

State of California  
Regional Water Quality Control Board  
North Coast Region

**Minutes of Meeting**

9:00 A.M., Thursday, May 7, 2026  
9:00 A.M., Friday, May 8, 2026  
Eureka City Hall, City Council Chambers  
531 K Street, Room 208  
Eureka, CA 95501

**Thursday, May 7, 2026**

**Video recordings of Board meetings (since 2/2019) are available at:**  
[Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](https://cal-span.org/) (https://cal-span.org/)

**Audio recordings of Board meetings (11/2018 and before) are available at:**  
[Prior Board Meeting Audio recordings](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/)  
(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board\_info/board\_meetings/)

i. **Pledge of Allegiance:** Chair Hart led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ii. **Roll Call and Introductions:**

Board Members present: Alex Hart, Jake Mackenzie, Hector Bedolla, Gregory Giusti, Dale Romanini, Molli Myers

Regional Water Board staff present: Valerie Quinto, Nathan Jacobsen Bayley Toft- Dupuy, Claudia Villacorta, Josh Curtis, Emma Cianfichi, Elizabeth Pope, Katharine Carter, Jake Shannon, Lance Le, and Jim Burke

iii. **Board Member Reports:** No Board Member Report was made.

iv. **Board Chair's Report:** No Chair's report was made.

vi. **Public Forum:** Comments were received from the following members of the public:

- Sylvia Van Royen
- Vivian Helliwell (Thursday and Friday)
- Alicia Williams
- Andy Colonna (Friday)
- Ethan St. Clair (Friday)

Specific comments can be reviewed on [Cal-Span's Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](http://cal-span.org) (<http://cal-span.org>).

1. Approval of Meeting Minutes: April

**Motion:** Vice Chair Mackenzie moved to adopt the April 15, 2026 Board Meeting minutes; Board Member Bedolla seconded the motion; Chair Hart initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla	aye
Guisti	aye
Romanini	aye
Myers	aye
Mackenzie	aye
Hart	aye

**Motion passed unanimously**

### **Information Item**

2. Upper Elk River Sediment TMDL Stewardship Update (*Elizabeth Pope*)

Elizabeth Pope, Senior Environmental Scientist, presented to the board. Her presentation included a watershed orientation, TMDL background and action plan overview, board updates, a review of past, present, and future initiatives, a focused stewardship update, and a summary of next steps.

Staff responded to comments and questions from the Board.

## Action Items

3. Public Hearing to Consider Adoption of proposed Order No. R1-2026-0015, revised Waste Discharge Requirements for Humboldt Redwood Company in the Upper Elk River Watershed (*Jim Burke*)

Jim Burke, Senior Engineering Geologist, presented to the board proposed Order No. R1-2026-0015, revised Waste Discharge Requirements for Humboldt Redwood Company in the Upper Elk River Watershed. The presentation outlined TMDL implementation via WDRs, an overview of the Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs), proposed WDR revisions, the monitoring and reporting program, public comment, and questions and answers.

Staff responded to comments and questions from the Board.

Permittee Mike Miles, Registered Professional Forester, Vice President Dennis Thibeault, and Lead Hydrologist Collin Roland of Humboldt Redwood Company presented a short video highlighting company ownerships, restoration efforts, large wood placement, habitat improvement projects, forestry practices, and road management activities intended to support watershed conservation and reduce sediment impacts.

After the video, the Permittee highlighted additional partnerships supporting watershed restoration and habitat improvement efforts. They also discussed the need to continue operations during the fall season and the reasoning supporting those operational activities.

The Permittee responded to questions from staff.

Comments were received from the following members of the public:

- Jerry Martien
- Katy Gurin
- Tom Wheeler
- Vivian Helliwell
- Kristi Wrigley
- Jesse Noel
- Karley Rojas
- Zach Erkiuson
- Andy Colonna

Specific comments can be reviewed on [Cal-Span's Prior Board Meeting Video recordings](http://cal-span.org/) (<http://cal-span.org/>).

