

California

A DOZEN THINGS YOU NEVER KNEW ABOUT THE CALIFORNIA WATER BOARDS



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD & REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

Introduction

The “California Water Boards” are state government departments that protect and enhance the quality of our state’s waters for present and future generations. The California Water Boards are made up of the State Water Resources Control Board, along with the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards. The State Water Board develops statewide policy and regulations for water quality control and allocates water rights. The Regional Water Boards provide local implementation of policy and regulations, develop long-range plans for their areas, issue waste discharge permits and take enforcement actions against violators. While some of these activities are more well-known than others, all are essential to providing California individuals, families, farmers, cities, industry and the environment with water needed to keep our state healthy and productive. Water is precious to all people and the Water Boards are proud to be protectors of this critical resource.



We carry out the Federal and State Clean Water Acts which protect the quality of nearly 1.6 million acres of lakes, 1.3 million acres of bays and estuaries, 211,000 miles of rivers and streams, and about 1,100 miles of coastline.



We work with communities and organizations around the state to protect California's water resources for present and future generations. We safeguard the right of Californians to clean water for all needs – such as drinking, bathing, boating, swimming, farming, manufacturing, and environmental uses.



Through education and out- reach
we improve the public's understanding
and knowledge of the importance of water quality and
the role we all can play to protect our resources.





We take enforcement actions
against those who violate federal and state
environmental laws and regulations.





We have allocated billions of dollars for the construction of sewage treatment plants throughout California and we certify that sewage treatment plant operators are trained and able to protect the public's health and the environment.

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We distribute millions of dollars in bond money and state revolving fund money to communities for water quality protection, including water quality planning, treatment of stormwater, and clean beaches.



