2019 Ocean Plan Review

Karen Mogus, Deputy Director
State Water Resources Control Board

March 8, 2019
Ocean Plan Review

- State and Federal Law require that water quality control plans be reviewed periodically
- The goal of the review of the Ocean Plan is to identify and prioritize future projects and amendments.
History of the Ocean Plan

• The Ocean Plan was first adopted in 1972 and most recently amended in February 2019

• Last Review of the Ocean Plan in 2011

• The State Water Board adopted amendments to the Ocean Plan that address six high and very high priority issues identified in the 2011 Review of the Ocean Plan
2019 Ocean Plan Review

• Draft Proposed List of Projects released in January

• Four scoping meetings held between January and February

• 2019 Ocean Plan Review now includes 20 issues/projects for consideration and prioritization
Issues with the Greatest Interest

• Revising the desalination implementation provisions to improve clarity
• Revising beneficial uses and bacteria objectives for shellfish harvesting (commercial and recreational)
• Designating beneficial uses and developing objectives for Tribal cultural and subsistence uses
• Reviewing ASBS exceptions to ensure they are protective of water quality
Additional Issues

• Guidance for monitoring CECs
• Climate Change & Ocean Acidification
• Harmful Algal Blooms
Review of the Ocean Plan Project Schedule

Internal and Tribal Outreach
December 2018 – January 2019

Continued Outreach to Tribes, Regions, and Stakeholders
January – February 2019

Release of Draft Staff Report and Proposed List of Projects
May 2019

Public Hearing
June 2019

Response to comments
July – September 2019

Release Staff Report and List of Projects
September 2019

State Water Board Consideration for Adoption
October 2019

Scoping Meetings
January 8, 2019 – San Luis Obispo
January 14, 2019 – Costa Mesa
January 16, 2019 – Sacramento

Preparation of Draft Staff Report and Proposed List of Projects
March – May 2019

Formal Written Comment Period
May – June 2019

Submittal to the U.S. EPA
November 2019

State Water Board = State Water Resources Control Board
U.S. EPA = United States Environmental Protection Agency
2019 Ocean Plan Review
Resources and Contact

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https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ocean/