



State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP UPDATE REGARDING THE STATUS OF PHASE 1 OF THE SALTON SEA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

Video and Teleconference Meeting During COVID-19 Emergency: As a result of the COVID-19 emergency and the Governor's Executive Orders to protect public health by limiting public gatherings and requiring social distancing, this meeting will occur solely via remote presence.

For those who only wish to watch the meeting, the webcast remains available at either <https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/> or <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/> (closed captioning available) and should be used UNLESS you intend to comment.

For those who wish to comment during the workshop 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/.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public workshop at their regularly scheduled Board Meeting to receive information and solicit public input regarding the status of Phase 1 of the Salton Sea Management Program (SSMP).

**Wednesday, March 17, 2021
2:00 p.m.
Remote Participation Only**

BACKGROUND

The March 17, 2021 workshop is being held for the State Water Board to receive information related to the progress of Phase 1 of the Salton Sea Management Program from state agencies and to receive written and oral comments from the public, in compliance with Water Right Order (WRO) 2017-0134.

On November 7, 2017, the State Water Board adopted Order WRO 2017-0134 amending revised Order WRO 2002-0013 to incorporate additional conditions that set forth specific restoration milestones to address public health and environmental concerns. Condition 24 describes the annual acreage milestones outlining that, by the end of 2019, a cumulative 1,800 acres of dust suppression and wildlife habitat was to be completed. WRO 2017-0134 requires that the Board hold a public meeting no later than

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

March 31 of each year during Phase 1 of the SSMP to receive oral and written comments on the status of Salton Sea restoration.

The order also requires a report from state agencies, due in the first quarter of each year, to identify: (i) completed projects and milestones achieved in the prior year; (ii) amount of acreage of completed projects that provide dust suppression and habitat restoration, broken down by habitat type; (iii) upcoming projects to be completed and milestones to be achieved prior to the next annual progress report; (iv) the status of financial resources and permits that have not been secured for future projects; (v) any anticipated departures from the dates and acreages identified in condition 24 of the order, and; (vi) progress toward development of the long-range plan described in condition 26 of the order. Once the report summarizing activity for 2020 is completed, it will be made available online by the California Natural Resources Agency's on their Salton Sea webpage: <https://saltonsea.ca.gov/>. Additional information regarding the Salton Sea is also available on the California Natural Resources Agency's Salton Sea website.

For more information about the background and history of the State Water Board's involvement with the Salton Sea, please visit the State Water Board's webpage at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/salton_sea/

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AT WORKSHOP

The State Water Board is seeking information from interested parties related to progress or actions since the last State Water Board Salton Sea Workshop on August 19, 2020. The workshop is also an opportunity for interested persons to provide input to the State Water Board regarding the status of the SSMP. Input can be provided by submitting written comments as described below or providing oral comments during the workshop as described above.

A draft agenda is under development and will be posted on the Board's Salton Sea website prior to the workshop. The draft agenda will also be released via the Salton Sea email subscription service. To receive notifications about Salton Sea program activities by the State Water Board and the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board, please subscribe to the email service here: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg7_subscribe.html.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

This workshop is for informational purposes and no formal action will be taken. While a quorum of the State Water Board may be present, the State Water Board will not take formal action at the workshop. There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of interested persons, but the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions.

In addition to the content described above, the workshop is an opportunity for interested persons to provide input to the State Water Board. At the workshop, interested persons will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement any written comments with oral comments. To ensure a productive and efficient meeting in which all interested

persons have an opportunity to participate, oral comments at the workshops may be time-limited.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

Interested persons must submit written comments by **12:00 p.m. on March 11, 2021**.

Comments submitted must include the follow subject line: “**Comment Letter: Salton Sea**”. For submittals less than 15 megabytes in total size, interested persons should email the submittal to Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board, at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov.

For submittals more than 15 megabytes in total size, interested persons should (1) email a summary of their written information to Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board, at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov; and (2) mail or hand deliver any additional information on a CD/DVD.

Mail or hand-delivered comments must be addressed to:

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

Interested persons with hand deliveries must check in with the Visitor and Environmental Services Center on the first floor of the Joe Serna, Jr.-CalEPA Headquarters Building who will contact State Water Board staff to pick up any hand deliveries. Couriers delivering comments must check in with lobby security and have them contact Jeanine Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

WEBCAST OF WORKSHOP

A broadcast of the meeting will be available at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>.

INFORMATION REGARDING WORKSHOP

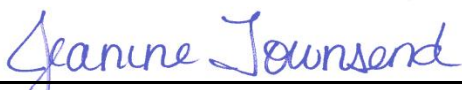
Please direct any inquiries concerning this notice to Justine Herrig, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at (916) 323-5176 or Justine.Herrig@waterboards.ca.gov.

Additional information is available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/salton_sea/

February 18, 2021

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board