



wqcc

October 23 and 24, 2023

**Water Quality
Coordinating Committee**
California Water Boards

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Agenda

Day 1 – Monday, October 23, 2022

9:30 am	Welcome
9:40 am	GO/CalEPA Updates
10:00 am	Tribal Beneficial Uses
12:00 pm	Water Boards Updates
12:00 pm	Regional Board Updates
12:45 pm	Lunch & Headshot Photo Studio
2:00 pm	Regional Board Updates
3:00 pm	Sackett v. EPA: The Supreme Court Decision
4:15 pm	Regional Board Updates
5:00 pm	Adjourn

Day 2 – Tuesday, October 24, 2022

9:00 am	Regional Board Updates
9:45 am	Programmatic and permitting implications of the Supreme Court's Sackett Decision
11:45 am	Break
12:00 pm	Water Supply Strategy: One-Year Progress Report
12:00 pm	Chief Counsel Legal Session
1:00 pm	Adjourn

Legislative Update – High Priority Bills

October 2023 Update

Admin - General

AB 469 (Fong, Vince) California Public Records Act Ombudsperson.

This bill would establish the Office of the California Public Records Act Ombudsperson, to be headed by the ‘Ombudsperson’ and appointed by the Governor, to determine whether denials of public records requests by state agencies complied with the California Public Records Act (PRA). Members of the public would be able to submit a request for review to the Ombudsperson, who would have 30 days to issue a written opinion and have the authority to require the disclosure of improperly denied records. By March 31, 2025, this bill would require the Ombudsperson to provide an annual report to the Legislature regarding their activities, including the number of requests received and reimbursements sought and obtained from state agencies. Implementation of the bill would be subject to an appropriation, with the bill’s provisions repealing on January 1, 2027.

***VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR 10/07/23 (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

AB 749 (Irwin) State agencies: information security: uniform standards.

This bill would require every state agency, as defined and subject to specified exceptions, to implement Zero Trust architecture for all data, hardware, software, internal systems, and essential third-party software, including for on-premises, cloud, and hybrid environments, to achieve prescribed levels of maturity based on the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) Maturity Model, as defined, by specified dates.

***2-YEAR BILL**

SB 544 (Laird) Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act: teleconferencing.

This bill would modify the requirements of the Bagley-Keene Act to allow a state agency to host teleconference or hybrid meetings without posting the agenda at all teleconference locations, provided certain conditions are met to protect the public’s right to participate. The bill would sunset on January 1, 2026.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 216, STATUTES OF 2023**

Cannabis

SB 756 (Laird) Water: inspection: administrative procedure: notice: service.

This bill would authorize Water Boards staff to obtain inspection warrants for water rights and water quality violations and participate in inspections of unlicensed cannabis sites where law enforcement has obtained criminal search warrants. The bill would also allow the Water Boards staff to use any method of physical delivery that provides a receipt to serve enforcement-related documents.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 347, STATUTES OF 2023**

CEQA

AB 785 (Santiago D) California Environmental Quality Act: exemption: City of Los Angeles: County of Los Angeles: affordable housing and transitional housing.

This bill would extend, until January 1, 2030, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) exemptions for certain activities approved or carried out by the City of Los Angeles and other eligible public agencies related to supportive housing and emergency shelters, affordable housing and transitional housing for youth and young adults, and low barrier navigation centers in the unincorporated areas of the County of Los Angeles or parcels owned by the County of Los Angeles within the City of Los Angeles.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 726, STATUTES OF 2023.**

Climate Change

SB 583 (Padilla) Salton Sea Conservancy.

This bill would establish the Salton Sea Conservancy within the Natural Resources Agency. Among other things, the bill would require the conservancy to implement a “long range plan” in compliance with the State Water Board’s Water Rights Order 2017-0134 and 2002-0013 (revised), as specified, and to coordinate with agencies, including but not limited to the State Water Board and the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board.

***2-YEAR BILL**

Coastal/Oceans

SB 272 (Laird) Sea level rise: planning and adaptation.

This bill would, upon appropriation by the Legislature, require local governments within the coastal zone or the jurisdiction of the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission (SF BCDC) to develop a sea level rise plan as a part of a local coastal program (LCPs) or shoreline resiliency plans (SRPs). The bill would require the California Coastal Commission, in coordination with the Ocean Protection Council (OPC) and the California Sea Level Rise State and Regional Support Collaborative (Collaborative), to establish guidelines for the preparation of the sea level rise plans. The bill would require SF BCDC, in coordination with the Coastal Commission, OPC, and the Collaborative to establish guidelines for the preparation of sea level rise plans by December 31, 2024.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 384, STATUTES OF 2023**

Conservation

AB 754 (Papan) Water management planning: water shortages

This bill would require urban water suppliers and agricultural water suppliers reliant on a single reservoir for at least half of their total water supply to include in their required water shortage contingency plans certain information regarding that reservoir, and to track actual water supply storage against a target water supply storage curve and report that analysis to the Department of Water Resources.

*** 2-YEAR BILL**

AB 755 (Papan) Water: public entity: cost-of-service analysis.

This bill would require that when public entities conduct a cost-of-service analysis, the entity should also conduct a water usage demand analysis prior to, or as part of, the cost-of-service analysis. This bill would require the water usage demand analysis to include specific details pertaining to the amount of water used by high water users and the cost to deliver that water and require public entities to make that information publicly available.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 542, STATUTES OF 2023**

AB 1572 (Friedman) Potable water: nonfunctional turf.

This bill would prohibit use of potable water for irrigation of nonfunctional turf located on commercial, industrial, and institutional properties as specified. This bill also would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) to create a form to be used by property owners for compliance certification and postpone the compliance deadline by up to three years. Additionally, the bill would require public water systems to revise regulations, ordinances, or policies by January 1, 2027, and to communicate those changes with water users on or before that date. Finally, the bill would establish that these provisions may be enforced by a public water system, city, or county.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 849, STATUTES OF 2023**

AB 1573 (Friedman) Water conservation: landscape design: model ordinance.

This bill would make changes to the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance (MWELo), including requiring that native plants included in a landscape design plan be selected based on adaptability to local climate, geological, and topographical conditions. The bill would also require MWELo to include landscape water budgets in landscape design plans, clarify existing provisions for property owners and managers, provide exemptions to certain projects, and prohibit the use of overhead sprinklers on new and rehabilitated landscapes, except for where the health of established trees would be compromised. Additionally, the bill would require, on or after January 1, 2026, that MWELo require new and renovated nonresidential landscapes to install no less than 10% local native plants, excluding edibles, and areas using recycled water, and prohibit the inclusion of nonfunctional turf in nonresidential landscape projects.

***2-YEAR BILL**

SB 597 (Glazer) Building standards: rainwater catchment systems.

This bill would require the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD) to conduct research to assist in the development of recommendations regarding building standards for rainwater catchment systems in newly constructed residential dwellings. The bill authorizes DHCD to propose related building standards to the California Building Standards Commission for consideration during the next triennial code adoption cycle commencing on or after January 1, 2025. The bill requires DHCD to "actively consult" with the State Water Board, in addition to other agencies. The bill requires the DHCD to report to the Assembly Committee on Housing and Community Development and the Senate Housing Committee on the outcomes of its research and recommendations.

***2-YEAR BILL**

SB 676 (Allen) Local ordinances and regulations: drought tolerant landscaping

This bill amends existing law to prohibit local governments from enacting or enforcing any ordinance or regulation that prohibits the installation of drought-tolerant landscaping using living plant material on residential property. The bill changes existing law by specifically excluding synthetic grass or artificial turf from this prohibition.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 498, STATUTES OF 2023**

SB 745 (Cortese) The Drought-Resistant Buildings Act.

This bill would require the California Building Standards Commission (Commission) to research, develop, and propose building standards, commencing with the next triennial edition of the California Building Standards Code, to reduce potable water use in new residential and nonresidential buildings. The bill would require the Commission to perform a review of water efficiency and water reuse standards in the Building Standards Code every three years and update as needed.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 884, STATUTES OF 2023**

Drinking Water

AB 249 (Holden) Water: schoolsites: lead testing: conservation.

This bill would require community water systems that serve schoolsites with buildings constructed before January 1, 2010, to test for lead at each of those schoolsites' potable water system outlets, on or before January 1, 2027. Testing would be limited to schoolsites that receive funding pursuant to Title I of the federal Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965. Local educational agencies and schools must take certain action if lead levels exceed 5 parts per billion, such as notifying parents and guardians, shutting down affected faucets and outlets, and ensuring the availability of a potable source of drinking water. The State Water Board would be required to collect and publicly post the data this program generates.

***VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR ON 10/08/23 (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

AB 541 (Wood) California Safe Drinking Water Act: wildfire aftermath: benzene testing.

This bill would direct the State Water Board to require a public water system that has experienced a wildfire event, as specified, to perform sample collection and analysis of its source waters, treatment facilities, conveyance facilities, distribution systems, or a combination thereof, for the presence of benzene, as soon as it is safe to do so. This bill would also clarify the State Water Board's authority to direct a public water system's post-wildfire response if benzene contamination is detected.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 530, STATUTES OF 2023**

AB 664 (Lee) California Safe Drinking Water Act: domestic wells.

This bill would require any domestic well owner within This bill would provide that landlords with domestic wells who do not consent to participate in mandatory or voluntary consolidations ensure that their tenants have access to safe drinking water by, among other provisions, testing their domestic wells for drinking water contaminants, providing uninterrupted replacement water service, and prohibiting associated costs from being passed to tenants.

This bill would also make enforcement of its requirements contingent upon a legislative appropriation and would clarify the State Water Board's enforcement authorities against such

landlords and others who violate the California Safe Drinking Water Act.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 810, STATUTES OF 2023**

AB 805 (Arambula) Drinking water consolidation: sewer service

This bill would authorize the state board, if sufficient funds are available, to order consolidation of sewer service along with an order of consolidation of drinking water systems when both of the receiving and subsumed water systems provide sewer service and after the state board engages in certain activities, including, but not limited to, consulting with the relevant regional water board and the receiving water system and conducting outreach to ratepayers and residents served by the receiving and subsumed water systems. The bill would also authorize the state board to require the administrator to provide administrative, technical, legal, or managerial services for any sewer service provided by the designated water system.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 1627 (Lee) California Safe Drinking Water Act.

AB 1627 preserves the State's authority to implement the federal Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA) in California by (1) repealing a provision in the California SDWA that may be construed to exempt food facilities that operate public water systems from regulation under the California SDWA and (2) making a technical clarification to the California SDWA's definition of "public water system.". By aligning the California SDWA and the federal SDWA, AB 1627 ensures that state law is no less stringent than federal law. This protects the state's primary authority to enforce the federal SDWA in California.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 173, STATUTES OF 2023**

SB 3 (Dodd) Discontinuation of residential water service: community water system.

This bill would require community water systems with 200 or fewer service connections to comply with the Water Shutoff Protection Act (Act). The bill would also require the State Water Board, subject to the availability of funding, to provide statewide trainings for water systems to assist in compliance with the Act. Finally, this bill would allow the State Water Board to use the Safe Drinking Water Account to administer the Act's provisions, including the requirement to provide training to water systems to assist with compliance.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 855, STATUTES OF 2023**

Forestry

SB 310 (Dodd) Prescribed fire: civil liability: cultural burns.

This bill would authorize the Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency to enter into agreements with certain California Native American Tribes to waive compliance with California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CalFire) burning permits and air district agricultural burning permits for cultural burns. The bill would also require the secretary to convene a cultural burn working group consisting of state agencies, including the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), California Native American tribes, local air pollution control districts, and local governments, to determine a framework to enable conditions conducive to cultural burning. The bill would require the working group to report its findings to the Legislature by January 1, 2025. The bill would sunset these provisions on January 1, 2029.

***2-YEAR BILL**

SB 470 (Alvarado-Gil) Urban Water Community Drought Relief program: Small Community Drought Relief program: high fire hazard and very high fire hazard severity zones. *Enrolled

This bill would establish the Urban Water Community Drought Relief (UCDR) program and the Small Community Drought Relief (SCDR) program, within the Department of Water Resources (DWR), to provide grants for interim or immediate drought relief. These programs, upon a specified appropriation, would also authorize funding for projects that reduce the risk of wildfire through water delivery system improvements in very high or high fire hazard severity zone communities.

***VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR ON 10/08/23. (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

SB 675 (Limón) Prescribed grazing: local assistance grant program: Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force.

This bill would expand the definition of fire prevention activities to include prescribed grazing by livestock to reduce wildfire risk. The bill would require the Range Management Advisory Committee (RMAC) to develop guidance for local or regional prescribed grazing plans; require the Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and the Department of Conservation (DOC) to consider and incorporate said guidance in the Local Assistance Grant Program and the Regional Forest and Fire Capacity Program; require the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force (Task Force) to develop a strategic action plan (strategic action plan) to expand the use of prescribed grazing and consider incorporating prescribed grazing in the January 1, 2026 update to the Wildfire and Forest Resilience Action Plan (Action Plan).

***2-YEAR BILL**

Funding/Bonds/Fees

AB 247 (Muratsuchi) Education finance: school facilities: Transitional Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would put the “Transitional Kindergarten Through Community College Public Education Facilities Bond Act of 2024” before the voters at a future statewide primary election. Among other provisions that are not relevant to the State Water Board, this bill would create a program whereby the State Allocation Board is authorized to provide grants to test for lead in drinking water at K-12 schools. A school district that applies for such funding must test all outlets on the schoolsite, except those that have been tested or replaced since January 1, 2010. School districts may apply for additional grant funding to replace any water outlets if lead results are greater than 15 parts per billion. The bill would also allow for funding through a separate modernization apportionments program to be used to remediate water outlets with high lead levels.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 305 (Villapudua) California Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would enact the California Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024 which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$4,500,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law for flood protection projects, as specified. The bill would provide for the submission of these provisions to the voters at the November 5, 2024, statewide general election.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 408 (Wilson) Climate-resilient Farms, Sustainable Healthy Food Access, and Farmworker Protection Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would enact the Climate-resilient Farms, Sustainable Healthy Food Access, and Farmworker Protection Bond Act of 2024, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$3,650,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law, to finance programs related to, among other things, agricultural lands, food and fiber infrastructure, climate resilience, agricultural professionals, including farmers, ranchers, and farmworkers, workforce development and training, air quality, tribes, disadvantaged communities, nutrition, food aid, meat processing facilities, and fishing facilities.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 590 (Hart) State-funded assistance grants and contracts: advance payments.

This bill would authorize a state agency administering a grant or contract to provide advance payment to an eligible nonprofit entity. The bill would require the administering state agency to prioritize recipient entities and projects serving disadvantaged, low-income, and under-resourced communities, and to ensure an advance payment to the recipient entity does not exceed 25 percent of the total grant or contract amount. The bill also would require the recipient entity to satisfy certain minimum requirements, including providing an itemized budget and submitting documentation, as required by the administering state agency, to support the need for advance payment. The bill also would authorize the Department of Finance or its designee to audit a state agency subject to these provisions or any recipient or subrecipient that received an advance payment.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 535, STATUTES OF 2023**

AB 619 (Fong, Vince) State government: emergency services: nonprofit service providers.

