

Public Workshop Notes
Bureau of Water Quality Planning
Proposed Regulation Petitions
P2019-01, P2019-02, and P2019-03

Carson City - June 6, 2019

P2019-01 Colorado

Zack Blumberg – On the proposed Las Vegas Wash reach description how will someone know where the historic lateral is?

Dave Simpson – it may be helpful to put the GPS coordinated in the reach descriptions.

Zack – A question related to the DO below the Hoover Dam.

John Heggeness – The DO is set at 5 mg/L to protect for adult trout.

P2019-03 Cadmium

USGS – Any chance EPA will push for the biotic ligand method for cadmium?

Mary – not likely. The model uses too many parameters and there are issues with running the model when you are missing the data for required parameters. You end up having to make up values for the missing data.

Zack – Are there any waters not meeting the proposed cadmium criteria?

Mary – short answer is no. However, because the bulk of our data has been censored at the quantification limit, we really don't know. Just recently we have been asking our lab to provide us the data censored at the method detection limit (MDL). (Mary then discussed the regulations at NAC 445A.1236(1)(c) that require data be reported down to "...the detection limit of the method" (i.e., analytical results should be censored at the MDL)).

P2019-02 Selenium

USGS – So with the 3-year on average, is that to allow for the system to flush?

Mary – it a little bit different because of the bioaccumulation. Flushing is not the issue it's more an effect of the bioaccumulation.

USGS – I get concerned because we have a lot of terminal lakes. Have you spoken with EPA about our unique situation with the closed basins?

Mary – you do see accumulation of the oxyanion-forming metals, because these will travel to and accumulate in playas and closed basins.

USGS - Low concentrations of selenium are persnickety to analyze with a lot of bias. Are allowances going to be made for the different matrices for analyses?

Mary – Agreed, it may be difficult at such low levels. However, EPA conducted a study in the San Francisco bay and incredibly low levels of selenium were detected.

Randy Pahl – Has SNWA collected any fish to test for selenium?

John – No, not that we are aware of.

Elko - June 7, 2019

The workshop was held during mining week in Elko

P2019-01 Colorado

No comments or questions

P2019-03 Cadmium

No comments or questions

P2019-02 Selenium

Barrick – Are these standards just for the aquatic life beneficial use?

Mary – yes

Las Vegas - June 10, 2019

P2019-01 Colorado

Steve Weber – Does Mohave operate as a lake or a river? I believe it operates as a river and you are proposing lake standards.

John – BWQP feels because Mohave stratifies that it should have the DO standard we typically put on lakes with the footnote of “Applies to the epilimnion when stratified, or average in water column during periods of nonstratification.”

Counselor Bazel – The time frame for comments is too short and needs to be extended.

John – this is a typical timeframe we use.

Steve Wever – Is the contact recreation use going on the inner bay going to bring more consequential problems – life guards or such?

John – we don’t foresee any.

Dan Fischer – Questions related to E. coli. Can we add something like the 110% of average flow, similar to TSS on the wash, to the inner bay?

John - The inner bay already has the footnote “The Commission recognizes that, because of discharges of tributaries, localized violations of standards may occur in the Inner Las Vegas Bay.”

Counselor Bazel – Do the toxics apply to the wash now that you are putting fish on it?

John – Toxics apply to all waters and aquatic life is already on the (Las Vegas) wash.

P2019-03 Cadmium

No comments or questions noted

P2019-02 Selenium

Too much conversation to note comments. Will need to listen to recording.