

### 3. WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES

The California Water Code, Division 7, Chapter 4, Section 13241 specifies that each Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) shall establish water quality objectives which, in the Regional Water Board's judgment, are necessary for the reasonable protection of the beneficial uses and for the prevention of nuisance.

The federal Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. § 303) requires the State to submit to the Administrator of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval all new or revised water quality standards which are established for surface and ocean waters. Under federal terminology, water quality standards consist of the beneficial uses enumerated in Table 2-1 and the water quality objectives contained in this section. The water quality objectives contained herein are designed to satisfy all state and federal requirements.

As new information becomes available, the Regional Water Board will review the appropriateness of the objectives contained herein. These objectives will be subject to public hearing at least once during each three-year period following adoption of this Basin Plan to determine the need for review and modification as appropriate.

The water quality objectives contained herein are a compilation of objectives adopted by the State Water Board, the Regional Water Board, and other state and federal agencies. Other water quality objectives and policies may apply that may be more stringent. Whenever several different objectives exist for the same water quality parameter, the strictest objective applies. In addition, the State Water Board "Policy With Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California" also applies. The state policy incorporates the federal Antidegradation Policy, where the federal Antidegradation Policy is applicable.

Controllable water quality factors shall conform to the water quality objectives contained herein. When other factors result in the degradation of water quality beyond the levels or limits established herein as water quality objectives, then controllable factors shall not cause further degradation of water quality. Controllable water quality factors are those actions, conditions, or circumstances resulting from man's activities that may influence the quality of the waters of the State and that may be reasonably controlled.

Water quality objectives form the basis for establishment of waste discharge requirements, waste discharge prohibitions, or maximum acceptable cleanup standards for all individuals and dischargers.

These water quality objectives are considered to be necessary to protect those present and probable future beneficial uses enumerated in Table 2-1 and to protect existing high quality waters of the State. These objectives will be achieved primarily through the establishment of waste discharge requirements and through the implementation of this Basin Plan. The appropriate numeric water quality standards will be established in waste discharge orders.

The Regional Water Board, in setting waste discharge requirements, will consider, among other things, the potential impact on beneficial uses within the area of influence of the discharge, the existing quality of receiving waters, and the appropriate water quality objectives. The Regional Water Board will make a finding as to the beneficial uses to be protected within the area of influence of the discharge and establish waste discharge requirements to protect those uses and to meet water quality objectives. Resolution Nos. 87-113, 89-131, and 92-135 describe the policy of the Regional Water Board regarding the specific types of waste discharge for which it will waive issuance of waste discharge requirements. These resolutions are included in the Appendix Section of this Plan.

The water quality objectives for the Region refer to several classes of waters. Ocean waters are waters of the Pacific Ocean outside of enclosed bays, estuaries, and coastal lagoons, and within the territorial (3 mile) limit. Bays are indentations along the coast which include oceanic waters within distinct headlands or harbor works whose narrowest opening is less than 75 percent of the greatest dimension of the enclosed portion of the bay; this definition includes only Crescent City Harbor in the Klamath River Basin, and Humboldt Bay and Bodega Bay in the North Coastal Basin. Estuaries are waters at the mouths of streams which serve as mixing zones for freshwater and seawater; they generally extend from the upstream limit of tidal action to a bay or open ocean. The principal estuarine areas of the Region are at the mouths of the Smith and Klamath Rivers, Lakes Earl and Talawa, and at the mouths of the Eel, Noyo, and Russian Rivers. Inland waters include all surface waters and groundwaters of the basin not included in the definitions of ocean waters, enclosed bays, or estuaries. Interstate waters include all rivers, streams, and lakes which flow across or form part of a state boundary. Groundwaters are any subsurface bodies of water which are beneficially used or usable. They include perched water if such water is used or usable or is hydraulically continuous with used or usable water.

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The water quality objectives which follow supersede and replace those contained in the 1971 "Interim Water Quality Control Plan for the Klamath River Basin," the 1967 "Water Quality Control Policy for the Klamath River in California," the 1967 "Water Quality Control Policy for the Smith River in California," the 1967 "Water Quality Control Policy for the Humboldt-Del Norte Coastal Waters," the 1969 "Water Quality Control Policy for the Lost River," the 1971 "Interim Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coastal Basin," the 1967 "Water Quality Control Policy for the Sonoma-Mendocino Coast," the 1975 "Water Quality Control Plan for the Klamath River Basin (1A)," the 1975 "Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coastal Basin (1B)," and the 1988 "Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region".

#### GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The following objective shall apply to all waters of the Region.

