


# R9 Consultation Water Updates

Summer RTOC Consultation Group

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August 10, 2023  
EPA Region 9

# Agenda

- Update on Revision and Reissuance of Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Guidance
  - Information on Revisions to statewide Nevada Water Quality Standards Criteria
  - CWA 401 water quality certifications for RGP Emergency Activities
  - Tribal Consultation on 2024 State Integrated Reports
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# Revision and Reissuance of Quality Assurance Project Plan (QAPP) Guidance

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# What is Quality Assurance?

- Quality Assurance is the general name for an organization's system of planning, performing and documenting its activities, reviewing those activities and making systematic or project improvements.
- Our Agency's Quality Assurance Standards are located at these links:
  - [Quality Management Plans \(QMP\)](#)
  - [Quality Assurance Project Plans \(QAPPs\)](#)



## When is a QAPP Required?

- A QAPP is required by EPA when **environmental information operations** are conducted by and for EPA.
- Definition of Environmental Information Operations: a “collective term for work performed to *collect, produce, evaluate, or use environmental information and the design, construction, operation or application of environmental technology*”



# QAPP Guidance - Top 7:

## 1. Who does the Guidance apply to?

- Optional for EPA organizations, partner/grantee organizations and contractors who receive funding from EPA for environmental information operations.
- **Designed AS A *STAND-ALONE DOCUMENT* to help QAPP writers and reviewers:**
  - provides greater explanation of the requirements,
  - provides technical and policy advice,
  - provides advice on formatting information in tables,
  - provides implementation information,
  - does not impose legally binding requirements on EPA, states, or the regulated community, and
  - is not mandatory.



## QAPP Guidance - Top 7:

### 2. What is a QAPP?

- The QAPP is your “basic project planning” document.
- Describes how environmental information operations are planned, implemented, documented, and assessed during the life cycle of a project.
- It describes in comprehensive detail the necessary Quality Assurance (QA) and Quality Control (QC) requirements and other technical activities that must be implemented to ensure that the results of the environmental information operations work performed will satisfy the stated performance and acceptance criteria.



## QAPP Guidance - Top 7:

3. **Updates Specific to Tribes?** Direct acknowledgement of QA independence flexibilities unique to tribal nations including Project QA Manager independence from environmental information operations.
4. Better defines the role of the EPA QA Manager in terms of authority, ease of contact, etc.
5. Standardizes minimum requirements across all QAPPs while providing resources (guidance, templates, tools) for different types of QAPP.
6. A QAPP helps to ensure Scientific Integrity by ensuring that our environmental information and environmental technology is of known and documented quality.
7. Draft QAPP Standard is consistent with the American Society for Quality (ASQ)/American National Standards Institute (ANSI) E4:2014.



# Revision to Statewide Nevada WQS Criteria Update

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Tina Yin  
Manager, Standards and Assessment  
Section

# Active Tribal Consultation Offer Regional General Permit (RGP)

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CWA 401 water quality certifications for  
RGP Emergency Activities

# CWA 401 water quality certifications for RGP Emergency Activities

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- EPA Water Quality Certification for two U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's Regional Permits for Emergency Activities:
  - ❖ Sacramento District Region General Permit 8
  - ❖ Los Angeles District Regional General Permit 63
- Both permits would authorize discharge of dredged and/or fill material into waters of the U.S., for repair or protection activities for which the Corps has determined that an emergency situation exists.
- Typical activities authorized include but are not limited to bank stabilization; restoration of damaged areas; temporary fills for staging, access, and dewatering; and repair, replacement, or rehabilitation of existing structures and/or fills (i.e., roads, bridges, utility pipelines and flood control structures).
- EPA Region 9 has sent offers for government-to-government consultation to those tribes where EPA will be issuing the 401 Certification on the Tribes behalf. If interested in consultation, please contact Russ (Sacramento District) or Melissa (Los Angeles District)

Questions?

