

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 89-88

APPROVAL OF AMENDMENTS TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN
FOR THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER BASIN (BASIN 5C) INCORPORATING
PROVISIONS FOR THE CONTROL OF AGRICULTURAL SUBSURFACE
DRAINAGE DISCHARGES

WHEREAS:

1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Central Valley Regional Board) adopted and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) approved the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Sacramento River Basin (Basin 5A), Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Basin (Basin 5B) and San Joaquin River Basin (Basin 5C) in 1975.
2. Division 7 of the California Water Code states that Basin Plans shall be periodically reviewed and, if appropriate, revised.
3. On February 5, 1985, the State Board adopted Order No. WQ 85-1 which established the San Joaquin River Basin Technical Committee (Technical Committee) and directed it to develop a report on proposed water quality objectives for the Basin 5C, proposed effluent limits for agricultural drainage discharges in the basin, and develop a proposal to regulate these discharges. Order No. WQ 85-1 also directed the Central Valley Regional Board to adopt an appropriate Basin Plan amendment and to implement a program to regulate the discharge of agricultural drainage flows in the Basin 5C.
4. The Technical Committee completed its work and the State Board accepted the Technical Committee's report on August 20, 1987 by Resolution No. 87-78.
5. The Central Valley Regional Board developed new proposed amendments to the Basin Plan in response to State Board Order No. WQ 85-1. The proposed amendments which contain water quality objectives and a program to control the discharge of agricultural drainage flows in Basin 5C were considered at a public meeting on December 8, 1988.
6. The State Board adopted Resolution No. 88-63, "Sources of Drinking Water" policy on May 19, 1988, which defines the criteria for designating the beneficial use, Municipal Use and Domestic Supply.
7. The proposed Basin Plan amendments are consistent with the requirements of Public Resources Code Section 2000 et seq. (California Environmental Quality Act).

8. Basin Plan amendments do not become effective until approved by the State Board.

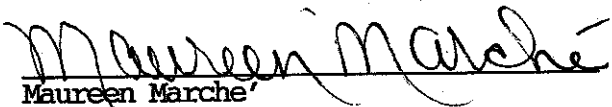
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the State Board approves the proposed Basin Plan amendments adopted by the Central Valley Regional Board under Resolution No. 88-195 with the exception of the following items:
 - A. Page A-1 of the amendment describes the parts of the amendment and contains a footnote which reads: "The tributaries of these two sloughs do not necessarily have the same beneficial uses as they do." Page A-1 of the amendment is not approved. The Central Valley Regional Board should designate specific beneficial uses for all watercourses and wetlands.
 - B. Figure 2, "Proposed Beneficial Uses" is not approved since it is inconsistent with the statement in the existing Basin Plan that streams not listed have the same beneficial uses as the streams to which they are tributary. If the Central Valley Regional Board wants to change beneficial use designations in the Basin Plan, they should consider completing a use attainability analysis or demonstrate functional equivalency to justify changing the following beneficial uses of Mud (North) and Salt Sloughs; Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN), Industrial Process Supply, Fish Migration-Cold, and Fish Spawning-Cold. If a use attainability analysis is completed and upon its completion the Central Valley Regional Board determines to change a MUN designation that determination must be consistent with the provisions of the State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 88-63.
2. That all references and language which indicate that the amendment is in draft form are understood to be deleted upon State Board approval of the amendment. It is further understood that the reference to "the Delta Hearings in 1989" made in the first footnote of Table 2 of the amendment recognizes that the definition of critical water year in the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Estuary Plan (Delta Plan), if different from the Basin Plan, will supersede the definition in the Basin Plan, and that these proceedings will not be concluded in 1989.
3. That the Central Valley Regional Board is directed to:
 - A. Reconsider and assign, as appropriate, the beneficial use designations for Preservation of Rare and Endangered Species, Shellfish Harvesting, and a wetlands use designation.
 - B. Be prepared to issue waste discharge requirements (WDRs) in a reasonable time period covering all persons discharging or contributing to the generation of agricultural subsurface drainage under the following conditions:

- (1) WDRs shall be issued if cooperative drainage operation plans (DOPs) are not implemented in a timely fashion. DOPs, like best management practices (BMPs), take reasonable time to measure their effectiveness. If good progress is being achieved towards meeting compliance dates, the Central Valley Regional Board should review the compliance dates as to their reasonableness and extend them if advisable.
 - (2) WDRs shall require development and implementation of BMPs and contain time schedules for meeting water quality objectives.
- C. Submit to the State Board for approval within six months of State Board adoption of the Delta Plan a proposed workplan for developing a salinity control plan for the San Joaquin Basin. The workplan shall include a time schedule for developing and implementing the salinity control plan and water quality objectives for salinity unless such water quality objectives are adopted by the State Board.
- D. Modify the format of the amendment to conform to the Basin Plan format during the next Basin Plan revision.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Administrative Assistant to the State Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at the meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on September 21, 1989.


Maureen Marche
Administrative Assistant to the Board