

PUBLIC WORKSHOP AND CEQA SCOPING MEETING

Nitrate TMDLs for Streams in the Carpinteria Salt Marsh Watershed

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Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
TMDL Program
June 10, 2016



Agenda

- Introductions
- TMDL Update
- CEQA Scoping
- Adjourn

Impaired Waters

- Marsh impairments for nutrients, organic enrichment/low dissolved oxygen
- Franklin Creek impairment due to high nitrate levels

Beneficial Uses

Beneficial Use	Carpinteria Salt Marsh	Santa Monica Creek	Franklin Creek
Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN)		X	X
Agricultural Supply (AGR)		X	X
Ground Water Recharge (GWR)		X	X
Water Contact Recreation (REC-1)	X	X	X
Non-Contact Water Recreation (REC-2)	X	X	X
Wildlife Habitat (WILD)	X	X	X
Cold Fresh Water Habitat (COLD)		X	X
Warm Fresh Water Habitat (WARM)	X	X	X
Migration of Aquatic Organisms (MIGR)	X		X
Spawning, Reproduction, and/or Early Development (SPWN)	X	X	X
Preservation of Biological Habitats of Special Significance (BIOL)	X	X	
Rare, Threatened, or Endangered Species (RARE)	X		X
Estuarine Habitat (EST)	X		
Freshwater Replenishment (FRSH)		X	X
Commercial and Sport Fishing (COMM)	X	X	X

Water Quality Objectives

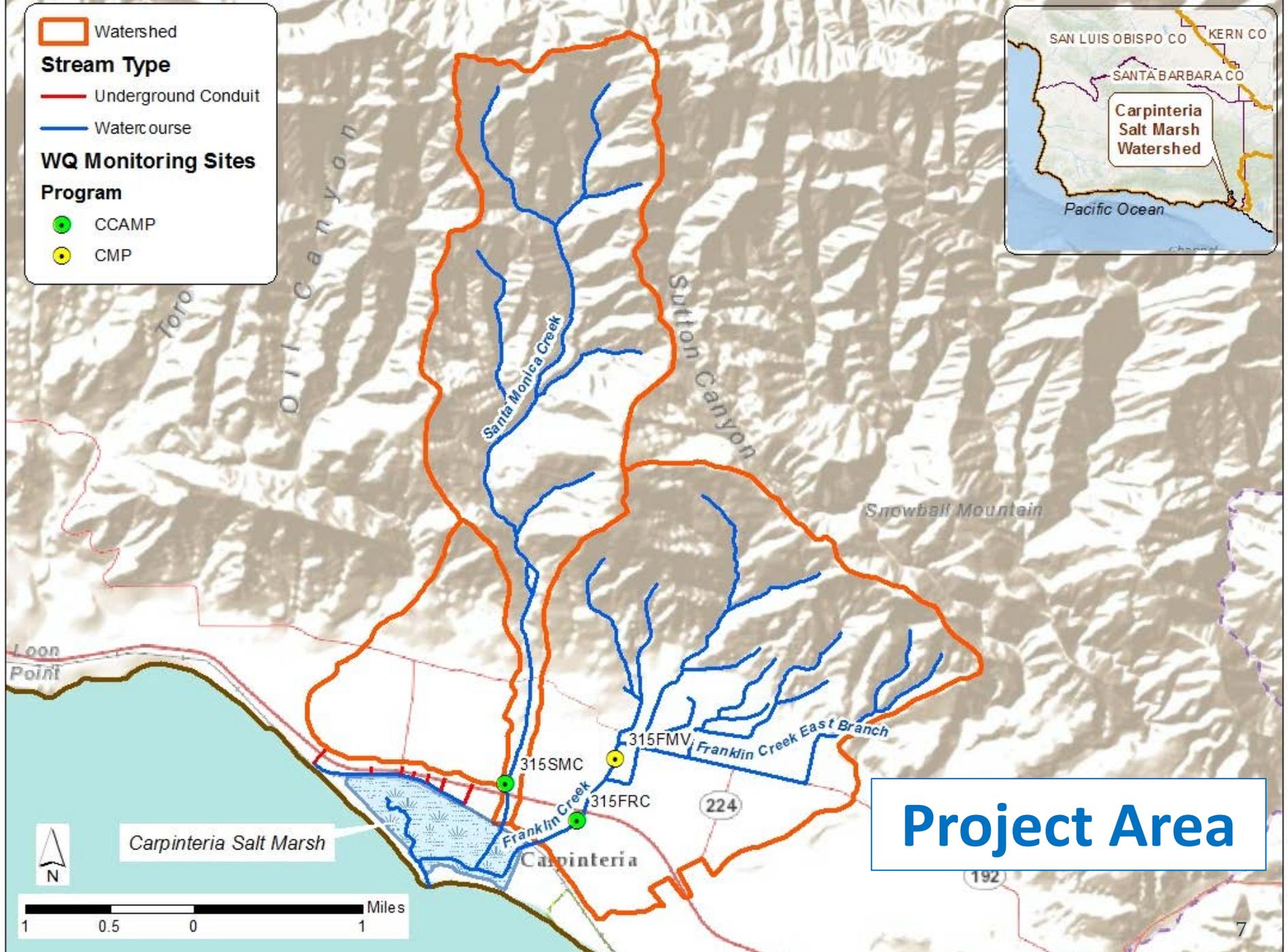
Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN)