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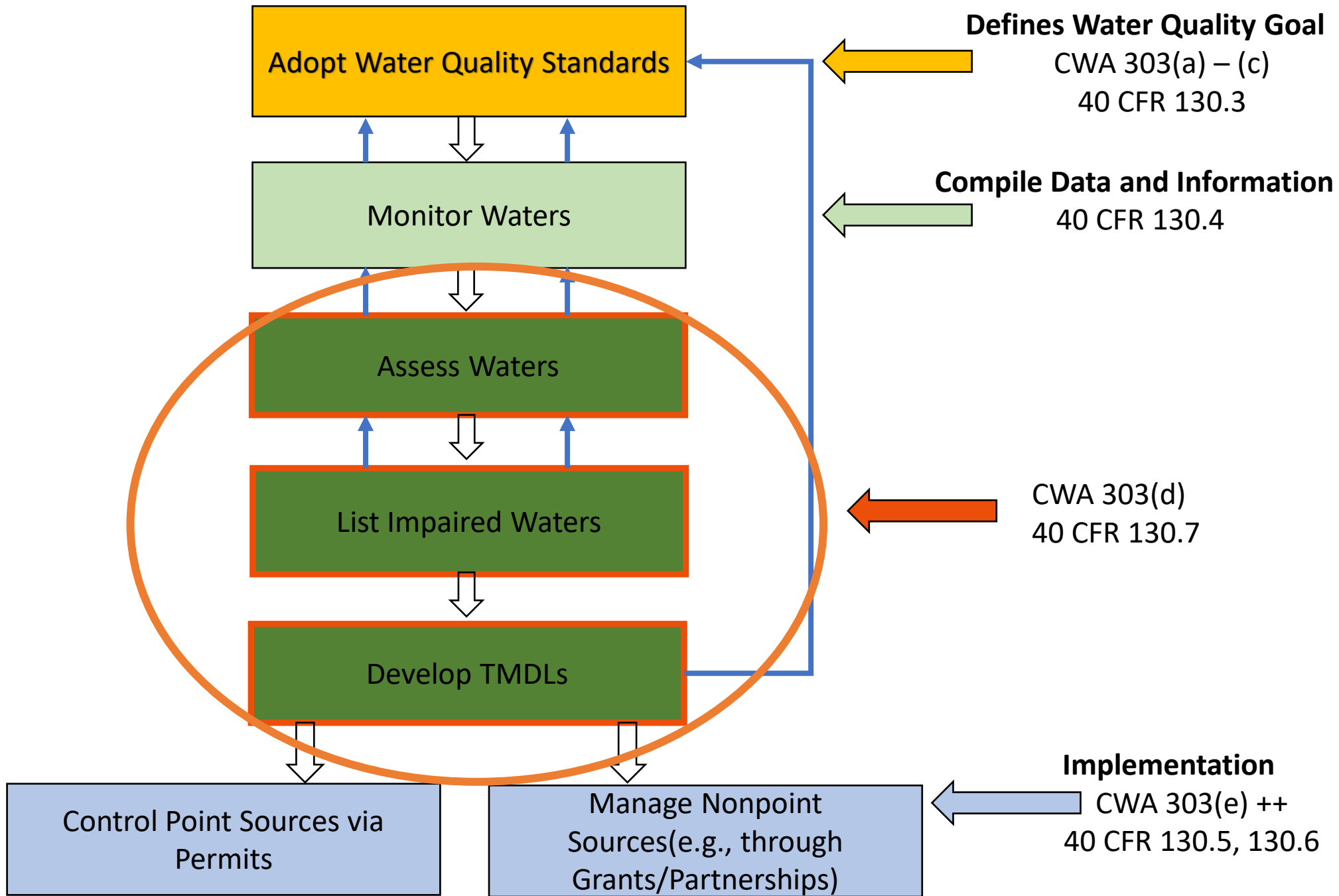


# Tribal Consultation 2024 State Integrated Reports

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CWA 305 (b) Water Quality Assessment +  
CWA 303 (d) Impaired Waters Lists

CWA Framework



# WHAT IS THE INTEGRATED REPORT (AKA “CWA ASSESSMENT”)?

- + 303(d) list\* (impaired waters)
- + 305(b) report (overall health of waters)

= Integrated Report (IR)

The 303(d) list and 305(b) report are both due April 1<sup>st</sup> of every even-numbered year.

