

# **PUBLIC WORKSHOP**

## **2014 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin**

**August 25, 2014**

**3:00 to 5:00 PM**

**Central Coast Water Board  
895 Aerovista Place, Board Room  
San Luis Obispo, CA**



# Workshop Purpose

1. Explain Basin Planning and Triennial Review Process
2. Provide information, answer questions, and listen to input from interested parties.



# Presentation Summary

- Overview of the Basin Plan
- Overview of the Triennial Review process
- Triennial Review process for 2014



# Overview of the Basin Plan



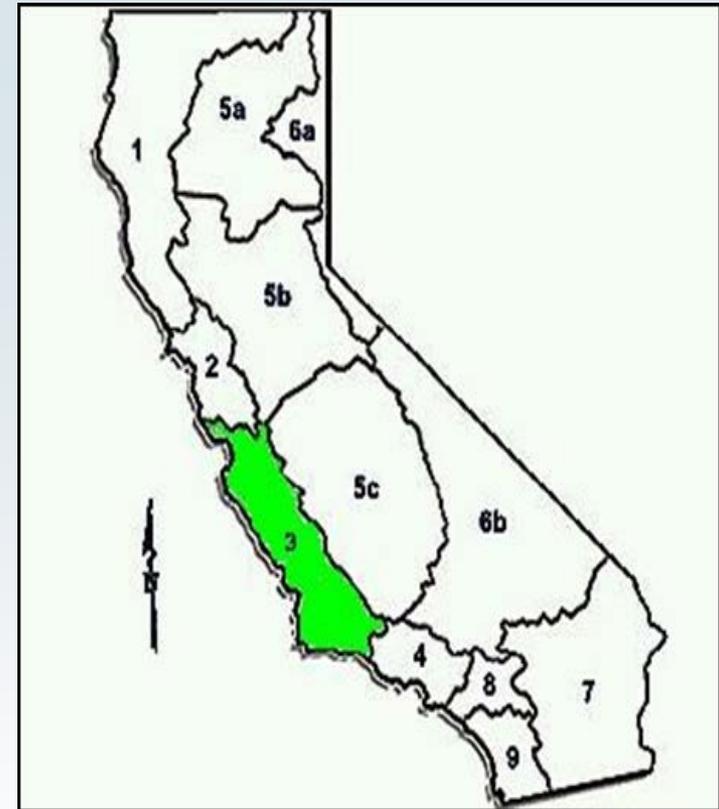
# Waters of the State

‘Waters of the state’ means any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state.  
CA Water Code (CWC § 13050)



# Regional Board Boundaries

Central Coast region comprises “all basins, including Carrizo Plain in San Luis Obispo and Kern Counties, draining into the Pacific Ocean from the southerly boundary of the watershed of Pescadero Creek in San Mateo and Santa Cruz Counties to the southeasterly boundary, located in the westerly part of Ventura County, of the watershed of Rincon Creek.” (CWC § 13200)