This bill would authorize a nonprofit entity that provides services pursuant to a contract with a state agency, during a state of war emergency or a state of emergency, to request the state agency to allow that nonprofit to modify the method in which it provides those services so long as the purpose of the contract is served. If a state of emergency is not declared but a disruption occurs, the bill would allow a nonprofit entity to request flexibility. The bill would also require such nonprofit entities to notify the state agency(s) from which it receives funding of a closure of an impacted program, including whether a closure is location specific or due to executive order, and why the service level may be impacted.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 682 (Mathis) State Water Resources Control Board: online search tool: funding applications.

This bill would require the State Water Board to update its online search tool for funding applications to better provide public information as to the status of funding applications and information requested by the board of applicants.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 340, STATUTES OF 2023**

AB 696 (Lowenthal) State agency grants and contracts.

This bill would require state agencies that provide grants or contracts to accept electronic signatures and transmission of documents. The agency would also be required to provide for and offer the option of payment by electronic funds transfer or automated clearinghouse transfer, unless otherwise required by law. Further, the bill would require the California State Library to survey all state agencies administering grants or contracts with eligible entities and report to the Legislature on the extent and nature of electronic management documents.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 753 (Papan) State Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account: annual proceed transfers.

This bill would, among other provisions, create the Waterway Recovery Account within the Waste Discharge Permit Fund (WDPF); redirect forty percent of annual proceeds, excluding administratively imposed civil liabilities that include a supplemental environmental project in connection with a monetary penalty, from the Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) for expenditure and allocation to each Regional Water Quality Control Board on a proportional basis based on moneys generated in each region.

***VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR ON 10/08/2023 (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

AB 860 (Valencia) Grant programs: administration.

This bill would impose several requirements on administrators of small grants. Among the requirements, the administrator must post the eligibility requirements and application information of a covered grant on their internet website and the internet website for the California Grants Portal. The bill would require an administrator to distribute at least 50 percent of a grant award upon contract execution. It would prohibit an administrator from requiring receipts for any expense other than nonpayroll expenses paid to a single vendor for 50 percent or more of the grant award.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 1211 (Mathis) Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund: internet website information: updates.

This bill would require the State Water Board or Board to post on its website updates regarding implementation of the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund Law and expenditures from the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund at least annually, rather than once every two years.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 1567 (Garcia) Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would enact the Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2024, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$15,995,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for safe drinking water, wildfire prevention, drought preparation, flood protection, extreme heat mitigation, and workforce development programs.

***2-YEAR BILL**

SB 28 (Glazer) Education finance: school facilities: Public Preschool, K–12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would put the “Public Preschool, K-12, and College Health and Safety Bond Act of 2024” before the voters at the March 5, 2024, statewide primary election. Among other provisions that are not relevant to the State Water Board, this bill would create a program whereby the State Allocation Board is authorized to provide grants to test for lead in drinking water at K-12 schools. A school district that applies for such funding must test all outlets on the schoolsite, except those that have been tested or replaced since January 1, 2010. School districts may apply for additional grant funding to replace any water outlets if lead results are greater than 15 parts per billion. The bill would also allow for funding through a separate modernization apportionments program to be used to remediate water outlets with high lead levels.

***2-YEAR BILL**

SB 336 (Umberg) State grant programs: negotiated cost rate agreements.

Requires a state agency administering a grant program to reimburse a grantee's indirect costs at one of three specified rates requested by the grantee in its state grant program application

***2-YEAR BILL**

SB 557 (Limón) California Prompt Payment Act: nonprofit organizations.

This bill would expand the definition of a “grant” under the California Prompt Payment Act to additionally include a signed final agreement between any state agency and a nonprofit organization and would delete the \$500,000 exception.

***VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR 10/08/23 (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

SB 867 (Allen) Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, Park Creation and Outdoor Access, and Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024.

This bill would enact the Drought, Flood, and Water Resilience, Wildfire and Forest Resilience, Coastal Resilience, Extreme Heat Mitigation, Biodiversity and Nature-Based Climate Solutions, Climate Smart Agriculture, Park Creation and Outdoor Access, and Clean Energy Bond Act of 2024, which, if approved by the voters, would authorize the issuance of bonds in the amount of \$15,500,000,000 pursuant to the State General Obligation Bond Law to finance projects for drought, flood, and water resilience, wildfire and forest resilience, coastal resilience, extreme heat mitigation, biodiversity and nature-based climate solutions, climate smart agriculture, park creation and outdoor access, and clean energy programs.

***2-YEAR BILL**

Groundwater Management/SGMA

AB 560 (Bennett) Sustainable Groundwater Management Act: groundwater adjudication.

This bill would require the parties to a groundwater adjudication to submit their proposed settlement agreement to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for a nonbinding advisory determination as to whether the proposed settlement agreement would substantially impair the ability of a groundwater sustainability agency, the State Water Board, or the Department of Water Resources to achieve sustainable groundwater management, before the proposed settlement agreement can be filed with the court. The State Water Board would have 120 days to prepare and submit the determination to the parties.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 779 (Wilson) Groundwater: adjudication.

This bill would require that during a groundwater adjudication, the groundwater sustainability agency or agencies with authority over the basin hold a public meeting on the adjudication and submit copies of reports to the court. The court would be authorized to refer the adjudication to the State Water Resources Control Board to jointly investigate and submit a report with the Department of Water Resources to assist the court in making required findings regarding the compatibility of a proposed judgment with Sustainable Groundwater Management Act implementation. This bill would require the court to consider the water use and accessibility of small farmers and disadvantaged communities when entering a judgment.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 665, Statutes of 2023.**

AB 1205 (Bauer-Kahan) Water rights: sale, transfer, or lease: agricultural lands.

This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to, on or before January 1, 2027, conduct a study and report to the Legislature and appropriate policy committees on the existence of speculation or profiteering by an investment fund in the sale, transfer, or lease of an interest in any surface water right or groundwater right previously put to beneficial use on agricultural lands, as specified. The bill would repeal this provision on January 1, 2031.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 1563 (Bennett) Groundwater sustainability agency: groundwater extraction permit: verification.

This bill would prohibit a county, city, or any other water well permitting agency from approving a permit for a new groundwater well or for the alteration of an existing well in a basin subject to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) and classified as a critically overdrafted basin, unless the well qualifies for an exemption. To issue the permit, the local Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA) would have to find that the well would not be inconsistent with any sustainable groundwater management program and would not decrease the likelihood of achieving the sustainability goal for the basin, and the applicant would have to show that the well is not likely to interfere with existing nearby wells and is not likely to cause subsidence that would adversely impact or damage nearby infrastructure.

***2-YEAR BILL**

[SB 659 \(Ashby\)](#) California Water Supply Solutions Act of 2023.

This bill would require the Department of Water Resources, in consultation with the State Water Resources Control Board, Regional Water Quality Control Boards, and the California Water Plan advisory committee, to provide actionable recommendations, best practices, and other information to develop additional aquifer recharge opportunities. This information would be included in the 2028 update and future updates to the California Water Plan.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, Chapter 624, Statutes of 2023.**

Groundwater Quality

[AB 1115 \(Papan\)](#) Barry Keene Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Trust Fund Act of 1989: brownfields remediation and redevelopment.

This bill would extend the sunset date on the Underground Storage Tank (UST) Cleanup Fund (USTCF), and its associated subaccounts and companion programs, through January 1, 2036. This bill would authorize a claimant, who no longer has copies of the required permits, to demonstrate compliance by certifying that the required permits had been obtained and by providing other relevant documents. The bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to consider all available documents when determining compliance, including documents available from the applicable local agency.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 561, STATUTES OF 2023.**

[AB 1216 \(Muratsuchi\)](#) Wastewater treatment plants: monitoring of air pollutants

This bill would require, by January 1, 2027, any wastewater treatment facility with an original design capacity of 425 million gallons or more per day to install, operate, and maintain a wastewater treatment-related fence-line monitoring system to track emissions of pollutants of concern, in an accordance that is approved by the appropriate air quality management district.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 675, STATUTES OF 2023**

[SB 423 \(Wiener\)](#) Land use: streamlined housing approvals: multifamily housing developments.

This bill would authorize the Department of General Services to act in the place of a locality or local government for purposes of the ministerial, streamlined review for a multifamily housing development on property owned by or leased to the state. The bill would extend the sunset on streamlined, ministerial approval provisions until January 1, 2036. The bill makes other changes to the laws regarding streamlined, ministerial approval for housing developments, including revising the standard that prohibits a multifamily housing development in a coastal zone from using the streamlined, ministerial approval process to only apply this prohibition if certain conditions are met.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 778, STATUTES OF 2023.**

[SB 684 \(Caballero\)](#) Land use: streamlined approval processes: development projects of 10 or fewer residential units on urban lots under 5 acres.

This bill would require a local agency to ministerially consider, without discretionary review or a hearing, a parcel map or a tentative and final map for a housing development project that meets specified requirements. This bill would authorize a development to be located on a hazardous waste site that is listed on the Cortese List pursuant to existing law if it is an underground storage tank site for which a uniform closure letter has been issued based on criteria for

residential use or residential mixed uses, or the site has otherwise been cleared for residential use or residential mixed uses by the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), the Department of Public Health, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, or by a local agency.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 783, STATUTES OF 2023.**

Oil and Gas Management

AB 1526 (Committee on Natural Resources) Public resources.

This is the Assembly Committee on Natural Resources' omnibus bill that would make a number of technical, clarifying, and cleanup changes to the Public Resources Code (PRC). Among other provisions, the bill would extend the sunset on the provisions of law that require the Department of Conservation (DOC) and the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to provide an annual report, until October 1, 2029, to the Legislature regarding the implementation of the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 848, STATUTES OF 2023.**

Solid Waste/Recycling

SB 665 (Allen) Plastic waste: single-use plastics alternatives: working group.

This bill requires the California Environmental Protection Agency to establish a working group by January 1, 2025, consisting of the State Water Board, the Department of Toxic Substances Control, the Department of Resources Recycling and Recovery (CalRecycle), the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, and the Ocean Protection Council, to establish a framework, by July 1, 2026, for evaluating novel plastic and plastic-alternative material types used to produce single-use products, and develop recommendations for novel materials including their packaging, handling at the end of life, and treatment.

***VETOED BY GOVERNOR 10/08/23 (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

Water Quality

AB 748 (Villapudua) California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program.

This bill would establish the California Abandoned and Derelict Commercial Vessel Program within the Natural Resources Agency for the purpose of bringing together federal, state, and local agencies together to identify, prioritize, and fund removal of abandoned and derelict commercial vessels in commercially navigable waters. This bill would also establish a task force to advise and provide policy guidance for the program and specifies the membership of the task force to include, among other state agency representatives, the Executive Director of the State Water Board) or their designee.

***VETOED BY GOVERNOR 10/08/23 (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

AB 876 (Rivas, Robert) Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project: environmental laws: exemptions

This bill would exempt the Pajaro River Flood Risk Management Project (Pajaro River Project) from various state and local environmental laws if certain criteria are met and would require the Pajaro Regional Flood Management Agency to consult with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board regarding the avoidance, minimization, or mitigation of specified environmental impacts. This bill's requirements would be in effect until December 31, 2035, or the date the Department of Water Resources (DWR) or the United States Army Corps of Engineers issues a public declaration of project completion and notifies the Secretary of State, whichever date is earlier.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 816, STATUTES OF 2023.**

AB 1581 (Kalra) Diversion or obstruction of rivers, streams, or lakes: lake or streambed alteration agreement.

This bill would exempt specified project proponents from the requirement to obtain a lake or streambed alteration agreement from the California Department of Fish and Wildlife if the proponent submits written notification, payment, and a copy of proposed environmental protection measures authorized by other agencies' programmatic habitat restoration permits, including the State Water Resource Control Board's (State Water Board's) WQ 2022-0048- DWQ (August 16, 2022).

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 1597 (Alvarez) Water quality: California-Mexico cross-border rivers.

This bill would authorize, upon appropriation by the Legislature in the annual Budget Act or another statute, funds to be made available to the North American Development Bank (NADBank) for loans, grants, and direct expenditures to be made available to address water quality problems arising in the New River and Tijuana River. The bill would make 10 percent of funds available to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) for administrative costs and would authorize grant funding to be conditioned on enforceability and accountability mechanisms agreed upon by NADBank and the recipient. recipient, with the concurrence of the State Water Resources Control Board.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 1628 (McKinnor) Microfiber filtration.

This bill would require that after January 1, 2029, all new washing machines offered for residential or state use in California contain a microfiber filtration system with a mesh size not greater than 100 micrometers, and that those machines bear a conspicuous label. The bill would establish that a violation of the filtration requirement is cause for civil liability upon action brought by the Attorney General, a city attorney, a county counsel, or a district attorney.

***VETOED BY GOVERNOR 10/08/23 (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

AB 1642 (Gipson) School facilities: master plan for green schoolyards: greening programs

This bill would require the California Department of Education (CDE) and the California Natural Resources Agency (CNRA), in consultation with the Office of Planning and Research, the Division of the State Architect, the Office of Public School Construction, and other appropriate state agencies, as determined by CDE and CNRA, to facilitate an interagency and stakeholder

engagement process, develop, and prepare, on or before December 1, 2024, a master plan for green schoolyards as specified. This bill also requires the CDE and CRNA to report to the appropriate policy and fiscal committees of the Legislature on the recommendations for a master plan for green schoolyards.

***2-YEAR BILL**

Water Rights

[AB 460 \(Bauer-Kahan\)](#) State Water Resources Control Board: water rights and usage: interim relief: procedures.

This bill would authorize the State Water Board to issue an interim relief order, after notice and an opportunity for a hearing, in specified water rights related adjudicative proceedings. A person would be liable for a civil penalty of up to \$10,000 per day and up to \$2,500 per acre-foot diverted for violating an interim relief order. This bill would also authorize the State Water Board to obtain inspection warrants and would modify service of process and judicial procedures. This bill would require the State Water Board to annually adjust water rights civil liabilities for inflation and would increase the civil liability for other water rights violations.

***2-YEAR BILL**

[AB 676 \(Bennett\)](#) Water: general state policy.

This bill would, for state policy of the highest use of water, define domestic purposes to include human consumption, cooking, or sanitary purposes; the care of household livestock and animals; the care of household gardens; fire suppression and other safety purposes; purposes established by the common law; and deliveries of water for those purposes.

***VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR on 10/08/23 (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

[AB 1024 \(Aguiar-Curry\)](#) Water rights: small irrigation use: lake or streambed alteration agreements.

This bill would make it so that entities with water rights registrations would not be required to obtain an agreement from the Department of Fish and Wildlife for activity covered by the registration. Upon determining that funds are available, and on or before June 30, 2027, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) would be required to prioritize the adoption of general conditions that permit small irrigation registrations to store water during times of high streamflow in exchange for reducing diversions during low stream flows from coastal streams entering the Pacific Ocean San Francisco Bay, not including the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River. Where the Director of Fish and Wildlife has established instream flow requirements for stream segments, no new registrations may be issued until the State Water Board has established instream flow requirements.