\*Requires EPA Regional approval



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD  
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

DRAFT STAFF REPORT

2024 CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED REPORT:  
SURFACE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENTS  
TO COMPLY WITH  
CLEAN WATER ACT SECTIONS 303(d) AND 305(b)



February 16, 2023

State of California  
Gavin Newsom, Governor  
California Environmental Protection Agency  
Yana Garcia, Secretary

State Water Resources Control Board  
E. Joaquin Esquivel, Chair  
Dorene D'Adamo, Vice-Chair  
Nichole Morgan, Member  
Sean Maguire, Member  
Laurel Firestone, Member

Eileen Sobock, Executive Director  
Jonathan Bishop, Chief Deputy Director  
Eric Oppenheimer, Chief Deputy Director

Revised May 2023

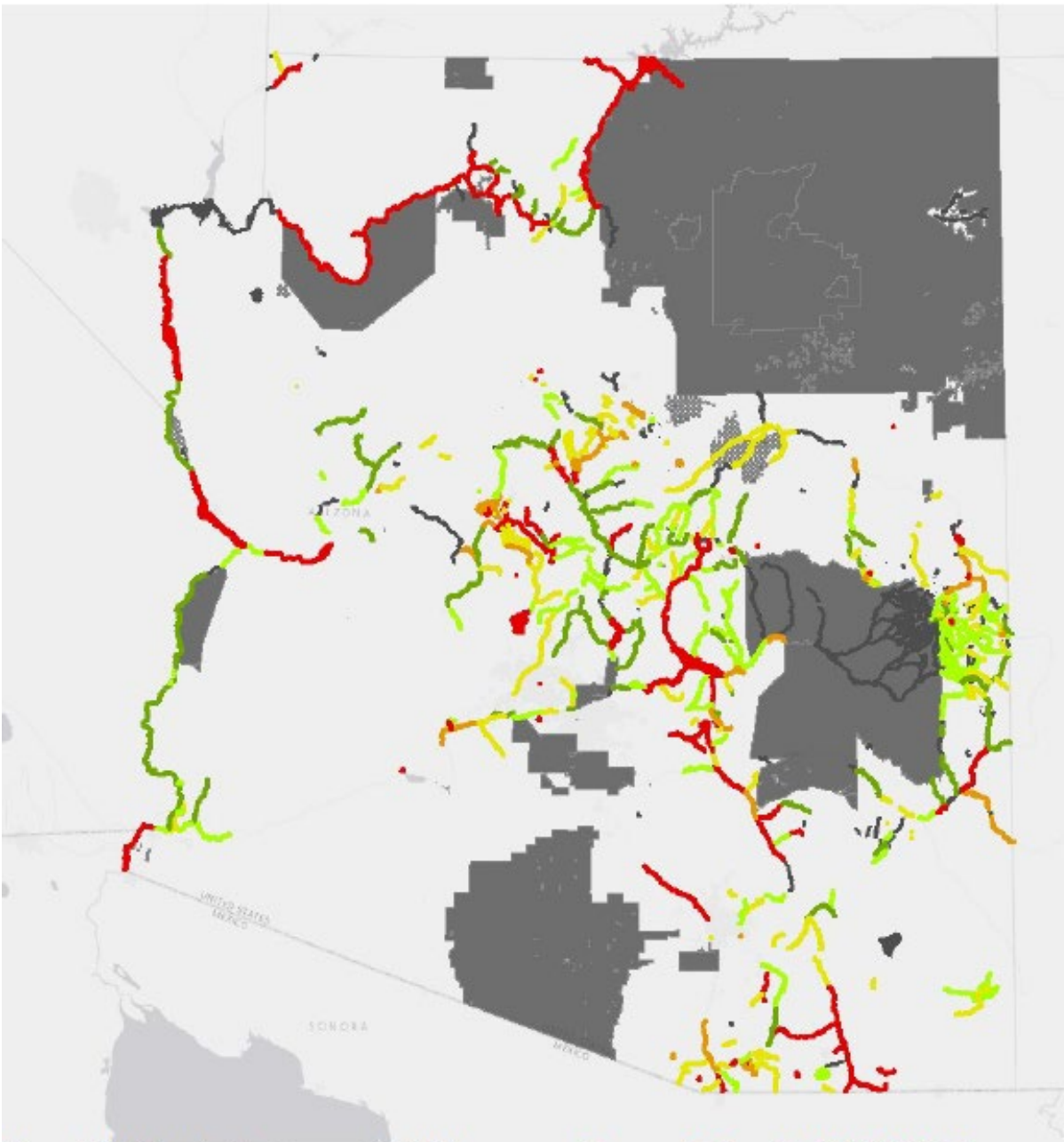
# Arizona 2024 Integrated Report

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Draft IR Public Comment Period Closes Aug 28, 2023







# Waterbodies Assessed

(Page 14 of IR)

Figure 2-4. Waterbody assessment by EPA category. **Category 5 = Impaired No TMDL**, **Category 4 = Not Attaining TMDL**, **Category 3 = Inconclusive**, **Category 2 = Attaining Some Uses**, **Category 1 = Attaining All Uses**. Interactive map can be accessed [here](#).

# Arizona 303(d) List

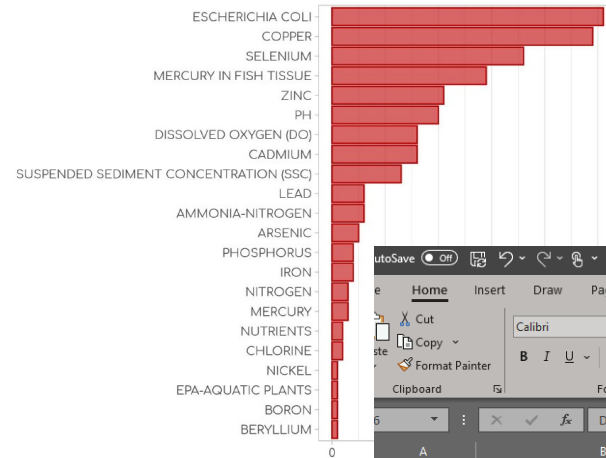


Figure 2-6. Causes of Impairment.

WBID	WaterbodyName	CharacteristicName	WATERSHED	Assessed	AssessedUnit	New	Characteri
15070102-023	AGUA FRIA RIVER	ESCHERICHIA COLI	MG	9.1 Miles			ESCHERIC
15070102-031B	AGUA FRIA RIVER	SELENIUM	MG	17.8 Miles			SELENIUM
15070102-031B	AGUA FRIA RIVER	ZINC	MG	17.8 Miles			ZINC
15030204-0040A	ALAMO LAKE	AMMONIA-NITROGEN	BW	4766.7 Acres			AMMONIA
15030204-0040A	ALAMO LAKE	PH	BW	4766.7 Acres			PH
15030204-0040A	ALAMO LAKE	MERCURY IN FISH TISSUE	BW	4766.7 Acres			MERCURY
15050301-561B	ALUM GULCH	LEAD	SC	1.4 Miles			LEAD
15060106A-0070	APACHE LAKE	DISSOLVED OXYGEN (DO)	SR	2877.8 Acres			DISSOLVE
15060106A-0070	APACHE LAKE	MERCURY IN FISH TISSUE	SR	2877.8 Acres			MERCURY
15050203-004C	ARAVAIPA CREEK	ESCHERICHIA COLI	SP	12.7 Miles			ESCHERIC
15050100-1818	ARNETT CREEK	COPPER	MG	11.1 Miles			COPPER
15050202-004	BABOCOMARI RIVER	ESCHERICHIA COLI	SP	32.7 Miles			ESCHERIC
