The background of the slide features a panoramic view of San Diego, California. In the foreground, there is a body of water with several sailboats. The middle ground shows a dense urban skyline with various high-rise buildings. In the background, there are rolling hills under a clear sky. The overall scene is bright and scenic.

Famosa Slough Total Maximum Daily Load CEQA Scoping Meeting

San Diego Water Board

February 1, 2016

Presented by

Jody Ebsen

Engineering Geologist

CEQA Scoping Meeting Purpose

- Receive Public Input on Potential Environmental Impacts of the Project
- Provide Project Information
- Discuss CEQA/Regulatory Processes and Future Opportunities for Public Participation

Agenda

- Famosa Slough History
- San Diego Water Board
- Impaired Waters and Beneficial Uses
- Eutrophic Conditions
- Total Daily Maximum Loads
- Famosa Slough Modeling
- CEQA Process
- Public Forum



Mission Bay San Diego River

1859



Mission Bay San Diego River 1947



Mission Bay San Diego River 1960s



Conserving California's Coastal Treasures



Marine Protected Areas Safeguard Our Ocean's Bounty

A statewide network of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) safeguards California's rich coastal resources. Famosa Slough is one of the MPAs that has a tidal connection with the ocean through the San Diego River Estuary. It includes open shallow water, riparian habitat, wetland upland transition habitats, and four treatment basins to protect water quality.

Area Pictured



Famosa Slough No-Take SMCA

Famosa Slough No-Take State Marine Conservation Area (No-Take SMCA)
Prohibits the take of living, geological, and cultural marine resources. Se prohíbe la toma o posesión de cualquier recurso marino vivo, geológico o cultural.

South La Jolla State Marine Reserve (SMR)
No take, damage, injury, or possession of any living, geologic, or cultural marine resource is allowed. Se prohíbe la toma, posesión o daño de todo recurso marino vivo, geológico o cultural.



Photo by Cathy Sorenson

Wetlands like Famosa Slough provide a nursery for many species of fish, such as these striped mullet, that are an important part of the food web.



Photo by National Park Service

In addition to the birds that live in or visit the Slough, you may see many species of fish, insects, and crustaceans, such as fiddler crabs.



Least Tern

Thousands of seabirds, shorebirds, and waterfowl make the Slough their home. They roost, nest, and forage for food here.



Photo by Kenia Shinn

Many species of birds, such as this avocet, nest and raise young in the Slough. Many more visit during fall and winter migrations.



Osprey

Photo by Ray Spencer

California leads the nation and the world with its network of MPAs.

These MPAs—

- Have varying levels of protection
- Conserve marine habitats and diversity
- Allow marine life to thrive
- Make great places for education, research, and fun

For MPA boundaries, maps, coordinates, and allowed uses, go to: www.wildlife.ca.gov/marine/MPA
Report violations: (888) 334-CalTIP, (888) 334-2258



MPAs—Good for the Ocean; Good for You!

MPA Mobile Website



San Diego Water Board Responsibilities

- State regulatory agency responsible for protecting and restoring water quality
- Establish water quality standards to support beneficial uses, set water quality objectives and antidegradation policy to maintain healthy waters
- Identify impaired waterbodies – CWA 303(d) list
- Develop plans to restore water quality to support beneficial uses

Total Daily Maximum Load (TMDL)

