STATE OF CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

STAFF SUMMARY REPORT: Brian Wines

MEETING DATE: June 12, 2024

ITEM: 5D

East Bay Regional Park District, Regional Maintenance Activities, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties – Reissuance of Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Quality Certification

DISCUSSION:

The Tentative Order (Appendix A) would reissue Waste Discharge Requirements to the East Bay Regional Park District (District) to implement routine maintenance activities. The District conducts routine maintenance activities on land it owns and/or manages in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Land owned and/or managed by the District currently includes 74 regional parks covering a total area of more than 122,890 acres (about 192 square miles). Routine maintenance activities may occur in several watersheds, in Alameda and Contra Costa counties, that drain to San Francisco Bay, San Pablo Bay, and Suisun Bay. The Tentative Order would apply to the portions of these watersheds that are located within the jurisdiction of this Regional Water Board.

The District conducts routine maintenance activities in streams, creeks, channels, catchment basins, seeps, springs, ponds, and lakes, and at beaches. Maintenance activities that would be covered under the Tentative Order would include culvert replacement, maintenance of existing structures, maintenance of existing road or trail crossings of creeks, bank stabilization, maintenance dredging, and beach replenishment. The purpose of the maintenance activities is to protect water quality and quantity, reduce erosion, maintain and enhance natural resources, and provide safe access for the public and emergency vehicles.

The Tentative Order would newly authorize work to prevent algal blooms in lakes and reservoirs. This work was previously authorized on a project-by-project basis. Based on those projects' performance and the District's incorporation of standard practices into its Operation and Maintenance Manual, it has been added to the routine maintenance activities covered under the Tentative Order.

We circulated the tentative order for a 30-day public comment period ending May 3, 2024. No comments were received.

APPENDIX:

A. Tentative Order

The Tentative Order's attachments, including the District's Operation and Maintenance Manual, are available upon request by contacting Brian Wines at (510) 622-5680 or via email to Brian.Wines@waterboards.ca.gov.

Appendix A Tentative Order

East Bay Regional Park District, Regional Maintenance Activities, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

Reissuance of Waste Discharge Requirements and Water Quality Certification