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ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT

Surface Water Quality Bureau

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Resource Protection Division

**Surface Water Quality Bureau Invites Public Comment
Public Discussion Draft for the
TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF WATER QUALITY STANDARDS
April 1, 2014**

The New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) today issues a draft of proposed triennial amendments to New Mexico's Surface Water Quality Standards, also known as the "Triennial Review." Such a review is conducted periodically as required by the Clean Water Act, federal regulations and the state's water quality standards (20.6.4 NMAC). The public is invited to submit comments on the proposed revisions. A copy of the proposed amendments can be found on NMED's website at www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swqb/Standards/TR2013.

Water quality standards must establish designated uses for surface waters across the state, specify water quality criteria to protect those uses, and contain an antidegradation policy. The SWQB has considered a number of issues and is proposing triennial amendments, including the following:

- Revisions to improve clarity of language or to correct clerical and formatting errors.
- Reclassification of certain streams from unclassified to ephemeral under 20.6.4.97 pursuant to 20.6.4.15.C NMAC.
- Secondary contact recreation uses for certain streams are updated to primary contact recreation uses and criteria based on EPA's most recent recommendations.
- SWQB-conducted Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) for aquatic life uses in the Mimbres closed basin, southern New Mexico. Technical comments on the UAA are also invited.
- Procedures to adopt temporary water quality criteria.
- Update to 20.6.4.16 NMAC for those piscicide applications already covered under NPDES permits.

The SWQB invites the public's comment on all or parts of the proposed amendments and is available, on request, to meet with stakeholders for informal discussions. All comments must be in writing and received **no later than 5:00 pm on Wednesday, April 30, 2014**. Please direct all comments via mail, email or fax to:

Kristine Pintado, Water Quality Standards Coordinator
Surface Water Quality Bureau
PO Box 5469, Santa Fe, NM 87502
Fax: 505-827-0160
Email: Kristine.Pintado@state.nm.us

Additional information about New Mexico's water quality standards and related information is available on NMED's website at www.nmenv.state.nm.us.

From: [King, Gary, NMENV](#)
To: [Pintado, Kristine, NMENV](#)
Subject: EXTENDED DEADLINE: NMED - SWQB Requests Public Comment on DRAFT Triennial Review Proposal
Date: Monday, April 28, 2014 10:54:47 AM

**Surface Water Quality Bureau Invites Public Comment
Public Discussion Draft for the
TRIENNIAL REVIEW OF WATER QUALITY STANDARDS
April 28, 2014**

In response to requests for an extension, the New Mexico Environment Department (NMED) Surface Water Quality Bureau (SWQB) has **extended the comment period for an additional 30 days** for the draft of the proposed triennial amendments to New Mexico's Surface Water Quality Standards, also known as the "Triennial Review." A copy of the proposed amendments can be found on NMED's website at

www.nmenv.state.nm.us/swqb/Standards/TR2013.

The SWQB invites the public's comment on all or parts of the proposed amendments and is available, on request, to meet with stakeholders for informal discussions. All comments must be in writing and received **no later than 5:00 pm on Friday, May 30, 2014**. Please direct all comments via mail, email or fax to:

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Surface Water Quality Bureau
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Email: Kristine.Pintado@state.nm.us

Additional information about New Mexico's water quality standards and related information is available on NMED's website at www.nmenv.state.nm.us.

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