From:	David Lewis
To:	Bowyer, Dale@Waterboards
Subject:	Letter to the Regional Water Quality Control Board
Date:	Monday, January 14, 2019 11:05:15 AM

Dear Chair Young and Members of the Board:

California's state agencies should be leaders in complying with federal and state pollution laws that protect San Francisco Bay and other waterways. But the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has failed for years to comply with the Clean Water Act and its stormwater permit requirements to control trash.

More than two years after a formal Notice of Violation, Caltrans still has not produced an acceptable plan to halt its illegal pollution. We appreciate the Board finally proposing a Draft Order requiring Caltrans to take specific trash control measures, but that order must be significantly strengthened to reduce damage to the Bay. We urge you to revise the draft order to require:

- *Accelerated installation of full trash capture actions that intercept trash from an additional 1,000 acres each year to achieve 6,000 acres of treatment by 2024, and treatment of all significant trash generating areas – no less than 8,820 acres – by 2028,*
- *Submission by Caltrans of a detailed trash generation map and explicit work plan within 3 months of permit adoption, and commitment of budgeted funds to implement the order,*
- *Cooperative agreements with municipalities to fund operation and maintenance of trash capture devices in addition to installation.*

These changes are essential to protect the Bay's ecology and recreational value, achieve timely compliance with pollution laws, and hold Caltrans accountable for the same trash control requirements you impose on cities and counties. The Board should vote to approve the Order with these changes.

Thank you for taking these crucial actions to stop pollution of the Bay from Caltrans roads.

Sincerely,

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Petition Signed

Petition to the Water Board, January 2019

Comments

When a friend sent me this link to convey my thoughts about roadside garbage, I knew I had to respond. The amount of litter on California roads and highways has increased exponentially in my lifetime. I am a 59 year old resident who has lived in California for most of my life and I find it appalling and sad to see how trashed our roads have become. Since it is CalTrans job to maintain our roads - keeping them safe AND CLEAN - is part their responsibility and they have neglected to do their job and now our state roads and highways are littered with garbage. This also means that trash washes into San Francisco Bay and other bodies of water when it rains, creating an unhealthy environment.

Caltrans, do your job! Remove more trash from state roads sooner, and keep more pollution out of creeks and San Francisco Bay. You might consider also using your electronic highway signs to remind people not to trash our roads. Ultimately, we have an educational issue on our hands because the time and expense of cleaning our roads will just continue to go up if citizens don't stop littering.

Doug Ballinger
Woodside, CA