
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

March 13, 2020

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE OF FILING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT

Concerning an Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin to Adopt a Total Maximum Daily Load for Total Phosphorus in Pinto Lake and an Associated TMDL Implementation Plan

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of a resolution amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan) and adopting Substitute Environmental Documentation (SED) prepared to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). If the resolution is adopted, the Basin Plan will be amended to incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for total phosphorus and an associated TMDL Implementation Plan to address cyanobacterial blooms in Pinto Lake, Santa Cruz County.

The Central Coast Water Board's Basin Planning Program is considered a certified regulatory program, which means that the Board is exempt from the CEQA requirement to prepare an environmental impact report for basin planning activities. (Pub. Res. Code, § 21080.5; Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, § 15251(g).) The Board's environmental review of the proposed Basin Plan amendment is instead contained in the CEQA Analysis and Environmental Checklist document, which is part of the SED.

Hearing Date: July 16-17, 2020 at the regularly-scheduled Central Coast Water Board meeting. Prior to the meeting, an agenda will be posted specifying which day the Basin Plan amendment will be considered at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/board_info/agendas/2020/2020_agendas.html

Hearing Location: Watsonville City Council Chambers, 275 Main Street - 4th Floor, Watsonville, CA 95076. The agenda will contain a link to the live video broadcast.

Comments: Interested persons may make oral comments on the proposed Basin Plan amendment and draft SED at the public hearing. Interested persons may also submit written comments on the proposed amendment and draft SED during the written comment period from **March 13, 2020 to May 1, 2020**. Written comments must be received by 5:00 PM on May 1, 2020. 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.

Materials: The draft SED documents available for review and comment include the following: draft Resolution No. R3-2020-0034, proposed Basin Plan amendment, TMDL Project Report, TMDL Implementation Plan, CEQA Analysis Report and Environmental Checklist, and scientific peer review comments with staff responses. These documents will be available on or before March 13, 2020 at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/pinto_lake/index.html. Copies of these documents will also be available upon request from the staff contact below.

Interested persons should refer to the above website for any updates to the amendment schedule. Any change in the date, time, and/or place of the public hearing will be noticed by the subscription email list. To sign up for the subscription email list, visit the web address listed below, provide your name and email address, and select the "Pinto Lake Blue Green Algae" subscription list. The subscription form is located at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg3_subscribe.html

Additional Information About the Hearing: At the conclusion of the hearing, the Central Coast Water Board will consider adoption of the proposed Basin Plan amendment and of the Substitute Environmental Documentation or consider adoption of the amendments at a later public hearing. Time limits may be imposed on oral presentations at the hearing.

The hearing location is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Tammie Olson at 805-549-3140 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TTY or TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Staff Contact: Comments and questions regarding this notice may be directed to Peter Bonch Osmolovsky at (805) 549-3699 or Pete.Osmolovsky@waterboards.ca.gov