



Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Public Notice 7-26-16
Issued March 27, 2026

Adoption Hearing:
May 12, 2026

Staff Contact:
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NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN, ESTABLISHING A TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD AND IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR CHLORIDE AND INDICATOR BACTERIA IN ALAMO RIVER, IMPERIAL COUNTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) will hold a public hearing on a proposed amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region (Basin Plan), establishing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) and an Implementation Plan for chloride and indicator bacteria in Alamo River, Imperial County.

HEARING PARTICIPATION

The Colorado River Basin Water Board will hold a public workshop to provide information and receive oral comments on the proposed Basin Plan Amendment and a separate public hearing to consider approval of Draft Staff Report, as specified below:

Adoption Hearing: May 12, 2024
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) (<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](http://www.cal-span.org) (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 Proposed Basin Plan Amendment 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 May 11, 2026 for the adoption hearing. Such materials should be presented at the workshop.

BACKGROUND

The Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin (Basin Plan) is the guiding document that outlines the Colorado River Basin Water Board's plan for preserving and enhancing water quality in the region for the protection of beneficial uses for present and future generations. The Basin Plan contains the region's beneficial uses for groundwaters and surface waters, water quality objectives (WQOs) for protection of beneficial uses, and implementation programs to achieve WQOs.

This Project consists of a Basin Plan Amendment to establish TMDLs for the control of three impairments in the Alamo River: chloride, enterococcus and *Escherichia coli* (*E. coli*). Chloride in the Alamo River is from irrigation water sourced from the Colorado River, deposited from agricultural runoff containing fertilizers, and naturally occurring in

the soil. Indicator bacteria, *E. coli* and enterococcus, are from numerous sources from agriculture to wildlife.

Although the proposed Basin Plan Amendment originally included a TMDL for toxicity in the Alamo River, toxicity will be subsequently addressed via a separate Basin Plan Amendment. In all other respects, the proposed Basin Plan Amendment remains substantively unchanged.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

In accordance with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) (Pub. Resources Code, § 21000 et seq., and applicable State Water Board-promulgated regulations (Cal. Code Regs., tit. 23, § 6775 et seq.), the **Draft Staff Report** supporting the proposed Basin Plan Amendment constitutes the Substitute Environmental Document (SED). The Draft Staff Report contains, among other things, an analysis of potential environmental impacts associated with the proposed Basin Plan Amendment. Notably, Colorado River Basin Water Board staff have determined that the proposed Basin Plan Amendment will not result in any potential significant environmental impacts.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The Draft Staff Report will be 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) 30 days prior to the hearing. To receive a physical copy by mail, contact **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 May 12, 2026.

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 Ryan Culhane at (760) 776-8925 or Ryan.Culhane@waterboards.ca.gov. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of anyone you believe may be interested in this matter.