Whenever the existing quality of water is better than the water quality objectives established herein, such existing quality shall be maintained unless otherwise provided by the provisions of the State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 68-16, "Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality of Waters in California", including any revisions thereto. A copy of this policy is included verbatim in the Appendix Section of this Plan.

State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) Resolution No. 68-16 contains the state Antidegradation Policy. It is titled the "Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California and is commonly known as "Resolution 68-16." The State Water Board has interpreted Resolution No. 68-16 to incorporate the federal Antidegradation Policy where the federal policy applies. (State Board Order WQO 86-17). The federal policy is found at 40 CFR Section 131.12. The state and federal antidegradation policies are included as Appendices to the Basin Plan.

The state Antidegradation Policy applies more comprehensively to water quality changes than the federal policy. In particular, the state policy applies to both groundwater and surface waters whose quality meets or exceeds (is better than) water quality objectives. The state policy establishes two conditions that must be met before the quality of high quality waters may be lowered by waste discharges. First,

the state must determine that lowering the quality of high quality waters:

- 1) Will be consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state,
- 2) Will not unreasonably affect present and anticipated beneficial uses of such water, and
- 3) Will not result in water quality less than that prescribed in state policies (e.g., water quality objectives in Water Quality Control Plans).

Second, any activities that result in discharges to high quality waters are required to a) meet waste discharge requirements that will result in the best practicable treatment or control of the discharge necessary to avoid pollution or nuisance and b) maintain the highest water quality consistent with the maximum benefit to the people of the state. If such treatment or control results in a discharge that maintains the existing high water quality, then a less stringent level of treatment or control would not be in compliance with 68-16.

Likewise, the discharge could not be allowed under Resolution 68-16 if a) the discharge, even after treatment, would unreasonably affect beneficial uses or b) would not comply with applicable provisions of water quality control plans.

The federal Antidegradation Policy applies to surface waters, regardless of the water quality. Where water quality is better than the minimum necessary to support instream uses, the federal policy requires that quality to be maintained and protected, unless the state finds, after ensuring public participation, that:

- 1) Such activity is necessary to accommodate important economic or social development in the area in which the waters are located,
- 2) Water quality is adequate to protect existing beneficial uses fully, and
- 3) The highest statutory and regulatory requirements for all new and existing point source discharges and all cost-effective and reasonable best management practices for non point source control are achieved.

Under this policy, an activity that results in discharge would be prohibited if the discharge will lower the quality of surface waters that do not currently attain

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water quality standards.

Both the state and federal antidegradation policies acknowledge that an activity that results in a minor water quality lowering, even if incrementally small, can result in a violation of antidegradation policies through cumulative effects, especially, for example, when the waste is a cumulative, persistent, or bioaccumulative pollutant.

The state and federal antidegradation policies are enforceable independent of this Basin Plan provision. The above summary of the state and federal antidegradation policies is provided merely for the convenience of the reader.

#### **OBJECTIVES FOR OCEAN WATERS**

The provisions of the State Water Board's "Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California" (Ocean Plan), and "Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California" (Thermal Plan), and any revisions thereto shall apply. Copies of these plans are included verbatim in the Appendix Section of this Plan.

#### **OBJECTIVES FOR INLAND SURFACE WATERS, ENCLOSED BAYS, AND ESTUARIES**

In addition to the General Objective, the specific objectives contained in Table 3-1 and the following objectives shall apply for inland surface waters, bays, and estuaries.

##### Color

Waters shall be free of coloration that causes nuisance or adversely affects beneficial uses.

##### Tastes and Odors

Waters shall not contain taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that impart undesirable tastes or odors to fish flesh or other edible products of aquatic origin, or that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Numeric water quality objectives with regards to taste and odor thresholds have been developed by the State Department of Health Services and the U.S. EPA. These numeric objectives, as well as those available in

the technical literature, are incorporated into waste discharge requirements and cleanup and abatement orders as appropriate.

##### Floating Material

Waters shall not contain floating material, including solids, liquids, foams, and scum, in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

##### Suspended Material

Waters shall not contain suspended material in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

##### Settleable Material

Waters shall not contain substances in concentrations that result in deposition of material that causes nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

##### Oil and Grease

Waters shall not contain oils, greases, waxes, or other materials in concentrations that result in a visible film or coating on the surface of the water or on objects in the water, that cause nuisance, or that otherwise adversely affect beneficial uses.

