

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION  
SURFACE WATER PROGRAM  
PLANNED PERMITTING ACTIVITIES  
IN FISCAL YEAR 2023-2024**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region, is providing the following information about planned permitting activities to let the public know about projects in their community which may impact their water quality and inviting their participation in our decision-making processes.

**THE REGIONAL WATER BOARD**

In California, the responsibility for the protection of surface water and ground water quality rests primarily with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards, collectively referred to as the “Water Boards.” The Water Boards are part of the California Environmental Protection Agency.

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) makes water quality decisions for the Colorado River Basin Region (Region 7), which is located in the southeastern corner of California. Region 7 covers all of Imperial County and parts of San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego counties.

The Regional Water Board’s mission is to protect and improve the quality of our regional waters. The ways by which we carry out our mission include:

- Developing policies addressing region-wide water quality concerns;
- Working on statewide programs and policies;
- Working with other agencies concerned with water quality control;
- Adopting permits regulating discharges to water and land. These permits include waste discharge requirements (WDRs) orders and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits; and
- Informing and involving the public on water quality issues.

**NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM**

The NPDES permit program regulates the discharge of wastewaters and stormwaters to the surface waters that are designated as “Waters of the United States.” In California, the Water Boards issue and enforce federal NPDES permits under the authority granted by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. Permit activities involve issuing and renewing permits, conducting inspections, reviewing monitoring reports, and taking enforcement actions against dischargers who fail to comply.

**ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2023 AND 2024**

The surface water program plans to develop permits for the facilities listed below in 2023 and 2024. Members of the public are encouraged to reach out to Regional Water Board staff regarding the development and status of these permits.

