

Basin Plan Amendment for Development of OC TMDLs in Central Valley Waterbodies

CEQA Scoping Meeting

7 July 2009



Overview

- Basin Plan Amendments & TMDLs
- Project Background
- CEQA Scoping

Why are we here today?

To obtain comments on:

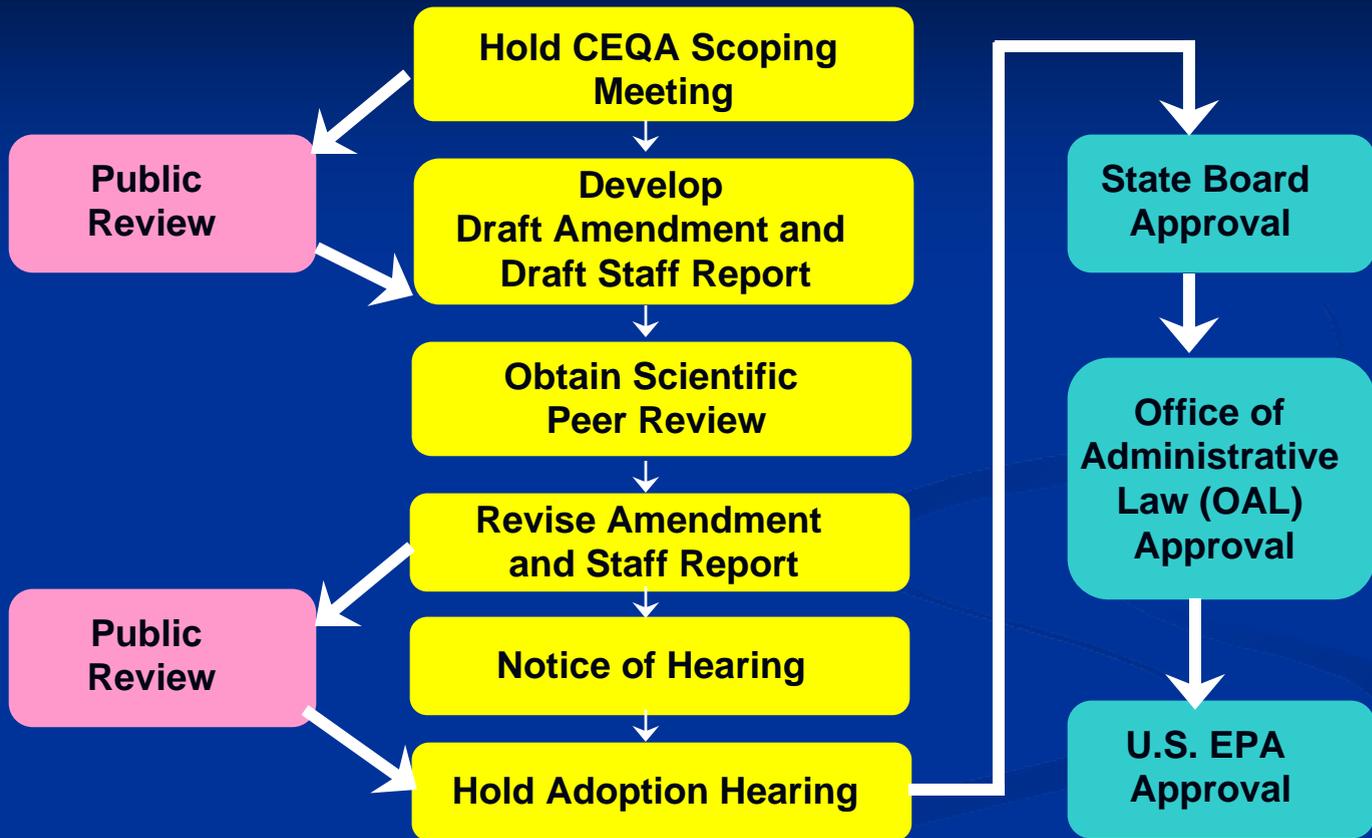
- A range of alternatives
- Potentially significant environmental impacts
- Measures to mitigate any significant environmental impacts

Basin Plan Amendments & TMDLs

What's a Basin Plan?

- **Regulatory Document**
- **Designates Beneficial Uses**
- **Establishes Water Quality Objectives**
- **Describes Implementation Plan**
- **Describes Monitoring and Surveillance Program**

