#### STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD RESOLUTION NO. 2014-0065

#### APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY BASIN TO ESTABLISH A TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) FOR FINE SEDIMENT IN THE LAGUNITAS CREEK WATERSHED AND AN IMPLEMENTATION PLAN TO ACHIEVE THE TMDL AND RELATED HABITAT ENHANCEMENT GOALS

## WHEREAS:

- On June 11, 2014, the Regional Water Quality Control Board for the San Francisco Bay Region (San Francisco Bay Water Board) adopted <u>Resolution No. R2-2014-0027</u>, an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan amendment), to establish a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for fine sediment in Lagunitas Creek and an implementation plan to achieve the TMDL and related habitat enhancement goals.
- 2. The San Francisco Bay Water Board found that the analysis contained in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) "Substitute Environmental Documents" for the proposed Basin Plan amendment, including the CEQA Checklist, the final staff report, and the responses to comments, complies with the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Water Board's) regulations for the implementation of CEQA, as set forth in the California Code of Regulations, Title 23, sections 3775 through 3781. The State Water Board has reviewed the Substitute Environmental Documents for the Basin Plan amendment and concurs with the San Francisco Bay Water Board's findings and determinations.
- 3. The scientific basis for the TMDL was subjected to an independent, external peer review, pursuant to the requirements of Health and Safety Code section 57004. San Francisco Bay Water Board staff revised the proposed Basin Plan amendment in response to the comments provided by the reviewers, or provided a written response that explained the basis for not incorporating other proposed changes. The peer reviewers' responses confirmed that the rulemaking portions of the TMDL and implementation plan are based on sound scientific knowledge, methods, and practices.
- 4. The San Francisco Bay Water Board also adopted the Basin Plan amendment pursuant to the "Necessity" standard of the Administrative Procedures Act, Government Code section 11353, subdivision (b).
- 5. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) finds that, in amending the Basin Plan, the San Francisco Bay Water Board complied with the requirements set forth in sections 13141, 13240, 13242, 13245, and 13246 of the Water Code. The State Water Board also finds that the regulatory action meets the "necessity" standard of the Administrative Procedures Act, Government Code section 11353, subdivision (b).
- 6. The Basin Plan amendment establishes the following: a) a sediment TMDL at two locations along Lagunitas Creek, upstream of Devils Gulch established at 7,500 metric tons per year (corresponding to about 120 percent of natural background), and upstream of Olema Creek established at 11,900 metric tons per year (corresponding to about 110 percent of natural background); b) numeric targets for stream mobility and redd scour; c) allocations for all significant sediment sources; and d) an implementation plan to achieve the TMDL and related habitat enhancement goals.

- 7. The San Francisco Bay Water Board found the Basin Plan amendment is consistent with the Statement of Policy with Respect to Maintaining the High Quality of Waters in California (<u>State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16</u>) and the federal Antidegradation Policy (40 C.F.R. § 131.12), in that it does not allow degradation of water quality, but requires restoration of water quality and attainment of water quality standards.
- 8. The State Water Board finds that the Basin Plan amendment is in conformance with Water Code section 13240, which specifies that regional water quality control boards may revise basin plans, and section 13242, which requires a program of implementation for achieving water quality objectives. The State Water Board also finds that the TMDL, as reflected in the Basin Plan amendment, is consistent with the requirements of section 303(d) of the federal Clean Water Act.
- A Basin Plan amendment does not become effective until approved by the State Water Board and until the regulatory provisions are approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL). The TMDL must also receive approval from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA)

# THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The State Water Board:

- 1. Approves the Basin Plan amendment adopted under San Francisco Bay Water Board Resolution No. R2-2014-0027.
- Authorizes and directs the Executive Director or designee to submit the Basin Plan amendment adopted under San Francisco Bay Water Board Resolution No. R2-2014-0027 to OAL for approval of the regulatory provisions and to U.S. EPA for approval of the TMDL.

## CERTIFICATION

The undersigned Clerk 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 November 18, 2014.

AYE: Chair Felicia Marcus Vice Chair Frances Spivy-Weber Board Member Tam M. Doduc Board Member Steven Moore Board Member Dorene D'Adamo

NAY: None ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

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Jeanine Townsend Clerk to the Board