***2-YEAR BILL**

[AB 1272 \(Wood\)](#) State Water Resources Control Board: drought planning.

This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board to establish a program, in consultation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife, to adopt principles and guidelines for diversion and use of water in coastal watersheds in Northern and Central California during times of water shortage. Violations of these principles and guidelines would be subject to civil liability and cease and desist orders.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 1337 (Wicks) State Water Resources Control Board: water diversion curtailment. This bill would authorize the State Water Board to issue curtailment orders for any diversion, regardless of basis of right, when water is not available under the diverter's priority of right. A violation of a curtailment order would be a trespass. The State Water Board would be authorized to issue a cease and desist order when a water right holder fails to curtail diversions when water is unavailable under the water right holder's priority of right.

***2-YEAR BILL**

AB 1631 (Schiavo) Water resources: permit to appropriate: application procedure: mining use.

This bill would require the State Water Board to issue a new notice and provide an opportunity for protests before rendering a final determination, if the board has not rendered a final determination on an application, for a permit to appropriate water for a beneficial use or uses that include mining use within 30 years from the date the application was filed.

***VETOED BY THE GOVERNOR ON 09/30/23 (Link to Veto Message [here](#))**

SB 366 (Caballero) The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets.

This bill would revise and recast certain provisions regarding The California Water Plan to, among other things, require the Department of Water Resources to instead establish a stakeholder advisory committee and to expand the membership of the committee to include tribes, labor, and environmental justice interests. The bill would require the department, in coordination with the California Water Commission, the State Water Board, other state and federal agencies as appropriate, and the stakeholder advisory committee to develop a comprehensive plan for addressing the state's water needs and meeting specified long-term water supply targets established by the bill for purposes of "The California Water Plan." The bill would require the plan to provide recommendations and strategies to ensure enough water supply for all beneficial uses. The bill would require the plan to include specified components, including a discussion of various strategies that may be pursued in order to meet the water supply targets and an economic analysis. The bill would require the Director of Water Resources to provide an oral and written report annually to the relevant committees in the Legislature regarding the progress made toward meeting the water supply targets established by the department, as specified. The bill would also require the department to conduct public workshops to give interested parties an opportunity to comment on the plan and to post the preliminary draft of the plan on the department's internet website.

***2-YEAR BILL**

SB 389 (Allen) State Water Resources Control Board: determination of water right. This bill would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) to investigate and ascertain whether a claimed riparian or appropriative water right is valid. In furtherance of this authority, the State Water Board would be able to issue information orders.

A diversion or use of water ascertained to be unauthorized would be enforceable as a

trespass under existing law.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 486, STATUTES of 2023.**

SB 651 (Grove) Water storage and recharge: California Environmental Quality Act.

This bill would require the Judicial Council to adopt a rule of court to establish procedures that require actions challenging an environmental impact report for any project to implement a groundwater sustainability plan to be resolved, to the extent feasible, within 270 days. This bill would direct the State Water Resources Control Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards to prioritize water right permits, water quality certifications, waste discharge requirements, and conditional waivers of waste discharge requirements for projects that capture high precipitation events for local storage or recharge.

***2-YEAR BILL**

SB 836 (Dahle) Landowner: water right holder: jointly used conduits: County of Siskiyou.

This bill would authorize a water right holder to modify or replace a conduit in Siskiyou County, whether across or beneath their property or another's, so long as the project does not impede the flow of the water to any other property receiving a benefit from the conduit. The water right holder would be required to give 30-days' written notice to the other landowners and if the conduit is on land owned by a public agency; the water right holder must receive permission to make the modification or replacement.

***CHAPTERED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, CHAPTER 889, STATUTES OF 2023.**

FY22-23 Fiscal Year Projects



Board advances water resilience and safe drinking water through \$1.2 billion in financial assistance
2022-2023 fiscal year projects to add 165,000 acre-feet per year to supplies

Sept. 14, 2023 Contact: [Dimitri Stanich](#), Public Information Officer

SACRAMENTO – Building on historic state and federal investments in water infrastructure that strengthen California’s resilience to extreme weather and climate change, the State Water Resources Control Board’s [Division of Financial Assistance](#) distributed nearly \$1.2 billion during the past fiscal year (July 1, 2022 – June 30, 2023) to water systems and communities to bolster supplies, expand groundwater recharge and improve access to safe drinking water.

Over \$200 million went to clean water projects that further the state’s commitment to developing new supplies through water recycling, stormwater capture and groundwater recharge as described by Gov. Gavin Newsom’s August 2022 [Water Supply Strategy](#). When complete, the projects funded the past fiscal year alone will add approximately 165,000 acre-feet per year to the state’s supplies, enough to sustain 486,000 households annually. Nearly all of this new supply, or about 161,000 acre-feet, will be generated through projects that recharge groundwater.

In addition to providing financial assistance, the State Water Board advanced the Strategy’s goals through major regulatory actions that promote [water recycling](#), [desalination](#) and [conservation](#).

“We have been bringing all of our regulatory authorities and funding to bear to build California’s resilience to climate change impacts as quickly as possible,” said board Chair E. Joaquin Esquivel. “We are leveraging the momentum created by extraordinary state and federal commitments to infrastructure spending over the past two years to advance projects that increase our water supplies, expand access to safe drinking water and relieve debt burdens of disadvantaged communities.”

Grants and principal forgiveness — meaning funds or loans that do not have to be repaid — account for more than half, or \$600 million, of the total financial assistance the board distributed this fiscal year, mostly for drinking water and wastewater projects in small or disadvantaged communities. Another \$560 million in loans was provided to major resilience and drinking water projects from California’s [Clean Water](#) and [Drinking Water](#) State Revolving Funds, a federal-state partnership that assists communities with low-cost financing for water quality infrastructure projects.

As the administrator of the state’s revolving funds programs, the board offers loans to project applicants at rates they would not receive from a traditional lender, making capital-intensive projects more affordable. This past fiscal year, the board funded 30-year loans at rates between 2% and 2.7%.

Under the [Bipartisan Infrastructure Law](#), the federal government will provide \$2.8 billion to California through the revolving funds programs until the end of 2026. Last November, [the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency \(EPA\) awarded the state](#) \$609 million in capitalization grants as the first installment of infrastructure funding to be added to the state’s base annual allotments of \$144 million for the fiscal year. Based on EPA’s formulas, about \$475 million of this additional funding was allocated for drinking water projects and \$133 million for clean water projects.

The infrastructure bill expands the revolving funds’ capacity to assist small and disadvantaged communities by contributing a threefold increase in the amount available for loan forgiveness. In addition, the infrastructure funding increases obtainable financing for projects that replace lead service lines and address emerging contaminants such as per- and polyfluorinated alkyl substances (PFAS).

Bolstering supplies through water recycling and stormwater capture

To further the state’s goal to capture or reuse 1 million acre-feet of water per year by 2030, the board continued to prioritize major projects for funding this past year that enable communities to increase supplies for both drinking water and irrigation through water recycling and stormwater collection. It provided over \$170 million to support five recycling projects that will generate over 161,000 acre-feet per year when complete, benefitting the cities of Paso Robles, Ukiah and Ontario, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District and the [Metropolitan Water District of Southern California](#).

The City of Paso Robles received a \$9 million grant from the state’s Water Recycling Resiliency Infrastructure funding in the 2021 state budget and a \$22 million low-interest loan from the Clean Water State Revolving Fund to construct a recycled water distribution system. The system will deliver 2,200 acre-feet per year by 2026 to east Paso Robles for landscape and agricultural irrigation. These new supplies will reduce groundwater pumping from the [critically overdrafted](#) Paso Robles basin and help meet groundwater sustainability plan targets under the [Sustainable Groundwater Management Act](#). Bidding and construction are set to begin in 2024.

“For small cities like Paso Robles, the funding program really helps improve the economics of recycled water, which is very expensive relative to other sources, like disadvantaged communities. Since that time, four projects benefiting over 2,600 people have groundwater,” said Matt Thompson, recycled water manager for the city. ““With escalating construction costs in recent years, a huge factor motivating the city to move forward with this project was the grants in combination with the loans. The grants really breathed life into this project. Now recycled water can play a big part of the solution to declining groundwater levels in our basin.”

With respect to stormwater, the board provided \$59.1 million from the [Proposition 1 Stormwater Grant Program](#) to support 11 projects that will capture an estimated 4,200 acre-feet per year. While these projects add a modest amount to the state’s water supplies, they reduce pollution from stormwater runoff and contribute to groundwater recharge.

Stormwater projects funded this past year span the state and will benefit the cities of Twain Harte (Tuolumne), Sand City (Monterey), South Lake Tahoe (El Dorado), Chowchilla (Madera), San Pablo (Contra Costa), South El Monte (Los Angeles), Santa Monica (Los Angeles) and Salinas (Monterey), and the counties of San Diego and San Bernardino.

Advancing sustainable drinking water solutions

Extreme weather this past year stressed the drinking water infrastructure in many of California’s vulnerable communities, as the state’s hydrology abruptly shifted from severe drought to flood. The board responded to drinking water emergencies in several communities with support from its [Division of Drinking Water](#) staff and over \$51.8 million in funding for emergency repairs and deliveries of bottled and hauled water, \$45 million of which was provided through [regional programs](#) implemented by Self-Help Enterprises and Community Water Center.

Severe climate patterns exacerbate drinking water challenges that are already chronic for [failing water systems](#), most of which serve disadvantaged communities and suffer from deteriorating infrastructure and contamination issues. One of the board’s top priorities is to secure safe and affordable drinking [water as a human right](#) for every Californian in partnership with systems, communities, nonprofit organization, a [community advisory board](#), counties, and tribal governments.

Through its [Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience \(SAFER\)](#) program, the board provided \$440 million for drinking water in disadvantaged communities. Altogether, 144 construction, planning, technical assistance, and operation and maintenance projects in 153 communities received SAFER funding during the past fiscal year, benefiting 416,000 people.

To accelerate sustainable drinking water solutions, the [board adopted new guidelines](#) in March to expedite funding for priority drinking water projects, especially those in small disadvantaged communities. Since that time, four projects benefitting over 2,600 people have received grants and another 20 awards are currently in process.

Westhaven Community Services District, which serves the rural, disadvantaged community of Westhaven in Humboldt County, received a grant of \$11 million from the board in August 2023, within four months of being selected for the expedited process. The district serves 490 individuals and has struggled to remove [disinfection byproducts](#) from its water, which often occur during the chlorination process for systems that draw from surface water. The grant will fund the construction of a new treatment plant and various other improvements that will allow for more advanced treatment and help the system consistently meet water demands and fire flow requirements.

“The speed and ease of obtaining this funding was both a pleasant surprise and a great relief,” said Paul Rosenblatt, general manager of the district. “We expected a much longer process, but we obtained a grant for the entire project in a short time and now expect to begin construction in early 2025. Having safe drinking water and sufficient water pressure for firefighting will bring a greater sense of security to our whole community. In addition, this project will add solar power, battery backup and on-site chlorine generation through electrolysis which will greatly enhance the resilience of our water system.”

Since the SAFER program was launched following Gov. Newsom’s signing of SB200 in 2019, it has provided more than \$620 million in drinking water grants to small and disadvantaged communities. Further, over 200 systems that were failing to meet drinking water standards have returned to compliance and now serve safe drinking water to over 1.3 million people.

More information about the Division of Financial Assistance can be found on the board’s [website](#).

The State Water Board’s mission is to preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California’s water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper resource allocation and efficient use for present and future generations.



The SAFER Program includes projects funded by the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund, which is part of California Climate Investments, a statewide initiative that puts billions of Cap-and-Trade dollars to work reducing greenhouse gas emissions, strengthening the economy, and improving public health and the environment—particularly in disadvantaged communities.

NEW FEDERAL FUNDING

**Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)
Estimated Federal Grant Allotments, including the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law
(BIL)
FY 2022-26, \$ million**

Year	Base Program ¹	BIL General Supplemental ¹	BIL Emerging Contaminants ²	BIL Lead Line Replacement ²	Totals
2022	61	158	67	250	537
2023	53	227	82	28	390
2024	5	245	82	28	360
2025	5	265	82	29	281
2026	5	265	82	29	381
Totals	129	1,160	395	364	2,048

**Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF)
Estimated Federal Grant Allotments, including BIL
FY 2022-26, \$ million**

Year	Base Program ¹	BIL General Supplemental ¹	BIL Emerging Contaminants ²	Totals
2022	82	127	7	216
2023	53	149	15	216
2024	5	162	15	182
2025	5	176	15	196
2026	5	176	15	196
Totals	150	790	67	1,007

¹ The Base Program and BIL General Supplemental are often referred together as available SRF funding for “Any Project.” Future Base Program Drinking Water SRF and Clean Water SRF estimates are based off of the current House draft 2024 budget.

² “Emerging Contaminants” and “Lead Line Replacement” amounts are annual appropriations that are available until expended. Amounts are for specified uses for otherwise eligible Drinking Water SRF and Clean Water SRF projects, respectively. Note that the 2022 and 2023 CWSRF allotment for Emerging Contaminants were transferred to the DWSRF, and that DFA may recommend in the future that the 2024-2026 CWSRF allotment for Emerging Contaminants also be transferred to the DWSRF.

Additional Actual/Potential Federal Water Funding FY 2022-26, \$ million

Program	Estimated Available
Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act Grants	2
BIL - Overflow and Stormwater (OSG) Grants ³	25
BIL-Emerging Contaminants in Small or Disadvantaged Communities Grants (EC-SDC) ⁴	423
DWSRF - Additional Supplemental Appropriations for Disaster Relief Act (ASADRA) – Principal Forgiveness	51.9

³ Amounts subject to future annual, federal appropriations. Grants awarded to states annually.

⁴ States may apply on behalf of disadvantaged communities, or the communities may apply directly to US EPA. Waiting on updated guidance from US EPA.

NEW STATE FUNDING

State Fiscal Year 22/23 and 23/24 Budget Appropriations \$ million

Year	2022-23	2023-24	Totals
PFAS ⁵	35	45	80
Water Recycling ⁶	200	32	232
Mexico-US Border Rivers	15		15
Drought & Drinking Water Emergencies ⁷	105		105
Water Recycling Southern CA (two projects assigned to the Water Board) ⁸	90		90
Eleven projects assigned to the Board from Control Section 19.56 ⁹	47		47
Three projects assigned to the Board from Control Section 19.562 ¹⁰		4.8	4.8
Year	2022-23	2023-24	Totals
Domestic Wells Impacted by Flooding from Control Section 11.86 ¹¹		14	14
Orphan Site Cleanup Fund		30	30
Totals	492	125.8	617.8

⁵ FY 22/23 \$50M appropriation allocated \$35M for the Division of Financial Assistance and \$15M earmarked for the Division of Drinking Water. FY 23/24 allocated \$45 from AB 102 (out year funding from SB 170).

