

Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region

Executive Officer's Summary Report  
Thursday, March 12, 2015  
Regional Water Board Offices  
Santa Rosa

ITEM: 8

SUBJECT: Public Hearing on Resolution No. R1-2015-0012, to consider adoption of the Proposed 2014 Triennial Review List of Priority Basin Planning Projects for the North Coast Region and Resolution No. R1-2015-0013 to consider adoption of proposed editorial revisions to Chapters 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region* (Alydda Mangelsdorf)

BOARD ACTION: At the public hearing, the Regional Water Board will consider adoption of the *proposed* 2014 Triennial Review List of Priority Basin Planning Projects for the North Coast Region by adopting Resolution No. R1-2015-0012.

The Regional Water Board will also consider adoption of the *proposed* editorial revisions to Chapters 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the *Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region* (Basin Plan) by adopting Resolution No. R1-2015-0013.

BACKGROUND: The North Coast Region encompasses watersheds from the Oregon state border to the Estero de San Antonio which drain to the Pacific Ocean, and includes Del Norte, Trinity, Humboldt, and Mendocino counties and portions of Siskiyou, Sonoma, Glenn, Modoc, Lake and Marin counties. The Basin Plan describes beneficial uses for watersheds in the North Coast Region and establishes objectives and programs to protect those beneficial uses. The purpose of the triennial review is to examine the need to revise and update the Basin Plan, focusing the efforts of Planning staff for the next three-year period. State and federal law require that the Basin Plan be reviewed periodically to accommodate changes in science, technologies, policies, and physical characteristics of the planning areas.

On November 19, 2014 staff from the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) presented in a public workshop the results of its 2014 triennial review of the Basin Plan, including a draft proposed priority ranking of Basin Planning projects and recommended editorial revisions to Chapters 1, 2, 4 and 5 of the Basin Plan. These

findings and staff recommendations were compiled into a staff report entitled *2014 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region*, which was released for a 45-day public comment period beginning November 21, 2014 and ending on January 9, 2015.

Public review included comments on numerous of the listed projects and their relative priority, as well as comments related to the editorial revisions. Staff has provided written responses to all comments received and made necessary revisions to the staff report in the form of an addendum to the staff report. As a result of public comment, staff recommends revisions to its proposed list of priority projects, as described in Resolution No. R1-2015-0012 and depicted in Attachment A, the 2014 Triennial Review List of Priority Basin Planning Projects. The proposed high priority projects are:

1. Develop Russian River Pathogen TMDL Action Plan
2. Develop Laguna de Santa Rosa TMDL Action Plans
3. Develop ocean beaches and freshwater streams bacteria TMDL Action Plan(s)
4. Update Water Quality Objectives for chemical constituents, toxicity, and dissolved oxygen
5. Develop criteria for granting exemptions to the seasonal discharge prohibition so as to allow low flow augmentation
6. Identify and designate Outstanding National Resource Waters
7. Develop a Groundwater Protection Strategy
8. Develop instream flow objectives for the Navarro River
9. Develop a policy to address the effects of climate change on water quality

Staff also recommends revisions to the proposed editorial amendment package as described in Resolution No. R1-2015-0013 and depicted in the clean copy and strikeout/underline versions of Chapters 1, 2, 4, and 5.

**SUPPORTING  
DOCUMENTS:**

1. Resolution No. R1-2015-0012, including Attachment 1-Proposed 2014 Triennial Review List of Priority Basin Planning Projects
2. Resolution No. R1-2015-0013, including Attachment 1-Clean copy version of proposed editorial revisions to Chapters 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the Basin Plan and Attachment 2-strikeout/underline version of proposed editorial revisions to Chapters 1, 2, 4, and 5 of the Basin Plan
3. *2014 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region* (November 21, 2014) with Addendum (February 25, 2015)

4. Response to Comments on the Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (February 25, 2015)
5. Public comment letters

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