➤ TMDL is a planning tool to restore impaired waterbodies

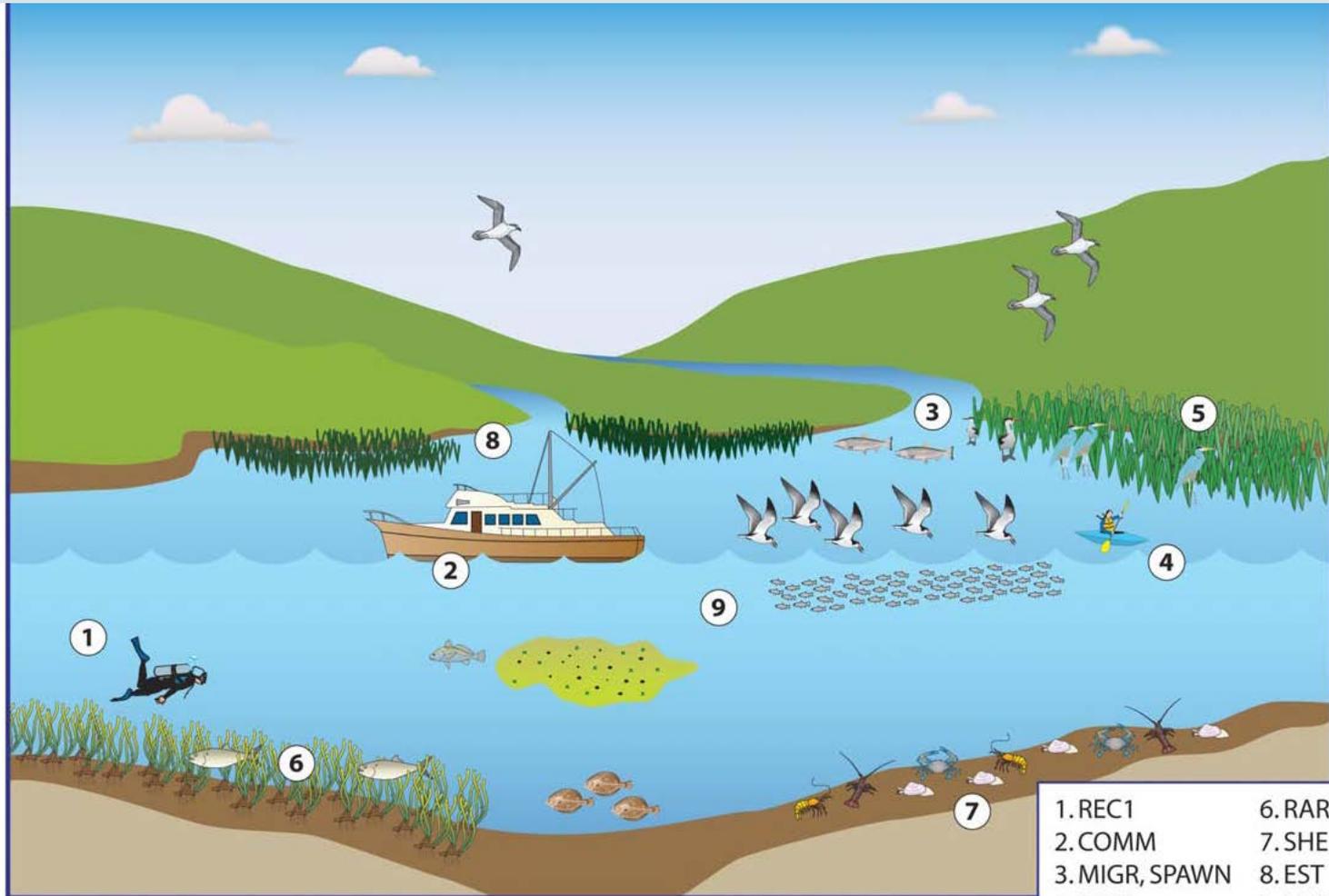
➤ Impaired waterbodies are out of balance - Beneficial Uses are negatively impacted

Too much of something →



➤ Beneficial Uses are designated uses of water for drinking, swimming, fish/shellfish and ecological uses

Beneficial Uses



- | | |
|----------------|----------|
| 1. REC1 | 6. RARE |
| 2. COMM | 7. SHELL |
| 3. MIGR, SPAWN | 8. EST |
| 4. REC2 | 9. MAR |
| 5. WILD | |

Famosa Slough Beneficial Uses

- Focused on protecting Estuarine Habitat (ecological uses) and REC-2 - Non-contact Water Recreation (human uses)

