
North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

July 1, 2026

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO AUTHORIZE A REFERRAL TO THE OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL FOR JUDICIAL CIVIL ENFORCEMENT OF ALLEGED VIOLATIONS OF CLEANUP AND ABATEMENT AND INVESTIGATIVE ORDER NO. R1-2024-0026

Notice is hereby provided that the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (North Coast Water Board) will consider adoption of the attached draft Resolution No. R1-2026-0033 (Resolution) authorizing a referral to the Office of the Attorney General to pursue judicial civil enforcement against Vern McGaughey, individually and as trustee of the Vern C. McGaughey Trust (collectively, Mr. McGaughey), for alleged violations of Cleanup and Abatement and Investigative Order No. R1-2024-0026. At the hearing, the North Coast Water Board will consider whether to affirm, reject, or modify the draft Resolution.

In Person and Video and Teleconference Meeting

The North Coast Water Board will consider the draft Resolution at a **public hearing on Thursday, August 6, 2026**, at the Elk Valley Rancheria, Sam Lopez Community Room, 2332 Howland Hill Road, Crescent City, CA 95531.

The North Coast Water Board meeting is scheduled to occur with both a physical meeting location and an option to participate from a remote location. Live video and audio broadcasts of the public meeting will be available via the internet and can be accessed at the live webcasts page at www.cal-span.org. The meeting will be recorded. The public meeting at which the hearing will be conducted will begin at 9:00 a.m. Additional information about the public hearing, remote participation, and an agenda with links to all available documents for this item will be posted at least 10 days prior to the hearing at the following web address:

https://waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/

Public Hearing Procedures

Mr. McGaughey and any interested persons may submit written comments regarding the draft Resolution for the North Coast Water Board's consideration. Any written comments must be **received by 12:00 p.m., Wednesday, July 15, 2026**, via electronic or regular mail to North Coast Water Board, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Santa Rosa, CA 95403, or NorthCoast@waterboards.ca.gov with the subject line "McGaughey AG Referral" and attention to Brian Fuller.

North Coast Water Board staff and attorneys that prepared the draft Resolution (Enforcement Staff) will have the opportunity to respond to Mr. McGaughey's comments before the public hearing, in writing, and/or at the public hearing during their presentation to the North Coast Water Board.

At the public hearing, Mr. McGaughey and Enforcement Staff will each have 20 minutes to provide oral comments and use visual presentations. Other interested persons may also provide comment at the public hearing and are limited to 5 minutes. To request extra time, please submit this request to Executive Assistant, Emma Cianfichi at Emma.Cianfichi@waterboards.ca.gov by **12:00 p.m., Friday, July 31, 2026**.

Document Review

The draft Resolution and any related documents, including any comments that are received on the draft Resolution, are part of the North Coast Water Board's public file for this matter and may be inspected or copied at the North Coast Water Board's office, 5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, CA. Contact Brian Fuller at Brian.Fuller@waterboards.ca.gov or 707-576-2806 to obtain a copy of the file record. The draft Resolution and any other relevant documents will also be available on the North Coast Water Board's website.

Accessibility

Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in the public meeting should contact Emma Cianfichi at Emma.Cianfichi@waterboards.ca.gov or 707-576-6737 at least five working days prior to the meeting. The hearing room is accessible. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 800-735-2929 or voice line at 800-735-2922.

Staff Contacts

If you have any questions regarding the draft Resolution, please contact Enforcement Staff attorney Paul Ciccarelli at Paul.Ciccarelli@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 322-3227. Questions regarding this notice or the public meeting may be directed to Office of Chief Counsel staff Nathan Jacobsen at Nathan.Jacobsen@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5181 or Bayley Toft-Dupuy at Bayley.Toft-Dupuy@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5165.

Attachment: Draft Resolution No. R1-2026-0033