



State Water Resources Control Board



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

February 6, 2024

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California's Water Supply Strategy

California Water Supply Strategy and Implementation Actions

The Water Supply Strategy outlines California's strategy and priority actions to adapt and protect water supplies based on new data and accelerated climate change. To ensure California has the new water needed for generations to come, this strategy outlines four sets of actions the State will pursue, sets targets, and identifies specific implementation steps to prepare California for its new climate reality. The following is an update on the milestones and implementation steps since the last Executive Director's Reporting.

Division of Water Quality

Desalination (*Action 1.2*)

Seawater Desalination

On December 20, 2023, the State Water Board released the final [Seawater Desalination Siting and Streamlining Report to Expedite Permitting](#), following a public comment period. This report outlines important considerations and best practices for seawater desalination proponents on how to plan projects that may be permitted more efficiently by state and federal agencies. To develop the report, the State Water Board convened a Seawater Desalination Interagency Group comprised of state and federal agencies that review environmental documents and permit or lease applications for proposed seawater desalination facilities. The Seawater Desalination Interagency Group identified criteria for siting seawater desalination projects so that they are cost-effective and environmentally appropriate; and recommended potential changes to current requirements to streamline permitting.

Stormwater Capture (*Action 2.5*)

Division of Water Quality staff initiated a contract with the Office of Water Programs at California State University, Sacramento to develop a method to estimate current stormwater volume amounts using open-source tools. The project will also begin to establish an inventory of stormwater capture infrastructure throughout California. Work under this contract will begin in April 2024 and be completed by June 2026.

Division of Drinking Water

Recycled Water DPR (*Action 1.1*)

The final draft of the direct potable reuse regulations was presented at the Tuesday, December 19, 2023, Board Adoption Hearing and was unanimously approved by the Board. The regulations will continue through the administrative procedures act process before final adoption in July 2024.

Division of Water Rights

Groundwater Recharge (Action 2.1)

Information on recently issued permits and the status of pending temporary permit applications is available at bit.ly/temporaryrechargepermits.

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

Statewide Wastewater Needs Assessment

Statewide Wastewater Needs Assessment (WWNA) Advisory Group Applications are being accepted through **February 29, 2024**. Links to the Advisory Group application and participation expectations are available on the California Water Boards [WWNA public webpage](#) in English and Spanish. Additional language services may be provided through the [California Water Boards Office of Public Participation](#). The Advisory Group is a consultative body that will advise the development of the Water Boards WWNA. The Advisory group is not granted any statutory decision-making authorities, however, may provide recommendations to Water Board Members through a public process. Please email WWNA@waterboards.ca.gov with questions and use the [California Water Boards Email Subscriptions](#) to sign up for Wastewater Needs Assessment updates.

Background

The WWNA team led by the University of California Los Angeles, Luskin Center for Innovation coordinated with Water Board staff from water quality, public participation, and tribal affairs to identify and utilize multiple communication methods to reach interested participants from the public and sectors such as academia, community-based organizations, environmental justice advocates, governmental offices (federal/state/local), tribal sovereignties, wastewater technical assistance providers and consulting, and the wastewater industry. The opportunity to join the 30-seat Advisory Group was shared with the public and interested parties in January 2024.

The WWNA, commenced July 1, 2023, is a four-year assessment project to provide information on and strategies to address sanitation access for California communities and broader wastewater compliance challenges that inhibit the Water Board's vision of clean, safe, accessible, and affordable water for human uses and environmental resource protection across California.

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Update: The Irrigated Lands Regulatory reports are included in Appendix A of this report.

Statewide Policies and Significant General Permits: The Statewide Policies and Significant General Permits report can be accessed at the [Statewide and Regional Policies / Significant General Permits website](#)

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

Drought-related Items

Delta Watershed: On December 14, 2023, the Board released [Order WR 2023-0065-EXEC](#) denying a joint petition for reconsideration from the South Delta Water Agency and Central Delta Water Agency of the curtailment orders issued pursuant to the 2022 emergency regulation for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta watershed. The order responds to petitioners' arguments previously denied in Order WR 2022-0147-EXEC and finds that the methodology used to support the curtailments did not fail to properly incorporate effects of the Delta Drought Response Pilot Program and settlement contractor demands, that curtailments did not violate the rule of priority and due process requirements, and that, per the regulation, tidal flows were correctly excluded as a source of supply. The order denies the petition because the petitioners' arguments fail on the merits and concludes that the curtailment orders were a lawful exercise of the Board's regulatory authority that did not violate any of petitioners' substantive or procedural rights.