15060203-0110	BARTLETT LAKE	MERCURY IN FISH TISSUE	VR	2872.5 Acres			MERCURY
15020001-0150	BECKER LAKE	MERCURY IN FISH TISSUE	LC	96.5 Acres			MERCURY
15070102-034A	BIG BUG CREEK	CADMIUM	MG	5.7 Miles			CADMIUM
15070102-034A	BIG BUG CREEK	ZINC	MG	5.7 Miles			ZINC
15070102-034B	BIG BUG CREEK	COPPER	MG	23.3 Miles			COPPER
15070102-034B	BIG BUG CREEK	ARSENIC	MG	23.3 Miles			ARSENIC
15070102-034B	BIG BUG CREEK	LEAD	MG	23.3 Miles			LEAD
15030204-003	BILL WILLIAMS RIVER	AMMONIA-NITROGEN	BW	26.5 Miles			AMMONIA
15020010-0180	BLACK CANYON LAKE	MERCURY IN FISH TISSUE	LC	38.5 Acres			MERCURY
15080301-337	BREWERY GULCH	COPPER	SP	1.1 Miles			COPPER
15060106A-0250	CANYON LAKE	DISSOLVED OXYGEN (DO)	SR	981.1 Acres			DISSOLVE
15060106A-0250	CANYON LAKE	MERCURY IN FISH TISSUE	SR	981.1 Acres			MERCURY
15070103-415	CASH GULCH	IRON	MG	1.1 Miles		2024	IRON
15070103-415	CASH GULCH	LEAD	MG	1.1 Miles		2024	LEAD
15060105-353	CHRISTOPHER CREEK	DISSOLVED OXYGEN (DO)	SR	8 Miles			DISSOLVE
14070006-001	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	16.9 Miles			SELENIUM
15010001-003	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	23.2 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010001-005	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	5.2 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010001-006	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	2.4 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010001-008	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	4.7 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010001-010	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	6.3 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010001-011	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	1.9 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010001-022	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	13.7 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010002-001	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	23.2 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010002-004	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	19.2 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010002-007	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	7.8 Miles		2024	SELENIUM
15010002-009	COLORADO RIVER	SELENIUM	CG	15.7 Miles		2024	SELENIUM

