



COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD

National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Fact Sheet

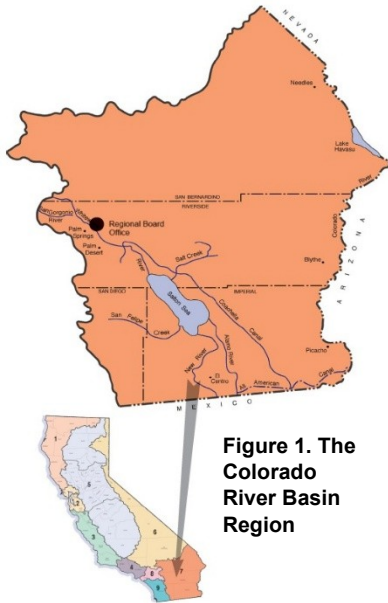


Figure 1. The Colorado River Basin Region

The Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board is providing the following notice about planned permitting activities in Fiscal Year (FY) 2026-2027, starting from July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. This notice is intended to let the public know about permitting of facilities in their community which may impact local water quality. We invite you to participate in our decision-making processes.

THE REGIONAL WATER BOARD

In California, the responsibility for the protection of surface water and ground water 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 Regional Water Quality Control Board (Regional Water Board) makes water quality decisions for the Colorado River Basin Region (Region 7), which covers California’s most arid area (Figure 1).

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM (NPDES) PROGRAM

The NPDES permit program regulates the discharge of wastewaters and stormwaters to surface waters that are designated as “Waters of the United States.” The California Water Boards issue and enforce federal NPDES permits by the authority from the United States Environmental Protection Agency. An NPDES permit limits the amount of waste that facilities like publicly-owned treatment works, factories, construction sites, and other industries can discharge. By keeping these pollutants in check, permits keep regional lakes and rivers cleaner and protect community health. Permit activities involve issuing and renewing permits, conducting inspections, reviewing monitoring reports, and taking enforcement actions against dischargers who fail to comply. Permits are key tools to help meet water quality objectives on pollutants that protect the environment.

NPDES PERMIT RENEWAL ACTIVITIES PLANNED FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026 - 2027

The NPDES program plans to renew the following permits in FY 2026 - 2027. If you have any questions concerning surface water permitting activities, please contact Logan Raub at (760) 776-8966 or Logan.Raub@WaterBoards.ca.gov. Please visit the Regional Board NPDES website at <https://bit.ly/rb7-npdes>.



Imperial Irrigation District (IID) El Centro Generating Station — City of El Centro; Imperial County

The IID El Centro Generating Station, a gas and oil-fired power plant, is located at 485 East Villa Road on the east side of the City of El Centro and two miles west of Highway 111. The Facility has been authorized to discharge treated industrial wastewater to Central Drain No. 5, a tributary to the Alamo River, through a permit adopted in January 2020. Staff are planning to present an updated permit for this wastewater treatment plant for Regional Water Board consideration of adoption in the fall of 2026.

Calipatria Wastewater Treatment Plant — City of Calipatria; Imperial County

The Calipatria Wastewater Treatment Plant is located at 106 Lindsey Road, at the northwest corner of Brandt Road and English Road. The wastewater treatment plant treats sewage from the City of Calipatria, including the inmate population and staff members from the Calipatria State Prison. The Facility discharges treated disinfected wastewater to the “G” Drain, a tributary to the Alamo River. This discharge is allowed pursuant to a Regional Water Board permit adopted in November 2020. Staff are planning to present an updated permit for this wastewater treatment plant for Regional Water Board consideration of adoption in the fall of 2026.

Imperial Water Pollution Control Plant — City of Imperial; Imperial County

The City of Imperial Water Pollution Control Plant is located at 701 East 14th Street, on the corner of North N Street and East 14th Street. The Water Pollution Control Plant treats sewage from the City of Imperial and discharges treated, disinfected wastewater to the Dolson Drain, a tributary to Alamo River. This discharge is allowed pursuant to a Regional Water Board permit adopted in April 2021. Staff are planning to present an updated permit for this wastewater treatment plant for Regional Water Board consideration of adoption in the winter of 2027.

Brawley Wastewater Treatment Plant — City of Brawley; Imperial County

The City of Brawley Wastewater Treatment Plant is located at 5015 Best Road, on the corner of Best Road and Ward Road. The Wastewater Treatment Plant treats sewage from the City of Brawley and discharges treated, disinfected wastewater to New River. This discharge is allowed pursuant to a Regional Water Board permit adopted in June 2021. Staff are planning to present an updated permit for this wastewater treatment plant for Regional Water Board consideration of adoption in the summer of 2027.

“Phase I” General Order for Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) within Whitewater River Watershed — Coachella Valley, Riverside County

The Regional Boards regulate discharges from Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) in urban areas. Phase 1 permits apply to urban areas with populations greater than 250,000 people. On March 14, 1991, the Regional Water Board designated the Whitewater River Watershed, an area within the Coachella Valley, as required to have a Phase 1 MS4 stormwater permit. The first Regional Water Board permit for the Whitewater River Watershed was adopted in 1996. The permit has been renewed and updated three times since 1996, with the most recent renewal effective since June 2013. Staff are planning to present an updated permit for Regional Water Board consideration of adoption in the summer 2027.