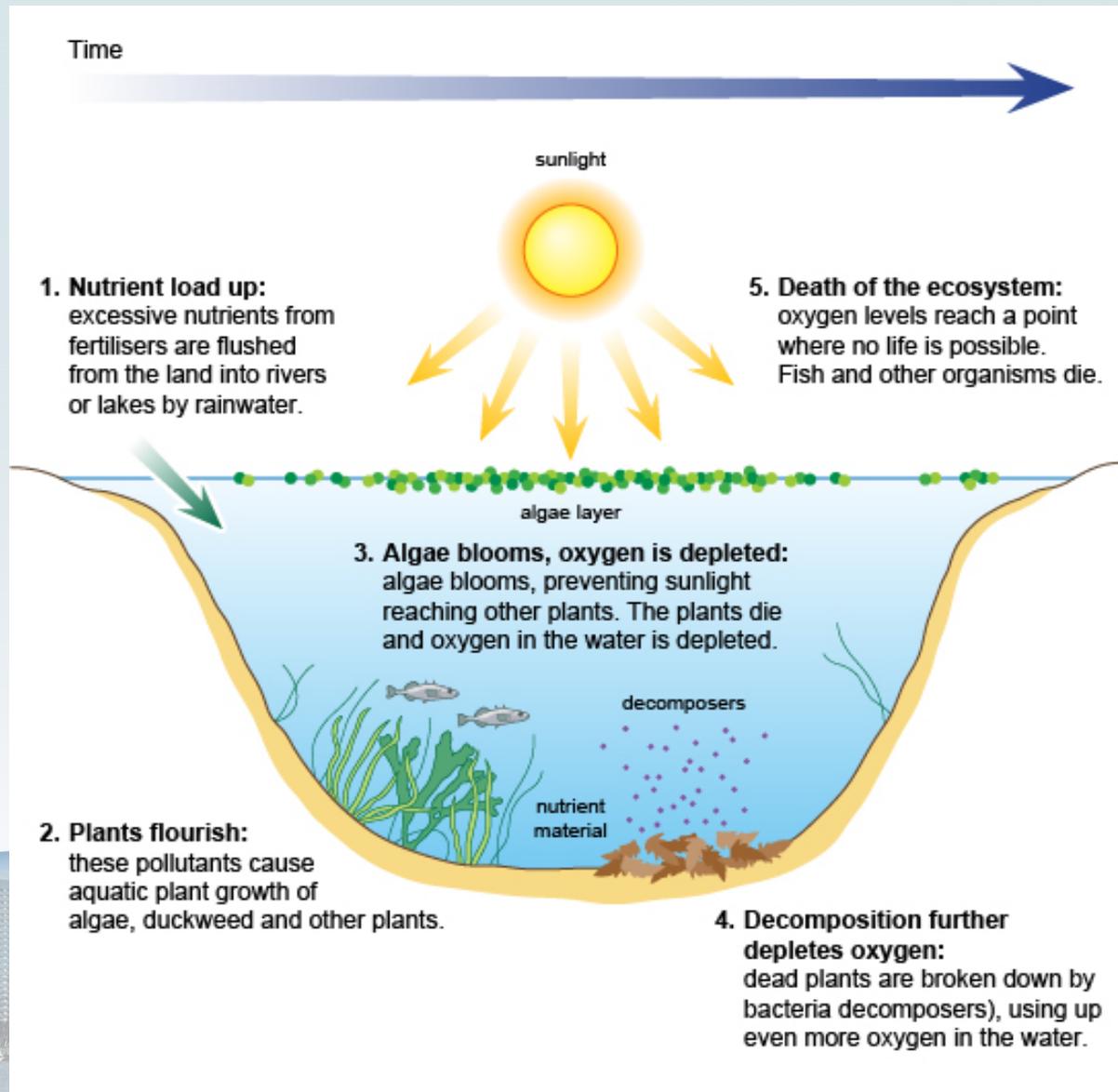


Famosa Slough

- Placed on CWA 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies in 1996 for eutrophic conditions defined by excessive algal growth
 - Floating mats of algae – a.k.a. macroalgae
- Eutrophic conditions are caused by excessive nutrients – nitrogen and phosphorus



