

**ESTRELLA RIVER BASIN TMDLS FOR BORON – CONCISE SUMMARY**  
**California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region**

<b>Waterbody Identification</b>	Estrella River, Cholame Creek and their tributaries from confluence with Salinas River upstream to the headwaters. <i>303(d)-Listed Boron Impaired Waters:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Estrella River WBID: CAR3170007119990225125807</li> <li>• Cholame Creek WBID: CAR3170008120011127080727</li> </ul>
<b>Location</b>	San Luis Obispo County, California Hydrologic Unit Code # 18060004 (Estrella River Basin)
<b>TMDL Pollutant of Concern</b>	Boron
<b>Pollutant Sources</b>	Natural background (major source) Irrigated agriculture (minor source)
<b>Beneficial Uses Currently Supported</b> <i>(on the basis of boron numeric water quality guidelines)</i>	<u>Estrella River:</u> Protected for aquatic habitat and wildlife protection (WARM, SPWN, WILD, RARE) Protected for livestock watering (AGR).
<b>Beneficial Uses Impaired</b> <i>(on the basis of boron numeric water quality objectives and guidelines)</i>  See project report Table 4-6 for detailed information on impairments and stream reaches affected.	<u>Estrella River:</u> Impaired for use as irrigation supply (AGR) Impaired for drinking water supply (MUN)  <u>Cholame Creek</u> Impaired for use as irrigation supply and stock watering (AGR) Impaired for drinking water supply (MUN) Impaired for protection of aquatic habitat and protection and wildlife (WARM, WILD, RARE)
<b>Numeric Target</b>	0.75 mg/L boron
<b>Loading Capacity (TMDL)</b>	Boron not to exceed 0.75 mg/L in receiving waters.
<b>Implementation Strategy:</b> <b>Proposed Actions to Correct 303(d)-Listed Impairments</b>	<i>Owners/operators of irrigated lands:</i> implement and comply with the Central Coast Water Board's Agricultural Order to minimize risk of boron loading from fertilizers and irrigation water.  <i>Central Coast Water Board staff:</i> develop and implement revised water quality guidelines in the future if appropriate, based on additional data collection. This may include site-specific water quality objectives for boron based on the assessment that existing boron water quality criteria may be unachievable due to natural inputs.