

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

RESOLUTION NO. R5-2018-0078

RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT PROPOSITION 1 FUNDS FOR MONITORING OF
HARMFUL ALGAL TOXINS IN THE SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

WHEREAS:

1. Excess growth or “blooms” of harmful cyanobacteria, also called blue-green algae, are a significant water quality concern in locations in the Central Valley Region, including the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta.
2. People, pets, and wildlife species are exposed to cyanobacteria toxins in water. Cyanobacteria toxins also accumulate in clams and other organisms in the Delta, which creates risks to people and wildlife species that eat shellfish.
3. Beneficial uses of water in the Delta considered affected by harmful cyanobacteria blooms and their toxins are contact recreation, municipal water supply, and wildlife habitat.
4. On 2 August 2018, the Central Valley Water Board approved the July 2018 Delta Nutrient Research Plan. The Delta Nutrient Research Plan establishes a framework and actions to generate information to determine whether numeric nutrient objectives are needed to protect beneficial uses.
5. Nutrient concentrations are among the factors that influence the severity and duration of harmful cyanobacteria blooms. The Delta Nutrient Research Plan identifies information gaps in our knowledge of cyanobacteria toxins in water and shellfish in the Delta, changes in toxin levels over time, and the role of nutrients in cyanobacterial growth.
6. Because of the concerns for human and wildlife health, staff is working with stakeholders to acquire resources to fill information gaps related to harmful algae blooms and toxins.
7. In September 2018, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) selected for funding a project submitted by the Central Valley Water Board, titled, “Cyanobacterial Harmful Algal Bloom Toxins in Freshwater and Estuarine Invertebrates: Implications for Managed Species, Their Communities, and Human Health Risks” (Project ID 00830). Funds in the amount of \$612,115.20 were awarded from the Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act of 2014 (Prop 1).
8. The objectives of the project are to monitor concentrations of cyanobacteria toxins in water and in clams, crayfish, and other bottom-dwelling organisms at ten locations in the Delta over a two-year period. The relationships between toxin concentrations in organisms, toxin concentrations in water, and other water quality measurements will be evaluated.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. The Central Valley Water Board accepts Watershed Restoration and Delta Water Quality and Ecosystem Restoration Grant Program Fiscal Year 2018-19 funds in the amount of \$612,115.20 to assess harmful algal toxins in water and sediment organisms in the Delta (CDFW Prop 1 Project 00830).
2. The Central Valley Water Board will manage this project through an agreement between CDFW and the State Water Resources Control Board.

I, PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true and correct copy of a Resolution approved by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region on 6 December 2018.

Original signed by Patrick Pulupa

PATRICK PULUPA, Executive Officer