

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SANTA ANA REGION
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE OF FILING
Basin Plan Amendments to Incorporate Total Maximum Daily Loads for Copper and Non-
TMDL Action Plans for other Metals in Newport Bay**

Notice is hereby given that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (Regional Board) will consider adoption of amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin (Basin Plan) to incorporate Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for copper and Non-TMDL Action Plans for zinc, mercury, arsenic and chromium in Newport Bay, Orange County, California. If approved by the Regional Board, State Water Resources Control Board and U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), the copper TMDLs and Non-TMDL Action Plans will supplant TMDLs promulgated in 2002 by USEPA for metals in Newport Bay and San Diego Creek, the major tributary to the Bay. Implementation strategies to address copper, zinc, mercury, arsenic and chromium are included in the amendments.

Action on the proposed amendments will be taken in accordance with a regulatory program exemption 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 in accordance with other applicable laws and regulations.

A public hearing will be held to consider the adoption of the proposed amendments. Changes to the amendments consistent with their general purpose may be considered by the Regional Board at the hearing. The public hearing will be held at the regularly scheduled Regional Board Meeting as follows:

DATE: **October 28, 2016**
TIME: **9:00 a.m.**
LOCATION: **Irvine Ranch Water District**
 15600 Sand Canyon Avenue
 Irvine, CA

The proposed Basin Plan amendments, staff report and Environmental Checklist that evaluates the potential for significant adverse environmental impacts as a result of the amendments will be available on August 31, 2016. The proposed amendments, staff report, Environmental Checklist and other relevant documentation can be viewed at the Regional Board website at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/water_issues/programs/tmdl/tmdl_metals.shtml or by request to Regional Board staff at (951) 782-4130. These documents may also be reviewed at the Regional Board office located at 3737 Main Street, Suite 500, Riverside, California, by appointment scheduled between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. Appointments may be scheduled by calling the office at (951) 782-4130.

Public participation is an important part of this process. Written comments on the proposed amendments must be submitted before or at **9:00 a.m. on October 17, 2016**. Responses to comments received by this date will be prepared. The Regional Board will accept oral testimony at the hearing. For the sake of the accuracy of the record, please provide written copies of oral comments. The Regional Board may impose time limits on oral presentations at the hearing. Persons with similar views are encouraged to make joint presentations. Speakers may be required to summarize testimony.

Comments/questions should be submitted to Linda Candelaria, PhD at RB8-CuTMDL@Waterboards.ca.gov or (951) 782-4991, or to the Regional Board office address listed above.

Any person who is disabled and requires special accommodation to participate in the Regional Board hearing should contact Felipa Carrillo at (951) 782-3285 no later than October 21, 2016. We request that those in attendance at the meetings refrain from the use of perfumes, colognes or other fragrances to accommodate those with allergy sensitivities.

Date: August 25, 2016

Kurt V. Berchtold
Executive Officer