Letter to National Marine Fisheries Service on Dry Conditions on the Merced River in 2022: On January 16, 2024, the State Water Board Executive Director sent a letter to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) responding to concerns described in letters from NMFS, and other organizations, regarding dry river conditions on the lower five miles of the Merced River in the summer and fall of 2022. The letter identifies that Board staff have been actively analyzing available information to identify factors causing or contributing to dry conditions. Current instream flow requirements apply only to the upper reaches of the Merced River and do not prevent drying of the river in the lower reaches during extremely dry hydrologic conditions. The letter commits to making the results of the Board staff analysis available for public review and input later in 2024 and identifies that staff are evaluating methods to maintain a year-round connected river to the confluence with the San Joaquin River.

Order Denying Petitions for Reconsideration Pursuant to 2021-2022 Mill and Deer Creeks Drought Emergency Regulations: On December 22, 2023, the State Water Board Executive Director issued Water Right Order 2023-0067-EXEC in the matter of petitions for reconsideration submitted by Stanford Vina Ranch Irrigation Company, Los Molinos Mutual Water Company, Peyton Pacific Properties, LLC, and Deer Creek Irrigation District of the 2021 and 2022 curtailment orders (Orders WR 2021-0089-DWR, WR 2021-0090-DWR, WR 2022-0169-DWR, and WR 2022-0170-DWR) issued pursuant to the 2021 and 2022 Mill and Deer Creeks drought emergency regulations. Water Right Order 2023-0067-EXEC denies reconsideration of these petitions. The Mill and Deer Creeks drought emergency regulations have now expired and are no longer in effect.

Clear Lake Hitch: On Dec. 6, 2023, the Board adopted [emergency information order regulations for the Clear Lake Watershed](#) to collect necessary water use data that will help the Board's hitch protection efforts. The Office of Administrative Law (OAL) approved the regulations on January 22, 2024. The Board plans to issue an information order (pursuant to the regulation) to approximately 1,200 property owners between Jan. 23 and Jan. 31. The order will require recipients to report information such as

groundwater well location and depth, how much water is extracted, and when and where water is used to the Board or through an approved alternative compliance program. The order includes three reporting deadlines, the first of which is Feb. 29. A sample information order, timelines, and resources to help recipients comply with the order will be available on the Board's [Clear Lake hitch website](#) soon. Division staff also presented information on the pending regulation as part of a public workshop in Lakeport on January 19th, along with the Lake County Farm Bureau, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, United States Geological Survey, and the Robinson Rancheria Pomo Indians of California. Additional public meetings are planned for February 2024.

Scott-Shasta: On January 12, 2024, the Board issued a [Notice of Proposed Rulemaking](#) for an emergency regulation establishing minimum instream flows for the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds. On January 23, 2024, the Board submitted the emergency regulation to the Office of Administrative Law for its 10-day review and approval period. If approved by the Office of Administrative Law, the emergency regulation is expected to go into effect on or around February 1, 2024. As background, the Board adopted the emergency regulation at its December 19, 2023 meeting.

On January 17, 2024, the Board received a [petition for rulemaking](#) (petition) requesting that the Board adopt a permanent regulation establishing minimum flows for the Shasta River. The petition was submitted by California Coastkeeper Alliance, Friends of the Shasta River, Mt. Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center, Water Climate Trust, Shasta Waterkeeper, Save California Salmon, and Environmental Protection Information Center. The Board has 30 days to schedule a hearing or deny the petition.

Additional information on the emergency regulation and previous regulations for the watersheds can be found on the [Scott River and Shasta River Drought Response and Emergency Regulations webpage](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/scott_shasta_rivers/).

