Proposed Prohibition for On-Site Wastewater Disposal Systems (Septics) in the Malibu Civic Center Area

State Water Resources Control Board Meeting

September 21, 2010

Item # 4

Comments

- 72 Comments
- Responses

Change Sheet

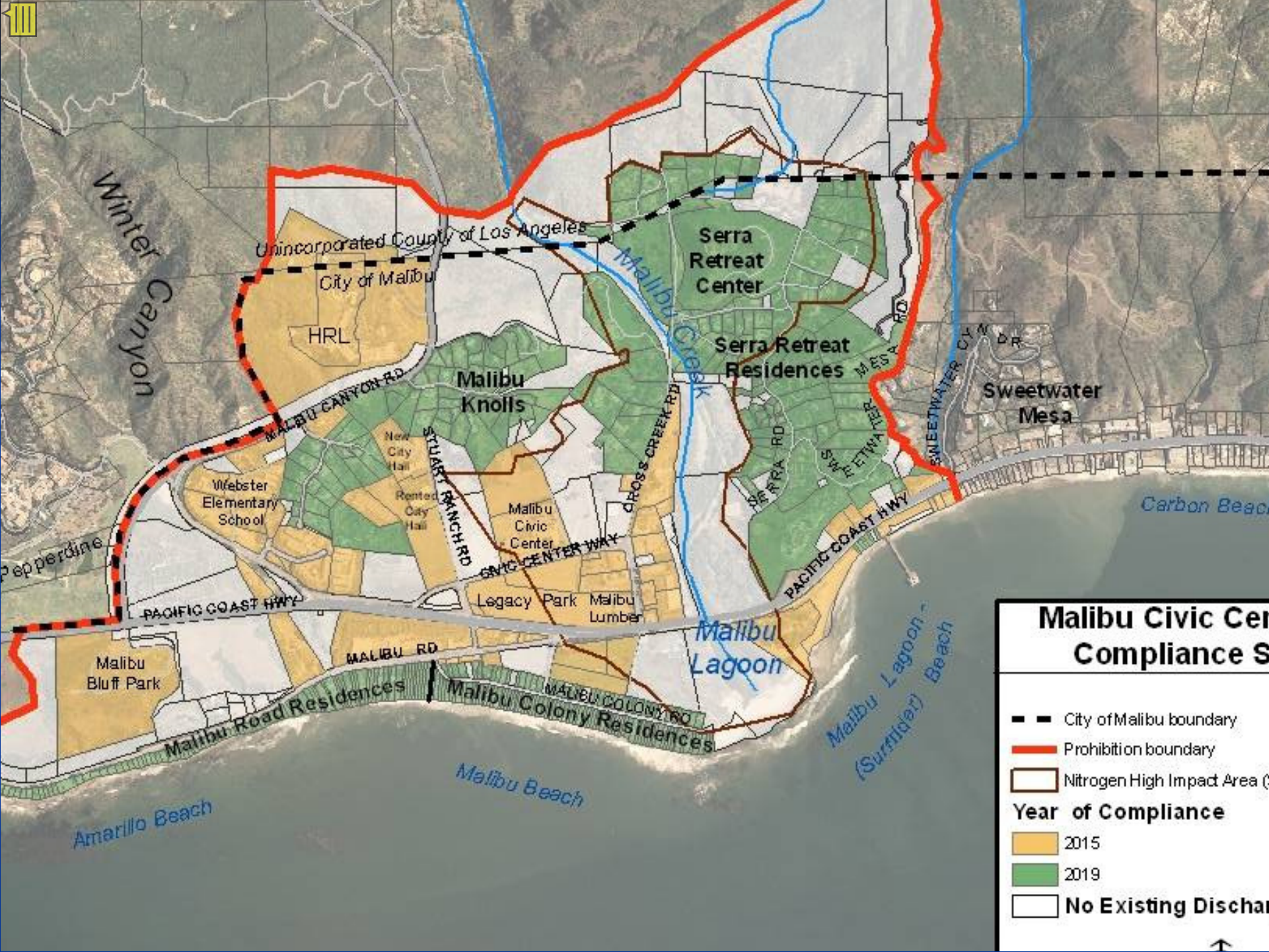
- Change sheet to State Board Resolution
- Clarifies that the prohibition is implemented in two phases. Phase One: identified properties by November 9, 2015 and Phase Two: identified properties by November 5, 2019.

