

CEQA Scoping Meeting

Proposed Amendments to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin*
(Basin Plan)

Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

November 15, 2018

Presented by Steven G. Saiz,
Environmental Scientist

Agenda

- The Basin Plan & CEQA Scoping
- Water Board Responsibilities
- Amendment Process
- Proposed Basin Plan Amendments
- Public Forum

Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan)

- Adopted 1975.
Reviewed. Revised.
- Objective: manage water to provide “highest water quality reasonably possible.”
- Contains beneficial uses, water quality objectives, monitoring, implementation chapters.
- Amendments subject to CEQA.

Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin



September 2017 Edition

Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region
State Water Resources Control Board
California Environmental Protection Agency

CEQA Scoping Meeting Purpose

Seek early public consultation on...

- Range of project actions
- Alternatives
- Reasonably foreseeable methods of compliance
- Significant impacts to be analyzed
- Cumulative impacts
- Mitigation measures that will reduce impacts
- Eliminate issues found not to be important.

Water Board Responsibilities

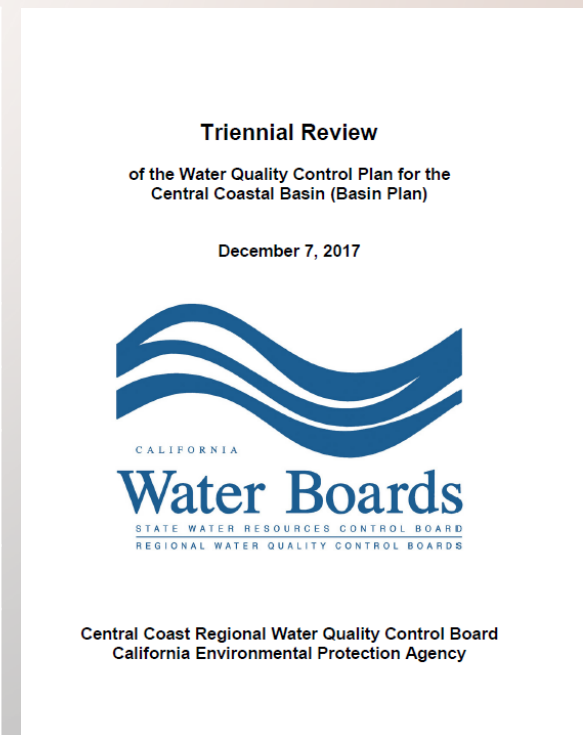
Mission: To preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

- State regulatory agency responsible for protecting and restoring water quality.
- Planning authority under CWC extends to any activity or factor which may affect state waters.

Triennial Review

- Every three years. Last TR in 2017.
- Motivation for current set of amendments
- Top 8 of 21 priority future amendments:

Priority	Issue
1	Watershed and Integrated Water Resource Protection
2	Establish Turbidity WQOs for Aquatic Life Protection
3	Establish Prohibitions on Unpermitted Discharges
4	Add Aquatic Life Uses for Steelhead
5	Add RARE Uses for Selected Waterbodies
6	Establish Additive Toxicity WQOs for Aquatic Life Protection
7	Develop Water Flow Objectives
8	Revise Pesticides Objective



Basin Plan Amendment Process



Project Description

Proposed Amendments to Improve and Clarify Basin Plan Prohibition Language:

1. Establish Prohibitions on Unauthorized Discharges in All Waters
2. Amend the Land Disturbance Prohibition
3. Add Monterey Bay Prohibition Zone Map (editorial)
4. Consolidate Domestic Animal Waste Prohibitions (editorial)

See Scoping Document for Details

Proposed Amendment 1: Establish Prohibitions on Unauthorized Discharges in All Waters

- Add new and general prohibitions applicable to *all* waters of the Central Coast region.
- Will supersede existing, *specific* inland waters prohibitions in Basin Plan.
- Consistent with existing requirements that all discharges of waste comply with WDRs or waivers of WDR.
- Authority / Motivation

Proposed Amendment 2: Amend the Land Disturbance Prohibition

Amend existing Basin Plan *Land Disturbance Prohibitions*:

The discharge or threatened discharge of soil, silt, bark, slash, sawdust, or other organic and earthen materials into any ~~stream~~ waters of the state in the basin in violation of best management practices for timber harvesting, construction, and other soil disturbance activities and in quantities deleterious to fish, wildlife, and other beneficial uses is prohibited.

...

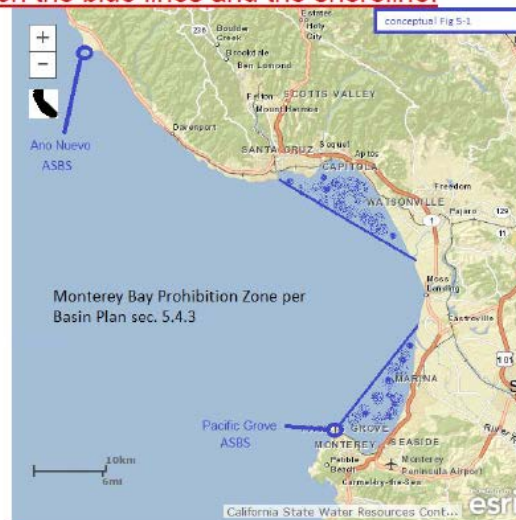
Proposed Amendment 3: Add Monterey Bay Prohibition Zone Map (editorial)

- Amend existing language:

Waters Subject to Tidal Action

The discharge of any radiological, chemical, or biological warfare agent or high level radioactive waste into the ocean is prohibited. Waste discharges to the following Monterey Bay Prohibition Zone areas are prohibited. See Figure 5-1.

Figure 5-1. Monterey Bay Prohibition Zone Areas. The prohibition zone is the area between the blue lines and the shoreline.



Proposed Amendment 4: Consolidate Domestic Animal Waste Prohibitions (Editorial)

- Delete Watsonville Slough Livestock Waste Discharge Prohibition in Chapter 4.
- Add Watsonville Slough Watershed to Chapter 5, Domestic Animal Waste Discharge Prohibitions.

CEQA Comments

- Written comments by Dec. 14, 2018
- No written staff responses to scoping comments.
- Later, *Substitute Environmental Documentation* will contain responses to comments.

CEQA Checklist

- Aesthetics
- Agriculture and Forestry Resources
- Air Quality
- Biological Resources
- Cultural Resources
- Geology / Soils
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions
- Hazards & Hazardous Materials
- Hydrology / Water Quality
- Land Use / Planning
- Mineral Resources
- Noise
- Population / Housing
- Public Services
- Recreation
- Transportation / Traffic
- Utilities / Service Systems

Mandatory Findings of Significance:

- **No Impact**
- **Less than Sig. Impact**
- **Significant Impact**

No Impact expected from this BP amendment.

THANK YOU!

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