⁶ FY 22/23 allocation: \$100M from SB 170 and \$100M from AB 211. FY 23/24 allocation: \$32M from AB 102 (out year funding from SB 170).

⁷ AB 180 (amendment to 2021 Budget Act) add an additional \$50M for Drought. AB 211 add an additional \$55M for Drought.

⁸ AB 179, CS 19.58, \$90M funding for Water Recycling in Southern California. \$80M to Metropolitan Water District of Southern California & \$10M to Euclid Ave Recycled Water System in City of Ontario.

⁹ AB 178, CS 19.56, eleven earmarked projects assigned to the Water Board.

¹⁰ AB 102, CS 19.562, three earmarked projects assigned to the Water Board.

¹¹ AB 102, CS 11.86, emergency support for wells impacted by drought.

ANNUAL FEDERAL FUNDING

Estimated Amounts, \$ million

Program	Available Annually
CWSRF loans ¹²	600.0
DWSRF loans ¹³	300.0
Fish and Shellfish Consumption Advisories Program (Grant)	0.05
Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund	130.0
Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund	80.9 FY 23/24 \$300.0
Site Cleanup Subaccount	34.0
Replacing Removing or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks	19.6
Emergency, Abandoned and Recalcitrant	5.0
Small Community Wastewater Grant Fund	8.0

¹² These are the annual loan capacities without the additional BIL capitalization. Future Intended Use Plans will include updated short and long-term loan capacities to reflect the additional federal BIL capital contributions.

¹³ Includes loan repayment stream.

ONGOING STATE FUNDING¹⁴

Estimated Amounts, \$ million

Program	Original Allocation	Currently Available
Proposition 1 Groundwater Grant Program	669.6	94.4
Proposition 68 Groundwater O&M Grant Program	74.0	0
Water Recycling Funding Program (includes planning and construction grants, construction loans, and R&D grants) ¹⁵	728.6	48.6
Propositions 1 and 68 Drinking Water	445.3	97.5
Proposition 1 Wastewater	241.8	.189
Proposition 1 Stormwater	186	9.7
Drinking Water ¹⁶	650	165
Wastewater ¹⁶	650	248
Groundwater Cleanup & Water Recycling ¹⁷	150	88.4
PFAS ¹⁷	30	30
School District Account	32.0	5.5
Expedited Claim Account Program	100.0	18.6

¹⁴ Funding appropriated in FY 21/22 and prior.

¹⁵ Includes loan repayment stream.

¹⁶ As of June 2023. AB 102 Budget Act of 2023 reverted \$200M from Drinking Water and Wastewater and deferred the funding to FY 24/25.

¹⁷ Funding from FY 21/22.

Tribal Beneficial Uses

Water Boards Updates on Protecting Water for Tribal Beneficial Uses

The Water Boards reaffirm that collaboration and input from California Native American tribes through consultation on our rules, regulations, policies, and programs, helps us advance decisions and policies that better protect California's water resources. Since time immemorial, California Native American tribes have used, and in some cases continue to use, water to support their cultural, spiritual, ceremonial, and/or traditional rights. For many years, California Native American tribes and communities advocated to the Water Boards, highlighting that the existing beneficial use categories did not adequately protect water uses specific to tribes. In response to this concern, the State Water Board partnered with California Native American tribes and communities to create definitions for two new beneficial use categories, known as Tribal Beneficial Uses (TBUs).

In 2017, the State Water Board adopted Resolution 2017-0027, which defined tribal tradition and culture (CUL) and tribal subsistence fishing (T-SUB) as Tribal Beneficial Uses:

- **Tribal Tradition and Culture (CUL):** Uses of water that support the cultural, spiritual, ceremonial, or traditional rights or lifeways of California Native American tribes, including, but not limited to: navigation, ceremonies, or fishing, gathering, or consumption of natural aquatic resources, including fish, shellfish, vegetation, and materials.
- **Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB):** Uses of water involving the non-commercial catching or gathering of natural aquatic resources, including fish and shellfish, for consumption by individuals, households, or communities of California Native American tribes to meet needs for sustenance.

All ten Water Boards are at different stages of working with tribes to protect water quality for tribal tradition and culture, and subsistence fishing. This document provides a high-level overview of current statewide efforts.

For more information:

- Water Boards Tribal Affairs: waterboards.ca.gov/tribal_affairs
- Tribal Beneficial Uses: waterboards.ca.gov/tribal_affairs/beneficial_uses.html
- Water Boards Tribal Liaison: Adriana Renteria
 - Tribal-Liaison@waterboards.ca.gov OR Adriana.Renteria@waterboards.ca.gov
 - 916.341.5229

Tribal Beneficial Uses Workshop at Tribal EPA & US EPA Conference

On October 24, over 20 Water Boards staff will be participating in the annual Tribal EPA and

US EPA Region 9 conference being hosted by the Viejas Band of Kumeyaay Indians. At the conference, the Water Boards will hold two workshops and will be tabling to discuss available resources and opportunities to engage in Water Boards efforts. We will be hosting a session on tribal beneficial uses and a session on tribal water data efforts.

One workshop will focus on

Tribal Beneficial Uses and will provide an explanation of TBUs and water quality control plans. The workshop will have a panel with co-presenters from the Central Valley Regional Water Board and the Buena Vista Rancheria; and the San Diego Regional Water Board and the

Pala Band of Mission Indians. Tribal representatives will be able to learn about the status of designation efforts, will be able to provide feedback, and will be able to ask questions.

Current Updates by Region or Division

Region / Division	Update
R1—North Coast	Region 1 has previous beneficial uses that protect Native American Culture and Subsistence Fishing. Currently working to collaborate with tribes to provide input and guidance on whether existing Regional Water Board or State Water board definitions would better serve their needs.
R2—San Francisco Bay	The 2021 Triennial Review identified tribal and subsistence beneficial uses designations as a priority project for the next three years. Five tribes submitted letters of support and three tribes have consulted with the Board. Currently working to engage with tribes and adopt tribal beneficial use definitions into the basin plan. A tribal workshop was held in May 2023.
R3—Central Coast	Central Coast Water Board adopted Racial Equity Resolution No. R3-2023-0002 which directs staff to prioritize the process to adopt Tribal Tradition and Culture (CUL), Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB), and Subsistence Fishing (SUB) Beneficial Uses into the Water Quality Control Plan for the Central Coast Basin. Basin Planning staff are working to adopt the TBU definitions into the basin plan in early 2024. Central Coast Water Board are conducting additional, focused outreach to tribes in order to build relationships, prior to Regional Water Board consideration of adoption.

R4—Los Angeles	State Water Board and Office of Administrative Law approved R4's adoption of TBU definitions into the Region's Basin Plan on October 18, 2022, and April 3, 2023, respectively. R4 is currently consulting with individual tribes and expanding tribal engagement throughout the region and working to secure funds for tribal administration to survey and gather oral history data in support of specific designations.
R5—Central Valley	R5's adoption of TBU definitions into the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basin Plan and Tulare Lake Basin Plan was approved by State Water Board on September 7, 2022. Staff are preparing the TBU Definitions Administrative Record for submission to OAL and U.S. EPA. R5 hosts semi-annual, tribal-only TBU update meetings, with the next one scheduled for November 2, 2023. Project staff and management are consulting with individual tribes who submitted or planning to submit TBU designation requests. TBU Project staff attended the 2023 California Native American Day and will be participating in the upcoming 2023 Tribal EPA & U.S. EPA Region 9 Annual Conference.
R6--Lahontan	Designating TBUs was assigned a high priority for the 2022 Triennial Review and the TBU definitions are already incorporated into the Lahontan Basin Plan. A Basin Plan Amendment (BPA) to designate TBUs in the Mono Basin is being developed and staff held a CEQA Scoping meeting on February 9, 2023, to receive input on the scope of the environmental analysis for this project. The Lahontan Water Board will hold a public hearing on the draft BPA and draft staff report in 2024. Staff continue outreach to inform Tribes about the TBUs, answer questions and solicit input on TBU designations for waterbodies outside of the Mono basin.
R7—Colorado River	Currently working to engage with tribes and adopt tribal beneficial uses definitions into the Region's Basin Plan. Tribal consultation letters for the basin plan amendment were sent out in July. One tribe has requested consultation and staff has met with them to address concerns.
R8—Santa Ana	Region 8 plans to adopt tribal beneficial uses definitions into the Region's Basin Plan and engage with tribes as part of the BPA process.
R9—San Diego	Designating waters with tribal beneficial uses are a priority project for the 2021 Triennial Review. A Tribal Beneficial Uses Work Group consisting of Tribal representatives and San Diego Water Board staff have been meeting monthly since March 17, 2023, to work on designating San Diego Region surface waters with CUL and T-SUB uses.
Division of Water Rights— Bay Delta Plan	Incorporation of TBU definitions into the Bay-Delta Plan is anticipated in the Draft Staff Report in support of updates to the

	<p>Bay-Delta Plan for the Sacramento/Delta. Release of the report initiates a public comment period for input on incorporation of the TBU definitions into the Bay-Delta Plan. Engagement with tribes and the public will take place prior to the board hearing for the report.</p>
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Sackett v. EPA

Frequently Asked Questions regarding the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling in *Sackett v. EPA*

1. What was the U.S. Supreme Court’s ruling in *Sackett v. EPA*?

On May 25, 2023, the U.S. Supreme Court issued its ruling in *Sackett v. Environmental Protection Agency* (2023) 598 U.S. 651 (*Sackett*), holding that the Clean Water Act’s definition of “waters of the United States” extends to only those “wetlands with a continuous surface connection to bodies that are ‘waters of the United States’ in their own right,” so that they are “indistinguishable” from those waters. Following the Court’s decision, the Clean Water Act covers only adjoining wetlands, a reading that excludes wetlands separated from jurisdictional waters by man-made dikes or barriers, natural river berms, beach dunes, and the like that had previously been protected by eight different Presidential administrations.

The Court’s opinion in *Sackett* also endorsed language from *Rapanos v. U.S.* (2006) 547 U.S. 715 (*Rapanos*), in which four justices issued a plurality opinion holding that the scope of Clean Water Act covers “only those relatively permanent, standing or continuously flowing bodies of water ‘forming geographic[al] features’ that are described in ordinary parlance as ‘streams, oceans, rivers, and lakes.’” The *Sackett* decision was nominally unanimous, with no justice supporting the continued application of the “significant nexus” test articulated by Justice Kennedy’s concurrence in *Rapanos*.

Note that *Sackett* does not affect the definition of “waters of the state” as used in California state law.

2. Have the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Army Corps) revised the regulations defining “waters of the United States” in response to *Sackett*?

Yes. The U.S. EPA and the Army Corps issued a rule on September 8, 2023, to conform the regulatory definition of waters of the United States to *Sackett*. The rule deleted existing regulatory language referring to waters that either alone or in combination with similarly situated waters in the region significantly affect the chemical, physical, or biological integrity of otherwise jurisdictional waters. The rule also revised the definition of “adjacent” to simply “having a continuous surface connection.” Under the new rule, the definition of waters of the United States now includes only (1) traditional navigable waters, the territorial seas, and interstate waters,

(2) tributaries to traditional navigable waters, the territorial seas, and interstate waters that are “relatively permanent, standing or continuously flowing bodies of waters,” and (3) wetlands that have a continuous surface connection to waters in either (1) or (2).

The agencies have stated that they intend to develop further guidance in the future.

3. How will the Supreme Court’s ruling in *Sackett v. EPA* affect California?

The *Sackett* decision will have serious consequences for the Clean Water Act and the scope of federal protections over the nation’s waters. On a national level, *Sackett* stripped many wetlands nationwide of their federal protections. According to the Environmental Law Institute, approximately half of the states rely entirely on the Clean Water Act to protect waters and do not have independent state protections. As a downstream state, California will likely face the adverse effects of more wetlands being filled in upstream states and increases in unregulated discharges of pollutants in upstream states. As one example, the mainstem of the Colorado River, one of California’s most important water supplies, will continue to be afforded federal protection. But the intermittent streams that feed the Colorado River and the wetlands in the semi-arid Colorado River watershed, many of which are in states that lack independent state law protection, are at risk of losing federal protection.

Fortunately, California is well positioned to employ its state-level authorities to blunt some of the adverse effects from the loss of Clean Water Act protections within California and continue to protect water quality within its borders. In California, the Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (Porter-Cologne) will be a powerful tool to ensure state protection where federal protection is no longer available. However, many of California’s existing water regulatory programs are structured and implemented based on how the scope of the Clean Water Act had been construed for the last 50 years. With the dramatic contraction of the Clean Water Act set forth in the *Sackett* ruling, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards (Regional Water Boards) will need to restructure their programs to reflect the new bounds on federal jurisdiction. The State Water Board and Regional Water Boards (collectively, the Water Boards) administer various Clean Water Act programs in California, including the Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification program, section 402 National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permitting program, and section 303 water quality standards program. These federal programs are in addition to water quality protection requirements for “waters of the state” under Porter-Cologne, including the issuance of state permits or “waste discharge requirements” for all discharges of waste that can affect the quality of waters of the state. The Water Boards expect that going forward there will be a greater reliance on regulation of discharges using waste discharge requirements issued solely under state law and a heavier state workload and attendant need for increased staff resources and training.

The most immediate effects, which are discussed in greater detail below in question 4, will be on the Water Boards’ dredge or fill program. For discharges of dredged or fill

material to waters of the United States, applicants are required to obtain a Clean Water Act section 404 permit from the Army Corps and a complementary section 401 water quality certification from the applicable Water Board. The Water Boards have typically relied on the Army Corps' work product, as well as expertise and resources, to employ a smaller number of section 401 certification staff. As substantially fewer projects will now need to obtain section 404 permits to dredge or fill wetlands, the Water Boards will not have the benefit of the Army Corps' work in areas such as wetland delineation, alternatives analysis, and compensatory mitigation. In addition to new uncertainty regarding jurisdictional scope and available permitting pathways, applicants are also likely to encounter higher state permit fees to account for the resulting increased state staffing resources needed to issue waste discharge requirements under state law for their discharges.

