

State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND CONSIDERATION OF ADOPTION OF CALIFORNIA'S 2024 CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 303(d) LIST, and NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF PROPOSED FINAL DOCUMENTS AND RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (“State Water Board”) will hold a public meeting to consider adopting the California Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list portion of the 2024 California Integrated Report (“2024 303(d) List” or the “List of Impaired Waters”). The 2024 303(d) List includes new proposed listings and delistings for waterbodies in the San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, Santa Ana, Central Valley, Central Coast, and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Boards (“Regional Water Boards”). The meeting will be held as follows:

Tuesday, February 6, 2024, 9:00 a.m.
Coastal Hearing Room – Second Floor
Joe Serna Jr. – CalEPA Headquarters Building
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814
And via Video and Teleconference

PARTICIPATION AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

This meeting will occur with both the physical meeting location listed above and with an option for the public to participate from a remote location via an online platform.

Video and Teleconference Option: For those who only wish to watch the meeting and not present oral comments, a live video and audio broadcast of the public meeting will be available via the internet and can be accessed at <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/> (closed captioning available) or <https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport>. Please note that the link to the webcast will be available a few minutes before the meeting begins. For members of the public who wish to comment on an agenda item or are presenting to the Board, additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available here:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/

During this meeting, registered participants will have the opportunity to provide oral comments. There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. To ensure a productive and efficient meeting in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time-limited.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The agenda for the February 6, 2024 State Water Board meeting and instructions for participating in the meeting will be posted on or before January 26, 2024, at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar

The Proposed Final 2024 303(d) List, the Proposed Final Staff Report, and the Summary of Comments and Responses will be posted on the State Water Board's website on or before January 4, 2024, at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment/

You may request a paper copy of the above documents by contacting Celene Udasco at Celene.Udasco@waterboards.ca.gov.

LANGUAGE SERVICES AND ACCESSIBILITY

To request oral interpretation or sign language services, please submit your request at least 10 business days before the meeting by contacting the Office of Public Participation at (916) 341-5254 or by email at OPP-LanguageServices@waterboards.ca.gov.

Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at: TTY (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board website:

<https://calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>

The CalEPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodation are requested to call (916) 341-5254 at least five working days prior to the meeting.

All visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10th Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes to receive security clearance.

BACKGROUND

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires each state to identify waters of the United States that do not meet, or are not expected to meet by the next listing cycle, applicable water quality standards and to prioritize those waters for development of a total maximum daily load, unless other corrective action is appropriate. Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act requires each state to report on the overall condition of its surface waterbodies (commonly referred to as the "305(b) report"). California combines its 303(d) lists and 305(b) reports into a single "California Integrated Report."

The State Water Board adopts the 303(d) list for California and submits to the United States Environmental Protection Agency ("U.S. EPA") for approval. Neither agency takes formal approval action on the 305(b) report. The State Water Board does not solicit comments or generally respond to comments pertaining to the 305(b) portion of the California Integrated Report. The State Water Board is administering the listing

process for all waters assessed during the listing cycle for the 2024 California Integrated Report, in accordance with Section 6.2 of the Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List ("Listing Policy").

The 2024 California Integrated Report

For the 2024 California Integrated Report listing cycle, waterbodies within the boundaries of the San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, and Santa Ana Regional Water Boards are "on-cycle." "Off-cycle" assessments are also being evaluated for waters in the Sacramento River sub-area of the Central Valley Regional Water Board. The Sacramento River sub-area is defined as the Sacramento River watershed and includes the mainstem of the Sacramento River above the legal boundary of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and all surface waters tributary to the mainstem. A limited number of waterbodies within the boundaries of the Central Coast and San Diego Regional Water Boards are also being considered for off-cycle assessments.

All readily available data and information for waterbodies in the aforementioned on-cycle and off-cycle regions that were received prior to the data solicitation cut-off date of October 16, 2020, were evaluated. Data that met mapping and quality assurance requirements of the Listing Policy were analyzed using a weight of evidence approach to determine if water quality standards are or are not attained in a waterbody.

The 2024 California Integrated Report revises the 2020-2022 California Integrated Report. The revisions are based on data and information collected from surface waterbodies (rivers, streams, lakes, bays, estuaries, enclosed lagoons, and coastal waters) in aforementioned on-cycle and off-cycle regions. The revisions describe the extent to which surface waters in California are supporting beneficial uses. Based on assessments of these data, approximately 641 new listings and 100 delistings of impaired waterbody-pollutant combinations are recommended for the 2024 303(d) List. An individual waterbody may be impaired by one or more pollutants.

The State Water Board will consider adopting the 2024 303(d) List. Upon adoption, the California Integrated Report will be submitted to the U.S. EPA, which may make changes before it approves the Final 2024 303(d) List for California. Neither agency takes formal approval action on the 2024 305(b) Report, which is an informational document that characterizes the state's general water quality conditions. Generally, the State Water Board does not solicit comments or respond to comments pertaining to the 305(b) portion of the California Integrated Report.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CHANGES TO THE NOTICED ITEMS

The State Water Board intends to make the Proposed Final 2024 California Integrated Report, Proposed Final Staff Report, and Summary of Comments and Responses available, and to hold the public meeting at the time and place noted above. Any change to the items noticed above will be noticed through the below-identified list serve e-mail distribution list, and on the State Water Board's webpages.


Any person desiring to receive future notices for the 2024 California Integrated Report should subscribe to the list serve e-mail distribution list by selecting “Integrated Report-303(d)/305(b)” located within the section entitled “Water Quality” in the following e-mail subscription form:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions regarding this notice, the Proposed Final 2024 California Integrated Report, the Proposed Final Staff Report, or the Summary of Comments and Responses to Ana Maria Saenz, Senior Environmental Scientist at (916) 341-5480 or AnaMaria.Saenz@waterboards.ca.gov or Celene Udasco, Environmental Scientist at Celene.Udasco@waterboards.ca.gov.

December 21, 2023
Date


Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board