

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

February 22, 2013

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT

Regarding

Proposed Approval of a Resolution to Adopt Total Maximum Daily Loads for Chloride and Sodium in the Jalama Creek Subwatershed, Santa Barbara County

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) will accept comments on the proposed approval of a resolution to adopt a Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for chloride and sodium in the Jalama Creek subwatershed.

The draft documents including the staff report, resolution, and project report are available for public review on the Regional Board's Internet site at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/jalama_creek/index.shtml

The draft documents are also available by request of the office of the Central Coast Water Board; please contact: Pete Osmolovsky at (805) 549-3699 or paosmolovsky@waterboards.ca.gov.

CONCISE SUMMARY. **There is no plausible evidence of human impacts and activities that could cause or contribute to observed elevated chloride and sodium levels in Jalama Creek.** Therefore, these proposed TMDLs do not require or propose any regulatory measures or oversight affecting landowners and operators in the Jalama Creek Subwatershed. Consequently, the TMDLs do not require or recommend any actions on the part of local land owners and operators. The intent of these TMDLs is to establish the administrative basis requiring the Water Board to develop site specific water quality objectives for chloride and sodium in Jalama Creek which appropriately take into account natural background conditions causing elevated chloride and sodium concentrations in the creek. Further, Water Board staff concludes that drinking water supply, groundwater recharge, aquatic habitat, and existing agricultural supply beneficial uses are currently being supported in Jalama Creek on the basis of numeric criterion for chloride and sodium. Therefore, the elevated levels of chloride and sodium do not constitute a water quality problem or threat to existing beneficial uses of the creek.

NOTICE OF CENTRAL COAST WATER BOARD MEETING. The Central Coast Water Board will separately publish an agenda for the meeting at which it will consider adopting a resolution approving this proposed Basin Plan amendment. We anticipate this TMDL will be presented to the Central Coast Water Board at the regularly scheduled May 30-31, 2013 hearing.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS. Persons wishing to comment on the proposed resolution are encouraged to submit comments electronically. Comment letters **must be received by 12:00 noon on March 29, 2013.** Comment letters received after that deadline will not be accepted unless approved by the Central Coast Water Board's Chair.

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Please send comments to **Pete Osmolovsky**, at the Central Coast Water Board's office by email (see email address below - **must be no more than 15 megabytes**); or by postal mail or hand delivery at:

Email:

paosmolovsky@waterboards.ca.gov

Postal mail or hand delivery:

Pete Osmolovsky
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906

Please also indicate in the subject line, "**Comment Letter—Jalama Creek TMDL.**"

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact **Pete Osmolovsky at (805) 549- 3699 or (paosmolovsky@waterboards.ca.gov)**, or Chris Rose, TMDL program manager at (805) 542-4770.