Permitting and Enforcement Branch

Water Right Petitions: Between November 1, 2023, and December 31, 2023, the Division of Water Rights completed 36 petitions and minor change requests. See table below for more details of the completed petitions.

Primary Owner	Application ID	Petition Type	Date Completed	Brief Description
US BUREAU OF RECLAMATION	A000023 A000234 A001465 A005638	Transfer Temporary	11/17/2023	Approved temporary transfer for the implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program by adding points of rediversion at Patterson Irrigation District and Banta-Carbona Irrigation District.
TRIMONT LAND COMPANY	A022822 A023849 A023851	Change & Extension of Time	11/27/2023	Approved petitions for change and extension of time for diversions from the Truckee River Watershed.
NORTHSTAR COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT	A022823	Change & Extension of Time	11/27/2023	Approved petitions for change and extension of time for diversions from the Truckee River Watershed.
SACRAMENTO MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICT	A012323 A012624 A014963 A020522 A022110 A031595 A031596	Change	11/29/2023	Approved petitions for change to add a new powerhouse.
U S SHASTA-TRINITY NATL FOREST	A011927 A012296 A013189 A020669 A020670	Change	12/8/2023	Approved petitions for change to dedicate water for instream use.
US FOREST SERVICE, LOS PADRES NATIONAL FOREST	A019811	Change	12/15/2023	Approved petition for change to dedicate water for instream use.
EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT	A05645B	Extension of Time	12/18/2023	Approved petition for extension of time to extend the permit development period to 2040.

UPPER SWANSTON RANCH INC	A009806 A019086 A020376 A028453	Request Minor Change	12/20/2023	Approved minor change request to modify a point of diversion for the water rights and denied minor change request to consolidate the place of use.
UPPER SWANSTON RANCH INC	A019087	Request Minor Change	12/20/2023	Denied minor change request to consolidate the place of use.
PAUL CALOSSO	A023284	Request Minor Change	12/27/2023	Approved minor change request to modify the point of diversion and place of use.
SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY	A012919A A015736 A015737 A019351	Temporary Urgent Change	12/27/2023	Approved petitions to allow temporary changes to instream flow requirements.

*Orders issued following Administrative Hearing Office hearings.

On December 20, 2023, the Division approved requests for minor change in Licenses 4505, 9076, 9078 (Applications 9806, 19086, 20376) and Permit 20038 (Application 28453) held by Upper Swanston Ranch, Inc. The minor changes requested adding a point of diversion to Licenses 9076 and 9078 and updating a point of diversion on License 4505 and Permit 20038 to match Licenses 9076 and 9078. The requested modification to the point of diversion will help facilitate the Department of Water Resources and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s Yolo Bypass Salmonid Habitat Restoration & Fish Passage project. The Project has been developed to improve fish passage and increase floodplain fisheries rearing habitat in the Yolo Bypass and the lower Sacramento River basin.

Delta, Hearings, and Special Projects Branch

Water Quality Certification, Cannabis, Data Modernization, Water Supply & Demand, Instream Flows, Administrative, and Reporting Branch

Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project: On December 22, 2023, State Water Board and North Coast Regional Water Board (Water Boards) staff provided Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) with [comments](#) on its draft surrender application for decommissioning of the Potter Valley Hydroelectric Project (Project). PG&E is proposing to decommission its Project facilities, including Scott and Cape Horn dams. PG&E is considering a proposal submitted by Eel-Russian Project Authority (Sonoma County Water Agency, Mendocino County Inland Water and Power Commission, and Round Valley Indian Tribes) related to the future of Cape Horn Dam and Van Arsdale Diversion. PG&E plans to release a revised draft license surrender application for the Project by June 2024 and submit a final surrender application to FERC in January 2025.

A schedule for the license surrender process is available on [PG&E's website](https://www.pottervalleysurrenderproceeding.com) (<https://www.pottervalleysurrenderproceeding.com>).