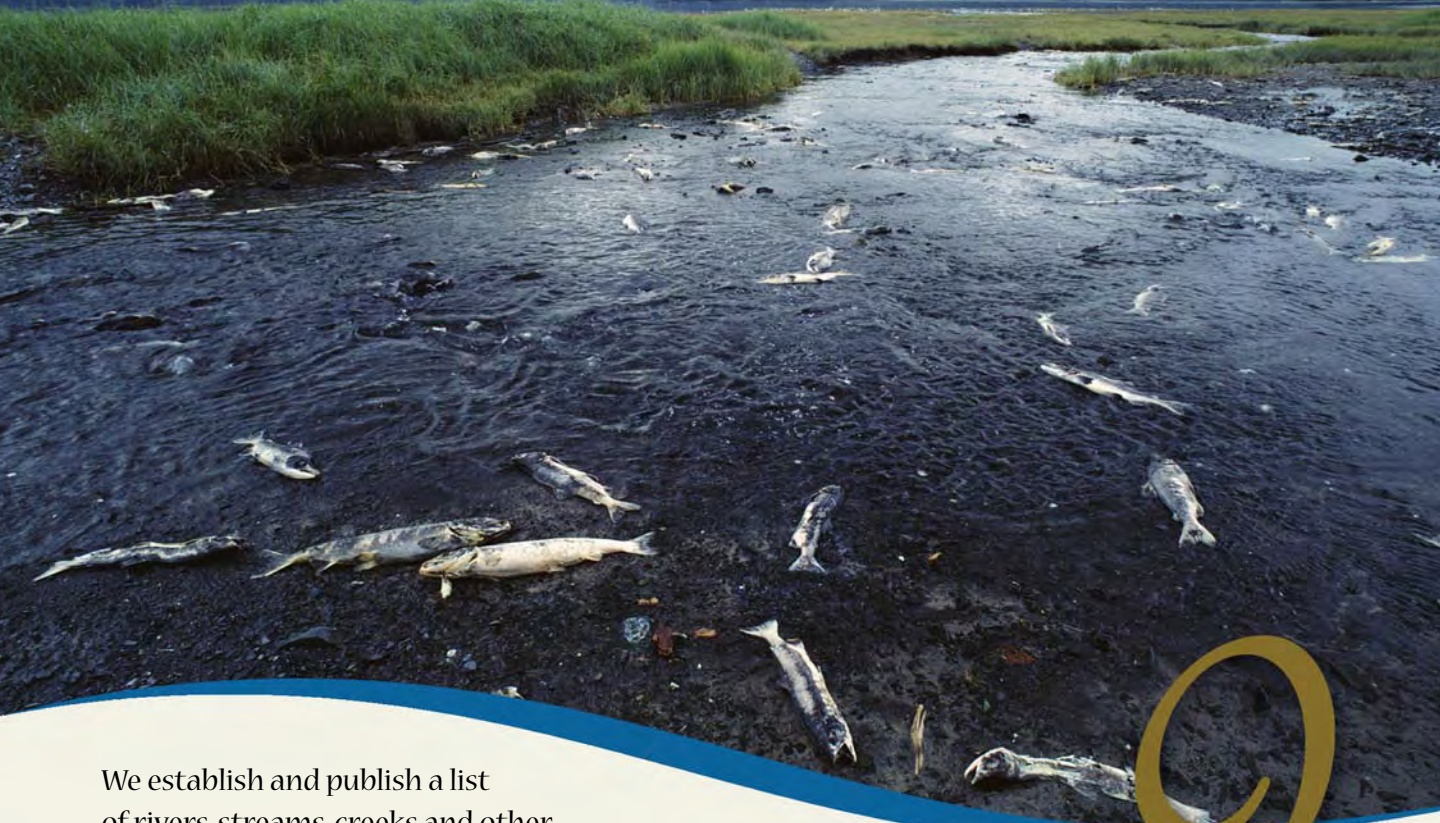


We administer the Water Rights system to make sure that the state's water resources are developed, conserved and utilized equitably and that vested rights, water quality and the environment are safeguarded.



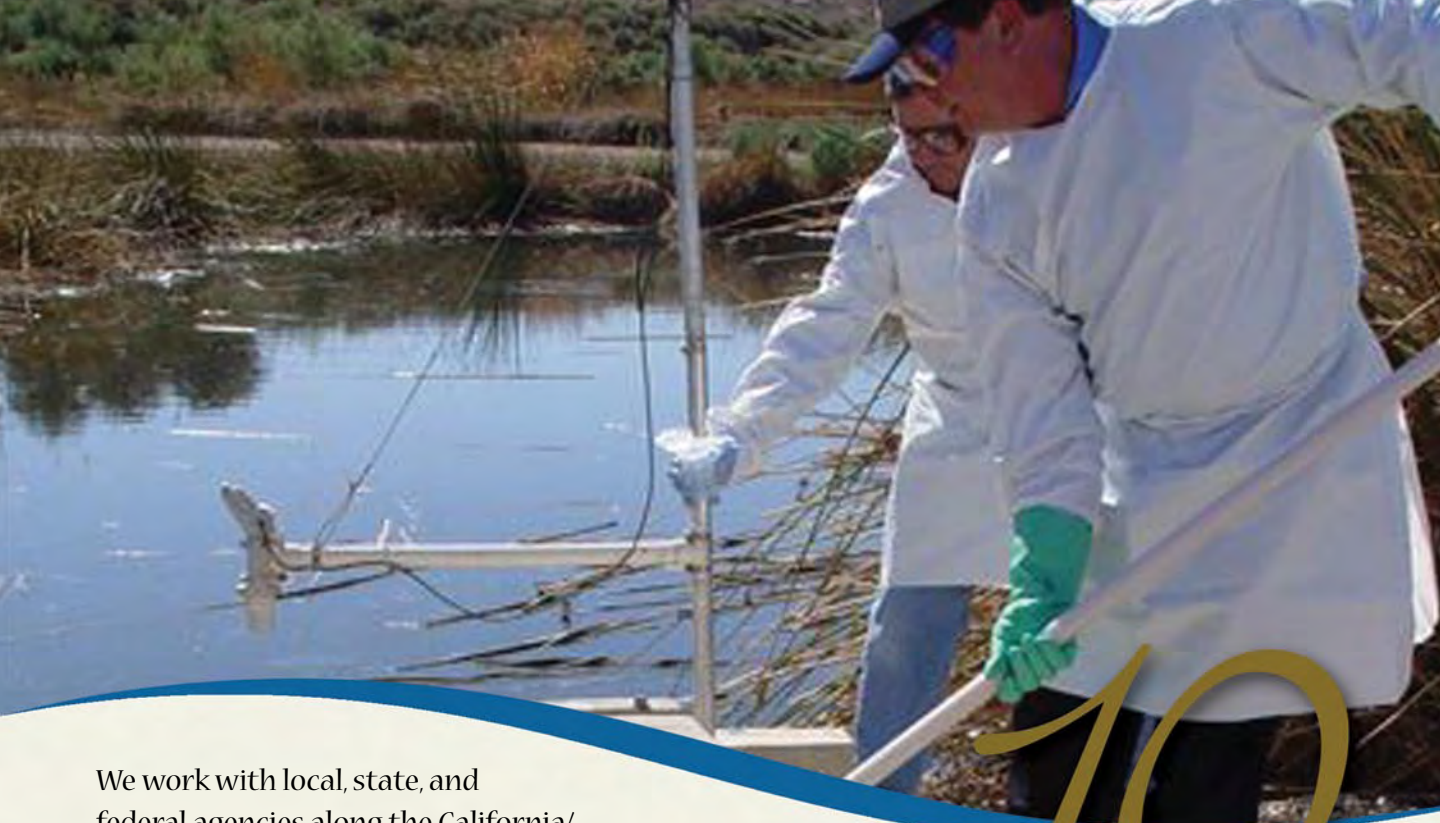
We are California scientists, engineers, biologists and geologists with top scientific and technical training. We make science-based decisions about water quality and water rights and we never forget that we work for the people of California.