- Appendix C (3<sup>rd</sup> tab): Detailed information regarding impairments
- 537 waters evaluated and 182 waterbodies on the List
- Greatest number of impairments are for E. coli, copper, selenium, and mercury in fish tissue
- Full/partial body contact and aquatic and wildlife uses are the most commonly unsupported use

# California 2024 Integrated Report

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State Public Comment Period Closed

**STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**  
CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**DRAFT STAFF REPORT**

**2024 CALIFORNIA INTEGRATED REPORT:  
SURFACE WATER QUALITY ASSESSMENTS  
TO COMPLY WITH  
CLEAN WATER ACT SECTIONS 303(d) AND 305(b)**



**February 16, 2023**

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Nichole Morgan, *Member*  
Sean Maguire, *Member*  
Laurel Firestone, *Member*

Eileen Sobeck, *Executive Director*  
Jonathan Bishop, *Chief Deputy Director*  
Eric Oppenheimer, *Chief Deputy Director*

# California 2024 Integrated Report

- On-cycle Assessments
  - San Francisco Bay (Region 2)
  - Los Angeles (Region 4)
  - Santa Ana (Region 8)
- Off-cycle Assessments
  - Central Coast (Region 3)
  - Central Valley Region (Region 5)
  - San Diego (Region 9)



# California 2024 Integrated Report

## Report Organization

### Staff Report:

- Statewide assessment methods
- Regional Board specific-assessments
- Listing and delisting recommendations

### Appendix A:

- 2024 303(d) List (excel table)

### Appendix B:

- Waterbody Fact Sheets

### Appendix D:

- Map and Visualization Tool

[https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water\\_issues/programs/water\\_quality\\_assessment/2024-integrated-report.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/water_quality_assessment/2024-integrated-report.html)



