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## North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

### **NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR COMMERCIAL LILY BULB OPERATIONS IN THE SMITH RIVER PLAIN**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (North Coast Water Board), as lead agency, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for waste discharge requirements regulating the discharge of waste from commercial lily bulb operations in the Smith River Plain, “General Waste Discharge Requirements for Commercial Lily Bulb Operations in the Smith River Plain” (Lily Bulb Order). The Draft EIR is available for public review and comment.

The public review period for the Draft EIR is from January 30, 2026, until March 16, 2026. During the public review period, the North Coast Water Board will receive written comments on the Draft EIR. Also, during the public review period, North Coast Water Board will hold a public workshop on the Draft EIR and Draft Lily Bulb Order during its February Board meeting (February 18, 2026, with an expected start time of 4pm) at the Elk Valley Rancheria Sam Lopez Community Room, 2332 Howland Hill Road, Crescent City, CA 95531 and via Zoom. The North Coast Water Board is expected to consider certification of a Final EIR and adoption of a proposed Lily Bulb Order at its August Board meeting (August 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup>) at a location to be determined and via Zoom. The [agenda will be posted online](#) (with instructions for joining via Zoom) 10 days prior to both meetings and will indicate the meeting start time and instructions on how to provide oral comments.

([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board\\_info/board\\_meetings/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/))

The proposed project (Lily Bulb Order) is the issuance of a permit regulating waste discharges from commercial lily bulb operations in the Smith River Plain. The purpose of the Lily Bulb Order is to protect and restore beneficial uses and achieve water quality objectives specified in the North Coast Basin Plan. For additional information, visit the North Coast Water Board [Lily Bulbs webpage](#) or contact staff at [NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov)

([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water\\_issues/programs/agricultural\\_lands/li](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/agricultural_lands/li)ly/).

The Draft EIR identified potentially significant environmental impacts to agricultural resources with no feasible mitigation.

Written comments are due March 16, 2026, by 5:00pm and may be submitted via email to [NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov) with “Comments on **Draft EIR** for Lily Bulb Order” in the subject line. Staff request that comments on the Draft Lily Bulb Order be **submitted separately** with “Comments on Draft Lily Bulb Order” in the subject line. While email submittal is preferred, written comments will be accepted at: Agricultural Lands Program, North Coast Water Board, 5550 Skylane Blvd, Ste. A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

Electronic copies of the Draft EIR can be obtained from the [State Clearinghouse website](https://ceqanet.lci.ca.gov/2024100484) (<https://ceqanet.lci.ca.gov/2024100484>) or from the North Coast Water Board [Lily Bulb webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/agricultural_lands/li) ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water\\_issues/programs/agricultural\\_lands/li](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/agricultural_lands/li)).

Hardcopies of the Draft EIR are available at the North Coast Water Board, 5550 Skylane Blvd, Ste. A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

To [subscribe to the email list](#) to receive information about the Draft EIR and Draft Lily Bulb Order, please visit our subscription site and chose “Agricultural Lands Discharge Program” after entering your email address ([https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?qsp=north\\_coast](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?qsp=north_coast)).