



**Linda S. Adams**  
*Secretary for Environmental  
Protection*

# State Water Resources Control Board

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## Division of Water Quality

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**Arnold Schwarzenegger**  
*Governor*

Dear Sir/Madam,

The California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is embarking on an effort to develop numeric nutrient endpoints (NNEs) for California estuaries. The goal of this effort is to develop a set of numeric endpoints that can be used to address impacts from nutrient over-enrichment or eutrophication through the water quality programs of the SWRCB, Regional Water Quality Control Boards and the regulated community. These endpoints will serve as guidance to the Water Boards in developing appropriate nutrient levels for TMDLs and to translate narrative nutrient objectives.

For the purposes of proceeding with endpoint development, the State's estuaries are being classified into two groups: 1) San Francisco Estuary (SFE) and 2) all other approximately 400 embayments, coastal lagoons, river and creek mouth estuaries found along the coast of California, hereto referred to as "coastal systems".

A conceptual framework has been developed to govern the process for NNE development in estuaries. A work plan has been developed for the coastal systems, with the first phase scheduled to be completed in 2012. A review of existing literature and work plan to develop NNE in the San Francisco estuary is now under development specifically for the San Francisco Estuary. It is anticipated that the process to develop an initial set of numeric dissolved oxygen endpoints for the coastal systems will require two years.

Stakeholder advisory groups (SAG) are being developed to guide the development of NNEs for the State's estuaries. These SAGs will advise the SWRCB on the science and policy supporting NNE development for the State's estuaries. A SAG for coastal systems, hereto referred to as the Coastal SAG, has already been formed. The San Francisco Estuary (SF Bay) SAG is being formed now.

The SWRCB is soliciting membership for the SF Bay SAG. This effort will be kicked off on **Monday October 4, 2010, 1 - 4 pm in the San Francisco Bay Water Board offices in the Elihu M. Harris State Building in Oakland.** The purpose of this meeting is to present the goals and objectives of the project and elect representatives to the SF Bay SAG.

Please contact Naomi Feger (510-622-2328, [nfeger@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:nfeger@waterboards.ca.gov)) of the San Francisco Regional Water Quality Control Board (SFRWQCB) or Steve Camacho (916- 341-5561, [scamacho@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:scamacho@waterboards.ca.gov)) of the SWRCB if you are interested in participating on the SF Bay SAG.

You can also subscribe to our email notification list - Nutrients in San Francisco Bay at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/reg2\\_subscribe.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg2_subscribe.shtml)

Agenda and meeting materials will be distributed two weeks in advance of the meeting.

Steve Camacho  
Planning Standards & Implementation Unit  
State Water Resources Control Board

*California Environmental Protection Agency*

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