



International Boundary and Water Commission United States Section

For immediate release
September 16, 2022

US-MEXICO COOPERATION ON COLORADO RIVER DROUGHT AND PLANNED NEW RIVER WATER QUALITY STUDY ON AGENDA FOR SEPTEMBER 28 PUBLIC MEETING IN EL CENTRO, CA

Colorado River drought and response activities, and a planned study of New River water quality will be the focus of the [Colorado River Citizens Forum](#) public meeting on **Wednesday, September 28, 4:00-6:00 p.m. PDT at the County Administration Center Board Chambers, 940 West Main Street, Suite 211, El Centro, CA 92243.** The Colorado River Citizens Forum was established in 2003 to facilitate the exchange of information between the U.S. Section of the [International Boundary and Water Commission](#) (USIBWC) and members of the public about Commission activities in Yuma County, Arizona and Imperial County, California.

USIBWC Secretary Sally Spener will explain how the United States and Mexico are cooperating to address the Colorado River drought, in accordance with the terms of Minute No. 323, a 2017 Commission agreement. Similar to domestic agreements in the United States, Minute No. 323 provides for water delivery cuts to Mexico based on low elevations at Lake Mead. Through the Minute, the Commission is also exploring new opportunities for water conservation projects in Mexico that would boost system storage, to the benefit of all users.

In other business, USIBWC Environmental Management Division Chief Gilbert Anaya will give a presentation about a planned New River water quality study. The USIBWC is planning a binational study to determine the water quality of the New River by collecting data for various parameters as part of a year-long effort. The information from this study will help provide information to determine impacts of infrastructure projects to water quality and help identify areas of concern. A work plan has been drafted and is in review. Agencies that work with IBWC will be included in the review and invited to participate in the study. This effort is being conducted under IBWC Minute 264 to monitor and evaluate conditions in the New River and will be conducted through the IBWC Binational Technical Committee. Information on USIBWC's current water quality program will also be provided.

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.

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COLORADO RIVER CITIZENS FORUM
Wednesday, September 28, 2022
4:00 – 6:00 p.m. PDT
County Administration Center Board Chambers
940 West Main Street, Suite 211
El Centro, CA 92243

Agenda

- **Welcome and Introductions** — Anna Morales, Yuma Field Office Area Operations Manager, USIBWC, and Citizens Forum Co-Chair
- **US-Mexico Cooperation on Colorado River Drought** – Sally Spener, Secretary, USIBWC
- **Planned New River Water Quality Study** – Gilbert Anaya, Chief, Environmental Management Division, USIBWC
- **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

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