

---

**San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board**

**NOTICE OF CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY ACT SCOPING MEETING**  
**NUTRIENT TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD FOR FAMOSA SLOUGH**

**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN** that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, San Diego Region (San Diego Water Board) will hold a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Scoping meeting on February 1, 2016, to provide information and receive public input on the proposed scope of the Nutrient Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for Famosa Slough. The meeting will be held at the following location and time:

**Scoping Meeting Details**

**Monday, February 1, 2016, 1:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**  
**San Diego Water Board, Board Meeting Room**  
**2375 Northside Drive, Suite 100, San Diego, California 92108**

The intent of the CEQA scoping meeting is to assist the San Diego Water Board in determining the scope and content of the CEQA document. During this scoping meeting, staff will provide an overview of the CEQA process, discuss development of the TMDL project, and present a proposed schedule for the project. Staff will receive public verbal comments regarding potential environmental impacts from the implementation of the TMDL, feasible alternatives, and potential mitigation measures.

A quorum of Board members may be present at the meeting but no action will be taken.

**BACKGROUND**

Famosa Slough is an estuary located along the San Diego River in the City of San Diego and is one of the only remnants of a historically large wetland that once encompassed the San Diego River floodplain and Mission Bay. This 37-acre wetland, located within a highly urbanized area, provides habitat to shorebirds and wildlife and offers opportunities for environmental education and public recreation.

Famosa Slough was placed on the Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) list of impaired water bodies in 1990 due to eutrophic conditions identified by excessive algal growth. To correct the impairment, a TMDL is required. The term TMDL is used interchangeably to represent two key concepts. First, a TMDL identifies and calculates the amount of pollutants that are impairing the water body, and then determines how much to reduce the pollutant sources. Second, a TMDL provides a strategy to restore an impaired water body to meet applicable water quality standards. These two concepts are linked, and their ultimate purpose is the same, to restore the water body so that it meets its beneficial uses, which are a component of water quality standards.

Excessive loading of nutrients into Famosa Slough promotes excessive growth of algae and depletes dissolved oxygen. These changes negatively affect the beneficial uses in Famosa Slough. The most sensitive beneficial uses to eutrophic conditions are Estuarine Habitat and Non-Contact Water Recreation as described in the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Diego Basin (Basin Plan).

The San Diego Water Board has been working with the City of San Diego to assess the conditions in Famosa Slough, identify nutrient sources, and develop nutrient targets that will become the water quality goals for the TMDL. This TMDL project aims to restore and maintain healthy conditions that support the beneficial uses in the estuary. The current focus is to reduce nutrient loads from the watershed by implementing best management practices that reduce and treat runoff from the municipal storm water system before it enters the estuary. The San Diego Water Board is seeking public input on a strategy for restoring Famosa Slough, which is currently under development.

#### **DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY**

A Nutrient TMDL Draft Staff Report is being developed for Famosa Slough and is not yet available for public comment. A copy of a Draft CEQA Checklist for the Famosa Slough TMDL project will be available electronically at least 10 days prior to the workshop on the San Diego Water Board web site at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water\\_issues/programs/tmdls/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/water_issues/programs/tmdls/index.shtml)

#### **PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY**

For directions to the San Diego Water Board office, please refer to

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/about\\_us/contact\\_us/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego/about_us/contact_us/).

From Interstate-15 – Take the Friars Road West exit (toward Qualcomm Stadium) – follow signs to stay on Friars Road. Turn left onto Northside Drive. Turn left at first signal. Our building is located at the end of the driveway – follow parking lot driveway to the left. The facility is also accessible via public transit. Limited two-hour free parking is available on a first-come first-serve basis, and long term fee parking is available in an adjacent parking structure.

The facility is accessible to persons with disabilities. Persons requiring additional accommodations should contact Ms. Chris Blank at [chris.blank@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:chris.blank@waterboards.ca.gov) or (619) 521-3382 at least five (5) days prior to the meeting.

#### **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Any questions or concerns regarding the above subject should be directed to Ms. Jody Ebsen at 619-521-3965 or by email at [jody.ebsen@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jody.ebsen@waterboards.ca.gov).