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State Water Resources Control Board

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Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON THE PROPOSED 2006 FEDERAL CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 303(d) LIST OF WATER QUALITY LIMITED SEGMENTS FOR CALIFORNIA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will accept comments on the proposed 2006 federal Clean Water Act (CWA) section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments for California (2006 list). The draft final 2006 list and supporting staff reports are available on the State Water Board's Web site at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tmdl/303d_lists2006.html. You may also receive a copy of the staff reports and draft final 2006 list on CD-R by contacting: Dorena Goding, Water Quality Assessment Unit, Division of Water Quality, State Water Resources Control Board, P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100, (916) 341-5596, FAX: (916) 341-5550, email: dgoding@waterboards.ca.gov.

The State Water Board expects to consider for adoption the 2006 list at the October 25, 2006 Board Meeting. An agenda notice, agenda item, and draft resolution for the October 25, 2006 Board Meeting will be available on October 13, 2006.

Section 303(d) of the CWA requires states to identify waters that do not meet applicable water quality standards (WQSs) with technology-based controls alone. The section 303(d) list must include the water quality limited segments, (water not meeting WQSs), associated pollutants, and a priority ranking of the waters for purposes of developing total maximum daily loads (TMDLs) in the next two years. A TMDL is the maximum load of a pollutant that can be discharged from point and nonpoint sources without exceeding WQSs. States are required to submit the section 303(d) list and TMDL priorities to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for approval.

A previous draft of the proposed 2006 list was released for public comment on September 30, 2005, and comments were accepted through January 31, 2006. State Water Board staff has completed the review of public comments submitted. In response to comments, staff has now considered all data and information. Staff developed 2,259 fact sheets documenting development of the 2006 list. In assessing listing status, staff followed the Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List (Listing Policy), which is available at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/plnspols/index.html>. The Listing Policy identifies the process, listing and delisting factors, by which the State Water Board and the Regional Water Quality Control Boards comply with the listing requirements of CWA section 303(d). In response to comments, the State Water Board has changed many of

its initial recommendations. New or revised fact sheets are grouped together in the staff report.

Comment letters on the revisions must be received by 5 p.m. on October 20, 2006. After this deadline, State Water Board staff will not accept additional written comments unless the State Water Board determines that such comments should be accepted or unless changes are made to the proposed list before the State Water Board meeting. Please send comments to: Song Her, Clerk to the Board, by e-mail at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 341-5620 (fax), or addressed to State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Please also indicate in the subject line, "Comment Letter – 2006 Federal CWA Section 303(d) List." Please direct questions about this notice to Dorena Goding, Division of Water Quality, at (916) 341-5596.

September 20, 2006
Date



Song Her
Clerk to the Board