



Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board

****NOTIFICATION****

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING AND NOTICE OF FILING AND OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT ON AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE LAHONTAN REGION TO DESIGNATE TRIBAL BENEFICIAL USES IN THE MONO BASIN

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Lahontan Water Board) is proposing to amend the Water Quality Control Plan for the Lahontan Region (Lahontan Basin Plan) to Designate Tribal Beneficial Uses in the Mono Basin (Mono Basin BPA). The Basin Plan identifies beneficial uses of surface and ground waters, establishes water quality standards for protecting the beneficial uses, and describes implementation programs for achieving water quality standards.

The proposed Mono Basin BPA will make changes to Basin Plan Chapter 2, Present and Potential Beneficial Uses, Table 2-1, to designate the Tribal Tradition and Culture (CUL) and the Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB) Beneficial Uses to Mono Lake, and the CUL use to specific waterbodies in the Mono Hydrologic Unit. Waterbodies proposed for CUL designation not currently named in Basin Plan Table 2-1 will be added to the Mono Hydrologic Unit portion of Table 2-1. Explanatory language regarding the origin and intent of the CUL and T-SUB uses will be added to Basin Plan Chapter 2 in the introductory section titled: Present and Potential Beneficial Uses. The proposed CUL and T-SUB designations respond to requests made by the Mono Lake Kutzadika Tribe and Bridgeport Indian Colony and both Tribes have provided confirmation that the designations are appropriate.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lahontan Water Board is proposing to amend the Lahontan Basin Plan in accordance with a regulatory program exempt under Section 21080.5 of the Public Resources Code. State regulations require that Basin Plan amendments that are “projects” for purposes of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), be accompanied by substitute environmental documentation (SED) (23 CCR § 3775-3781). The proposed Mono Basin BPA is a project under CEQA and the draft SED will be available for review at least 30 days prior to the public hearing as detailed below.

PUBLIC HEARING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lahontan Water Board will hold a public hearing to receive oral comment on the proposed Mono Basin BPA and Draft SED as follows:

DR. AMY HORNE, ACTING CHAIR | MICHAEL R. PLAZIAK, PG, EXECUTIVE OFFICER

DATE: April 18, 2024
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Holiday Inn Express & Suites - Conference Room
2700 Lenwood Road, Barstow. CA 92311
And
via Video and Teleconference

The hearing is to receive public comment only and no action will be taken by the Lahontan Water Board. The public hearing is scheduled to take place in-person and via video and teleconference. Any person wishing to obtain information about changes to the date, time, location, or format of the meeting should visit the Board's website at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board_info/agenda/2024_schedule.html

The final Board meeting agenda will be available on that website at least 10 days before the meeting. The agenda will provide the location and format of the meeting, the date the hearing will be held for this item, and the anticipated order of all agenda items; however, the Board may consider agenda items out of their listed order.

Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to send an email to RB6-Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov with the subject line "Special accommodation for Board Meeting" or call (530) 542-5400 at least five working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or by voice line at 1-800-735-2922.

Anyone having questions about the hearing should contact the Board Clerk, Katrina Fleshman at RB6-Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov or by contacting her directly at (530) 542-5414.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Water Board will receive public comments on the proposed Basin Plan amendment, Draft Staff Report, and Substitute Environmental Documentation and will accept written comments on these documents as set forth in this notice.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The proposed Mono Basin BPA language and the accompanying Draft SED will be available no later than **March 15, 2024**, on the web page identified below. Should you require a paper copy of the documents, please contact the staff listed at the end of this Notice.

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/water_issues/programs/basin_plan/tribal-beneficial-uses.html

All written comments must be received by 12:00 noon on April 30, 2024. Written comments can be emailed to Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov or can be mailed to:

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board
Attention: Jennifer Watts
2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

Please include "Comments-Mono BPA" in the subject line of your email submittals.

Please bring the above information to the attention of anyone you know to be interested.
If you have any questions about this Notice, please contact:

Jennifer Watts Or
(530) 542-5491
Jennifer.watts@waterboards.ca.gov

Daniel Sussman
(530) 542-5466
Daniel.Sussman@waterboards.ca.gov