

Gualala TMDL Action Plan Development October 2024 Update

You are receiving this email because you have signed up on the North Coast Water Board's email distribution list to receive regular updates on the Gualala River Watershed Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) Action Plan development (project).

Fourth Quarter 2024 Update:

Regional Water Board staff are currently drafting the Gualala River TMDL Action Plan and the Staff Report supporting the Action Plan. The Action Plan will implement the Gualala River Sediment TMDL, which was established by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and has already been properly noticed and posted in the Federal Register. The Action Plan contains targeted implementation actions to control sediment pollution and achieve water quality targets identified in the U.S. EPA established Gualala River Sediment TMDL.

The Staff Report, which serves as the environmental documentation as required under the California Code of Regulations, title 23 § 3777, will include but not be limited to, background information on the project and the U.S. EPA established TMDL, a description of the program of implementation, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) environmental analysis, economic considerations, and an antidegradation analysis.

Initial draft language of the Action Plan and Staff Report is currently going through the internal review process. The Regional Water Board will issue for public review and comment the draft Action Plan and Staff Report by June 2025.

Regional Water Board Staff are in the process of developing an Order, or Orders, that will require the inventory, assessment, and prioritization of the treatment of roads to control sources of sediment. The Regional Water Board will issue a draft Order(s) by April 2025.

For background information on this project, please see our project webpage which includes announcements, past quarterly updates, a project fact sheet, and staff contact information. The project webpage can be found here:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdls/gualala_river/

Regional Board staff will continue to provide quarterly updates throughout the development of the project. Please forward this email and/ or direct interested individuals or groups to subscribe at the following link for timely project information:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?topic_id=r1_tmdl_gualala_river_watershed

If you have any questions, concerns, or would like to know how to get further involved, please feel free to contact Nick Fetherston (Project Manager), at (707) 570-3761, or by email at Nicholas.Fetherston@waterboards.ca.gov or Lisa Bernard (Program Manager), at (707) 576-2677, or by email at Lisa.Bernard@waterboards.ca.gov