

**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
LAHONTAN REGION**

2501 Lake Tahoe Boulevard, South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

PUBLIC NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER ADOPTION OF

**CONDITIONAL WAIVER OF WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS FOR WASTE
DISCHARGES RESULTING FROM TIMBER HARVEST AND VEGETATION
MANAGEMENTS ACTIVITIES IN THE LAHONTAN REGION**

This is a Public Notice by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Lahontan Region (Lahontan Water Board) that the Lahontan Water Board will hold a public hearing to receive public comments and consider adoption of the revised *Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Waste Discharges Resulting from Timber Harvest and Vegetation Management Activities in the Lahontan Region*, Board Order No. R6T-2024-[PROP] (2024 Timber Waiver).

If adopted, the 2024 Timber Waiver will regulate waste discharges resulting from timber harvest and vegetation management activities throughout the Lahontan Region.

Project Information

Permit Applicants	Private landowners, commercial timber harvest companies, federal agencies, and other entities conducting timber harvest and vegetation management in the Lahontan Region
Name of Project	2024 Timber Waiver
Permittee/Facility Address	Projects may occur throughout the Lahontan region
Discharge Point	Discharge may occur in waters of the state throughout the Lahontan region
Discharge Description	Waste discharges resulting from timber harvest and vegetation management activities
Receiving Waters	Waters of the state throughout the Lahontan region

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Lahontan Water Board will hold a public hearing to receive public comments and consider adoption of the 2024 Timber Waiver.

This notice sets forth the procedures and processes the Lahontan Water Board will use at this proceeding and contains important deadlines. The Lahontan Water Board will hold a public hearing and consider adoption of the 2024 Timber Waiver, as follows:

DATE: Thursday, April 18, 2024

TIME: 9:00 a.m. (start time)

PLACE: Holiday Inn Express & Suites Barstow-Conference Room

2700 Lenwood Road, Barstow, CA 92311

and

Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency
6500 W Ave N
Palmdale, CA 93551

Video and Teleconference Option: This meeting will occur with both the physical meeting locations described above and an option for the public to participate from a remote location.

This public meeting is currently scheduled to take place in-person and via video and teleconference, but the format may be changed in the future. Any person wishing to obtain information about changes to the date, time, location, or format of the meeting should visit the Board's website:

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board_info/remote_meeting/).

The final meeting agenda will be available on the Board's website at least 10 days before the meeting. The agenda will provide the location and format of the meeting, the anticipated 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. The agenda materials may also include staff revisions to the proposed order.

Advanced Zoom registration is required to participate telephonically or by computer.

The deadline to submit a Virtual Speaker Card is April 15, 2024. Procedures for viewing and/or participating in the hearing, including for submitting Virtual Speaker Cards for individuals who want to provide oral comments are available on the Lahontan Water Board's website (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan/board_info/remote_meeting/) and are also available in the agenda for the meeting or by contacting the Lahontan Water Board's office. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to the Lahontan Water Board at (530) 542-5400.

Participants in this proceeding are identified as either "Parties" or "Interested Persons." Designation as a Party is not necessary to participate in this proceeding. Both Interested Persons and Parties will have the opportunity to present oral comments. Both Interested Persons and Parties may be asked to respond to clarifying questions from the Lahontan Water Board members, counsel, or staff, or others, at the discretion of the of the Board.

Parties to the hearing may present evidence. The Board meetings does not generally require the prior identification of witnesses, the cross examination of witnesses, or other procedures not specified in this notice. Parties or persons with special procedural requests should contact staff, who will endeavor to accommodate reasonable requests.

Interested Persons include any person or organization that is interested in the outcome of the hearing, but who has not been designated as a Party. Interested Persons may present oral comments at the hearing, but they may not present evidence. Oral comments include policy statements and/or arguments about the appropriateness, wisdom, or utility of the proposal before the Lahontan Water Board. Interested Persons are not subject to cross-examination and may not cross-examine witnesses.

All designated Parties and Interested Persons may speak at the Lahontan Water Board meeting. Oral comments should avoid repeating previous comments to allow all persons time to be heard. Interested Persons with similar concerns or opinions are encouraged to choose one representative to speak and are encouraged to coordinate their presentations with each other. Oral comments will be limited to five (5) minutes each. Any person may ask for additional time for their oral comment by sending a request with a justification supporting the request and the requested amount of time to the Board Clerk, Katrina Fleshman at Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov or by contacting her directly at (530) 542-5414 by 5:00 p.m. by April 10, 2024. Please indicate in the subject line "2024 Timber Waiver."

Interested Persons requesting additional time will be advised prior to the date of the hearing of the amount of time they will be allocated. The decision to grant or deny additional time will be based upon the complexity and the number of issues under consideration, the extent to which entities and persons have coordinated, the number of interested persons anticipated, the extent to which entities and persons have identified unique interests, and the time available for the hearing. It is the Lahontan Water Board's intent that reasonable requests be accommodated. Participants requesting to use a PowerPoint presentation during the oral comment at the public hearing must email the file, in .ppt format, to Lahontan@waterboards.ca.gov with a copy to katrina.fleshman@waterboards.ca.gov, and be received by 5:00 p.m. by April 10, 2024. Please indicate in the subject line "2024 Timber Waiver."

The proceeding before the Lahontan Water Board generally will be conducted in the following order:

1. Opening statement by the Chair summarizing the subject matter and purpose of the hearing
2. Administration of oath to persons who intend to testify
3. Water Board staff presentation
4. Questions from the Water Board members to staff or counsel
5. Designated parties' presentations
6. Questions from the Water Board members, counsel, or staff to designated parties
7. Interested persons' comments
8. Questions from the Water Board members, counsel, or staff to designated parties or interested persons
9. Questions from the Water Board members to staff or counsel
10. Deliberations
11. Water Board decision

Document Availability: The Proposed 2024 Timber Waiver will be included in the Final Meeting Agenda for the April 17-18, 2024, Water Board meeting. The Final Meeting Agenda be available at least 10 days before the meeting at the following website: The Final Meeting Agenda be available at least 10 days before the meeting at the following website:

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

The Procedures Governing Lahontan Water Board Meetings

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/) may be found at Title 23, California Code of Regulations, Section 647 et seq. and are available upon request. Hearings before the Lahontan Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq.

Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to send an email to 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

Questions may be directed to Adam Henriques at the Lahontan Water Board Office, at (530) 542-5439 or adam.henriques@waterboards.ca.gov.