

Students Imagine Desal Plant

A team of architectural students from California Polytechnic University San Luis Obispo have developed an innovative design for the seawater desalination plant proposed by California American Water (Cal-Am). The single-story design incorporates energy efficiency, water conservation and the use of renewable building materials.

The design will be provided to firms selected by Cal-Am to bid on construction of the Monterey Peninsula Water Supply Project desalination plant. Those firms may modify the design, or submit a new plan that meets requirements established by Cal-Am with input from the Governance Committee.

The Governance Committee, formed to provide public oversight of desalination project development includes the Water Management District, the County of Monterey, Cal-Am and the Monterey Peninsula Regional Water Authority.

In August, the final design from the Cal Poly team was presented to the Committee. To view video of the student design team presentation [click here](#).



John Kilpatrick of Cal-Am (far left) with Cal Poly Design Team members: Kevin Spitzer, Joanna Ha, Danton Spina, Thomas Shorey, Smita Naik, John Donley, Daire Heneghan, Derek Holloway, and Professor James Doerfler.

The mission of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District is to promote or provide for long-term sustainable water supply, and to manage and protect water resources for the benefit of the community and the environment.

CSUMB Interns Assist with Fish Rescues

40,000 Steelhead Rescued and Moved to Sleepy Hollow Fish Facility

An exceptionally dry winter has prompted the Water Management District to begin its Steelhead Rescue Program in April, much earlier than usual. The Steelhead Rescue Team Crews worked seven days a week, and by August 1, over 40,000 steelhead were rescued from drying sections of the Carmel River and moved to the Sleepy Hollow Steelhead Rearing Facility. There, fish are raised until river flows reach adequate levels for their release in the Fall or Winter.

Rescues were accomplished with the assistance of California State University at Monterey Bay student interns working towards undergraduate and advance degrees in science and biology. In 2012, CSUMB interns from a federally funded program joined the rescue team and some of those same students returned to help with this critical project. Working for the Water Management District, students gain knowledge of fish rearing, data collection, and water quality monitoring, while serving the community.

The Steelhead Rescue Program is one of many activities carried out under the Water Management District's Mitigation Program – required by State Order 95-10 to offset the negative impacts of over-pumping on the Carmel river, and to comply with the State's Cease and Desist Order that mandates future reductions in pumping from the Carmel River.



Student interns and Water Management District staff pose with "Big Red", a fish rescue and transport vehicle. From left to right: Kevan Urquhart, Matt Lyons, Daniel Merino, Cory Hamilton, Mark Bekker, Evan DeLay, Mitchell Masuda and Kenneth Norberg. [Click here](#) for a video of the Steelhead Rescue Team in action.



Rescued steelhead prior to their journey to the Sleepy Hollow Steelhead Rearing Facility.



Carmel River Lagoon -- District staff monitor water level and temperature to assess conditions for migrating steelhead fish.



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GM Stoldt Speaks to State Board About Local Water Needs

On June 3, 2013, the Water Management District represented by General Manager David Stoldt, appeared before the State Water Resources Control Board in Monterey to advocate for local businesses. Stoldt challenged the SWRCB to work with the community to: (1) allow water meters to be set for new building uses where the change would result in water savings; (2) remove disincentives for local jurisdictions to develop small water projects; and (3) not consider rationing as a solution because water required for personal "health and safety" would leave no water available for businesses. With the economic health of the community in mind, the Water District continues to meet with SWRCB staff on implementation of solutions for the Peninsula.



At the close of the SWRCB meeting in Monterey, Water Management District staff led SWRCB members and staff on a tour of the Sleepy Hollow Steelhead Rearing Facility. Pictured here tour participants view steelhead in the rearing channel.

Panel Conducts Review of Water District Expenditures

The process for public review of expenditures funded by the Water Supply Charge is underway. On April 23, 2013, the Ordinance 152 Citizen's Oversight Panel reviewed a preliminary budget for funding water supply projects through 2016 including Groundwater Replenishment, Aquifer Storage and Recovery and an alternate desalination project. Panel members agreed with the concept of funding efforts by local jurisdictions to develop small projects such as storm water reuse. The Panel meets quarterly and includes 9 community members appointed by the Water Management District Board. For more information see www.mpwmd.net and click on Ordinance No. 152 Oversight Panel under Committee Meeting Agendas.



Ordinance 152 Citizen's Oversight Panel visits the Water Management District's Santa Margarita Aquifer Storage and Recovery project site at 1910 General Jim Moore Boulevard. Left to right: Paul Bruno, Joe Oliver (MPWMD); Jason Campbell; Jody Hanson; Todd Kruper; John Bottomley, Christine Monteith; John Tilley; and Norman Yassany. Panel Member George Riley is not in the photo.

Easy to Do -- Grow a Healthy Garden with Laundry Water

It's called "laundry to landscape" and refers to an easily made modification to a washing machine that routes used wash/rinse water out to your garden. On June 22, 2013, 47 members of the public attended a workshop conducted by the Water Management District that provided step-by-step instructions on how to install a laundry to landscape system, including a free basic installation kit. This is an efficient and effective way to reduce water use and lower your water bill! Check Facebook for announcements of future workshops.