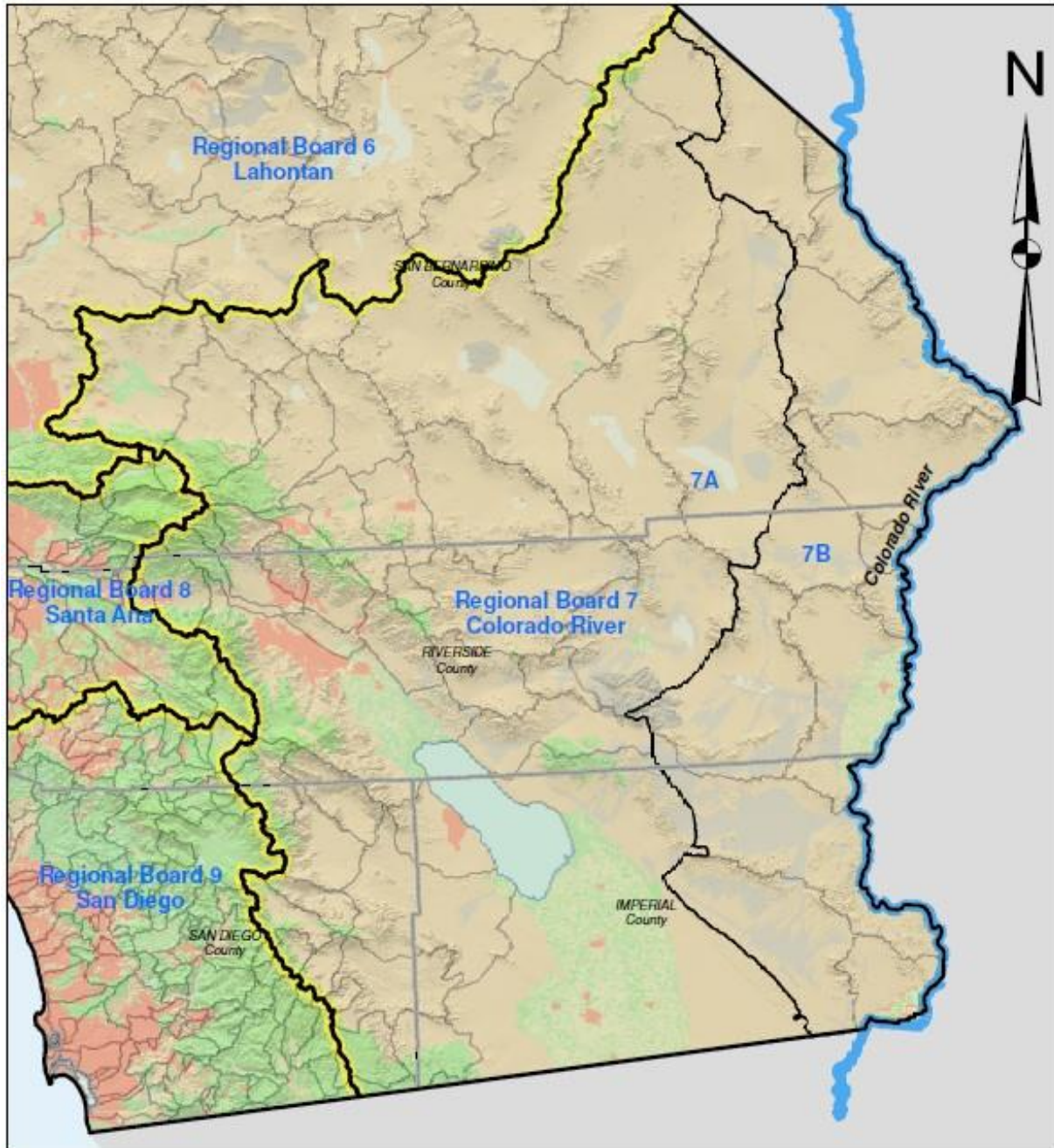


Figure 1. A map showing the Colorado River Basin Region.

**Country Life Mobile Home and R.V. Park Wastewater Treatment Plant—El Centro; Imperial County (Permit Renewal)**

The Country Life Mobile Home Park is located at 375 East Ross Road, about a half mile north of the Interstate 8/State Highway 111 interchange. The mobile home park has a wastewater treatment plant that treats the sewage from its residents. The wastewater treatment plant discharges treated disinfected wastewater to the Alder Drain, which flows into the Central Drain and the Alamo River. This discharge is allowed pursuant to a permit adopted in June 2018. Staff are developing a renewed permit and are planning to present it for Regional Water Board adoption in the last quarter of 2023.

### **Date Gardens Mobile Home Park Wastewater Treatment Plant—El Centro; Imperial County (Permit Renewal)**

The Date Gardens Mobile Home Park is located at 1020 West Evan Hewes Highway, about 1.5 miles north of Interstate 8 along County Route 30 (Forester Road). The mobile home park has a wastewater treatment plant that treats the sewage from its residents. The wastewater treatment plant discharges treated disinfected wastewater to Rice Drain No. 3, which flows into the New River. This discharge is allowed pursuant to a permit adopted in October 2018. Staff are developing a renewed permit and are planning to present it for Regional Water Board adoption in the last quarter of 2023.

### **Centinela State Prison Wastewater Treatment Plant-Imperial; Imperial County (Permit Renewal)**

The Centinela State Prison is located at 2302 Brown Road, about 1.5 miles north of Interstate 8 and 5 miles west of the City of Seeley. The prison has a wastewater treatment plant that treats sewage from its resident inmates and staff. The wastewater treatment plant discharges treated disinfected wastewater to the Dixie Drain 1-C, which flows into the New River. The plant can treat up to 960,000 gallons per day. This discharge is allowed pursuant to a permit adopted in May 2019. Staff are planning to develop a renewed permit and present it for Regional Water Board adoption in the second quarter of 2024.

### **General Order for Low Threat Discharges to Surface Waters—Regionwide (Permit Renewal)**

The Regional Water Board has a general permit for individuals, public agencies, and private businesses that occasionally discharge treated or untreated low threat wastewater. Low threat discharges are planned, short-term, or reduced volume discharges that require minimal treatment and are controlled to eliminate or reduce pollutants. Discharges permitted by this general permit must not contain pollutants in concentrations above water quality standards. The low threat general permit became effective in October 2015. Staff are planning to develop a renewed permit and present it for Regional Water Board adoption in the second quarter of 2024.

### **“Phase I” General Order for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) within Whitewater River Watershed—Coachella Valley, Riverside County (Permit Renewal)**

The Regional Boards regulates discharges from urban areas that have Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s). Phase 1 MS4 permits apply to urban areas with populations greater than 250,000 people. On March 14, 1991, the Regional Water Board designated the Whitewater River region as an area required to have a Phase 1 MS4 stormwater permit. The majority of the Whitewater River region is in the Coachella Valley. The first permit for the Whitewater River region was adopted in 1996 and has been renewed three times. The most recent renewal became effective in June 2013. Staff are developing a renewed permit and plan to present it for Regional Water Board adoption sometime in 2024.

### **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

This fact sheet was prepared as part of the Regional Water Board’s outreach activities conducted pursuant to Water Code section 189.7. Such activities are intended to

provide equitable, culturally relevant community outreach to promote meaningful civil engagement from potentially impacted communities. If you would like to learn more about any of the proposed permitting activities described above, or have any questions concerning surface water permitting activities generally, please contact Logan Raub at (760) 776-8966 or [Logan.Raub@WaterBoards.ca.gov](mailto:Logan.Raub@WaterBoards.ca.gov).