



State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT AND PUBLIC HEARING FOR THE DRAFT 2024 CALIFORNIA CLEAN WATER ACT SECTION 303(d) LIST

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT WRITTEN COMMENTS WILL BE ACCEPTED by the State Water Resources Control Board (“State Water Board”) on California’s draft Clean Water Act section 303(d) list of water quality limited segments portion of the 2024 California Integrated Report. The list is commonly known as the “303(d) List” or the “List of Impaired Waters.” The 303(d) List includes new listing and delisting recommendations for waterbodies in the regions of the San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, Santa Ana, Central Valley, Central Coast, and San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Boards (“Regional Water Boards”).

DOCUMENT AVAILABILITY

The draft 303(d) List for the 2024 California Integrated Report and the supporting draft staff report will be posted on the State Water Board’s web site on or before **Friday, February 17, 2023**, at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment/2024-integrated-report.html

You may request a paper copy of the draft staff report by contacting Celene Udasco at celene.udasco@waterboards.ca.gov.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR SUBMITTING WRITTEN COMMENTS

The State Water Board will accept written comments on the draft 303(d) List and draft staff report. All written comments must be received no later than **12:00 noon on Monday, April 3, 2023**. Comment letters received after this date will not be accepted unless the State Water Board determines otherwise.

Address comments to Courtney Tyler, Acting Clerk to the State Water Board. Please indicate in the subject line: **“Comment Letter – 2024 California Integrated Report”**.

Written comments may be submitted electronically in pdf format (if less than 15 megabytes in total size) to the Board Clerk via e-mail at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov. If the file is greater than 15 megabytes in size, then the written comments may be submitted by fax at (916) 341-5620.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | EILEEN SOBECK, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Alternatively, comments may be submitted by hand delivery or mail to:

Courtney Tyler, Acting Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-2000 (by mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)

Couriers delivering a hard copy of a comment letter must check in with lobby security personnel, who can contact Ms. Tyler at (916) 341-5611.

NOTICE IS ADDITIONALLY HEREBY GIVEN THAT A HEARING WILL BE HELD by the State Water Board to receive oral comments on the draft 303(d) List for the 2024 California Integrated Report and draft staff report.

The public hearing will be held on:

Tuesday, March 21, 2023, 9:30 a.m.
Coastal Hearing Room - Second Floor
Joe Serna Jr. - CalEPA Headquarters Building
1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814
And via Video and Teleconference

The agenda for the March 21, 2023 State Water Board hearing and instructions for participating in the meeting will be posted on or about March 11, 2023, at https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/calendar.

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

- For those who only wish to watch the meeting, a webcast is available at either <https://www.youtube.com/user/BoardWebSupport/> or <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/> (closed captioning available) and should be used UNLESS you intend to comment.
- For members of the public who wish to comment on an agenda item or are presenting to the Board, additional information about participating telephonically or via the remote meeting solution is available here: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/remote_meeting/

REMOTE PARTICIPATION & PROCEDURAL MATTERS

At the State Water Board public hearing, there will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants. However, the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions. To ensure a productive and efficient hearing in which all participants have an opportunity to participate, oral presentations may be time limited. For other presentation recommendations, go to: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/meetings/board_presentations.shtml

If you require language interpretation or sign language services, please email a request to celene.udasco@waterboards.ca.gov as far in advance of the meeting as possible. Telecommunications device for the hearing impaired (TDD) users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

BACKGROUND

Section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act requires each state to identify waters of the United States that do not meet, or are not expected to meet by the next listing cycle, applicable water quality standards and to prioritize those waters for development of a total maximum daily load, unless other corrective action is appropriate. Section 305(b) of the Clean Water Act requires each state to report on the overall condition of its surface waterbodies (commonly referred to as the “305(b) report”). California combines its 303(d) lists and 305(b) reports into one “integrated report.”