As described in additional detail below in question 5, the Water Boards are also assessing how *Sackett* affects the NPDES program. NPDES permits for discharges to wetlands are less common than NPDES permits regulating discharges to rivers and other flowing waters. Non-perennial tributaries to jurisdictional waters will lose their status as waters of the United States if they are not "relatively permanent, standing or continuously flowing bodies of water." This aspect of *Sackett* is not particularly clear, because the plurality opinion in *Rapanos* noted that its reference to "relatively permanent" waters did "not necessarily exclude streams, rivers, or lakes that might dry up in extraordinary circumstances, such as drought," or "seasonal rivers, which contain continuous flow during some months of the year but no flow during dry months." Also, an NPDES permit may still be required for some point source discharges of pollutants to tributaries that are not waters of the United States. The plurality opinion in *Rapanos* explained that courts have consistently found that the Clean Water Act applies to the discharge of pollutants that are not directly into covered waters but pass through conveyances in between. *Sackett* also did not address the application of *County of Maui, Hawaii v. Hawaii Wildlife Fund* (2020) 140 S.Ct. 1462 (*County of Maui*), which held that an NPDES permit is still required for a point source discharge of pollutants even if the discharge is not directly into waters of the United States, as long as the discharge is the "functional equivalent" of a direct discharge from a point source into waters of the United States. It is important to note that the issue of NPDES permitting for discharges of pollutants to non-perennial tributaries of jurisdictional waters is expected to be an area of high uncertainty for several years, as the federal agencies issue specific jurisdictional determinations and the federal courts resolve specific controversies. Even where the Clean Water Act no longer regulates the discharge of a pollutant, dischargers will likely need to obtain state waste discharge requirements from the Water Boards. Unlike when issuing NPDES permits, the Water Boards must fully comply with the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) when issuing state waste discharge requirements. The Water Boards anticipate needing additional resources to complete the necessary analysis and to adopt replacement waste discharge requirements where NPDES permits are no longer required.

Water Board programs could also be impacted by changes in federal funding, particularly under Clean Water Act section 106, but the parameters of those changes are not yet clear. The Water Boards may need to increase fees to account for this loss of federal funding. The Water Boards are committed to working with our federal and state partners to fully identify the ramifications of *Sackett* in the coming months and years.

The contraction of federal water quality protections highlights the importance of the work that California does on the state level. State law level environmental protections will be increasingly critical in the wake of *Sackett*. The Water Boards are fortunate to have dedicated and diligent staff that will continue to fulfill the Water Boards' mission to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses for the benefit of present and future generations.

4. How will *Sackett* affect the protection of wetlands?

On the national level, the *Sackett* decision stripped many vulnerable wetlands of their federal protections. Wetlands provide environmental and economic benefits, including flood and stormwater control, surface and ground water supply, fish and wildlife habitat, erosion control, pollution treatment, nutrient cycling, and public enjoyment. Wetlands ameliorate the effects of global climate change by providing floodwater storage, sequestering carbon, and maintaining vulnerable plant and animal communities. Many of these critical areas nationwide have been lost to fill and development. Impacts from increasing population growth, land development, sea level rise, and climate change continue to threaten wetlands. The Clean Water Act has historically provided essential, minimum protections for wetlands, including requiring projects to avoid, minimize, and compensate for adverse impacts to wetlands.

One example of a type of wetlands that will be excluded from Clean Water Act jurisdiction under *Sackett* is western vernal pools. Vernal pools are shallow, seasonal wetlands that are found in California that generally would not be "adjacent wetlands" as defined by *Sackett* decision because vernal pools do not typically have a continuous surface water connection with a water of the United States. Vernal pools are valuable because they sustain a unique diversity of native flora and fauna. U.S. EPA has previously described western vernal pools as "reservoirs of biodiversity."

The Water Boards have a regulatory framework in place to continue to provide robust protections over wetlands within California's borders. In 2019, the State Water Board adopted the State Wetland Definition and Procedures for the Discharge of Dredged or Fill Material to Waters of the State (Dredge or Fill Procedures), which aligned federal and state protections where feasible and established greater consistency in regulation of discharges of dredged or fill material across the nine Regional Water Boards. In addition, the Dredge or Fill Procedures include a definition of wetlands that qualify as waters of the state that is broader than both the former federal definition (because it includes wetlands that are not vegetated, such as desert playas) and the new *Sackett*-

based federal definition (because it does not require that the wetlands have a continuous surface connection such that they are indistinguishable from otherwise jurisdictional waters).

Although California state law is situated to continue to provide similar protections under state law, a narrowed scope of the Clean Water Act will mean that the Water Boards will not have the benefit of the Army Corps' expertise and resources for many dredge or fill projects. Prior to *Sackett*, the Water Board frequently relied on aquatic resource delineations provided by the Army Corps. To adjust to more regular Water Board delineation verifications, Water Board staff will need additional training regarding implementing the delineation procedures outlined in the Dredge or Fill Procedures, and to promote greater consistency for non-wetland resources, the State Water Board may consider adopting delineation procedures for non-wetlands. Water Board staff will also need to conduct an alternatives analysis for more projects to identify the least environmentally damaging practicable alternative. Prior to *Sackett*, the Army Corps typically provided this analysis for individual permits. Finally, some streamlined permitting options, such as projects that qualify under the Water Boards' certification of the Army Corps' nationwide or Regional General Permits, will no longer be available for projects wholly outside of federal jurisdiction.

For discharges of dredged or fill material to wetlands that are no longer within the jurisdiction of the Clean Water Act, project proponents will not need a federal permit and accordingly do not need a Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification. Instead, project proponents will need to apply for waste discharge requirements from the applicable Water Board. Some of the procedural efficiencies available for a Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification are not available for waste discharge requirements issued by a Regional Water Board. In particular, draft waste discharge requirements must be available for public comment for at least 30 days prior to adoption in accordance with Water Code section 13167.5 and must be adopted by the Regional Water Board rather than the Regional Water Board Executive Officer. The increased workload by the Water Boards will likely increase the amount of fees needed to avoid significant permitting delays in the dredge or fill program, which is primarily funded by fees.

At this time, the Water Boards are not planning on revising Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certifications issued prior to *Sackett*. Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certifications are generally also issued pursuant to the Water Boards' waste discharge requirements authority pursuant to State Water Board Water Quality Order No. 2003-0017-DWQ and therefore previously issued 401 certifications are expected to continue to have full force and effect.

5. How will *Sackett* affect implementation of the NPDES program?

Although the context for the *Sackett* decision was a section 404 dredge or fill permit for discharges to wetlands, the decision will likely have ramifications for the Clean Water Act section 402 NPDES point source permit program. The Water Boards are in the

process of identifying any NPDES permits for ongoing discharges to wetlands that do not have a continuous surface water connection to a water of the United States.

The *Sackett* decision and the subsequent conforming regulations did not provide any substantive analysis of how *Sackett* should be interpreted in conjunction with the NPDES discussion set forth in the plurality opinion in *Rapanos*, where Justice Scalia explained that the relatively permanent standard should not significantly reduce the scope of section 402 of the Clean Water Act because courts have long recognized that discharges of pollutants into intermittent channels that naturally wash downstream are covered by the Clean Water Act. Similarly, *Sackett* did not alter the Supreme Court's decision in *County of Maui*, which held that discharges injected into non-jurisdictional groundwater connected to the Pacific Ocean could be protected under the Clean Water Act if they were the functional equivalent of a direct discharge into a water of the United States. The *County of Maui* decision set forth seven factors to determine whether a discharge to a non-jurisdictional water is the functional equivalent of a direct discharge to a jurisdictional water, such that the discharger is still required to obtain an NPDES permit. Generally speaking, unless the U.S. EPA has determined that an NPDES permit is no longer required, the Water Boards expect to continue to require point source discharges to tributaries of waters of the United States to obtain NPDES permits.

Where the discharge of a pollutant is no longer within the scope of the Clean Water Act, dischargers may need to obtain waste discharge requirements from the Water Boards. The issuance of waste discharge requirements, unlike the issuance of NPDES permits, will require full compliance with CEQA. Pursuant to California Water Code section 13389, waste discharge requirements that serve as NPDES permits are largely exempt CEQA. This CEQA exemption is not available for waste discharge requirements that do not serve as NPDES permits.

6. If I discharge to a water that is no longer a water of the United States after *Sackett*, do I still need to obtain a permit?

Yes, as discussed in questions 4 and 5, above. In addition to 401 certifications and NPDES permits for discharges to waters of the United States, the Water Boards also issue waste discharge requirements for discharges of waste that can affect the quality of water of the state pursuant to Porter-Cologne. Porter-Cologne defines "waters of the state" broadly to include "any surface water or groundwater, including saline waters, within the boundaries of the state." (Wat. Code, § 13050(e).) The broader definition of waters of the state includes many types of waters that have never qualified as waters of the United States under any of its historic regulatory definitions or judicial interpretations, including many wetlands, ephemeral streams, and groundwater. "Waters of the state" also necessarily includes all waters that have ever qualified as waters of the United States. The State Water Board determined that waters of the state includes all waters that qualified as waters of the United States in 2000, prior to any regulatory or judicial limitations on the federal definition of waters of the United States. (Cal. Code of Regs., tit. 23, § 3831(w).) This regulation has remained in effect despite subsequent

changes to the federal definition. Therefore, waters of the state includes features that have been determined by U.S. EPA or the Army Corps to be “waters of the United States” in an approved jurisdictional determination; “waters of the United States” identified in an aquatic resource report verified by the Army Corps upon which a permitting decision was based; and features that are consistent with any current or historic final judicial interpretation of “waters of the United States” or any current or historic federal regulation defining “waters of the United States” under the federal Clean Water Act. Therefore, any waters that have lost their status as waters of the United States due to *Sackett* are still considered to be waters of the state, and discharges to those waters are subject to state permitting.

7. How does *Sackett* affect the Water Boards’ enforcement tools?

The reduction in Clean Water Act jurisdiction limits the availability of some enforcement tools that the Water Boards have traditionally used in reliance on the broader definition of “waters of the United States.” Porter-Cologne provides more direct enforcement authority for violations of the Clean Water Act, whereas, imposing civil liabilities for violations of non-NPDES WDRs often requires additional notice to the violator or the adoption of an enforceable order before a potential discharge can be subject to administrative penalties. (Wat. Code, §§ 13265, 13350.)

Additionally, Porter-Cologne penalties for Clean Water Act violations can be substantially higher than penalties for violations of California law. For example, Clean Water Act violations may be assessed both a daily and volumetric administrative civil penalty under California Water Code Section 13385, subdivision (c)(1) at a rate of \$10,000 per day and \$10 per gallon discharged but not cleaned up. Administrative civil penalties under California Water Code Section 13350, subdivision (e), for violations of California law for discharges to non-federal waters of the state are assessed either a penalty of \$5,000 per day of violation or a volumetric penalty of \$10 per gallon discharged, but not both. Judicial civil penalties are similarly higher for Clean Water Act violation than analogous violations involving waters of the state. (Wat. Code §§ 13385 (b)(1), 13350 (d).) Therefore, both the per gallon and per day penalties for California law violations for discharges to waters that lost their status as waters of the United States will be lower than if those waters had remained protected under the Clean Water Act. In addition, unlike the Clean Water Act, the California Water Code does not authorize citizen enforcement actions for violations associated with discharges to non-federal waters of the state.

Water Supply Strategy

CALIFORNIA'S WATER SUPPLY STRATEGY

Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future

One-Year Progress Report • October 2023

In August 2022, the Newsom Administration released [California's Water Supply Strategy – Adapting to a Hotter, Drier Future](#). It charted priority actions to offset the water supply that will be lost to a changing climate. Scientists warn that hotter, drier weather could diminish California water supplies by up to 10 percent by 2040. In a warming climate, a greater share of rain and snowfall will be absorbed by dry soils, consumed by thirsty plants, and evaporated into the air. This leaves less water to meet our needs. State agencies made significant progress implementing the strategy in the past year. Guided by this strategy, work continues to ensure California has the water it needs now and into the future.

This progress report details state agency actions taken over the last 12 months to execute key priorities of the Water Supply Strategy. These actions to bolster water supplies complement the state's broader policy roadmap to build resilient water systems, called the [Water Resilience Portfolio](#).

1. Develop new water supplies.

Reuse at least 800,000 acre-feet of water per year by 2030 with most of that additional recycling involving direct wastewater discharges that are now going to the ocean.

- In July 2023, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) kicked off the public comment period on [proposed direct potable reuse regulations](#), which would allow recycled water to be moved directly into drinking water distribution systems while protecting public health. Once in place, direct potable reuse regulations are expected to greatly facilitate local, large-scale water recycling projects.
- In January 2023, the State Water Board established a Recycled Water Strike Team composed of state, federal and industry partners. The Strike Team is refining a preliminary list of recycled water projects under development and will recommend ways to clear impediments to complete these projects and achieve the 2030 goals.
- The Legislature and Governor enacted [Senate Bill 149](#) to speed up judicial review for certain recycled water projects certified by the Governor, without reducing the environmental and government transparency benefits of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA).

Expand brackish groundwater desalination production by 28,000 acre-feet per year by 2030 and help guide location of seawater desalination projects where they are cost effective and environmentally appropriate.

- In January 2023, State Water Board staff established a Seawater Desalination Interagency Group composed of state and federal agencies that review environmental documents and permit or lease applications for proposed seawater desalination facilities.
- In July 2023, State Water Board staff released the [Draft Seawater Desalination Siting and Streamlining Report to Expedite Permitting](#) for public comment. This report provides a first-ever roadmap for seawater desalination proponents on how to get their projects permitted by state and federal agencies. The Seawater Desalination Interagency Group identified criteria for siting seawater desalination projects so that they are cost-effective and environmentally appropriate, and they recommended potential changes to current requirements to streamline permitting. A final report is expected by the end of 2023.
- In March 2023, the [National Alliance for Water Innovation](#) (NAWI) announced an investment of \$9 million in 12 projects – several in California -- that will improve the energy efficiency of desalination and water reuse technologies. DWR and the Water Board have committed \$18.5 million to NAWI, a \$100 million, five-year U.S. Department of Energy research hub headquartered in Berkeley.

2. Expand water storage capacity above and below ground by four million acre-feet.

Expand average annual groundwater recharge by at least 500,000 acre-feet.

- The Department of Water Resources (DWR) estimates California recharged 3.8 million acre- feet of water from the extraordinarily wet winter and spring of 2022-23, not counting natural recharge. That volume of water is more than a full Lake Oroville can hold. Much of that recharge occurred under the State Water Board’s temporary, streamlined permitting processes as directed in the Water Supply Strategy and through the Governor’s [Executive Orders](#).
- Many irrigation districts and landowners diverted flood flows onto working lands and lands being prepared as recharge basins. DWR helped local districts acquire additional [temporary pumps](#) to increase the diversion of flood flows that posed an imminent flood risk. Also, DWR launched a “rip and chip” program to assist irrigation districts in obtaining equipment to remove orchards and vines to increase the percolation of floodwaters into aquifers on their land.
- This wet winter also resulted in a record number of groundwater recharge permits and requests; in under five months, the State Water Board processed 12 recharge permits and petitions that authorized more than 1.2 million acre-feet in storage.
- In January 2023, the Water Board granted its first five-year temporary recharge permit, enabling the Omoichumne Hartnell Water District to divert 2,444 acre-feet from the Cosumnes River in Sacramento County. The five-year temporary permits require more review than seasonal 180-day permits but ultimately allow local agencies greater certainty and flexibility to implement their groundwater programs. In July 2023, the Governor and Legislature enacted [Senate Bill 122](#),

which clarifies legal and regulatory requirements to maximize appropriate diversion of floodwater to underground storage while maintaining conditions protective of public health and fish and wildlife.

Work with local proponents to complete the seven Proposition 1-supported storage projects and consider funding other viable surface storage projects.

