
State Water Resources Control Board

**NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT,
NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING, AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED SECTION 303(d) LIST FOR
THE NORTH COAST REGION
AND
NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT AND
NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING
TO APPROVE THE PROPOSED 2018 STATEWIDE CLEAN
WATER ACT SECTION 303(d) LIST**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT WRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED by the State Water Resources Control Board (“State Water Board”) on the proposed statewide Clean Water Act section 303(d) list of water quality limited segments [303(d) list] portion of the 2018 California Integrated Report. The proposed statewide list consists of recommendations approved by the Regional Water Quality Control Boards (“Regional Water Boards”) for the Lahontan, Colorado River, San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, and Central Valley regions and the proposed 303(d) list for waterbodies within the North Coast Regional Water Board’s region (“North Coast Region”). Written public comment shall be limited to:

1. The specific listing and delisting recommendations made by the Regional Water Boards for the Lahontan, Colorado River, San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, and Central Valley regions that were timely requested for review, as identified in section 4 of the *Draft Staff Report for the 2018 Integrated Report for Clean Water Act Sections 305(b) and 303(d)* (“Draft Staff Report”); and
2. The State Water Board’s proposed changes to the delisting recommendations submitted by the Los Angeles Region, as identified in section 4.2 of the Draft Staff Report; and
3. The State Water Board’s proposed 303(d) listing and delisting recommendations pertaining to all waterbodies within the North Coast Region, as identified in section 3 of the Draft Staff Report.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The proposed 303(d) list for the North Coast Region and the 2018 California Integrated Report and supporting Draft Staff Report will be posted on the State Water Board’s web site on or before March 19, 2020 at:

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

You may request a paper copy of the Draft Staff Report by contacting Lori Webber at (916) 341-5736 or lori.webber@waterboards.ca.gov.

BACKGROUND

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires each state to identify waters 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 total maximum daily load development, unless other corrective action is appropriate (commonly referred to as the “303(d) list”). 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 303(d) list requires approval by the State Water Board and approval by United States Environmental Protection Agency (“U.S. EPA”). Neither agency takes formal approval action on the 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.

The 2018 California Integrated Report:

For the 2018 California Integrated Report, the Lahontan, Colorado River, and North Coast Regional Water Boards are “on cycle.” The Regional Water Boards for the San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, Central Valley, and San Diego regions conducted “off-cycle” assessments for one or more waterbodies within their respective regions.

Five of the aforementioned Regional Water Boards (Lahontan, Colorado River, San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, and Central Valley) considered and approved each of their proposed 303(d) lists at a public hearing after providing advance notice and opportunity for comment and responding to all comments. The North Coast Regional Water Board compiled waterbody fact sheets and assembled draft listing and delisting recommendations but did not administer the public process for its region. The San Diego Regional Water Board’s changes were limited to the 305(b) report.

The State Water Board will consider approving the 303(d) portion of the California Integrated Report at the board meeting identified in this notice. Such consideration will be limited to the 303(d) listing and delisting recommendations approved by the five aforementioned Regional Water Boards.

The State Water Board Hearing and Consideration of Approval of the 303(d) List for Waters in the North Coast Region:

The State Water Board is administering the listing process for all waters within the North Coast Region in accordance with section 6.2 of the Listing Policy. To administer the listing process, the State Water Board will hold a hearing (identified below) to receive oral input and receive written comments. The State Water Board will not be taking any action at the hearing.

At a subsequent board meeting (identified below), and after providing written responses to all timely written comments and oral comments made at the hearing, the State Water Board will consider approving the proposed 303(d) list for the North Coast Region. After approving the 303(d) list for the North Coast Region, the State Water Board will then consolidate that list without further consideration into the 2018 California Integrated Report submitted to U.S. EPA.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The State Water Board will accept written comments on the proposed 303(d) list for the North Coast Region and the 2018 California Integrated Report. Comments must be limited to the categories described in items one through three on the first page of this notice. **The State Water Board may refuse to accept any comments that are not limited to the categories described in items one through three.**

All written comments must be received no later than **12:00 noon on Thursday, April 30, 2020**, and addressed to:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000 (by mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)

Please indicate in the subject line: **“Comment Letter – 303(d) portion of the 2018 California Integrated Report”** or **“Comment Letter—303(d) list for the North Coast Region”** or both.

Comment letters may also be submitted electronically, in .pdf text format if less than 15 megabytes in total size, to the Clerk to the Board via email at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in total size, the comment letter may be submitted by mail, hand delivery, or fax to (916) 341-5620. Couriers delivering a hard copy of a comment letter must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN THAT A HEARING WILL BE HELD by the State Water Board to receive oral comments pertaining to the proposed Clean Water Act section 303(d) listing and delisting recommendations for waterbodies in the North Coast region, as identified in section 3 of the Draft Staff Report. **The scope of the hearing will be limited to listing recommendations for waterbodies in the North Coast Region.** No public input will be received pertaining to listing recommendations for any region other than the North Coast. The State Water Board will not be taking any formal approval action at the hearing and will consider approving the list for the North Coast Region at the adoption meeting noticed below.

The public hearing will be held on:

Tuesday, April 21, 2020, 9:30 a.m.
Joe Serna Jr. – CalEPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Additional information on the hearing in Sacramento can be found at the State Water Board calendar web site at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar/.

At the State Water Board public hearing, 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 hearing in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time-limited. For other presentation recommendations, go to:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN THAT AN ADOPTION MEETING WILL BE HELD by the State Water Board to consider approval of (1) the proposed 303(d) list for waterbodies within the North Coast Region and (2) the proposed statewide 303(d) list portion of the 2018 California Integrated Report.

The public meeting will be held on:

Tuesday, October 6, 2020, 9:30 a.m.
Joe Serna Jr. – CalEPA Headquarters Building
Coastal Hearing Room
1001 I Street, Second Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

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 Web site:

<https://calepa.ca.gov/headquarterssacramento/location/>

The CalEPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5261 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922. Video and audio broadcasts of the meetings will be available via the internet and can be accessed at:

<https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>.

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 fifteen minutes for receiving security clearance.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CHANGES TO THE NOTICED ITEMS

The State Water Board intends to make the Draft Staff Report available, provide an opportunity for public comment, and to hold the hearing and the adoption meeting at the times and place noted above. Any change to the items noticed above will be noticed through the below-identified list serve e-mail distribution lists, and on the North Coast Region’s and the State Water Board’s webpages.

Any person desiring to receive future notices **must subscribe** to the list serve e-mail distribution lists by accessing one of the following E-mail List Subscription forms:

For the 2018 California Integrated Report, select the box for “Integrated Report – 303(d)/305(b)” (located within the section entitled ‘Water Quality’), and providing the required information. The subscription form is located at:

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

For waters in the North Coast Region, select the box for “Integrated Report – 303(d) List and 305(b) Report” and providing the required information. The subscription form is located at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg1_subscribe.html.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions regarding this notice or the 2018 California Integrated Report to Lori Webber, Senior Environmental Scientist (916) 341-5736 or lori.webber@waterboards.ca.gov, or Stacy Gillespie, Senior Staff Counsel, at (916) 341-5190 or stacy.gillespie@waterboards.ca.gov.

March 5, 2020
Date


Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board