The State Water Board adopts the 303(d) list for California and submits to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (“U.S. EPA”) for approval. Neither agency takes formal approval action on the 305(b) report. The State Water Board does not solicit comments or generally respond to comments pertaining to the 305(b) portion of the California Integrated Report.

The 2024 California Integrated Report:

For the listing cycle for the 2024 California Integrated Report, the San Francisco Bay, Los Angeles, and Santa Ana Regional Water Boards, and are “on-cycle.” “Off-cycle” assessments are also being evaluated for the Sacramento River sub-area of the Central Valley Regional Water Board. The Sacramento River sub-area is defined as the Sacramento River watershed and includes the mainstem of the Sacramento River above the legal boundary of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and all surface waters tributary to the mainstem. Finally, off-cycle assessments are also being considered for waterbodies in the regions of the Central Coast and San Diego Regional Water Boards.

All readily available data and information for waterbodies in the on-cycle regions and off-cycle sub area that were received prior to the data solicitation cut-off date of October 16, 2020, were reviewed. Data and information from several waterbodies within the Central Coast and San Diego Regional Water Boards were also evaluated. Data and information that met mapping and quality assurance requirements of the Listing Policy were assessed using a weight of evidence approach to determine if water quality standards are attained or not attained in a waterbody.

The 2024 Integrated Report revises the 2020-2022 Integrated Report. The revisions are based on data and information collected from surface waterbodies (rivers, streams, lakes, bays, estuaries, enclosed lagoons, and coastal waters) located in the aforementioned on-cycle and off-cycle regions. The revisions include changes to the 303(d) list and the 305(b) report and describes the extent to which surface waters in California are supporting beneficial uses.

Based on assessments of these data, approximately 876 new listings and 92 new delistings of impaired waterbody-pollutant combinations are recommended for the 303(d) List. An individual waterbody may be impaired by one or more pollutants.

The State Water Board is administering the listing process for all waters assessed during the 2024 listing cycle, in accordance with Section 6.2 of the Water Quality Control Policy for Developing California's Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List ("Listing Policy"). To administer the listing process, the State Water Board is accepting written comments and will hold a hearing to receive oral comments as described in this notice. The State Water Board will not be taking any action at the hearing. At a subsequent board meeting and after providing written responses to all timely written comments and oral comments made at the hearing, the State Water Board will consider adopting the proposed 303(d) List. Upon adoption of the 303(d) List of the 2024 Integrated Report by the State Water Board, the California Integrated Report will be submitted to U.S. EPA, which may make changes to the 303(d) List before it approves the final 303(d) List for California.

POTENTIAL FUTURE CHANGES TO THE NOTICED ITEMS

The State Water Board intends to make the Draft 2024 California Integrated Report and Draft Staff Report available, provide an opportunity for public comment, and hold the hearing meeting at the times and place noted above. Any change to the items noticed above will be noticed through the below-identified list serve e-mail distribution lists, and on the State Water Board's webpages.

Any person desiring to receive future notices must subscribe to the list serve e-mail distribution lists by accessing one of the following E-mail List Subscription forms:

For the 2024 California Integrated Report, select the box for "Integrated Report – 303(d)/305(b)" (located within the section entitled 'Water Quality'), and providing the required information. The subscription form is located at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/swrcb_subscribe.shtml

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

For directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information, please refer to the map on the State Water Board website:

<http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>.

The CalEPA Building is accessible to persons with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to call (916) 341-5254 at least 5 working days prior to the meeting. TDD users may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or voice line at (800) 735-2922.

All visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance (10th Street entrance). Valid picture identification may be required. Please allow up to 15 minutes for receiving security clearance.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please direct questions regarding this notice, the draft 2024 303(d) List of the California Integrated Report and draft staff report to Ana Maria Saenz, Senior Environmental Scientist at (916) 341-5480 or anamaria.saenz@waterboards.ca.gov or Celene Udasco, Environmental Scientist at celene.udasco@waterboards.ca.gov.

February 3, 2023

Date



Courtney Tyler
Acting Clerk to the Board