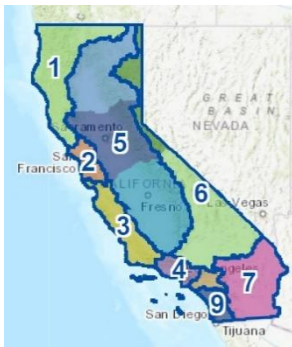


**CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD  
COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION  
LAND DISPOSAL AND DISCHARGE TO LAND PROGRAMS  
PLANNED PERMITTING ACTIVITIES AND PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT  
IN 2023/2024**

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Regional Water Board), is providing the following information about planned permitting activities and the efforts of the Land Disposal programs to let the public know about projects in their community which may impact their water quality and inviting their participation in our decision-making processes.

**THE REGIONAL WATER BOARD**



In California, the responsibility for the protection of surface water and groundwater quality rests primarily with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards, collectively referred to as the Water Boards. The Water Boards are a department within the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA).

The Regional Water Board makes water quality decisions for the Colorado River Basin Region (Region 7), which is located in the southeastern area of California. Region 7 covers approximately 22,000 square miles within all of Imperial County, and portions of San Bernardino, Riverside, and San Diego counties.

The Regional Water Board's mission is to protect and improve the quality of our regional waters. The ways by which we carry out our mission include:

- Developing policies addressing region-wide water quality concerns within the Basin Planning process;
- Working on statewide programs and policies developed by the State Water Board;
- Working with other agencies concerned with water quality control;
- Adopting permits regulating discharges to land and land disposal. These permits include waste discharge requirements (WDRs) orders and discharges compliant with California regulatory requirements for landfills and other lined disposal facilities; and
- Informing and involving the public on water quality issues.

**WASTE DISCHARGE TO LAND PROGRAM**

The Land Disposal Program regulates the discharge of solid waste and wastewater to lined facilities such as landfills or lined surface impoundments that preclude discharges to groundwater. The Waste Discharge to Land Program regulates wastewater discharges to groundwaters of the State. The State of California is granted authority by the California Water Code and Division 7 of the Water Code known as the Porter Cologne Act. Permit activities involve issuing and renewing permits, conducting

inspections, reviewing monitoring reports, and taking enforcement actions against dischargers who fail to comply.

### **ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR 2023 AND 2024**

The Land Disposal and Discharge to Land programs plan to develop permits for the facilities listed below in 2023 and 2024. Members of the public are encouraged to reach out to Regional Water Board staff regarding the development and status of these permits.

#### **Permit Renewal-Rio Bend RV and Golf Resort, and Storm's Crossing Mobile Estates OWTS-EI Centro; Imperial County**

The Rio Bend RV and Golf Resort, and Storm's Crossing Mobile Estates are located at 1589 Drew Road and 1601 Drew Road, approximately two miles south of Seeley. All wastewater treatment and disposal systems at Rio Bend and Storm's Crossing are regulated as a single facility. The treatment and disposal systems include 80 septic tanks at Rio Bend and 8 septic tanks at Storm's Crossing. The combined domestic wastewater is collected and discharged into two unlined, onsite evaporation/percolation ponds. Staff developed a permit to be consistent with current operations at the Facility, including the regulation of the Storm's Crossing, and presented it for Regional Water Board adoption on October 10, 2023.

#### **Permit Renewal-JM Leathers Geothermal Power Plant, Calipatria; Imperial County**

The J.M. Leathers Geothermal Power Plant is located at 342 West Sinclair Road, approximately seven miles west of the town of Calipatria. The geothermal power plant has a lined surface impoundment that temporarily retains geothermal brine (liquid) and geothermal precipitates (solid). The solid waste is excavated out of the impoundment and taken to a landfill for proper disposal, while the liquid waste is treated before it is reinjected back into the geothermal reservoir. This discharge is allowed pursuant to a Waste Discharge Requirements permit adopted in May 2015. Staff developed a permit to be consistent with current operations at the Facility and presented it for Regional Water Board adoption on December 12, 2023.

