

**California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region**

Resolution No. R1-2018-0030

**Adoption of the Final Staff Report for the 2018 Triennial Review of the
Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region and
Planning Program Workplan for FY 2018 through 2021**

WHEREAS, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, (hereinafter the Regional Water Board) finds that:

Introduction

1. The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (Regional Water Board), adopted the Water Quality Control Plans (Basin Plans) for the Klamath River Basin (1A) and the North Coastal Basin (1B) and their abstracts on March 20, 1975. The abstracts of the Klamath River Basin Plan (1A) and the North Coastal Basin Plan (1B) were combined to form *the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region* (Basin Plan) on April 28, 1988. The Regional Water Board has updated and amended the Basin Plan numerous times since then in response to changes in regulation and other conditions. The Basin Plan was last updated in March 2018.
2. The Basin Plan includes definitions of beneficial uses of water, water quality objectives necessary to protect those beneficial uses, implementation plans to control point and nonpoint sources of waste discharges, acknowledgement of and coordination with statewide plans and policies and surveillance and monitoring component.
3. The Regional Water Board is responsible for adopting water quality standards (beneficial uses and objectives) and implementation plans and for modifying such standards and plans, as appropriate, under the provisions of Clean Water Act sections 303(c), (d), and (e) and Water Code section 13240.
4. During its adoption of the 2014 Triennial Review of the Basin Plan, the Regional Water Board approved non-substantive revisions to Chapters 1, 3, and 5 of the Basin Plan. The Regional Water Board has approved four substantive amendments to the Basin Plan since the adoption of the 2014 Triennial Review of the Basin Plan in March 2015. Those amendments include: in June 2015 an update to Water Quality Objectives including a narrative toxicity objective applicable to groundwater, an amendment to the Dissolved Oxygen Objective, and the incorporation of the statewide Onsite Waste Treatment System (OWTS) Policy; and in May 2016 the adoption of an Action Plan for the Upper Elk River Watershed Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load.

Summary of 2018 Triennial Review

5. On May 5, 2018, the Regional Water Board released draft 2018 Triennial Review documents for public review. The 2018 Triennial Review documents are comprised of the *Draft Staff Report for the 2018 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region* (draft Staff Report), the draft Planning Program Workplan for Fiscal Years 2018 through 2021, and a draft of Resolution No. R1-2018-0030.
6. On May 5, 2018, the Regional Water Board published the public notice announcing the availability of 2018 Triennial Review documents; a workshop on May 17, 2018; the close of the written public comment period on June 22, 2018; and, a public hearing on September 6, 2018.
7. The Regional Water Board conducted a public workshop on May 17, 2018 and received oral comments from the Board and members of the public on the 2018 Triennial Review. The Regional Water Board also received written comments from members of the public, submitted up through the close of the public comment period on June 22, 2018.
8. The Regional Water Board staff has reviewed and carefully considered all comments and testimony received and has prepared a response to comments document. In response to comments, the draft 2018 Triennial Review documents have been revised as follows and now constitute the proposed 2018 Triennial Review documents:
 - a. The draft Staff Report is revised to be identified as final;
 - b. The Planning Program Workplan for FY 2018 through 2021 has been revised to include the Russian River Sediment TMDL as a high priority, pending approval for a new staff position and funding adequate to hire a Russian River Watershed Steward;
 - c. The Planning Program Workplan for FY 2018 through 2021 has been revised to make more explicit the development of a regional flow objective, such as a narrative flow objective, as part of the Navarro Instream Flow Criteria/Objective project; and,
 - d. The Planning Program Workplan for FY 2018 through 2021 has been revised to adjust the schedule for the Groundwater Protection Strategy.
9. The proposed Planning Program Workplan for the Fiscal Years 2018 through 2021 ranks triennial review issues to reflect both water quality concerns and the availability of resources to work on the projects.
10. The Regional Water Board conducted a public hearing on September 6, 2018 to solicit final comments on the 2018 Triennial Review.

11. The Regional Water Board has reviewed its water quality standards, implementation plans and policies and finds them appropriate, except as described in the 2018 Triennial Review staff report. The proposed Planning Program Workplan for Fiscal Years 2018 through 2021 identifies the high priority projects that will be staffed during this next triennial review period.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

1. The Regional Water Board, in fulfillment of the requirements described in Clean Water Act sections 303(c), (d), and (e) and in section 13240, Division 7 of the California Water Code, hereby approves the 2018 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region as complete and adopts the Planning Program Workplan for Fiscal Years 2018 through 2021 included as Attachment 1 to this resolution.
2. The Basin Plan as it currently exists remains effective until such time as it is changed by formal Regional Water Board action.

Certification

I, Matthias St. John, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region, on September 6, 2018.

Matthias St. John
Executive Officer

Attachment 1: Planning Program Workplan for FY 2018 through 2021