

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 84-52

CONSIDERATION OF AN AMENDMENT BY THE CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER
QUALITY CONTROL BOARD, CENTRAL COAST REGION, TO THE WATER QUALITY
CONTROL PLAN FOR THE CENTRAL COASTAL BASIN REGARDING BENEFICIAL
USE DESIGNATIONS FOR ELKHORN SLOUGH

WHEREAS:

1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Coast Region, (Central Coast Regional Board) adopted the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (basin plan) in March 1975 which was approved by the State Board on March 20, 1975.
2. Division 7, Section 13240, et. seq., of the California Water Code specifies that basin plans shall be periodically reviewed and may be revised.
3. On January 20, 1984, the Central Coast Regional Board, after a public hearing, adopted the proposed amendment in its Resolution No. 84-01 (attached).
4. The Central Coast Regional Board staff satisfied the public notice requirements in accordance with California Water Code Section 13244 and has responded to comments received.
5. Resolution No. 84-01, adopted by the Central Coast Regional Board, has separated Moss Landing Harbor and Elkhorn Slough into two separate beneficial use designations.
6. The above amendment revises Table 2-2 by establishing beneficial uses for Moss Landing Harbor, but does not identify shellfishing as an existing beneficial use.
7. The Department of Fish and Game's Marine Resources Administrative Report No. 82-11 (J. D. Spratt, 1982) states that Elkhorn Slough is one of the more popular recreational clamming areas in Central California, especially the area on the north bank west of the Highway One bridge; and that from a biological viewpoint, Moss Landing Harbor and Elkhorn Slough are considered one continuous community sharing the same waters and habitat.
8. Separation of the waters into two distinct communities has resulted in the absence of shellfishing as a beneficial use in Moss Landing Harbor. The Central Coast Regional Board administrative records submitted to the State Board do not contain the factor(s) considered by the Central Coast Regional Board to support their decision not to include the shellfishing beneficial use designation in Moss Landing Harbor in the basin plan.
9. Central Coast Regional Board staff prepared documents and followed appropriate procedures to satisfy the environmental documentation requirements of both the California Environmental Quality Act, Public Resources Code, Section 21080.5,

and the federal Clean Water Act. The Central Coast Regional Board found that adoption of this amendment will not have a significant adverse affect on the environment.

10. The State Board may approve the amendment or remand it to the Regional Board for reconsideration. Basin plan amendments do not become effective until approved by the State Board.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

1. That the amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin as adopted by Central Coast Regional Board Resolution No. 84-01 be approved with the exception of the absence of shellfishing as a beneficial use in Moss Landing Harbor.
2. That the portion of Table 2-2 in the amendment which addresses designated beneficial uses in Moss Landing Harbor be remanded to the Central Coast Regional Board for review and reconsideration of the absence of shellfishing as a beneficial use.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on July 19, 1984.

for *Walter G. Pettit*
Michael A. Campos
Executive Director