Basin Planning Steps



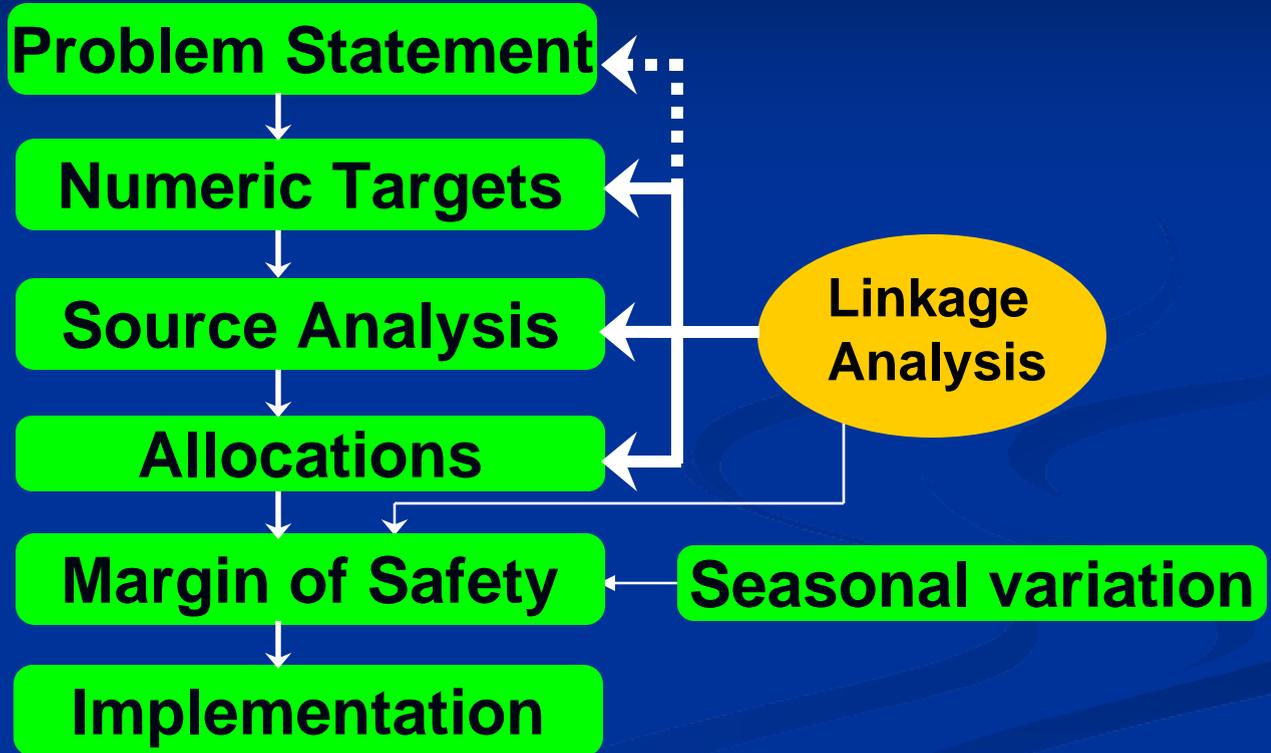
TMDLs - Regulatory Requirements

- **Federal Clean Water Act**
- **State Water Quality Control Act
(Porter-Cologne)**
- **California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA)**

What Is a TMDL?

- TMDL is the amount of pollutant a waterbody can receive and still maintain water quality standards
- TMDLs involve various elements

TMDL Elements



Water Quality Management Process

Water Quality Improvement



Existing Regulatory Requirements

- **State Water Board Resolution No. 68-16
(Anti-degradation)**
- **Basin Plan – Application of Water Quality Objectives**
- **State Water Board's Plan for California's Non-Point Source Pollution Control Program.**
- **State Implementation Policy (SIP)**

Project Background

Why focus on OCs?

- Pesticides to be considered
- Previous Use
- Washed into Rivers, settles in bottom sediments
- Food Web Transfer
- Why it matters:
 - Cancer
 - Bird eggshells
 - Aquatic insects

Problem Statement - OC Impairment

- 21 waterbodies on 2006 303d List
- Sensitive Beneficial Uses Impacted
- Type of Data used to List as Impaired
- Objectives relevant to OC Pesticides:
 - Basin Plan Narrative Toxicity
 - Basin Plan Objective: OCs as a Non-Detect
 - California Toxics Rule

Impaired Reaches

San Joaquin River Basin

SJR (Mendota Pool to Bear Creek)	Orestimba Creek (Below Kilburn Road)
SJR (Bear Creek to Mud Slough)	Orestimba Creek (Above Kilburn Road)
SJR (Mud Slough to Merced River)	Lower Merced R. (McSwain Res. to SJR)
SJR (Merced River to Tuolumne River)	Lower Tuolumne R. (Don Pedro Res. to SJR)
SJR (Tuolumne River to Stanislaus River)	Lower Stanislaus River
SJR (Stanislaus River to Delta Boundary)	

