Linda S. Adams
Secretary for Environmental Protection

State Water Resources Control Board

Executive Office

Tam M. Doduc, Board Chair
1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 341-5615
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Sacramento, California • 95812-0100
Fax (916) 341-5621 • http://www.waterboards.ca.gov

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

December 4, 2006

To: Interested Persons

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SOLICITATION OF WATER QUALITY DATA AND INFORMATION FOR 2008 INTEGRATED REPORT – LIST OF IMPAIRED WATERS AND SURFACE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENT [303(d)/305(b)]

This letter initiates the solicitation period to request from interested persons data and information regarding water quality conditions in surface waters of California. Information gathered will be used to provide the basis both for identifying and listing impaired waters and for assessing overall surface water quality conditions in California.

Background Information
Every two years, the State of California is required by federal Clean Water Act section 303(d) and Title 40, Code of Federal Regulations section 130.7 to develop and submit to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) for approval a list of polluted waters or water quality limited segments (distinct portions of rivers, streams, lakes, ocean waters, etc.). This list is commonly referred to as the "Section 303(d) List" or the "List of Impaired Waters." California's 2006 list has been adopted and is available at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_lists2006.html. The State Water Board's policy regarding listing criteria may be found at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_listing.html.

The list includes water bodies not meeting water quality standards (beneficial uses, water quality objectives/criteria and the State's anti-degradation policy) that are not, or are not expected to be, attained with the implementation of technology-based controls. In addition, currently-listed water bodies can be delisted when evidence reveals that such impacts have ceased, impacts never existed, or the water body is meeting water quality standards. As required by federal law, listed water bodies will be scheduled for development of total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) or other appropriate regulatory actions. A TMDL is the total maximum daily load of a pollutant that can be discharged daily into a given water body and still ensure the attainment of applicable water quality standards. In addition, Clean Water Act section 305(b) requires states to submit to USEPA for approval a report assessing statewide surface water quality.

2008 Integrated Report

For the 2008 update, the List of Impaired Waters and the Surface Water Quality Assessment will be combined into an Integrated Report. This Report is due to USEPA by April 1, 2008. The USEPA integrated reporting guidelines can be viewed at: http://www.epa.gov/owow/tmdl/2006IRG/report/2006irg-report.pdf

Development of Integrated Report
Data and information for the 2006 list were submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). However, for the 2008 update, data and information are to be submitted to each Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board), which will then compile and approve regional lists. Enclosure 1 provides Regional Water Board contact information. Enclosure 2 identifies each of the nine Regional Water Boards and some of the major water bodies within each Region. **To be considered in this review process, data and information must be submitted to the appropriate Regional Water Board no later than February 28, 2007.**

The State Water Board will compile the regional lists into a statewide list and consider it for adoption. Following State Water Board adoption, the list will then be combined with the Regions' surface water quality assessments into an Integrated Report, as described above, and submitted to USEPA for approval by April 1, 2008.

Since the data and information gathered in this solicitation will contribute to the preparation of a statewide assessment of surface water quality, please do not limit your data and information submissions to only those data that show standards are not met. Data that show standards are being met should also be submitted, as these data and information are extremely important to a proper understanding of the health of the waters of the State. More detailed information about the overall process and requirements for submitting water quality data and information can be found in Enclosure 3.

The tentative schedule for conducting the review and approval of portions of the Integrated Report is shown below. The schedule may change depending on the amount of data to be assessed and the resources available to perform the assessment.

Activity	Date
Beginning of solicitation period for data and information	December 2006
End of solicitation period for data and information	February 28, 2007
Regional Water Boards' approvals of the regional lists and water quality assessment	September 2007 through December 2007
Submittal of Regional Water Boards' portions of the List and Report to State Water Board	December 2007
State Water Board approval of statewide Integrated Report and submittal to USEPA	April 2008

Should you have questions regarding data or information you wish to submit or about this notice, please contact the respective Regional Water Board contact (see Enclosures 1 and 2). You may also contact Craig J. Wilson at the State Water Resources Control Board at 916-341-5560 (cjwilson@waterboards.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Thomas Howard

Thomas Howard
Acting Executive Director

Enclosures

cc: Ms. Alexis Strauss, Director
Water Division (WTR-1)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 9
75 Hawthorne Street
San Francisco, CA 94105

