



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Los Angeles Region



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Cal/EPA Secretary

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

TO: Interested Parties

FROM: Samuel Unger, P.E. *SU*
Section Chief, Regional Programs

DATE: February 14, 2008

SUBJECT: **NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LOS ANGELES REGION TO INCORPORATE A TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD TO REDUCE TRASH IN MALIBU LAGOON, MALIBU CREEK AND ITS TRIBUTARIES AND LAKES IN THE MALIBU CREEK WATERSHED**

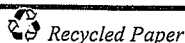
On May 1, 2008, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Los Angeles Region (Regional Board) will consider a proposed amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan) to incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to reduce trash loadings to Malibu Lagoon, Malibu Creek and its tributaries and lakes ("Malibu Creek"). With consideration of the TMDL, the Regional Board will also consider waiving waste discharge requirements for nonpoint source discharges of trash to Malibu Creek. A public hearing is scheduled for **Thursday, May 1, 2008 at 9:00 A.M., at the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, 700 North Alameda Street, Los Angeles, California**. At the public hearing, the public will have the opportunity to comment on the proposed TMDL and the associated waiver for waste discharge requirements for nonpoint source discharges of trash to Malibu Creek.

Copies of the Tentative Resolution, Tentative Basin Plan Amendment, Staff Report, and Substitute Environmental Document for the Trash TMDL for the Malibu Creek Watershed are posted on the Regional Board's web page. The web address is http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles/html/bpaRes/bpa_td/bpa_63_New_td.html. In early March 2008, the Los Angeles Water Board's website will change to a new format. Even though the content is not changing, some links may change due to this process. Thank you for your patience during this transition. Please contact Eric Wu at 213-576-6683 with questions or to request additional copies of the staff report and related materials.

Oral presentations should be summarized in writing to the extent possible. Time limitations on presentations may be imposed. In order to review and to assess comments, the Regional Board staff must receive written comments no later than **12:00 p.m. on April 1, 2008**. Comments should be submitted to:

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Los Angeles Region
320 West 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles California, 90013
ATTN: Eric Wu

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.

Background

The Regional Board is charged with implementing the provisions of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California law) and the federal Clean Water Act in the Los Angeles Region. One of the ways in which the Regional Board implements these laws is through the development and implementation of water quality standards for all of the waterbodies within the Region. Under the federal Clean Water Act, water quality standards consist of beneficial use designations of waterbodies and numeric or narrative water quality objectives that are protective of those beneficial uses as well as the state's anti-degradation policy. Section 303(d)(A)(1) of the Clean Water Act requires the State to identify those waterbodies, which are impaired by pollution (not meeting water quality standards), and establish TMDLs for the pollutants causing the impairments. A TMDL specifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can receive and still meet water quality standards, and allocates the acceptable pollutant load to point, non-point, and natural sources.

The proposed amendment would incorporate into the Basin Plan a TMDL to reduce trash loading to waterbodies of the Malibu Creek Watershed. The Regional Board's goal in establishing the Trash TMDL is to protect the beneficial uses of the waterbodies of the Malibu Creek Watershed, including Water Contact Recreation (REC-1); Non-contact Water Recreation (REC-2); Warm Freshwater Habitat (WARM); Cold Freshwater habitat (COLD), Wildlife Habitat (WILD); Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE), Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR), Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development (SPWN), and Wetland Habit (WET); and to achieve the narrative water quality objectives for floating materials and solid, suspended, or settleable materials to protect these uses as contained in the Basin Plan.

For the Malibu Creek Watershed, Waste Load Allocations (WLAs) are assigned to the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), Permittees and Co-Permittees of the Los Angeles County and Ventura County Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Permits, including County of Los Angeles, County of Ventura, Ventura County Watershed Protection District, Cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, Westlake Village and Thousand Oaks, and local land owners. Final WLAs are zero (0) trash. Baseline WLAs are based on a phased reduction from the estimated current discharge (i.e., baseline) over an eight-year period until the final WLA of zero (0) is met.

Load Allocations (LAs) are assigned to National Park Service, California Department of Parks and Recreation, Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, County of Los Angeles, County of Ventura, Ventura County Watershed Protection District, Cities of Agoura Hills, Calabasas, Hidden Hills, Malibu, Westlake Village, and Thousand Oaks, and local land owners in the vicinity of listed waterbodies in the Malibu Creek Watershed. Load allocations are zero (0) trash. Baseline LAs are based on a phased reduction over a period of five years, from existing baseline loads to zero (0). The TMDL includes a program of Minimum Frequency of Assessment and Collection (MFAC) to address trash impairment from nonpoint sources. The MFAC is designed to prevent trash from accumulating in deleterious amounts. The implementation and compliance schedule is designed to coordinate with trash reduction efforts that have been implemented by responsible jurisdictions. This approach ensures that measurable reductions to the trash impairment will be achieved in a timely manner, while flexibility in implementation is provided for the responsible jurisdictions.

California Environmental Protection Agency