- Allows for a reconsideration of the prohibition boundaries based on two conditions:

1) Phase One is completed by November 5, 2015
2) New independently peer reviewed scientific data supports the need for new prohibition boundaries

Change Sheet

- The State Water Board encourages the City of Malibu to design and build a waste water treatment plant that can be built in stages, with the first stage of sufficient capacity to handle the Phase One prohibition area.


Winter Canyon
Unincorporated County of Los Angeles
City of Malibu
HRL
Serra Retreat Center
Serra Retreat Residences
Malibu Creek
Malibu Knolls
MALIBU CANYON RD
New City Hall
Rented City Hall
STUART RANCH RD
Webster Elementary School
Malibu Civic Center
CIVIC CENTER WAY
CROSS CREEK RD
SERRA RD
SWEETWATER MESA RD
SWEETWATER CYN DR
Sweetwater Mesa
Carbon Beach
Pepperdine
PACIFIC COAST HWY
Legacy Park
Malibu Lumber
Malibu Lagoon
Malibu Lagoon - (Surfrider) Beach
Malibu Bluff Park
MALIBU RD
Malibu Road Residences
Malibu Colony Residences
MALIBU COLONY RD
Malibu Beach
Amarillo Beach
Malibu Civic Cen
Compliance S
City of Malibu boundary
Prohibition boundary
Nitrogen High Impact Area (
Year of Compliance
2015
2019
No Existing Dischar

UCLA Study

- 74 measures, 15 sites, 6 days duration between February and July 2009
- 7% of samples contained Bacteroides -

(a genetically identified organism from the human gut)

- Author concluded Bacteroides is present in Lagoon waters in both dry and wet conditions but not present in ocean and does not correlate with Fecal Indicator Bacteria.
- Malibu City Manager Concluded that 93% of the time there are no human markers in creek or lagoon.

UCLA Study Flaws

- Limited duration – 1 week of data
- The Study of Bacteroides not a valid measure of water quality
- Methods not consistent with U.S.EPA guidelines
- Contrary to 20 years of studies and data showing clear impairment and connectivity between the Malibu Lagoon and septics

Recommendation

- Approval of the TMDL as submitted
- Questions

Estimated Current Flows

- 270,000 gallons per day (gpd)
  - About 400 residential properties
  - About 40 others
    - Four multi-family complexes (in Winter Canyon)
    - Businesses
    - Public facilities

Who Would Be Affected?

- Applies to all discharges in the Malibu Civic Center area:
  - Commercial and industrial facilities
  - Public facilities
  - Residential properties
- Applies to ALL discharge systems (passive convention septics to advanced treatment plants)

Types of Systems that would be Prohibited

Justification for the Prohibition

- Compliance records — Tech Memo #1
- Polluted groundwater — Tech Memo #2
- Polluted beaches — Tech Memo #3
- Polluted lagoon — Tech Memo #4
- Reliance on hauling — Tech Memo #5

Alternatives to the Prohibition

- Continued hauling – *not reasonable*
- Initiative by local entity – *not recommended*
  - City
  - Existing or newly formed utility
  - Existing or newly formed water authority
  - Public benefit (non-profit) corporation
  - Privately-run organizations (for-profit corporations, partnerships, proprietors)
- No action – *not recommended*

Potential Methods of Compliance

- Conceptual projects to comply with 5-year schedule in prohibition by Nov 2014.
  - Centralized, integrated water resources facilities
  - Interceptor sewers
    - Export to Castellemare (Hyperion sewer)
    - Export to Tapia
  - Decentralized facilities

Estimated Capital Costs of Conceptual Projects

Component	Centralized, Integrated Facilities	Interceptor Sewer to a:		Decentralized Facilities
		Hyperion Connection	Tapia Connection	
Local Sewer System	$7,800,000	$7,800,000	$7,800,000	$7,800,000
Interceptor Sewer	--	$49,000,000	$72,500,000	--
Treatment Plant(s)	$5,900,000	--	--	$5,800,000
Recycled Distribution System	$3,000,000	0	0	$3,000,000
Total	$16,700,000	$56,800,000	$80,300,000	$16,600,000

Conclusion

In the proposed prohibition area:

- OWDSs impair:
  - Beaches
  - Malibu Lagoon
  - Groundwater
- Dischargers under Los Angeles Water Board Orders have poor compliance records
- 'Hauling' – there is heavy reliance by many dischargers on hauling, in order to handle flows that cannot be discharged on their sites or nearby disposal fields.