

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

 California Environmental Protection Agency

## WATER BOARDS STRATEGIC PLANNING REGIONAL WORKSHOPS



***Water Boards Vision: A sustainable California made possible by clean water and water availability for both human uses and environmental resource protection.***

***Water Boards Mission: To preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.***





# AGENDA

## WATER BOARDS STRATEGIC PLANNING REGIONAL WORKSHOPS

### CUSTOM INFORMATION FOR EACH REGION INDIVIDUAL TIMES AND LOCATIONS

**Meeting Purpose & Goal:** Provide input to the Water Boards on updating their Strategic Plan, including input on trends, priorities, and regional variation/statewide consistency.

#	Time	Item	Presenter
1.	30 min	Opening Session <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Welcome Remarks</li> <li>▪ Introductions and Announcements</li> <li>▪ Overview of the Boards' Planning Process and Goals for the Meeting</li> <li>▪ Ground Rules, Agenda Review</li> </ul>	<i>Regional Board Chair, Meeting Facilitators</i>
2.	2 – 2.5 hrs	Concepts Brought Forward From Previous Strategic Plan and Statewide Summits. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Context and History</li> <li>▪ Mission, Vision, Principles</li> <li>▪ Trends</li> <li>▪ Strategic Priorities and Measurement of Success</li> </ul>	<b>All</b>
3.	20 min	Regional and Statewide variation	<b>All</b>
4.	10 min	Summary/Next Steps	<i>Meeting Facilitators</i>
5.		Adjourn	<i>Regional Board Chair</i>

## OVERVIEW OF THE BOARDS' PLANNING PROCESS



The Water Boards' Strategic Plan is being updated. Part of the planning process includes engaging all Water Boards stakeholders and staff to discuss:

- **Water quality trends and issues**
- **Water rights trends and issues**
- **Priority Water Boards strategic actions**
- **Meaningful performance measures**

Three different types of forums have been scheduled to gather perspectives. These are:

### **Statewide External Stakeholder Summit**

A representative group of approximately 80 statewide stakeholders was convened on March 12-13 in Sacramento. The invitation list included Board leadership, environmental organizations, the regulated community, government agencies, associations, and legislators.

### **Staff Statewide Summit**

State and Regional Water Board delegates met in Sacramento on April 16-17.

### **Regional Public Workshops**

Regional public workshops (one per Regional Water Board) are being conducted in April, May, and June to obtain regional perspectives on key issues and provide input on information received during the statewide summits.

### **Plan Approval and Implementation Process**

A policy-level strategic plan draft reflecting the input received through the various forums will be presented for adoption to the Water Boards' Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC) around mid-year. The WQCC is comprised of the State and Regional Water Board chairs and members. An implementation plan will be prepared in the later half of 2007.

## GROUND RULES

There will be many opportunities for workshop participants to engage in group discussion. Participants are asked to subscribe to several key agreements to allow for productive outcomes.

### USE COMMON CONVERSATIONAL COURTESY

*Don't interrupt; use appropriate language, no third party discussions, etc.*

### ALL IDEAS AND POINTS OF VIEW HAVE VALUE

*You may hear something you do not agree with or you think is "not practical" or "wrong." Please remember that the purpose of the workshop is to share ideas. All ideas have value in this setting. The goal is to achieve understanding. Simply listen, you do not have to agree, defend or advocate.*

### HONOR TIME

*We have an ambitious agenda, in order to meet our goals it will be important to follow the time guidelines given by the facilitator.*

### HUMOR IS WELCOME

*BUT humor should never be at someone else's expense.*

### BE COMFORTABLE

*Please feel free to help yourself to refreshments or take personal breaks. If you have other needs please let a facilitator know.*

### SPELLING DOESN'T COUNT

*Recent research indicates that writing on a vertical surface (like blackboards or flipcharts) actually increases the number of spelling errors.*

### CELL PHONE COURTESY

*Most of the participants have demanding responsibilities outside of the meeting room. We ask that these responsibilities be left at the door. Your attention is needed for the full meeting. Please turn cell phones, or any other communication item with an on/off switch to "silent." If you do not believe you will be able to participate fully, please discuss your situation with one of the facilitators.*

### USE THE MICROPHONE

*We are in a large room with varying acoustics. Please use a microphone so that others can hear you.*

### AVOID EDITORIALS

*It will be tempting to analyze the motives of others or offer editorial comments. Please talk about YOUR ideas and thoughts.*

### OTHER?



## WORKING IN GROUPS

You will spend most of the workshop working in groups. As a group you will be asked to analyze or develop ideas, keep track of the issues you develop and then make a report to the larger group. Each group will need:

**Facilitators/ Leaders:** Facilitators will be available to work with most of the groups. In the event a facilitator is not available, one or more members should ensure that the group stays with the assigned task and that all participants have an opportunity to share ideas. This person and all group members should ensure use of the ground rules.