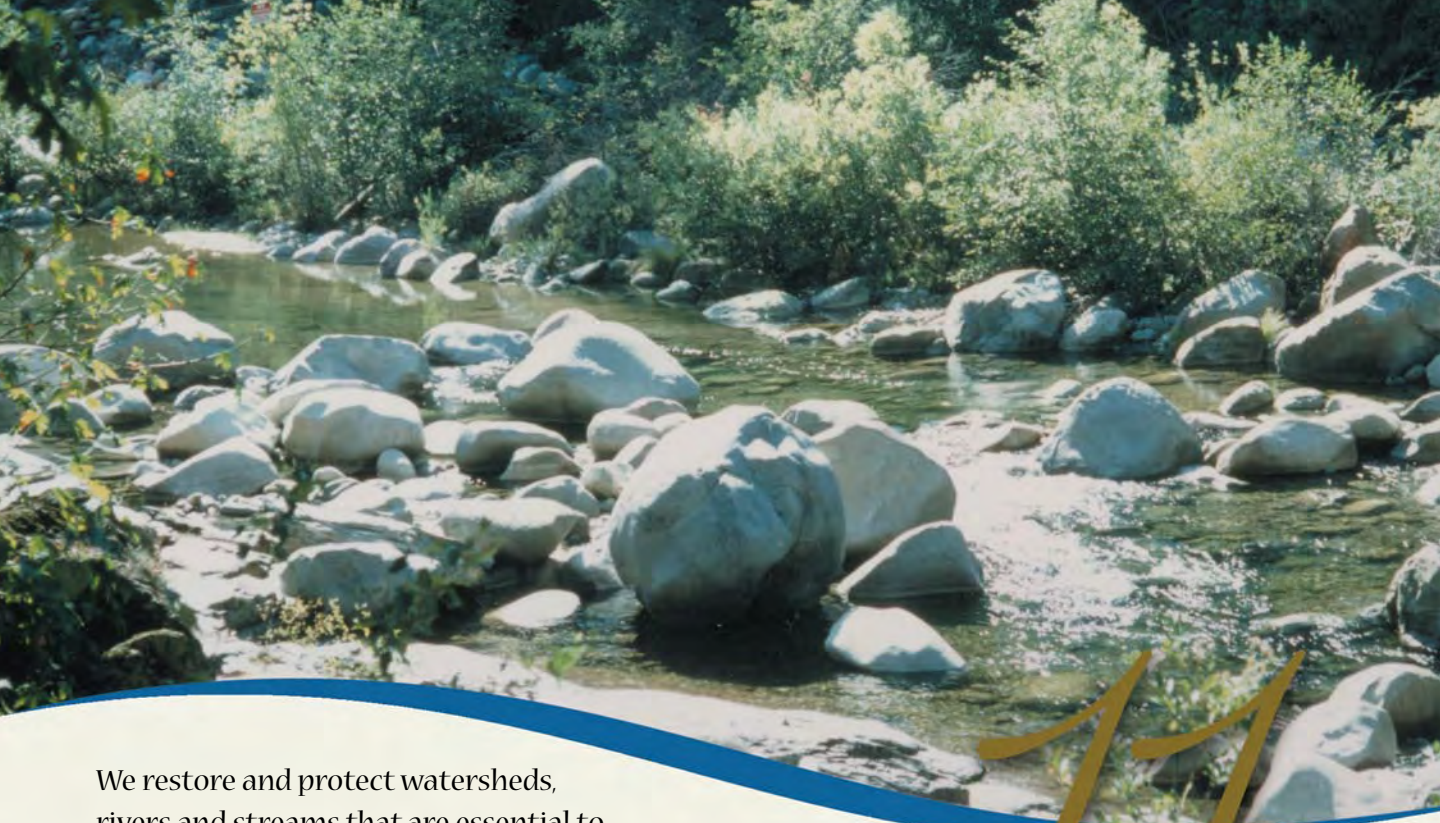
We establish and publish a list of rivers, streams, creeks and other water bodies that do not meet federal water quality standards, develop plans to restore their water quality, and direct the implementation of those plans.





We work with local, state, and federal agencies along the California/Mexico border to ensure that water quality issues, including wastewater and the Salton Sea, are addressed.