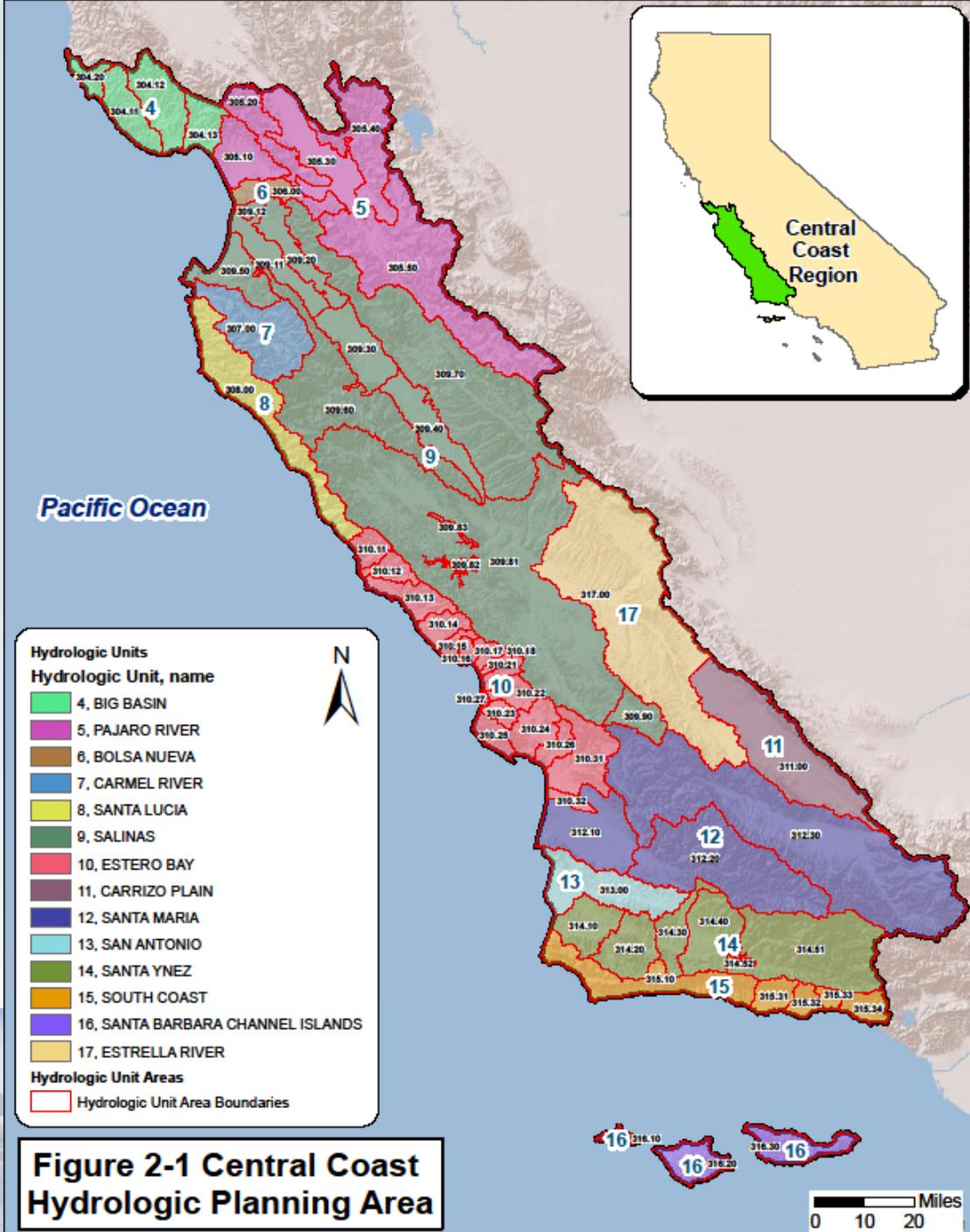
# California Basin Plans

Water Code requires all nine Regional Boards to formulate and adopt **Water Quality Control Plans** (i.e., *basin plans*) for all areas within the region (CWC § 13240).



