

Report of the Technical Subcommittee to Statewide Water Resources Committee

A subcommittee of the Statewide Water Resources Committee met on March 26, 2010 to provide recommendations to the full Statewide Water Resource Committee for its meeting on April 28, 2010 regarding consideration of watersheds for designation as Critical Water Planning Areas.

The subcommittee voted unanimously to:

- 1) Move forward to the Statewide Water Resources Committee (SWRC) all 14 watersheds recommended by the Regional Committees for designation as Critical Water Planning Areas subject to the condition that DEP would provide a technical briefing (approximately 1.5 hours) at the 4/28/10 SWRC meeting, and provide in advance to the SWRC members a set of briefing papers (2 – 5 pages) on the watersheds. The subcommittee and DEP will prepare and submit to the SWRC at the 4/28/10 meeting a briefing paper on what an CWPA designation means absent funding or a timetable to begin a CARP, for SWRC to consider for incorporation into the State Water Plan or related documents.
- 2) Recommend to the SWRC that no ranking be conducted by the SWRC for any watersheds that are recommended by SWRC for designation as CWPA's at the 4/28/10 meeting. However, it is further recommended that the SWRC task this subcommittee with establishing ranking guidelines for SWRC to provide to DEP for DEP's use in making future decisions regarding prioritization of CWPA's for which CARP's will be developed. Until such ranking guidelines are provided, DEP will use its discretion to determine for which CWPA's CARP's will be developed.