##### Biostimulatory Substances

Waters shall not contain biostimulatory substances in concentrations that promote aquatic growths to the extent that such growths cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

##### Sediment

The suspended sediment load and suspended sediment discharge rate of surface waters shall not be altered in such a manner as to cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

##### Turbidity

Turbidity shall not be increased more than 20 percent above naturally occurring background levels. Allowable zones of dilution within which higher percentages can be tolerated may be defined for specific discharges upon the issuance of discharge permits or waiver thereof.

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#### pH

The pH shall conform to those limits listed in Table 3-1. For waters not listed in Table 3-1 and where pH objectives are not prescribed, the pH shall not be depressed below 6.5 nor raised above 8.5. Changes in normal ambient pH levels shall not exceed 0.2 units in waters with designated marine (MAR) or saline (SAL) beneficial uses nor 0.5 units within the range specified above in fresh waters with designated COLD or WARM beneficial uses.

#### Dissolved Oxygen

Dissolved oxygen concentrations shall conform to those limits listed in Table 3-1. For waters not listed in Table 3-1 and where dissolved oxygen objectives are not prescribed the dissolved oxygen concentrations shall not be reduced below the following minimum levels at any time.

- Waters designated WARM, MAR, or SAL .... 5.0 mg/L
- Waters designated COLD ..... 6.0 mg/L
- Waters designated SPWN ..... 7.0 mg/L
- Waters designated SPWN during critical spawning and egg incubation periods..... 9.0 mg/L

#### Bacteria

The bacteriological quality of waters of the North Coast Region shall not be degraded beyond natural background levels. In no case shall coliform concentrations in waters of the North Coast Region exceed the following:

In waters designated for contact recreation (REC-1), the median fecal coliform concentration based on a minimum of not less than five samples for any 30-day period shall not exceed 50/100 ml, nor shall more than ten percent of total samples during any 30-day period exceed 400/100 ml (State Department of Health Services).

At all areas where shellfish may be harvested for human consumption (SHELL), the fecal coliform concentration throughout the water column shall not exceed 43/100 ml for a 5-tube decimal dilution test or 49/100 ml when a three-tube decimal dilution test is used (National Shellfish Sanitation Program, Manual of Operation).

#### Temperature

Temperature objectives for COLD interstate waters, WARM interstate waters, and Enclosed Bays and

Estuaries are as specified in the "Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Temperature in the Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays of California" including any revisions thereto. A copy of this plan is included verbatim in the Appendix Section of this Plan. In addition, the following temperature objectives apply to surface waters:

The natural receiving water temperature of intrastate waters shall not be altered unless it can be demonstrated to the satisfaction of the Regional Water Board that such alteration in temperature does not adversely affect beneficial uses.

At no time or place shall the temperature of any COLD water be increased by more than 5°F above natural receiving water temperature.

At no time or place shall the temperature of WARM intrastate waters be increased more than 5°F above natural receiving water temperature.

#### Toxicity

All waters shall be maintained free of toxic substances in concentrations that are toxic to, or that produce detrimental physiological responses in human, plant, animal, or aquatic life. Compliance with this objective will be determined by use of indicator organisms, analyses of species diversity, population density, growth anomalies, bioassays of appropriate duration, or other appropriate methods as specified by the Regional Water Board.

The survival of aquatic life in surface waters subjected to a waste discharge, or other controllable water quality factors, shall not be less than that for the same water body in areas unaffected by the waste discharge, or when necessary for other control water that is consistent with the requirements for "experimental water" as described in "Standard Methods for the Examination of Water and Wastewater", 18th Edition (1992). As a minimum, compliance with this objective as stated in the previous sentence shall be evaluated with a 96-hour bioassay.

In addition, effluent limits based upon acute bioassays of effluents will be prescribed. Where appropriate, additional numerical receiving water objectives for specific toxicants will be established as sufficient data become available, and source control of toxic substances will be encouraged.

Pesticides

No individual pesticide or combination of pesticides shall be present in concentrations that adversely affect beneficial uses. There shall be no bioaccumulation of pesticide concentrations found in bottom sediments or aquatic life.

Waters designated for use as domestic or municipal supply shall not contain concentrations of pesticides in excess of the limiting concentrations set forth in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 4, Section 64444.5 (Table 5), and listed in Table 3-2 of this Plan.

Chemical Constituents

Waters designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Chapter 15, Division 4, Article 4, Section 64435 (Tables 2 and 3), and Section 64444.5 (Table 5), and listed in Table 3-2 of this Plan.

Waters designated for use as agricultural supply (AGR) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in amounts which adversely affect such beneficial use.

Numerical water quality objectives for individual waters are contained in Table 3-1.

