



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



Terry Tamminen
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

Over 51 Years Serving Coastal Los Angeles and Ventura Counties
Recipient of the 2001 *Environmental Leadership Award* from Keep California Beautiful

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

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April 16, 2004

Interested Parties

Proposed Revision to the Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Malibu Creek and Lagoon

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) will consider a revision to the Malibu Creek and Lagoon TMDL. The proposed change will clarify the implementation plan specific prescriptive criteria used to identify "high risk areas" for the purpose of reducing bacteria contributions from on-site wastewater treatment system (OWTS) discharges. The following change is proposed to Table 7-10.3:

"Local agencies regulating on-site wastewater treatment systems shall provide a written report to the Regional Board detailing the rationale and criteria used to identify high-risk areas where on-site systems have a potential to impact surface waters in the Malibu Creek watershed. At a minimum, on-site wastewater treatment systems located within 100 feet of Malibu Creek, Malibu Lagoon, or a tributary thereto, in areas where there is (1) less than 10-ft separation between the bottom of the disposal field and historical groundwater, or (2) located less than 250 foot setback from a 303(d) listed waterbody or (3) located in areas of a documented nitrate or human bacterial problem in the surface or groundwater are considered high risk. High risk OWTS are subject to upgrades necessary to meet applicable bacteria objectives at the point of discharge, and are subject to disinfection requirements unless further assessment demonstrates that the systems are not impacting surface waters in the Malibu Creek watershed. Such demonstrations may include regional or site-specific groundwater monitoring or weekly upstream/downstream surface water monitoring."

Interested parties are encouraged to discuss the proposed changes with staff prior to the end of the public comments period, which ends on 5:00 p.m. on June 3, 2004, since the Regional Board may consider the recommendation made by staff, or make modifications beyond the staff recommendations. The proposed changes will be considered at a public hearing during the June 10, 2004 Regional Board meeting (see page 2 for hearing rules). Copies of the TMDL and supporting documents are available at the Regional Board's website located at http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/updates_news.html.

If you have any questions, please contact Melinda Becker at 213/576-6681 or Rod Collins at 213/576-6691.

Sincerely,

Dennis A. Dickerson
Executive Officer
Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board

California Environmental Protection Agency



Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.

**Procedure for Public Comment on Malibu Creek and Lagoon Bacteria TMDL
at the June 10, 2004 Public Hearing**

On June 10, 2004, the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board will consider the matter of the Bacteria TMDL for the Malibu Creek and Lagoon. The Bacteria TMDL for the Malibu Creek and Lagoon was adopted by the Regional Board on January 29, 2004, after hearing public testimony. On June 10, 2004, staff will recommend that the Board consider minor revisions to the Malibu Creek and Lagoon TMDL. These revisions relate to the minimum prescriptive criteria used to identify high-risk areas where onsite wastewater treatment systems potentially impact surface waters in the Malibu Creek watershed. Public testimony should be limited to the issue of the minimum prescriptive criteria. The meeting will held at:

*9:00 at the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
700 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles, CA*

The Board Chair may, at his discretion, and if time permits, allow speakers who have already commented to add to their comments if any issues have arisen during the meeting that they wish to augment to their statements.

