



*Presentation to the Regional  
Tribal Operations Committee  
July 28, 2010  
Mooretown, California*



## *Today's Topics*

- ≈ The State & Regional Water Boards
- ≈ Total Maximum Daily Loads
- ≈ Proposed Policy re Biocriteria Development
- ≈ Proposed Policy re Wetland & Riparian Area Protection



## *Mission of the Water Boards*

**“...to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.”**

# *Regional Water Boards*



**5 – Central Coast Region**

**6 – Lahontan Region**

**7 – Colorado River Basin  
Region**

**8- Santa Ana Region**

**9 – San Diego Region**

## *State vs. Regional Board Roles*



- ≈ State Board – Provides statewide regulatory oversight of Water Rights and Water Quality programs including 303(d) listing, water quality standards and Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLS).
- ≈ Regional Boards – Develop and enforce water quality objectives and implementation plans to protect the beneficial uses of the waters within their geographic boundaries.



## *State vs. Regional Board Roles*

- ~ State Board – May adopt Statewide Plans & Policies, eg., Biological Objectives and Wetland & Riparian Area Protection Policies.
- ~ Regional Boards – Required by Water Code to designate Beneficial Uses, establish Water Quality objectives & plans of implementation in their Basin Plans.



## *Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL)*

TMDL - a written plan that describes how an impaired water body will meet water quality standards. It contains:

- ≈ A measurable feature to describe attainment of water quality standards
- ≈ A description of required actions to remove the impairment
- ≈ An allocation of responsibility among dischargers to act in the form of actions or water quality conditions for which each discharger is responsible



# *Public Participation & Basin Planning*

## **Agency Activities**

**Prepare Project Report(s)**



**Prepare Draft Basin Plan  
Amendment/Staff Report**



**Peer Review of Draft  
Amendment/Staff Report**



**Revise Amendment/Staff Report**



## **Opportunities for Public Involvement**



**Stakeholder Meetings/CEQA  
Scoping**



## *Public Participation & Basin Planning*

**Public Notice of Draft Basin Plan Amendment**



**Formal 45-Day Comment Period**

**Propose Final Basin Plan Amendment/ Staff Report**



**Regional Water Board Hearing(s)**

**Regional Water Board Review and Adoption\***



**Submit Administrative Record to State Water Board**



**State Water Board Meeting**

**State Water Board Review and Approval\***





## *Public Participation & Basin Planning*

**Office of Administrative Law Approval\***



**USEPA Review and Approval\***



**Basin Plan Amendment Adopted**

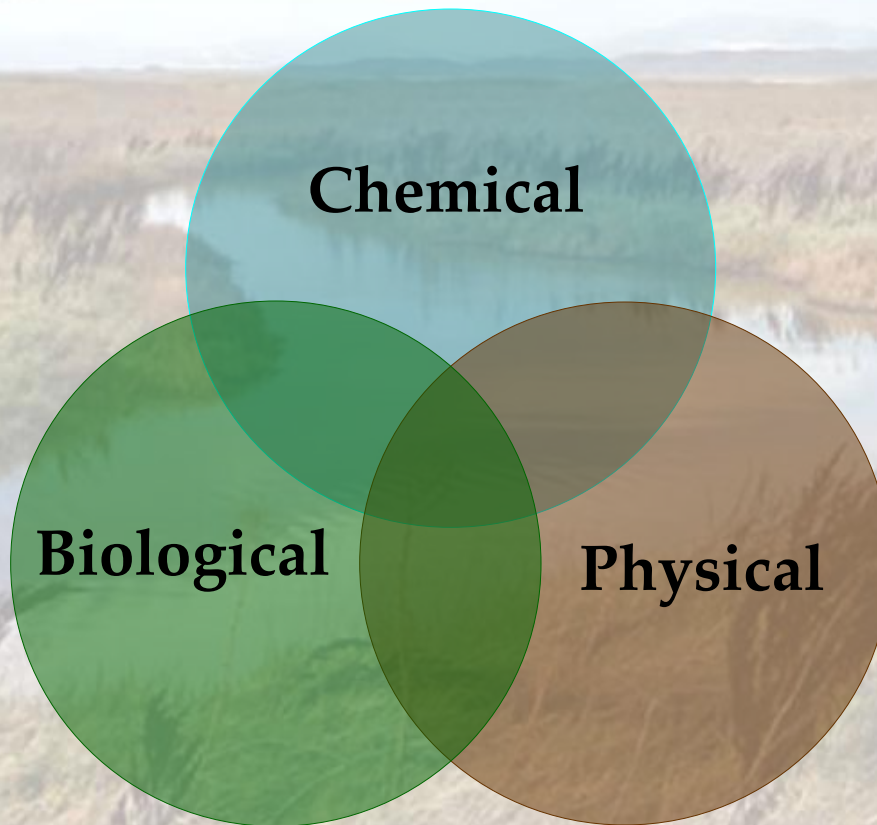
**\* If the Regional Water Board, State Water Board, Office of Administrative Law, or USEPA decides not to approve the Basin Plan Amendment as proposed, steps in the Basin Planning Process may be repeated.**



