State Water Resources Control Board

SECOND REVISED

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WORKING GROUP MEETINGS FOR THE SECOND STATEWIDE AGRICULTURAL EXPERT PANEL FOR THE IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will hold Panel working group meetings for the Second Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel (Panel) on Wednesday, January 7th and Wednesday, January 14th, to facilitate Panel deliberations on issues relevant to the Panel charge questions, which ask the Panel to consider the approaches in State Water Board Order WQ 2018-0002, In the Matter of Review of Waste Discharge Requirements General Order No. R5-2012-0116 for Growers Within the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed that are Members of the Third-Party Group (Eastern San Joaquin Water Quality Order) and State Water Board Order WQ 2023-0081, In the Matter of Review of General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands Order No. R3-2021-0040 (Central Coast Ag Water Quality Order).

A quorum of the State Water Board may be present, but no decisions will be made.

The meetings will be held in person and virtually on:

Wednesday, January 7, 2026
3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Training Room 1 East and West
Joe Serna Jr. - CalEPA Building
1001 I Street, Sacramento
And via Video and Teleconference

and

Wednesday, January 14, 2026
10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Coastal Hearing Room
Joe Serna Jr. - CalEPA Building
1001 I Street, Sacramento
And via Video and Teleconference

Registration is required in advance to participate virtually via Zoom or by phone. A phone number will be provided upon registration if you prefer to call in.

- Please register for the January 7th meeting at: https://waterboards.zoom.us/meeting/register/DbHJdhCiRpG7p85wqrnJww
- Please register for the January 14th meeting at: https://waterboards.zoom.us/meeting/register/rbuRFMP7TtiTIz6uoJ4m1g

The meeting agenda will be accessible through the Water Board Agriculture Second Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel website no less than ten (10) business days prior to each meeting date.

To receive an email notification about the Panel working group meetings, including the agenda, any changes to the date, time, or meeting location in this public notice, subscribe to the email distribution list on the Water Board Agriculture website. Enter your email address and password, then select the submit button. If this is your first time subscribing to a Water Boards email subscription list, you will have to register and create a password.

Participation Options

There is limited time for public comments at the Panel working group meetings. Public comments will be welcomed during designated times to ensure meaningful engagement, focusing on feedback related to the topics discussed. While comment windows during Panel working group meetings may be brief to preserve time for panel deliberation, additional opportunities for public input are provided through the Plenary Panel Meetings and Public Listening Sessions, as described in more detail in the Panel Charter. Subscribe to the email distribution list on the Water Board Agriculture website to receive the public notice for future Plenary Panel Meetings, Public Listening Sessions, and working group meetings.

Language Services

~~This~~ The January 7, 2026 meeting will be offered in English and Spanish. The January 14, 2026 meeting will be offered in English. To request translation of a written document, interpretation services for the meeting in additional languages, or sign language services, please use one of the following options as soon as possible and no later than December 19, ten (10) business days before the meeting on January 7, and no later than December 31, ten (10) business days before the meeting on January 14:

- Submit an online request: bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm
- Call (916) 341-5254
- Email languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov

Contact us to request information in your language.
Comuníquese con nosotros para solicitar servicios lingüísticos o información en su idioma.
Свяжитесь с нами, чтобы запросить информацию на вашем языке.
귀하의 언어로 작성된 정보를 요청하려면 저희에게 문의하십시오.
ਆਪਣ ਭਸ਼ ਵਿਚ ਜਣਕਰ ਪਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਡ ਨਲ ਸਥਕ ਕਰ।.
Makipag-ugnayan sa amin para humiling ng impormasyon sa iyong wika.

Accessibility

Users of a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or the teletype (TTY) voice line at (800) 735-2922.

Any person who requires a reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should email contact@waterboards.ca.gov or call (916) 341-5254, at least ten (10) business days prior to each meeting. Learn more about accessibility within Zoom at www.zoom.com/en/accessibility.

Building and Parking Information

- The meetings will be held at the Joe Serna Jr. the CalEPA Building. Directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information: http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/.
- Visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance on 10th Street.
- Please allow 5 to 10 minutes to receive security clearance.

Background

Water quality impacts associated with agriculture are complex and addressing them requires pooling and focusing the knowledge, expertise, and resources of all interested parties, including growers and their representatives, regulatory agencies, environmental advocates, environmental justice communities, and Tribes and Tribal communities. The State Water Board and the regional water quality control boards (collectively, Water Boards) must develop and implement a long-term sustainable Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) that protects the quality of waters of the state while supporting the viability of agriculture. With the help of our partners, the Water Boards made substantial progress in defining a science-based approach that provides a solid foundation for next steps.

As described on the Expert Panel website, the Water Boards convened a Panel to evaluate the data collected as part of the ILRP and consider the approaches adopted in the Eastern San Joaquin Water Quality Order and the Central Coast Ag Water Quality Order. State Water Board contracted with Sacramento State University College of Continuing Education to convene the Panel to provide recommendations for the ILRP.

A two-day Panel kick-off meeting was held in August 2025. The two-day meeting provided the Panel with an ILRP overview, perspectives from agricultural representatives and non-governmental organizations, presentations on Indigenous land stewardship and food systems, and available data sources from the Water Boards, approved third-party agricultural representatives, and environmental justice organizations.

The first Public Listening Session was held on October 1, 2025. This session was to gather input from the public and all interested parties that will be shared with the Panel members for their consideration of the Panel charge questions.

The second Panel meeting was held on October 31, 2025, to receive presentations for the Panel's consideration, and for the Panel to discuss initial recommendations in response to the Panel charge questions. Working group sessions were held on October 13, October 22, November 14, November 19, December 5, and December 12, 2025. Working group sessions are to facilitate Panel deliberations on issues relevant to the Panel charge questions.

A public listening session was held on December 17, 2025, for additional public comment. Another Plenary Panel meeting will be scheduled in early 2026. It is anticipated that the Panel will develop a report with recommendations addressing the Panel charge questions and present their recommendations to the State Water Board in 2026.

Following the development of the Panel's initial draft recommendations, the State Board will host a public workshop in 2026. The intent of the workshop is to present the Panel's draft report and recommendations to the public and all interested parties and solicit feedback. This will allow members of the public and interested parties to ask questions and provide additional comment.

Additional Information

Please direct all questions regarding this notice to Water Board ILRP at DWQ-ILRP@waterboards.ca.gov. For additional information check the Expert Panel website.

December 30, 2025
Date

Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board