

Update on Biological Objectives CEQA scoping meetings

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October 2012

Biological Objectives for CA Streams

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Policy Alternatives

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Alternative 1 – No Action

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Alternative 2 – Establish Biological Objectives to Maintain Condition in High Quality Streams & Prevent Further Degradation in Degraded Streams

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Alternative 3 – Adopt Biological Objectives for Protecting and Restoring California Streams

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Scoping Questions

- Should the State develop a statewide biological objective?
- Are there additional alternatives staff should consider?
- What, if any, environmental impacts would result from implementing the proposed alternatives?

Issues:

- Technical
- Resources
- Environmental Outcomes

Common Themes:

- Modified channels
- Costs
- Thresholds
- Definitions
- Causal Effects
- Climate Change
- Stream Flows

Additional Alternatives

- Adopt interim policy
- Multiple line of evidence
- 303 (d) list impaired water bodies before Causal Assessment
- 303 (d) list impaired water bodies after Causal Assessment

Potential Impacts

- Flood protection
- Water supply
- Stream flows
- Recycling of wastewater

Next Steps

- Scoping comments due **Friday, October 19, 2012**
- Work on draft policy & staff report – first half of 2013
- Public draft - second half of 2013
- Public workshops - 1st quarter 2014
- First adoption hearing - summer 2014

For more information on the
Proposed Policy for Biological
Objectives for Perennial Streams of
the State of California

[www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/
biological_objective.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/biological_objective.shtml)