



Fact Sheet: 2021 Triennial Review Public Process to Solicit Comments on Nevada's Water Quality Standards

Section 303(c) of the federal Clean Water Act requires that states 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 public comment period to solicit input on any issues or concerns related to water quality standards. Following public meetings and public comment, 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 water quality standards for surface waters 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.

2021 Triennial Review

BWQP will be holding a virtual public hearing from Carson City on **November 16, 2021**. Public input during this meeting will help guide BWQP's focus on water quality standards and monitoring. The public comment period for the 2021 Triennial Review is open through **December 17, 2021**. Public comments will be accepted at the hearing, by letter, or by email.

Send comments to: Dave Simpson
901 South Stewart Street, Suite 4001
Carson City, NV 89701
or email to dsimpson@ndep.nv.gov

Recent Revisions to the NAC include the Following:

- 2019 revisions to numeric criteria for cadmium (see Nevada Administrative Code [NAC] 445A.1236)
- 2019 revisions to numeric criteria for selenium (see NAC 445A.XXXX, number not yet assigned)
- 2019 revisions to portions of the Colorado region on Las Vegas Wash, Lake Las Vegas, Lake Mead, Colorado River below Hoover Dam and Lake Mohave (see NAC 445A.2142 through NAC 445A.2214)
- 2021 revisions to the State's antidegradation regulations, implementation procedures, and a process to adopt extraordinary ecological and aesthetic waters (EAWs) – CURRENTLY IN PROGRESS

Revisions under Consideration in the 2021 Triennial Review

- Evaluate new EPA recommended criteria for ammonia (assess presence and distribution of unionid mussels and gill-breathing snails, the most sensitive species)
- Evaluate new criterion for carbaryl for adoption into state water quality standards for surface water
- Evaluate revision of the beryllium criterion in the state water quality standards for surface water
- Continue focus monitoring on the Central Basin and maintain annual monitoring on the long-term sampling sites

Visit our Website for more Information

The NDEP-BWQP website at <https://ndep.nv.gov/water/rivers-streams-lakes/water-quality-standards/triennial-review> provides public hearing/workshop meeting notes and comments submitted during the past and present Triennial Reviews, along with BWQP's responses to the comments. Recordings of the workshops are available on request.



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