

CEQA Scoping

Machado Lake Nutrient TMDL

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board
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Outline

- Regulatory Background
 - Environmental Setting
 - Potential Implementation Alternatives
 - CEQA Checklist
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Regulatory Background

- California Environmental Quality Act = CEQA
- State and Regional Boards' basin planning process has been certified by the Secretary of Resources as exempt from certain requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), including preparation of an initial study, negative declaration, and environmental impact report (14 CCR §15251(g)).
- [A] lead agency shall call at least one scoping meeting for [a] project of statewide, regional, or areawide significance (Public Resources Code §21083.9).

Regulatory Background

- The “certified regulatory program” of the Regional Board, however, must satisfy substantive requirements (23 CCR §3777 (a))
 - Written report including a description of the proposed activity
 - Alternatives analysis
 - Identification of mitigation measures
 - Environmental checklist
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Environmental Setting

- Machado Lake sub-watershed is within the Dominguez Channel Watershed
- Dominant land use in watershed is single family residential
- The open water lake is approximately 40 acres
- Average depth is approximately 1 meter



TMDL Elements

- Problem Identification
- Numeric Targets
- Source Assessment
- Linkage Analysis
- Allocations
- Margin of safety
- Critical Conditions
- Implementation
- Monitoring

CEQA Scoping

- CEQA Requires an Environmental Analysis
 - Reasonably foreseeable methods of compliance
 - Reasonably foreseeable significant environmental impact
 - Specific evidence and magnitude
 - Reasonable alternative means of compliance which have less adverse impact
 - Reasonable mitigation measures
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Potentially Significant Impact
 - Less than Significant Impact with Mitigation Incorporated
 - Less than Significant
 - No Impact
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Program Alternatives

- TMDL as proposed
 - State-developed TMDL
 - Comply with consent decree
 - Contain implementation plan
 - TMDL for whole impaired waterbody
 - TMDL for all impaired beneficial uses, including those designated as “potential” uses
 - Feasible
 - Achieves project purposes
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Program Alternatives

- TMDL without WLA or LA for nitrogen, only monitoring of nitrogen
 - Memorandum of Understanding in lieu of TMDL or TMDL implementation
 - USEPA established TMDL
 - No TMDL alternative
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Project Implementation Alternatives

- Lake Management Strategies
 - Sediment Removal/Hydraulic Dredging
 - Aeration System
 - Increase (maintain) lake level
 - Hydroponic Islands
 - Biomanipulation
 - Nutrient Inactivation – Alum treatment
- Watershed Strategies for Stormwater Runoff
 - Sand/Organic Filters
 - Biofilter System (wetland in a tank)
 - Alum Injection System
 - Filter Strips
 - Bioretention
 - Vegetated Swales

Environmental Checklist

1. Earth
2. Air
3. Water
4. Plant Life
5. Animal Life
6. Noise
7. Light and Glare
8. Land Use
9. Natural Resources
10. Risk of Upset
11. Population
12. Housing
13. Transportation/Circulation
14. Public Service
15. Energy
16. Utilities and Service Systems
17. Human Health
18. Aesthetics
19. Recreation
20. Archeological/Historical

Potential Environmental Impacts

- Earth
 - a. Unstable earth
 - b. Soil disruptions or compaction
 - c. Change in topography
 - d. Modification of geologic features
 - e. Wind and water erosion
 - f. Modification of channels, bays etc.
 - g. Geologic hazards (ex. landslides)
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Air
 - a. Air emissions, deterioration of air quality
 - b. Creation of objectionable odors
 - c. Alteration of air movement
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Water Quality
 - a. Changes in currents or direction of water
 - b. Changes in absorption rates, drainage, or runoff
 - c. Flow of flood waters
 - d. Amount of surface water
 - e. Alteration of surface water quality
 - f. Alteration of direction or flow rate of groundwater
 - g. Change in quantity or quality of groundwater
 - h. Reduction in water for public supplies
 - i. Water related hazards such as flooding
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Plant Life
 - a. Change in diversity or number
 - b. Reduction of unique, rare or endangered
 - c. Introduction of new species
 - d. Reduction in agriculture
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Animal Life
 - a. Change in diversity or number of animals
 - b. Reduction of unique, rare or endangered
 - c. Introduction of new species
 - d. Deterioration of habitat
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Noise
 - a. Increase noise levels
 - b. Exposure to severe noise
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Light and Glare
 - a. Produce new light and glare
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Land Use
 - a. Alteration of land use
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Natural Resources
 - a. Increase rate of use of natural resources
 - b. Depletion of nonrenewable natural resource
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Risk of Upset
 - a. Risk of explosion or release of hazardous substances
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Population
 - a. Alter location, distribution, density or growth
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Housing
 - a. Affect housing or create additional demand
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Transportation
 - a. Generation of additional movement
 - b. Impact on parking, new parking
 - c. Impact on transportation systems
 - d. Alterations to movement of people, or goods
 - e. Alterations to water, rail or air traffic
 - f. Increase in traffic hazards
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Public Service
 - a. Fire protection
 - b. Police protection
 - c. Schools
 - d. Parks or other recreation
 - e. Maintenance of facilities including roads
 - f. Other government services
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Energy
 - a. Use of substantial fuel or energy
 - b. Increase in demand or development of new sources of energy
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Utilities
 - a. Power or natural gas
 - b. Communications systems
 - c. Water
 - d. Sewers or septic tanks
 - e. Storm water drainage
 - f. Solid waste disposal
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Human health
 - a. Creation of health hazards
 - b. Exposure to health hazards
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Aesthetic
 - a. Obstruction of scenic vista
 - b. Creation of offensive site
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Recreation
 - a. Impact to quality or quantity of recreational opportunities
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Archeological/Historical
 - a. Alteration of significant site or structure
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Potential Environmental Impacts

- Mandatory findings of significance
 - Potential to Degrade the environment
 - Short-term to the disadvantage of long-term environmental goals
 - Cumulatively considerable
 - Substantial Adverse effects on human beings
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Questions

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