From: Kermish, Laurie
To: Michael Massey
Subject: FW: Info on activities today re Waters of the U.S.
Date: Tuesday, September 17, 2013 10:14:00 AM

Laurie Kermish
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From: Brush, Jason
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2013 9:39 AM
To: DIAMOND, JANE; R9_WTR_MANAGERS; Kermish, Laurie; Busterud, Gretchen
Cc: Leidy, Robert; Butterwick, Mary; Kao, Jessica
Subject: RE: Info on activities today re Waters of the U.S.

Jane – We will provide you a brief update on what we know (which is limited) at the Rosemont briefing tomorrow, recognizing that you'll be going right into your update with Jared right after.

From: DIAMOND, JANE
Sent: Tuesday, September 17, 2013 6:47 AM
To: R9_WTR_MANAGERS; Kermish, Laurie; Busterud, Gretchen
Subject: Fw: Info on activities today re Waters of the U.S.

Jane Diamond
Water Director
415-947-8707

From: Blumenfeld, Jared
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2013 9:15:48 PM
To: Zito, Kelly; DIAMOND, JANE
Subject: Fw: Info on activities tomorrow re scope of Clean Water Act

Jared Blumenfeld, EPA

From: Stoner, Nancy
Sent: Monday, September 16, 2013 2:45:45 PM
To: Regional Administrators
Cc: Ganesan, Arvin; Kopocis, Ken; Moraff, Kenneth; Matthews, Joan; Capacasa, Jon; Giattina, James; Hyde, Tinka; Henry, Timothy; Honker, William; Garcia, Bert; Garcia, David; Flournoy, Karen; Hoskie, Sadie; DIAMOND, JANE; Woo, Nancy; Opalski, Dan; Psyk, Christine; Loop,

Travis; Peck, Gregory; Evans, David; Best-Wong, Benita
Subject: Info on activities tomorrow re scope of Clean Water Act

Regional Administrators ,

I want to provide you with the latest information and communications materials for activities happening tomorrow on Waters of the U.S. At around noon Eastern tomorrow – Tuesday, September 17 – EPA's Science Advisory Board (SAB) will release EPA's draft report, "Connectivity of Streams and Wetland to Downstream Waters: A Review and Synthesis of the Scientific Evidence," for public comment. This draft scientific report provides a review and synthesis of the scientific literature on the connectivity or isolation of streams and wetlands relative to large water bodies such as rivers, lakes, estuaries, and oceans; the factors that influence connectivity; and the mechanisms by which connected waters affect the function of downstream waters. Understanding these effects is important to effective implementation of the Clean Water Act. Over 1,000 peer reviewed articles were reviewed for this draft report.

Also on Tuesday around noon, EPA and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers will submit a proposed rule to the Office of Management and Budget to clarify protection for waters under the Clean Water Act. The proposed rule will provide greater consistency, certainty, and predictability nationwide by providing clarity in determining where the Clean Water Act applies and where it does not. These improvements are necessary to reduce costs and minimize delays in the permit process and protect waters that are vital to public health, the environment and economy. The process for making these improvements will be transparent, based on the best available science, consistent with the law, and include the opportunity for public input.

For your information and use, attached are:
-two-page fact sheet (for use in any written communications)
-talking points (for use in oral communications)
-internal Q & A

After the science report is posted and rule transmitted to OMB, the Regions should feel free to make phone calls to key stakeholders. Any media inquiries should be routed to the headquarters press office. Any questions about roll out can be directed to Ken Kopocis or me or to Travis Loop, my communications director. Thank you.

Nancy Stoner

Cc: Water Division Directors