NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

In the Matter of
California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Update on Enforcement Priorities and the Salton Sea

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Colorado River Basin Region (Colorado River Basin Water Board) will hold a public informational workshop on:

Date: Thursday, October 18, 2018
Time: 1:00 – 5:00 p.m.
Location: California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Colorado River Basin Region Board Room
73-720 Fred Waring Drive, Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260

The purpose of the meeting is for the Colorado River Basin Water Board to get an update and provide direction to its staff, as needed, on three items: (1) enforcement priorities, (2) environmental justice policy, and (3) the status of restoration activities at Salton Sea. The Board also welcomes public input on these items, and members of the public will have an opportunity to provide comments.

There may be a quorum of the Colorado River Basin Water Board members present at the meeting; however, no Board action will be taken at the meeting.

Item 1. Enforcement Priorities
The Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne) grants the Colorado River Basin Water Board the authority to implement and enforce water quality laws, regulations, policies, and plans to protect the groundwater and surface waters of the state. Timely and consistent enforcement of water quality laws and Board orders is critical to protecting the beneficial uses of the region’s water resources and to ensuring public access to clean water.

The State Water Resources Control Board’s Water Quality Enforcement Policy (Enforcement Policy), which was recently updated in 2017, provides guidance on enforcement actions. The Policy recommends that, on an annual basis, enforcement staff for each regional water board seek input at a public meeting of the board and consider
identifying general enforcement priorities based on input from members of the public and board members.

In compliance with this recommendation, the purpose of this workshop is to seek input from Colorado River Basin Water Board members and the public in identifying general enforcement priorities for the region. Staff from the Colorado River Basin Water Board and Office of Enforcement will present informational updates on the past year's enforcement activities and the 2017 Policy on Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEP Policy), as well as provide proposed regional enforcement priorities.

Information on the 2017 SEP Policy, and current and past enforcement activities in the Colorado River Basin Region can be found at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver/water_issues/programs/enforcement/

Item 2: Environmental Justice
The Environmental Justice (EJ) Coordinator for the Colorado River Basin Regional Board will present an informational update on EJ policy and EJ statistics for Coachella Valley and Imperial Valley.

Item 3: Salton Sea
Assistant Secretary of Salton Sea Policy Bruce Wilcox and other representatives from the Natural Resources Agency will provide the Board with a status update on activities at the Salton Sea.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS
At the workshop, there will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of participants, but the Colorado River Basin Water Board may ask clarifying questions. The Board will provide an opportunity for interested persons to make oral presentations to the Board. To ensure a productive and efficient workshop, oral presentations may be limited to 3-minutes at the discretion of the Board.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
For questions regarding enforcement priorities, please contact Frank Gonzalez at (760) 346-2612 or by email at frank.gonzalez@waterboards.ca.gov. For issues regarding the Salton Sea, please contact Nadim Shukry-Zeywar at (760) 776-8942 or by email at Nadim.Shukry-Zeywar@waterboards.ca.gov. For Environmental Justice issues, please contact Maria Davydova at (760) 776-8947 or by email at Maria.Davydova@waterboards.ca.gov.

The meeting facility is accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Hilda Vasquez at (760) 776-8950 at least five (5) working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1 (800) 735-2929 or voice line at 1 (800) 735-2922.