
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

January 22, 2024

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT
Concerning a Proposed Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan
for the Central Coastal Basin to Establish Total Maximum Daily Loads for
Organophosphate Pesticides and Toxicity in the Lower Salinas River Watershed,
Monterey County, California**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) will accept public written comments on an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan) to adopt total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) for organophosphate pesticides and toxicity in the lower Salinas River watershed, Monterey County, California. The following documents are available for public review and comment:

- Proposed Basin Plan amendment
- TMDL Project Technical Report

These documents will be available on or before January 22, 2024 on the [TMDL project website](#).¹ Copies of these documents will also be available upon request from the staff contact below. Written comments must be received no later than **12:00 PM on Friday, February 23, 2024**.

Background: The proposed amendment to the Basin Plan would establish TMDLs for organophosphate pesticides (chlorpyrifos, diazinon, and malathion) and toxicity for waterbodies within the lower Salinas River watershed. The proposed amendment also includes an implementation plan to restore water quality in the lower Salinas River watershed and achieve the water quality objectives for pesticides and toxicity, thereby protecting the designated beneficial uses of each waterbody (i.e., attaining water quality standards).

On November 2, 2023, Central Coast Water Board staff provided a notice of document availability and opportunity for public comment. The public comment period started on November 2, 2023, and concluded on December 22, 2023. In response to public comment on the TMDL compliance date for diazinon and chlorpyrifos, staff revised the compliance date from 2025 to 2032. This courtesy comment period is to allow for

¹ TMDL Project Website:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/salinas/oppesticides/

interested persons to comment on those changes as indicated in the [TMDL Project change sheet](#).² Comments should focus only on the revised portions of the documents as indicated in the change sheet available on the TMDL Project website.

Hearing Date: The Central Coast Water Board will separately publish an agenda for the meeting at which it will consider the resolution adopting the proposed Basin Plan amendment. A public notice for the hearing will be posted 45 days prior to the hearing on the [Central Coast Water Board agenda website](#).³

Public Comments: Persons interested in providing written comments on the proposed Basin Plan amendment are encouraged to submit comments by electronic mail. Comment letters must be received by **12:00 PM on Friday, February 23, 2024**. **Comments should focus only on the revised portions of the documents which are indicated in a change sheet available on the TMDL Project website.** Please send all written comments to the staff person listed below. Comment letters received after that deadline will not be accepted unless approved by the Central Coast Water Board's Chair.

Interested persons should refer to the above TMDL Project website and subscribe to the Project email subscription list for any updates to this project schedule. To join the email subscription list, visit the TMDL Project website (see link above) and click on the link in the "Subscribe to our Email List", provide your name and email address, and select the checkbox for "Salinas River Pesticide – TMDL".

Staff Contact and Submission of Comments: Please electronically submit comments or questions regarding this notice to Larry Harlan (Larry.Harlan@waterboards.ca.gov). Written comments may be mailed to Larry Harlan at 895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101, San Luis Obispo, CA 93401.

² Link to TMDL Project Change Sheet:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/salinas/oppesticides/docs/change_sheet.pdf

³ Central Coast Water Board Agenda's website:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/