



California Regional Water Quality Control Board

San Francisco Bay Region



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SOLICITATION PERIOD AND PUBLIC WORKSHOP

TRIENNIAL REVIEW

WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN, SAN FRANCISCO BAY BASIN

April 25, 2008

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Francisco Bay Region (Water Board) is initiating the triennial review process for the Water Quality Control Plan, San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan). The Basin Plan is the master policy document that contains descriptions of the legal, technical, and programmatic bases of water quality regulation in the San Francisco Bay Region, including water quality standards.

The purpose of the triennial review is to examine and update the focus of Water Board planning efforts, excluding TMDL projects. Section 13240 of the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and Section 303 (c)(1) of the federal Clean Water Act require a review of basin plans at least once each three-year period to keep pace with changes in regulation, new technologies, policies, and physical changes within the region.

A public workshop on the Basin Plan Triennial Review will be held:

DATE: Monday May 19, 2008
TIME: 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
LOCATION: Elihu M. Harris State Building
2nd Floor, Room 10
1515 Clay Street
Oakland, California 94612

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This notice solicits public input for the preparation of the Water Board's triennial review workplan, with written comments due to the above address on **May 30, 2008**.

The Water Board is responsible for reviewing the Basin Plan, and is required to identify those portions of the Basin Plan which are in need of modification or new additions, and adopt standards as appropriate. The review includes a public workshop and a public hearing to allow the public to identify issues for the Water Board to consider for incorporation into its Basin Plan.

An initial list of issues for inclusion in the Water Board's triennial review workplan has been prepared by Water Board staff. These issues include updates to beneficial uses, water quality objectives, implementation, and plans and policies. These projects include, but are not limited to:

1. Update of significant water bodies and their associated beneficial uses
2. Evaluation of beneficial use for municipal supply for groundwater aquifers along the Bay fringe
3. Designation of beneficial uses for Hayward Marsh
4. Evaluation of the shellfish beneficial use for San Francisco Bay
5. Stream and wetland systems protection
6. Adopt U.S. EPA Beach Act recreational contact standards
7. Develop site-specific objectives for dissolved oxygen in wetlands, slough channels and other shoreline habitats in San Francisco Bay
8. Refine Alameda Creek watershed TDS and chloride water quality objectives
9. Development of biocriteria
10. Marine debris

We encourage input from interested parties to assist planning staff in identifying and prioritizing Basin Plan amendment projects that will best address the water quality planning needs of our region. Identifying the scope, timing and critical nature of potential projects is important, as the Water Board is limited in terms of the staff resources that are available to complete Basin Planning projects. A brief description of all the issues being considered by Water Board staff can be found at

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/public_notices/public_notice.shtml#basin

After public input is received, the Water Board adopts, by resolution, a priority list of Basin Planning projects to be investigated. The public hearing on the resolution is anticipated to occur in the Fall of 2008.

Triennial Review Solicitation Period:

Solicitation Period Opens	Friday April 25, 2008
Public Workshop	Monday May 19, 2008
Final date for Submitting comments	Friday May 30, 2008
Public Hearing	Fall 2008