- In June 2023, the Water Commission approved \$277.5 million in funding for the [Harvest Water Project](#), the first project to receive a final funding award under the [Water Storage Investment Program](#) (WSIP) of Proposition 1. Harvest Water is expected to begin construction in late 2023.
- The Natural Resources Agency established an interagency strike team to facilitate permitting of the WSIP projects. The high-level team, which includes top regional staff of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, meets monthly to identify barriers and develop solutions.
- The Legislature and Governor enacted [Senate Bill 149](#) to speed up judicial review for water storage projects without reducing the environmental and government transparency benefits of CEQA.

Expand San Luis Reservoir by 135,000 acre-feet.

The San Luis Reservoir Expansion Project will create an additional 130,000 acre-feet of storage in San Luis Reservoir. As of July 2023, the federal government has committed \$85 million to the project. An addendum to a 2020 feasibility report was finished in April 2023, with design to follow. The enlargement project builds upon the \$1.1 billion seismic retrofit project already underway, partially funded by State Water Project contractors.

Rehabilitate dams to regain storage capacity.

The 2023-24 budget allocated \$100 million for grants to assist dam owners make repairs that will improve public safety. They also enabled DWR to expedite funding awards by [administering the grant program with guidelines](#) rather than regulations. DWR expects to solicit applications in mid- 2024. Legislation enacted in 2023 ([Senate Bill 146](#)) gives DWR the authority to use the progressive design-build method for dam safety and certain other types of projects – a more flexible alternative to the traditional project delivery method.

Support local stormwater capture projects in cities and towns with the goal to increase annual supply capacity by at least 250,000 acre-feet by 2030.

The State Water Board is executing a contract with California State University, Sacramento to develop a method to estimate current stormwater capture using open-source tools. The State Water Board is also collaborating with Regional Water Boards and local municipalities to explore options for establishing stormwater crediting systems that could incentivize implementation of new regional

stormwater retention and water supply projects through the generation and sale of stormwater credits.

Reduce demand.

Build upon the conservation achievements of the last two decades to reduce annual water demand in towns and cities by at least half a million acre-feet by 2030.

- As directed in the 2018 “[conservation as a way of life laws](#),” in August 2023 the State Water Board launched a rulemaking process for new efficiency standards for urban retail water suppliers. The overall estimated reduction in water use would reach eight percent in 2030, saving 414,000 acre-feet of water, and nine percent in 2035, saving 460,000 acre-feet of water.
- Since 2021, DWR has allocated [\\$143 million through grants and directed contracts](#) to communities across California, which is expected to support a reduction in annual water demand of 16,500 acre-feet per year.
- The state-managed [Save Our Water](#) public awareness campaign launched targeted multi-lingual and multi-media advertising in 2022 in response to extreme weather. The 2022-23 budget included \$75 million over two budget years for a marketing campaign to make conservation a California way of life and support the state’s turf replacement goal.

Help stabilize groundwater supplies for all groundwater users, including a more drought- resilient agricultural economy.

- To date, DWR has received 119 local groundwater sustainability plans, nine five-year periodic evaluations to alternative plans, and one new alternative plan, which is being adjudicated. Each of these plans is [under review or has been reviewed](#) under the [2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act](#) laws and regulations. DWR in 2022 and 2023 awarded \$340 million in assistance to 51 local groundwater sustainability agencies (GSAs) for planning and projects and continues to assist local agencies with data and guidance.
- In July 2023, the LandFlex Program administered by DWR in coordination with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) [awarded \\$17 million](#) to several San Joaquin Valley groundwater sustainability agencies so they could in turn award funding to local growers to transition to sustainable groundwater use and protect drinking water supplies in underrepresented communities. LandFlex aims to halt pumping in 2023 from irrigation wells adjacent to vulnerable drinking water wells and in the long-term will permanently eliminate groundwater overdraft pumping on each enrolled acre.
- In June 2023, the Department of Conservation [awarded \\$35 million](#) to regions that are adapting land use to improve sustainability of groundwater basins. The [Multi-benefit Land Repurposing Program](#) in May 2022 had awarded \$40 million to regional collaborations led by local GSAs to prepare and implement strategic

land repurposing plans to achieve ecological, social, and economic benefits.

- The past two budgets authorized \$120 million for a grant program at CDFA to improve agricultural irrigation efficiency and \$15 million for CDFA's [Water Efficiency Technical Assistance](#) program.

3. Improve forecasting, data, and management, including water rights modernization.

Improve data collection and modernize forecasts for a changed climate.

- During the flood events of late 2022 and early 2023, [forecasting, warning, and decision- support tools](#) developed by DWR and the Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes were critical to assessing the potential for major flooding from incoming storms, coordinating with reservoir operators, preparing emergency response activities, and notifying partner agencies and the public of increased flood threats.
- DWR has made significant improvements in its water supply forecasts, including updating historical climate data averages to the most recent 30-year period to better reflect current conditions.
- During the winter and spring of 2022-23, DWR completed 65 [Airborne Snow Observatory](#) data collection flights and produced over 120 snow hydrology modeling reports from those data collections, which helped reservoir operators as the state swung from extreme drought to flood.
- DWR has developed snow hydrology models for 18 watersheds in the Sierra Nevada and Southern Cascade mountains to help improve water supply forecasts.
- The 2022-23 state budget included an additional \$23.9 million in 2023-24 and \$2.8 million in 2024-25 to support reactivation and deployment of priority stream gages consistent with the [SB 19 Stream Gaging Prioritization Plan](#), which aims to close gaps in the network that tracks stream flow.
- DWR continues to support (and co-lead in the case of Lake Oroville) [forecast-informed reservoir operations](#) (FIRO) assessments. FIRO uses improved weather and water forecasts to help reservoir operators decide when to release or hold water.

Improve the flexibility of current water systems to move water throughout the state.

- DWR expects to finalize an environmental impact report on the proposed [Delta Conveyance Project](#) at the end of 2023.
- DWR and partners are studying the feasibility and design of repairs to the California Aqueduct, Delta-Mendota Canal, and San Luis Canal, all key water delivery systems in the San Joaquin Valley that have lost carrying capacity due to subsidence damage. The 2021-22 and 2022-23 state budgets included a total of \$200 million toward costs to repair those three canal systems and the Friant-Kern Canal.

- In March 2023, DWR released \$29.8 million of the \$200 million to the Friant Water Authority to [repair segments of the Friant-Kern Canal](#), a key water conveyance facility in the San Joaquin Valley damaged by land subsidence. The Friant-Kern Canal, owned by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, has lost more than 60 percent of its original conveyance capacity in its middle section. It plays a role in irrigating a million acres of farmland.
- Legislation enacted in 2023 ([Senate Bill 146](#)) gives DWR the authority to use the progressive design-build method for canal repair and certain other types of projects – a more flexible alternative to the traditional project delivery method.

Modernize water rights administration for equity, access, flexibility, and transparency.

- The State Water Board is undertaking an [overhaul of the state’s water rights data management system](#). Millions of existing water rights records will be digitized beginning in the fall of 2023, and the Water Board formed an advisory group in August 2023 to involve a diverse range of experts and interested parties.
- The State Water Board is developing a pilot project to bolster measurement of water use and availability in real time; a technical advisory group was formed in March 2023.
- In August 2023, the Water Board held public listening sessions to collect input on the Board’s [water rights measurement and reporting regulation](#). There continues to be challenges with data quality and gaps. To help address these challenges, staff are preparing guidance and technical assistance materials that will be available before the next reporting deadline. This data plays a key role in how the state manages water when supplies are tight, especially during drought. The Water Board will use input from the listening sessions to help determine the best ways to improve compliance and data quality.

Board Member Biographies

State Water Board



Joaquin Esquivel,
Chair

E. Joaquin Esquivel was appointed to the State Water Resources Control Board by Governor Jerry Brown in March 2017, designated by Governor Gavin Newsom as Chair in February 2019, and reappointed to the board by Governor Newsom in 2021. Also in 2021, Governor Newsom appointed him to the Western States Water Council, Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Advisory Council, and the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Forum.

Previously, he served as Assistant Secretary for federal water policy at the California Natural Resources Agency in the Governor's Washington, D.C. office. For more than eight years prior to that, Joaquin worked for U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer of California, most recently as her legislative assistant covering the agriculture, Native American, water, oceans, and nutrition portfolios, in addition to being the director of Information and Technology.

He was born and raised in California's Coachella Valley. He holds a BA from the University of California, Santa Barbara in English.



Dorene D'Adamo,
Vice Chair

Dorene D'Adamo was appointed to State Water Resources Control Board by Governor Brown in 2013 and reappointed in 2018. She serves as the Vice-Chair and also as the agriculture member of the board. Ms. D'Adamo is on the Board of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley and on the Board of the Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council, and she also served on the Governor's Drought Task Force. She was a member of the California Air Resources Board from 1999-2013 under the Brown, Schwarzenegger and Davis Administrations, where she was instrumental in the board's air quality and climate change programs and regulations.

Ms. D'Adamo served in various capacities for Members of Congress from the San Joaquin Valley over a 20-year period, working primarily on environmental, water and agricultural legislative policy.

Ms. D'Adamo earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of California at Davis and a Juris Doctor from the University of the Pacific, McGeorge School of Law.



Sean
Maguire

Sean Maguire was appointed to the State Water Resources Control Board in December 2018 by Governor Brown and is a registered civil engineer. Mr. Maguire has had a diverse career both in both public service and as an engineering consultant, which provides a valuable perspective of the administrative challenges facing a government agency and needs of a broad array of water interests.

From 2015-2018, Mr. Maguire worked for the State Water Resources Control Board as a manager of the Storm Water Grant Program in the Division of Financial Assistance, and later as a manager in the Division of Water Rights where he oversaw administration of water right change petitions, licensing, and cannabis cultivation permitting. Prior to joining the Board, from 2003-2015, he worked for an engineering consulting firm serving a variety of municipalities and water agencies throughout the state, focused on water resources planning, drinking water, and wastewater infrastructure projects. Much of his work revolved around integrated water management and developing long term water supply solutions to meet the needs of both water users and the environment.

Mr. Maguire has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering from California State University, Sacramento.



Laurel
Firestone

Laurel Firestone was appointed to the State Water Resources Control Board by Governor Gavin Newsom in February 2019 and reappointed by Governor Newsom in February 2023. Prior to joining the Board, Laurel co-founded and co-directed, from 2006-2019, the Community Water Center (CWC), a statewide non-profit environmental justice organization. Based in California's Central Valley and Central Coast, the CWC helps disadvantaged communities gain access to safe, clean, and affordable drinking water and build civic engagement and leadership to achieve the human right to water.

Laurel has received a variety of awards and recognitions, including the James Irvine Foundation's Leadership Award in 2018, and the Gary Bellow Public Service Award by the Harvard Law School in 2013. She also received an Equal Justice Works fellowship to start the Rural Poverty Water Project in the Central Valley in 2004-06 as part of the Center for Race, Poverty and the Environment.

Laurel served on the Tulare County Water Commission from 2007-2012, as well as a variety of state policy advisory committees. She has partnered with universities to develop research and clinical programs to further the human right to water, and written articles and publications related to drinking water and the environment.

Laurel graduated with honors from Harvard Law School and holds a B.A. magna cum laude in Environmental Studies from Brown University.



Nichole Morgan

Nichole Morgan was appointed as the civil engineer to the State Water Resources Control Board by Governor Gavin Newsom in June 2021.

Ms. Morgan most recently served as an Assistant Deputy Director in the State Water Resources Control Board's Division of Financial Assistance, where she worked on projects providing funding for drinking water, wastewater, storm water and groundwater infrastructure improvements. During this time Ms. Morgan also managed a variety of additional programs including the Lead in Child Care Centers, Fish Advisories, and Drinking Water and Wastewater Operator Certification programs.

From 1999 to 2009 Ms. Morgan worked for public agencies and engineering consulting firms. Her responsibilities included planning, designing, and overseeing the construction of drinking water, wastewater and recycled water treatment and conveyance facilities throughout California. Ms. Morgan joined the State Water Resources Control Board in 2009 where she worked as staff in the Division of Financial Assistance, Delta Water Master's Office, and the Division of Water Rights.

Ms. Morgan worked as a manager at the Central Valley Regional Water Board from 2012 to 2018, where she managed the region's NPDES program. She returned to the State Water Board in 2018 as the head of the Office of Sustainable Water Solutions and was promoted in 2019 to an Assistant Deputy Director with the Division of Financial Assistance.

Ms. Morgan has a bachelor's in science in Civil Engineering from California State University, Sacramento.

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 1)

Executive Officer: Valerie Quinto



Hector Bedolla,
Chair

Hector Bedolla, of Healdsburg, has been a Consulting Agronomist in the western United States and internationally since 1985. He was the Viticulturist at Chenoweth Vineyards from 2020 to 2022. He has been an Adjunct Professor in Viticulture at Santa Rosa Junior College since 2017. He was Vineyard Manager at Navarro Vineyards in 2018 and at North Pacific Vineyard Management from 2016 to 2018. Bedolla was Crop Advisor, Pest Control Advisor, and Agronomist at Crop Production Services from 2013 to 2016 and Vineyard and Ranch Manager at Stuhlmuller Vineyards from 2011 to 2013. He was a Consulting Viticulturist at Windsor Oaks Vineyards in 2011 and an Agricultural Biologist in the Sonoma County Agricultural Commissioner's Office in 2010. He was a Vineyard Manager at Kendall-Jackson Wine Estates from 2000 to 2010 and at Stag's Leap Wine Cellars from 1999 to 2000. Bedolla was Vice President of Vineyard Operations at Hambrecht Vineyards from 1995 to 1999. He was Vineyard Manager at Hambrecht and Peterson Vineyards from 1988 to 1995 and at Iron Horse Vineyards from 1983 to 1988. Mr. Bedolla was first appointed to the Regional Board in 2016.



Gregory
Giusti,
Vice Chair

Gregory Giusti, of Kelseyville, has been an advisor and director of forest and wildlands ecology at the University of California Cooperative Extension since 1985. He was an agricultural biologist at the San Mateo County Department of Agriculture from 1981 to 1985 and chief biologist at the Marine Ecological Institute from 1979 to 1981. He earned a Master of Arts degree in ecology and population biology from California State University, San Francisco. Mr. Giusti was appointed to the Regional Water Board on November 25, 2013.



William "Bill"
Matsubu,
Ph.D.

Dr. William Matsubu, Ph.D., has been the Environmental Programs Director for the Blue Lake Rancheria since 2023. He was a Fisheries Biologist for the Wiyot Tribe from 2021 to 2023, a Skilled Laborer for Matsubu Construction Inc. from 2020 to 2021, a Postdoctoral Researcher with the National Research Council from 2019 to 2020, a Research Assistant and Teaching Assistant at the University of Washington School of Aquatic and Fishery Sciences from 2013 to 2019, and a Natural Resources Program Assistant at Sonoma Water from 2011 to 2013. He earned his Ph.D. in Aquatic and Fishery Sciences from the University of Washington and a Bachelor of Science degree in Fisheries Biology from Cal Poly Humboldt. Mr. Matsubu was first appointed to the Regional Board in 2022.



