

Concise Summary of Regulatory Provisions

TITLE 23. Waters

Division 4. Regional Water Quality Control Boards

Chapter 1. Water Quality Control Plans, Policies, and Guidelines

Article 7. Colorado River Basin Region

The following section 3969.5 entitled “Updates to Bacteria Water Quality Objectives” is to be added to Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations:

§ 3969.5. Updates to Bacteria Water Quality Objectives.

On September 3, 2020, the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board adopted Resolution No. R7-2020-0028, amending the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region (Basin Plan) by updating bacteria water quality objectives for water contact recreation to reflect new, statewide objectives established through State Water Resources Control Board Resolution No. 2018-0028, *Part 3 of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries of California – Bacteria Provisions and a Water Quality Standards Variance Policy and an Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California – Bacteria Provisions and a Water Quality Standards Variance Policy*, as well as by making other related administrative changes. The amendment:

- (1) Updates bacteria water quality objectives for waters designated for water contact recreation to include two bacterial indicators, each with a geometric mean and statistical threshold value at a more protective illness rate than previous objectives.
- (2) Adds a new beneficial use definition for Limited Water Contact Recreation (LREC-I). No waters have been designated for LREC-I but the inclusion of the definition will allow its use in future designations.
- (3) Consolidates all site-specific water quality objectives for the Colorado River, including those for bacteria, into one section of the Basin Plan.

The State Water Resources Control Board approved the amendment under Resolution No. 2021-0008, on March 16, 2021.