Radioactivity

Radionuclides shall not be present in concentrations which are deleterious to human, plant, animal or aquatic life nor which result in the accumulation of radionuclides in the food web to an extent which presents a hazard to human, plant, animal, or indigenous aquatic life.

Waters designated for use as domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of radionuclides in excess of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 4, Section 64443, Table 4, and listed below:

MCL Radioactivity

<u>Constituent</u>	<u>Maximum Contaminant Level, pCi/L</u>
Combined Radium-226 and Radium-228.....	5
Gross Alpha particle activity .....	15
(including Radium-226 but excluding Radon and Uranium)	
Tritium .....	20,000
Strontium-90 .....	8
Gross Beta particle activity .....	50
Uranium .....	20

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**TABLE 3-1  
SPECIFIC WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR NORTH COAST REGION**

Waterbody <sup>1</sup>	Specific Conductance (micromhos) @ 77°F		Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)		Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)			Hydrogen Ion (pH)		Hardness (mg/L)	Boron (mg/L)	
	90% Upper Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>	90% Upper Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>	Min	90% Lower Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Lower Limit <sup>2</sup>	Max	Min	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>	90% Upper Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>
	<u>Lost River HA</u>											
Clear Lake Reservoir & Upper Lost River	300	200			5.0		8.0	9.0	7.0	60	0.5	0.1
Lower Lost River	1000	700			5.0		-	9.0	7.0	-	0.5	0.1
Other Streams	250	150			7.0		8.0	8.4	7.0	50	0.2	0.1
Tule Lake	1300	900			5.0		-	9.0	7.0	400	-	-
Lower Klamath Lake	1150	850			5.0		-	9.0	7.0	400	-	-
Groundwaters <sup>4</sup>	1100	500			-		-	8.5	7.0	250	0.3	0.2
<u>Butte Valley HA</u>												
Streams	150	100			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	30	0.1	0.0
Meiss Lake	2000	1300			7.0		8.0	9.0	7.5	100	0.3	0.1
Groundwaters <sup>4</sup>	800	400			-		-	8.5	6.5	120	0.2	0.1
<u>Shasta Valley HA</u>												
Shasta River	800	600			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	220	1.0	0.5
Other Streams	700	400			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	200	0.5	0.1
Lake Shastina	300	250			6.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	120	0.4	0.2
Groundwaters <sup>4</sup>	800	500			-		-	8.5	7.0	180	1.0	0.3
<u>Scott River HA</u>												
Scott River	350	250			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	100	0.4	0.1
Other Streams	400	275			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	120	0.2	0.1
Groundwaters <sup>4</sup>	500	250			-		-	8.0	7.0	120	0.1	0.1
<u>Salmon River HA</u>												
All Streams	150	125			9.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	60	0.1	0.0
<u>Middle Klamath River HA</u>												
Klamath River above Iron Gate Dam including Iron Gate & Copco Reservoirs	425	275			13		13	8.5	7.0	60	0.3	0.2
Klamath River below Iron Gate Dam	350	275			13		13	8.5	7.0	80	0.5	0.2
Other Streams	300	150			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	60	0.1	0.0
Groundwaters <sup>4</sup>	750	600			-		-	8.5	7.5	200	0.3	0.1
<u>Applegate River HA</u>												
All Streams	250	175			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	60	-	-
<u>Upper Trinity River HA</u>												
Trinity River <sup>5</sup>	200	175			7.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	80	0.1	0.0
Other Streams	200	150			7.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	60	0.0	0.0
Clair Engle Lake and Lewiston Reservoir	200	150			7.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	60	0.0	0.0

