

SUPERIOR ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD

October 2025

EMPLOYEE: Joshua G. Mahoney

UNIT: Oil Field Unit 1

TITLE: Water Resource Control Engineer

SUPERVISOR/TITLE: Rebecca Asami, Senior Engineering Geologist

Oil Field Unit No. 1 is essentially a permitting and enforcement program. The permits that get adopted for our program are technically complex, and involve constant communication with dischargers, consultants, and the public (especially getting close to adoption). In the past year, Josh was the lead technical staff on getting five permits (or "waste discharge requirements") vetted, adopted, or amended, and getting several monitoring programs revised. This is a heavy lift considering that an application for a permit is often hundreds of pages long, full of highly complicated technical information, and takes months to review.

During the June Board meeting of the Central Valley Water Board, two permits were adopted under Josh's oversight- an amended set of waste discharge requirements, and a new set of individual waste discharge requirements. This is a major accomplishment considering that the permits allow for oil field produced wastewater to irrigate crops- a subject that in the past has drawn much public attention. Josh has both the technical and communicative chops to get complicated projects like these over the finish line while keeping the public's mind at ease, and protecting the environment, human health, and water quality. Thanks to Josh both permits were adopted as uncontested- which meant getting the permits adopted efficiently and in a much shorter time frame than other permits. Getting the permits adopted as uncontested not only saves the state staff time but also shows that the public has faith in the work and expertise in our agency. The Board (and our unit in particular) benefit greatly from Josh's regulatory knowledge, technical expertise, and dedication to his work. For these projects and all of Josh's work, he is deserving of a Superior Accomplishment Award.