State of California Office of Administrative Law

In re:

State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF APPROVAL OF REGULATORY ACTION

Regulatory Action:

Government Code Section 11353

Title 23. California Code of Regulations

OAL File No. 2010-0921-03 S

Adopt sections:

3929.5

Amend sections:

Repeal sections:

This filing is a Basin Plan Amendment submitted to OAL by the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) and subject to OAL review under Government Code section 11353. The Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board), adopted a Basin Plan Amendment for the Central Coast Region Water Quality Control Plan intended to reduce fecal coliform concentration levels in the Aptos Creek Watershed, located in Santa Cruz County. After adoption, the Central Coast Water Board submitted the Basin Plan Amendment to the SWRCB which then approved the amendment and submitted it to OAL. This Basin Plan Amendment includes three components. First, the amendment establishes a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for fecal coliform concentration applicable to the impaired waters of the Aptos Creek Watershed, including an implementation program for the responsible parties and a tracking and evaluation schedule for the TMDL. Second, the amendment includes a general prohibition on discharges containing fecal material from domestic animals (including horses, cattle, goats, sheep, dogs, cats and any other animals in the care of persons) into the waters of the Aptos Creek Watershed. Third, the amendment includes a general prohibition on human fecal material discharges into waters of the Aptos Creek Watershed.

OAL approves this regulatory action pursuant to section 11353 of the Government Code.

Date:

10/29/2010

Eric Partington Staff Counsel

For:

SUSAN LAPSLEY

Director

Original: Thomas Howard Copy: Michael Buckman

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Concise Summary of Regulatory Provisions

TITLE 23. Waters
Division 4. Regional Water Quality Control Boards
Chapter 1. Water Quality Control Plans, Policies, and Guidelines
Article 3. Central Coast Region

The following section 3929.5 is to be added to Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations:

Section 3929.5 – "Aptos Creek Watershed Total Maximum Daily Loads and Implementation Plan for Fecal Coliform, Domestic Animal Waste Discharge Prohibition, and Human Fecal Material Discharge Prohibition"

On May 8, 2009, the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board) adopted Resolution No. R3-2009-0025, amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Region. The State Water Resources Control Board approved the amendment under Resolution No. 2010-0038, on August 3, 2010.

Resolution No. R3-2009-0025 establishes Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for fecal coliform in the Aptos Creek, Valencia Creek, and Trout Gulch (Aptos Creek Watershed), and adds the Aptos Creek Watershed to the Basin Plan's human fecal material discharge prohibition and domestic animal waste discharge prohibition.

The Central Coast Water Board set wasteload and load allocations for subwatersheds, and numeric targets for receiving waters based on the Basin Plan water quality objectives for fecal coliform in waters supporting body contact recreation. Implementation of the TMDLs relies on compliance by non-point source dischargers with prohibitions against the discharge of domestic animal waste and human fecal material. Responsible parties will need to demonstrate compliance with the prohibitions through reporting to the Central Coast Water Board or its Executive Officer. Additionally, the Central Coast Water Board will rely upon existing NPDES permits and Waste Discharge Requirements to ensure that implementing parties carry out implementation actions.

Central Coast Water Board staff will conduct triennial reviews of implementation actions, monitoring results, and evaluations submitted by responsible parties of their progress toward achieving their allocations. Triennial reviews will continue until the water quality objectives are achieved. The compliance schedule for achieving the TMDLs and the numeric target for fecal coliform concentration is 13 years after the TMDLs are approved by the Office of Administrative Law.