

**GROUP:** BASIN PLANNING

**MEASURE:** ADOPTED BASIN PLAN AMENDMENTS BY TYPE

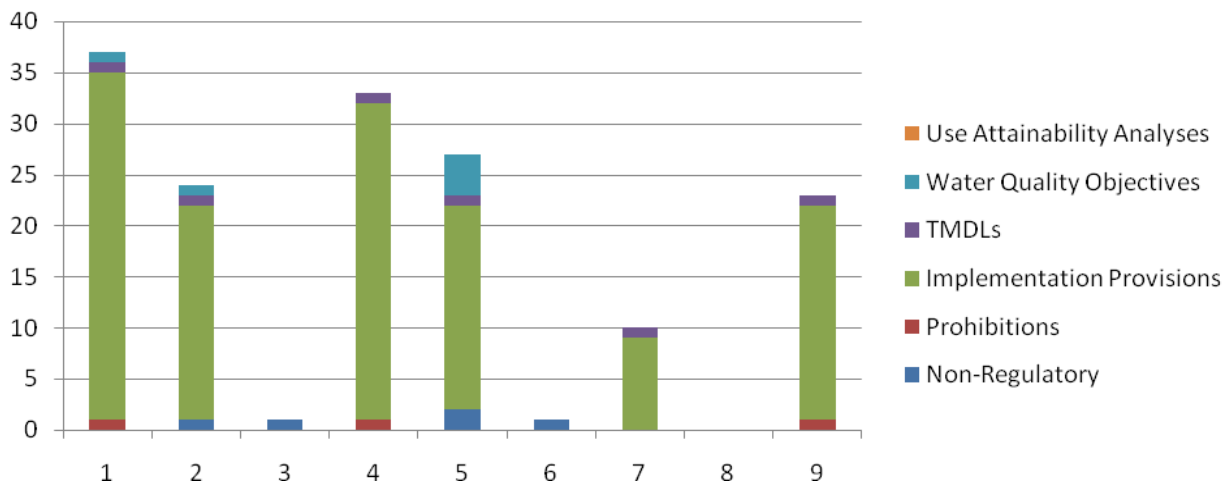
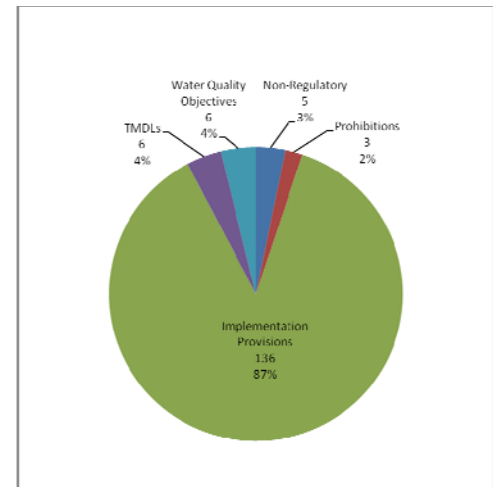
**MESSAGE:** While the bulk of Regional Water Quality Control Plan amendments are implementation provisions, other amendment types may require greater time and effort.

KEY STATISTICS FOR FY 2009-10

NUMBER OF USE ATTAINABILITY ANALYSES ADOPTED: 0  
 NUMBER OF WATER QUALITY OBJECTIVES ADOPTED: 6  
 NUMBER OF IMPLEMENTATION PROVISIONS ADOPTED: 136

**MEASUREMENTS:**

| Region | Use Attainability Analyses | Water Quality Objectives | TMDLs | Implementation Provisions | Prohibitions | Non-Regulatory |
|--------|----------------------------|--------------------------|-------|---------------------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1      | 0                          | 1                        | 1     | 34                        | 1            | 0              |
| 2      | 0                          | 1                        | 1     | 21                        | 0            | 1              |
| 3      | 0                          | 0                        | 0     | 0                         | 0            | 1              |
| 4      | 0                          | 0                        | 1     | 31                        | 1            | 0              |
| 5      | 0                          | 4                        | 1     | 20                        | 0            | 2              |
| 6      | 0                          | 0                        | 0     | 0                         | 0            | 1              |
| 7      | 0                          | 0                        | 1     | 9                         | 0            | 0              |
| 8      | 0                          | 0                        | 0     | 0                         | 0            | 0              |
| 9      | 0                          | 0                        | 1     | 21                        | 1            | 0              |
| TOTAL  | 0                          | 6                        | 6     | 136                       | 3            | 5              |



**WHAT THE MEASURE IS SHOWING:**

In Fiscal Year (FY) 2009-10, the Regional Water Boards took 17 Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) actions that addressed amendments for six water quality objectives, six Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs), 136 implementation provisions, three prohibitions, and five

non-regulatory amendments. Because implementation provisions comprise the bulk of a Basin Plan's program of implementation, and generally pertain to both existing Basin Plan elements and other newly amended elements, the majority of adopted amendments in a given fiscal year fall into this category. In terms of Regional Water Board workload, the development and adoption of water quality objectives and TMDLs are generally much greater.

#### **WHY THIS MEASURE IS IMPORTANT:**

Basin Plans are comprised of three major elements: designated beneficial uses, water quality objectives to protect the uses, and a program of implementation for achieving the objectives. Amendments to Basin Plans, which serve as the State's primary water quality control planning documents for protecting the quality and beneficial uses of the State's surface and ground waters, affect the way the Water Boards regulate discharges of waste (such as the issuance of waste discharge requirements, or permits, and establish cleanup requirements).

#### **TECHNICAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- **Data Source:** Basin Plan amendments tracking database. Period: July 1, 2009-June 30, 2010. Extracted in July 2010.
- **Unit of Measure:** Number Regional Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) amendments by type: use attainability analyses, water quality objectives, TMDLs, implementation provisions, prohibitions, and non-regulatory amendments.
- **Data Definitions:** *Use attainability analysis (UAA):* Scientific assessment of factors for determining if designated beneficial uses for a water body can be attained, and whether or not designated uses should be changed or removed. *Water quality objective:* A narrative or numerical limit on constituents or characteristics of water that are designed to protect all designated and existing beneficial uses of a water body. *TMDLs (Total Maximum Daily Load):* Watershed-wide strategies to restore impaired surface water bodies so they meet water quality standards. *Implementation provision:* Specific required action that may include actions needed to achieve water quality objectives, monitoring to determine compliance with objectives, and a time schedule for the actions to be taken. *Prohibition:* Specified conditions or areas where certain waste discharges will not be allowed. *Non-regulatory:* Amendments that do not change the context or substance of a Basin Plan, including grammatical or typographical changes.
- **References:** Regional Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans): [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans\\_policies/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies/). More information on UAAs <http://www.epa.gov/waterscience/standards/uses/uaa/index.htm>, and TMDLs [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/tmdl/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/).

#### **GLOSSARY:**

##### **Basin Plan Amendment**

One or more specific changes to Regional Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans) that are addressed in an amendment action taken by a Regional Water Board.

##### **Basin Plan Amendment Actions**

Resolutions adopted by the Regional Water Boards that make changes to their Basin Plans.