**TABLE 3-1 (CONTINUED)**  
**SPECIFIC WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR NORTH COAST REGION**

Waterbody <sup>1</sup>	Specific Conductance (micromhos) @ 77°F		Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)		Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)			Hydrogen Ion (pH)		Hardness (mg/L)	Boron (mg/L)	
	90% Upper Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>	90% Upper Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>	Min	90% Lower Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Lower Limit <sup>2</sup>	Max	Min	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>	90% Upper Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>
<u>Hayfork Creek</u>												
Hayfork Creek	400	275			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	150	0.2	0.1
Other Streams	300	250			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	125	0.0	0.0
Ewing Reservoir	250	200			7.0		9.0	8.0	6.5	150	0.1	0.0
Groundwaters <sup>4</sup>	350	225			-		-	8.5	7.0	100	0.2	0.1
<u>S.F. Trinity River HA</u>												
S.F. Trinity River	275	200			7.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	100	0.2	0.0
Other Streams	250	175			7.0		9.0	8.5	7.0	100	0.0	0.0
<u>Lower Trinity River HA</u>												
Trinity River	275	200			8.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	100	0.2	0.0
Other Streams	250	200			9.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	100	0.1	0.0
Groundwaters <sup>4</sup>	200	150			-		-	8.5	7.0	75	0.1	0.1
<u>Lower Klamath River HA</u>												
Klamath River	300 <sup>6</sup>	200 <sup>6</sup>			13		13	8.5	7.0	75 <sup>6</sup>	0.5 <sup>6</sup>	0.2 <sup>6</sup>
Other Streams	200 <sup>6</sup>	125 <sup>6</sup>			8.0		10.0	8.5	6.5	25 <sup>6</sup>	0.1 <sup>6</sup>	0.0 <sup>6</sup>
Groundwaters <sup>4</sup>	300	225			-		-	8.5	6.5	100	0.1	0.0
<u>Illinois River HA</u>												
All Streams	200	125			8.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	75	0.1	0.0
<u>Winchuck River HU</u>												
All Streams	200 <sup>6</sup>	125 <sup>6</sup>			8.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	50 <sup>6</sup>	0.0 <sup>6</sup>	0.0 <sup>6</sup>
<u>Smith River HU</u>												
Smith River-Main Forks	200	125			8.0		11.0	8.5	7.0	60	0.1	0.1
Other Streams	150 <sup>6</sup>	125 <sup>6</sup>			7.0		10.0	8.5	7.0	60 <sup>6</sup>	0.1 <sup>6</sup>	0.0 <sup>6</sup>
<u>Smith River Plain HSA</u>												
Smith River	200 <sup>6</sup>	150 <sup>6</sup>			8.0		11.0	8.5	7.0	60 <sup>6</sup>	0.1 <sup>6</sup>	0.0 <sup>6</sup>
Other Streams	150 <sup>6</sup>	125 <sup>6</sup>			7.0		10.0	8.5	6.5	60 <sup>6</sup>	0.1 <sup>6</sup>	0.0 <sup>6</sup>
Lakes Earl & Talawa	-	-			7.0		9.0	8.5	6.5	-	-	-
Groundwaters <sup>4</sup>	350	100			-		-	8.5	6.5	75	1.0	0.0
Crescent City Harbor	-	-										
<u>Redwood Creek HU</u>												
Redwood Creek	220 <sup>6</sup>	125 <sup>6</sup>	115 <sup>6</sup>	75 <sup>6</sup>	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
<u>Mad River HU</u>												
Mad River	300 <sup>6</sup>	150 <sup>6</sup>	160 <sup>6</sup>	90 <sup>6</sup>	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
<u>Eureka Plain HU</u>												
Humboldt Bay	-	-	-	-	6.0	6.2	7.0	8.5	<sup>7</sup>			
<u>Eel River HU</u>												
Eel River	375 <sup>6</sup>	225 <sup>6</sup>	275 <sup>6</sup>	140 <sup>6</sup>	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Van Duzen River	375	175	200	100	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			

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**TABLE 3-1 (CONTINUED)**  
**SPECIFIC WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR NORTH COAST REGION**

Waterbody <sup>1</sup>	Specific Conductance (micromhos) @ 77°F		Total Dissolved Solids (mg/L)		Dissolved Oxygen (mg/L)			Hydrogen Ion (pH)		Hardness (mg/L)	Boron (mg/L)	
	90% Upper Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>	90% Upper Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>	Min	90% Lower Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Lower Limit <sup>2</sup>	Max	Min	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>	90% Upper Limit <sup>3</sup>	50% Upper Limit <sup>2</sup>
	South Fork Eel River	350	200	200	120	7.0	7.5	0.0	8.5	6.5		
Middle Fork Eel River	450	200	230	130	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Outlet Creek	400	200	230	125	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
<u>Cape Mendocino HU</u>												
Bear River	390 <sup>6</sup>	255 <sup>6</sup>	240 <sup>6</sup>	150 <sup>6</sup>	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Mattole River	300 <sup>6</sup>	170 <sup>6</sup>	170 <sup>6</sup>	105 <sup>6</sup>	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
<u>Mendocino Coast HU</u>												
Ten Mile River	-	-	-	-	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Noyo River	185 <sup>6</sup>	150 <sup>6</sup>	120 <sup>6</sup>	105 <sup>6</sup>	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Jug Handle Creek	-	-	-	-	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Big River	300 <sup>6</sup>	195 <sup>6</sup>	190 <sup>6</sup>	130 <sup>6</sup>	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Albion River	-	-	-	-	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Navarro River	285 <sup>6</sup>	250 <sup>6</sup>	170 <sup>6</sup>	150 <sup>6</sup>	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Garcia River	-	-	-	-	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Gualala River	-	-	-	-	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
<u>Russian River HU</u>												
(upstream) <sup>8</sup>	320	250	170	150	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
(downstream) <sup>9</sup>	375 <sup>6</sup>	285 <sup>6</sup>	200 <sup>6</sup>	170 <sup>6</sup>	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Laguna de Santa Rosa	-	-	-	-	7.0	7.5	10.0	8.5	6.5			
Bodega Bay	-	-	-	-	6.0	6.2	7.0	8.5	7			
Coastal Waters <sup>10</sup>	-	-	-	-	11	11	11	12	12			

