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**Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board**

**December 13, 2018**

**NOTICE OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT (CEQA)  
PUBLIC SCOPING MEETING**

**Regarding**

**Amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin to  
Revise the Total Maximum Daily Loads for Nutrients in Lake Elsinore, Canyon  
Lake, and the San Jacinto Watershed, Riverside County California**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that staff of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (Regional Board) will hold a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping Meeting regarding proposed amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Santa Ana River Basin (Basin Plan) that would revise the Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for nutrients in Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake (Basin Plan Amendment). The nutrient TMDLs were originally adopted by the Regional Board in 2004.

Members of the public are invited to participate in the meeting. The scoping meeting will provide participants the opportunity to comment on the appropriate scope and content of the Substitute Environmental Document (SED) that will be prepared for the proposed Basin Plan Amendment.

**The CEQA Scoping Meeting will be held on the following date, time, and location:**

**Date: January 16, 2019**

**Time: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.**

**Location: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District  
Operations Ready Room  
31315 Chaney Street  
Lake Elsinore, CA 92530**

**CEQA SCOPING MEETING**

The Regional Board is functioning as the Lead Agency pursuant to CEQA and has the principal responsibility for engaging the public and responsible agencies while preparing environmental documents. The purpose of the scoping meeting is to receive comments from interested parties regarding the scope and content of environmental issues that should be considered in the SED to be prepared for the proposed Basin Plan Amendment. These comments will assist the Regional Board staff in identifying the range of actions, alternatives, mitigation measures, and significant environmental effects, if any, to be analyzed prior to the decision-making process.

During the CEQA Scoping Meeting, Regional Board staff, will provide an overview of the CEQA process and the proposed Basin Plan Amendment. Regional Board staff will then solicit questions and written and verbal comments from the public regarding potential alternatives for the proposed Basin Plan Amendment, potential significant environmental impacts, and mitigation measures for the proposed amendment that should be considered as part of the decision-making process. No formal action will be taken at the CEQA Scoping Meeting.

## **TMDLS FOR NUTRIENTS IN LAKE ELSNIORE AND CANYON LAKE**

*History:* In 2004 the Regional Board) adopted Resolution No. R8-2004-0037, establishing TMDLs for nutrients in Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake, which included Numeric Targets for Nutrients and other criteria Concentrations in the lakes, Waste Load and Load Allocations for Point and Non-Point Sources of nutrients, respectively, TMDLs, and an Implementation and Monitoring Plan. The 2004 TMDLs were adopted because of ongoing nutrient related water quality problems in both lakes, including excessive algae, low dissolved oxygen, and fish die offs (mainly in Lake Elsinore).

Since 2004 watershed stakeholders have been working cooperatively to implement projects to comply with the 2004 TMDLs, as well as conducting extensive monitoring and modeling of the watershed and lakes to reevaluate the 2004 TMDL. Projects completed to date have significantly improved water quality in both lakes. However, water quality problems in the lakes persist.

*Proposal:* Regional Board staff, in conjunction with the watershed stakeholders, are completing a draft Technical Report to support the revisions to the TMDLs. The draft Technical Report reevaluates the 2004 TMDLs and proposes revisions to the 2004 TMDLs. The draft TMDL Technical Report includes the elements required for revising the TMDLs, including a new Problem Statement, Numeric Targets, Source Analysis, Linkage Analysis, Waste Load Allocations for Point Sources and Load Allocations for Non-Point Sources, Nutrient Reduction Requirements, Margin of Safety, Implementation Plan, Monitoring Plan, Economic Analysis, and an environmental analysis that addresses the elements required in a Substitute Environmental Document.

*Website:* Information regarding the TMDLs for Nutrients in Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, and the San Jacinto Watershed, including the draft Technical Report, will be available on the Regional Board's website at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/water\\_issues/programs/tmdl/elsinore\\_tmdl.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana/water_issues/programs/tmdl/elsinore_tmdl.html)

Email List: Receive email notifications regarding proposed revision to the TMDLs for Nutrients in Lake Elsinore, Canyon Lake, and the San Jacinto River Watershed by subscribing to the "TMDL Riverside and San Bernardino Counties" electronic mailing list at:

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/reg8\\_subscribe.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg8_subscribe.html)

**WRITTEN COMMENTS**

Persons wishing to submit written comments regarding CEQA scoping elements for this TMDL project may submit them via email to Ken Theisen at [ken.theisen@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:ken.theisen@waterboards.ca.gov) or by postal mail addressed to Ken Theisen at 3737 Main Street, Suite 500, Riverside, CA 92501-3348. Please submit written comments on or before February 16, 2019. Regional Board staff will not prepare written responses to each individual comment received, but staff will incorporate written responses to all significant environmental points in the final reports that will be provided to the Regional Board.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Any person who is disabled and requires special accommodation to participate in the meeting should contact Ken Theisen at (951) 320-2028 no later than 10 days before the scheduled meeting.

For questions regarding the CEQA scoping meeting or the proposed project, please contact Ken Theisen at (951) 320-2028 or [ken.theisen@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:ken.theisen@waterboards.ca.gov).