## *Proposed Policy for Biological Objectives*

**Purpose: To help improve water quality in freshwater rivers and streams by providing the narrative or numeric benchmarks that describe conditions necessary to protect aquatic life beneficial uses.**

# *Biological Objectives for Freshwater Rivers and Streams*



# What are biological objectives?



## Water Quality Standards

Beneficial Uses  
*Aquatic Life*

Water Quality Objectives  
*Biological Objectives*

Antidegradation

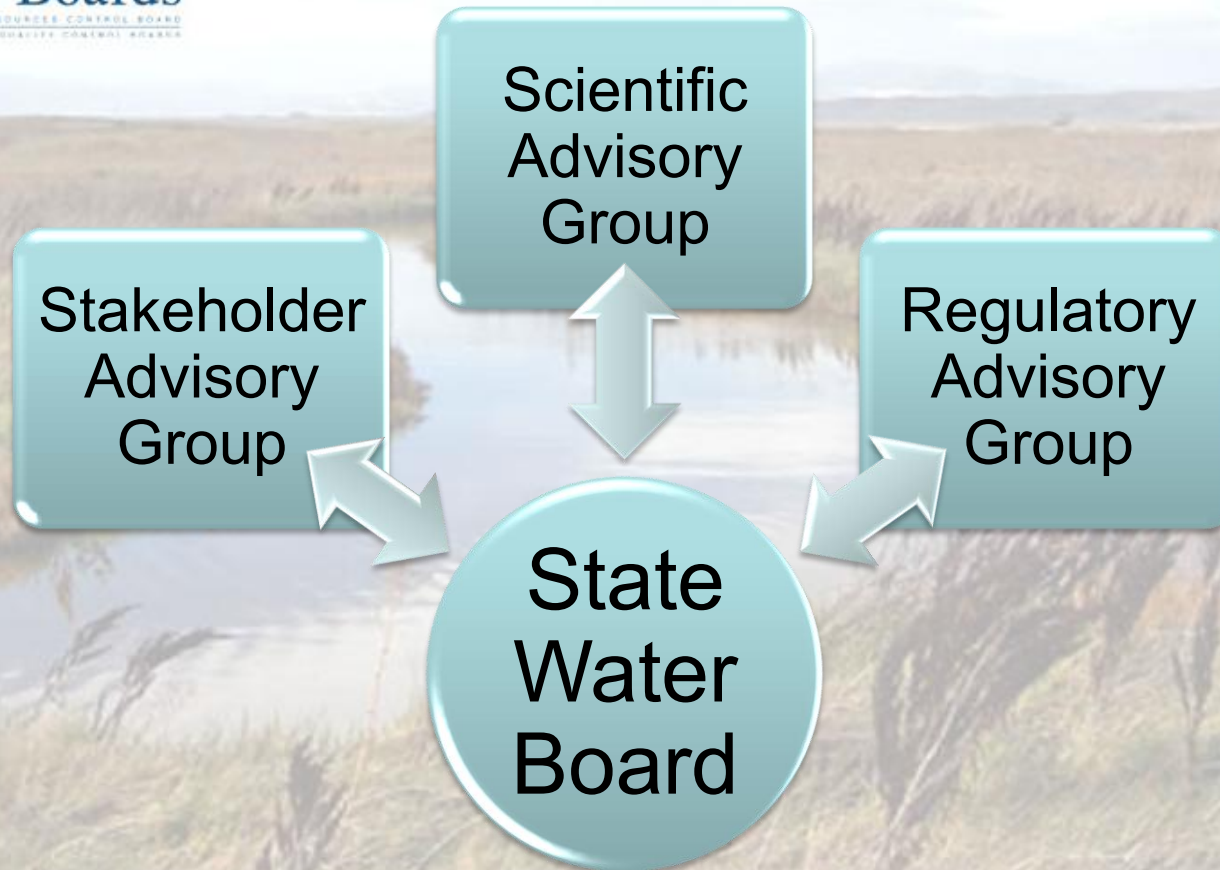
Implementation  
*305(b), 303(d), Permitting*



- ≈ Help us assess whether aquatic life beneficial uses are supported.
- ≈ Help us determine whether chemical criteria are sufficient to protect aquatic life.
- ≈ Help assure that our methods for identifying impaired waterbodies will be consistent.
- ≈ Help keep costs down as it is more expensive to develop biological targets on a project by project basis.



