



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

Central Valley Region



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Notice of California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping Meeting and Public Workshop for the Development of a Proposed Basin Plan Amendment to Establish New Salinity and Boron Water Quality Objectives in the Lower San Joaquin River upstream of Vernalis and a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to Implement Salinity and Boron Water Quality Objectives

Staff of the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Regional Board) will hold a CEQA scoping meeting and public workshop to discuss the development of an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River basins (Basin Plan). The Regional Board is the lead state agency charged with the protection of water quality in the Central Valley. The Regional Board's Basin Plan contains water quality objectives and identifies programs of implementation to meet those water quality objectives. The Regional Board conducts a formal public process to amend its Basin Plan.

This proposed Basin Plan Amendment will include:

- salinity and boron water quality objectives in the lower San Joaquin River upstream of the Airport Way Bridge near Vernalis
- TMDL to implement the new salinity and boron water quality objectives
- program of implementation to implement the TMDL
- surveillance and monitoring program
- compliance schedule

This scoping meeting and workshop will provide participants with: 1) an overview of the current development of the Basin Plan Amendment and staff report; 2) an opportunity to comment on the appropriate scope and content of the Basin Plan Amendment staff report to be prepared pursuant to Section 21080.5 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA); 3) an opportunity to comment on the scope of the proposed amendment to the Basin Plan; 4) an opportunity to hear comments from interested parties on the proposed amendment to the Basin Plan.

Time and Location of Public Workshop:

Date: 11 May 2005
Time: 10 am to 3 pm
Place: Stanislaus County Agricultural Center
Rooms A, B, & C
3800 Cornucopia Way
Modesto, CA 95385

California Environmental Protection Agency

The workshop facilities will be accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodation are requested to contact Eric Berntsen at (916) 464-4658 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

Who Should Attend

Groups or individuals interested in the salt and boron impairment in the San Joaquin River are encouraged to attend. This includes, but is not limited to agricultural producers, water district managers, environmental groups, government officials, or others with interest in or responsibility for agricultural drainage, storm water management, wastewater treatment and disposal, water diversions, or routing of flow in the San Joaquin River.

If unable to attend in person, public comments regarding this Basin Plan amendment process or content can be forwarded to Eric Berntsen prior to the meeting via email at eberntsen@waterboards.ca.gov.

Contact Information

Persons wishing to subscribe to the electronic mailing list related to this amendment can do so through our website by clicking on the "Subscribe" button on the right side of our webpage at:

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/>.

(NOTE: Check the box titled "San Joaquin River Salt and Boron")

All future information and notifications pertaining to this amendment will be provided electronically through this subscription service. For further information, contact Eric Berntsen at eberntsen@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 464-4658. Please return the enclosed Mailing List Notice if you wish to receive notification pertaining to this amendment by paper mail.

Kenneth D. Landau, Assistant Executive Officer

7 March 2005