

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 95-12

APPROVAL OF A REVISED WATER
QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SACRAMENTO RIVER
AND SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASINS

WHEREAS:

1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (RWQCB), adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins (Basin Plan) on March 31, 1989, under Resolution No. 89-056.
2. Section 303(c) of the federal Clean Water Act requires that water quality standards be reviewed and revised, if appropriate, at least every three years (Triennial Review); and Section 13240 of the California Water Code provide that Basin Plans be periodically reviewed and may be revised.
3. In November 1993 and October 1994, the RWQCB released drafts of the Basin Plan for public review.
4. The RWQCB held a public workshop on November 30, 1993 and a public hearing on December 9, 1994 for the purpose of receiving testimony on the proposed amendments to the Basin Plan.
5. On December 9, 1994, the RWQCB adopted the revised Basin Plan under RWQCB Resolution No. 94-380 (Attachment).
6. The RWQCB prepared documents and followed procedures satisfying environmental documentation requirements in accordance with Public Resources Code Section 21000 et seq. and other State laws and regulations.
7. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will work with the Department of Fish and Game (DFG) to ensure that threatened and endangered species are protected, pursuant to Fish and Game Code Section 2055.
8. Basin Plan revisions and amendments do not become effective until approved by the SWRCB and until regulatory provisions are approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL).

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The SWRCB:

1. Approves the revised Basin Plan adopted by RWQCB Resolution No. 94-380 (with the exception of the "Policy for Designating Ground Water Quality Limited Zones") and with the understanding that:
 - a. The RWQCB shall continue to implement provisions of existing State and federal laws regarding the discharge of toxic pollutants. In particular, the RWQCB shall issue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System permits in compliance with the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and applicable State and federal regulation, including, but not limited to, 40 CFR, Section 122.44(d).
 - b. Within three years after DFG notifies the RWQCB that specific water bodies support threatened or endangered species and that scientific evidence indicates that certain existing water quality objectives for these water bodies do not adequately protect such species, the RWQCB shall determine, in consultation with DFG, whether these objectives are adequately protective. In cases where such existing objectives do not provide adequate protection for threatened and endangered species, the RWQCB shall develop and adopt adequately protective site-specific objectives for these constituents.
 - c. The portions of the proposed Implementation Chapter presented in Section IV, specifically the new paragraph on Page IV-8 regarding "Water Quality Limited Zones" and the new policy on Page IV-24 and IV-25 titled "Policy for Designating Ground Water Quality Limited Zones" be removed from the Basin Plan and held in abeyance pending SWRCB consideration of a statewide ground water cleanup policy.
2. Authorizes the SWRCB staff to submit the approved revised Basin Plan to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and regulatory provisions to the OAL for approval.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Administrative Assistant to the Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on February 16, 1995.

Maureen Marché

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Administrative Assistant to the Board