

March 14, 2001



Winston H. Hickox
Secretary for
Environmental
Protection

State Water Resources Control Board

Division of Water Quality

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Gray Davis
Governor

To: Interested Parties

PUBLIC SOLICITATION OF WATER QUALITY INFORMATION

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) is seeking data and information on the quality of surface waters of the State. The SWRCB has asked the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (RWQCBs) to solicit this information from the public on its behalf. The information gathered will be used in various assessments of the State's waters including the development of a submission to the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) required by federal Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303 (d). This submission will be developed by the SWRCB and will provide USEPA with a revised list of waters considered by the State to be impaired (not attaining water quality standards) after certain required technology based water quality controls are in place. It is anticipated that this submission will be provided to USEPA by April 2002, as required by federal regulations. The submission will be based on information and data available to the SWRCB and the RWQCBs. The information gathered in this solicitation will also contribute to the preparation of the 2002 federal CWA Section 305(b) Report on Water Quality.

Anyone, including but not limited to, private citizens, public agencies, State and federal governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and businesses possessing information regarding the quality of the Region's waters may provide information to the appropriate RWQCB.

We are seeking to obtain all readily available data and assessment information **generated since July 1997. All data and information you wish to provide must be received by the RWQCBs by 5:00 p.m. on May 15, 2001 for developing the April 2002 submission to USEPA.** For purposes of this solicitation, information is any documentation describing the current or anticipated water quality condition of a surface water body. We consider data to be a subset of information that consists of reports of measurements of specific environmental characteristics. The data and information may pertain to physical, chemical, and/or biological conditions of the Region's waters or watersheds. **All submittals must be provided to the RWQCB responsible for the waters in question. THE SWRCB WILL NOT ACCEPT INFORMATION DIRECTLY.** For further information on the specific procedures for submitting data and

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information, please see the RWQCB solicitation notice posted on the (RWQCB) website. You can link to the RWQCB websites at the SWRCB website:

<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb/index.html>

You may also contact the following RWQCB staff:

North Coast Region: Matt St. John, (707) 570-3762, email: StjoM@rb1.swrcb.ca.gov.
San Francisco Bay Region: Steve Moore, (510) 622-2439, email: 303dlist@rb2.swrcb.ca.gov.
Central Coast Region: Angela Carpenter, (805) 542-4624, email: acarpenter@rb3.swrcb.ca.gov.
Los Angeles Region: Renee DeShazo, (213) 576-6783, email: 303d@rb4.swrcb.ca.gov.
Central Valley Region: Gene Davis, (916) 255-3387, email: 303dlist@rb5.swrcb.ca.gov.
Lahontan Region: Judith Unsicker, (530) 542-5462, email: Unsj@rb6s.swrcb.ca.gov.
Colorado River Basin Region: Teresa Newkirk, (760) 776-8931,
email: newkt@rb7.swrcb.ca.gov.
Santa Ana Region: Pavlova Vitale, (909) 782-4920, email: pvtale@rb8.swrcb.ca.gov.
San Diego Region: Keri Cole, (858) 467-2798, email: colek@rb9.swrcb.ca.gov.

Information provided should conform to the following considerations:

- The name of the entity or person providing the information.
- Mailing address, telephone numbers, and email addresses for a contact person who can answer questions about the information provided.
- Two hard copies and an electronic copy of all information provided. For reports, Microsoft Word is the preferred software. Please specify the software used to format the information and provide definitions for any codes or abbreviations used.
- Bibliographic citations for all information provided.
- If computer model outputs are included in the information, please provide bibliographic citations and specify any calibration and quality assurance information available for the model(s) used.

Any data provided should conform to the following considerations:

- Data in electronic form, in a spreadsheet, database or ASCII format. Please specify the format and define any codes or abbreviations used in your database.
- Metadata for the field data, i.e., when measurements were taken, locations, number of samples, detection limits, etc.
- Metadata for GIS data must be included. The preferred projection is Teale Albers, NAD27. If you need an explanation of Teale Albers projection, please see Teale Data Center website

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address: <http://www.gislab.teale.ca.gov/wwwgis/albers.html>. Otherwise the metadata must detail all the parameters of the projection, including datum (e.g., NAD27,WGS84).

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- A description of and reference for the quality assurance procedures.
- **Two** hard copies of the data.
- In addition, for data from citizen volunteer water quality monitoring efforts:
 - The name of the group;
 - Indication of any training in water quality assessment completed by members of the group;

Anyone regularly providing data to an RWQCB, such as in a Discharge Monitoring Report, should not resubmit that data in response to this request. However, if you had subsequently conducted any assessment or evaluation of that data, you should submit the assessment to the RWQCB for its review and consideration.

The RWQCBs have been requested to provide recommendations to the SWRCB in Fall 2001 on the condition of regional waters. The SWRCB will consider all RWQCBs recommendations regarding the conditions of the Region's waters when formulating the CWA Section 303(d) submission. The State's submission revising the list of impaired waters will be considered by the SWRCB in a public process to be conducted during December 2001 through March 2002. Opportunities for review of the proposed submission and public comment on the submission will be announced at a later date.

If you have any questions about this SWRCB solicitation notice, you may leave a message on voice mail number (916) 322-4165, and SWRCB staff will return your call as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Stan Martinson, Chief
Division of Water Quality

NRICHARD/lmartinez/klh (3/14/01)
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