
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Regional Water Quality Control Board North Coast Region Staff Summary Report August 14-16, 2024

ITEM: 1

SUBJECT: Tour of Arcata Marsh

BOARD ACTION: This is an informational item; no action will be taken by the Board.

BACKGROUND: The Arcata Marsh and Wildlife Sanctuary is home to the City of Arcata's wastewater treatment facility, which the Regional Board regulates under Order No. R1-2019-0006. The sanctuary is 307 acres, including freshwater marshes, salt marsh, tidal sloughs, grassy uplands, mudflats, brackish marsh, approximately 5 miles of walking and biking paths and an Interpretive Center. At this site, Arcata has integrated conventional wastewater treatment with the natural processes of constructed wetlands. This approach provides enhanced treatment and enables the treatment facility's Humboldt Bay discharge to qualify for an exception to the Water Quality Control Policy for the Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California by providing beneficial uses such as habitat and recreation that would otherwise not be present.

RECOMMENDATION: N/A

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS: [Arcata Marsh & Wildlife Sanctuary Web Page](https://www.cityofarcata.org/340/Arcata-Marsh-Wildlife-Sanctuary)
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