



Linda S. Adams
*Secretary for
Environmental Protection*

State Water Resources Control Board

Tam M. Doduc, Board Chair
1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 341-5455
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Sacramento, California • 95812-0100
Fax (916) 341-5621 • <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov>



Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON A PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LOS ANGELES REGION INCORPORATING A TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD FOR BACTERIA IN BALLONA CREEK, BALLONA ESTUARY, AND SEPULVEDA CHANNEL

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will now accept comments on an amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region (Basin Plan) that would incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for bacteria in Ballona Creek, Ballona Estuary, and Sepulveda Channel. The proposed amendment and the State Water Board item language and draft resolution are available on the State Water Board's Web site at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tmdl/tmdl.html> or by mail by contacting Glenda Marsh at (916) 341-5558. The proposed amendment was adopted by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Los Angeles Water Board) on June 8, 2006. The State Water Board expects to consider the proposed amendment at a future meeting in 2006. Notice of that meeting will be published separately.

This Basin Plan amendment incorporates a TMDL for bacteria in Ballona Creek, Ballona Estuary, and Sepulveda Channel. The TMDL has four elements. First, the TMDL sets numeric water quality targets equal to: (a) the updated Basin Plan Recreation 1 (REC-1) objectives for marine and fresh waters for Ballona Estuary and Sepulveda Channel respectively; (b) the new Basin Plan objectives for Limited Recreation 1 (LREC-1) for Reach 2 of Ballona Creek; and (c) the Recreation 2 (REC-2) Basin Plan objectives for Reach 1 of Ballona Creek. Second, the TMDL specifies the allowable maximum number of daily and weekly sampling days which may exceed the single sample limits for the relevant bacterial indicators, as specified in the Basin Plan during summer dry-weather, winter-dry weather, and wet-weather. Third, the TMDL assigns wasteload allocations for point source dischargers and load allocations for nonpoint source discharges. Fourth, the TMDL specifies that the allowable exceedance days, and the rolling 30-day geometric bacteria density means (specified in the Basin Plan as bacteriological water quality objectives), must be achieved within six years for the summer and winter-dry weather period and within ten years for the wet-weather period. However, if an Integrated Water Resources Approach is implemented, the Executive Officer of the Los Angeles Water Board may extend the compliance for the wet-weather allowable exceedance days and the rolling 30-day geometric mean up to 14 years from the effective date of the TMDL. This date corresponds with the final compliance date of the Santa Monica Bay Beaches Bacteria TMDL.

The principal regulatory tools for implementing the TMDL will be the Los Angeles County Municipal Storm Water National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit, the California Department of Transportation Storm Water Permit, general NPDES permits, industrial storm water permits, and construction storm water permits. The TMDL implementation approach relies on non-structural and structural best management practices to achieve compliance with the waste load allocations. Load allocations for nonpoint sources will be

California Environmental Protection Agency

incorporated into Waste Discharge Requirements and Memorandums of Understanding with responsible jurisdictions. Del Rey Lagoon is considered a nonpoint source and is subject to load allocations.

Comment letters must be received by 12 p.m. on October 20, 2006. After the October deadline, State Water Board staff will not accept additional written comments unless the State Water Board determines that such comments should be accepted. Please send comments to: Song Her, Clerk to the Board, State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 341-5620 (fax), or email to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. Please also indicate in the subject line "Comment Letter–Ballona Creek Bacteria TMDL". Please direct questions about this notice to Glenda Marsh, Division of Water Quality, at (916) 341-5558 or gmarsh@waterboards.ca.gov or Senior Staff Counsel Steven H. Blum at (916) 341-5177 or SBlum@waterboards.ca.gov.

October 3, 2006

Date



Song Her
Clerk to the Board