One Water and Adaptation Committee

Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update

Item 6b
September 14, 2026
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Item 6b
Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan Update

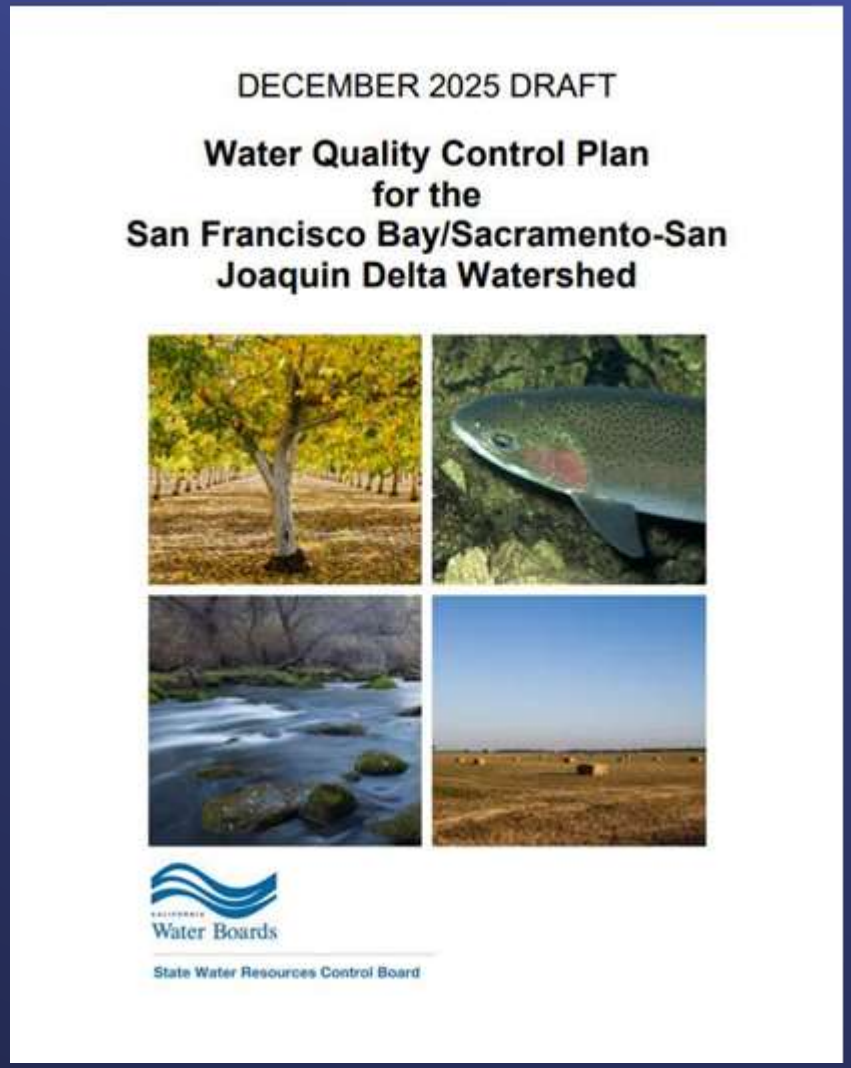
Subject:
Update on the Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan

Purpose:
Update on the Final Draft of the Water Quality Control Plan

Next Steps:
State Water Resources Control Board will consider adoption of the plan October 28-29

What is the Water Quality Control Plan?

- Identifies beneficial uses of water
- Includes water quality objectives for the reasonable protection of beneficial uses
- Includes a program of implementation for objectives
- Monitoring, special study, evaluation, and reporting to assess compliance and effectiveness of implementation actions



What is Healthy Rivers and Landscapes?

- Collaborative approach to restore river health, floodplains and natural landscapes while supporting water supply and hydropower
- Alternative to requiring a percentage of unimpaired flows
- Includes functional flows and essential habitat
- Program intent captured in 2022 MOU between all members

Status of Water Quality Control Plan

- Metropolitan has submitted multiple individual comment letters joint comment letters since commencement of the process
- Latest Draft of the WQCP was released: Aug 19
- Comment period ends September 18

Potential Concerns with the Current Draft

- Risk to water supply for the SWP
- Potential conflicts with the 2022 HRL MOU
  - Executive Director authority vs partnership
- Potential limitations on future water supply projects
- New components since December draft

Next Steps

- Metropolitan is reviewing and will focus comments on:
  - Alignment with the description of HRL in the 2022 MOU
  - Potential impacts to SWP water supply
  - Addressing past Metropolitan comments
- SWRCB will consider adopt the plan October 28-29

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