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YANA GARCIA
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON A DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT REPORT FOR GENERAL WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR FEDERAL LANDS IN THE NORTH COAST REGION

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (North Coast Water Board), as lead agency, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for waste discharge requirements regulating the discharge of waste from certain land management activities on federal lands in the North Coast Region, referred to as the *General Waste Discharge Requirements for Nonpoint Source Discharges Related to Certain Land Management Activities on Federal Lands in the North Coast Region*, draft Order No. R1-2024-0012 (Draft Federal Lands Permit or Proposed Project). Initial comments on the scope of the Draft EIR were solicited during the Proposed Project's 30-day scoping period from September 22 to October 24, 2022. The Draft Federal Lands Permit and Draft EIR (SCH number 2022090353) are available for a 45-day public review and comment period from **March 22, 2024, to May 7, 2024**.

During the public review period, the North Coast Water Board staff will hold a public workshop on the Draft Federal Lands Permit and Draft EIR at the regularly scheduled April 4, 2024, North Coast Water Board meeting at the North Coast Water Board office in Santa Rosa, California,¹ and via Zoom.

The North Coast Water Board is currently scheduled to consider certification of the Draft EIR and adoption of proposed Federal Lands Permit at the August 14 or 15, 2024, Board meeting at the Eureka City Hall, City Council Chambers in Eureka, California². The [agenda will be posted online](#) 10 days prior to both meetings and will indicate the meeting start time and instructions on how to provide oral comments. (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/). Please subscribe to the Forest Activities on Federal Lands email subscription list (see details on page 2) to receive any updates on the project or changes to the proposed adoption hearing date.

¹ The North Coast Water Board office is located at: 5550 Skylane Blvd., Ste. A, Santa Rosa, California 95403.

² The Eureka City Hall City Council Chambers are located at 531 K Street, Room 208, Eureka, CA 95403.

The Proposed Project is the issuance of a permit regulating waste discharges from certain land management activities on federal lands in the North Coast region. The purpose of the Federal Lands Permit is to protect and restore beneficial uses and achieve water quality objectives specified in the Basin Plan. For additional information, visit the North Coast Water Board's [Forest Activities on Federal Lands website](https://waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/forest_activities/US_forest_service/) (https://waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/forest_activities/US_forest_service/) or contact staff at RB1-Federal@waterboards.ca.gov.

The Draft EIR identified potentially significant environmental impacts to Biological Resources.

Written comments are due May 7, 2024, by 5:00pm and may be submitted via email to RB1-Federal@waterboards.ca.gov with "Draft EIR Comments" in the subject line. Staff request that comments on the proposed Federal Lands Permit be submitted separately with "Draft Federal Lands Permit Comments" in the subject line. While email submittal is preferred, written comments will be accepted at: North Coast Water Board, Attention: Federal Lands Program, 5550 Skylane Blvd, Ste. A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

Electronic copies of the Draft EIR can be obtained from the [State Clearinghouse website](https://waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/forest_activities/US_forest_service/) or from the North Coast Water Board's Federal Permit website (https://waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/water_issues/programs/forest_activities/US_forest_service/). Hardcopies of the Draft EIR may be reviewed upon request at the North Coast Water Board office, located at 5550 Skylane Blvd, Ste. A, Santa Rosa, CA 95403.

To [subscribe to the email list](https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?qsp=north_coast) and receive information about the Draft EIR and Federal Lands Permit, please visit the subscription site above and chose "Forest Activities on Federal Lands" after entering your email address (https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?qsp=north_coast).