



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

State Water Resources Control Board



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

July, 2010

RE: PROPOSED COASTAL MARINA PERMIT

Currently, the State Water Board is temporarily suspending its work and the release of a draft Coastal Marinas Permit in order to further its work with stakeholders on marina and coastal waters issues. The State Water Board with the cooperation of stakeholders and other agencies is gathering additional facts and information on these issue, and is exploring both regulatory and non-regulatory solutions along with stakeholders on how to preserve the beneficial uses of our coastal waters. Ongoing developments will continue to be communicated to key stakeholders and the public as they become available. A few of the ongoing activities at this time are discussed below.

In terms of information gathering, the State Water Board is anticipating the findings of a \$727,000 federal grant funded study conducted by the Unified Port of San Diego to test safe alternatives to copper-based antifouling paints. The State Water Board expects findings from this study to be released in December 2010. The State Water Board is also working closely with the Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) in its reevaluation of copper-based antifouling paints. Further information on this subject is available at DPR's website:

http://www.cdpr.ca.gov/docs/registration/reevaluation/chemicals/antifoulant_paints.htm

As a non-regulatory course of action, the State Water Board is evaluating recognition of the California Clean Marinas Program (CMP). This program consists of a voluntary, self-implemented set of best management practices (BMPs) aimed at maintaining water quality. CMP is in the process of strengthening its program in response to a review conducted by the Marina and Recreational Boating Interagency Coordinating Committee.

The State Water Board plans on revisiting the decision of what the most appropriate course of actions are in safeguarding water quality at coastal marinas by March of 2011. Any ultimate decision will be based in large part upon additional information provided by ongoing studies and informational efforts, as well as the feasibility of alternative, voluntary compliance efforts, such as CMP.

Sincerely,

Darrin Polhemus
Manager Division of Water Quality

California Environmental Protection Agency