Seeking stakeholder input on Regional Board's consideration of de-designating the SHELL beneficial use in both the San Lorenzo River Estuary and the Soquel Lagoon

Regional Board staff is considering de-designating the beneficial use of shellfishing from the San Lorenzo River Estuary and the Soquel Lagoon.

Staff has found no evidence of the shellfish harvesting beneficial use in the San Lorenzo River Estuary or the Soquel Lagoon. Hydraulic modifications, seasonal lagoon closure to tidal circulation, and lack of evidence of any historical or contemporary shellfish harvesting, have led Regional Board staff to consider removing the SHELL beneficial use in San Lorenzo River Estuary and Soquel Lagoon. These would be proposed as two separate items.

Staff feels the 1976 listing of a shellfish beneficial use for San Lorenzo River Estuary was in error. In the 1975 Basin Plan, San Lorenzo River Estuary did not have shellfishing listed as a beneficial use. In 1976, the Estuary was listed as having shellfishing as a beneficial use, with no supporting documentation or rationale. Shanta Keeling questioned staff at Region 3 as to why this change was made. Region 3 staffs' recollection was that in 1976, several waterbodies in the region were given a SHELL beneficial use, without supporting documentation, for what appeared to be administrative reasons. Although legally, a UAA must be performed in order to remove the beneficial use of shellfishing from the San Lorenzo River Estuary, staff wants to emphasize that the initial listing of this waterbody for SHELL did not appear to be scientifically based.

Soquel Lagoon was listed as part of a larger grouping of waterbodies in the 1975 Basin Plan. Again, staff did not find documentation to point out why this waterbody was listed for the SHELL beneficial use.

Staff has questioned numerous individuals who are knowledgeable about the areas. These include, but are not limited to County and City staff, researchers, Department of Fish and Game staff, and Department of Health Services. We have tried to contact anyone who might have information on this subject matter.

We bring this subject up today to ask if anyone has any information on the presence of shellfishing in either of these waterbodies.

If you could help us out and please fill out this form.

Angela Carpenter read this at a Nov. 15, 2005 meeting in Santa Cruz. The meeting was facilitated by the County of Santa Cruz. No one in attendance filled out a form and no one had any oral comments to Angela. No phone calls or emails were received by staff after the meeting. An attendance sheet is attached.
1) Do YOU think the shellfishing beneficial use exists in either the San Lorenzo River Estuary or the Soquel Lagoon?

San Lorenzo River Estuary  

YES   NO

Soquel Lagoon  

YES   NO

If you think the shellfishing use is occurring, why do you think so? Or if not, why do you think so?

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2) Do you know of anyone you think Regional Board staff should contact regarding this issue (please include name and contact info)?

__________________________________________________________________________

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__________________________________________________________________________

Your contact information:

Name __________________________

Phone no. _______________________

Email address ____________________

Affiliation ______________________

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San Lorenzo River Estuary  

YES   NO

Soquel Lagoon  

YES   NO

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Affiliation ______________________
MEETING NOTICE

Technical Advisory Committee

ASSESSMENT OF SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BEACH POLLUTION

November 15, 2005
Tuesday, 1:00 – 3:00 pm

Health Services Agency Small Auditorium, Basement
Building D, 1080 Emeline Street, Santa Cruz, CA

AGENDA

1. Introductions

2. Review of Draft Report: Assessment of Bacterial Contamination at Santa Cruz County Beaches
   a. Findings
   b. Recommendations

3. Regional Board Efforts
   a. Pathogen TMDL Development for San Lorenzo, Capitola Lagoon, Aptos/Valencia
      Creeks – Use of Beach Water Quality Report for Implementation Plan
   b. Use Attainability Analysis to remove the Shellfish Harvesting Beneficial Use from San
      Lorenzo River Estuary and Soquel Lagoon

4. Update on Status of Related Efforts?
   a. Integrated Watershed Restoration Program: Countywide Lagoons
   b. Sanctuary Water Quality Protection Program: Urban Runoff and Beach Action Plans
   c. Prop 13 Capitola Lagoon Cooperative Water Quality Assessment
   d. County Stormwater Program
   e. Clean Beach Initiative Projects: Santa Cruz and Capitola
   f. Others?

Please contact John Ricker (831-454-2750), if you have questions or comments.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Affiliation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>John Ricker</td>
<td>S.C. &amp; Env. Hth.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chris Case</td>
<td>City of Santa Cruz</td>
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<td>Chris Coane</td>
<td>MBNMS</td>
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<td>Nicole Baker</td>
<td>2ndNature</td>
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<td>Russ Dessen</td>
<td>S.C. County Res. Dist.</td>
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<td>Steven Tescher</td>
<td>Capitola</td>
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<td>Dan China</td>
<td>S.C. County Sanitation District</td>
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<td>Avin Bakatoni</td>
<td>City of Santa Cruz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Patricia Mattison</td>
<td>Surftide, Tdn. &amp; Surfs Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>John Alexiou</td>
<td>City of S.C. Marine Safety (P&amp;I)</td>
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<td>Steve Peters</td>
<td>County of Santa Cruz EHS</td>
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<td>Monica Field</td>
<td>Kesler Consulting Inc.</td>
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<td>Dan Sende</td>
<td>City of Santa Cruz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kristy Morris</td>
<td>UCSC (Marc Los Angeles)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Suzanne Hayne</td>
<td>City of Santa Cruz</td>
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<td>Alyson Tom</td>
<td>S.C. County</td>
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<td>Rachel Lather</td>
<td>SCCSD</td>
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<td>Maurice Reid</td>
<td>Coastal Watershed Council</td>
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<td>Tamara Dan</td>
<td>City of S.C.</td>
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<td>Sarah Watson</td>
<td>City of Santa Cruz - STD.</td>
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<td>Sathnam O'Neill</td>
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<td>Steve Wolfman</td>
<td>UCS - Management</td>
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