
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COASTAL BASIN TO ADOPT TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS FOR NITROGEN COMPOUNDS IN THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER BASIN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will accept written comments on the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Central Coast Water Board's) proposed amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin that would establish Total Maximum Daily Loads for Nitrogen Compounds in the Santa Ynez River Basin, Santa Barbara County (hereafter, "Basin Plan amendment"). The Central Coast Water Board adopted the Basin Plan amendment on June 22, 2023 ([Resolution No. R3-2023-0003](#)).¹

The State Water Board will separately publish an agenda for the meeting at which it will consider approving the Basin Plan amendment.

Persons interested in receiving notice of the meeting at which the State Water Board will consider approving the Basin Plan amendment must subscribe to the "Santa Ynez River Basin Nutrient TMDL" email list. Registration for this email list can be found at: [Central Coast Water Board's email subscription lists](#).²

BACKGROUND

Several streams in the Santa Ynez River basin are impaired due to one or more of the following conditions: excessive concentrations of nitrogen compounds such as nitrate, total nitrogen, or un-ionized ammonia, and low dissolved oxygen. Impaired stream reaches include the Lower Santa Ynez River from Floradale Road downstream to the confluence with the estuary; San Miguelito Creek; and Sloans Canyon Creek. This TMDL Project establishes numeric targets for nitrogen compounds (i.e., total nitrogen, nitrate, and un-ionized ammonia), chlorophyll-a, and dissolved oxygen. The TMDL establishes numeric targets defining the conditions necessary to protect designated beneficial uses of waters. Existing permits and their future renewals or modification are anticipated to be sufficient to reduce and manage nitrogen compounds loads to surface waters and achieve the numeric targets.

¹ TMDL Project webpage with links to the signed resolution and Basin Plan amendment language: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/santa_ynez/nutrient/index.html

² Central Coast Water Board's email subscription list website: https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?qsp=central_coast

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The Central Coast Water Board adopted the Basin Plan amendment on June 22, 2023 (Resolution No. R3-2023-0003), which is available for review at:

[Santa Ynez River basin Nitrogen Compounds TMDL](#)³

A copy of the Basin Plan amendment can also be received by postal mail by contacting Peter Bonch Osmolovsky at 805-549-3699 or Pete.Osmolovsky@waterboards.ca.gov.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING WRITTEN COMMENTS

Persons interested in the Basin Plan amendment are encouraged to submit comments electronically. Comment letters must be received **by 12:00 noon on October 23, 2023**. Comment letters received after that deadline will not be accepted unless the State Water Board determines otherwise. Written comments must be addressed to Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the State Water Board

Comment letters may be submitted electronically, in PDF format and must include the following in the subject line, "**Comment Letter— Santa Ynez TMDL**". Submit electronic comment letters to the Clerk to the Board at the following email:

commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov.

The comment letter may alternatively be submitted by mail or hand delivery at:

Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000 (mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)

REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMITTING COMMENTS

In accordance with California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3779, subdivision (f), the State Water Board may refuse to accept any comment that does not satisfy all the following requirements:

1. Comments must specifically address the final version of the Basin Plan amendment adopted by the Central Coast Water Board.
2. If the Central Coast Water Board previously responded to a similar or identical comment, the commenter must explain why and in what manner the commenter believes the responses provided by the Central Coast Water Board to each comment was inadequate or incorrect.

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https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/santa_ynez/nutrient/index.html

3. The commenter also must include either a statement that each of the comments was timely raised before the Central Coast Water Board, or an explanation of why the commenter was unable to raise the specific comment before the Central Coast Water Board.

LANGUAGE SERVICES AND ACCESSIBILITY

To request oral interpretation or sign language services, please submit your request at least 10 business days before the meeting by contacting the Office of Public Participation at (916) 341-5254 or by email at OPP-LanguageServices@waterboards.ca.gov.

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: TTY (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Peter Bonch Osmolovsky, Engineering Geologist at the Central Coast Water Board at 805-549-3699 or Pete.Osmolovsky@waterboards.ca.gov; or Sophie Froelich, Staff Counsel at 916-319-8557 or Sophie.Froelich@waterboards.ca.gov

September 13, 2023
Date



Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board