



**California Regional Water Quality Control Board
North Coast Region
John W. Corbett, Chairman**



Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California 95403
Phone: (877) 721-9203 (toll free) • Office: (707) 576-2220 • FAX: (707) 523-0135

Arnold
Schwarzenegger
Governor

July 26, 2007

Tam Doduc, Chairperson
State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Quality
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Ocean Plan Exception for Bodega Marine Lab
Waste Discharge into the Bodega ASBS

File: Bodega Marine Lab

Dear Ms. Doduc:

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), under Resolution No. 74-28, designated certain ocean waters as Areas of Special Biological Significance (ASBS). This resolution was adopted into the water quality control plan for waste discharges in ocean waters (Ocean Plan). The Bodega Marine Lab (BML) is seeking an exemption to the Ocean Plan prohibition in order to continue to discharge circulated seawater under the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit regulated by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (NCRWQCB). The BML is an important educational and scientific facility affiliated with the University of California, Davis. The presence of this facility on the north coast provides a valuable asset to all stakeholders concerned with the protection and enhancement of our ocean resources.

The BML historically has had permits with the NCRWQCB since 1974. During this time they have maintained a record of good compliance. We have reviewed the information related to the request for an exception to the ASBS discharge prohibition. The North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board supports the proposed Ocean Plan exception for the Bodega Marine Lab. The proposal will allow the Bodega Marine Lab to continue the discharging of waste from this facility into the Bodega Areas (ASBS) under provisions of their NPDES permit.

Sincerely,

Catherine E. Kuhlman
Executive Officer

California Environmental Protection Agency