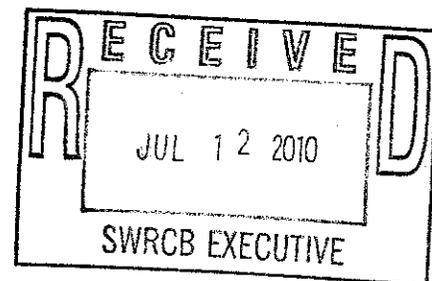


From: michael blum <michael.blum@gmail.com>
To: <commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov>
CC: <info@msasurfing.org>
Date: Monday, July 12, 2010 12:47 AM
Subject: Comment Letter - Malibu Septic Prohibition

July 11, 2010

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk To The Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814



sent via email: commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov

RE: COMMENT LETTER - MALIBU SEPTIC PROHIBITION

Dear Ms. Townsend:

The Malibu Surfing Association (MSA) was founded by a group of Malibu residents in 1961 as one of California's first surfing clubs. Today, MSA is an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization dedicated to the fellowship of surfing and to the stewardship of our home surfing break, world-famous Surfrider Beach. As an organization comprised of recreational and professional surfers, we represent one of Surfrider's key stakeholder groups: those who utilize coastal resources as a primary source of recreation (both contact and non-contact), leisure, and enjoyment.

We recommend the State Water Resources Control Board 1) approve the amendment to the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board's (LARWQCB) Basin Plan as adopted under Resolution No. R4-2009-007 and 2) direct the Executive Director or designee to submit the amendment adopted under Los Angeles Water Board Resolution No. R4-2009-007 to the Office of Administrative Law for approval of the regulatory provisions.

Since last November's action by the LARWQCB, the City of Malibu has not moved to embrace (or prepare for) the enactment of R4-2009-007; non-septic-based wastewater treatment in central Malibu. Instead, the City has requested the LARWQCB's decision be reconsidered (i.e., technically unfeasible) (1). More than 8 months into the resolution's timeline, the only work performed by the City has been to evaluate alternative discharge methods: ocean outfall and aquifer pumping (1).

And the water quality problems continue. During this year's Dry Weather period (since April 1, 2010), when water quality is mandated to be at its best and Surfrider Beach is most heavily utilized, nearly 60% of weekly water quality grades rate 'D' or 'F' (Heal the Bay's Beach Report Card for Surfrider Beach at the breach location (2)). Water quality goals have not been met, and we believe they won't be met without the actions outlined in R4-2009-007

MSA has been advocating for improved water quality at our home break, Surfrider Beach, for several years. We continue to be concerned that

the full benefit of this world-famous beach, which helped define the California 'beach lifestyle' is compromised by chronic poor water quality. We believe Resolution No. R4-2009-007 is the only option to move forward in a way which achieves water quality improvements.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments. If you have any questions, please contact us at 818.564.4217.

Sincerely,

Michael Blum
President
Malibu Surfing Association

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1. Retrieved from <http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/lanow/2010/04/malibu-asks-regional-water-board-to-rethink-moratorium-on-septic-systems.html>
/ July 11, 2010.
 2. Heal the Bay Beach Report Card <http://www.healthebay.org/brc>