

GROUP: WATER QUALITY RESTORATION

MEASURE: NONPOINT SOURCE IMPAIRED WATER BODIES PARTIALLY OR FULLY RESTORED

MESSAGE: One water body segment impaired primarily by nonpoint sources was partially restored, with 12 more expected by the end of 2010.

KEY STATISTICS FOR FY 2009-10

NUMBER OF NONPOINT SOURCE IMPAIRED WATER SEGMENTS PARTIALLY RESTORED: 1

MEASUREMENTS:

| Region | Water Body | Pollutant | Water Body Segments Restored in FY 2009-10 | Water Body Segments To Be Restored by End of 2010 |
|--------|--------------------------|------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 3 | Chorro Creek | Dissolved oxygen | 1 | 0 |
| 5 | Grasslands & Salt Slough | Selenium | 0 | 4 |
| 5 | Feather/Sacramento | Diazinon | 0 | 6 |
| 6 | Upper Truckee | Bacteria | 0 | 1 |
| 6 | Big Meadow Creek | Bacteria | 0 | 1 |
| TOTAL | | | 1 | 12 |

WHAT THE MEASURE IS SHOWING:

This measure shows the Water Boards’ reporting on a key national performance measure in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (USEPA) [2006-2011 Strategic Plan](#), Restoration of Nonpoint Source Impaired Waters (also known as [WQ-10](#)). The purpose of this measure is to identify impaired water bodies that have been partially or fully restored as a result of various nonpoint source control activities. Nonpoint source-impaired water bodies are counted as partially or fully restored when they are described in a “success story” report on USEPA’s Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Success Stories [website](#). For FY 2009-10, Chorro Creek in Region 3 (Central Coast Regional Water Board) was removed from the State’s impaired waters list for restored dissolved oxygen levels. Nonpoint source success story reports for 12 additional water body segments, located in Regions 5 (Central Valley Regional Water Board) and 6 (Lahontan Regional Water Board), are expected by the end of 2010.

WHY THIS MEASURE IS IMPORTANT:

California has over 700 water bodies that do not meet one or more water quality standards. These impaired water bodies, which are identified on the federal Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list for the State, are subject to the development of Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), and a variety of water quality improvement and restoration activities. Many of these “listings” are the result of pollution from nonpoint sources. Nonpoint source pollutants, from sources such as agricultural, forestry, and urban areas, are a leading cause of water quality impairment. This measure tracks and recognizes instances where nonpoint source pollution controls were involved in restoring an impaired water body.

TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:

- **Data Source:** State Water Board’s Nonpoint Source Program. Period: July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010. Extracted on July 19, 2010.



- **Unit of Measure:** Number of nonpoint source-impaired waters partially or fully restored.
- **Data Definitions:** *Water body:* For this measure, a nonpoint source-impaired water body. *Pollutant:* The waste, substance, or water quality parameter that is causing the water body impairment. *Water body segments restored in FY 2009-10:* Segments of nonpoint source-impaired water bodies that have been fully or partially restored, and a success story report was completed in FY 2009-10. *Water body segments to be restored by end of 2010:* Segments of nonpoint source-impaired water bodies where restoration activities have been accomplished, and a success story report is scheduled for completion by the end of 2010. [Note: The State's Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10 is July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010. The federal Fiscal Year 2010 is October 1, 2009-September 30, 2010. Therefore, for this measure, expected results for end-of-year 2010 are also provided.]
- **References:** More information on nonpoint source-impaired water restoration (WQ-10): http://www.epa.gov/ow/waterplan/pamsfy08/def_wq08.html#wq10 and <http://www.epa.gov/nps/success/info.htm>. USEPA's Clean Water Act Section 319 Nonpoint Source Success Stories website (<http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/Success319/>). The Chorro Creek success story report can be accessed [here](#) and at: http://www.epa.gov/owow/nps/Success319/state/ca_chorro.htm. Information on the Water Boards' polluted runoff/nonpoint source pollution control programs: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/.

GLOSSARY:

Fully Restored Water Body

A fully restored water body, as defined by USEPA, means that all water quality standards or designated beneficial uses are now being met.

Nonpoint Source-Impaired Water Body

A nonpoint source-impaired water body that is primarily impaired due to the release of pollutants over a diffuse and wide area (also called polluted runoff), as specified in the 2000 or later federal Clean Water Act Section 303(d) lists of impaired waters.

Partially Restored Water Body

A partially restored water body, as defined by USEPA, means that either of two conditions are being met: (1) a water body that has a use that is initially impaired by more than one pollutant, but after restoration efforts meets the criteria for one or more (but not all) of those pollutants, or (2) a water body that initially has more than one use that is less than fully supported, but after restoration efforts one or more (but not all) of those uses becomes fully supported.

Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)

A TMDL is a calculation of the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still safely meet water quality standards. TMDLs are required for impaired water bodies on the federal [Clean Water Act Section 303\(d\)](#) list.