**Recorder:** Ideas will be shared on flipcharts. Information from the charts will be used to make reports AND used later to transcribe the proceedings of the meeting. Ask the facilitators if you need help with this. For each set of questions please:

- A. Note the issue being addressed
- B. Number the pages
- C. Prepare Summary Sheet for the reporter

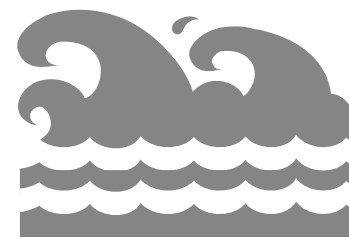
**Reporter:** Someone will report on behalf of the full group.

- Will summarize conclusions from Flip Charts
- Should not be a Board member or staff
- Must speak into microphone
- Limit presentation to time allotted by Large Group Facilitator

**Time Keeper:** All activities will involve specific blocks of time. In order to complete tasks, one group member needs to keep track of time.

**Personal Worksheets:** In addition to the group notes, you may wish to make more in-depth individual or organizational comments. Extra workbooks will be available in each group to do this. These may also be turned in at the end of the session. If you are willing to include your name and contact information, it will help the person preparing the notes in the event they have questions.

## WATER BOARD HISTORY AND CONTEXT



The Water Boards have an extraordinary history linking back to pre-statehood. Over time the roles and responsibilities of the Boards evolved as the state became more populated and California claimed its place as an international economic power. At the Statewide Summit, participants talked about the Boards' History.

### **About The Water Boards**

Water is an essential lifeline for agriculture, industry, the environment and urban and rural interests throughout the state. With a growing population of more than 35 million and a limited supply of fresh water, the protection of water for beneficial uses is of paramount concern for all Californians. The California Water Boards are responsible for protecting California's water resources.

State and Regional Water Boards work together to protect California's water resources. Created by the Dickey Water Pollution Act, the Regional Water Boards have been responsible for protecting the surface, ground and coastal waters of their regions since 1949. In 1967, the State Water Rights Board and the State Water Quality Control Board were merged to create the State Water Board, integrating water rights and water quality decision-making authority.

Nine semi-autonomous Regional Water Boards are comprised of nine part-time Governor-appointed Board members. Each Regional Board makes critical water quality decisions for its region. These decisions include setting standards, issuing waste discharge requirements, determining compliance with those requirements, and taking appropriate enforcement actions.

The State Water Board's role in protecting water quality includes setting statewide policy, coordinating and supporting Regional Water Board efforts, and reviewing petitions of Regional Board actions. The State Water Board alone is responsible for allocating surface water rights. The State Water Board is organized into four divisions that address water quality, water rights, financial assistance, and administrative functions. These functions support not only the State Water Board, but also the nine Regional Water Boards. The five full-time Governor appointed Board members are responsible for setting statewide water policy.

### **Some Significant Events in Board History**

<p><b>1850's- 1890's</b></p>	<p><b>1850</b> – Common Law Riparian Rights established Balancing gold rush, navigation and agricultural needs  <b>1872</b> – Doctrine of Appropriative Rights established  <b>1886</b> – “California Doctrine” established that two rights, riparian and appropriative, exist in a single stream</p>
<p><b>1900's - 1950's</b></p>	<p><b>1913</b> Water Commission Act --Water Rights Commission to regulate the use of water  <b>1923</b> – Water Commission Act amended to limit appropriation of water by permit only  <b>1943</b> – California Water Code established  <b>1949</b> Dickey Water Pollution Act creates State Water Pollution Control Board and nine Regional Water Boards  <b>1956</b> - State Water Rights Board created in the same legislation creating the Department of Water Resources</p>

