
State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKSHOP UPDATE REGARDING THE STATUS OF PHASE 1 OF THE SALTON SEA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold a public workshop at their regularly scheduled Board Meeting to receive information and solicit public input regarding the status of Phase 1 of the Salton Sea Management Program (SSMP).

Wednesday, March 18, 2020

1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. (Afternoon Session)

6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. (Evening Session)

Imperial Irrigation District (IID)

IID Board Room

1285 Broadway Avenue

El Centro, CA 92243

BACKGROUND

The March 18, 2020 workshop is being held in compliance with Order WR 2017-0134 to receive a progress update on the SSMP.

On November 7, 2017, the State Water Board adopted Order WR 2017-0134 amending revised Order WR 2002-0013 to incorporate additional conditions that set forth specific restoration milestones to address public health and environmental concerns. Condition 24 describes the annual acreage milestones outlining that, by the end of 2019, a cumulative 1,800 acres of dust suppression and wildlife habitat was to be completed. Order WR 2017-0134 requires that the Board hold a public meeting no later than March 31 of each year during Phase 1 of the SSMP to receive oral and written comment on the status of Salton Sea restoration.

The order also requires a report from state agencies, due in the first quarter of 2020 to identify: (i) completed projects and milestones achieved in the prior year; (ii) amount of acreage of completed projects that provide dust suppression and habitat restoration, broken down by habitat type; (iii) upcoming projects to be completed and milestones to be achieved prior to the next annual progress report; (iv) the status of financial resources and permits that have not been secured for future projects; (v) any anticipated departures from the dates and acreages identified in condition 24 of the order, and; (vi) progress toward development of the long-range plan described in condition 26 of the order.

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

For more information about the background and history of the State Water Board's involvement with the Salton Sea, please visit the State Water Board's web page at: http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/salton_sea/

Additional information is also available at the California Natural Resources Agency's Salton Sea webpage at: <https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Salton-Sea-Management-Program>

ISSUES FOR DISCUSSION AT WORKSHOP

The purpose of the March 18, 2020 workshop is for the State Water Board to receive information related to the progress of Phase 1 of the Salton Sea Management Program from state agencies and to receive written and oral comments from the public. The State Water Board is seeking information from interested parties related to progress or actions since the last State Water Board Salton Sea Workshop on March 19, 2019. The California Natural Resources Agency will prepare and submit an annual report on the SSMP to the State Water Board. Once submitted, a link to this report will be provided on the State Water Board's Salton Sea Program webpage:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/salton_sea/ and the California Natural Resources Agency's Salton Sea Management Program webpage: <https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Salton-Sea-Management-Program>.

A draft workshop agenda is attached to this notice. The workshop is also an opportunity for interested persons to provide input to the State Water Board regarding the status of the SSMP. Input can be provided by submitting written comment or providing oral comment during the workshop as described below under procedural matters.

PROCEDURAL MATTERS

This workshop is for informational purposes and no formal action will be taken. While a quorum of the State Water Board may be present, the State Water Board will not take formal action at the workshop. There will be no sworn testimony or cross-examination of interested persons, but the State Water Board and its staff may ask clarifying questions.

In addition to the content described above, the workshop is an opportunity for interested persons to provide input to the State Water Board. At the workshop, interested persons will be given an opportunity to summarize and supplement any written comments with oral comments. To ensure a productive and efficient meeting in which all interested persons have an opportunity to participate, oral comments at the workshops may be time-limited.

SUBMISSION OF WRITTEN COMMENTS

Interested persons must submit written comments by **12:00 p.m. on March 12, 2020**.

Comments submitted must include the follow subject line: "**Comment Letter: Salton Sea**". For submittals less than 15 megabytes in total size, interested persons should email the submittal to Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board, at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov.

For submittals more than 15 megabytes in total size, interested persons should (1) email a summary of their written information to Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board, at commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov; and (2) mail or hand deliver any additional information on a CD/DVD.

Mail should be postmarked by the comment deadline indicated above and addressed as follows:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
1001 I Street, 24th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

Hand deliveries should be delivered by the comment deadline indicated above to the following address:

Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board
State Water Resources Control Board
Joe Serna, Jr.-CalEPA Headquarters Building
1001 I Street, 24th Floor, Sacramento, CA

Interested persons with hand deliveries must check in with the Visitor and Environmental Services Center on the first floor of the Joe Serna, Jr.-CalEPA Headquarters Building who will contact State Water Board staff to pick up any hand deliveries. Couriers delivering comments must check in with lobby security and have them contact Jeanine Townsend at (916) 341-5600.

WEBCAST OF WORKSHOP

A broadcast of the meeting will be available at: <https://video.calepa.ca.gov/>

PARKING AND ACCESSIBILITY

Parking is available on-site. Individuals who have any special accommodations or language needs, please contact Ms. Justine Herrig at (916) 323-5176 or Justine.Herrig@waterboards.ca.gov at least 10 business days prior to the workshop.

INFORMATION REGARDING WORKSHOP

Please direct any inquiries concerning this notice to Justine Herrig, Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), at (916) 323-5176 or Justine.Herrig@waterboards.ca.gov.

Additional information is available at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/salton_sea/

February 25, 2020

Date



Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board

**State Water Board March 18, 2020 Workshop – Draft Public Agenda
 Status on Phase 1 of the Salton Sea Management Program
 <This agenda is subject to change at any time>**

Afternoon Session from 1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Time	Item
5 minutes	Introduction of Item by Board Chair
10 minutes	Elected Officials or their designated representative
10 minutes	State Water Board Staff Presentation
45 minutes	Salton Sea Management Program Update by California Natural Resources Agency
10 minutes	Panel 1: Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board
15 minutes	Panel 2: Air Quality authorities (to be determined)
15 minutes	Panel 3: Local entities (to be determined)
10 minutes	Panel 4: Federal entities (to be determined)
15 minutes	Panel 5: Wildlife and Community Non-Governmental Organizations
60 minutes	Public Comment
15 minutes	Board Member Discussion

Evening Session from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Evening Session may end earlier than 9:00 pm, dependent on number of public comments received.

Time	Item
5 minutes	Introduction of Item by Board Chair
10 minutes	State Water Board Staff Presentation
145 minutes	Public Comment
15 minutes	Closing Board Member Discussion
5 minutes	Closing Remarks by Board Chair

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