- The Basin Plan numeric water quality objective for nitrate (as nitrogen) is 10 mg/L
- OEHHA Public Public Health Goals (MCLs)
 - 10 mg/L nitrate as nitrogen
 - 10 mg/L for joint nitrate/nitrite as nitrogen
 - 1 mg/L nitrite as nitrogen

Water Quality Guideline

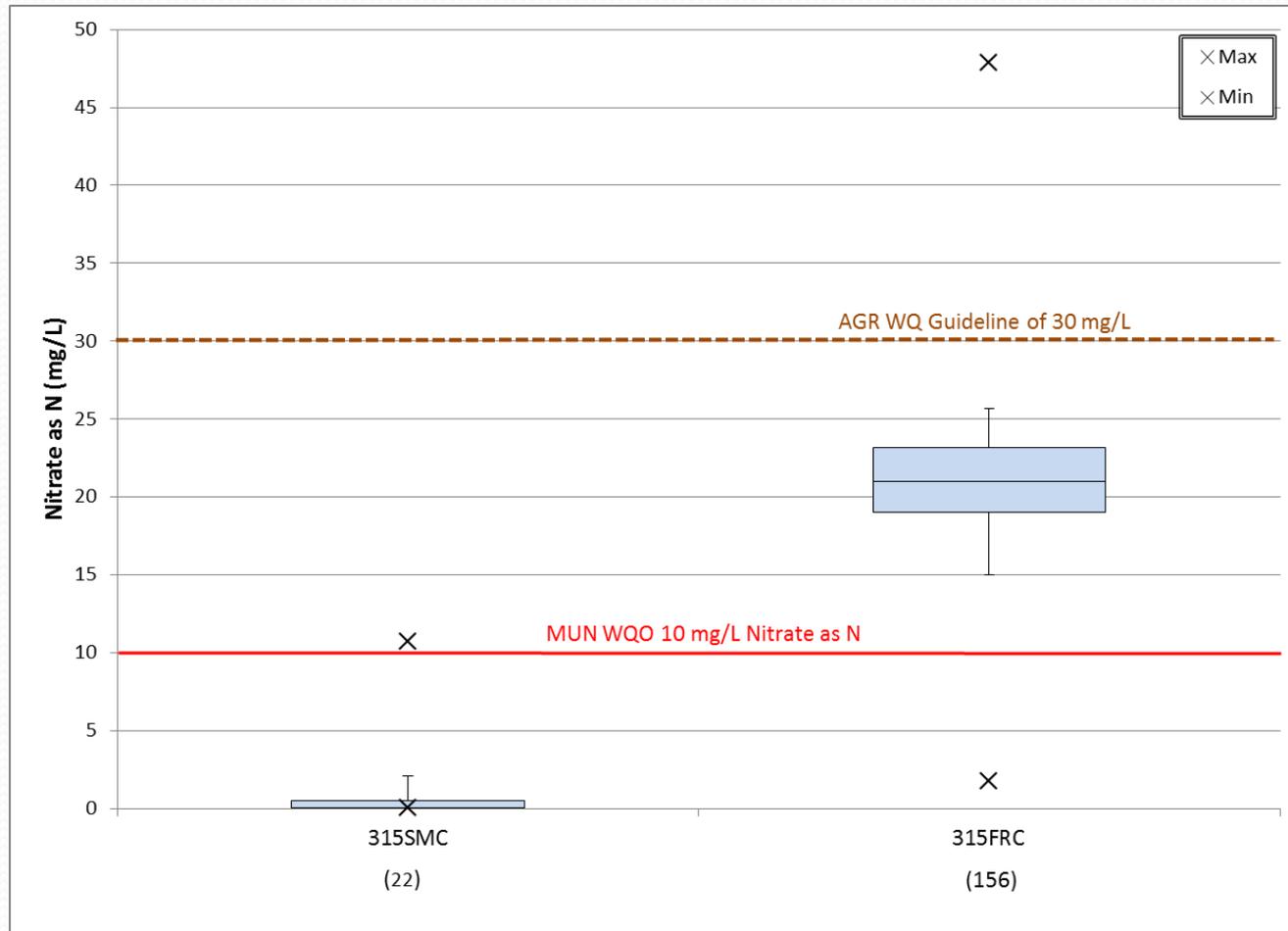
- The Basin Plan contains a nitrate concentration “guideline” of 30 mg/L nitrate as nitrogen to protect the Agricultural Supply (AGR) beneficial use,
- Guideline developed by UC Ag Extension Services to avoid severe problems for sensitive crops (e.g., grapes, avocado, citrus, almonds, and others)

