

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

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Palm Desert, California 92260
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Public Notice 7-23-43
Issued September 25, 2023

Staff Contact:
Hajer Dawoody

Written Comment Deadline:
October 24, 2023

hajer.dawoody@waterboards.ca.gov
(760) 313-1293

Workshop:
October 10, 2023

Adoption Hearing:
December 12, 2023

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT, PUBLIC WORKSHOP AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE 2023 TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the staff of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) has prepared a Draft Staff Report in connection with the 2023 Triennial Review (see below), which is conducted pursuant to section 303 of the federal Clean Water Act. The Board will accept written comments on the Draft Staff Report during a 30-day period beginning on **September 25, 2023**, and ending on **October 24, 2023**.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN THAT, at the Colorado River Basin Water Board's public meeting on October 10, 2023, the Board will hold a workshop on the Draft Staff Report.

NOTICE IS ALSO GIVEN THAT, at the Colorado River Basin Water Board's public meeting on December 12, 2023, the Board will consider whether to adopt a Tentative Resolution, approving a finalized version of the Draft Staff Report.

WORKSHOP AND HEARING PARTICIPATION

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will hold a public workshop to provide information about the 2023 Triennial Review, and a separate public hearing to consider approval of the Draft Staff Report, as specified below:

Workshop: October 10, 2023
9:00 am

Adoption Hearing: December 12, 2023
9:00 am

Location: Colorado River Basin Water Board's Boardroom
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100,
Palm Desert, California 92260

Remote Participation Option Available
(See Instructions Below)

Remote Participation Option

Although these public meetings will be conducted in-person, the public will also have the opportunity to participate remotely via the ZOOM videoconferencing platform (<https://zoom.us>), which is free to download. If you intend to comment or otherwise actively participate in either meeting, you will need to obtain ZOOM access prior to each meeting. For those who do NOT intend to actively participate, the meetings will be livestreamed via Cal-Span (www.cal-span.org).

Please refer to the Colorado River Basin Water Board’s Remote Meetings page (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_info/remote_meeting) for instructions on remote participation via ZOOM.

Oral Comments at Hearing

All persons interested in the 2023 Triennial Review will be provided the opportunity to orally comment during the workshop and adoption hearing, provided that they have submitted **Speaker Request Cards** (or the equivalent for virtual participation). Such comments will be limited to three minutes, though the Board Chair may grant additional time on a case-by-case basis. To ensure accuracy of the record the Colorado River Basin Water Board requests that interested persons wishing to speak provide a summary of their oral comments in writing before or during the hearing. However, interested persons do not need to submit written statements in order to speak. If your comments will incorporate a short slideshow presentation or visual aids, please email these materials to Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov no later than October 9, 2023 for the workshop and no later than December 11, 2023 for the adoption hearing. Such materials should be presented at the workshop.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will accept comments on the Draft Staff Report during a 30-day public comment period ending on **October 24, 2023**. All written comments must be received no later than **5:00 pm**. Comments received prior to this deadline will be included in the administrative record. Untimely written comments will not be considered, though oral comments at the adoption hearing will still be permitted.

COMMENT DEADLINE
October 24, 2023

PUBLIC WORKSHOP
October 10, 2023

ADOPTION HRG
December 12, 2023

Comments may be submitted by any of the following methods:

By Mail: Colorado River Basin Water Board,
Attn: Hajer Dawoody
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, California 92260

By Email: hajer.dawoody@waterboards.ca.gov

By Fax: (760) 341-6820

BACKGROUND

The Triennial Review is a process conducted to meet the requirements of the Clean Water Act section 303(c)(1), which requires the Colorado River Basin Water Board to hold public hearings for the purpose of reviewing applicable water quality standards at least once each three-year period. Likewise, Water Code section 13240 requires the periodic review and revision of regional Basin Plans. Water quality standards are contained in the [Basin Plan](#) and consist of beneficial uses for surface water and groundwater bodies, listed in Chapter 2 of the Basin Plan, and water quality objectives established to protect those uses, listed in Chapter 3 of the Basin Plan. Actions implementing water quality standards are listed in Chapter 4 of the Basin Plan.

Prior to the comment period announced in this notice, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff conducted an earlier comment period to solicit projects to make possible additions and revisions to regulations that establish and implement water quality standards. These projects have been put together into a draft Triennial Review List, along with ongoing water quality standards projects. The projects in the Triennial Review List are ranked using criteria developed based on public input and program priorities. The draft Triennial Review List and the supporting draft Staff Report are now available for public review on the [Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board's Basin Planning Program Page](#). Once approved by the Colorado River Basin Water Board after a public hearing, the Triennial Review List will serve as a three-year workplan for the Water Quality Standards unit, to be implemented based upon available resources.

After the 2023 Triennial Review is approved, there will be additional opportunities for public participation for the individual projects, including public comment periods and public hearings for any Colorado River Basin Water Board actions related to consideration of new or revised water quality standards.

COMMENT DEADLINE
October 24, 2023

PUBLIC WORKSHOP
October 10, 2023

ADOPTION HRG
December 12, 2023

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The Draft Staff Report has been posted to the Board's [Tentative Orders](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml) webpage (www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/board_decisions/tentative_orders/index.shtml). To receive a physical copy by mail, contact either **Mary Castaneda** at (760) 776-8945 or Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov. The Tentative Resolution approving the Staff Report will be posted to the Board's website prior to the public meeting on December 12, 2023.

ACCESSIBILITY AND LANGUAGE NEEDS

Individuals who require special accommodations or interpreter services to participate in this meeting, please contact **Mary Castaneda** via email at Mary.Castaneda@waterboards.ca.gov at least 10 days prior to the scheduled meeting to notify us that you will be utilizing these services. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-(800) 735- 2929 or voice line at 1-(800) 735-2922.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

If you have questions concerning this matter, please contact Hajer Dawoody at (760) 313-1293 or hajer.dawoody@waterboards.ca.gov. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you believe may be interested in this matter.