

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE OF FILING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT**

**To Consider Amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin to
(1) Add Total Maximum Daily Loads for Fecal Coliform in
in Pajaro River Watershed Waters (including Pajaro River, San Benito River, Llagas
Creek, Tequisquita Slough, San Juan Creek, Carnadero/Uvas Creek, Bird Creek,
Pescadero Creek, Tres Pinos Creek, Furlong (Jones) Creek, Santa Ana Creek, and
Pachecho Creek) ; (2) add a Domestic Animal Waste Discharge Prohibition; and (3)
add a Human Fecal Material Discharge Prohibition**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of a resolution amending the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) of the Central Coast Region. The Basin Plan establishes measures to protect beneficial uses of waters of the state and achieve water quality objectives.

If accepted, the resolution will amend the Basin Plan by (1) adding Total Maximum Daily Loads for Fecal Coliform in Pajaro River Watershed (including Pajaro River, San Benito River, Llagas Creek, Tequisquita Slough, San Juan Creek, Carnadero/Uvas Creek, Bird Creek, Pescadero Creek, Tres Pinos Creek, Furlong (Jones) Creek, Santa Ana Creek, and Pachecho Creek); (2) adding the Domestic Animal Waste Discharge Prohibition, with the Pajaro River Watershed as being subject to it; and (3) adding the Human Fecal Material Discharge Prohibition with the Pajaro River Watershed as being subject to it. Adding the Pajaro River Watershed to the Prohibitions is necessary to address nonpoint source discharges from various nonpoint sources of fecal coliform bacteria (and other fecal indicator bacteria, e.g. *E. coli*) in the watershed, including discharges from domestic animals and humans. Controlling nonpoint source discharges through prohibitions is consistent with State Water Resources Control Board's *Policy for Implementation and Enforcement of the Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Program*, May 20, 2004. The purpose of the TMDLs is to protect the surface waters from water quality degradation and restore protection of beneficial uses of water associated with water contact recreation. The TMDLs protect beneficial uses through the control of discharges causing or contributing to the exceedance of water quality objectives for fecal coliform.

At the conclusion of the hearing the Central Coast Water Board will consider approval of the proposed resolution.

The Central Coast Water Board will take action to amend the Basin Plan in accordance with a regulatory program exempt under section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, section 21000 et seq.) and with other applicable laws and regulations.

Copies of the proposed resolution and amendment to the Basin Plan (in the form of a staff report, a substitute environmental document which includes an Environmental Checklist, and draft amendment for adoption) are available on the Internet at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/public_comment_participation.shtml

The relevant documents, including the staff report are available at the above website: "Total Maximum Daily Loads for Fecal Coliform in Pajaro River Watershed." Hard copies of the relevant documents are also available by request at the office of the Central Coast Water Board; please contact: Sherry Kuykendall at 805-549-3865.

Persons interested in this matter may submit comments in writing to the Central Coast Water Board, 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906, Attention Pete Osmolovsky, or by email at paosmolovsky@waterboards.ca.gov. **The Central Coast Water Board must receive written comments by 5:00 p.m. on January 23, 2009.** Your timely submittal will allow staff and the Central Coast Water Board members to consider your comments before taking final action at the meeting to be held on **March 20, 2009.**

The public hearing is scheduled as follows:

Date: **March 20, 2009**
Time: **8:30 a.m.**
Place: **Salinas City Council Rotunda Chambers**
200 Lincoln Avenue
Salinas, CA 93901

In addition to the written comments submitted in advance of the hearing, interested persons will have the opportunity to make oral comments at the hearing. Time limits may be imposed on oral comments at the hearing.

At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Central Coast Water Board will consider certification of the environmental document and approval of the proposed amendments.

Copies of the existing Basin Plan are located at libraries in major cities throughout the region, at the office of the Central Coast Water Board, and on the Internet at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/publications_forms/publications/basin_plan/index.shtml

The location of the hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact **Cyndee Jones** at **805-549-3372** at least five working days prior to March 20, 2009. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

For additional information on this proposed Basin Plan amendment, please call Pete Osmolovsky at (805) 549-3699 or paosmolovsky@waterboards.ca.gov

The public hearing will be held:

**March 20, 2008
8:30 a.m.
Salinas City Council Rotunda Chambers
200 Lincoln Avenue
Salinas, CA 93901**