
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE DRAFT 2020-2022 CALIFORNIA 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 draft statewide Clean Water Act Section 303(d) list of water quality limited segments portion of the 2020-2022 California Integrated Report. The draft statewide list includes new listing and delisting recommendations for waterbodies in the Central Coast, Central Valley, Colorado River Basin, and San Diego regions.

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The proposed 303(d) list for the 2020-2022 California Integrated Report and the supporting Draft Staff Report will be posted on the State Water Board’s web site on or before June 4, 2021 at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment/2020_2022_integrated_report.html.

You may request a paper copy of the Draft Staff Report by contacting Keara Tuso at keara.tuso@waterboards.ca.gov.

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 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 2020-2022 California Integrated Report:

The State Water Board is administering the listing process for all waters assessed during the 2020-2022 listing cycle, 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"). To administer the listing process, the State Water Board is accepting written comments and will hold a hearing (identified below) to receive oral comments. The State Water Board will not be taking any action at the hearing. At a subsequent board meeting 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. Upon approval of the 303(d) list portion of the 2020-2022 Integrated Report by the State Water Board, the California Integrated Report will be submitted to U.S. EPA, which may make changes to the 303(d) list before it approves the final 303(d) list for California.

For the 2020-2022 California Integrated Report, the Central Coast, Central Valley, and San Diego Regional Water Boards are "on cycle." The Regional Water Board for the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board also conducted "off-cycle" assessments for several waterbodies.

All readily available data and information received during the data solicitation period from waterbodies in the Central Coast, Central Valley, and San Diego regions were considered, as well as high priority data from the Colorado River Basin Region. The data cutoff date for the 2020-2022 listing cycle was June 14, 2019. 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 attained in a waterbody.

The 2020-2022 Integrated Report updates the 2018 Integrated Report. The updates are based on data and information collected from surface waterbodies (rivers, streams, lakes, bays, estuaries, enclosed lagoons, and coastal waters) located in the aforementioned regions. The updates include changes to the 303(d) list and, pursuant to CWA section 305(b), describe the extent to which surface waters in California are supporting beneficial uses.

Based on assessments of these data, approximately 1,228 new listings and 213 delistings of impaired waterbody-pollutant combinations are recommended for the 303(d) List. An individual waterbody may be impaired by one or more pollutants.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

The State Water Board will accept written comments on the Draft 2020-2022 California 303(d) List and Draft Staff Report. All written comments must be received no later than **12:00 noon on Friday, July 16, 2021**, 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 – 2020-2022 California Integrated Report.**”

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 on the Draft 303(d) list portion of the 2020-2022 California Integrated Report and Draft Staff Report.

The public hearing will be held on:

Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 9:00 a.m.

Video and Teleconference Only

No Physical Meeting Location

(Authorized and in furtherance of Executive Orders N-29-20 and N-33-20)

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

Additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution will be available at least 10 days before the hearing at the [Remote Meeting page](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/). This public hearing is currently scheduled to take place via video and teleconference only, but the format may be changed in the future to also allow for in-person attendance. Any person desiring to receive future notices about changes to the date, time, location, or format of the public hearing should sign up for the e-mail list, as described below.

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

REMOTE PARTICIPATION AND PROCEDURAL MATTERS

Due to ongoing circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, the public meeting will likely be held in person and remotely via an online platform. During this meeting, registered participants will have the opportunity to ask questions and provide oral comments. To ensure a productive and efficient hearing in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time limited.

For those who only wish to watch the meeting and not present oral comments, a live video and audio broadcasts of the public meeting will be available via the internet and can be accessed at the [CalEPA Live Public Meeting Webcasts](#).

For those who wish to present oral comments, additional information about participating in person, telephonically, or via remote meeting solution will be available at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/.

If you require language interpretation or sign language services, please email a request to keara.tuso@waterboards.ca.gov as far in advance of the meeting as possible. Telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CHANGES TO THE NOTICED ITEMS

The State Water Board intends to make the Draft 2020-2022 California Integrated Report and Draft Staff Report available, provide an opportunity for public comment, and to hold the hearing 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 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 2020-2022 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

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions regarding this notice, the Draft 2020-2022 California Integrated Report and Draft Staff Report to Ana Maria Saenz, Senior Environmental Scientist at (916) 341-5480 or anamaria.saenz@waterboards.ca.gov or Keara Tuso, Environmental Scientist at keara.tuso@waterboards.ca.gov.

Date May 20, 2021



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board