Alexandra
Hart

Alexandra Hart, of Montague, has been a Senior Appraiser with LandVest Real Estate since 2022. She was an Appraiser with Yosemite Farm Credit, ACA from 2015 to 2022. Hart has been a member of the Appraisal Institute since 2015 and a member of the American Society of Farm Managers and Rural Appraisers since 2022. Hart earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Agribusiness Management and Food Marketing from the University of Kentucky. Ms. Hart was first appointed to the Regional Board in 2023.

San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 2)

Executive Officer: Eileen White



Jayne
Battey,
Chair

Jayne Battey is the owner and founder of Miramar Farms on the San Mateo Coast near Half Moon Bay. Using the farm as a uniquely restorative backdrop, Ms. Battey provides a combination of senior leadership coaching and program facilitation for organizations working on environmental, health, housing, education and other critical societal issues. She currently serves on the board of American Leadership Forum-Silicon Valley, and previously served on the boards of the Silicon Valley Community Foundation, Youth Outside, and Cabrillo Education Foundation.

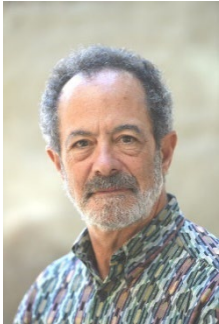
Prior to starting Miramar Farms in 2013, Ms. Battey held executive positions in a number of environmental organizations, including Essex Environmental, Pacific Forest and Watershed Lands Stewardship Council, and Pacific Gas & Electric Company. She has extensive experience in environmental planning and compliance management for large-scale infrastructure projects, as well as expertise in a wide-range of state and federal natural resource protection regulations. Ms. Battey holds a bachelor's degree from Boston College and a master's degree from the London School of Economics and Political Science. She is a senior fellow of American Leadership Forum - Silicon Valley (Class XXIV).



Alexis
Strauss-
Hacker,
Vice Chair

Alexis Strauss Hacker, Piedmont, held several leadership roles at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency from 1979 to 2019, including acting regional administrator, deputy regional administrator, water division director, and manager of Superfund enforcement programs. She has been recognized with several leadership and management awards in her federal career. She earned a Master of Arts degree in urban planning and a Bachelor of Arts in

geography from the University of California, Los Angeles.



Andrew Gunther,
Ph.D.

Dr. Gunther received his Ph.D. in Energy and Resources from the University of California at Berkeley in 1987, and he has worked at the intersection of environmental science and policy since 1979. He has extensive experience in applying science to the development of air, water, and endangered species policy, including in the Bay Area.

In 1986 he was hired as the first staff scientist for the San Francisco Estuary Institute, where he completed landmarks studies of estuarine water quality for the State of California and the U.S. EPA. He was the first manager of the State of California's program that monitors for toxic substances in San Francisco Bay, and served as Assistant Chief Scientist for the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Restoration Program. From 2001-2006 he was the coordinator of the Clean Estuary Partnership, where he developed and managed a joint research and analysis program for the Regional Board, the Bay Area Clean Water Agencies, and the Bay Area Stormwater Management Agencies Association. From 2011-2017 Dr. Gunther served as executive coordinator of the Bay Area Ecosystems Climate Change Consortium, assisting this interagency group develop and implement initiatives to build resiliency to climate change in the Bay Area.

In 2017, Andy became the ninth person to win Jean Auer Environmental Award from the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, which honors his "significant contribution toward improving environmental quality in the Bay-Delta Estuary." More about Dr. Gunther's career and activities is available at www.andrewgunther.com.



Donald Young

Donald Young is a Senior Vice President at Salas O'Brien. He's a CSU-Certified Construction Manager and heads the Construction Services Department, annually overseeing a variety of projects associated with sustainability, resiliency, clean energy, climate change, and innovation. He's a graduate of Leadership San Jose 2009 and a former member of

the San Jose Evergreen Community College District Foundation, serving from 2010 – 2020 with two (2) terms as Board Chair. He also served on the City of Campbell Planning Commission from 2014 – 2017. He is a graduate of UC Santa Barbara with a Bachelor of Science in Biopsychology.



William Kissinger

William Kissinger of Marin County is a partner at the law firm of Morgan Lewis and Bockius. Before that he was a partner at Bingham McCutchen from 2003 to 2014, and an associate and then a partner at the legacy McCutchen Doyle Brown and Enersen firm from 1989 to 1997. He was senior deputy legal affairs secretary at the Office of Governor Gray Davis from 2001 to 2003. Kissinger served as senior advisor for international economic policy for the National Economic Council at the White House from 2000 to 2001 and was special assistant to the Legal Adviser at the U.S. Department of State from 1997 to 2000. He was staff attorney for the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals from 1987 to 1988. Kissinger earned a Juris Doctor degree from the University of California, Berkeley School of Law, and a B.A. in Politics/American Studies *cum laude* from Princeton University.



Letty Belin

Letty Belin of Oakland, has been Principal of Alletta Belin Consulting LLC since 2017. She was a Landreth Visiting Fellow for Stanford Water in the West in 2018, Senior Counselor to the Deputy Secretary at the U.S. Department of the Interior from 2009 to 2017 and Founder and Partner of Belin & Sugarman Law Office from 2000 to 2009. Belin was Director of the Environment, Energy and Telecommunications Division at the New Mexico Attorney General's Office from 1993 to 1999. She graduated Phi Beta Kappa and with distinction and honors in anthropology from Stanford University and earned a Juris Doctor degree from Stanford Law School.

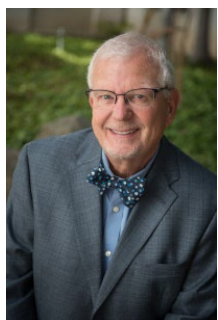
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 3)

Executive Officer: Ryan Lodge



Jane Gray,
Chair

Ms. Jane Gray, of Goleta, is a regional planner and project manager who has been working in a private sector environmental and engineering firm since 2006 and previously worked as a planner with Santa Barbara County and County of Fresno. Ms. Gray has a Bachelor's degree in Social Work and led refugee resettlement programming in New York and Arizona, taught English as a Second Language teacher for public agencies, public schools and private language schools in the US and Germany. She earned a Master's degree in regional planning and management from the Technische Universität Dortmund, Germany and spent time in Ghana, West Africa studying and documenting resource issues and governance as part of her masters program. Ms. Gray served as Vice Chair of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board from 2019 to 2022.



Jean-Pierre
Wolff, Ph.D.,
Vice Chair

Dr. Wolff, Ph.D., of San Luis Obispo, has been the owner and vintner of Wolff Vineyards since 1999. He was an independent consultant providing technical consulting services for privately held corporations from 2000 to 2002, senior vice president for Global Energy Services, a division of Emerson Electric from 1998 to 2000 and Vice President and corporate officer for Electro-Test from 1981 to 1998.

He is a Board Member of the Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District, San Luis Obispo County Agriculture Liaison Advisory Board, Board member Cal Poly Center for Sustainability, Cal Poly College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science Dean's Advisory Board, United States Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency elected County Committee member. He served as Chair of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board from 2014 to 2022.



Monica Hunter,
Ph.D.

Dr. Hunter, Ph.D., of Los Osos, was formerly the central coast Senior Program Advisor for the Planning and Conservation League Foundation (PCLF) and since 2004 has conducted numerous stakeholder processes in support of sustainable coastal watershed resource management. Since 2014 she has served as a Board Trustee of the PCL Foundation. Dr. Hunter was a consultant to the Morro Bay National Estuary Program in 2001, and a former member of the Executive Committee, serving on the Education and Stewardship Committee. She was a regional liaison to California Sea Grant focused on central coast marine resource stakeholder engagement from 2000 to 2003. She is currently an emeritus board member of the Carmel River Watershed Conservancy and was also a founding member of the Carmel River Task Force. In 2012 and 2013, she served on the Governor's Drinking Water Stakeholder Group. She served as Vice Chair of the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board from 2014 to 2018.



Stephanie
Harlan

Ms. Stephanie Harlan, of Capitola, previously served on the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board from 2018 to 2019 and was reappointed in 2021. Ms. Harlan was a Member of the Capitola City Council from 2010 to 2018, from 1994 to 2006 and 1984 to 1992. She was a Registered Nurse at Salinas Valley Memorial Hospital from 1996 to 2015, at Watsonville Community Hospital from 1984 to 1996 and at Santa Cruz Community Hospital from 1983 to 1984. She is a member of the Santa Cruz County League of Women Voters and Friends of the Capitola Library.



Alex
Rodriguez

Mr. Alex Rodriguez is President & CEO of DCG Public Affairs and is a partner and CEO of Conduit Government Relations. His areas of professional expertise include Hispanic marketing, minority enterprise development, environmental justice, government relations and branding, public affairs, and strategic communications.

In November 2022, Alex was appointed to the Dean's Council of the Bren School of Environmental Science & Management at the University of California, Santa

Barbara. Alex currently serves as the president of the Santa Barbara County Finance Corporation's board of directors and the president of the La Cumbre Mutual Water Company's board of directors. Alex was appointed to the US EPA's National Drinking Water Advisory Council in December 2021 by the Biden Administration. Alex has also served on several non-profit boards with an emphasis on Hispanic and Latino services and representation.

Alex attended the University of California at Santa Barbara where he majored in Film Studies and holds a BA in Business Management from Antioch University. Alex holds ranks in multiple martial arts including a fifth-degree black belt (master) in Hapkido and was inducted into the USA Martial Arts Hall of Fame in 2020. A native of Southern California, Alex resides in Santa Barbara with his wife and son.

Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 4)

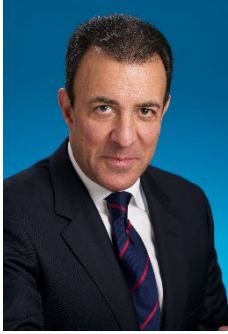
Executive Officer: Susana Arredondo



Norma Camacho,
Chair

Norma Camacho is a member of the Stillwater Sciences Board of Directors and the former Chief Executive Officer of Valley Water, which provides safe, clean water for Silicon Valley. Prior to that she held several positions at the Ventura County Public Works Agency. Her passion is developing creative and collaborative solutions within watersheds to benefit the environment and communities. Ms. Camacho holds a degree in Civil Engineering from Stanford University.

David Nahai is the President of David Nahai Consulting Services, Inc., and a Partner at the law firm of Lewis Brisbois Bisgaard & Smith LLP. In both capacities, Mr. Nahai focuses on real estate, water, renewable energy, and environmental matters. Mr. Nahai previously served on the Los Angeles Regional Board for 10 years (1997-2007) and was its Chair for four terms. He is also the former General Manager



David Nahai,
Vice Chair

and Commission President of the Los Angeles Department of Water and Power and served as Senior Advisor to the Clinton Climate Initiative. Mr. Nahai holds graduate and post-graduate degrees in law from the London School of Economics and the University of California at Berkeley and was a Visiting Scholar at UC Berkeley.



Dr. Michael
Méndez

Dr. Michael Méndez is an assistant professor of environmental policy and planning at the University of California, Irvine. He previously was the inaugural James and Mary Pinchot Faculty Fellow in Sustainability Studies at the Yale School of the Environment. Dr. Méndez has more than a decade of senior-level experience in the public and private sectors, where he consulted and actively engaged in the policymaking process on environmental and health issues. Most recently, he was appointed by the National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine to the Board on Environmental Change and Society (BECS). Dr. Méndez holds three degrees in environmental planning and policy, including a PhD from UC Berkeley's Department of City and Regional Planning, and a graduate degree from MIT.



Marissa
Christiansen

Marissa Christiansen is the current President and CEO of Friends of the Los Angeles River, a non-profit organization building capacity for communities, students, and future leaders to advocate for nature, climate, and equity on the LA River. Christiansen is a career advocate on a mission for a safe, habitable future for the girls who will lead it.



Sabrina
Ashjian

Sabrina Ashjian is a clinical supervising attorney in the Environmental Law Clinic at UC Berkeley School of Law, where she lectures on the topics of environmental law, environmental justice, and legislative advocacy. Her work focuses on sustainability, climate mitigation and adaptation solutions, just energy transition, and equitable green infrastructure development. Ms. Ashjian has nearly 15 years of legal experience during which she has handled environmental crimes both civilly and

criminally, including assuring access to safe, clean and affordable drinking water. Ms. Ashjian received her JD/MBA from Pepperdine University, her M.A. in Journalism from University of Southern California, and her B.B.A. from George Washington University. She is licensed to practice law in California, New York, and in the United States Supreme Court.

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 5)

Executive Officer: Patrick Pulupa



Mark
Bradford,
Chair

Mr. Bradford graduated from U.C. Davis with a B.S. degree in Renewable Natural Resources. He served as a Program Director for Ecology & Environment, Inc. in San Francisco from 1979 - 1992, and as a Principal at ERM-West, Inc. (ERM), in Sacramento from 1992 - 2016. His consulting experience in Northern California involved managing large, complex site investigation/ remediation programs, as well as projects addressing compliance, permitting, and environmental management systems for a wide range of government and private sector clients. These services involved complex multidisciplinary teams including Geologists, Hydrogeologists, Engineers, Toxicologists and a variety of other scientific disciplines. Regulatory agency coordination and negotiation was a key component of these programs. Mr. Bradford has extensive expertise in program organization, budgeting, cost control and contract negotiations.

As a Principal at ERM, he managed the Sacramento office and participated in strategic senior management discussions for 24 years during a period of strong growth. He was also the partner in charge of coordinating ERM's US government sector sales and delivery.



Nicholas Avdis, Vice Chair

Nicholas Avdis is a partner with Avdis & Cucchi, LLP in Sacramento, specializing in land use and general real estate matters. He is also a third generation cattle rancher in Sacramento County. His commitment to public service includes serving on the boards of the Capitol Area Development Authority, Reclamation District 1000, and the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency. Mr. Avdis has a B.A. in History from the University of California, Davis and received his J.D. from the UC Davis School of Law (King Hall).



Denise Kadara

Denise Kadara currently serves on the board of the Tulare Basin Wildlife Partners and president of the Allensworth Progressive Association, a non-profit organization serving community needs. Her career spans over 25 years of public service from entry level positions to senior planner, senior management analyst, and consultant for cities in Los Angeles, San Bernardino and San Mateo counties in California. Her expertise includes housing, economic and community planning, policy development and program implementation. She received her education in urban/regional planning and public administration from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona and University of La Verne, La Verne, CA respectively. She is retired and moved to Allensworth in May 2010 with her husband where they now devote their time toward improving the quality of life of residents in the community and other disadvantaged communities. Since 2010, she and her husband have focused on community issues pertaining to water quality, distressed housing, infrastructure, youth/leadership development, environmental justice and economic development. She recently served as a member of the Tulare Lake Basin Disadvantaged Community Water Study - Stakeholders Oversight Advisory Committee (SOAC).