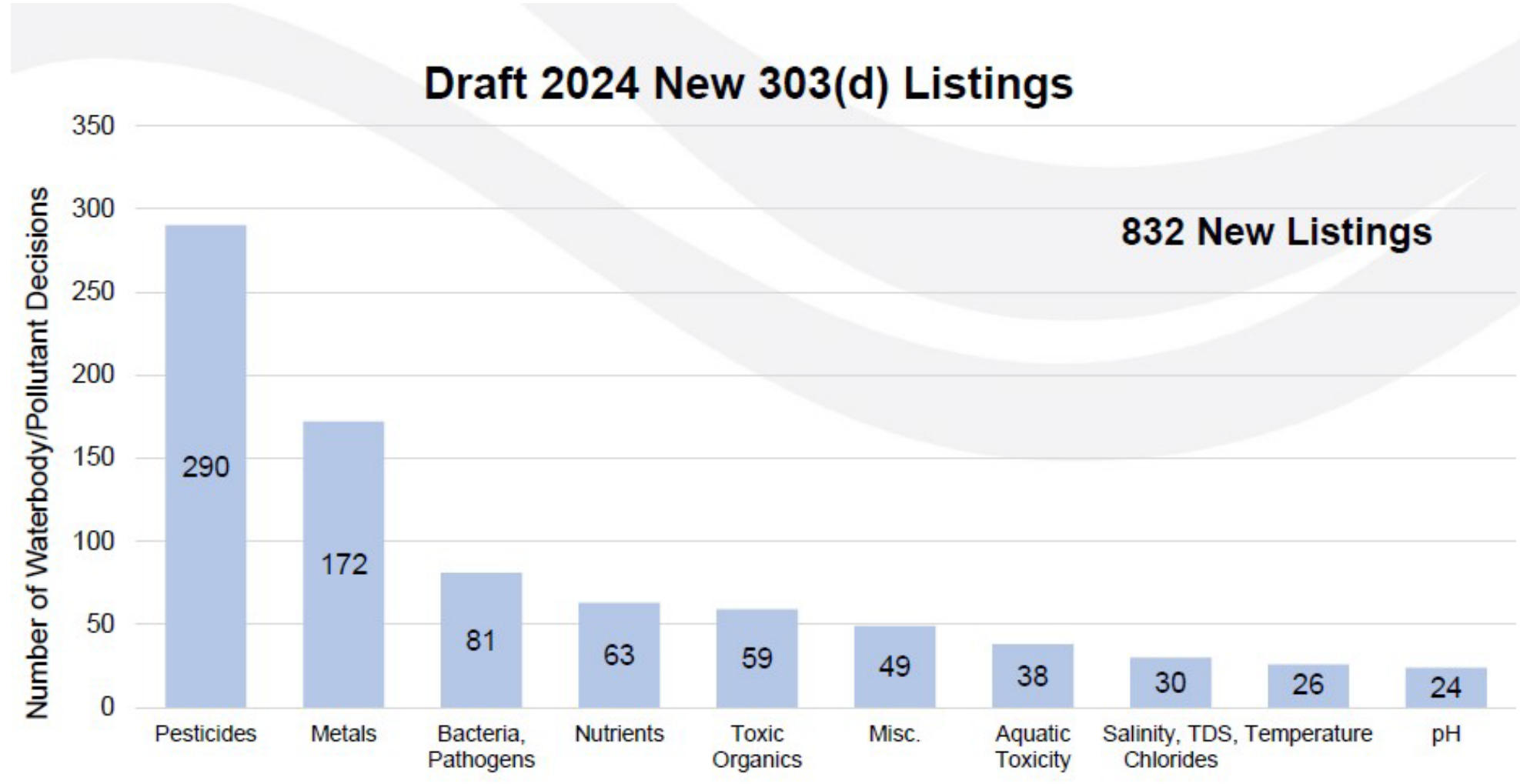
1,591 waterbodies assessed in report

# California 2024 Integrated Report

## Draft 303(d) List and Delist Recommendations

Region	2020-2022 303(d) Listings	New Listings	Delistings	Total 2024 303(d) Listings
North Coast	217	0	0	217
San Francisco Bay	348	137	0	481
Central Coast	1,177	29	1	1,204
Los Angeles	877	465	30	1,316
Central Valley	1,202	123	57	1,274
Lahontan	256	0	0	256
Colorado River Basin	110	0	0	110
Santa Ana	142	78	0	217
San Diego	844	0	3	839
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>5,173</b>	<b>832</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>5,914</b>

# California 2024 Integrated Report



# Nevada 2024 Integrated Report



Public Comment Period Anticipated This Fall/Winter





# Tribal Consultation Offers

Offers to consult should arrive via email soon



# Questions?

## Arizona

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