Public Comment
Implementation Plan for US EPA Malibu Nutrient and Sedimentation TMDLs
Deadline: 1/26/17 12 noon

From: E. D. Michael
To: commentletters
Subject: Implementation Plan amendment - LARWQCB Basic Plan, Malibu Creek drainage area
Date: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 8:35:33 AM

I have prepared a paper that I hope the Board will consider even though it may be received a day or so after the January 26 deadline. The Malibu Creek drainage area certainly needs the continued attention of the State Water Resources Control Board. With regard to the subject proposed Implementation Plan, the following assertions summarized from my paper should be considered.

1. TMDLs cannot rationally be applied to the Malibu Creek drainage area until its hydrodynamic character, which so far has been ignored, is fully understood.

2. The Malibu Creek drainage area is absolutely unique; as such, TMDLs for it cannot be based statistically on conditions of other drainage areas except possibly as applied to certain limited processes.

3. Neither the Malibu Lagoon Restoration and Enhancement Project facility nor any part of it is a wetland, and attempts to apply CRAM analysis to it as a measure of its environmental character are meaningless.

4. A “black goo” which covers the MLREP facility channel bottoms appears to be an unnatural substance the origin and chemical character of which needs to be determined as a first step in assessing the facility’s environmental value, particularly in terms of whatever benthic community it may support.

5. Waters in the channels of the MLREP facility do not circulate in the accepted sense of the term, *i.e*., by circuitous flow; rather, they drain and receive waters in a manner involving some sort of mass transfer and replacement this is not understood.

6. Sedimentation rates in Malibu Creek drainage area streams, as in streams everywhere, are strictly a function of streamflow velocity and sediment grain size; therefore, because it is not possible to control such rates, sedimentation TMDLs for that area would be environmentally meaningless and impossible to maintain.