Eutrophic Condition



Famosa Slough

- SDWB issued Investigative Order in 2006 to evaluate 303(d) listed lagoons and sloughs
- In response the City of San Diego collected monitoring data in 2008 on the eutrophic conditions in Famosa Slough
- Key Areas of Concern:
Excessive Floating Algae and
Low Dissolved Oxygen

2008 Monitoring (Slough)



Feb 2008



July 2008



July 2008



Sept 2008

Total Daily Maximum Load (TMDL)

- TMDL is the maximum amount of a pollutant that a waterbody can assimilate and maintain healthy water quality
- Develop numeric targets that will protect beneficial uses
- Source assessment - identify point, non-point, and background sources pollutants
- Assign load allocations to point, non-point, and background sources
- Identify management scenarios to achieve pollutant load reductions

TMDL Steps

- Identify impaired waterbody
- Evaluate condition of the waterbody
- Use Mathematic Models:
 - Assess what happened
 - Examine why it happened
 - Forecast what can happen



Famosa Slough Modeling

- City of San Diego and Tetra Tech Developed Models for Famosa Slough
 - Watershed Model
 - Receiving Water Model
 - Management Scenarios



Famosa Slough Modeling

Clint Boschen

Tetra Tech



CEQA Scoping

- Evaluate the potential for adverse environmental impacts by the project
- Receive Public Input

