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GOVERNOR



JARED BLUMENFELD
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

Adding Definitions for Tribal Cultural and Subsistence Fishing Beneficial Uses in a Proposed Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plans for the Central Valley Region

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) is proposing to amend the Sacramento River Basin and San Joaquin River Basin Plan and the Tulare Lake Basin Plan (collectively, Basin Plans). The proposed amendment will add to Chapter 2 of the Basin Plans the definitions of three new beneficial uses from the statewide "Part 2 of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California—Tribal and Subsistence Fishing Beneficial Uses and Mercury Provisions". The three new beneficial uses are Tribal Tradition and Culture (CUL), Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB), and Subsistence Fishing (SUB). CUL reflects uses of water that support the cultural, spiritual, and traditional ways of living by California Native American Tribes. The T-SUB and SUB uses are in recognition of populations that are likely to consume more fish than the average recreational angler in California, thus at a higher human health risk from bioaccumulative contaminants in fish tissue such as mercury.

The proposed amendment will add only the definitions for the three new beneficial uses into the Central Valley Region's Basin Plans. Designations of the new beneficial uses to specific waterbodies, where those uses are existing or attainable, will be considered under a future, separate Basin Plan amendment process. Interested persons may [download the draft Resolution, Staff Report, and Basin Plan Amendments](#) in PDF format from the Central Valley Water Board's website at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/#progress.
Copies of the Proposed Amendments and draft Staff Report also can be obtained by contacting Robert L'Heureux at (916) 464-4736 or at Robert.LHeureux@waterboards.ca.gov.

California Native American Tribes, the public, stakeholders, and representatives of other agencies may submit written comments on the draft Resolution, draft Staff Report, and Proposed Basin Plan Amendments. Written comments must be submitted to the above email or postal address no later than **5:00 pm on 27 October 2021** in order for them to be included in the administrative record.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know who would be interested in this matter.

For Patrick Pulupa, Executive Officer