

Resolution R7-2020-0030 2020 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the Colorado River Basin Region

December 10, 2020

Maria Davydova-Flores, Environmental Scientist





Overview

- Basin Plan
- Triennial Review Process
- 2020 Triennial Review
 - Public Participation
 - Triennial Review List
 - Timeline

What is a Basin Plan?

- Water Quality Standards
 - Beneficial Uses
 - Water Quality Objectives
- Implementation plans
 - Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs)
 - Prohibitions
- Information





What is a Triennial Review?

- Review the Basin Plan
- Draft Triennial Review List
- Public Comment
- Public Hearing
- Board Approval



What is a Triennial Review List?

- Three-year workplan
- Potential Basin Plan Amendments
- Includes ongoing and new projects
- Prioritized by ranking the projects
- Continued by subsequent Triennial Reviews

Ranking Criteria

- Ongoing project
- Salton Sea
- EJ or Tribal issue
- Time to completion
- Groundwater issue
- Public interest
- Time sensitivity
- Impairments
- Beneficial Uses



2020 Triennial Review List: Ongoing Projects

No.	Project Title	Rank
1	Salton Sea Watershed, Imperial Valley Organochlorine Compounds and Organophosphate Pesticides TMDLs	1
2	Salton Sea Watershed, Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel Organochlorine Compounds TMDL Alternatives	1
3	Salton Sea Watershed, Alamo River Chloride, Indicator Bacteria, and Toxicity TMDLs	2
4	Salton Sea Watershed, New River Ammonia, Nutrients, and Toxicity TMDLs	2
5	Salton Sea Dissolved Oxygen and Nutrients TMDLs	2
6	Yucca Valley Septic System Prohibition Revision	2
7	Salton Sea Watershed, Coachella Valley Stormwater Channel Ammonia, Dissolved Oxygen, and Toxicity TMDLs	3
8	Imperial Valley Pyrethroid Pesticides TMDLs	3
9	Onsite Wastewater Treatment Systems (OWTS) Prohibitions in Areas Where OWTS Pose a Threat to Water Quality	3
10	Salton Sea Beneficial Use Review	4
11	Regionwide Indicator Bacteria Basin Plan Amendment	4
12	Groundwater Numeric Water Quality Objectives in Indio Subbasin	4
13	Palo Verde Outfall Drain and Lagoon Chloride and Indicator Bacteria TMDLs	4
14	Colorado River Toxicity TMDL	5

2020 Triennial Review List: New Projects

No.	Project Title	Rank
15	Salton Sea Watershed Site-Specific Objectives	6
16	Salton Sea Watershed Ammonia TMDL	6
17	Beneficial Use Designation for Salton Sea Constructed Aquatic Habitats	7
18	Salton Sea Watershed Bacteria TMDL	7
19	Adopt Secondary Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs) as Groundwater and Surface Water Quality Objectives for the Municipal and Domestic Supply Beneficial Use	7
20	Adopt Regionwide Water Quality Objectives Based on USEPA 304(a) Criteria	7
21	Salton Sea Arsenic TMDL	7
22	Salton Sea Toxicity TMDL	7
23	Salton Sea DDT and DDE TMDLs	7
24	Delineate Groundwater Beneficial Uses by Groundwater Subbasin and/or Aquifer	7
25	Incorporate Tribal Beneficial Use Definitions and Designate Tribal Beneficial Uses for Specific Water Bodies	8
26	Administrative Update to the Basin Plan	8
27	Imperial Valley Drains Toxicity TMDL	8
28	List Certain Unlisted Waterbodies and Applicable Beneficial Uses, And Designate Miscellaneous Beneficial Uses to Listed Waterbodies	8
29	General Prohibition of Unpermitted Waste Discharges that Pose a Threat to Water Quality	9



Public Participation

- 1st Comment Period
 - April 7 - May 27
 - Identify potential projects
- 2nd Comment Period
 - September 25 - October 24
 - Get input on the Draft Triennial Review List
- Public Workshop
 - October 8
 - Info for the 2nd Comment Period
- Public Hearing
 - December 10
 - Final comments