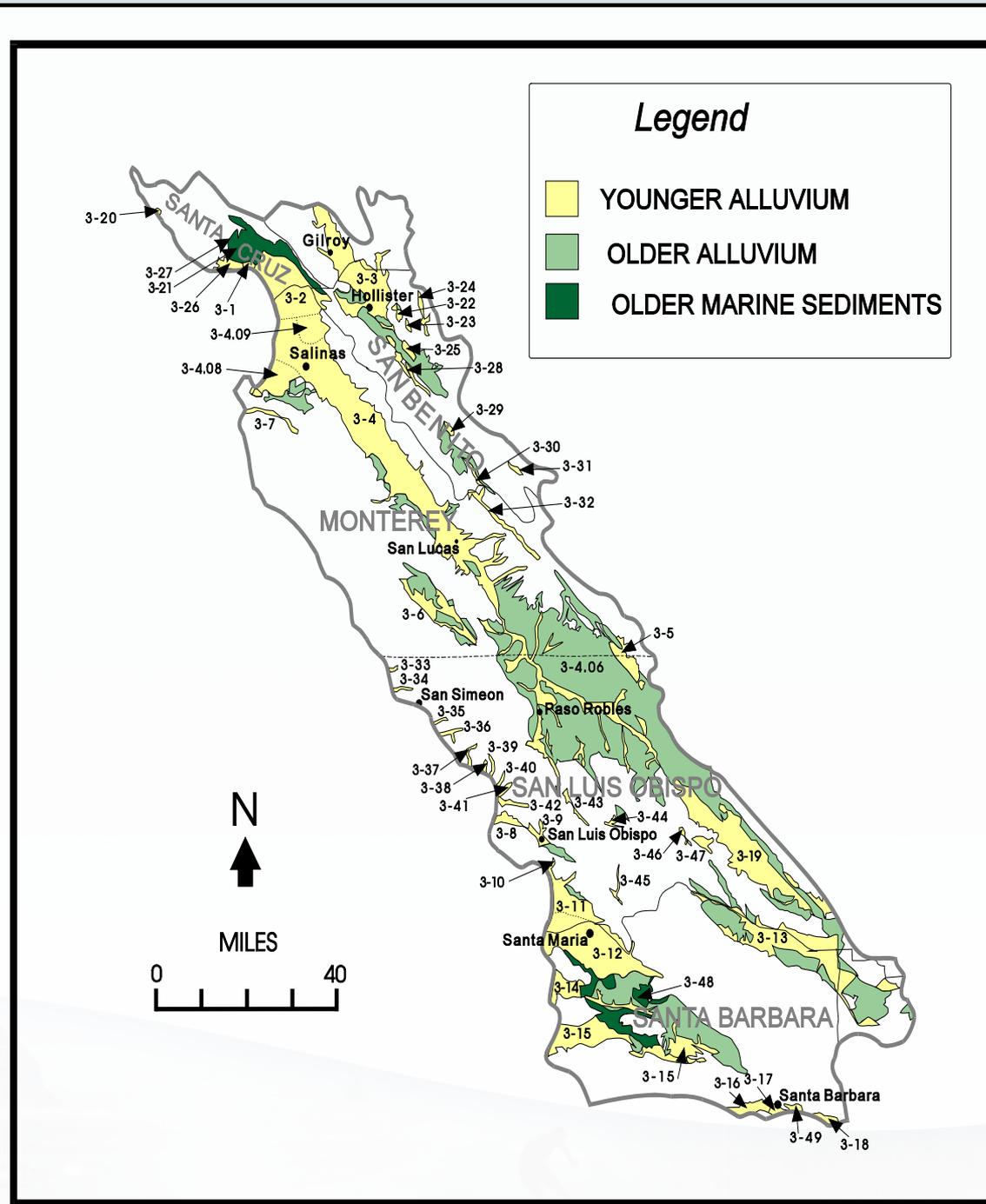
# Central Coast Region

## 14 Surface Water Hydrologic Units



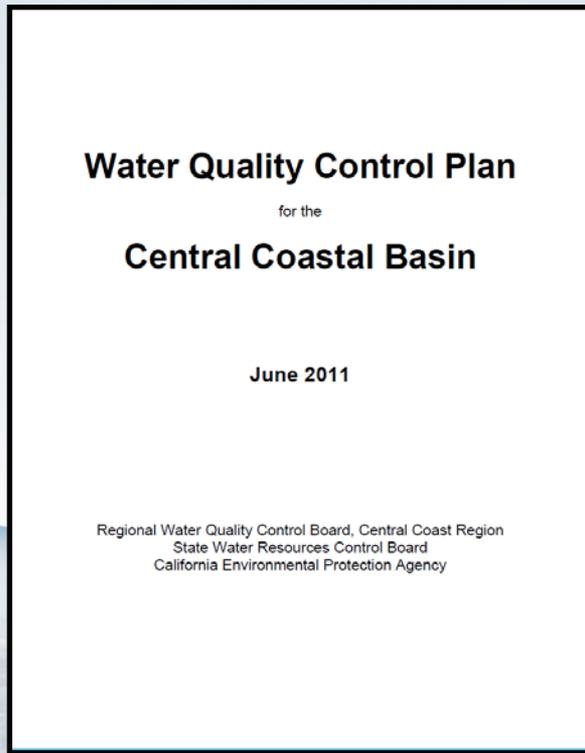
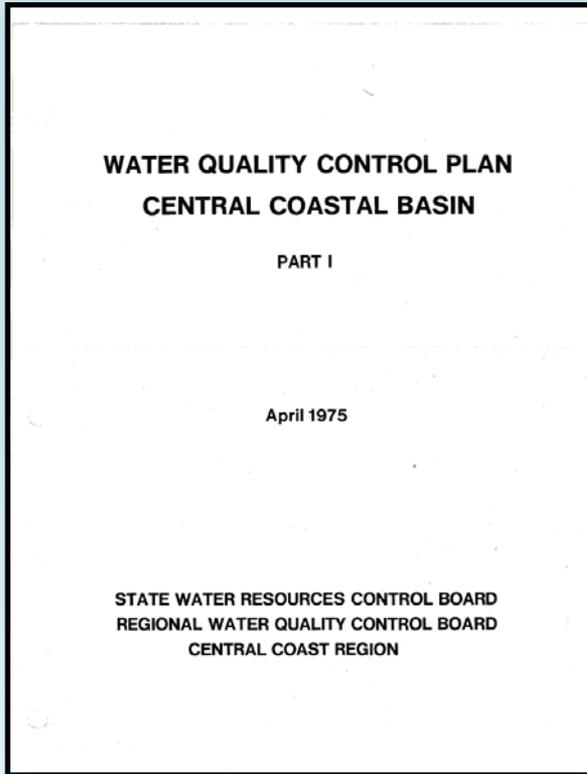
# Central Coast Region