-  Watershed
- Stream Type**
-  Underground Conduit
-  Watercourse
- WQ Monitoring Sites Program**
-  CCAMP
-  CMP

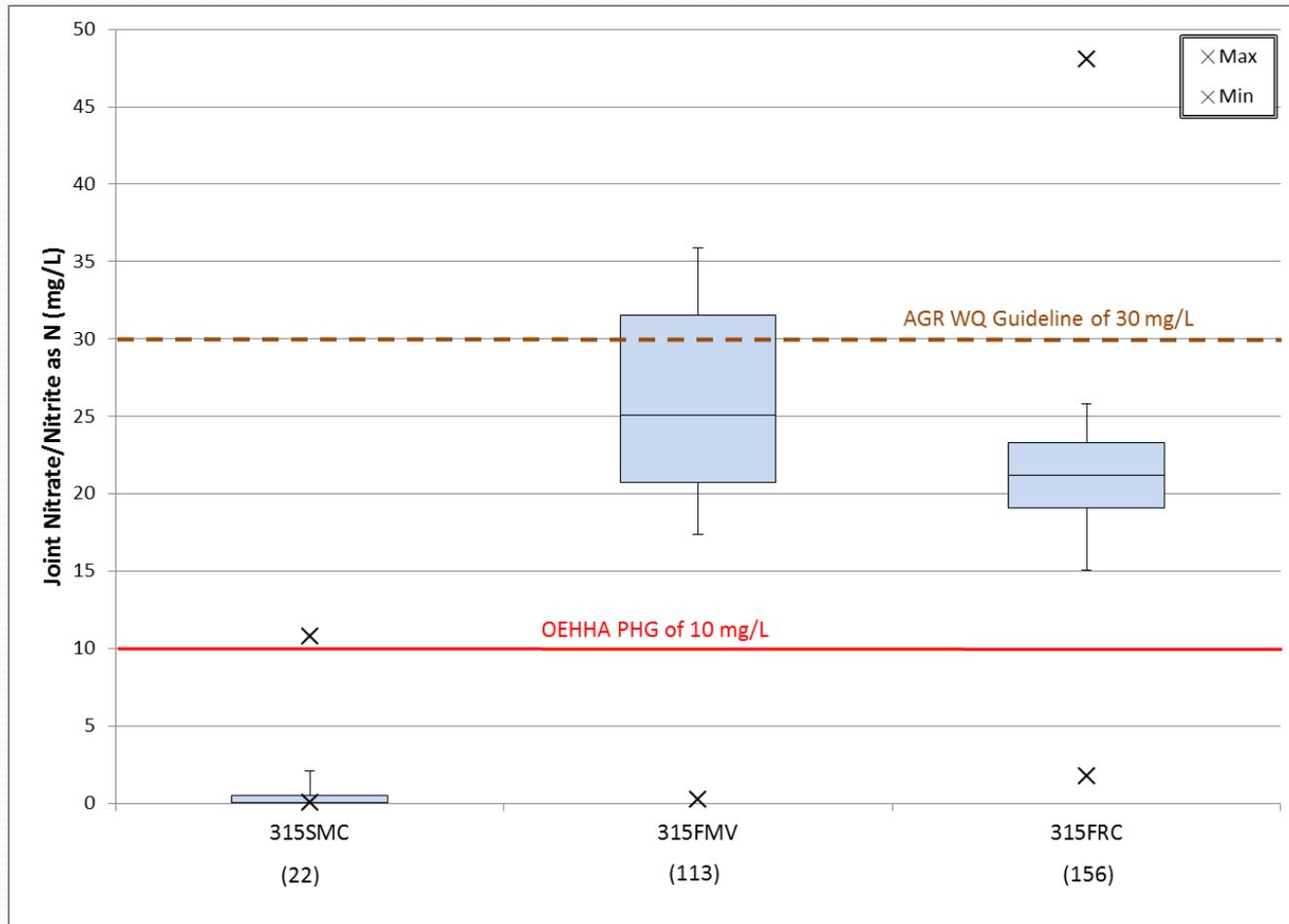


Project Area

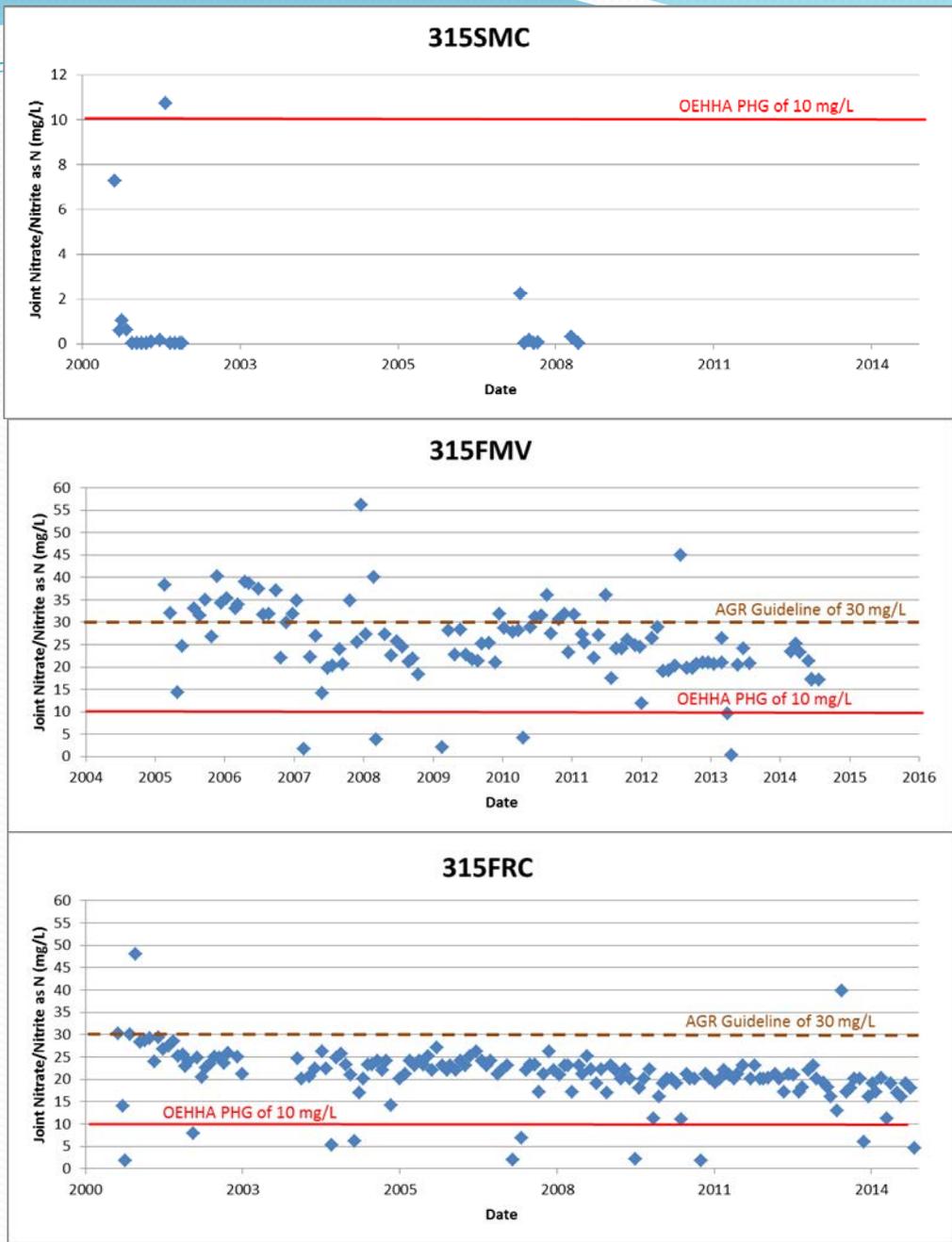
Nitrate Concentrations