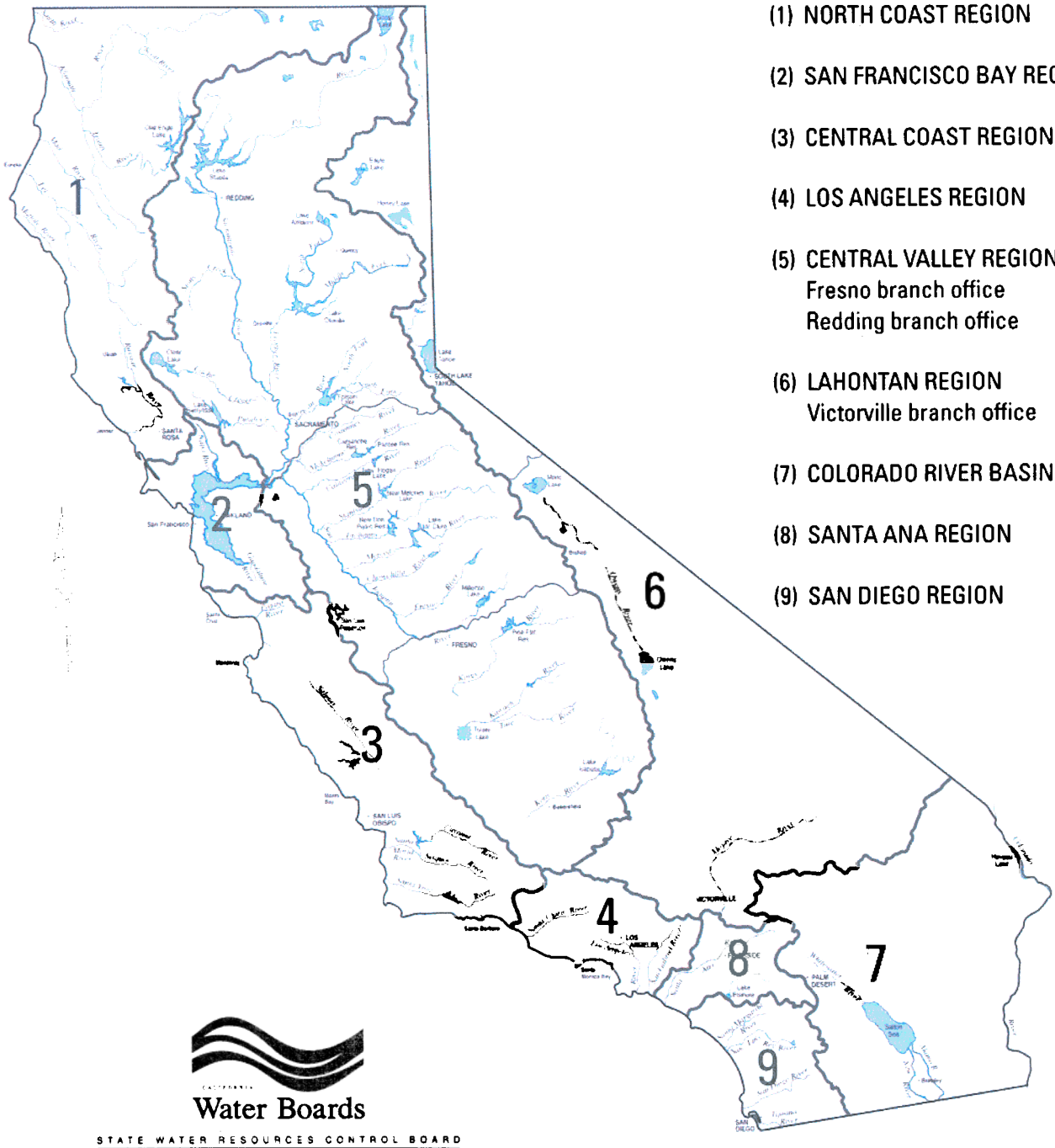
All Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Enclosure 1

Regional Water Board Contacts
Integrated Report (List of Impaired Waters and Surface Water Quality Assessment)

