

State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

TO CONSIDER APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COASTAL BASIN TO ESTABLISH TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOADS FOR ORGANOPHOSPHATE PESTICIDES AND TOXICITY IN THE LOWER SALINAS RIVER WATERSHED, MONTEREY COUNTY, CALIFORNIA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public meeting to consider adopting a resolution to approve amendments to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan) to establish Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for three organophosphate pesticides, additive toxicity of those pesticides, and toxicity in the lower Salinas River watershed (Basin Plan amendment) and supporting Substitute Environmental Documentation (SED).

Public Meeting date, time, and location:

Tuesday, October 7, 2025

Coastal Hearing Room – Second Floor
Joe Serna Jr. – CalEPA Headquarters Building
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
And via Video and Teleconference

The agenda for the October 7, 2025, State Water Board meeting and instructions for participating in the meeting will be posted on or about September 26, 2025, at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar.

Video and teleconference option:

This meeting will occur with both a physical meeting location and an option for the public to participate from a remote location.

- For members of the public who only wish to watch the meeting, a webcast is available at <https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/> or <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/> (closed captioning available) and should be used UNLESS you intend to comment.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

- For members of the public who wish to comment on an agenda item or are presenting to the Board, additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available here: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/.

BACKGROUND

On June 21, 2024, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board) adopted [Resolution R3-2024-0002](#) to amend the Basin Plan to establish TMDLs for organophosphate pesticides, additive toxicity of those pesticides, and toxicity in the lower Salinas River watershed (TMDL Project).

The TMDL Project establishes numeric targets, assigns TMDL allocations to sources of organophosphate pesticides in the watershed, and describes an implementation plan to achieve those allocations.

The TMDL numeric targets define the conditions necessary to protect designated beneficial uses of waters. This TMDL Project establishes the following numeric targets:

- Acute and chronic numeric targets for three organophosphate pesticides (chlorpyrifos, diazinon, and malathion) when present individually.
- An additive toxicity numeric target when two or more of these organophosphate pesticides are present in the water column because these three pesticides share the same mechanism of toxic action and result in additive toxicity to aquatic invertebrates.
- An aquatic toxicity numeric target stated as the following: “No significant toxic effect to the survival or sublethal (i.e., growth, reproduction, etc.) test endpoint.”

This TMDL Project establishes the following TMDL allocations:

- Concentration-based TMDL allocations that are the same as the organophosphate pesticide numeric targets and expressed as concentration-based TMDL allocations in the receiving water.
- Additive toxicity TMDL allocations that are the same as the organophosphate pesticide additive toxicity numeric target and expressed as the sum of each organophosphate pesticide divided by its concentration-based numeric target.

The TMDL allocation attainment date is December 31, 2032. This date is consistent with the compliance dates established in the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands, Order R3- 2021-0040 (Agricultural Order).

Implementation of this TMDL Project will rely on existing permits and their future renewals or modification, including stormwater permits and orders regulating discharges from agricultural operations, cannabis operations, and pesticide handling facilities.

NOTICE OF DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

A link to electronic copies of the Basin Plan amendment and supporting documents is available at the Central Coast Water Board's website at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/docs/salinas/oppesticides. Alternatively, a copy of the documents can be received by contacting Daniel Ellis at (805) 549-3889 or Daniel.Ellis@waterboards.ca.gov.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants at the public meeting. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. To ensure a productive and efficient meeting in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time-limited. For other presentation recommendations go to:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.html.

LANGUAGE SERVICES

To request oral interpretation or sign language services, please submit your request at least 10 business days before the meeting by contacting the Office of Public Engagement, Equity, and Tribal Affairs at (916) 341-5254 or by email at LanguageServices@waterboards.ca.gov.

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CHANGES TO THE NOTICED ITEM

Any change to the information noticed above will be provided via the State Water Board's email distribution list and forwarded to the Central Coast Water Board's "Basin Planning Triennial Review" email subscription list. Any person desiring to receive future notices must subscribe to the Central Coast Water Board's "Salinas River Pesticide TMDLs" email distribution list at:

https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?qsp=central_coast.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board website:

<https://calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>.

The CalEPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5254 at least 10 business days before the meeting.

All visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10th Street entrance).

Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions about this notice to Daniel Ellis at (805) 549-3889 or Daniel.Ellis@waterboards.ca.gov.

Date August 22, 2025


Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board