

Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region

Executive Officer's Summary Report  
9:00 A.M., Thursday, May 08, 2014  
River Lodge Conference Center  
Fortuna, California

- ITEM: 7
- SUBJECT: Workshop to Scope the 2014 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Alydda Mangelsdorf)
- BOARD ACTION: This is an informational item only. No action will be taken by the Regional Water Board.
- BACKGROUND: The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) is responsible for reviewing, amending, and implementing the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Basin Plan) to ensure protection of the Region's water quality. Both the federal Clean Water Act and the state Porter Cologne Water Quality Control Act direct the Regional Water Board to conduct a periodic review of the Basin Plan to keep pace with changes in regulation, policies, new scientific findings, new waste control or monitoring technologies, and physical changes within the region, for examples. This review, known as the Triennial Review, is done once every three-year period.
- DISCUSSION: The last Triennial Review of the North Coast Regional Water Board was conducted in 2011 and resulted in a list of potential Basin Plan amendment projects (attached), the top five of which were identified by the Board as high priorities. The high priority projects included:
1. Amendments to the Basin Plan to support TMDLs (including Elk River, Freshwater Creek, Eel River, Mattole River, Navarro River, Russian River, and Laguna de Santa Rosa);
  2. Development of a Temperature Implementation Policy;
  3. Amendments to Chapters 3 and 4 of the Basin Plan to update chemical constituents objectives, add a groundwater toxicity objective, add a policy describing the Board's translation of narrative objectives into numeric water quality thresholds, and incorporating a program of implementation for the protection of groundwater quality;
  4. Amendment of dissolved oxygen objectives;
  5. Development of an Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Policy.

In an information item before the Board in August 2013, staff gave an update on its progress towards completion of these high priority projects. In the Executive Officer's Report for January 2014, staff described the process for the 2014 Triennial Review. An internal all-

staff meeting was held on April 2, 2014 to solicit staff input on priority issues requiring basin plan amendment. Staff-led public meetings were held April 8, 2014 in Santa Rosa and April 9, 2014 in Redding. The May 8, 2014 Board meeting in Fortuna will be the final public scoping meeting to solicit input from the public and Board members on priority issues recommended for consideration during the 2014 Triennial Review process. Staff will also present on the status of the five 2011 high priority projects.

Planning staff will consult with the staff of the State Water Resources Control Board, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, and other agency partners on issues of concern. Staff is also accepting written recommendations for the 2014 Triennial Review of the Basin Plan. A notice will go out to the Basin Planning lists identifying 5 p.m. June 20, 2014 as the deadline for submittal of recommendations. After June 20<sup>th</sup>, staff will compile the recommendations offered by program staff, the Board, the public, and other agencies. It will conduct its own review of the Basin Plan and consider new science, legislation, and guidance. Staff will then release a proposed 2014 Triennial Review List of Priorities and supporting staff report for public review prior to a hearing before the Board, currently scheduled for November 20, 2014.

**SUPPORTING  
DOCUMENTS:**

Resolution No. R1-2011-0091, 2011 Triennial Review List of Potential Basin Plan Amendments.