<b>1960's</b>	<p>Environmental movement changes attitudes about water</p> <p><b>1963</b> – State Water Pollution Control Board renamed State Water Quality Control Board and strengthened to address broader scope than just sewage and industrial waste control</p> <p><b>1967</b> "State Water Quality Control Board" and "State Water Rights Board" merged. "State Water Resources Control Board" created</p> <p><b>1968</b> – SWRCB Resolution 68-16 enacted for maintaining high quality waters (anti-degradation)</p> <p><b>1969</b> Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act</p>
<b>1970's</b>	<p><b>1972</b> Federal Clean Water Act –</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Established national secondary treatment standard</li> <li>• Established National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES)</li> <li>• Established Construction Grants Program</li> </ul> <p><b>1977</b> – Water Board issues emergency conservation measures to protect Bay-Delta following 1977 drought</p> <p><b>1978</b> – Water Right Decision 1485 and Water Quality Control Plan issued for Bay-Delta</p>
<b>1980's</b>	<p>WWII Vets begin to retire</p> <p><b>1983</b> – Legislation enacted to address leaking underground storage tanks (UST)</p> <p><b>1985</b> – UST regulations adopted establishing tank construction standards, monitoring, and reporting releases</p> <p><b>1987</b> – Amendments to the Federal Clean Water Act</p> <p><b>1987</b> -Established State Revolving Loan Fund (SRF) Program</p> <p><b>1988</b> – Sources of Drinking Water Policy adopted</p> <p><b>1989</b> – Statute establishes UST Cleanup Fund for financial assistance and insurance purposes</p>
<b>1990's</b>	<p><b>1990</b> – USEPA enacts Phase I of the Storm Water program</p> <p><b>1995</b> – Bay Delta Water Quality Control Plan adopted</p> <p><b>1996</b> – Ground Water Cleanup and Containment Zone Policy adopted</p> <p><b>1997</b> – Joint State Water Board/Integrated Waste Management Board Title 27 regulations for discharges to Land adopted to streamline permitting process for non-hazardous landfills</p> <p><b>1999</b> – Bay-Delta Decision 1641 adopted</p> <p><b>1999</b> – USEPA enacts Phase II of the Storm Water Program</p> <p><b>1999</b> – SB 390 requires review of waivers or reissuance as Waste Discharge Requirements</p>
<b>2000's</b>	<p><b>2000</b>- 35 million people in California - State Water Board, has about 700 staff members and 1,000 staff members in nine regions and 12 regional locations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Bay-Delta Decision 1641 revised</li> <li>▪ Mandatory Minimum Penalties enacted by statute</li> <li>▪ USEPA issues California Toxics Rule (CTR)</li> <li>▪ State Water Board adopts State Implementation Plan (SIP) for CTR</li> </ul> <p><b>2002</b> – Water Quality Enforcement policy adopted</p> <p><b>2003</b> – Cal/EPA Advisory Committee publishes recommendations on Environmental Justice</p> <p><b>2004</b> – Listing Policy adopted for California Clean Water Act Section 303(d) lists</p> <p>– Nonpoint Source Pollution Control Policy adopted</p>

## **WATER BOARD VISION, MISSION, PRINCIPLES AND VALUES**

***Water Boards Vision: A sustainable California made possible by clean water and water availability for both human uses and environmental resource protection.***

***Water Boards Mission: To preserve, enhance and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.***

### ***Water Boards Principles and Values***

As we strive to realize our vision of the future, all our actions and efforts will be guided by a certain set of values:

- **Protection:** We are responsible for the protection of California's water resources.
- **Service:** We serve the public as a whole. Our job is to protect water for beneficial uses, and to assure that pollution, misuse and over allocation do not impair those uses, now and in the future.
- **Integrity:** We continually earn the trust of those we serve, making an active commitment to truth, accuracy and fairness, including a commitment to environmental justice.
- **Leadership:** California strives to be a national and international leader in innovative approaches to water resource protection. We foster and recognize leadership actions at all levels of our organization.
- **Professionalism:** We are professionals committed to our mission and vision. We provide career development and professional growth opportunities for our staff.

### ***Water Boards Desired Conditions***

- #1: The Boards' organizations are effective, innovative and responsive
- #2: Surface waters are safe for drinking, fishing, swimming, and support healthy ecosystems and other beneficial uses
- #3: Groundwater is safe for drinking and other beneficial uses
- #4: Water resources are fairly and equitably used and allocated consistent with public trust
- #5: Individuals and other stakeholders support our efforts and understand their role in contributing to water quality
- #6: Water quality is comprehensively measured to evaluate protection and restoration efforts



## PLANNING FRAMEWORK

The Water Boards will utilize the State of California Department of Finance Strategic Planning Guidelines to prepare their strategic plan. The guidelines outline what elements the plan should contain and provide standard definitions for key features.

- **Vision.** A compelling, conceptual, vivid image of the desired future. A vision focuses and ennobles an idea about a future state of being in such a way as to excite and compel an agency toward its attainment.
- **Mission.** The agency's unique reason for existence; the overarching goal for the agency's existence, usually contained within a formal statement of purpose and statute. Program and subprogram level statements can also be developed.
- **Principles and Values** The agency's core values and philosophies describing how the agency conducts itself in carrying out its mission.

The Desired Conditions are the long term goals or outcomes of implementing the Vision and mission. They are generally stable, but could change with new information or organizational emphasis.

As an individual, spend a few minutes reviewing the Water Boards Vision, Mission, Principles and Values.

