



Fact Sheet: 2024 Triennial Review - Public Process to Solicit Comments on Nevada's Surface Water Quality Standards

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act and implementing regulations at 40 CFR 131.20, requires that states hold public meetings to review existing water quality standards at least once every three years. The Nevada Division of Environmental Protection (NDEP) conducts this Triennial Review, which opens a formal public comment period to solicit input on Nevada surface water quality standards. Following public meetings and public comments, the NDEP Bureau of Water Quality Planning (BWQP) and the State Environmental Commission work to adopt selected water quality standards for surface water.

The Triennial Review process assures that Nevada's surface water quality standards across the State remain consistent with State and Federal law and reflect both public interest and the best available science.

Please note this review does not apply to drinking water or groundwater standards.

2024 Triennial Review

BWQP will be holding a public meeting from Carson City on **December 16, 2024, at 2pm**. Participants may attend virtually or in person. Public input during this meeting will help guide and inform BWQP's focus on water quality standards and monitoring over the next several years. The public comment period for the 2024 Triennial Review is open through **January 17, 2025**. Public comments will be accepted at the hearing, by letter, or by email.

Recent Revisions to the NAC

- R116-22 Adopted specific criteria for selenium in the Las Vegas Wash.
- R115-22 Designated beneficial uses and criteria to protect uses on previously undesignated waters tributary to the Las Vegas Wash.
- R113-22 Revisions to the State's antidegradation regulations and implementation procedures
- R114-22 Revisions to NAC 445A.1236 amending water quality criteria for Beryllium and specifying that the laboratory reporting limit is to be used when assessing compliance with water quality standards.

Future Revisions Under Consideration

- Adoption of EPA's 2019 recommended human health recreational criteria for cyanotoxins.
- Designation of Lake Tahoe with a tier level of antidegradation protection (in accordance with the adoption of R113-22).
- Designated water removal, naming clean up, and adoption by reference *Water Quality Standards for Salinity, Colorado River System*.
- Revise the designation of certain aquatic life species and associated temperature criteria for certain bodies of water in the Carson Hydrographic Region. Designation of additional waters tributary to affected reaches of the Carson River.

Note: Any proposed changes to surface water quality standards in the NAC will be brought through the State rulemaking process. The public will have the opportunity to comment on any proposed changes. This process includes public workshops and a presentation to the State Environmental Commission.

Surface Water Quality Monitoring Strategy

- Continue twice yearly ambient surface water quality monitoring on main stem river systems and long-term monitoring sites throughout the State.
- Transition focused basin monitoring from the Central East to the Central West hydrographic subregion.
- Expand coverage of continuous temperature logging equipment.

Visit our Website for More Information

More information can be found on the NDEP website at <https://ndep.nv.gov/water/rivers-streams-lakes/water-quality-standards>



Jarbidge River watershed, Elko County, Nevada

Submit comments or questions to:

ndep-sam@ndep.nv.gov

Standards, Assessment and Monitoring Branch
Bureau of Water Quality Planning
(775) 687-9457



Nevada's surface water quality standards are contained in NAC 445A.11704 to 445A.2234 inclusive