



**California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region  
Bob Anderson, Chairperson**



Alan C. Lloyd, Ph.D.  
Agency Secretary

[www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast)  
5550 Skylane Boulevard, Suite A, Santa Rosa, California 95403  
Phone: (877) 721-9203 (toll free) • Office: (707) 576-2220 • FAX: (707) 523-0135

Arnold  
Schwarzenegger  
Governor

February 19, 2009

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF  
DRAFT DOCUMENT, PUBLIC COMMENT PERIOD, AND PUBLIC WORKSHOPS  
CONCERNING  
DEVELOPMENT OF THE WATER QUALITY RESTORATION PLAN  
FOR THE KLAMATH RIVER BASIN IN CALIFORNIA:  
DRAFT SCOPING FOR TMDL IMPLEMENTATION**

Notice is hereby given that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (Regional Water Board) will hold public workshops concerning development of the Water Quality Restoration Plan for the Klamath River Basin in California: Draft Scoping for TMDL Implementation (Water Quality Restoration Plan) addressing the water temperature, dissolved oxygen, nutrients, and microcystin impairments in the Klamath River Basin in California.

**Overview of the Development of the Water Quality Restoration Plan**

The Klamath River is impaired by excessive amounts of nutrients and organic matter, high water temperatures, low dissolved oxygen concentrations, and the blue-green algae toxin microcystin. The impairments are impacting several beneficial uses, including the cold water fishery and tribal cultural uses. The purpose of the TMDLs is to establish loading capacities for nutrients, organic matter, and water temperature, and to address factors influencing dissolved oxygen concentrations within the Klamath River while meeting water quality standards. The Klamath River TMDLs must be accompanied by an implementation plan pursuant to Water Code section 13242. The implementation plan will describe the nature of actions necessary to achieve water quality objectives, a time schedule for the actions to be taken, and monitoring to determine compliance with objectives. The implementation plan translates the information in the technical TMDL into discrete and identifiable actions that will bring the waterbody into compliance. It must redress all violations of water quality standards if possible and may use any combination of existing regulatory tools to do so.

**Availability of Water Quality Restoration Plan for the Klamath River Basin in California: Draft Scoping for TMDL Implementation**

Regional Water Board staff have developed a Water Quality Restoration Plan that summarizes TMDL implementation issues and the approach staff is considering to restoring water quality in the Klamath Basin. The Water Quality Restoration Plan will be available for review on or before February 19, 2009 at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water\\_issues/programs/tmdls/klamath\\_river/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/tmdls/klamath_river/)

Please contact Ben Zabinsky at 707-576-6750 or [BZabinsky@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:BZabinsky@waterboards.ca.gov) if you have any problems accessing the documents via the website.

### **Solicitation of Comments on the Water Quality Restoration Plan**

This notice solicits comments on the Water Quality Restoration Plan. The public comment period will open upon the release of the document. The public comment period will close at 5:00 p.m. on March 27, 2009.

Please submit written comments via U.S. Post, e-mail, fax, or delivery to:

Matt St. John, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board  
5550 Skylane Blvd, Suite A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403  
phone: 707-570-3762 - fax: 707-523-0135  
e-mail: [MStJohn@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:MStJohn@waterboards.ca.gov)

Comments on the Water Quality Restoration Plan will be considered by staff in their development of the Public Review Draft of the Klamath River TMDLs that is scheduled to be released in June 2009. While all comments will be included in the final administrative record and will be addressed in the Public Review Draft, written responses to comments on the Water Quality Restoration Plan will not be provided. After the release of the Public Review Draft, comments submitted during the formal comment period will be responded to in writing as part of the final TMDL Staff Report.

### **Public Workshops**

Regional Water Board staff will host five public workshops to present the Water Quality Restoration Plan and to receive oral and written comments from the public. The workshops will be held as follows:

March 3, 2009, 12:30 p.m.  
Yurok Tribal Office  
190 Klamath Blvd  
Klamath, CA 95548

March 5, 2009, 6:00 p.m.  
Willow Creek School  
5321 York Rd.  
Montague, CA 96064

March 3, 2009, 6:30 p.m.  
Behavioral and Social Science Building  
(BSS)  
Native Forum Room 162  
Humboldt State University  
Arcata, CA 95521

March 12, 2009, 2:00 p.m.  
DCJ Hearing Room  
Regional Water Board Office  
5550 Skylane Blvd, Ste A  
Santa Rosa, CA

March 4, 2009  
6:00 p.m.  
Tulelake-Butte Valley Fairgrounds  
Floriculture Room  
Tulelake, CA 96134

The Humboldt State University Campus map is available here:

<http://www.humboldt.edu/~humboldt/images/uploads/campusmap.pdf>

During the public workshops, Regional Water Board staff will provide a brief summary of the initial approach to and scope of the Water Quality Restoration Plan. The presentation will include a brief overview of the impairments in the Klamath River and identify potential implementation measures being considered to address the sources of impairment. Members of the public and interested parties will be provided the opportunity to present oral and/or written comments.

**Who Should Attend:** Public and private land owners; county and water management officials; members and representatives of tribes, state and federal agency representatives, environmental groups; and other interested groups or individuals.

Questions regarding the scoping meeting should be directed to David Leland, [DLeland@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:DLeland@waterboards.ca.gov), at (707) 576-2069 or Matt St. John, [MStJohn@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:MStJohn@waterboards.ca.gov) at (707) 576-3762.

### **Accessibility**

Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in the public meetings should contact Jean Lockett, Executive Assistant, at 707-576-2307 at least five days prior to the scheduled meeting. The meeting locations are accessible to persons with disabilities. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 800-735-2929 or voice line at 800-735-2922.

### **Staff Contacts**

If you have any questions on the Water Quality Restoration Plan, please contact:

Ben Zabinsky  
Project Lead Staff  
707-576-6750  
[BZabinsky@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:BZabinsky@waterboards.ca.gov)

or

Matt St. John  
TMDL Unit Manager  
707-570-3762  
[MStJohn@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:MStJohn@waterboards.ca.gov)