<sup>1</sup> Water bodies are grouped by hydrologic unit (HU), hydrologic area (HA), or hydrologic subarea (HSA).  
<sup>2</sup> 50% upper and lower limits represent the 50 percentile values of the monthly means for a calendar year. 50% or more of the monthly means must be less than or equal to an upper limit and greater than or equal to a lower limit.  
<sup>3</sup> 90% upper and lower limits represent the 90 percentile values for a calendar year. 90% or more of the values must be less than or equal to an upper limit and greater than or equal to a lower limit.  
<sup>4</sup> Value may vary depending on the aquifer being sampled. This value is the result of sampling over time, and as pumped, from more than one aquifer.  
<sup>5</sup> Daily Average Not to Exceed                      Period                      River Reach  
60°F    July 1 - Sept. 14                      Lewiston Dam to Douglas City Bridge  
56°F    Sept. 15 - Oct. 1                      Lewiston Dam to Douglas City Bridge  
56°F    Oct. 1 - Dec. 31                      Lewiston Dam to confluence of North Fork Trinity River  
<sup>6</sup> Does not apply to estuarine areas.  
<sup>7</sup> pH shall not be depressed below natural background levels.  
<sup>8</sup> Russian River (upstream) refers to the mainstem river upstream of its confluence with Laguna de Santa Rosa.  
<sup>9</sup> Russian River (downstream) refers to the mainstem river downstream of its confluence with Laguna de Santa Rosa.  
<sup>10</sup> The State's Ocean Plan applies to all North Coast Region coastal waters.  
<sup>11</sup> Dissolved oxygen concentrations shall not at any time be depressed more than 10 percent from that which occurs naturally.  
<sup>12</sup> pH shall not be changed at any time more than 0.2 units from that which occurs naturally.  
<sup>13</sup> The Site Specific Objectives (SSOs) for dissolved oxygen (DO) have been recalculated for the mainstem Klamath River and are presented separately in Table 3-1a.  
- no water body specific objective available

TABLE 3-1a<sup>1</sup>

Location <sup>2</sup>	Percent DO Saturation Based On Natural Receiving Water Temperatures <sup>3</sup>	Time Period
Stateline to the Scott River	90%	October 1 through March 31
	85%	April 1 through September 30
Scott River to Hoopa	90%	Year round
Downstream of Hoopa-California boundary to Turwar	85%	June 1 through August 31
	90%	September 1 through May 31
Upper and Middle Estuary	80%	August 1 through August 31
	85%	September 1 through October 31 and June 1 through July 31
	90%	November 1 through May 31
Lower Estuary	For the protection of estuarine habitat (EST), the dissolved oxygen content of the lower estuary shall not be depressed to levels adversely affecting beneficial uses as a result of controllable water quality factors.	

<sup>1</sup> States may establish site specific objectives equal to natural background (USEPA, 1986. Ambient Water Quality Criteria for Dissolved Oxygen, EPA 440/5-86-033; USEPA Memo from Tudor T. Davies, Director of Office of Science and Technology, USEPA Washington, D.C. dated November 5, 1997). For aquatic life uses, where the natural background condition for a specific parameter is documented, by definition that condition is sufficient to support the level of aquatic life expected to occur naturally at the site absent any interference by humans (Davies, 1997). These DO objectives are derived from the T1BSR run of the Klamath TMDL model and described in Tetra Tech, December 23, 2009 *Modeling Scenarios: Klamath River Model for TMDL Development*. They represent natural DO background conditions due only to non-anthropogenic sources and a natural flow regime.

<sup>2</sup> These objectives apply to the maximum extent allowed by law. To the extent that the State lacks jurisdiction, the Site Specific Dissolved Oxygen Objectives for the Mainstem Klamath River are extended as a recommendation to the applicable regulatory authority.