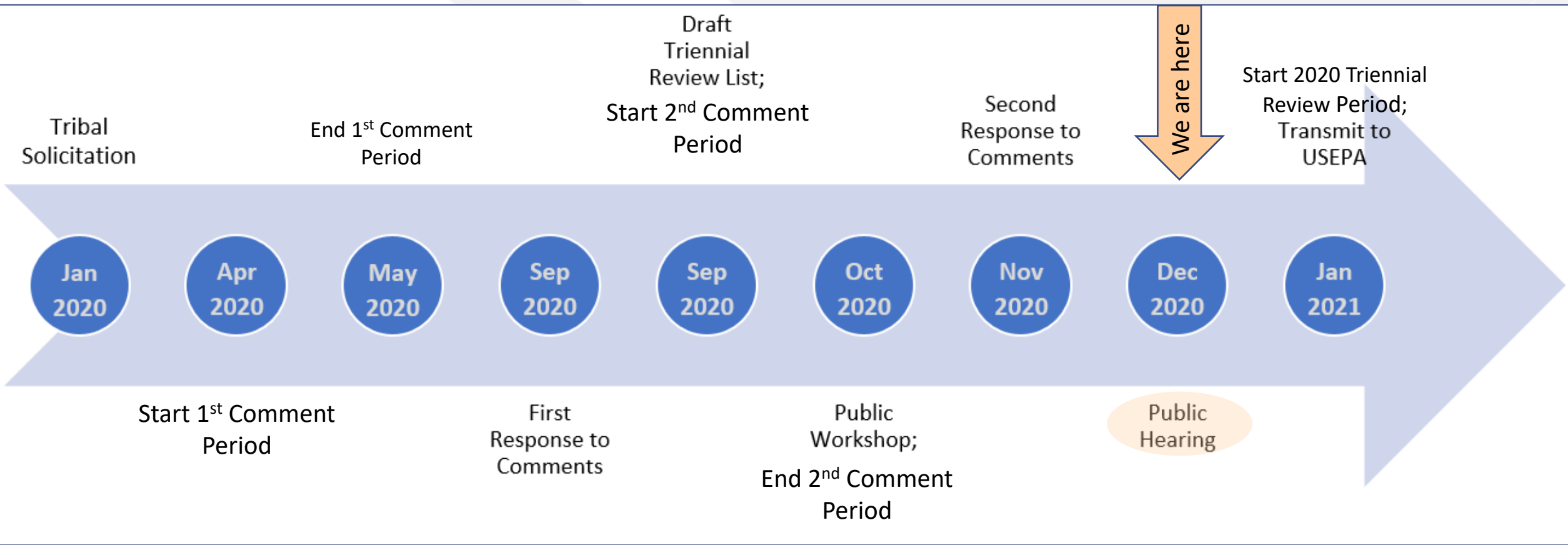
2nd Comment Period

Summary of Comment	Summary of Response
Request to translate of Triennial Review documents into Spanish.	Our goal with translation is to provide information essential to understanding the proposed action.
Request to prioritize Project 24 “Delineate Groundwater Beneficial Uses by Groundwater Subbasin and/or Aquifer,”	The project will be considered for undertaking as ongoing projects are completed.
Project 15 “Salton Sea Watershed Site-Specific Objectives” does not address concern that Salton Sea tributaries beneficial uses are “overly broad.”	Effluent limitations associated with the beneficial uses would be changed by creating site-specific water quality objectives for these water bodies.

2nd Comment Period

Summary of Comment	Summary of Response
Request for site-specific water quality objectives for Colorado River turbidity and manganese.	Staff proposes to revise project description for Project 19 “Adopt Secondary MCLs as Groundwater and Surface Water Quality Objectives for the Municipal and Domestic Supply Beneficial Use,” to include these site-specific objectives.
Disagree with proposal to remove language stating that Salton Sea’s primary purpose is to accept agricultural return flows.	This language can be misinterpreted as suggesting that waste transport or waste assimilation is a beneficial use, inconsistent with Title 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 131.10(a).

Timeline



Stay Involved!

- www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver
 - Subscribe:
 - Basin Plan mailing list
 - Salton Sea mailing list
 - Program Pages:
 - Basin Planning
 - TMDL



Staff Recommends for the Board to Adopt Resolution R7- 2020-0030