Notice of Decision

TO: Wade Crowfoot **SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL ONLY**
Secretary for Natural Resources
California Natural Resources Agency
715 P Street, 20th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
CRP-NOD@resources.ca.gov

FROM: Ryan E. Lodge
Executive Officer
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

SUBJECT: Filing of Notice of Decision in compliance with section 21080.5 of the California Public Resources Code

PROJECT PROPONENT: Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

PROJECT TITLE: Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin to Establish Total Maximum Daily Loads for Nitrogen Compounds in the Santa Ynez River Basin, Santa Barbara County, California

LOCATION: Santa Ynez River Basin, Santa Barbara County

DESCRIPTION: The Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Coast Water Board) adopted this amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coastal Basin (Basin Plan amendment) via Resolution Number R3-2023-0003 at the June 22, 2023, Board meeting. The State Water Resources Control Board approved the Basin Pan amendment through Resolution Number 2024-0004 on January 17, 2024, and the Basin Plan amendment was subsequently approved by the Office of Administrative Law on May 1, 2024.

This Basin Plan amendment establishes Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) for nitrogen compounds and an implementation

strategy to restore water quality in the Santa Ynez River Basin.

TMDLs are a requirement of the federal Clean Water Act, and waterbodies assigned TMDLs in this Basin Plan amendment include segments of the Lower Santa Ynez River, San Miguelito Creek, and Sloans Canyon Creek.

The Basin Plan amendment identifies point and nonpoint source implementation parties responsible for achieving pollutant load reductions. The Central Coast Water Board is relying on existing regulatory measures (i.e., the Agricultural Order and stormwater NPDES permits), voluntary actions, and grant funding to ensure implementation actions to reduce nitrogen loading to the river basin are carried out and maintained by the responsible parties.

Milestones are established for achieving the TMDLs, and the Central Coast Water Board will track progress towards achieving the TMDLs through review of implementation actions and monitoring. If existing efforts are not expected to achieve the TMDLs, the Executive Officer or the Central Coast Water Board may require changes to existing monitoring, reporting, or implementation efforts pursuant to California Water Code sections 13263, 13267 or 13383.

CONTACT PERSON:

Jamie Pratt
Central Coast Water Board
(805) 549-3761
jamie.pratt@waterboards.ca.gov

This is to advise that the Central Coast Water Board concludes that this Basin Plan amendment will not have a significant adverse effect on the environment and has made the following determination regarding this project:

The project has been: __X__ approved
_____ disapproved

Mary S. Hamilton Digitally signed by Mary S. Hamilton
Date: 2024.05.31 13:20:27 -07'00'
Water Boards

_____ 5/31/2024
For Ryan E. Lodge
Executive Officer

Date