Joint Nitrate/Nitrite Concentrations



Not shown 315FMV maximum concentration of 322 mg/L on 5/14/2006



Not shown 315FMV maximum concentration of 322 mg/L on 5/14/2006

Watershed

Stream Type

- Underground Conduit
- Water course

SBCK Median NO3 as N

- 0.01
- 20.3
- 51.7

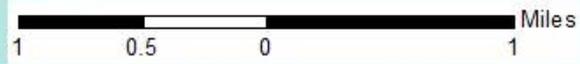


Carpinteria Salt Marsh

CM01
51.7

SM01
0.01

FK00
20.3

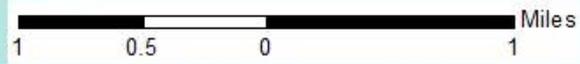
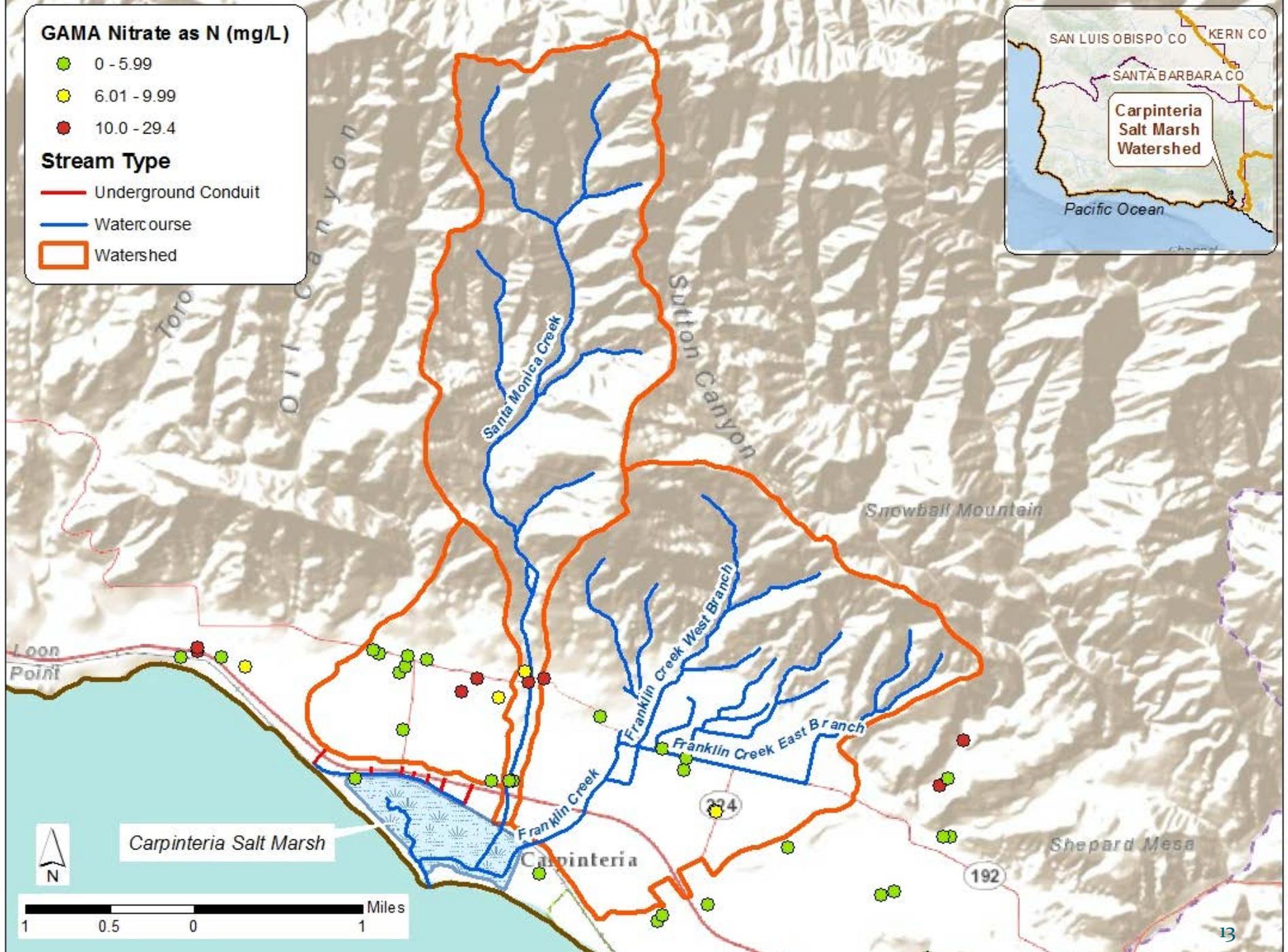


