California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

Purpose:

- **High-quality environment**
  - Identify significant impacts
  - Avoid where possible
  - Mitigate where possible

- Ensure public disclosure/participation
Application of CEQA

- "Projects" undertaken or requiring approval by State and local government agencies.

- "Projects" are activities which have the potential to have a physical impact on the environment.
Basin Planning: Exempt from CEQA Requirements

- “Functionally equivalent” to the CEQA requirements for environmental documentation [CCR Title 14, § 15251(g)]

- “Functionally equivalent” documents include: written report, initial draft of Basin Plan amendment, CEQA checklist [23 CCR 3776]
CEQA Scoping Meeting

- Legislation requires lead agency to conduct meeting
- Purpose: gain public input on scope and content of functionally equivalent documents
Scope of Project

- Identify environmental impacts
- Identify mitigation measures
- Identify alternatives for achieving compliance with TMDL (i.e. reducing toxicity levels)
Anticipated Impacts

- Meet toxicity standards
- Healthy benthic community
- Others?
Concluding Remarks

- Thank you for participating
- Please remember to subscribe