**Motion:** Vice Chair Mackenzie moved to adopt resolution R1-2026-0011. Board member Romanini seconded the motion; After board discussion, Chair Hart initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla	nay
Guisti	nay
Romanini	aye
Myers	nay
Mackenzie	aye
Hart	nay

**Motion failed**

## **Friday, May 8th, 2026 – 9:00 a.m.**

vii. Pledge of Allegiance

viii. Roll Call and Introductions

Board Members present:

Alex Hart, Jake Mackenzie, Hector Bedolla, Gregory Giusti, Dale Romanini, Molli Myers

Regional Water Board staff present:

Valerie Quinto, Nathan Jacobsen Bayley Toft- Dupuy, Claudia Villacorta, Josh Curtis, Emma Cianfichi, Matt St. John, Justin McSmith, and Mona Dougherty

### **V. State Board Liaison's and Executive Officer's Reports:**

Dorene D'Adamo, the State Water Resources Control Board liaison to Region 1, provided an update via Zoom. Highlights of her report include the following: work on the Shasta Range baseline flows study is ongoing and the Agricultural Expert Panel expects to release its final report in early June. Water Rights Enforcement has

issued approximately 200 notices to water rights holders who failed to submit diversion reports. Comments on the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Intended Use Plan are due May 27, and that CalEPA is holding a series of workgroup meetings focused on addressing vapor intrusion at contaminated sites.

## Information Items

4. Update on the North Coast Regional Synthesis Report of California's Fifth Climate Assessment (*Dr. Rosemary Sherriff and Dr. Andrew Stubblefield, CalPoly Humboldt*)

Rosemary Sherriff and Andrew Stubblefield, professors at Cal Poly Humboldt, presented to the board. The presentation included climate science and sea level rise (SLR), natural and working lands water systems, built systems, and social systems.

Dr. Rosemary Sherriff and Dr. Andrew Stubblefield responded to questions from the board.

Staff responded to questions from the board.

6. Update on Removing Receiving Water Limits from National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Wastewater Permits (*Mona Dougherty*)

Mona Dougherty, P.E. Senior Water Resource Control Engineer and Bayley Toft-Dupuy Attorney IV, Office of Chief Council presented to the board. The presentation included an overview of the NPDES wastewater program, background on receiving water limitations, overview of City and County of San Francisco v. EPA and the impact on NPDES permits.

Staff responded to questions from the board.

## Uncontested Items

Uncontested items may be removed at the request of any Board member or person. If an item is removed from the uncontested calendar for discussion, it will only be voted on at this meeting if no significant changes are made to the agenda item. Otherwise, the item will be continued to a subsequent board meeting to allow input from interested persons.

7. Public Hearing on Order No. R1-2026-0014 to consider for adoption of proposed National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit and Waste Discharge

Requirements for California State Polytechnic University, Humboldt, Telonicher Marine Laboratory (*Justin McSmith*)

**Motion:** Vice Chair Mackenzie moved to adopt all uncontested items. Board Member Bedolla seconded the motion; Chair Hart initiated a roll-call vote:

Bedolla	aye
Guisti	aye
Romanini	aye
Myers	aye
Mackenzie	aye
Hart	aye

**Motion passed unanimously**

## Information Items

### 8. Executive Officer's Report (*Valerie Quinto*)

Executive Officer Valerie Quinto highlighted some aspects of the written report provided, including the implementation of Green Diamond waste discharge requirements and a preview of general waste discharge requirements for closed landfills. She reported a board workshop was added on July 23<sup>rd</sup> for public Workshop on Draft Water Code Section 13267 Informational Order Directing Applicable Landowners in the Gualala River Watershed to Submit Technical Reports Pertaining to the Inventory, Assessment, and Prioritization of Ownership-Wide Road-Related Sediment Sources.

### 9. Board Member Requests for Future Agenda Items and Other Items of Interest (*Valerie Quinto*)

There were no requests for future agenda items from the board.

### 10. Arrangements for Next Meeting and Adjournment

9:00 a.m., Tuesday, June 16, 2026, and  
5550 Skylane Blvd, Ste A  
Santa Rosa, CA 95403

**Meeting adjourned at 11:09 A.M.**