Additionally, PG&E is holding a series of meetings from January through May with agencies and other interested parties to coordinate and develop a comprehensive surrender application process that avoids delays. PG&E held its first meeting with agencies on January 18, 2024, and discussed the anticipated permitting timeline for the Project's decommissioning. The February meeting is focused on discussing potential information gaps.

Background on the Project is available on the State Water Board's [Project webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/potter_valley_ferc77.html) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/potter_valley_ferc77.html).

Tiger Creek Regulator Dam Spillway Replacement Project: On January 19, 2024, the State Water Board issued a [Notice of Intent](#) to adopt a mitigated negative declaration for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E's) Tiger Creek Regulator Dam Spillway Replacement Project (Project). The Project is part of P&E's Mokelumne River Hydroelectric Project. PG&E is seeking a water quality certification for a Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license amendment and section 404 permit from the United States Army Corps of Engineers. The proposed Project includes construction of a new spillway along the Tiger Creek Regulator Dam's right abutment and decommissioning of the old spillway infrastructure along the dam's left abutment. The purpose of the Project is to allow the dam to safely pass a flood event of up to 6,000 cubic feet per second.

Coordination Meeting with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission: On December 7, 2023, Division of Water Rights staff participated in a bi-annual meeting with Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) staff. Per the *Memorandum of Understanding between the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission and the State Water Resources Control Board Concerning Coordination of Pre-Application Activities for Non-Federal Hydropower Proposals in California* ([MOU](#)), FERC and State Water Board staff have semi-annual meetings to discuss: (1) water quality certifications (certifications) and license applications for California hydropower projects pending before the State Water Board and FERC, respectively; (2) dates by which the State Water Board needs to act on requests for certification; and (3) projected dates for a final decision on certification applications.

Klamath Dams Removal Underway: The removal of the dams on the Klamath River associated with the Klamath Hydroelectric Project is underway. Drawdown at Iron Gate Dam commenced on January 11, 2024 and [blasting of a plug](#) to facilitate drawdown of Copco No. 1 Dam occurred on January 23, 2024. Dam demolition of Iron Gate Dam is expected to commence in mid-May 2024, followed by demolition of Copco No. 1 and J.C. Boyle Dams in early June 2024. Copco No. 2 dam removal occurred in 2023. The Board's role in the Lower Klamath Project includes issuance and oversight of a [water quality certification](#) for the project. More information related to the removal of the dams can be found on the Klamath River Renewal Corporation [website](#).

Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project: On December 27, 2023, Division of Water Rights staff, in coordination with San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board staff, submitted comments on Santa Clara Valley Water District's (Valley Water's) Draft Petition for Surrender of Exemption for the Anderson Dam Hydroelectric Project. Valley Water is proposing to decommission its existing hydroelectric facilities at Anderson Dam as part of the larger Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project and is requesting surrender of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license exemption that it holds to operate the hydroelectric project. The comment letter informed Valley Water that a water quality certification is needed as part of a FERC license surrender order or an Army Corps of Engineers 404 permit. The comment letter also notes that Valley Water's proposal may need additional monitoring and mitigation to ensure water quality standards are not impacted. FERC is the federal agency that has jurisdiction to approve or reject Valley Water's surrender request.

McCloud-Pit Hydroelectric Project: On January 19, 2024, staff met with representative of the Winnemem Wintu Tribe as part of ongoing consultation related to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's McCloud-Pit Hydroelectric Project. The consultation is consistent with an interim order ([Order WQ 2020-0041-EXEC](#)) issued by the Executive Director directing Board staff to reinstate CEQA consultation with the California Native American Tribes affiliated with the geographic area of the Project for the purpose of determining whether additional CEQA work is necessary. The Winnemem Wintu Tribe requested consultation and consultation to date has resulted in the development of updated tribal cultural information that will support the Board's efforts to [prepare a Subsequent Environmental Impact Report](#) for the Project.

DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Environmental Review

Completed Significant Events

Consultation continued with the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), the California State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation regarding development of the programmatic agreements (PAs) for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The primary point of discussion was the State Water Board and the EPA's tribal consultation protocol under the proposed PAs. In December 2023, the EPA sent a letter to the federally recognized tribes informing them of the EPA's intent to delegate tribal consultation to the State Water Board. Comments were also received from tribes and other consulting parties regarding the development of the PAs, which will help to inform the first drafts of the PAs.