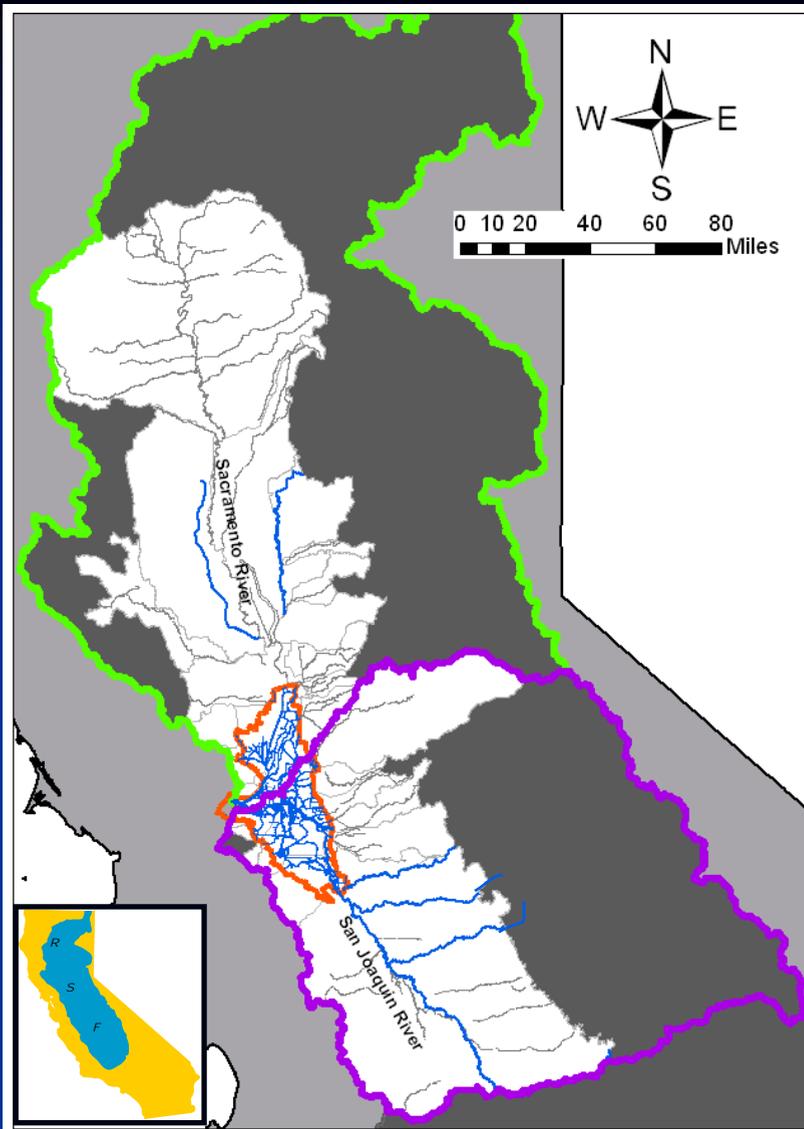
Sacramento River Basin

Colusa Basin Drain	Lower Feather River (Oroville Dam to confluence with Sacramento River)
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Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

Delta Waterways (Stockton Ship Channel)	Delta Waterways (Northern portion)
Delta Waterways (Eastern portion)	Delta Waterways (Central portion)
Delta Waterways (Western portion)	Delta Waterways (Export Area)
Delta Waterways (Southern portion)	Delta Waterways (Northwestern portion)

Project Areas



Legend

- Project Area
- San Joaquin River Watershed Boundary
- Sacramento River Watershed Boundary
- Legal Delta Boundary
- OC Impaired Reaches
- Waterbodies in Project Area
- Region 5
- California Boundary

Early Implementation Efforts

- Actions underway in many Water Board programs
- Sediment control efforts help control OCs
- Monitoring already widespread
 - Many dischargers monitor water column OCs
 - CTR has criteria for all OCs
- This TMDL will build on existing monitoring and implementation efforts.

Example: Region 4's Calleguas Creek

- TMDL Targets were set for
 - Water Column
 - Fish Tissue
 - Sediment

Example: Region 4's Calleguas Creek

- All allocations were concentration based
- Load Allocations (Interim and Final)
 - Sediment as in-stream annual average at base of watershed

Region 4's Calleguas Creek (cont'd)

- **Waste Load Allocations**
 - **5 POTWs – Effluent limits derived from CTR**
 - **Stormwater Permittees – Sediment as In stream annual average at base of watershed**
 - **Minor sources (NPDES/WDRs)– water column**

CEQA Scoping

CEQA

- **Substitute Environmental Documents**
 - **Written technical report**
 - **Draft Basin Plan Amendment**
 - **Completed Environmental Checklist**

CEQA CHECKLIST

- Aesthetics
- Agricultural resources
- Air quality
- Biological resources
- Cultural resources
- Geology & soils
- Hazardous materials
- Hydrology & water quality
- Land use & planning
- Mineral resources
- Noise
- Population & housing
- Public services
- Recreation
- Transportation/traffic
- Utilities & sewer services

Where we are in the Process

CEQA Scoping Meeting	7 July 2009
Deadline for Scoping Comments	21 July 2009
Report on Available Data	July/August 2009
Workshop(s) as needed	TBD
Draft Staff Report: Public Review	Fall 2010
Anticipated Regional Board Adoption Hearing	Spring 2011

Moving Forward – Staying Involved

Lyris List sign up:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/tmdl/central_valley_projects/central_valley_organochlorine_pesticide/index.shtml

OC TMDL website:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/tmdl/central_valley_projects/central_valley_organochlorine_pesticide/index.shtml

Staff Contact:

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QUESTIONS

- **Before we move into the discussion section, I welcome any questions regarding the material provided in this presentation.**

Discussion Topics

1. What are the range of alternatives this project should consider?
2. What are the potentially significant environmental impacts of the project?
3. Do you know of any measures to mitigate any significant environmental impacts of the proposed amendment?