



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## San Francisco Bay Region



Alan C. Lloyd  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400, Oakland, California 94612  
(510) 622-2300 • Fax (510) 622-2460  
<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay>

Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor

March 30, 2006

### NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOPS AND CEQA SCOPING MEETINGS

in order to develop an amendment to the Regional Water Quality Control Plan of the San Francisco Bay Basin to protect stream and wetlands systems

#### Purpose

This public notice is to inform interested parties that the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) will hold three public workshops and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping meetings in order to develop and adopt an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay Basin (Basin Plan) that will protect stream and wetlands systems, including measures to protect riparian areas and floodplains. These public meetings will serve as opportunities to identify and discuss the scope of potential environmental impacts of the amendment in accordance with the CEQA. Regional Water Board staff will also present an overview of current research on the role of stream and wetlands systems in protecting water quality.

The Regional Board will take no action at these public meetings. Staff will open the scoping meetings pursuant to the CEQA (Pub. Resources Code, §§21000-21177) to discuss and take oral and/or written comments from the public on revisions to the Basin Plan. The scoping meetings will be held in compliance with the terms of the Water Board's certified regulatory program for basin planning under CEQA Guidelines (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 14, §15251, subd.(g)). All comments will be included in the final administrative record.

#### Background

The Regional Water Board regulates surface water and groundwater quality in San Francisco Bay. The area under the Regional Board's jurisdiction comprises all of the San Francisco Bay segments extending to the mouth of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Winter Island near Pittsburg) including all or major portions of Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, San Francisco, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Solano, and Sonoma counties. The Basin Plan contains water quality objectives and identifies action plans to meet those objectives. The Regional Water Board conducts a formal public process for all amendments to its Basin Plan.

The goals of the proposed amendment are:

- To achieve water quality standards and protect beneficial uses of waters of the state
- To protect drinking water through natural water quality enhancement and protection of groundwater recharge zones
- To restore habitat and protect aquatic species and wildlife
- To enhance flood protection through natural functions of stream and wetlands systems
- To restore the associated recreational opportunities, green spaces and neighborhood amenities that water resources provide
- To protect property values and community welfare by protecting natural environments
- To encourage local watershed planning and support local oversight of water resources
- To improve Regional Water Board permitting and program efficiency

*Preserving, enhancing, and restoring the San Francisco Bay Area's waters for over 50 years*

The proposed amendment will achieve these goals by recognizing that it is necessary to protect and restore the physical characteristics of stream and wetlands systems—stream channels, wetlands, riparian areas, and floodplains—including their connectivity and natural hydrologic regimes, to achieve water quality standards and protect beneficial uses. The amendment will clarify that stream and wetlands system protection and restoration are viable forms of pollution prevention in all land use settings, and that the strategies of pollutant source control and stream and wetlands system protection need to be integrated to complete the entire watershed water quality management strategy. The amendment will be based on sound scientific principles and will develop reasonable methods to protect water quality.

## **PUBLIC WORKSHOP AND CEQA SCOPING MEETINGS**

### **East Bay Public Workshop and CEQA Scoping Meeting**

Date: Monday, May 1, 2006  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Location: Elihu M. Harris State Building Room 2, second floor  
1515 Clay Street  
Oakland, CA 94612

### **South Bay Public Workshop and CEQA Scoping Meeting**

Date: Tuesday, May 9, 2006  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Location: Quinlan Community Center Cupertino Room  
10185 N. Stelling Road  
Cupertino, CA 95014

### **North Bay Public Workshop and CEQA Scoping Meeting**

Date: Monday, May 15, 2006  
Time: 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon  
Location: Marin Center Manzanita Room  
10 Avenue of the Flags  
San Rafael, CA 94903

Directions to the East Bay workshop and scoping meeting location can be found on the Regional Water Board website. Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should contact the Executive Assistant at least five days prior to the scheduled workshop. The meeting locations are accessible to persons with disabilities. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

## **CONTACT INFORMATION**

Questions regarding the public workshop and CEQA scoping meetings should be directed to Ben Livsey at [BLivsey@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:BLivsey@waterboards.ca.gov) or (510) 622-2308. Additional information regarding the proposed amendment to the Basin Plan can be obtained on the Regional Board website at: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay/streamandwetlands.htm> or by calling the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board at (510) 622-2300.