#### **Permit Renewal-City of Palm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant-Palm Springs; Riverside County**

The City of Palm Springs Wastewater Treatment Plant is located at 4375 East Mesquite Avenue, about 4.7 miles south of Interstate 10 and 1.25 miles west of Cathedral City. The wastewater treatment plant treats sewage from residents and businesses. Treated disinfected wastewater from the wastewater treatment plant is conveyed to six percolation ponds or to a dedicated offsite tertiary treatment plant. The plant can treat up to 10.9 million gallons per day. The last update to the plant's Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) became effective on September 21, 2017. Staff is developing tentative WDRs and is planning to present them for Regional Water Board adoption in the first quarter of 2024.

#### **Permit Renewal-Coachella Valley Water District Water (CVWD) Reclamation Plant 10 (WRP 10); Riverside County**

The CVWD WRP 10 is located at 43000 Cook Street, Palm Desert, about five miles south of Interstate 10 and less than 1/4 mile north of the Whitewater River Stormwater

Channel. The Facility has an activated sludge treatment plant that provides secondary and tertiary treatment to domestic municipal wastewater and two septage receiving facilities. The Facility also has a Groundwater Replenishment Project that is covered by a separate permit. The plant can treat up to 18-million gallons per day (MGD) of secondary wastewater and 15.0 MGD of tertiary wastewater. Disinfected tertiary treated wastewater is used as recycled water for golf courses and landscape irrigation. This discharge is allowed pursuant to the Waste Discharge Requirements permit adopted in March 2018. Staff is developing tentative WDRs and is planning to present them for Regional Water Board adoption in the first quarter of 2024.

**Permit Renewal-Salton City Lansing Avenue Wastewater Treatment Facility-Salton City; Imperial County<sup>1</sup>**

The Salton City Lansing Avenue Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is located at 2170 Lansing Avenue in Salton City. Salton Community Services District (SCSD) owns and operates the Lansing Avenue WWTF, which consists of five unlined aeration ponds. Final disposal of wastewater is through evaporation and percolation and has a treatment capacity of 0.12 million gallons per day. SCSD is requesting an increased disposal capacity in this permit renewal. Staff is developing tentative WDRs and is planning to present them for Regional Water Board adoption in the second quarter of 2024.

**Permit Renewal-Thomas R. Cannell Wastewater Treatment Facility-Salton City; Imperial County<sup>1</sup>**

The Thomas R. Cannell (TRC) Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) is located on approximately 40 acres near Salton City. Salton Community Services District (SCSD) owns and operates the TRC WWTF, which consists of two aeration ponds, two polishing ponds, and four evaporation/percolation ponds. The TRC WWTF has a treatment capacity of 0.185 million gallons per day. SCSD is requesting an increased disposal capacity in this permit renewal. Staff is developing tentative WDRs and is planning to present them for Regional Water Board adoption in the second quarter of 2024.

**Permit Renewal-Mesquite Mine, Calipatria; Imperial County**

The Mesquite Mine is located at 342 West Sinclair Road, approximately seven miles west of the town of Calipatria. The Discharger is expected to process up to 25 million tons of ore for mining gold per year from 65 million tons of total mine production: the ore is processed on approximately 438 acres of active and under construction Heap Leach facilities through the related carbon adsorption processing facilities. The process units include two active process Ponds covering 3.12 acres each as well as solution conveyance pipelines, secondary containment ditches, and Carbon-in-Column and Gold Plant buildings. This discharge is allowed pursuant to a Waste Discharge Requirements permit adopted in May 2014. Staff is developing tentative WDRs and is planning to present them for Regional Water Board adoption in the second quarter of 2024.

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<sup>1</sup> Renewal of the Waste Discharge Requirements permit for this facility subject to change due to priorities in work assignments.

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

If you have questions concerning Land Disposal and Discharge to Land permitting activities, please contact Jose Cortez at (760) 776-8963 or [Jose.Cortez@WaterBoards.ca.gov](mailto:Jose.Cortez@WaterBoards.ca.gov).