Sean J.
Yang

Sean J. Yang lives in Sacramento and has been a Central Valley resident for over 30 years. He works as a Medical Imaging Specialist for Kaiser Permanente Hospital, where he has been employed since 2016. Yang has been in the medical field for 20 years with four different companies. Yang is a former farmer in the Central Valley who has many friends and family members who farm. As a volunteer, Yang serves as a food delivery driver for Elk Grove Food Bank and is Regional Chair for the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Association. Yang is also a school board member of the Elk Grove Unified School District.

He has a Bachelor of Science degree in Electronics Engineering Technology from DeVry University, and a Master Business of Administration degree from Fresno State University. Yang is married to Ka Bao Yang, and they have two girls and two boys.



Elena Lee
Reader

Elena Lee Reeder of Sacramento, has been appointed to the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. Lee Reeder has been a Trustee of Reclamation District 1000 since 2019, where she has been Vice President since 2020. She was appointed as an Alternate to the Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency in 2019 and as a Sitting Member in 2022. She was a Partner at Leeder Strategies LLC from 2017 to 2020, Press Secretary for the Office of State Assemblymember David Chiu from 2016 to 2017 and Press Secretary and Legislative Aide in the Office of State Assemblymember Cristina Garcia from 2013 to 2016. Lee Reeder was Scheduler and Legislative Aide for the Office of State Senator Leland Yee from 2010 to 2013.

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 6)

Executive Officer: Mike Plaziak



Peter C.
Pumphrey,
Chair

Peter Pumphrey lives near Bishop, California. He is a retired attorney, most recently having been a Deputy District Attorney in the Environmental Prosecutions unit of the San Joaquin County Office of the District Attorney. He is currently the chair of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board. He is an advisor to the Executive Committee of the Environmental Law Section of the State Bar of California. He serves as the conservation chair of the Eastern Sierra Audubon Society, participates in the Bi-state sage grouse working group and is a member of the Lands Committee of the Eastern Sierra Land Trust. He has worked as a volunteer docent with the Eastern Sierra Institute for Collaborative Education. He enjoys being retired and living in the Eastern Sierra where he works in his garden and on art projects and hikes, skis and backpacks in the Sierra backcountry.



Amy Horne,
Ph.D., Vice
Chair

Dr. Amy Horne, Ph.D., J.D., of Truckee, has been a Board Member of the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board since 2003. She recently earned a Juris Doctor degree at the William S. Boyd School of Law, University of Nevada, Las Vegas. While in law school, Horne interned for Senator Harry Reid in Washington, DC, for the Natural Resources Defense Council in San Francisco, and the Delta Water Master at the State Water Resources Control Board. Dr. Horne has worked more than 30 years on issues of natural resource management and policy, emphasizing water, forestry, sustainable development and dispute resolution. As Research Director at the Sierra Business Council from 1998 to 2005, Horne published an innovative guide to sustainable rural economic development. While a Research Forester at the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station from 1993 to 1997, Horne earned awards for the many articles she published about

ecosystem management. Horne earned a Doctor of Philosophy degree in forestry and a Master of Forest Science degree from the Yale School of Forestry and Environmental Studies and a Master of Public Administration degree in natural resource policy and management from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Kimberly
Cox, DPA

Ms. Kimberly Cox, of Helendale, has been a resident of the High Desert (San Bernardino County) since 1985 and was appointed to the Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board in July 2013. Dr. Cox is a Board member at the Mojave Water Agency, has been a State Water Contractor since 2003, and is known as an expert in water management. Currently, Dr. Cox serves as the General Manager for the Helendale Community Services District, a position she has held since 2007. She previously worked in city and federal government and is adjunct faculty at a university. Additionally, Dr. Cox has served on the San Bernardino County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO) representing special districts since 2004. She also represents special districts serving on the San Bernardino County Solid Waste Task Force. She holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Management and a master's degree in Public Administration with an emphasis in Water Resource Management and a Doctorate in Public Administration.



Keith Dyas

Keith Dyas, of Rosamond, has been an environmental and civil engineer at Edwards Air Force Base for 20 years. Previously, he was an engineer at Occidental Petroleum Corp. He has served on many local boards including the Antelope Valley-East Kern Water Agency and the Eastern Kern County Resource Conservation District. Mr. Dyas served as a director of the Rosamond Town Council. Mr. Dyas earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Civil Engineering from Cal Poly, Pomona and a Master of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering from Fresno State University.



Essra
Mostafavi

Ms. Mostafavi is an environmental and urban planner. She is Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Geode Environmental Inc., which she established in 2017. Essra was the Chair of the City of Bishop's Water Commission from 2017 to 2020. She earned a Master of Arts degree in international environmental policy at the Middlebury Institute of International Studies where she specialized in water policy. Prior to environmental and urban planning, Essra served as Acting Country Director in Nigeria for the US Agency for International Development (USAID), overseeing their sustainability projects.

Colorado River Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 7)

Executive Officer: Paula Rasmussen



Edward
Muzik,
Chair

Edward Muzik has served on the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board since 2007. Muzik has been general manager of the Hi-Desert Water District of Yucca Valley since 2007, where he was chief financial officer from 2002 to 2006. He was director of operations and finance at Vicom Systems Inc. from 1993 to 2002 and a controller at Ashford Development from 1990 to 1993 and at Cobble Knoll from 1985 to 1990. Muzik was accounting supervisor at Motorola from 1984 to 1985 and at S and C Electric from 1978 to 1984.



Peter
Satin,
Vice Chair

Peter Satin has held several positions at the Mojave Desert Land Trust since 2017, including director of land management and land stewardship supervisor. He was a wildlife technician at the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Northwest Research Station in 2016, a community health educator for the Peace Corps in Cambodia from 2012 to 2014 and an HIV/AIDS prevention and child survival health extension agent for the Peace Corps in Honduras from 2011 to 2012. Satin earned a Master of Environmental Management

degree in ecosystem science and conservation from the Nicholas School of the Environment at Duke University.



Jayne Powell

Jayne Powell has been an environmental and aggregate resources manager at Granite Construction Inc. since 2007. She was owner and environmental consultant at Resource Recovery Inc. from 2003 to 2006 and an environmental safety and quality manager at Foster Wheeler Environmental Corporation from 1997 to 2003. Powell was an environmental engineering group manager at Dames and Moore from 1990 to 1997 and an environmental manager at the Atlas Powder Company from 1988 to 1990. She is a member of the California Stormwater Quality Association. Powell earned a Master of Science degree in biology from Murray State University.



Nancy Wright

Nancy Wright has served on the Colorado River Basin Regional Water Quality Control Board since 2012, and served from 2000 to 2007. Wright has been co-owner of a General Contracting Company with her husband, since 1977. Wright was co-owner of the Wright Window Company from 1994 to 2014, vice-president of Pete Wright General Contractor, Inc. from 1997 to 2016, and served as a Commissioner of the Riverside County Local Agency Formation Commission (LAFCO), from 2012 to 2022. Wright also served on the Coachella Valley Associations of Government (CVAG), Energy and Environmental Resources Committee and the Coachella Valley Conservation Commission (CVCC), from 2012 to 2022, and was a 34-year member of the Mission Springs Water District Board of Directors from 1988 to 2022.



Beatriz Gonzalez

Beatriz Gonzalez, of Indio, has served as District Coordinator of Expanded Learning Programs at the Coachella Valley Unified School District since 2011 and has served in several positions there since 1995, including Para-Educator for Special Education, Program Specialist for Bright Futures and as a Community Liaison for Healthy Start. She is a

member of the Desert Community College District Board of Trustees.



Vivian
Perez

Vivian Perez, of Holtville, has been Center Manager at Planned Parenthood of the Pacific Southwest since 2016 and a Faculty Member at the University of Phoenix since 2010. She was a Provider Network Consultant at Fresenius Health Partners from 2016 to 2017. Perez was Operations Manager at Fresenius Medical Care North America from 2012 to 2014. She was a Commissioner for the Imperial Valley Housing Authority appointed by the City of Holtville from 1997 to 2013. Perez earned a Master of Public Administration degree from San Diego State University.

Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 8)

Executive Officer: Jayne Joy



Kris
Murray,
Chair

Kristine (Kris) Murray of Anaheim, was appointed to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board in 2018. Ms. Murray is president and chief executive officer at KLM Strategies since 2018 and has more than 25 years of executive management experience, serving public agencies across Southern California. Ms. Murray began her career in Washington, D.C. as a senior legislative aide to U.S. Representative Steve Horn (CA-38). Most recently, Ms. Murray served as an at-large member of the Anaheim City Council serving more than 350,000 residents from 2010 - 2018. During her tenure, she chaired the Orange County Council of Governments Board of Directors, Southern California Water Committee Water Energy Task Force and served on the boards of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG), Association of California Cities–Orange County (ACC-OC), League of California Cities, and Transportation Corridor Agencies. Prior to her service on the city council, she was a member of the Anaheim Public Utilities Commission, serving as Vice-chair of the board.



Letitia Clark, Vice Chair

Letitia Clark of Tustin was appointed to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board in 2020. Ms. Clark is currently District Director of Public Affairs and Government Relations at the South Orange County Community College District since 2018 and previously served as District Director of Public Affairs, Marketing and Government Relations at the Coast Community College District from 2015 to 2018. Ms. Clark has also served as Executive Director and Community Relations Director at the American Academy of Pediatrics, Orange County from 2013 to 2015 and has been a Member of the Tustin City Council since 2016. Ms. Clark earned a Master of Public Policy degree in emergency management from New England College. Ms. Clark's appointment is pending Senate confirmation.



William Ruh

William Ruh of Montclair, CA, was appointed to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board in 2002. Mr. Ruh also has served on the Citrus Valley Association of Realtors as director of governmental affairs since 2001 as a consultant for the State Assembly Select Committee on the Alameda Corridor East since 1999 and has served on the Montclair City Council since 1998. Previously, he served on the Board of Directors for the Monte Vista Water District from 1991 to 1998 and the Planning Commission for the City of Montclair from 1988 to 1998.



Gloria Alvarado

Gloria Alvarado of Santa Ana was appointed to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board in 2021. Ms. Alvarado has been Executive Director at the Orange County Labor Federation since 2017, where she has held several positions since 2010. She was National Immigration Coordinator at the AFL-CIO from 2015 to 2017. Ms. Alvarado has served as a civil servant in various roles at the City of Santa Ana, Parks, Recreation & Community Service Department from 1986 to 2010. Ms. Alvarado's appointment is pending Senate confirmation.

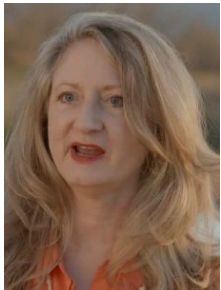


John
Scandura

John Scandura of Huntington Beach was appointed to the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board in 2021. He has been an environmental scientist for over 40 years holding positions in consulting firms and government. John retired from the California Department of Toxic Substances Control in 2019 after 33 years. As a DTSC branch chief he managed staff who oversaw hazardous waste site cleanups in Southern California. John is a Planning Commissioner for Huntington Beach and served previously on the City's Public Works Commission, Community Services Commission, and Environmental Board. He grew up in Ontario, California and has a bachelor's degree in Biological Sciences from U.C. Irvine and a master's degree in Environmental Science and Engineering from the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. John has been married to Denise since 1993 and they have two adult children.

San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board (Region 9)

Executive Officer: David Gibson



Celeste
Cantú,
Chair

Celeste Cantú, of Temecula, was general manager of the Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority from 2006 to 2017. She was executive director of the California State Water Resources Control Board from 2001 to 2006, state director at the U.S. Department of Agriculture Rural Development from 1998 to 2001, executive director at the Imperial Valley Housing Authority from 1978 to 1998 and planning director at the City of Calexico from 1977 to 1978. Cantú currently serves on the Public Policy Institute of California's Water Policy Center Advisory Council, President, Water Education Foundation, Vice President, The Water Foundation, the UC Presidents Advisory Council for Agriculture & Natural Resources and is a UCCE Master Gardener, Riverside County. She is a partner and facilitator for the Water Solutions Network. She earned a Master of Public Administration degree from the Harvard

University, Kennedy School of Government and a BA at Yale University.



Betty Olson,
Vice Chair

Betty H. Olson, of Trabuco Canyon, was appointed to the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board in December 2014. Olson has been a professor at the University of California, Irvine Henry Samueli School of Engineering's Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering since 2006. She was a professor at the University of California, Irvine School of Social Ecology from 1974 to 2006. Olson is president of the Santa Margarita Water District Board of Directors and a member of the Orange County Water Association and the Association of California Water Agencies. She earned Doctor of Philosophy and Master of Science degrees in environmental health science from the University of California, Berkeley.



Eric Anderson

Eric Anderson, of Elfin Forest, is vice president of La Costa Flower Shop and Nursery, a horticulture business, which specializes in the production, harvest, breeding, and processing of ornamental seeds and seedlings. He is serving as director of the San Diego County Farm Bureau and was president from 1996-1998. He also has served on the County of San Diego Sunset Review Commission and on the Resource Protection Review Committee. Mr. Anderson has served on the Elfin Forrest Harmony Grove Town Council. He is a past President of the San Diego Flower and Plant Association and a member of the International Palm Society. Mr. Anderson earned a bachelor of science degree from California State Polytechnic University, Pomona.



Megan Blair

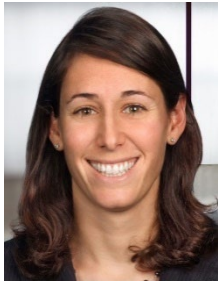
Megan Blair, of San Diego, has been chief development officer at the San Diego Public Library Foundation since 2008. She was capital campaign and major gifts manager at Girl Scouts, San Diego – Imperial Council from 2007 to 2008, where she was a fund development associate from 2006 to 2007. Blair was a development associate and environmental analyst at Save the Harbor, Save the Bay from 2003 to 2005. She is a member of the United Way of San Diego Board of

Directors, Women Give San Diego and the Junior League of San Diego.



Gary
Strawn

Gary Strawn, of Santee, is a retired aerospace program manager. He worked for Hamilton Sundstrand Power Systems in San Diego from 1988 to 2006, after serving as an officer in the U.S. Navy from 1968 to 1988. Mr. Strawn is a member of Trout Unlimited, San Diego Fly Fishers, San Diego River Park Foundation, San Diego Stream Team, California Golden Trout and Southern California Steelhead Recovery Projects and Friends of Santee River Park. Mr. Strawn has a bachelors degree from San Jose State University and a Master of Science degree from the U.S. Naval Postgraduate School.



Stefanie
Warren

Stefanie Warren, of San Diego, was appointed to the San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board in July 2013. Warren has been an attorney at McKenna Long and Aldridge LLP since 2006. She was a law clerk for the Honorable Irma E. Gonzalez from 2005 to 2006. Warren earned a Juris Doctorate degree from Emory University, School of Law.