted by EPA Headquarters staff:
 - EPA Listening Session (January 20, 2010, San Francisco) – On the heels of providing written comments in response to an EPA Information Collection Request (ICR) in late December on “stormwater management including discharges from newly developed and redeveloped sites”; CASQA organized and provided coordinated testimony to EPA staff at a listening session designed to “inform a rulemaking to strengthen national stormwater regulations and to establish a comprehensive program to reduce stormwater discharges from new development and redevelopment.” CASQA is developing written comments due February 26.
 - EPA OW-OPP Harmonization (January 22, 2010, Oakland) – Organized by CASQA’s Pesticides Subcommittee, CASQA consultants and stormwater quality agencies’ staff and consultants from Alameda, Contra Costa, Riverside, Roseville, Sacramento, San Diego, and Santa Clara Valley provided coordinated testimony to the Office of Pesticides Programs-Office of Water “Effects Assessment Methodology Reconciliation Project” team. Cumulatively, EPA staff heard a compelling story and received a lot of useful information, which we expect will lead to some significant changes in how pesticides are regulated at the federal level.
 3. **Upcoming CASQA Committee / Subcommittee meetings / conference calls** – The following Committee and Subcommittee meetings / calls are planned for the next 2 weeks:
 - Thursday, February 4; 10:00 – Training Subcommittee call ([Daniel Apt](#))
 - Thursday, February 4; 1:30 – BMPs Subcommittee call ([Anna Lantin](#))
 - Friday, February 5; 10:30 – Conference Subcommittee call ([Jason Uhley](#))

 - Tuesday, February 9; 3:30 – Policy & Permitting Subcommittee call ([Richard Boon](#))

- 4. 2010-2011 CWSRF Project Priority List tentative adoption schedule** – (Source: State Water Board) The Division of Financial Assistance will be updating the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Program Project Priority List (PPL) for State Fiscal Year (SFY) 2010/2011. Even if your project is already listed on the 2009/2010 CWSRF PPL, it is imperative that you log into FFAST to update your information to be included on the 2010/2011 CWSRF PPL. The initial update period for the 2010/2011 CWSRF Program PPL opened on January 11, 2010. The Final PPL will be considered for adoption by the State Water Board in June 2010.
- 5. National Research Council report urges USGS to focus water studies on climate, land use, questions of policy** – (Source: WEF) According to a [report](#) released on January 26 from the National Research Council (NRC), the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) should refocus the scientific priorities of its National Water Quality Assessment Program to emphasize land-use changes and climate change, The report - *Letter Report Assessing the USGS National Water Quality Assessment Program's Science Framework* - also called for greater clarity from the USGS in laying out research questions and findings that are particularly significant to policymakers. The report recommended specifically that the USGS program reorganize its activities to focus on the two major large scale drivers affecting national water quality: (1) change in land use due to population and other demographic changes; and (2) climate variability and change. The report indicated that the committee and others “note that a large majority, if not all, of the stressors on aquatic systems and changing water quality link directly to a changing climate and changing land use practices and those two drivers of change can serve as the larger organizing elements for many water quality considerations.”