

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
RESOLUTION NO. 90-105

GRANTING A CALIFORNIA OCEAN PLAN EXCEPTION TO THE U.S. NAVY FOR
DISCHARGES AT ITS SAN NICOLAS ISLAND DESALINATION FACILITY.

WHEREAS:

1. The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) adopted the Ocean Plan on July 6, 1972 and revised the plan in 1978, 1983, 1988, and 1990.
2. The Ocean Plan states that waste shall not be discharged to areas designated as being of special biological significance.
3. The waters around San Nicolas Island have been designated as being of special biological significance.
4. Exceptions to the Ocean Plan may be granted by the State Board provided that (a) the exception will not compromise protection of ocean waters for beneficial uses, and (b) the public interest will be served.
5. The U.S. Navy has requested an exception to the Ocean Plan's prohibition against discharges to areas of special biological significance for brine discharges that will be generated at its desalination facility on San Nicolas Island.
6. The Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) has reviewed this exception request and has recommended that the exception be granted.
7. The Regional Board has issued a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit for the discharges which is contingent upon this exception request being granted.
8. The Regional Board has found and we concur that the proposed discharge of brine from the desalination plant on San Nicolas Island will not adversely impact biological communities in the area of special biological significance surrounding San Nicolas Island.
9. The U.S. Navy has demonstrated that alternative means of delivering fresh water to San Nicolas Island are less dependable, more costly, and involve hazards to personnel and equipment, and we therefore find that the public interest will be served by this exception.
10. The approval of this exception to the Ocean Plan is exempt from the provisions of Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21000) of Division 13 of the Public Resources Code pursuant to Title 14, California Code of Regulations, Sections 15269, 15301 and 15304.

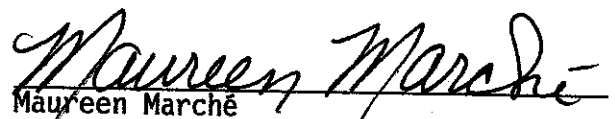
THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the State Board grants an exception to the Ocean Plan prohibition against discharges to areas of special biological significance as follows:

- o The exception is granted to the U.S. Navy for discharges of brine from its saltwater desalination plant located at its naval base on San Nicolas Island (see attachment).
- o The exception is conditioned on compliance with the Regional Board's permitting requirements.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Administrative Assistant to the 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 October 3, 1990.


Maureen Marché
Administrative Assistant to the Board