

ITEM: 8
SUBJECT: Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin

Board Action: Consideration of a Resolution to Adopt the Triennial Review Work Plan and Response to Comments

DISCUSSION: The Triennial Review process set forth in the Federal Clean Water Act and California Water Code requires that regional water boards conduct public hearings to help them identify and prioritize problems concerning the effectiveness of a water quality control plan. It also requires that the regional water boards develop work plans to investigate the problems and make appropriate amendments to water quality control plans. This item concerns the Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region's (Central Valley Water Board) obligatory review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin (Basin Plan) and approval of the work plan proposed by staff.

The purpose of this hearing is to receive further comment from the public on water quality issues and the work plan proposed for addressing them.

The Central Valley Water Board held a workshop to receive comments on Triennial Review issues identified by staff. These issues were expanded through written comments received after publication of a public notice (written comments can be viewed at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/triennialreviews.shtml). Staff has reviewed and responded to comments and developed a work plan to investigate the problems by priority. Resources for this planning effort are limited, so the work plan identifies what can be expected with existing resources and what additional resources would be required to address remaining issues.

At the conclusion of the hearing, the Central Valley Water Board will consider adoption of a resolution to:

- Approve the proposed work plan which identifies and ranks what water quality issues need to be addressed and in what priority resources will be allocated to address these issues and develop basin plan amendments,
- Approve the response to comments received during the process,
- Reaffirm that the Basin Plan is adequate in all areas where an issue for investigation has not been identified,
- Declare that the Basin Plan in its entirety shall remain in effect except when a specific portion of it is subsequently amended through implementation of the work plan.

RECOMMENDATION: Adopt the Resolution as proposed.
Mgmt. Review _____
Legal Review LSO