Regional Water Board	Regional Water Board Address	Contact Name Phone Number e-mail address
(1) North Coast	5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A Santa Rosa, CA 95403	Bruce Gwynne 707-576-2661 bgwynne@waterboards.ca.gov
(2) San Francisco Bay	1515 Clay St., Suite 1400 Oakland, CA 94612	Naomi Feger 510-622-2328 nfeger@waterboards.ca.gov
(3) Central Coast	895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401	Mary Adams 805-542-4768 madams@waterboards.ca.gov and Lisa McCann 805-549-3132 lmccann@waterboards.ca.gov
(4) Los Angeles	320 W. Fourth Street, Suite 200 Los Angeles, CA 90013	Deborah Neiter 213-576-6783 dneiter@waterboards.ca.gov
(5) Central Valley	11020 Sun Center Drive #200 Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6114	Gene Davis 916-464-4687 gmdavis@waterboards.ca.gov and Joe Karkoski 916-464-4668 jkarkoski@waterboards.ca.gov
(6) Lahontan	2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd. So. Lake Tahoe, CA 96150	Judith Unsicker 530-542-5462 junsicker@waterboards.ca.gov
(7) Palm Desert	73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100 Palm Desert, CA 92260	Logan Raub 760-776-8966 lraub@waterboards.ca.gov
(8) Santa Ana	3737 Main Street, Suite 500 Riverside, CA 92501-3348	Pavlova Vitale 951-782-4920 pvitale@waterboards.ca.gov
(9) San Diego	9174 Sky Park Ct., Suite 100 San Diego, CA 92123-4340	Lesley Dobalian 858-637-7139 ldobalian@waterboards.ca.gov and Julie Chan 858-627-3926 jchan@waterboards.ca.gov

California Regional Water Quality Control Boards



(1) NORTH COAST REGION

(2) SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION

(3) CENTRAL COAST REGION

(4) LOS ANGELES REGION

(5) CENTRAL VALLEY REGION
Fresno branch office
Redding branch office

(6) LAHONTAN REGION
Victorville branch office

(7) COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

(8) SANTA ANA REGION

(9) SAN DIEGO REGION

CALIFORNIA
Water Boards
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

Specific information regarding this solicitation and the ensuing section 303(d) Listing/Delisting process:

1 The Regional Water Boards will utilize the existing statewide policy, "Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act section 303(d) List" (Listing Policy) to guide the solicitation, review, and assessment of supporting data and information and to decide which candidate water bodies are to be placed on or removed from the section 303(d) List. All readily available data and information submitted pursuant to this solicitation will be reviewed and assessed using the Listing Policy. Requirements for data and information specified in the Listing Policy — including those for quality control and assurance, temporal and spatial characteristics, and minimum sample sizes — will be followed when reviewing all data and information. The Listing Policy may be viewed at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_listing.html.

2. Any person including, but not limited to, private citizens, public agencies, local, State, and federal governmental agencies, non-profit organizations, and businesses possessing information regarding the quality of the State's waters, may contribute data and information pursuant to this solicitation. Data submitted may be in electronic format (see 6. and 7. below), narrative form (see 8. below) or photographic form (see 9. below).

3. All new available data and information will be considered. The following data need not be submitted to the Regional Water Boards for consideration:

    a. Data submitted as part of the 2006 section 303(d) List update;
    b. Data that are already in the Regional Water Boards' files (e.g., data submitted as part of a discharger's monitoring and reporting program). Note that data from State and federal agencies (e.g., the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the California Department of Pesticide Regulation, etc.) also need not be submitted, as the Regional Water Boards will be soliciting data from these agencies directly.

4. All new data and information must be received by the respective Regional Water Board (see Enclosures 1 and 2) by the close of business on February 28, 2007. Please note that any information received after February 28, 2007 will not be used for the 2008 section 303(d) List or for compiling the section 305(b) Report, but will be considered in developing the 2010 section 303(d) List and section 305(b) Report.

5. Any interested person may request reassessment of a water body on the existing section 303(d) List. The interested person must:

    a. Describe the reason(s) the listing is inappropriate and clearly state the reason the interested party would come to a different outcome, and
    b. Provide the data and information necessary to enable the Regional Water Board to conduct a complete reassessment.