## 53 Groundwater Basins



# Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin

- Originally adopted 1975
- Periodically revised
- Most recent amendment 2014



# Basin Plan Requirements

CA Water Code §13050(j)

All basin plans must contain:

- **beneficial uses** to be protected,
- water quality **objectives**, and
- a program of **implementation** needed for achieving water quality objectives

State *Beneficial* Uses = Federal *Designated* Uses  
State Water Quality *Objectives* = Federal Water Quality *Criteria*

# Basin Plan Table of Contents

- Chapter 1 – Introduction
- Chapter 2 – Present & Potential Beneficial Uses
- Chapter 3 – Water Quality Objectives
- Chapter 4 – Implementation Plan
- Chapter 5 – Plans and Policies
- Chapter 6 – Surveillance and Monitoring



# Chapter 2- Beneficial Uses

“Beneficial uses of water are those uses of water that may be protected against degradation of quality such as; but not limited to, domestic, municipal, agricultural supply, industrial supply, power generation, recreation, aesthetic enjoyment, navigation, preservation and enhancement of fish, wildlife and other aquatic resources or preserves.” (CWC §13050(f))



# 24 Beneficial Uses

## Basin Plan Chapter 2

Agricultural Supply (AGR)  
Aquaculture (AQUA)  
Areas of Special Biol. Signif. (ASBS)  
Cold Fresh Water Habitat (COLD)  
Commercial and Sport Fishing (COMM)  
Estuarine Habitat (EST)  
Freshwater Replenishment (FRESH)  
Ground Water Recharge (GWR)  
Hydropower Generation (POW)  
Industrial Process Supply (PRO)  
Industrial Service Supply (IND)  
Inland Saline Water Habitat (SAL)

Marine Habitat (MAR)  
Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR)  
Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN)  
Navigation (NAV)  
Non-Contact Water Recreation (REC2)  
Preserv. Biol. Habitats of Special Signif. (BIOL)  
Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Sp. (RARE)  
Shellfish Harvesting (SHELL)  
Spawning, Reprod. or Early Develop. (SPWN)  
Warm Fresh Water Habitat (WARM)  
Water Contact Recreation (REC1)  
Wildlife Habitat (WILD)

Tables 2-1 and 2-2 assign beneficial uses to 531 named waterbodies

# Chapter 3 - Water Quality Objectives

- CWC § 13050 defines WQ Objectives as limits or levels of water quality constituents or characteristics established for the:
  - Reasonable protection of Beneficial Uses of water,
  - Prevention of nuisance within a specific area
- Objectives for Ocean Waters, Enclosed Bays, Estuaries, Inland Surface Waters, and Groundwaters
- Narrative or numeric objectives

# Water Quality Objectives

## Surface Waters

- Ammonia
- Bacteria
- Biostimulatory Substances
- Boron
- Chloride
- Color
- Dissolved Oxygen
- Drinking Water Standards
- Electroconductivity
- Floating Materials
- Nitrate
- Oil and Grease
- Other Organics
- Pesticides
- pH
- Radioactivity
- Sediment
- Settleable Material
- Sodium
- Sulfate
- Suspended Material
- Tastes and Odors
- Temperature
- Total Dissolved Solids
- Toxicity
- Turbidity

## Groundwaters

- Ammonia
- Bacteria
- Boron
- Chemical Constituents
- Chloride
- Drinking Water Standards
- Electroconductivity
- Nitrate
- pH
- Radioactivity
- Sodium
- Specific Conductance
- Sulfate
- Tastes and Odors
- Total Dissolved Solids



# Antidegradation

State Water Board *Resolution 68-16*:

“Whenever the existing quality of water is better than the quality established in policies, . . .such existing high quality will be maintained...”