<sup>3</sup> Corresponding DO concentrations are calculated as daily minima, based on site-specific barometric pressure, site-specific salinity, and natural receiving water temperatures as estimated by the T1BSR run of the Klamath TMDL model and described in Tetra Tech, December 23, 2009. *Modeling Scenarios: Klamath River Model for TMDL Development*. The estimates of natural receiving water temperatures used in these calculations may be updated as new data or method(s) become available. After opportunity for public comment, any update or improvements to the estimate of natural receiving water temperature must be reviewed and approved by Executive Officer before being used for this purpose.

3. WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES

TABLE 3-2

INORGANIC, ORGANIC, AND FLUORIDE CONCENTRATIONS NOT TO BE EXCEEDED IN DOMESTIC OR MUNICIPAL SUPPLY <sup>1, 2</sup>

Constituent	LIMITING CONCENTRATION IN MILLIGRAMS PER LITER			
	Lower	Optimum	Upper	Maximum Contaminant Level, mg/L
<b>Fluoride <sup>3</sup></b>				
53.7 and below	0.9	1.2	1.7	2.4
53.8 to 58.3	0.8	1.1	1.5	2.2
58.4 to 63.8	0.8	1.0	1.3	2.0
63.9 to 70.6	0.7	0.9	1.2	1.8
70.7 to 79.2	0.7	0.8	1.0	1.6
79.3 to 90.5	0.6	0.7	0.8	1.4
<b>Inorganic Chemicals</b>				
* Aluminum				1.0
Arsenic				0.05
Barium				1.0
Cadmium				0.01
Chromium				0.05
Lead				0.05
Mercury				0.002
Nitrate-N (as NO <sub>3</sub> )				45.
Selenium				0.01
Silver				0.05
<b>Organic Chemicals</b>				
(a) Chlorinated Hydrocarbons				
Endrin				0.0002
Lindane				0.004
Methoxychlor				0.1
Toxaphene				0.005
(b) Chlorophenoxys				
2,4-D				0.1
2,4,5-TP (Silvex)				0.01
(c) Synthetics				
Atrazine				0.003
Bentazon				0.018
Benzene				0.001
Carbon Tetrachloride				0.0005
Carbofuran				0.018
Chlordane				0.0001

TABLE 3-2 (CONTINUED)

**INORGANIC, ORGANIC, AND FLUORIDE CONCENTRATIONS NOT TO BE  
EXCEEDED IN DOMESTIC OR MUNICIPAL SUPPLY <sup>1, 2</sup>**

<b>Constituent</b>	<b>LIMITING CONCENTRATION IN MILLIGRAMS PER LITER Maximum Contaminant Level, mg/L</b>
(c) Synthetics (cont'd.)	
1,2-Dibromo-3-chloropropane	0.0002
1,4-Dichlorobenzene	0.005
1,1-Dichloroethane	0.005
1,2-Dichloroethane	0.0005
cis-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.006
trans-1,2-Dichloroethylene	0.01
1,1-Dichloroethylene	0.006
1,2-Dichloropropane	0.005
1,3-Dichloropropene	0.0005
Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate	0.004
* Ethylbenzene	0.680
Ethylene Dibromide	0.00002
Glyphosate	0.7
Heptachlor	0.00001
Heptachlor epoxide	0.00001
Molinate	0.02
Monochlorobenzene	0.030
Simazine	0.010
1,1,1,2-Tetrachloroethane	0.001
Tetrachloroethylene	0.005
* Thiobencarb	0.07
1,1,1-Trichloroethane	0.200
1,1,2-Trichloroethane	0.032
Trichloroethylene	0.005
Trichlorofluoromethane	0.15
1,1,2-Trichloro-1,2,2-Trifluoroethane	1.2
Vinyl Chloride	0.0005
* Xylenes <sup>4</sup>	1.750

<sup>1</sup> Values included in this table have been summarized from California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 4, Sections 64435 (Tables 2 and 3) and 64444.5 (Table 5).

<sup>2</sup> The values included in this table are maximum contaminant levels for the purposes of groundwater and surface water discharges and cleanup. Other water quality objectives (e.g., taste and odor thresholds or other secondary MCLs) and policies (e.g., State Water Board "Policy With Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California") that are more stringent may apply.

<sup>3</sup> Annual Average of Maximum Daily Air Temperature, °F Based on temperature data obtained for a minimum of five years. The average concentration of fluoride during any month, if added, shall not exceed the upper concentration. Naturally occurring fluoride concentration shall not exceed the maximum contaminant level.

