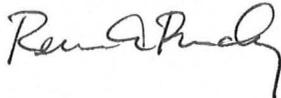

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

**NOTICE OF HEARING
AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT**

To: Interested Persons

From: Renee Purdy, Section Chief 
Regional Programs

Date: April 3, 2015

Subject: Notice of Public Hearing and Opportunity to Comment on proposed amendments to the Basin Plan to revise the Total Maximum Daily Load for Trash in the Ballona Creek Watershed and the Total Maximum Daily Load for Trash in the Los Angeles River Watershed.

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) will hold a public hearing to consider proposed amendments to Chapter 7 of the *Water Quality Control Plan - Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan) to revise the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Trash in the Ballona Creek Watershed and the TMDL for Trash in the Los Angeles River Watershed.

The purpose of this action is to reconsider certain aspects of these two trash TMDLs on the basis of the status of implementation of the waste load allocations (WLAs) by responsible agencies and other technical analyses. These two trash TMDLs included scheduled “reconsiderations” once a 50% reduction in baseline WLAs was achieved in each. No significant changes are proposed to existing fundamental technical and scientific elements, including the numeric targets, loading capacity, waste load allocations and load allocations, margin of safety, or seasonal variations and critical condition. Neither are there significant changes proposed to the overarching compliance options identified in the TMDLs – full capture systems, partial capture devices, and institutional controls. The changes proposed in the revision of these TMDLs ensure consistency between the two TMDLs where appropriate, provide clarity regarding compliance demonstration as responsible entities approach final deadlines, provide greater specificity regarding implementation of load allocations and improve compliance monitoring and ensure receiving water monitoring.

Key proposed modifications to the Ballona Creek Trash TMDL include providing additional detail on how responsible jurisdictions may demonstrate compliance based on technical feasibility of retrofitting the MS4 with full capture systems; calculating effectiveness of partial capture devices and institutional controls; and scientifically based alternative compliance approaches. In addition, a requirement for receiving water monitoring is added to the TMDL

consistent with other TMDLs adopted in the region. Revisions to this TMDL also include clarification of responsibilities of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District relative to TMDL implementation, and assignment of the existing load allocation for nonpoint source discharges of trash to specific responsible entities.

Key proposed modifications to the Los Angeles River Trash TMDL include providing additional detail on how responsible jurisdictions may demonstrate compliance based on technical feasibility of retrofitting the MS4 with full capture systems; calculating effectiveness of partial capture devices and institutional controls; and scientifically based alternative compliance approaches. In addition, a requirement for receiving water monitoring is added to the TMDL consistent with other TMDLs adopted in the region. Revisions to this TMDL also include adding a requirement for plastic pellet monitoring, consistent with the Santa Monica Bay Debris TMDL (Resolution No. R10-010), clarification of responsibilities of the Los Angeles County Flood Control District relative to TMDL implementation, and assignment of the existing load allocation for nonpoint source discharges of trash to specific responsible entities.

I. HEARING DATE AND LOCATION

The Regional Board will hold a public hearing to consider amending the Basin Plan to revise the two TMDLs. The Regional Board is expected to take formal action. The Regional Board is scheduled to consider this matter at its regularly scheduled board meeting on:

Date: Thursday, June 11, 2015
Time: 9:00 a.m.
Place: Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 North Alameda Street
Los Angeles, CA 90012

Please check the Regional Board's website (<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/>) for the most up-to-date public hearing date and location as they are subject to change.

II. AVAILABILITY OF DOCUMENTS

The Tentative Resolution, proposed Basin Plan Amendments, and Staff Report are available on the Regional Board's website at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/water_issues/programs/tmdl/tmdl_list.shtml

These documents are also available for inspection and copying between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. at the following address:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Arrangements for file review and/or obtaining copies of documents in the Administrative Record may be made by calling the Los Angeles Regional Board at (213) 576-6600. Comments and responses to comments and other subsequent relevant documents will be available online as they are generated.

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS AND SUBMITTAL OF EVIDENCE

Persons wishing to comment on the Tentative Resolution, proposed Basin Plan Amendments, and Staff Report, or submit evidence for the Regional Board to consider, are invited to submit them in writing. **Please be advised that oral and written comments on the proposed Basin Plan Amendments are limited to the proposed changes to the TMDLs currently in effect.**

To be evaluated and responded to by Regional Board staff, included in the Regional Board's agenda binder, and fully considered by the Regional Board members in advance of the hearing, all written comments and evidence must be *received* by the Regional Board no later than **5:00 p.m. on May 18, 2015**. Untimely submittal of written comments will not be accepted or responded to by the Regional Board. Failure to comply with these requirements is grounds for the Regional Board to refuse to admit the proposed written comment or evidence into the administrative record.

Interested persons are encouraged to submit comments electronically and in Microsoft Word format. Send comments by e-mail to: losangeles@waterboards.ca.gov. Please indicate in the subject line, "Comment Letter – [Insert TMDL] Revisions." Written comments sent by mail should be addressed to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
ATTN: Man Voong
320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013

Interested persons are also invited to attend the hearing and present oral comments. Oral comments should, to the extent possible, summarize written comments. Time limitations on oral comments will be imposed. At the discretion of the Regional Board Chair, oral comments may be limited to three minutes each, depending on the number of persons wishing to be heard. Interested persons requesting more than three minutes should contact Regional Board staff, as provided in Section V. below, no later than 5:00 pm on May 28, 2015 to state how much time they believe is necessary for their oral comments.

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), when considering approval of a regional board's adoption of a Basin Plan amendment, may refuse to accept any comments that were not timely raised before the regional board. Therefore, interested persons are strongly encouraged to make all comments on this proposed action to the Regional Board before or during the public hearing.

IV. FUTURE NOTIFICATIONS FROM STATE WATER BOARD

Any person desiring to receive future notices from the State Water Board regarding its approval process for the proposed amendments must sign up for the State Water Board's Lyrus list at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml

V. REGIONAL BOARD STAFF CONTACTS

For additional information regarding these proposed actions, please contact Man Voong at Man.Voong@waterboards.ca.gov or (213) 576-6690 or L.B. Nye, Ph.D at LB.Nye@waterboards.ca.gov or at (213) 576-6785.