
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

October 18, 2021

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE OF FILING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

Concerning an Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin to Adopt Total Maximum Daily Loads for Turbidity in the Gabilan Creek Watershed, Monterey County, California

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of a resolution amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan) and adopting Substitute Environmental Documentation (SED) prepared to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). If the resolution is adopted, the Basin Plan will be amended to incorporate Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for turbidity in the Gabilan Creek watershed, Monterey County.

The Central Coast Water Board's Basin Planning Program is considered a certified regulatory program, which means that the Board is exempt from the CEQA requirement to prepare an environmental impact report. (Public Resource Code, section 21080.5; California Code Regulations, title 14, section 15251(g)). The Board's environmental review of the proposed Basin Plan amendment is instead contained in the CEQA Analysis and Environmental Checklist document, which is part of the SED.

Hearing Date: February 17-18, 2022 at the regularly scheduled Central Coast Water Board meeting. An agenda for the hearing will be posted prior to the hearing at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/

Hearing Location: Video and Teleconference Conference. As a result of the Governor's Executive Orders to protect public health during the COVID-19 emergency, this meeting will occur solely via remote presence by video and teleconference. Members of the public will be able to listen to and watch the meeting and comment if desired. Information about participating in the remote meeting can be found at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/remote_meeting/index.html Any changes to the hearing location, e.g., to add a physical location, will be included in the Central Coast Water Board's meeting agenda.

Public Comments: Interested persons may make oral comments on the proposed Basin Plan amendment and draft SED at the public hearing. Interested persons may also submit written comments on the proposed amendment and draft SED during the

DR. JEAN-PIERRE WOLFF, CHAIR | MATTHEW T. KEELING, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

written comment period from **October 19, 2021 to December 3, 2021**. Written comments **must be received by 5:00 PM on December 3, 2021**. Please send all written comments to the staff person listed below. Comment letters received after that deadline will not be accepted unless approved by the Central Coast Water Board's Chair.

Materials: The proposed Basin Plan amendment and draft SED documents available for review and comment include the following: draft Resolution No. R3-2022-0002, proposed Basin Plan amendment, TMDL Project Report, CEQA Analysis Report and Environmental Checklist, and scientific peer review comments with staff responses. These documents will be available on the TMDL project website or before October 19, 2021 at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/salinas/turbidity/index.html

Copies of these documents will also be available upon request from the staff contact below.

Interested persons should refer to the above TMDL project website for any updates to the amendment schedule. Any change in the date, time, and/or place of the public hearing will be noticed by the subscription email list. To join the subscription email list, visit the TMDL project website (see link above) and provide your name and email address.

Additional Information About the Hearing: At the conclusion of the hearing, the Central Coast Water Board will consider adoption of the proposed Basin Plan amendment and of the Substitute Environmental Documentation or consider adoption of the amendments at a later public hearing. Time limits may be imposed on oral presentations at the hearing.

If a physical hearing location is added, it will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Tammie Olson at (805) 549-3140 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TTY or TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

Staff Contact: Written comments and questions regarding this notice may be directed to Peter Meertens, 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401, (805) 549-3869 or Peter.Meertens@waterboards.ca.gov.