<sup>4</sup> Maximum Contaminant Level is for either a single isomer or the sum of the isomers.

\* Constituents marked with an \* also have taste and odor thresholds that are more stringent than the MCL listed. Taste and odor thresholds have also been developed for other constituents not listed in this table.

### 3. WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES

#### **WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES FOR GROUNDWATERS**

##### **General Objectives**

###### Tastes and Odors

Groundwaters shall not contain taste- or odor-producing substances in concentrations that cause nuisance or adversely affect beneficial uses.

Numeric water quality objectives have been developed by the State Department of Health Services and U.S. EPA. These numeric objectives, as well as those available in the technical literature, are incorporated into waste discharge requirements and cleanup and abatement orders as appropriate.

###### Bacteria

In groundwaters used for domestic or municipal supply (MUN), the median of the most probable number of coliform organisms over any 7-day period shall be less than 1.1 MPN/100 ml, less than 1 colony/100 ml, or absent (State Department of Health Services).

###### Radioactivity

Groundwaters used for domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of radionuclides in excess of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 5, Section 64443, Table 4 and listed in Table 3-2 of this Plan.

###### Chemical Constituents

Groundwaters used for domestic or municipal supply (MUN) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in excess of the limits specified in California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 15, Article 4, Section 64435 Tables 2 and 3, and Section 64444.5 (Table 5) and listed in Table 3-2 of this Plan.

Groundwaters used for agricultural supply (AGR) shall not contain concentrations of chemical constituents in amounts that adversely affect such beneficial use.

Numerical objectives for certain constituents for individual groundwaters are contained in Table 3-1. As part of the state's continuing planning process, data will be collected and numerical water quality objectives will be developed for those mineral and nutrient

constituents where sufficient information is presently not available for the establishment of such objectives.

#### **COMPLIANCE WITH WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES**

The Regional Water Board recognizes that immediate compliance with new effluent and/or receiving water NPDES permit limitations based on new, revised or newly interpreted water quality objectives or prohibitions adopted by the Regional Water Board or the State Water Resources Control Board, or with new, revised or newly interpreted water quality criteria promulgated by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)<sup>1</sup>, may not be technically and/or economically feasible<sup>2</sup> in all circumstances.

Where the Regional Water Board determines that it is infeasible for an existing discharger<sup>3</sup> to immediately comply with NPDES permit effluent limitations or where appropriate, receiving water limitations, specified to implement new, revised or newly interpreted water quality objectives, criteria or prohibitions; issuance of a schedule of compliance<sup>4</sup> may be appropriate.

Similarly, immediate compliance may not be technically and/or economically feasible for existing non-NPDES dischargers that, under new interpretation of law, are newly required to comply with new NPDES permitting requirements. Issuance of a schedule of compliance

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<sup>1</sup> New, revised, or newly interpreted water quality objectives, criteria, or prohibitions means: 1) objectives as defined in Section 13050(h) of Porter-Cologne; 2) criteria as promulgated by the USEPA; or 3) prohibitions as defined in the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region that are adopted, revised, or newly interpreted after November 29, 2006. Objectives and criteria may be narrative or numeric.

<sup>2</sup> Technical and economic feasibility shall be determined consistent with State Board Resolution No. 92-49.

<sup>3</sup> Existing discharger as defined in the State "Policy for Implementation of Toxics Standards for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California," (CTR-SIP) means: any discharger (non-NPDES or NPDES) that is not a new discharger. An existing discharger includes an increasing discharger (i.e., an existing facility, with treatment systems in place for its current discharge that is or will be expanding, upgrading, or modifying its existing permitted discharge after November 29, 2006). A new discharger includes any building, structure, facility, or installation from which there is, or may be, a discharge of pollutants, the construction of which commenced after November 29, 2006.

<sup>4</sup> Schedule of compliance: as defined in Section 502 (17) of the Clean Water Act, means: a schedule of remedial measures including an enforceable sequence of actions or operations leading to compliance with an effluent limitation, other limitation, prohibition, or standard.

may be appropriate in these circumstances as well, to comply with effluent and/or receiving water limitations specified to implement objectives, criteria, or prohibitions that are adopted, revised, or reinterpreted after July 1, 1977, and that were not included in the non-NPDES permit.

Any schedule of compliance shall require achievement of the effluent limitations and/or receiving water limitations within the shortest feasible period of time, taking into account the factors identified in Chapter 4 for the implementation of schedules of compliance. All schedules of compliance will be limited to the time frames set out in Chapter 4.