

Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region

Executive Officer's Summary Report
Thursday, May 8, 2014
River Lodge Conference Center
Fortuna, California

- ITEM: 6
- SUBJECT: Workshop on the 2012 Integrated Report for the Clean Water Act Section 305(b) Surface Water Quality Assessment and the 303(d) List of Impaired Waters (*Rebecca Fitzgerald*)
- BOARD ACTION: This is an informational item only. No action will be taken by the Regional Water Board.
- BACKGROUND: Under section 305(b) of the federal Clean Water Act (CWA), states are required to report biennially to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) on the water quality conditions of their surface waters. The USEPA then compiles these assessments into their *National Water Quality Inventory Report* to Congress.
- Under CWA section 303(d), states are required to review, make changes as necessary, and submit to the USEPA a list identifying waterbodies not meeting water quality standards and identifying the water quality parameter or pollutant not being met. Placement on this list generally triggers development of a pollution control plan called a total maximum daily load (TMDL) for each waterbody-pollutant pair on the list.
- California combines the 305(b) water quality assessment and the 303(d) List of impaired waters into one report, known as the Integrated Report. The 2010 Integrated Report is the current report. It became effective on October 11, 2011. In order to provide an update of the Integrated Report every even-numbered year, California will submit an update for three regional water boards in each listing cycle. The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) is responsible for developing the 2012 Integrated Report and adopting the 2012 303(d) List for waters within the North Coast Region. The Lahontan and the Colorado River Regional Water Boards are also providing updates for California's 2012 report. The 2014 Integrated Report will include updates from the Central Coast, Central Valley, and San Diego Regional Water Boards, and the 2016 Integrated Report will include updates from the San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, and Santa Ana Regional Water Boards. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and the USEPA must approve the 2012 303(d) List for California before it takes effect.

North Coast Regional Water Board staff released the *Public Review Draft Staff Report for the 2012 Integrated Report for the Clean Water Action Section 305(b) Surface Water Quality Assessment and the 303(d) List of Impaired Waters* on March 14, 2014. The draft is attached. The 36-day public comment period closed on April 18, 2014. Staff hosted public workshops to take comments in Santa Rosa on April 8, 2014, and in Redding on April 9, 2014. Staff is currently responding to comments and revising the proposed 2012 Integrated Report as appropriate. Staff will recommend adoption of the 2012 303(d) List at the June 19, 2014 Regional Water Board meeting.

DISCUSSION:

State Water Board and Regional Water Board staff assessed data and information from the public and Water Board programs that were submitted on or before August 30, 2010. All readily available data and information were assessed using the rules described in the *Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List* (State Water Board 2004), also known as the Listing Policy. Data assessments and comparisons to water quality standards are summarized in lines of evidence (LOEs). Regional Water Board staff's proposals to list, not list, delist, or not delist a waterbody-pollutant pair as impaired on the 303(d) List are summarized in decisions. A waterbody-pollutant pair is a specific reach of a waterbody plus a single pollutant, such as the Klamath River for sediment or the mainstem of Santa Rosa Creek for fecal indicator bacteria.

Staff wrote over 4,700 LOEs, which led to 991 decisions. The majority of the decisions retain the status quo from current 2010 303(d) List, as we propose to not list a new waterbody-pollutant pair or not delist an already listed waterbody-pollutant pair. Staff propose the following changes for the 2012 303(d) List.

New Proposed Listings (in waterbody-pollutant pairs)	
See Table 6 of the attached Staff Report	
29	New Listings
1	Increase in the geographic extent of an already listed water
2	Recommendations for USEPA to list waters that are on tribal land

New Proposed Delistings (in waterbody-pollutant pairs)	
See Table 5 of the attached Staff Report	
14	New Delistings
20	Reductions in the geographic extent of an already listed water

Individual LOEs and decisions for each waterbody-pollutant pair are available online, along with all cited data and quality control documents, at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdls/303d/.

Staff will highlight several of the proposed new listings and delistings as part of the presentation. Staff will also summarize the public comments received during the workshops or in writing.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: Public Review Draft Staff Report for the 2012 Integrated Report for the Clean Water Action Section 305(b) Surface Water Quality Assessment and the 303(d) List of Impaired Waters

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