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We restore and protect watersheds,
rivers and streams that are essential to
California fisheries, recreation, wildlife preservation,
and the economy.





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We protect the state's unique and precious water resources, including Areas of Special Biological Significance on the California coast, such as sections of Carmel, San Diego, and Santa Catalina. Our work includes monitoring, identification of pollution sources, and funding for restoration.

Protecting Water Quality Through:

Regulation and Enforcement of: aquatic pesticides, biosolids, brownfields, groundwater pollution, activities affecting wetlands, dredge and fill, stormwater runoff, irrigated agriculture, construction runoff, septic tanks, sanitary sewer systems, underground tanks, timber harvesting, landfills, nonpoint source pollution, mines, and discharges to rivers, lakes, bays, and the ocean.

Financial Assistance for: construction of wastewater treatment plants, nonpoint source control, clean beaches, agricultural discharge monitoring and reduction, water recycling, stormwater control, repair and replacement of underground storage tanks, and watershed management.

Monitoring Programs: Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment Program and the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program.

Coordinating Efforts: environmental justice, environmental education, Ocean Protection Council, public participation, U.S. - Mexico Border Affairs, Climate Action Team, and Bay Delta.



Protecting Water Rights Through:

- **Regulation and Enforcement of Water Rights**
- **Water Rights Adjudications**
- **Bay Delta Planning**
- **Instream Flow Studies**

State Water Resources Control Board

P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100

www.waterboards.ca.gov

Office of Legislative Affairs: (916) 341-5251 · Office of Public Affairs: (916) 341-5254 · Financial Assistance: (916) 341-5700 · Water Quality: (916) 341-5455 · Water Rights: (916) 341-5300



Regional Water Resources Control Boards

NORTH COAST REGION (1)
www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast
5550 Skylane Blvd., Suite A
Santa Rosa, CA 95403
info1@waterboards.ca.gov
(707) 576-2220 TEL · (707) 523-0135 FAX

SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION (2)
www.waterboards.ca.gov/sanfranciscobay
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612
info2@waterboards.ca.gov
(510) 622-2300 TEL · (510) 622-2460 FAX

CENTRAL COAST REGION (3)
www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralcoast
895 Aerovista Place, Suite 101
San Luis Obispo, CA 93401
info3@waterboards.ca.gov
(805) 549-3147 TEL · (805) 543-0397 FAX

LOS ANGELES REGION (4)
www.waterboards.ca.gov/losangeles
320 W. 4th Street, Suite 200
Los Angeles, CA 90013
info4@waterboards.ca.gov
(213) 576-6600 TEL · (213) 576-6640 FAX

CENTRAL VALLEY REGION (5)
www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley
11020 Sun Center Drive, Suite 200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
info5@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 464-3291 TEL · (916) 464-4645 FAX

Fresno branch office
1685 E Street, Suite 200
Fresno, CA 93706
(559) 445-5116 TEL · (559) 445-5910 FAX

Redding branch office
415 Knollcrest Drive
Redding, CA 96002
(530) 224-4845 TEL · (530) 224-4857 FAX

LAHONTAN REGION (6)
www.waterboards.ca.gov/lahontan
2501 Lake Tahoe Blvd.
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150
info6@waterboards.ca.gov
(530) 542-5400 TEL · (530) 544-2271 FAX

Victorville branch office
14440 Civic Drive, Suite 200
Victorville, CA 92392
(760) 241-6583 TEL · (760) 241-7308 FAX

COLORADO RIVER BASIN REGION (7)
www.waterboards.ca.gov/coloradoriver
73-720 Fred Waring Dr., Suite 100
Palm Desert, CA 92260
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(760) 346-7491 TEL · (760) 341-6820 FAX

SANTA ANA REGION (8)
www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana
California Tower
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501-3339
info8@waterboards.ca.gov
(951) 782-4130 TEL · (951) 781-6288 FAX

SAN DIEGO REGION (9)
www.waterboards.ca.gov/sandiego
9174 Sky Park Court, Suite 100
San Diego, CA 92123
info9@waterboards.ca.gov
(858) 467-2952 TEL · (858) 571-6972 FAX

THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD IS A
DEPARTMENT OF THE CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION AGENCY. ITS MISSION IS TO PROTECT
& ENHANCE THE QUALITY OF OUR STATE'S WATERS
FOR PRESENT AND FUTURE GENERATIONS.

For further information, contact us at: State Water Resources Control Board

Office of Legislative Affairs

1001 I Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • (916) 341-5251

<http://www.waterboards.ca.gov>



CALIFORNIA

Water Boards

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STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD & REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS**