

Memorandum

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Let's incorporate
the latest if
possible. Ed 3/1
Date: FEB 28 1995
EA.

To : Ed Anton, Chief
Division of Water Rights

Jesse M. Diaz
Jesse M. Diaz, Chief
Division of Water Quality
From : STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
901 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
Mail Code G-8

Subject : DRAFT STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY/SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA ESTUARY (DELTA PLAN)

This is to advise you that in reviewing the draft Delta Plan, we noted that the beneficial use definitions in the Delta Plan are slightly different from those currently recommended for adoption in the Basin Plans. The revised definitions are presented in the attached memorandum from Walt Pettit to the RWQCB Executive Officers.

The Central Valley RWQCB used the recommended definitions in adopting its revised Basin Plan. The San Francisco Bay RWQCB did not incorporate the revised definitions in its draft Basin Plan; however, we are encouraging them to do so before its adoption. We recommend that all State and Regional Board plans and policies use consistent beneficial use definitions.

Should you have questions, please contact John Ladd at 7-1016 or Bob Ford at 7-1117.

Attachment

cc: John Ladd, DWQ
Bob Ford, DWQ

State of California

M e m o r a n d u m

TO : All Regional Water Board
Executive Officers

DATE : JUN 17 1993

BJ

Original Signed By:

FROM : Walt Pettit
Executive Director
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
901 P Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
Mail Code: G-8

SUBJECT: REVISED BENEFICIAL USE DEFINITIONS

The attached list represents the latest version (June 15, 1993) of the Beneficial Use definitions developed by staffs of the Regional Water Boards, Office of Chief Counsel (OCC), and Division of Water Quality (DWQ). Except for the definition for Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR), OCC has determined that the nature of the changes in the proposed revisions is nonsubstantive when compared to the version adopted in the Basin Plans. Therefore, the Regional Water Boards can restrict public comment on these definitions to the proposed editorial changes during the Basin Planning Update process. OCC and DWQ will provide Regional Water Board staffs with language for the Basin Plan update process to support the changes to the MIGR definition.

When incorporating the Beneficial Use definitions into the Basin Plans, please use the definitions as transmitted. However, language may be added to the Beneficial Use definitions by the Regional Water Boards to meet their particular needs and describe their application in the Basin Plans.

If you have any further questions, please telephone Steve Fagundes, the person most knowledgeable on this subject, at (916) 657-0914. You may also call John Ladd, Chief of the Basin Planning Unit, at (916) 657-1016.

Attachment

cc: All Regional Water Board Basin Planning Unit Chiefs

Lonnie Wass
Central Valley Regional Water Board,
Fresno

Sheila Vassey, OCC
Dave Carlson, Freshwater Standards Unit
Bill Campbell, Nonpoint Source Loan Unit

bcc: Barbara Evoy, OPE

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Handwritten signatures and dates:
Jadd 6-17-93
6/16/93
W. Ladd
6/16/93

PROPOSED BENEFICIAL USE CATEGORY DEFINITIONS

1. Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) - Uses of water for community, military, or individual water supply systems including, but not limited to, drinking water supply.
2. Agricultural Supply (AGR) - Uses of water for farming, horticulture, or ranching including, but not limited to, irrigation, stock watering, or support of vegetation for range grazing.
3. Industrial Process Supply (PRO) - Uses of water for industrial activities that depend primarily on water quality.
4. Industrial Service Supply (IND) - Uses of water for industrial activities that do not depend primarily on water quality including, but not limited to, mining, cooling water supply, hydraulic conveyance, gravel washing, fire protection, or oil well repressurization.
5. Ground Water Recharge (GWR) - Uses of water for natural or artificial recharge of ground water for purposes of future extraction, maintenance of water quality, or halting of saltwater intrusion into freshwater aquifers.
6. Freshwater Replenishment (FRSH) - Uses of water for natural or artificial maintenance of surface water quantity or quality (e.g., salinity).
7. Navigation (NAV) - Uses of water for shipping, travel, or other transportation by private, military, or commercial vessels.
8. Hydropower Generation (POW) - Uses of water for hydropower generation.
9. Water Contact Recreation (REC-1) - Uses of water for recreational activities involving body contact with water, where ingestion of water is reasonably possible. These uses include, but are not limited to, swimming, wading, water-skiing, skin and scuba diving, surfing, white water activities, fishing, or use of natural hot springs.
10. Non-contact Water Recreation (REC-2) - Uses of water for recreational activities involving proximity to water, but not normally involving body contact with water, where ingestion of water is reasonably possible. These uses include, but are not limited to, picnicking, sunbathing, hiking, beachcombing, camping, boating, tidepool and marine life study, hunting, sightseeing, or aesthetic enjoyment in conjunction with the above activities.
11. Commercial and Sport Fishing (COMM) - Uses of water for commercial or recreational collection of fish, shellfish, or other organisms including, but not limited to, uses involving organisms intended for human consumption or bait purposes.

12. Aquaculture (AQUA) - Uses of water for aquaculture or mariculture operations including, but not limited to, propagation, cultivation, maintenance, or harvesting of aquatic plants and animals for human consumption or bait purposes.
13. Warm Freshwater Habitat (WARM) - Uses of water that support warm water ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of aquatic habitats, vegetation, fish, or wildlife, including invertebrates.
14. Cold Freshwater Habitat (COLD) - Uses of water that support cold water ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of aquatic habitats, vegetation, fish, or wildlife, including invertebrates.
15. Inland Saline Water Habitat (SAL) - Uses of water that support inland saline water ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of aquatic saline habitats, vegetation, fish, or wildlife, including invertebrates.
16. Estuarine Habitat (EST) - Uses of water that support estuarine ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of estuarine habitats, vegetation, fish, shellfish, or wildlife (e.g., estuarine mammals, waterfowl, shorebirds).
17. Marine Habitat (MAR) - Uses of water that support marine ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation or enhancement of marine habitats, vegetation such as kelp, fish, shellfish, or wildlife (e.g., marine mammals, shorebirds).
18. Wildlife Habitat (WILD) - Uses of water that support terrestrial ecosystems including, but not limited to, preservation and enhancement of terrestrial habitats, vegetation, wildlife (e.g., mammals, birds, reptiles, amphibians, invertebrates), or wildlife water and food sources.
19. Preservation of Biological Habitats of Special Significance (BIOL) - Uses of water that support designated areas or habitats, such as established refuges, parks, sanctuaries, ecological reserves, or Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS), where the preservation or enhancement of natural resources requires special protection.
20. Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE) - Uses of water that support habitats necessary, at least in part, for the survival and successful maintenance of plant or animal species established under state or federal law as rare, threatened or endangered.
21. Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR) - Uses of water that support habitats necessary for migration or other temporary activities by aquatic organisms, such as anadromous fish.

22. Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development (SPWN) - Uses of water that support high quality aquatic habitats suitable for reproduction and early development of fish.
23. Shellfish Harvesting (SHELL) - Uses of water that support habitats suitable for the collection of filter-feeding shellfish (e.g., clams, oysters, and mussels) for human consumption, commercial, or sports purposes.

Version Date: June 15, 1993