



# California Regional Water Quality Control Board

## Los Angeles Region



Winston H. Hickox  
Secretary for  
Environmental  
Protection

Over 50 Years Serving Coastal Los Angeles and Ventura Counties  
Recipient of the 2001 *Environmental Leadership Award* from Keep California Beautiful

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**TO:** Interested Parties

**FROM:** Samuel Unger  
Unit Chief, TMDL Unit 2

**DATE:** Nov 10, 2003

**SUBJECT: CABRILLO BEACH (INNER) LA HARBOR AREA AND LOS ANGELES  
MAIN HARBOR CHANNEL BEACH CLOSURE TMDL  
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING**

In 2004, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Board) will consider an amendment to the *Water Quality Control Plan for the Los Angeles Region* (Basin Plan) to incorporate a Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) to reduce beach closures caused by bacteria exceedences at the inner harbor Cabrillo Beach and Los Angeles Main Harbor Channel. We invite stakeholders and interested parties to a public meeting on Tuesday, 2 December, at 1 p.m., at the Cabrillo Beach Bathhouse, 3800 Stephen M. White Drive, San Pedro, California. The purpose of the meeting is to solicit public participation in the development of the TMDL.

At the meeting, Regional Board staff will present a summary of bacterial data for Cabrillo Beach, plans to address any data gaps, technical approach to developing a plan restore Cabrillo Beach and the main harbor channel, and TMDL development schedule. Staff will solicit input regarding effective public and stakeholder participation in the TMDL process.

Please contact LB Nye at 213-576-6785 or Sam Unger at 213-576-6784 with questions or to be included on the agenda.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board  
Los Angeles Region  
320 West 4<sup>th</sup> Street  
Los Angeles California, 90013

ATTN: LB Nye

### **California Environmental Protection Agency**

\*\*\**The energy challenge facing California is real. Every Californian needs to take immediate action to reduce energy consumption*\*\*\*

\*\*\**For a list of simple ways to reduce demand and cut your energy costs, see the tips at:*  
<http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/news/echallenge.html>\*\*\*



*Our mission is to preserve and enhance the quality of California's water resources for the benefit of present and future generations.*

## Background

Elevated levels of bacteria at Cabrillo Beach have compelled beach closures and elevated levels of bacteria in recreational waters and shellfish harvesting waters have been associated with many negative health effects. The TMDL which will be developed will incorporate into the Basin Plan a strategy to reduce bacteria and beach closures at the inner Harbor Cabrillo Beach so that the Beach can fully support its beneficial uses. Beneficial uses identified for Cabrillo beach include both contact and non-contact water recreation, fishing, migration and spawning of aquatic organisms, and shellfish harvesting, among others.

The Regional Board is charged with implementing the provisions of both the State of California Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act and the federal Clean Water Act in the Los Angeles Region. Section 303(d)(A)(1) of the Federal Clean Water Act requires the Regional Board to identify water quality limited segments within the Region (i.e., those water bodies not attaining water quality standards), and establish TMDLs for the pollutants causing the impairments. A TMDL specifies the maximum amount of a pollutant that a water body can receive and still meet water quality standards, and allocates the acceptable pollutant load to point, non-point and natural sources. The TMDL can be expressed in terms of either mass per time, toxicity, concentration, or other appropriate measures. US EPA listed Cabrillo Beach (inner) LA Harbor Area and the Los Angeles Main Harbor Channel on its 2002 303(d) list of impaired waterbodies in California for beach closures (coliform).

The Regional Board staff will consider all available data and studies related to bacterial loading to the Cabrillo Beach area and solicits stakeholder involvement in the TMDL development. For reference, recent Bacterial TMDLs developed by Regional Board staff, including the Draft Malibu Creek Watershed Bacteria TMDL and Final Marina del Rey Harbor Mothers' Beach and Back Basins Bacteria TMDL, are posted on the Regional Board's web page. The web address for bacterial TMDLs is [http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/meetings/tmdl/tmdl\\_pollutant\\_bacteria.html](http://www.swrcb.ca.gov/rwqcb4/html/meetings/tmdl/tmdl_pollutant_bacteria.html).

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