

State Water Resources Control Board

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STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD MOVES CLOSER TO APPROVING \$10 MILLION FOR OCEAN PROTECTION

SACRAMENTO – The State Water Resources Control Board Thursday moved one step closer to approving \$10 million for five projects that will restore and protect the water quality and environment of coastal waters, estuaries, bays, near shore waters, and groundwater.

At least \$10 million of the \$43.1 million in voter-approved Proposition 50 funding is reserved for ocean protection projects that meet the mutual priorities of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and Ocean Protection Council (OPC). CalEPA Secretary Linda Adams sits on the OPC.

After a competitive review process, five projects were selected and the OPC approved the funding Thursday. The State Water Board will vote on final approval of the projects at its June 21 meeting. The money comes from a voter-approved Proposition 50 fund for actions to protect against urban runoff.

The projects, totaling more than \$10 million, target the development of rapid indicators of bacterial contamination and reducing or eliminating discharges to areas of special biological significance (ASBS).

The projects include:

- La Jolla Shores ASBS Dry Weather Flow and Pollution Control Program \$3.6 million
- Epidemiology Study to Assess Swimmer Health Risk from Non Point Sources of Bacteria \$3 million
- North Coast Stormwater Coalition's Non-Point Source Pollution Prevention Program \$378,083
- Implementation of rapid indicator methodology for measuring fecal indicator bacteria Statewide \$1.5 million
- Monitoring and mitigation to address fecal pathogen pollution along California coast \$1,543,234

TOTAL: \$10,021,317

“These grant awards are consistent with California’s Ocean Action Strategy and are in the Governor’s Ocean Action Plan which calls for continued support of the Clean Beaches Initiative. The projects selected for recommendation to the State Water Board will help our coastal water quality programs in cleaning up coastal watersheds, estuaries, bays, beaches, and near-shore waters,” said State Water Board chairwoman Tam Doduc.

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