6. Information (see 10. and 12. below) submitted should include the following

    a. The name of the person or organization providing the information;
    b. The name of the person certifying the completeness and accuracy of the data and information and a statement describing the standard's exceedances;
    c. Mailing address, telephone numbers, and email address of a contact responsible for answering questions about the information submitted;
    d. Identification of any specific software used to format the information and definitions for any codes or abbreviations used, if applicable;
    e. Bibliographic citations for all published information provided;

f. If computer model outputs are included in the information, provide bibliographic citations and specify any calibration and quality assurance information available for the model(s) used; and
g. The name and exact area of the water body the information concerns, including:

    i. Geographical Information System (GIS) data files (ArcGIS mxd or ArcView shapefiles); or
    ii. Very clear hard copy maps indicating the area the information concerns; (e.g., mark sample location on a USGS 7.5 minute topographic quad map along with the quad sheet name); or
    iii. Provide location latitude/longitude; and
    iv. Metadata for any GIS data must be included. The metadata must detail all the parameters of the projection, including datum.

7. Data (see 11. and 12. below) submitted should contain the following:

a. To the extent feasible, all data submitted must be submitted in electronic form, i.e., in spreadsheet, database, or ASCII formats;
b. A hard-copy of all data submitted should also be provided;
c. References to Web sites will not be accepted *in lieu* of the actual data;
d. Metadata for the field and lab data, i.e., when measurements were taken (date and time), locations (unique site code, latitude and longitude, and water body name), number of samples, analytes, units of measurement, methods, detection limits, and other relevant factors;
e. The name and exact area of the water body the information concerns, including:

    i. GIS data files (ArcGIS mxd or ArcView shapefiles); or
    ii. Very clear hard copy maps indicating the area the information concerns; (e.g., mark sample locations on a USGS 7.5 minute topographic quad map along with the quad sheet name); or
    iii. Provide location latitude/longitude; and
    iv. Metadata for any GIS data must be included. The metadata must detail all the parameters of the projection, including datum.

f. A copy of the quality assurance procedures including a Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP). A QAPP or equivalent document must be available and contain, at a minimum, the following:

    i. Objectives of the study, project, or monitoring program;
    ii. Methods used for sample collection and handling;
    iii. Field and laboratory measurement and analysis;
    iv. Data management, validation, and recordkeeping (including proper chain of custody) procedures;
    v. Quality assurance and quality control requirements;
    vi. A statement certifying the adequacy of the QAPP (plus name of person certifying the document); and
    vii. A description of personnel training.

g. A site-specific or project-specific sampling and analysis plan for numeric data should also be available containing the following:

    Data quality objectives or requirements of the project;
    A statement that data quality objectives or requirements were achieved;

iii. Rationale for the selection of sampling sites, water quality parameters, sampling frequency and methods that assure the samples are spatially and temporally representative of the surface water and representative of conditions within the targeted sampling timeframe; and
iv. Documentation to support the conclusion that results are reproducible.

h Data from citizen volunteer water quality monitoring efforts require the name of the group and indication of any training in water quality assessment completed by members of the group. Data submitted by citizen monitoring groups should meet the data quality assurance procedures as detailed in the Listing Policy - section 6.1.4 and as shown above (7.g.).

8. For narrative and qualitative submittals, the submission must:

   a. Describe events or conditions that indicate impacts on water quality;
   b. Provide linkage between the measurement endpoint (e.g., a study that may have been performed for some other purpose) and the water quality standard of interest;
   c. Be scientifically defensible;
   d. Provide analyst's credentials and training;
   e. Be verifiable by the State Water Board or Regional Water Board; and
   f. Identify the name and exact area of the water body the narrative or qualitative information concerns, including:

      i. GIS data files (ArcGIS mxd or ArcView shapefiles); or
      ii. Very clear hard copy maps indicating the area the information concerns; (e.g., mark sampling locations on a USGS 7.5 minute topographic quad map along with the quad sheet name); or
      iii. Provide location latitude/longitude; and
      iv. Metadata for any GIS data must be included. The metadata must detail all the parameters of the projection, including datum.

9. For photographic documentation, the submission must:

   a. Identify the date and time;
   b. Identify the name and exact area of the water body the narrative or qualitative information concerns, including:

      i. GIS data files (ArcGIS mxd or ArcView shapefiles); or
      ii. Very clear hard copy maps indicating the area the information concerns; (e.g., mark photographic locations on a USGS 7.5 minute topographic quad map along with the quad sheet name); or
      iii. Provide location latitude/longitude; and
      iv. Metadata for any GIS data must be included. The metadata must detail all the parameters of the projection, including datum.

   c. Provide a thorough description of photograph(s);
   d. Describe the spatial and temporal representation of the photographs;
   e. Provide linkage between photograph-represented condition and condition that indicates impacts on water quality;
   f. Provide photographer's rationale for area photographed and camera settings used; and
   g. Be verifiable by the State Water Board or Regional Water Board.

