
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

Notice of Public Solicitation for the 2027 Joint Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plans for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins and the Tulare Lake Basin

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board or Board) is initiating the triennial review process for the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins and the Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin (Basin Plans). To implement the federal Clean Water Act and the State's Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act, the Basin Plan designates beneficial uses of surface water and groundwater, establishes water quality objectives to protect beneficial uses, sets antidegradation requirements, and describes implementation policies to achieve water quality objectives in the Central Valley Region; collectively, these are known as water quality standards. To meet requirements of section 303(c) of the federal Clean Water Act and Water Code section 13240, the Central Valley Water Board reviews the water quality standards contained in the Basin Plans every three years. The process of soliciting information pertinent to this review and the review itself is referred to as the "Triennial Review."

The Basin Plans are the foundation for the Central Valley Water Board's water quality regulatory programs. The Basin Plans designate beneficial uses for both surface and ground water bodies in the Central Valley, establish water quality objectives to protect those beneficial uses, contain implementation plans that describe the actions necessary to achieve water quality objectives, and describe the surveillance and monitoring activities needed to determine regulatory compliance and assess the health of the Basins' water resources. Please note that while the Board uses information provided in the Triennial Review to prioritize basin planning activities, the triennial review process does not itself amend the Basin Plans.

The Triennial Review consists of:

- The Board's solicitation of public comments on water quality issues in the Central Valley that may need to be addressed through Basin Plan amendments, and;
- The preparation of a prioritized workplan for each Basin Plan which describes the actions the Board may take over the next three years to investigate and respond to these issues.

The Board's solicitation process involves providing an opportunity for interested persons to provide written comments to the Board. After the Board receives public input, the Board develops and adopts a prioritized workplan that is used to direct basin planning efforts over the next three years. Though the list of issues raised through the public solicitation process typically far exceeds available resources to address them, the Triennial Review helps the Board identify areas where the Board may pursue additional resources to address areas where existing resources are not sufficient. Implementation of the workplan depends on the Board's program priorities, resources, and other mandates and commitments.

Since the reviews of both Basin Plans are occurring concurrently, the public may provide comments on either Basin Plan. Written comments will be accepted during the 45-day solicitation period for either Basin Plan at the Rancho Cordova office and through email. Staff will compile comments for the appropriate Basin Plan and use them to inform the development of the draft 2027 Triennial Review Work Plan. In the written comments, please provide the information in Attachment 1.

Written comments should be submitted by **02 October 2026** either by mail or by email to:

Mason Gatti

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

r5triennial-review@waterboards.ca.gov

More information on the Triennial Review process, including the 2024 Workplan, can be accessed at the Central Valley Water Board's [Triennial Review webpage](#):

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/triennial_reviews

ATTACHMENT 1

Information for Commenting on the 2027 Triennial Review

Any information submitted to the Central Valley Water Board in connection with the Board's Triennial Review is considered public and may be posted on the Board's website.

Comments should include the following information, as appropriate:

1. **Submitting Organization:** Provide the name of the organization, entity or person submitting the data, information, documents, or evidence for consideration.
2. **Contact Person:** Provide the name, address, phone number(s), and e-mail address for the contact person that can answer questions about the information provided. (The Board discourages the submittal of home addresses and home telephone numbers, as this information will be considered public once submitted to the Board. To the extent that home addresses or home phone numbers are submitted, the Board will only use the information for the purposes of communicating with the person submitting the information.)
3. **Affected Waterbody(ies) and Watershed(s):** Identify the specific waterbody(ies) and watershed(s) affected by the data, information or evidence.
4. **Affected section of the Basin Plan:**
 - a. **Affected Beneficial Use:** If applicable, identify the beneficial use(s) listed in the Basin Plan that is addressed by the data, information or evidence. Alternatively, if the information relates to a beneficial use not currently designated in the Basin Plan, identify the waterbody(ies) to which the beneficial use(s) should apply.
 - b. **Affected Water Quality Objective:** If applicable, identify the water quality objective for which the data, information, or evidence is being submitted. If the data, information, or evidence relates to more than one water quality objective, please list all water quality objectives to which the information pertains.
 - c. **Affected Implementation Program:** If applicable, identify the existing implementation program that needs modification or a description of a new implementation program that should be developed. Implementation programs include any necessary monitoring and surveillance to determine the effectiveness of the implementation program.

5. Concise Summary of Suggested Revisions: Describe the suggested Basin Plan amendments based upon the data, information or evidence submitted.

6. Supporting Data, Information or Evidence: For each comment, list any existing documents, data, information, and/or specific evidence (with references to particular pages as appropriate) that the Central Valley Water Board should consider and provide copies of the documents, data, information, and/or evidence referenced (electronically, where possible).

7. Concise Summary of Data, Information or Evidence: Describe in one or two sentences the essence of the data, information, or evidence submitted to support the suggested revisions to the Basin Plan.

8. Stakeholder Support for Suggested Revisions to the Basin Plan: If applicable, please explain any widespread stakeholder support for the suggested revisions. Also, if available, please list supportive stakeholder(s) with phone or email contact(s).