GAMA Nitrate as N (mg/L)

- 0 - 5.99
- 6.01 - 9.99
- 10.0 - 29.4

Stream Type

- Underground Conduit
- Watercourse
- Watershed

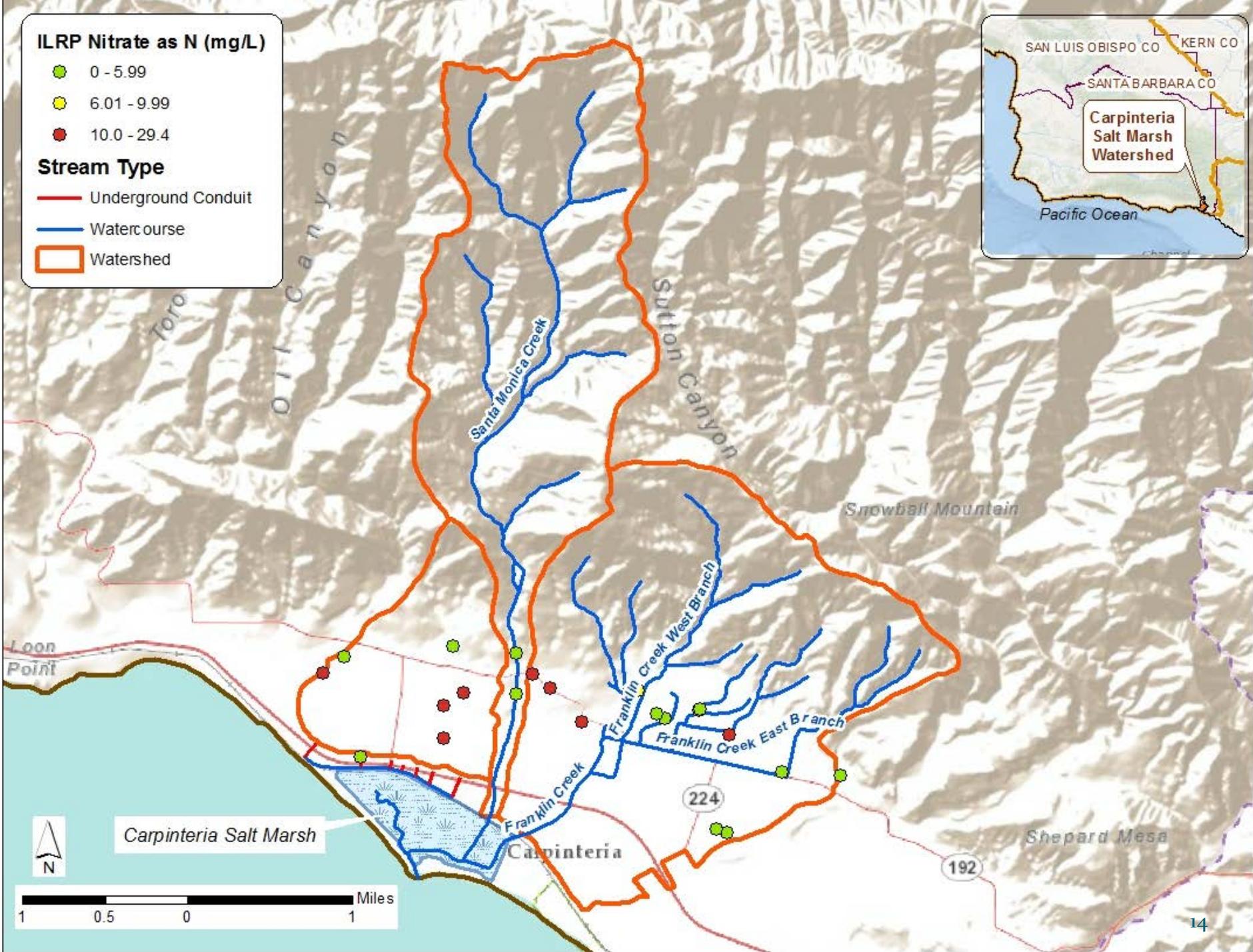


ILRP Nitrate as N (mg/L)

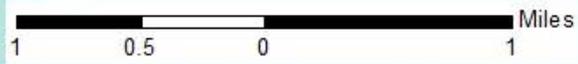
- 0 - 5.99
- 6.01 - 9.99
- 10.0 - 29.4

Stream Type

- Underground Conduit
- Watercourse
- Watershed



Carpinteria Salt Marsh



Questions/Comments

Up Next - CEQA Scoping

What is CEQA Scoping?

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)

- A statute requiring us to anticipate significant environmental impacts (if any) associated with an action or project, and to identify ways to mitigate those impacts if feasible
- Early public CEQA scoping is required by regulation:
23 CCR: CEQA Implementation Regulations, §3775.5
“Prior to circulating the draft substitute environmental documentation...the board shall seek early public consultation. Early public consultation may include one or more scoping meetings”

Project Description

Adoption of a basin plan amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin to incorporate TMDLs and an associated water quality improvement strategy addressing nitrate in the Carpinteria Salt Marsh watershed

CEQA Scoping

