

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
RESOLUTION NO. 2026-0007**

**AMENDING THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE NORTH COAST  
REGION TO INCORPORATE APPLICABLE PROVISIONS OF STATEWIDE  
PLANS AND POLICIES AND IMPROVE CLARITY**

**WHEREAS:**

1. On June 13, 2025, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (North Coast Water Board) adopted [Resolution No. R1-2025-0019](#) to amend the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Basin Plan Amendment) to incorporate applicable provisions of statewide plans and policies, correct typographical errors, comply with web accessibility requirements, and improve clarity.
2. The North Coast Water Board found that the Basin Plan Amendment is non-regulatory because the revisions are editorial in nature or incorporate applicable provisions that were adopted by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and are already in effect statewide. The amendment makes changes that do not materially alter any requirement, right, responsibility, condition, prescription, or other regulatory element of the Basin Plan, and are therefore without regulatory effect under California Code of Regulations (CCR), title 1, section 100, subdivision (a). Rather, the revisions improve and clarify the application and implementation of the Basin Plan.
3. Following the North Coast Water Board's adoption of the Basin Plan Amendment, the North Coast Executive Officer, in consultation with the North Coast Water Board, requested that the State Water Board defer consideration of the aspect of the Basin Plan Amendment that incorporates Statewide Aquatic Toxicity Provisions because the Toxicity Provisions are currently under judicial review. The State Water Board agrees that deferring this aspect is appropriate until judicial review is complete. Accordingly, this approval considers all aspects of the Basin Plan Amendment except for the aspect that incorporates the Statewide Aquatic Toxicity Provisions.
4. The North Coast Water Board determined that the action to amend the Basin Plan is not a "project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it will cause neither a direct physical change in the environment nor a reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment (Public Resources Code, section

21065; CCR, title 14, section 15738; Public Resources Code, section 21080.1). As a result, the non-regulatory Basin Plan Amendment is not subject to CEQA and, therefore, is not subject to the State Water Board's certified regulatory program regulations for implementing CEQA (CCR, title 23, section 3720, subdivisions (b) and (c)(2)).

5. The North Coast Water Board found the Basin Plan Amendment is consistent with the Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining High Quality Waters in California (State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16) and the federal Antidegradation Policy (Code of Federal Regulations, title 40, section 131.12), in that it does not allow degradation of water quality, but requires attainment of water quality standards. The State Water Board concurs with the North Coast Water Board's finding.
6. The State Water Board finds that the Basin Plan Amendment is in conformance with California Water Code section 13240, which specifies that regional water quality control boards may revise basin plans.
7. A basin plan amendment does not become effective until approved by the State Water Board and until the amendment is approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). Although this Basin Plan Amendment does not contain any new or revised water quality standards, State Water Board may submit the Basin Plan Amendment to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) for review as a courtesy.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

1. Approves the Basin Plan Amendment adopted under North Coast Water Board Resolution No. R1-2025-0019.
2. Authorizes and directs the Executive Director or designee to submit the Basin Plan Amendment adopted under North Coast Water Board Resolution No. R1-2025-0019 to OAL for approval of the regulatory provisions and to U.S. EPA as a courtesy.
3. If, during the approval process, State Water Board staff, the Executive Officer of the North Coast Water Board, or OAL determines that minor, non-substantive modifications to the Basin Plan Amendment are needed

for clarity or consistency, the State Water Board Executive Director or designee may make such changes and shall inform the State Water Board of any such changes.

### **CERTIFICATION**

The undersigned Clerk to the Board does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on March 3, 2026.

AYE: Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel  
Board Member Sean Maguire  
Board Member Laurel Firestone  
Board Member Nichole Morgan

NAY: None

ABSENT: Vice Chair Dorene D'Adamo

ABSTAIN: None

  
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Courtney Tyler  
Clerk to the Board