Future Significant Events

None to report.

Office of Sustainable Water Solutions (OSWS)

Planning/Construction Project Summary

The tables below summarize the planning and construction agreements and amendments approved in the month of December 2023.

Drinking Water Projects Funded (December 2023)		
Project #	Recipient – Project Purpose	Funding Amount
1700536-004C	Sunrise Shore Mutual Water Company- Construction of new water storage tanks to replace smaller aging facilities beyond their useful life, and new water treatment and emergency power facilities. Project is designed to bring the water company facilities into compliance with the Waterworks Standards and provide for more reliable and efficient operations.	\$2,109,000
3310017-001C	South Mesa Water Company-The funding under this Agreement shall also be used to bring the Recipient into compliance with the California Code of Regulations, Title 22, Division 4, Chapter 16 Waterworks Standards, for source capacity by drilling a new groundwater well and replacing water mains that are undersized to meet current demand and have passed their useful life.	\$10,236,913
3700958-001C	Los Tules Mutual Water Company-The Project will construct approx. 2,622 linear feet of new water main within the public road Camino San Ignacio to complete looping of the water distribution system. The Recipient will install appurtenances including thirteen isolation/interconnect valves and three fire hydrants.	\$821,966
5200014-001P	Wilson Acres Mutual Water Co.- The Project will evaluate the Wilson Acres Mutual Water Company water system and determine improvements to the existing 900-gallon pressure tank, distribution system, source well head components, and backup power supply. The Project objective is to address water system components that were deemed out-of-compliance by the Tehama County Environmental Health	\$275,000

Drinking Water Projects Funded (December 2023)		
	Department and that have reached the end of their useful life.	
Drinking Water Projects Amended (December 2023)		
Project #	Recipient – Amendment Purpose	
1910070-002C	Los Angeles County Waterworks District No. 40, Antelope Valley – Amendment to revise scope of work and shift budget lines.	
5301002-004C	Lewiston Community Services District – Amendment to increase funding amount by \$3,907,035.	
Wastewater Projects Funded (December 2023)		
Project #	Recipient – Project Purpose	Funding Amount
8627-110	Coachella Valley Water District-The Project will connect Campos Mobile Home Park (MHP), De Leon Ranch, Desert View MHP, Durans Farms, Leon Housing, Luciano Valenzuela, Magdaleno Lopez, Meza’s Ranch, Oscar Cruz Water System, Soto Water, Valley View MHP, Villa de Josue MHP, and Vista Norte Estates into the District’s sewer system. The Project will improve water quality through the removal of failing septic systems.	\$14,229,000
Wastewater Projects Amended (December 2023)		
Project #	Recipient – Amendment Purpose	
8479-210	Colfax, City of – Amendment to incorporate FBA, increase funding by \$2,110,539 and extend agreement dates.	

Administrator Summary

No new administrator agreements were approved in the month of December 2023.

Operation and Maintenance (O&M)

No new O&M agreements were approved in the month of December 2023.

Technical Assistance Summary

No request for emergency funding under the Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) Technical Assistance to Implement the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund projects was approved in the month of December 2023.

No new technical assistance agreement nor amendments were approved in the month of December 2023.

DFA is providing Technical Assistance to 497 Drinking Water Systems (174 Failing and 97 At-Risk systems) and to 101 Wastewater Systems. 44.5% of all Failing systems are receiving TA.

The table below summarizes the technical assistance work plans approved in the month of December 2023.