## *Collaboration and Public Participation*





# Rule Making Timeline

**18 Months**

**6-12 Months**

Administrative Record

Establish Need  
for Policy

Research

CEQA Scoping

Draft Policy and  
Staff Report

Scientific Peer  
Review

Revise Policy &  
Staff Report

Notice Hearing

Adoption  
Hearing

Finalize Policy  
& Staff Report

Public, Agency & Scientific Peer Review & Consultation



## Technical Work Timeline

<b>Mar 2010</b>	<b>Workplan Complete; Stakeholder Committee Formation Initiated</b>
<b>Jun 2010</b>	<b>Regulatory &amp; Scientific Committee Formation Begun</b> <b>Technical Work Element Review &amp; Approval</b>
<b>Mar 2011</b>	<b>Reference Condition Assessment</b> <b>Method Standardization</b> <b>Information Management</b>
<b>Sep 2011</b>	<b>Stressor Response Models</b>
<b>Mar 2012</b>	<b>Waterbody Classification</b> <b>Stressor Identification Pilot Studies</b>
<b>Jun 2012</b>	<b>Scientific Committee Review of Technical Reports</b>
<b>Sep 2012</b>	<b>Final Draft Technical Documents to Stakeholder Committee</b>
<b>Dec 2012</b>	<b>Final Technical Documents to State Water Board</b>

**Stakeholder & Regulatory Committee Meetings**



## *Wetland and Riparian Area Protection Policy*

**Purpose - To help reverse historic trends in wetland loss, mitigate future risks to aquatic resources, and produce measureable improvement in the abundance, diversity and health of the state's wetland and riparian resource.**



## *Wetland & Riparian Area Protection Policy Goals*

- ≈ Achieve a long-term net gain in, the quantity, quality and diversity of wetlands and riparian areas.
- ≈ Provide a common framework for wetland and riparian area monitoring and assessment.
- ≈ Respect the values held by our state's diverse social, ethnic and cultural groups towards wetlands, riparian areas and other aquatic resources, and seek their participation in the protection and enhancement of these vital resources.
- ≈ Streamline regulatory procedures.



## *To Contact the Water Boards*

Website: <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/>

Both State & Regional Board websites can be accessed.

Lyris (electronic notification subscription):

≈ [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/index.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/index.shtml)

≈ No computer access? No problem. Give us a call or send us a request in writing and we can add you to a hard copy mailing list.



## San Francisco Bay Region 2 – Email List Subscription Form

Email Address:  
(required)

Your Full Name:  
(required)

(e.g. John Smith)

Subscribe

Please check the boxes below to subscribe to our email lists. You may select as many lists as you wish. Our objective is to periodically email information about these topics to the members of these lists.

After making your selection(s), please click on the subscribe button located at the upper right hand corner of this web page.

An email confirmation notice will be sent to you for each list you choose. In order to complete the subscription process, please reply to each email message.

### General

- ☐ Regional Water Board Meetings
- ☐ Enforcement Actions (except Site Cleanup Requirements)
- ☐ Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit Reissuance
- ☐ NPDES Wastewater Permits
- ☐ Proposed Stream and Wetlands System Protection Policy
- ☐ Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)
- ☐ Vineyard Waiver Program (Napa River & Sonoma Creek)

## Basin Planning/TMDL Lists

Categories Below:

- [Basin Planning/TMDLs](#)
- [All Basin Planning/TMDL Projects by Area](#)
- [Current Basin Planning/TMDL Projects](#)
- [Future Basin Planning/TMDL Projects](#)

### Basin Planning/TMDLs

- ☐ ALL Basin Planning/TMDL Notices and Information
- ☐ 303(d) List of Impaired Water Bodies and 305(b) Integrated Report

### All Basin Planning/TMDL Projects by Area

- ☐ San Francisco Bay, All Segments
- ☐ San Francisco Bay, North Bay Segments
- ☐ San Francisco Bay, South Bay Segments
- ☐ Alameda County
- ☐ Contra Costa County
- ☐ Marin County (Bayside)
- ☐ Marin County (Coastal)
- ☐ Napa River Watershed (Napa County)
- ☐ San Francisco City and County
- ☐ San Mateo County (Bayside)
- ☐ San Mateo County (Coastal)
- ☐ Santa Clara County
- ☐ Solano County
- ☐ Petaluma River and Sonoma Creek Watersheds (Sonoma County)

### Current Basin Planning/TMDL Projects

- ☐ Copper in San Francisco Bay



## *State Water Board Office of Public Participation*

### How to contact us:

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