

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL COAST REGION
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401-7906**

**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE OF FILING A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENT**

**To Consider Adoption of Resolution No. R3-2010-0017
Amending The Water Quality Control Plan for The Central Coast Basin to (1)
Remove The Shellfish Harvesting Beneficial Use for Salinas River Lagoon (North),
Old Salinas River, and Tembladero Slough, (2) Adopt the Total Maximum Daily
Loads For Fecal Coliform in Lower Salinas River Watershed, (3) Add the Lower
Salinas River Watershed to the Domestic Animal Waste Discharge Prohibition;
and (4) Add the Lower Salinas River Watershed to the Human Waste Discharge
Prohibition**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board Central Coast Region (Central Coast Water Board) will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of a resolution amending the Water Quality Control Plan (Basin Plan) for the Central Coast Basin. The Basin Plan establishes measures to protect beneficial uses of waters of the state and achieve water quality objectives.

If accepted, the resolution will amend the Basin Plan by removing the shellfish harvesting beneficial use for Salinas River Lagoon (North), Old Salinas River, and Tembladero Slough, and by adding the Lower Salinas River Watershed as subject to the Human Fecal Material Discharge Prohibition and the Domestic Animal Waste Discharge Prohibition, and incorporating Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for Pathogens in Lower Salinas River Watershed, including the Lower Salinas River, Old Salinas River, Tembladero Slough, Salinas Reclamation Ditch, Alisal Creek, Gabilan Creek, Natividad Creek, Salinas River Lagoon (North), Santa Rita Creek, Quail Creek, Chualar Creek and Towne Creek.

At the conclusion of the hearing the Central Coast Water Board will consider approval of the proposed resolution.

Actions to amend the Basin Plan by the Central Coast Water Board will be taken in accordance with a regulatory program exempt under section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code from the requirement to prepare an environmental impact report under the California Environmental Quality Act (Public Resources Code, section 21000 et seq.) and with other applicable laws and regulations.

Copies of the proposed revised resolution and amendments to the Basin Plan (including the staff report, a substitute environmental document which includes an Environmental Checklist, and draft amendments for adoption) are available on the following website:
http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/centralcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdl/public_comment_participation.shtml.

On the website, click on "Staff Report" under the heading "Notice of Public Hearing: Proposed Basin Plan Amendments for Lower Salinas River Watershed."

The proposed amendments to the Basin Plan are also available by request at the office of the Central Coast Water Board; please contact: Sherry Kuykendall at 805-549-3865.

The public hearing is scheduled as follows:

Date: **March 18, 2010**

Time: **8:30 a.m.**

Place: **Watsonville City Council Chambers
275 Main Street – 4th Floor (new building)
Watsonville, CA 95076**

Interested persons may submit written comments on the proposed amendments and substitute environmental documents and may make oral comments at the hearing. The written public comment period will occur from **December 7, 2009 to January 21, 2010**. All written comments must be submitted to Pete Osmolovsky of the Central Coast Water Board **by 5:00 p.m. on January 21, 2010** at the address listed above or electronically to paosmolovsky@waterboards.ca.gov. Written comments submitted by that date will be responded to in writing. Written comments submitted after that date may not be responded to in writing.

Your timely submittal will allow staff and the Central Coast Water Board members to consider your comments before taking final action at the meeting to be held on March 18, 2010.

Time limits may be imposed on oral presentations at the hearing. At the conclusion of the public hearing, the Central Coast Water Board will consider certification of the substitute environmental documents and approval of the proposed amendments. The Central Coast Water Board may close the public hearing and the comment period, but consider adoption of the amendments at a later public hearing.

Copies of the existing Basin Plan are located at libraries in major cities throughout the region, at the office of the Central Coast Water Board, and on the following website: http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb3/publications_forms/publications/basin_plan/index.shtml

The location of the hearing is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals who require special accommodations are requested to contact **Cyndee Jones** at **805-549-3372** at least five working days prior to March 18, 2010. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

For additional information on these proposed revised Basin Plan amendments, please call Pete Osmolovsky at (805) 549-3699.

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