

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION**

Proposed Resolution R3-2026-0053

**AMENDMENTS TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE
CENTRAL COASTAL BASIN TO MAKE EDITORIAL REVISIONS**

WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board), finds:

1. The Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan) is the Central Coast Water Board's main water quality control planning document and was first adopted in 1975. The Basin Plan designates beneficial uses and water quality objectives for waters of the state, including surface waters and groundwaters. It also includes programs of implementation to achieve water quality objectives. The Basin Plan was duly adopted by the Central Coast Water Board and approved by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), the Office of Administrative Law (OAL), and the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), where required.
2. The Basin Plan may be amended in accordance with California Water Code (CWC) section 13240 et seq. The current Basin Plan is the June 2024 Edition.¹
3. Attachment A to this Resolution is the Project Report that describes the proposed Basin Plan amendments, including specifications on physical placement in the Basin Plan.
4. The amendments make changes to the Basin Plan that are non-regulatory because they are editorial corrections and clarifications (e.g., correcting typos, updating information, and following the Central Coast Water Board writing style). The amendments are 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). The amendments improve the accuracy and clarity of the Basin Plan.
5. The action to amend the Basin Plan is not a "project" within the meaning of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) because it will not cause or otherwise result in any direct or reasonably foreseeable indirect physical change in the environment (Pub. Res. Code (PRC), sections 21065, 21080, 21080.1; CCR, title 14, section 15378). As a result, the non-regulatory Basin Plan amendments are not subject to CEQA and, therefore, not subject to the State Water Board's certified

¹ June 2024 Basin Plan:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/docs/2024_basin_plan_r3.pdf

regulatory program regulations for implementing CEQA (CCR, title 23, section 3720, subdivisions (b) and (c)(2)).

6. On April 15, 2026, the Central Coast Water Board made available a draft Project Report for public review. Interested persons had an opportunity to submit written comments during a 45-day comment period that extended from April 15 to June 3, 2026.
7. On August 20-21, 2026, the Central Coast Water Board held a public hearing to receive oral comments on the proposed Basin Plan amendments. Notice of the public hearing was given to interested persons and published in accordance with CWC section 13244. Notice of updated public hearing information was given to interested persons in accordance with Government Code section 11125.
8. The Central Coast Water Board has carefully considered all comments and testimony received, including responses thereto, on the Basin Plan amendments, as well as all the evidence in the administrative record.
9. The Basin Plan amendments do not include a “scientific portion,” and thus do not require a scientific peer review under California Health and Safety Code section 57004, subdivision (d).
10. The Basin Plan amendments must be submitted for approval by the State Water Board and OAL. The Basin Plan amendments will become effective upon approval by OAL. After being approved by OAL, the Basin Plan amendments will be submitted to USEPA for review and approval.
11. Pursuant to CWC section 13149.2, which became effective on January 1, 2023, the Central Coast Water Board reviewed readily available information and information raised to the Board by interested persons concerning anticipated water quality impacts in disadvantaged or Tribal communities resulting from adoption of these Basin Plan amendments. The Central Coast Water Board considered environmental justice concerns within the Board’s authority and raised by interested persons with regard to those impacts. Central Coast Water Board staff have determined that the Basin Plan amendments will not have disproportionate impacts on water quality in disadvantaged communities, as defined in CWC section 189.7 and 13149.2, or Tribal communities. The proposed Basin Plan amendments do not incorporate implementation plans. Nonetheless, the Central Coast Water Board has satisfied the outreach requirements set forth in CWC section 189.7 and 13149.2 by conducting outreach in affected disadvantaged and Tribal communities.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. Pursuant to CWC section 13240, the Central Coast Water Board, after considering the record, including oral testimony at the hearing, hereby adopts the Basin Plan amendments as set forth in Attachment A to this Resolution R3-2026-0053.

2. The Executive Officer is directed to forward copies of the Basin Plan amendments to the State Water Board in accordance with the requirement of CWC section 13245.5. The Central Coast Water Board requests that the State Water Board approve the Basin Plan amendments in accordance with the requirements of CWC sections 13245 and 13246 and forward the Basin Plan amendments to OAL and to USEPA for approval.
3. If, during the approval process, Central Coast Water Board staff, the State Water Board, or OAL determines that minor, non-regulatory corrections to the language of the amendments are needed for clarity or consistency, the Executive Officer or their designee may make such changes and shall inform the Central Coast Water Board of any such changes.

I, Ryan E. Lodge, Executive Officer, do hereby certify the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, on August 20-21, 2026.

Ryan E. Lodge
Executive Officer

Attachment A – Project Report