



## International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release  
September 1, 2021

### **COLORADO RIVER WATER REDUCTIONS IN 2022 AND SALTON SEA PROJECTS ON AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 15 MEETING VIA WEBINAR**

Colorado River water reductions and Salton Sea projects will be the focus of an upcoming public meeting of the Colorado River Citizens Forum of the U.S. Section of the International Boundary and Water Commission (USIBWC). The meeting will take place on **Wednesday, September 15, 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. (MST/PDT) via Teams webinar.** The Colorado River Citizens Forum was established to facilitate the exchange of information with the public about Commission activities and related matters.

Alex Pivarnik, Hydrologist, Boulder Canyon Operations Office, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, will be discussing how the Colorado River Basin is experiencing one of its worst droughts in recorded history. The period from 2000 to 2021 is expected to be the driest 22-year period on record. In the last year, both Lake Powell and Lake Mead fell to their lowest elevation since each reservoir initially began filling and the storage in the entire Colorado River reservoir system declined to just 40% of capacity. In water year 2021, the Colorado River Basin has continued to experience dry conditions and below average snowpack runoff. As a result of the dry conditions, the forecasted inflow into Lake Powell is currently at about 32% of average for water year 2021. Due to these conditions, the Lower Colorado River Basin will be operating in the first ever shortage condition in calendar year 2022.

G. Patrick O’Dowd, Executive Director, Salton Sea Authority, will give an update on activities and plans for the revitalization of the Salton Sea and region. O’Dowd will discuss the history of projects considered, an overview and status of the state of California’s Salton Sea Management Plan – including an update on its first 10-year plan and the long-range planning effort, as well as other work being done by the Authority and its members in the region.

O’Dowd will also provide an overview of current and anticipated future funding opportunities for projects and activities at the Salton Sea, including state funding, and funding appropriated, authorized, or being pursued from an array of federal agencies including the United States Department of Agriculture, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Bureau of Reclamation, and others, as well as private and non-profit prospects for projects and funding.

A complete meeting agenda follows. Members of the public who would like more information about the meeting may contact 928-782-1598 or the Public Affairs Office at [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov).

**For more information:**

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**COLORADO RIVER CITIZENS FORUM**  
**Wednesday, September 15, 2021**  
**4:00 – 6:00 p.m. MST/PDT**  
**Teams Webinar**

**To join our Teams Meeting, go to our web page:**

<https://go.usa.gov/xH4zN> and click on “Join”. If you do not have Teams installed on the device you will use to attend the meeting, it will work through any internet browser. If possible, it may be helpful for you to test connectivity on your own prior to the meeting by clicking on the Join link and ensuring your camera and microphone are functioning.

Or join by phone: **Call in number: 915-320-4718 | Conference ID: 589 413 659#**

**Agenda**

- **Welcome and Introductions**—G. Patrick O’Dowd, Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- **Colorado River Basin: System Status and Outlook**—Alex Pivarnik, Hydrologist, Boulder Canyon Operations Office, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
- **Salton Sea Projects, Progress, and People**— G. Patrick O’Dowd, Executive Director, Salton Sea Authority
- **Public Comment**
- **Board Discussion**
- **Suggested Future Agenda Items**

*If you have a disability that you wish to self-identify confidentially that requires accommodation, please advise us ahead of time. For more information, call 928-782-1598 or e-mail [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov)*

**\*\*If you are receiving your notice via United States Postal Service and would like to only receive notices via email, please send “Opt-in, CRCF” to [lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov](mailto:lori.kuczanski@ibwc.gov)**