10. For purposes of this solicitation, "information" includes any documentation that a water body is or is not meeting, or is or is not likely to meet, existing water quality standards (i.e., beneficial uses of water, water quality objectives/criteria, and the State's non-degradation policy as listed

in the State's Water Quality Control Plans [Basin Plans], statewide water quality control plans [e.g., the California Ocean Plan], the California Code of Regulations, and pertinent federal laws and regulations).

11 "Data" are considered to be numeric information (i.e., measurements of specific physical, chemical, or biological characteristics in aquatic environments).

12. Data and information provided may pertain to individual water body segments, entire water bodies, or whole watersheds.

13. The section 303(d) List and the section 305(b) Report update efforts are not designed, intended, or able to change existing water quality standards. Persons interested in recommending changes to existing water quality standards should contact the respective Regional Water Board.

14. Please send all data and information to the respective Regional Water Board office. **Submittals should be addressed to the attention of the Regional Water Board contact listed in Enclosure 1.**

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Central Coast Region

Internet Address: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101, San Luis Obispo, California 93401
Phone (805) 549-3147 • FAX (805) 543-0397

Linda S. Adams
Secretary for Environmental Protection

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

Date: December 4, 2006

To: Interested Parties

SUBJECT: SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION REGARDING THE STATE'S PUBLIC SOLICITATION OF WATER QUALITY DATA AND INFORMATION FOR THE 2008 CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 303(d) LIST OF WATER QUALITY LIMITED SEGMENTS AND CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 305(b) REPORT OF WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENTS FOR ALL WATERS.

This letter provides region-specific supplemental guidance about submitting water quality data and information to be considered for the update of the 2008 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List Of Water Quality Limited Segments And Clean Water Act Section 305(b) Report Of Water Quality Assessments For All Waters. The information in this letter supplements the information in the letter from the State Water Resources Control Board soliciting water quality data and information, dated 12/04/06 (see attached).

The Central Coast Water Board encourages you to submit data in an electronic format compatible with the format our agency uses for the State's Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP). This will facilitate staff's ability to more efficiently evaluate the data and information to develop recommendations for the 2008 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List Of Water Quality Limited Segments And Clean Water Act Section 305(b) Report Of Water Quality Assessments For All Waters.

Central Coast Water Board staff is available to discuss both the State Water Resources Control Board and Central Coast Water Board requests and requirements for electronic data submission. Please contact Mary Adams at madams@waterboards.ca.gov or 805.542.4768 as soon as possible and before February 1, 2007. We have set a goal to receive as much data and information as possible by February 28, 2007.

Specifically, Mary can explain SWAMP formats and documentation requirements. She can also assist you in using a simple table format available at www.ccamp.org that is consistent with SWAMP data submittal requirements.

Data submitted in SWAMP format should include the following for field and lab data:

- Date and time of measurements / sample collection
- Sampling location (unique site code, Latitude and Longitude and waterbody name)

- Analyte name and measurement value, detection limits, units of measurement, method and equipment ID (for field data), QA data (if available) including field duplicates, matrix spikes and spike duplicates, laboratory control samples)
- Information on the program's Quality Assurance Management Plan

The Water Board may not be able to consider data that does not include certain basic information (location, date, units of measurement, method), as we cannot ascertain the validity and reliability of that information.

In addition to data submission, we encourage your written comments and concerns if you are aware of areas with specific water quality problems. You may also provide written comment to alert us of persons or agencies that may have additional data that your would like us to solicit for this assessment.

Thank you in advance for providing data and information. Please contact Mary Adams at madams@waterboards.ca.gov or 805.542.4768 if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

Lisa H McCann

for Roger W. Briggs
Executive Officer

Enclosure

Cc: Interested Parties: 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments

File: 303(d) List Update 2008
Electronic file location: T:\TMDLs & Watershed Assessment_TMDL Program\303(d) List\Next 303(d) List Update 2008\Solicitation docs\R3 Supplemental Letter to State 303d Solicitation letter 12-4-06.doc