# Public Hearing for the 2018 Triennial Review of the Basin Plan

# Item 7 Alydda Mangelsdorf, Chief Planning and Stewardship Division North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board September 6, 2018

#### **Presentation Contents**

- Introduction
- Revisions to Adopting Resolution
- Revisions to Planning Program Workplan
- Staff Recommendation
  - Consider adoption of Resolution No. R1-2018-0030 including the Planning Program Workplan for Fiscal Years 2018 through 2021

# Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act 1969

- Develop Water Quality Control Plans
- Establish water quality objectives to protect beneficial uses
- Develop a Program of Implementation to achieve objectives
- Review and update periodically

#### Clean Water Act 1972

- Develop Water Quality Standards
  - Designated uses
  - Water quality criteria
  - Antidegradation policy
- Review water quality standards on a triennial basis, every three years

#### 2018 Triennial Review Timeline

- Released draft Triennial Review materials for public review on May 5, 2018
- Held a public workshop on May 17, 2018
- Public comment period concluded June 22, 2018
- Information Item on July 11, 2018
- Hearing on September 6, 2018

#### Adopting Resolution

- Draft resolution included Policy Statements on the topics of:
  - Water conservation
  - Chemical of Emerging Concern
  - Climate Change
  - Groundwater protection
- Proposed resolution removes the Policy
   Statements to allow adequate time for follow-up with the Board on topics and wording

#### **Public Comments**

- 16 individual comment letters
  - Instream Flow Objectives
  - Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
  - Outstanding Natural Resource Waters
  - Other general and specific comments and recommendations
- Response to Comments Document

#### Instream Flow Objectives

- Commenters are:
  - In favor of establishing instream flow objectives
  - Concerned about the length of time the traditional approach takes
  - Recommend other waters needing flow objectives
  - Recommend regional/narrative flow objective
- Proposed Planning Workplan retains this project as a high priority and commits to begin work on a narrative flow objective

#### Climate Change Adaptation Strategy

- Commenters:
  - Are in support of a Climate Change Adaptation Strategy
  - Have numerous recommendations regarding the content/approach
- Planning Program Workplan revised to clarify a focus on developing a landscape assessment tool
  - Identify places on the landscape predicted to be either resilient or vulnerable to effects of climate change
  - Use all tools, not just regulation, to ensure protections

## Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRW)

- One commenter opposed to project
- Numerous commenters in favor of project
  - Some in support of a focus on the Smith River
  - Some in support of designation of numerous other rivers

### Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRW)

- Proposed Planning Program Workplan retains ONRW project as a high priority
  - Revise Chapter 3 to include ONRW term
  - Use objective assessment methodology to identify ONRW eligible waters
    - High quality waters and waters of ecological and recreational significance.
    - Climate change resilient waters

### Other Revisions to the Planning Program Workplan

- Add a Russian River Sediment TMDL/TMDL Alternative Project
  - Numerous interagency watershed based efforts currently underway in the Russian River
  - Staffing the project is contingent on developing a Russian River Watershed Steward position and funding
- Revise the staff resources associated with the Groundwater Protection Strategy project
  - In recognition of altered work assignments

#### Staff Recommendation

 Adopt Resolution No. R1-2018-0030 to establish the Planning Program Workplan for Fiscal Years 2018 through 2021 and conclude the 2018 Triennial Review of the Basin Plan

#### Additional information

- https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast /water\_issues/programs/basin\_plan/#TriRe view2018

#### Contact

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#### **Questions and Comments**