Early public involvement assists Water Board staff in refining the scope of the TMDL project and determining the range of potentially significant environmental impacts TMDL implementation might have (if any) on environmental resources of the Carpinteria Salt Marsh watershed, and identifying feasible mitigation measures to reduce or minimize those anticipated adverse environmental impacts

What are Significant Impacts?

Defined by regulation:

A “significant impact” causes a substantial or potentially substantial adverse change in physical conditions within the project area

CEQA “Checklist” Categories

The “checklist” refers to the environmental categories we need to consider. Could there be adverse environmental impact to them? If so, can we mitigate?

1. Aesthetics
2. Agricultural Resources
3. Air Quality
4. Biological Resources
5. Cultural Resources
6. Geology and Soils
7. Greenhouse Gas Emissions
8. Hazards & Hazardous Materials
9. Hydrology and Water Quality
10. Land Use and Planning
11. Mineral Resources
12. Noise
13. Population and Housing
14. Public Services
15. Recreation
16. Transportation/Traffic
17. Utilities and Service Systems
18. Cumulative impacts

Example: Denitrification Bioreactor



Example: Denitrification Bioreactor



Example: Denitrification Bioreactor



CEQA Discussion...



Photo credit: UCNRS
<http://carpinteria.ucnrs.org/photos.html>



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