
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT

PROPOSED APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE TULARE LAKE BASIN TO REMOVE THE MUNICIPAL AND DOMESTIC SUPPLY AND AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY BENEFICIAL USES FROM GROUNDWATER WITHIN A DESIGNATED HORIZONTAL AND VERTICAL AREA WITHIN AND SURROUNDING THE ADMINISTRATIVE BOUNDARIES OF THE SOUTH BELTRIDGE, MONUMENT JUNCTION AND CYMRIC OIL FIELDS IN KERN COUNTY NEAR MCKITTRICK, CALIFORNIA

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will accept comments on the proposed amendment to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin to remove the Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) and Agricultural Supply (AGR) beneficial uses from groundwater within a designated horizontal and vertical area within and surrounding the administrative boundaries of the South Belridge, Monument Junction and Cymric Oil Fields in Kern County near McKittrick, California (Basin Plan Amendment). The Basin Plan Amendment, and the associated Late Revisions document, were adopted by the Central Valley Water Board on December 12, 2025 with Central Valley Water Board Resolution R5-2025-0058. The proposed Basin Plan Amendment removes the existing beneficial uses of MUN and AGR from a portion of groundwater delineated in the Staff Report. Additional information about the Basin Plan Amendment is provided below. The Basin Plan Amendment and supporting documents (including the Late Revisions document adopted on December 12, 2025, and an Executive Officer's Correction Memorandum dated May 27, 2026) are available for review on the McKittrick Basin Plan Amendment website at the following link:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/rwqcb5/water_issues/basin_plans/mckittrick/

Submission of Written Comments

Persons interested in the Basin Plan Amendment are encouraged to submit comments from July 27, 2026 to September 11, 2026. Comment letters **must be received by 12:00 noon on September 11, 2026**. Comment letters received after that deadline will not be accepted unless the State Water Board determines otherwise. Please send comments to Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the State Water Board, by email (preferred) at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov (**must be no more than 15 megabytes**); fax at (916) 341-5620; or mail or hand delivery to:

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

McKittrick Area Oil Fields Beneficial Use Evaluation Basin Plan Amendment
Notice of Consideration of Approval from State Water Board

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Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 (mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)
Please also indicate in the subject line, “**Comment Letter— McKittrick BPA**”.

If you would like a copy of any or all of the written comments submitted on this subject, please send a request to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov, identifying the subject listed above. Written comments will not be available until after the comment deadline.

Requirements for Submitting Comments

The State Water Board will not accept any new evidence not already presented to the Central Valley Water Board during its consideration of the Basin Plan Amendment. In accordance with 23 Cal. Code Regs., § 3779, subd. (f), the State Water Board may refuse to accept any comments that do not satisfy all the following requirements:

1. Comments must specifically address the final version of the Basin Plan Amendment adopted by the Central Valley Water Board.
2. If the Central Valley Water Board previously responded to a similar or identical comment, the commenter must explain why and in what manner the commenter believes each of the responses provided by the Central Valley Water Board to each comment was inadequate or incorrect.
3. The commenter also must include either a statement that each of the comments was timely raised before the Central Valley Water Board, or an explanation of why the commenter was unable to raise the specific comment before the Central Valley Water Board.

Language Services

To request translation of a written document please use one of the following options as early as you can, but no later than twenty (20) business days before the meeting, if possible.

- Submit an online request: bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm
- Call (916) 341-5254
- Email languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov

Contact us to request information in your language.

Contáctenos para solicitar información en su idioma.

Liên hệ chúng tôi để yêu cầu thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị.

귀하의 언어로 작성된 정보를 요청하려면 저희에게 문의하십시오.

ਆਪਣੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪ੍ਰਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Makipag-ugnayan sa amin para humiling ng impormasyon sa iyong wika.

请联系我们，以您的语言获取相关信息。

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Background

The proposed Basin Plan Amendment would remove the Municipal and Domestic Supply (MUN) and Agricultural Supply (AGR) beneficial uses from groundwater within a horizontally and vertically delineated area within and surrounding the Administrative Boundaries of South Belridge, Monument Junction, and Cymric Oil Fields in Kern County, near the unincorporated community of McKittrick, California. The Central Valley Water Board evaluated available data to support the de-designation of the MUN and AGR beneficial uses in the delineated area. These evaluations were based on exception criteria detailed in the Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin (for the MUN and AGR beneficial uses) and from relevant scientific criteria and guidelines for salinity levels that support the use of water for livestock and crop irrigation (for the AGR beneficial use).

Stay Informed

The State Water Board will separately publish an agenda for the meeting at which it will consider adopting a resolution approving the Basin Plan Amendment. Oral comments at the State Water Board meeting generally will be limited to a summary of the written comments submitted during the written comment period. Persons interested in receiving notice of the meeting at which the State Water Board will consider approving the Basin Plan Amendment must subscribe to the Central Valley Water Board's email distribution list. Persons who require notice by regular mail must submit such requests to the Central Valley Water Board contact identified below.

Subscribe to receive email notifications about this Basin Plan Amendment:

1. Go to the webpage:
https://public.govdelivery.com/accounts/CAWRCB/subscriber/new?qsp=central_valley
2. Enter your email address and press "Submit". (If this is your first time subscribing to a Water Boards email subscription list, you will have to register first.)
3. In the list of "Subscription Topics", under the heading "Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board", check the box of the email subscription list "Region 5 - Groundwater De-designation McKittrick for California Water Boards" and press "Submit"

Additionally, a copy of the Basin Plan Amendment can be received by mail by contacting the Basin Planning Program staff identified below:

- **Staff contact Jennifer Fuller:** Jennifer.Fuller@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 464-4646
- **Program contact Daniel Ellis:** Daniel.Ellis@waterboards.ca.gov, (916) 464-4788
- **Website:** https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/

July 27, 2026

Date

Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board