



Public Comment Form

Name:* Annelisa Moe Organization*: Heal the Bay

Email*: amoe@healthebay.org Phone*: 310-451-1500 X115

Meeting: Central Santa Monica Bay WASC Date: 3/3/2025

LA County Public Works may contact me for clarification about my comments

*Per Brown Act, completing this information is optional. At a minimum, please include an identifier so that you may be called upon to speak.

Phone participants and the public are encouraged to submit public comments (or a request to make a public comment) to SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov. All public comments will become part of the official record.

Please complete this form and email to SafeCleanWaterLA@dpw.lacounty.gov by at least 5:00pm the day prior to the meeting with the following subject line: "Public Comment: [Watershed Area] [Meeting Date]" (ex. "Public Comment: USGR 4/8/20").

Comments

Wildfire runoff has impacted Santa Monica Bay, with contaminants like heavy metals, PAHs, nutrients, and bacteria. Heal the Bay's review of LA County data from January 2025 shows elevated pollutants, declining water clarity, and potential public health risks, especially at Will Rogers State Beach and Topanga Beach. Our findings so far are summarized below, and we will continue to provide updates on our website (<https://healthebay.org>) as new data become available.

Key Findings:

- Heavy Metals: Exceeded marine health safety limits, posing risks to marine life and bioaccumulation.
- PAHs: Exceeded monthly average human health limits, posing a potential risk to human health, if elevated concentrations persist.
- Nutrients & Turbidity: Increased phosphorus led to brown foam; reduced clarity indicates potential for widespread contamination.
- Bacteria: High levels near storm drains, worsening after rain.

Recommendation: Avoid ocean water from Las Flores to Santa Monica State Beach and exercise caution south to Dockweiler. Heal the Bay continues testing and urges transparency from public health officials.

If the Central Santa Monica Bay WASC would be interested in a presentation on Heal the Bay's post-fire surface water quality and sand sampling, we would be happy to provide that at a future WASC Meeting.