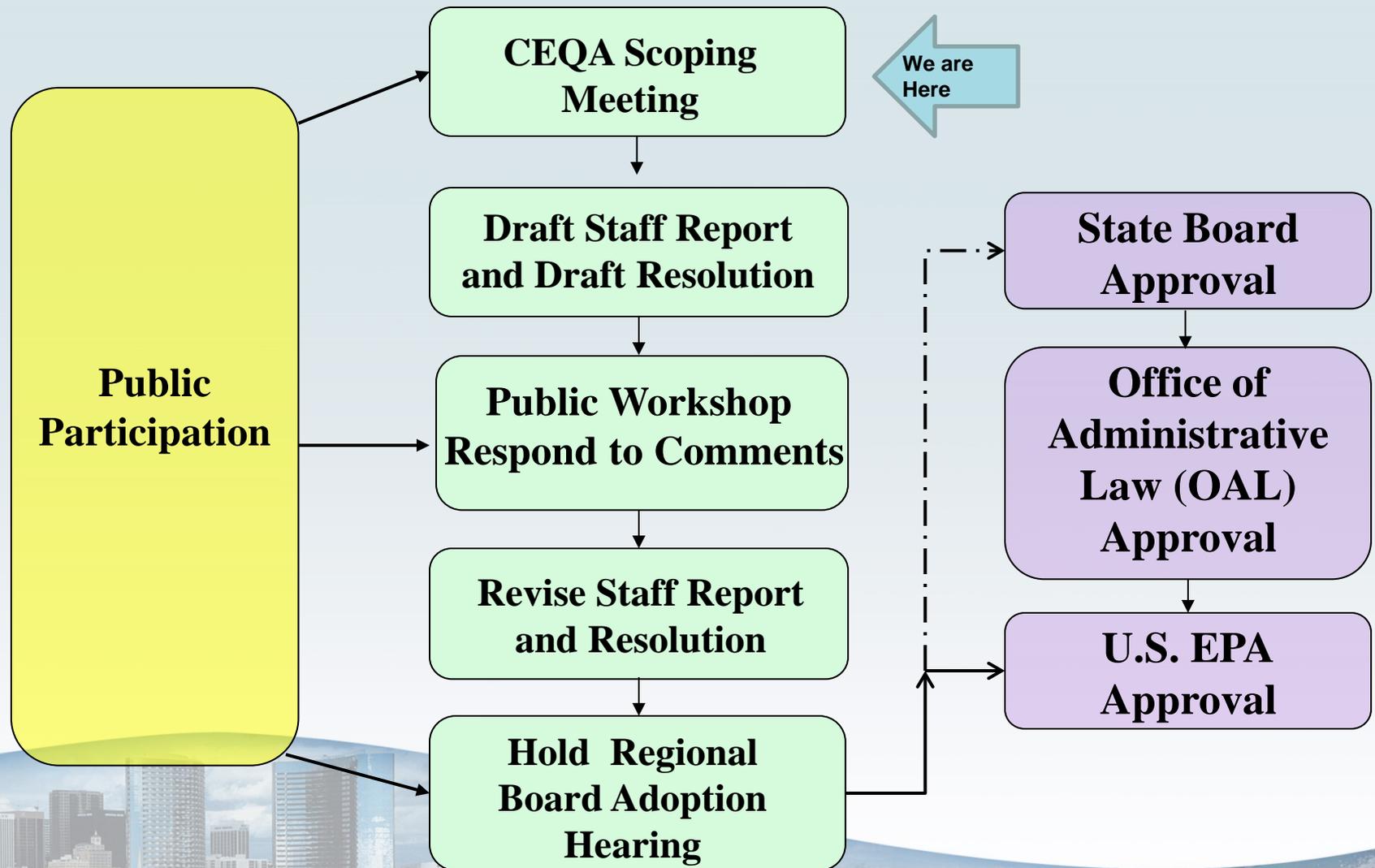


CEQA Checklist

Summary of Potential Environmental Impacts

	Aesthetics		Agriculture and Forestry Resources		Air Quality
	Biological Resources		Cultural Resources		Geology / Soils
	Greenhouse Gas Emissions		Hazards & Hazardous Materials		Hydrology / Water Quality
	Land Use / Planning		Mineral Resources		Noise
	Population / Housing		Public Services		Recreation
	Transportation / Traffic		Utilities / Service Systems		Mandatory Findings of Significance

Public Participation Opportunities



Famosa Slough Web Page

The screenshot shows a web browser window displaying the California Environmental Protection Agency's website. The page title is "Famosa Slough Nutrient TMDL". The navigation menu includes "Home", "About Us", "Public Notices", "Board Info", "Board Decisions", "Water Issues", "Publications/Forms", and "Press Room". The main content area is titled "Famosa Slough Nutrient TMDL" and includes an "Introduction" section, an "Announcements" section, and a "Resources" section. The "Resources" section is circled in blue and contains a link for "Email Subscriptions".

Office of Governor
Edmund G. Brown Jr.
Visit his Website

Home → Water Issues → Programs → Tmdls

Famosa Slough Nutrient TMDL

Introduction

Excessive loading of nutrients into Famosa Slough promotes excessive algae growth and depletes dissolved oxygen levels. These changes limit the ability of this water body to support its beneficial uses designated in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (9). Famosa Slough was placed on the Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) list of impaired water bodies in 1990 due to eutrophic conditions identified by excessive algal growth. To address the impairment a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) is under development to assess conditions and develop a strategy to improve water quality.

Famosa Slough is an estuary located along the San Diego River in the City of San Diego and is one of the only remnants of a historically large wetland that once encompassed the San Diego River floodplain and Mission Bay. This 37-acre wetland, located within a highly urbanized area, provides habitat to shorebirds and wildlife and offers opportunities for environmental education and public recreation.

Announcements

A CEQA scoping meeting will held on February 1, 2016, from 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the San Diego Water Board. For more information please see the flyer for the [CEQA Scoping Meeting](#).

Contacts

For additional information contact Jody Ebsen at (619) 521-3965 or at Jody.Ebsen@waterboards.ca.gov.

Meetings and Announcements

Water Quality
Performance Report

RESOURCES

- Email Subscriptions
- Data & Database

Famosa Slough
Email List →

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/tmdls/famosa_slough.shtml

Open Forum

Comments

Questions



Written Comments

Any written comments on CEQA Scoping
should be submitted to the
San Diego Water Board
by February 26, 2016



Thank You!

Jody Ebsen

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