# Chapter 4- Implementation

**CWC § 13242.** The program of implementation for achieving water quality objectives shall include, but not be limited to:

- A description of the nature of actions which are necessary to achieve the objectives, including recommendations for appropriate action by any entity, public or private.
- A time schedule for the actions to be taken.
- A description of surveillance to be undertaken to determine compliance with objectives.



# Chapter 4- Implementation

- Waste Discharge Requirements
- Waivers of WDRs
- CWA 401 Certifications
- Enforcement Actions
- Nonpoint Source Control
- Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
- And much more (Stormwater, Solid & Hazardous Waste, Military Installations,...

# Overview of the Triennial Review Process



# Why Review the Basin Plan?

- Clean Water Act [§ 303(c)] requires states to hold public hearings for review of water quality standards at least once every three years.
- California Water Code [§13240] requires Basin Plans to “be periodically reviewed and may be revised.”



# Triennial Review Process

- Review Basin Plan to keep pace with changes in regulation, new technologies, policies, and physical changes within the region.
  - Identify those portions in need of modification or new additions;
  - Adopt water quality standards as necessary; and
  - Recognize those portions of the Basin Plan which are appropriate as written.
- Solicit written and oral public input
- Highest priority projects are included on a “short list” which establishes the workplan of the Regional Board’s Planning Unit for the next 3-year period.



# Public Comments

- All comments and suggestions welcome on *any* aspect of the Basin Plan
- See *Brief Issue Descriptions* report
- Issues will be evaluated and prioritized
- Issue may or may not lead to future Basin Plan amendment



# Triennial Review Process for 2014



# 2014 Triennial Review Schedule

July 30<sup>th</sup> - Begin public comment period

August 25<sup>th</sup> - Public Workshop (today)

Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> - End comment period

mid-October - Prioritized List of Issues avail.

Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> - Public Hearing & Water Board  
decision on Triennial Review Resolution

Get the latest information! Subscribe to the Region 3 email  
listserve (Lyris) for Basin Planning Triennial Review

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email\\_subscriptions/reg3\\_subscribe.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg3_subscribe.shtml)

# Criteria to Evaluate Issues

Staff will prioritize all potential Basin Plan amendment issues by assigning a score between 1 (low rank) and 5 (high rank) for each ranking criterion:

- **Vision Alignment**
  - Does the issue align with the Central Coast Water Board’s Vision and Measurable Goals?
- **Water Quality Standards Improvement**
  - Will the issue improve water quality standards through new or revised beneficial uses or water quality objectives?
- **Effectiveness**
  - Will the issue advance water quality protection by improving 1) regulatory or program efficiency, or 2) legal authority to regulate activities that negatively impact water quality and watershed processes?
- **Public Interest**
  - Does the issue have a high perceived public interest?



# Preliminary Triennial Review Issues

*from “Brief Issue Descriptions” report*

- Issue 1: Vision Framework
- Issue 2: Watershed and Integrated Water Resource Protection
- Issue 3: Groundwater Recharge Area Protection
- Issue 4: Revision of Water Quality Objectives for Specific Waterbodies
- Issue 5: Groundwater Basin Configurations Update
- Issue 6: Aquatic Life Protection
- Issue 7: Aquatic Habitat Protection / Riparian Buffer Zone Protections
- Issue 8: Biostimulatory Substances Objective Revision
- Issue 9: Bacteria Objectives for E. coli and Enterococcus
- Issue 10: Designation of Beneficial Uses
- Issue 11: Waste Discharge Prohibitions
- Issue 12: Comprehensive Basin Plan Editorial Revisions

# Public Comment Period

- 45-day Comment Period from July 30, 2014 to September 15, 2014
- Written Comments Encouraged
- Send comments to:  
[centralcoast@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:centralcoast@waterboards.ca.gov)



A sunset scene over the ocean. The sky is filled with soft, colorful clouds in shades of purple, pink, and orange. The sun is low on the horizon, creating a bright glow. Several sailboats are visible on the water, their masts and rigging silhouetted against the sky. In the background, a large, dark rock formation, likely a sea stack, rises from the water. The overall mood is serene and peaceful.

# Questions or Comments?

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