*Question:*

**Based on the guidelines, would you add, subtract or change anything in the principles and values? What about the Desired Conditions? What, if anything, would you adjust?**

**Working in your group, share your ideas.** Prepare a \_\_\_\_\_ report for the other groups on **what if anything should be changed or adjusted and why.**

## TRENDS AND ISSUES ANALYSIS

During the Statewide Stakeholder Summit, meeting participants identified a variety of critical issues that the Water Boards will need to consider in planning for the future. These key concepts have been grouped into 8 major themes represented below::

<b>1. WATER QUALITY ISSUES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ increased background levels - natural systems unable to assimilate contaminants and meet drinking water standards</li> <li>▪ overdrafting/decreased groundwater quality</li> <li>▪ disposal of waste and wastewater by-products</li> <li>▪ focus on pollution prevention</li> </ul>
<b>2. RAPIDLY CHANGING TECHNOLOGY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ increased ability to measure contaminants</li> <li>▪ breakthroughs may support desal/recycling</li> <li>▪ better analytical tools</li> </ul>
<b>3. CHANGING POLITICAL REALITIES</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ greater use of partnerships</li> <li>▪ greater awareness and involvement of the public, Tribes, regulated community, and other stakeholders</li> <li>▪ greater use of litigation</li> <li>▪ fragmented water governance structures affect management options</li> <li>▪ greater expectations of Water Boards</li> <li>▪ less acceptance of risk</li> </ul>
<b>4. ENVIRONMENTAL STRESSORS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ water quality affected by emerging contaminants (pharmaceuticals), aerial deposition, sediment contamination, energy by-products</li> <li>▪ ecosystems impacts by over-appropriated rivers, introduced species, and ultimate disposal of wastes</li> <li>▪ global warming: sea-level rise, larger floods, erratic weather</li> </ul>
<b>5. INCREASED PROJECT COSTS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ lack of funds for wastewater infrastructure will create public health costs</li> <li>▪ constraints on rate/tax increases will hamper necessary improvements and maintenance</li> <li>▪ greater regulatory and permitting costs</li> <li>▪ increases in costs of energy and in moving water supplies</li> </ul>
<b>6. INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE PLANNING</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ comprehensive water resource management – integration of other information including marine sciences and social sciences</li> <li>▪ looking at all factors: FERC licenses, flood control, instream flows, natural system impacts, land use planning, etc.</li> </ul>
<b>7. INCREASED WATER DEMAND/ DECREASED WATER SUPPLY</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ more focus on: local and new sources of water supply; relationship between water quality and water supply; water transfers and reoperation of existing projects</li> <li>▪ decreased supply from less snowpack and sedimentation of existing dams/facilities</li> <li>▪ less water available for natural systems</li> </ul>
<b>8. CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ increasing population and changing composition (age, ethnicity, income) and location of growth (away from urban centers) will impact water use, access to safe water supplies and infrastructure needs</li> </ul>

## TRENDS AND ISSUES TO ADDRESS

*As an individual, look at the Trends and Issues developed by the statewide group and the eight major themes that emerged:*

1. Are the trends and issues for your region reflected? If not, what would you add, subtract or adjust?

### **AS A GROUP:**

1. List your additions, subtractions or adjustments.
2. Looking at your list and the statewide list, as a group select up to five critical trends or issues for your region.

*For each of the items you have listed answer the following questions:*

3. How is this trend or issue being managed now in your region?
4. What would be the preferred response?
5. How would the Water Boards know they had been successful after they implemented the preferred response? What would be the measurements of success?

**PREPARE A \_\_\_ REPORT TO SHARE WITH THE OTHER GROUPS.**

## IMPLEMENTATION - ADDRESSING STATEWIDE STANDARDS AND NECESSARY REGIONAL VARIATION



YOU WILL HAVE \_\_\_\_ MINUTES TO COMPLETE THIS SECTION:

Some stakeholders have expressed frustration with an apparent lack of consistency among the Boards. This has led to proposals that attempt to “fix” the problem. At the same time:

- Regional Boards exist because some variation is expected. Regional Boards respond to different geography and local culture-practices.
- There is a legitimate need for this type of variation.

Even so,

- Stakeholders engaged with more than one region sometimes observe that some decisions appear “inconsistent.”
- Consistency on application of law and policy is valuable.

At their October 2006 meeting the Water Boards Water Quality Coordinating Committee (WQCC) adopted the following:

- On questions of law and overarching policy the State Board should provide guidance and build a basic policy framework from which the regions can appropriately tailor action.
- Water Boards are committed to developing procedures and policies to minimize inappropriate inconsistency.

As a group consider:

*Question:*

**What advice and guidelines would you offer the Water Boards on this subject?**