Appendix B - CEQA Checklist

THE PROJECT

1. PROJECT TITLE:

Implementation of State Water Recourses Control Board (State Water Board) Resolutions 2010-0057 and 2011-0013 State Water Quality Protection Areas and State Marine Protected Areas.

2. LEAD AGENCY NAME AND ADDRESS:

California Environmental Protection Agency
State Water Recourses Control Board – Division of Water Quality
1001 | Street Sacramento California 95814

3. CONTACT PERSON AND PHONE NUMBER:

Ms. Johanna Weston 916.327.8117/jweston@waterboards.ca.gov

4. PROJECT LOCATION:

Ocean waters of California

5. DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT:

The California Ocean Plan does not currently contain specific requirements for establishing State Water Quality Protection Areas that are not designated as Areas of Special Biological Significance nor does the California Ocean Plan contain requirements that address Marine Protected Areas. This proposed project attempts to resolve this issue through the amendment of the California Ocean Plan. The proposed amendments would:

- Establish a second category of State Water Quality Protection Areas that would be less restrictive
 than the provisions associated with existing State Water Quality Protection Areas— Areas of
 Special Biological Significance while providing a higher level of protection than the California
 Ocean Plan objectives and provision that apply to all ocean waters of the state. This new category
 would be identified as State Water Quality Protection Areas—General Protection
- Establish provisions for siting and designating State Water Quality Protection Areas General Protection
- Establish provisions and prohibitions that protect water quality in State Water Quality Protection Areas General Protection from certain types of existing and future point and nonpoint discharges while allowing some low threat discharges to continue without additional conditions

The proposed project would not affect existing California Ocean Plan prohibitions protecting Areas of Special Biological Significance, a unique class of State Water Quality Protection Areas. Nor would the proposed project establish new State Water Quality Protection Areas.

EVALUATION OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS IN THE CHECKLIST

- 1. The State Water Board must complete an environmental checklist prior to the adoption of plans or policies for the Basin/208 Planning program as certified by the Secretary for Natural Resources. The checklist becomes a part of the Substitute Environmental Documentation (SED).
- For each environmental category in the checklist, the State Water Board must determine whether the project will cause any adverse impact. If there are potential impacts that are not included in the sample checklist, those impacts should be added to the checklist.

- 3. If the State Water Board determines that a particular adverse impact may occur as a result of the project, then the checklist boxes must indicate whether the impact is "Potentially Significant," "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated," or "Less than Significant."
 - a. "Potentially Significant Impact" applies if there is substantial evidence that an impact may be significant. If there are one or more "Potentially Significant Impact" entries on the checklist, the SED must include an examination of feasible alternatives and mitigation measures for each such impact, similar to the requirements for preparing an environmental impact report.
 - b. "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated" applies if the State Water Board or another agency incorporates mitigation measures into the SED that will reduce an impact that is "Potentially Significant" to a "Less than Significant Impact." If the State Water Board does not require the specific mitigation measures itself, then the State Water Board must be certain that the other agency will in fact incorporate those measures.
 - c. "Less than Significant" applies if the impact will not be significant, and mitigation is therefore not required.
 - d. If there will be no impact, check the box under "No Impact."
- 4. The State Water Board must provide a brief explanation for each "Potentially Significant," "Less than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated," "Less than Significant," or "No Impact" determination in the checklist. The explanation may be included in the written report described in section 3777(a)(1) or in the checklist itself. The explanation of each issue should identify: (a) the significance criteria or threshold, if any, used to evaluate each question; and (b) the specific mitigation measure(s) identified, if any, to reduce the impact to less than significant. The State Water Board may determine the significance of the impact by considering factual evidence, agency standards, or thresholds. If the "No Impact" box is checked, the board should briefly provide the basis for that answer. If there are types of impacts that are not listed in the checklist, those impacts should be added to the checklist.
- 5. The State Water Board must include mandatory findings of significance if required by CEQA Guidelines section 15065.
- 6. The State Water Board should provide references used to identify potential impacts, including a list of information sources and individuals contacted.

CEQA Checklist

Implementation of State Water Board Resolutions 2010-0057 and 2011-0013 State Water Quality Protection Areas and State Marine Protected Areas

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
I. AESTHETICS				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect on a scenic vist	a?			\checkmark
b) Substantially damage scenic resources, including but not limited to, trees, rock outcroppings, and historic buildings within a state scenic highway?				\checkmark
c) Substantially degrade the existing visual characte or quality of the site and its surroundings?	er 🔲			$\overline{\checkmark}$
d) Create a new source of substantial light or glare which would adversely affect day or nighttime view in the area?	rs 🔲			\checkmark
II. AGRICULTURE AND FOREST RESO In determining whether impacts to agricultural resources are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to the California Agricultural Lar Evaluation and Site Assessment Model (1997) prepart by the California Dept. of Conservation as an option model to use in assessing impacts on agriculture an farmland. In determining whether impacts to forest resources, including timberland, are significant environmental effects, lead agencies may refer to information compiled by the California Department Forestry and Fire Protection regarding the state's inventory of forest land, including the Forest and Ra Assessment Project and the Forest Legacy Assessment Project; and forest carbon measurement methodolog provided in Forest Protocols adopted by the Califor Air Resources Boards. Would the project:	d and ared al d c of ange ent ogy	netics.		
a) Convert Prime Farmland, Unique Farmland, or Farmland of Statewide Importance (Farmland), as shown on the maps prepared pursuant to the Farmland Mapping and Monitoring Program of the California Resources Agency, to non-agricultural use	-			
b) Conflict with existing zoning for agricultural use, a Williamson Act contract?	or			V
c) Conflict with existing zoning for, or cause rezonin of, forest land (as defined in Public Resources Code		П	П	\overline{V}

section 12220(g)), timberland (as defined by Public

		Less Than		
		Significant		
leave	Potentially	with	Less Than	
Issue	Significant	Mitigation	Significant	No
	Impact	Incorporated	Impact	Impact
Resources Code section 4526), or timberland zoned Timberland Production (as defined by Government				
Code section 51104(g))?				
d) Result in the loss of forest land or conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$
e) Involve other changes in the existing environmen				
which, due to their location or nature, could result	in \square			abla
conversion of Farmland, to non-agricultural use or	_	_	_	لنا
conversion of forest land to non-forest use?				
The proposed project will not have a substantial im	pact on agricult	ture.		
III. AIR QUALITY				
Where available, the significance criteria establishe	d			
by the applicable air quality management or air				
pollution control district may be relied upon to make	(e			
the following determinations. Would the project:				
a) Conflict with or obstruct implementation of the				[7]
applicable air quality plan?	ш	Ш	Ш	V
b) Violate any air quality standard or contribute				
substantially to an existing or projected air quality				lacksquare
violation?				
c) Result in a cumulatively considerable net increase	e			
of any criteria pollutant for which the project region	า			
is non-attainment under an applicable federal or				V
state ambient air quality standard (including releasi	_	ш	ш	
emissions which exceed quantitative thresholds for				
ozone precursors)?				
d) Expose sensitive receptors to substantial pollutar	nt			\overline{A}
concentrations?				
e) Create objectionable odors affecting a substantia	"I 🔲			\overline{V}
number of people?				
The proposed project will not have a substantial im	pact on air quai	lity.		
IV. BIOLOGICAL RESOURCES				
Would the project:				
a) Have a substantial adverse effect, either directly	or			
through habitat modifications, on any species				
identified as a candidate, sensitive, or special status				\overline{A}
species in local or regional plans, policies, or				لت
regulations, or by the California Department of Fish				
and Game or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service?				
b) Have a substantial adverse effect on any riparian				[_7]
habitat or other sensitive natural community	ш		Ц	Y
identified in local or regional plans, policies,				

		Less Than Significant		
Issue	Potentially Significant	with Mitigation	Less Than Significant	No
	Impact	Incorporated	Impact	Impact
regulations or by the California Department of Fish	-	-	-	
and Game or US Fish and Wildlife Service?				
c) Have a substantial adverse effect on federally				
protected wetlands as defined by Section 404 of the				.7
Clean Water Act (including, but not limited to, mars vernal pool, coastal, etc.) through direct removal,	11 <i>,</i>		ш	V
filling, hydrological interruption, or other means?				
d) Interfere substantially with the movement of any				
native resident or migratory fish or wildlife species of				
with established native resident or migratory wildlif	e 📙			\checkmark
corridors, or impede the use of native wildlife nurse	ry			
sites?				
e) Conflict with any local policies or ordinances				.7
protecting biological resources, such as a tree preservation policy or ordinance?	ш	ш	ш	V
f) Conflict with the provisions of an adopted Habitat				
Conservation Plan, Natural Community Conservation				
Plan, or other approved local, regional, or state	ш		Ш	V
habitat conservation plan?				
The proposed project will not have a substantial imp	act on biologic	cal resources.		
V. CULTURAL RESOURCES				
Would the project:				
Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the				
Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in §				✓
Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?				
Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5? b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the	to \square			✓
Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5?	to \square			✓✓
Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5? b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant	to \square			✓✓
Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5? b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant § 15064.5?	to \square			
Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5? b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant § 15064.5? c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature?	to \Box			✓✓
Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5? b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant § 15064.5? c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? d) Disturb any human remains, including those	to \Box			
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Would the project: a) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of a historical resource as defined in § 15064.5? b) Cause a substantial adverse change in the significance of an archaeological resource pursuant § 15064.5? c) Directly or indirectly destroy a unique paleontological resource or site or unique geologic feature? d) Disturb any human remains, including those interred outside of formal cemeteries? The proposed project will not have a substantial impact on cultural resources.				

		Less Than Significant		
	Potentially	with	Less Than	
Issue	Significant	Mitigation	Significant	No
	Impact	Incorporated	Impact	Impact
i) Rupture of a known earthquake fault, as delineat	ed		-	<u> </u>
on the most recent Alquist-Priolo Earthquake Fault				
Zoning Map issued by the State Geologist for the au or based on other substantial evidence of a known	rea			$\overline{\checkmark}$
fault? Refer to Division of Mines and Geology Speci	al			
Publication 42.				
		П	П	V
ii) Strong seismic ground shaking?		_		
iii) Seismic-related ground failure, including liquefaction?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
ilqueraction:				
iv) Landslides?			Ш	V
b) Result in substantial soil erosion or the loss of				V
topsoil?				
c) Be located on a geologic unit or soil that is unstable, or that would become unstable as a resul	l +			
of the project, and potentially result in on- or off-si				\overline{A}
landslide, lateral spreading, subsidence, liquefactio				ب
or collapse?				
d) Be located on expansive soil, as defined in Table				
18-1-B of the Uniform Building Code (1994), creating	ng 🔲	Ш	Ш	\checkmark
substantial risks to life or property?e) Have soils incapable of adequately supporting th	ie			
use of septic tanks or alternative waste water				
disposal systems where sewers are not available fo	r 🗀	Ш	ш	V
the disposal of waste water?				
The proposed project will not have a substantial im	pact on geology	or soil stability.		
VII. GREENHOUSE GAS EMISSIONS				
Would the project:				
a) Generate Greenhouse gas emissions, either				[7]
directly or indirectly, that may have a significant impact on the environment?	ш	Ц	ш	V
b) Conflict with an applicable plan, policy or				
regulation adopted for the purpose of reducing the	· 🔲			$\overline{\checkmark}$
emissions of greenhouse gases?				
The proposed project will not generate greenhouse	e gas emissions	or conflict with exis	sting policies.	
VIII. HAZARDS AND HAZARDOUS MA	ATERIALS			
Would the project:				
a) Create a significant hazard to the public or the				
environment through the routine transport, use, or				lacksquare
disposal of hazardous materials?				

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Create a significant hazard to the public or the environment through reasonably foreseeable upset and accident conditions involving the release of hazardous materials into the environment?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
c) Emit hazardous emissions or handle hazardous o acutely hazardous materials, substances, or waste within one-quarter mile of an existing or proposed school?	r 🔲			$\overline{\checkmark}$
d) Be located on a site which is included on a list of hazardous materials sites compiled pursuant to Government Code Section 65962.5 and, as a result, would it create a significant hazard to the public or the environment?				
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project result in a safety hazard people residing or working in the project area?	for			
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstri would the project result in a safety hazard for peop residing or working in the project area?				V
g) Impair implementation of or physically interfere with an adopted emergency response plan or emergency evacuation plan?				V
h) Expose people or structures to a significant risk or loss, injury or death involving wildland fires, including where wildlands are adjacent to urbanized areas or where residences are intermixed with wildlands?	ng 🔲			$\overline{\checkmark}$
The proposed project will not generate hazardous r death. IX. HYDROLOGY AND WATER QUALI		ease the risk of ex	posure or loss in	jury or
Would the project: a) Violate any water quality standards or waste				
discharge requirements?				\checkmark
b) Substantially deplete groundwater supplies or interfere substantially with groundwater recharge such that there would be a net deficit in aquifer volume or a lowering of the local groundwater table level (e.g., the production rate of pre-existing nearly wells would drop to a level which would not support existing land uses or planned uses for which permit have been granted)?	oy 🔲 rt			
c) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of				V

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
the course of a stream or river, in a manner which would result in substantial erosion or siltation on- o off-site?	r			
d) Substantially alter the existing drainage pattern of the site or area, including through the alteration of the course of a stream or river, or substantially increase the rate or amount of surface runoff in a manner which would result in flooding on- or off-site?	of 🔲			\checkmark
e) Create or contribute runoff water which would exceed the capacity of existing or planned stormwater drainage systems or provide substantia additional sources of polluted runoff?	, 🗆			\checkmark
f) Otherwise substantially degrade water quality?				\checkmark
g) Place housing within a 100-year flood hazard area as mapped on a federal Flood Hazard Boundary or Flood Insurance Rate Map or other flood hazard delineation map?	а П			$\overline{\checkmark}$
h) Place within a 100-year flood hazard area structures which would impede or redirect flood flows?				\checkmark
i) Expose people or structures to a significant risk of loss, injury or death involving flooding, including flooding as a result of the failure of a levee or dam?	Щ			\checkmark
j) Inundation by seiche, tsunami, or mudflow?				\checkmark
The proposed project will not significantly affect gro	ound or surface	waters.		
X. LAND USE AND PLANNING				
Would the project: a) Physically divide an established community?				V
b) Conflict with any applicable land use plan, policy, or regulation of an agency with jurisdiction over the project (including, but not limited to the general plaspecific plan, local coastal program, or zoning ordinance) adopted for the purpose of avoiding or mitigating an environmental effect?	2			V
c) Conflict with any applicable habitat conservation plan or natural community conservation plan? The proposed project will not have a substantial important plans.				$\overline{\checkmark}$

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XI. MINERAL RESOURCES				
Would the project:				
a) Result in the loss of availability of a known mineraresource that would be of value to the region and the residents of the state?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
b) Result in the loss of availability of a locally- important mineral resource recovery site delineated on a local general plan, specific plan or other land us plan?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
The proposed project will not impact mineral resour	ces.			
XII. NOISE Would the project result in:				
a) Exposure of persons to or generation of noise levels in excess of standards established in the local general plan or noise ordinance, or applicable standards of other agencies?				\checkmark
b) Exposure of persons to or generation of excessive groundborne vibration or groundborne noise levels?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
c) A substantial permanent increase in ambient nois levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?	е			$\overline{\checkmark}$
d) A substantial temporary or periodic increase in ambient noise levels in the project vicinity above levels existing without the project?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
e) For a project located within an airport land use plan or, where such a plan has not been adopted, within two miles of a public airport or public use airport, would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels				
f) For a project within the vicinity of a private airstrium would the project expose people residing or working in the project area to excessive noise levels?	g 🔲			V
The proposed project will not result in increased no	ise pollution.			
XIII. POPULATION AND HOUSING				
Would the project:				
a) Induce substantial population growth in an area, either directly (for example, by proposing new home and businesses) or indirectly (for example, through extension of roads or other infrastructure)?	es 🔲			V

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
b) Displace substantial numbers of existing housing, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
c) Displace substantial numbers of people, necessitating the construction of replacement housing elsewhere?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
The proposed project will not impact population an XIV. PUBLIC SERVICES	d housing.			
a) Would the project result in substantial adverse physical impacts associated with the provision of ne or physically altered governmental facilities, need for new or physically altered governmental facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental impacts, in order to maintain acceptable service ratios, response times or other performance objectives for any of the public service	or e 🔲			
i) Fire protection?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
ii) Police protection?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
iii) Schools?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
iv) Parks?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
v) Fire protection?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
vi) Other public facilities?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
The proposed project will not have a substantial important and a substantial important	oact on public h	nousing.		
a) Would the project increase the use of existing neighborhood and regional parks or other recreational facilities such that substantial physical deterioration of the facility would occur or be accelerated?				
b) Does the project include recreational facilities or require the construction or expansion of recreations facilities which might have an adverse physical effection the environment?				$\overline{\checkmark}$

The proposed project will not have a substantial impact on recreation or recreational opportunities.

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
XVI. TRANSPORTATION/TRAFFIC				
Would the project:				
a) Conflict with an applicable plan, ordinance or policy establishing measures of effectiveness for the performance of the circulation system, taking into account all modes of transportation including mass transit and non-motorized travel and relevant components of the circulation system, including, but not limited to intersections, streets, highways and freeways, pedestrian and bicycle paths, and mass transit?				
b) Conflict with an applicable congestion management program, including, but not limited to level of service standards and travel demand measures, or other standards established by the county congestion management agency for designated roads or highways?				
 c) Result in a change in air traffic patterns, including either an increase in traffic levels or a change in location that result in substantial safety risks? 				$\overline{\checkmark}$
d) Substantially increase hazards due to a design feature (e.g., sharp curves or dangerous intersections) or incompatible uses (e.g., farm equipment)?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
e) Result in inadequate emergency access?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
f) Conflict with adopted policies, plans, or programs regarding public transit, bicycle, or pedestrian facilities, or otherwise decrease the performance or safety of such facilities?				V
The proposed project will not have a substantial imp	oact on traffic o	or roadways.		
XVII. UTILITIES AND SERVICE SYSTEM	1S			
Would the project:				
 a) Exceed wastewater treatment requirements of the applicable Regional Water Quality Control Board? 				$\overline{\mathbf{V}}$
b) Require or result in the construction of new water or wastewater treatment facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause significant environmental effects?	er 🔲			$\overline{\checkmark}$
c) Require or result in the construction of new storn water drainage facilities or expansion of existing facilities, the construction of which could cause				$\overline{\checkmark}$

Issue	Potentially Significant Impact	Less Than Significant with Mitigation Incorporated	Less Than Significant Impact	No Impact
significant environmental effects?				
d) Have sufficient water supplies available to serve the project from existing entitlements and resource or are new or expanded entitlements needed?	es,			$\overline{\checkmark}$
e) Result in a determination by the wastewater treatment provider which serves or may serve the project that it has adequate capacity to serve the project's projected demand in addition to the provider's existing commitments?				V
f) Be served by a landfill with sufficient permitted capacity to accommodate the project's solid waste disposal needs?				$\overline{\checkmark}$
g) Comply with federal, state, and local statutes and regulations related to solid waste?	d \square			$\overline{\checkmark}$
The proposed project will not have a substantial imbuild or construct additional utilities and services. XVIII. MANDATORY FINDINGS OF SIGNATURE AND ACCOUNTS OF SIGNATURE AND			ns or result in th	e need to
a) Does the project have the potential to degrade to quality of the environment, substantially reduce the habitat of a fish or wildlife species, cause a fish or wildlife population to drop below self-sustaining levels, threaten to eliminate a plant or animal community, reduce the number or restrict the range of a rare or endangered plant or animal or eliminate important examples of the major periods of Californ history or prehistory?	e 🔲 ge e			V
b) Does the project have impacts that are individual limited, but cumulatively considerable? ("Cumulatively considerable" means that the incremental effects of a project are considerable when viewed in connection with the effects of past projects, the effects of other current projects, and the effects of probable future projects)?				
c) Does the project have environmental effects whi will cause substantial adverse effects on human beings, either directly or indirectly?	ch			V
This analysis indicates that the proposed amendme are cumulative impacts expected.	ents will have no	significant impact	on the environr	ment nor

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