# **Member Notifications**

#### # STWEC by the Numbers #

May 2017

931

2,627

85,665

STWEC members\*

Parcels enrolled

Acres enrolled

93%

Farm Evaluations
Received



92%

NMP Summary Reports Received

\*Note, the compliance status of approximately 80 members are in jeopardy. If you are uncertain of your status, please contact STWEC asap.

Repeat paperwork mailings, emails, and phone calls related to incomplete and not received Farm Evaluations as well as unpaid invoices increases costs for all members.

### **NMP Self-Certification Training Workshop**

Select STWEC members are required to certify their Nitrogen Management Plan (NMP) associated with the 2016 crop year. The Order requires members with parcels within a groundwater High Vulnerability Area (HVA) to prepare and implement a certified Nitrogen Management Plan (NMP). Certification options and NMP forms are posted on the Member Requirements tab at www.STWEC.org or call STWEC for more insight.

STWEC hosted an NMP Self-Certification training on Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at Rolling Hills Casino in Corning. Nearly 66% of the 29 members that took the required test passed with a score of 70% correct or better. Those that didn't pass are able to retake the test. Please contact STWEC to schedule a retesting opportunity to meet the groundwater requirement. There is no cost to retake the test.

The next NMP Self-Certification session will be held Friday, June 16, 2017\*

#### **Regional Water Quality Control Board Update**

**Enforcement:** The Regional Board sent a civil administrative action letter to a commercial irrigator with parcels within our coalition boundaries who is not a member. The grower contacted STWEC to enroll and staff are working with this grower to bring them into compliance as members, including full payment of back dues.

**Site Inspections:** The Regional Board conducted ten site inspections on the enrolled parcels of STWEC members in April and May. According to the Regional Board, members were selected pseudo-randomly to ensure there was a sampling of both large and small farms in agricultural areas that fell in close proximity to the Sacramento River. All parcels passed inspection.

#### Sediment & Erosion Control Plan (SECP) Update

The Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition has been challenging the Regional Board's use of the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation (RUSLE) model in identifying parcels susceptible to sediment loss and erosion. Despite this effort on our behalf, a majority of STWEC members must comply with the SECP requirements. One requirement is to have the SECP certified; self-certification is an option.

Recently, the RB offered a SECP Train-the-Trainer session for subwatershed staff. STWEC staff attended the session and are qualified to conduct SECP Self-Certification training. The SECP compliance packet will be sent to members designed as high vulnerability for sediment and erosion by the end of May 2017. SECP forms and more information are available on the Member Requirements tab at www.STWEC.org.

The next SECP Self-Certification session will be held Wednesday, June 7, 2017\*

<sup>\*</sup> Both sessions are comprised of training followed by an exam. The sessions will be held at the Rolling Hills Casino in Corning: 8 a.m.— Complimentary breakfast | 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.— Coursework training | 12:30 p.m. to 1 p.m.— Exam ( a passing score is 70% correct or better). There is no fee for the sessions. Space is limited, reserve your seat today at (530) 527-4208 or email Lindsey@stwec.org

#### **2017 STWEC Board Elections**

Directors were elected during the Annual/Bi-monthly board meeting held Wednesday, May 10, 2017. The current STWEC board is:

Paul Bertagna President
Shasta Co

Ron Keown Vice President
Tehama Co.

Larry Solberg Treasurer
Shasta Co.

Sam Mudd Secretary Tehama Co.

Hal Crain Board Member Shasta Co.

## **Next Bi-Monthly Board Meeting:**

Wednesday, July 12, 2017 8 a.m.
USDA Conference Room
2 Sutter St. Red Bluff, CA 96080
Members are encouraged to attend!

# Message from the President

I'm pleased to share that a majority of our members have completed and submitted the 2016 Farm Evaluation. This is an annual requirement that was due March 1, 2017. Submitting complete documents on time better serves the entire membership. Staff spends a large amount of time making multiple phone calls and emails to various members that have not submitted the Farm Evaluation or have incomplete documents. Staff are still reaching out to members with compliance issues and it is for good reason as the Regional Board conducted on-farm site inspections during April and May here in our subwatershed.

As mentioned earlier, the time has come to prepare your Sediment and Erosion Control Plan (SECP). This next requirement falls on members with parcels that are susceptible to erosion. Select members that need to meet this requirement will receive SECP packets in late May. Please be sure to complete the SECP forms in the packet by the due date to ensure compliance.

Paul J. Bertagna
President STWEC Board of Directors



Shasta Tehama Watershed Education Coalition

PO Box 933 Red Bluff CA 96080

Phone: 530-527-4208

«CONAME» «Fname» «Lname» «ADDR1» «CITY», «ST» «ZIP10»

#### **UPCOMING SELF-CERTIFICATION WORKSHOPS:**

Sediment & Erosion Control Plan (SECP): Wednesday, June 7, 2017 Nitrogen Management Plan (NMP) Summary Report: Friday, June 16, 2017

For more information see SECP and NMP updates on reverse side.