

---

## State Water Resources Control Board

### NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

#### PROPOSED APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE NORTH COAST REGION TO INCLUDE THE ACTION PLAN FOR THE RUSSIAN RIVER WATERSHED PATHOGEN TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) AND PROHIBITION AGAINST THE DISCHARGE OF FECAL WASTE MATERIALS

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT** the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will accept comments on the proposed approval of the following two amendments to the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board's (North Coast Water Board) amendment of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Basin Plan) 1) to include the Action Plan for the Russian River Watershed Pathogen TMDL and prohibition against the discharge of fecal waste materials to waters of the State within the Russian River Watershed and 2) editorial changes to the Policy on the Control of Water Quality with Respect to On-Site Waste Treatment and Disposal Practices in Section 4 of the Basin Plan. The Basin Plan Amendments were adopted by the North Coast Water Board on December 2, 2021 (Resolution No. R1-2021-0055) and August 14, 2019 (Resolution No. R1-2019-0038) respectively. The editorial amendment is necessary to eliminate existing Basin Plan language pertaining to Onsite Wastewater Systems (OWTS) in the Russian River Watershed which will have no effect following incorporation of the Pathogen TMDL. Related documentation materials are available for review at:

[Russian River | California Northcoast Regional Water Quality Control Board](#)

A copy of the Basin Plan Amendment can also be received by mail by contacting North Coast Water Board TMDL lead staff Lisa Bernard at [lisa.bernard@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lisa.bernard@waterboards.ca.gov).

**REQUEST NOTICE OF STATE WATER BOARD MEETINGS.** The State Water Board will separately publish an agenda for the meeting at which it will consider adopting a resolution approving the Basin Plan Amendments. Oral comments at the State Water Board meeting generally will be limited to a summary of the written comments submitted during the written comment period. Persons interested in receiving notice of the meeting at which the State Water Board will consider approving these Basin Plan amendments **must subscribe** to the State Water Board's [email subscription service](#) located at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/swrcb\\_subscribe.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml).

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

On this webpage under the “General Interests” category check the box for the “Board Meetings”, provide your email address and name, then click on the “subscribe” button. The State Water Board encourages use of its electronic mailing list.

**SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS.** Persons interested in these Basin Plan Amendments are encouraged to submit comments electronically. Comment letters **must be received by 12:00 noon on March 7, 2022.** Comment letters received after that deadline will not be accepted unless the State Water Board determines otherwise.

Send comments to Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the State Water Board, by email to: [commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov) (must be no more than 15 megabytes); fax at (916) 341-5620; or postal mail or hand delivery to:

Jeanine Townsend, 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)


Please also indicate in the subject line, “**Comment Letter—Russian River Pathogen TMDL**”

**REQUIREMENTS FOR SUBMITTING COMMENTS.** Pursuant to 23 Cal. Code Regs., § 3779, subd. (f), comments submitted to the State Water Board must satisfy all of the following requirements:

1. Comments must specifically address the final version of the Basin Plan amendment adopted by the North Coast Water Board.
2. If the North Coast Water Board previously responded to a similar or identical comment, the commenter must explain why and in what manner the commenter believes each of the responses provided by the North Coast Water Board to each comment was inadequate or incorrect.
3. The commenter also must include either a statement that each of the comments was timely raised before the North Coast Water Board, or an explanation of why the commenter was unable to raise the specific comment before the North Coast Water Board.

Please direct any questions about this notice to Lisa Bernard, North Coast Water Board TMDL lead staff, at [lisa.bernard@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:lisa.bernard@waterboards.ca.gov) or Nathan Jacobsen, Staff Counsel, at [nathan.jacobsen@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:nathan.jacobsen@waterboards.ca.gov).

\_\_\_\_\_  
January 28, 2022  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeanine Townsend  
Clerk to the Board