Work Plan Type	Work Plan No.	TA Recipient	Project Description	TA Provider*	TA Type	Total Amount Approved	HR2W Status	Primary MCL Violation
Work Plan Amendment	6694-B	Lakehead Subdivision	Planning app for capital improvements including storage, meters, distribution system, and new well.	RCAC	DW	\$24,586 (\$4,608 Increase)	Potentially At-Risk	N/A
New Work Plan	6886-A	Sunset Vista MHP	Full planning consolidation project that includes outreach and rate study.	SHE	DW	\$724,760 (New Work Plan)	At-Risk	N/A
New Work Plan	6809-A	Brookside MHP	Feasibility study for consolidation with City of Redlands	RCAC	DW	\$100,719 (New Work Plan)	At-Risk	N/A
New Work Plan	6887-A	Sunset Vista MHP	Full Planning to consolidate Sunset Vista Estates MHP with the City of Lemoore's Wastewater System	SHE	WW	\$651,228 (New Work Plan)	N/A (Wastewater)	N/A
New Work Plan	7046-A	Keeler CSD	Feasibility Study	GHD	DW	\$138,710 (New Work Plan)	Failing	Arsenic
New Work Plan	7034-A	Ojai Valley Sanitary District	Income study for future consolidation project	RCAC	WW	\$17,136 (New Work Plan)	N/A (Wastewater)	N/A
New Work Plan	7056-A	City of Nevada City	Rate Study	RCAC	WW	\$23,333 (New Work Plan)	N/A (Wastewater)	N/A

Work Plan Type	Work Plan No.	TA Recipient	Project Description	TA Provider*	TA Type	Total Amount Approved	HR2W Status	Primary MCL Violation
Work Plan Amendment	6185-C	Oceanview School District - Laguna Vista School	Full planning project to consolidate with the City of Oxnard.	UEI	DW	\$466,953 (\$176,686 Increase)	At-Risk	N/A
New Work Plan	7060-A	HRC Community Service District	Consolidation Project with Jed Smith	Coleman	DW	\$218,628 (New Work Plan)	Failing	Revised Total Coliform Rule (RTCR)
Work Plan Amendment	5897-D	Valenzuela Water System	Full planning project to consolidate with City of Watsonville	RCAC	DW	\$141,588 (\$97,544 Decrease)	Failing	Nitrate-Nitrite
New Work Plan	7031-A	Los Encinas Community	Income study for future consolidation project	RCAC	WW	\$14,366 (New Work Plan)	N/A (Wastewater)	N/A
New Work Plan	7030-A	Siete Robles Community	Income study for future consolidation project	RCAC	WW	\$14,296 (New Work Plan)	N/A (Wastewater)	N/A
Work Plan Amendment	6383-C	Bonita School	Feasibility study and full planning to address nitrate contamination by consolidating with the City of Santa Maria	RCAC	DW	\$302,443 (\$17,695 Increase)	At-Risk	N/A
Work Plan Amendment	5295-E	Tombstone Territory	Planning Project, Funding Administration, Outreach, and Easement Acquisition	SHE	DW	\$282,500 (\$19,800 Increase)	N/A	N/A
Work Plan Amendment	5088-G	Fresno County Department of Special Districts	Full planning, consolidation	SHE	DW	\$249,500 (\$26,100 Increase)	N/A	N/A
Work Plan Amendment	5493-E	Armona CSD	DWSRF Construction App with Post	SHE	DW	\$166,900 (\$19,000 Increase)	Potentially At-Risk	N/A

Work Plan Type	Work Plan No.	TA Recipient	Project Description	TA Provider*	TA Type	Total Amount Approved	HR2W Status	Primary MCL Violation
			Application support					
Work Plan Amendment	6568-D	Pajaro Sunny Mesa Community Services District	Full planning project for system improvements.	UEI	DW	\$202,795 (No Change)	At-Risk	N/A
TBD	7065-	Brookside Estates MWC	Full planning Project for consolidation with the City of Bishop	P&P	DW	\$323,163 (Budget Change Time and Amount to be Determined)	Not At-Risk	N/A
Work Plan Amendment	6567-E	Ray Water Company	Full planning project for consolidation with City of Santa Maria.	UEI	DW	\$280,988 (\$19,770 Increase)	Failing	Nitrate

* TA Providers:

CRWA California Rural Water Association
CWC Community Water Center
CWH Council for Watershed Health
LCJA Leadership Counsel for Justice and Accountability
PUCDC Pueblo Unido Community Development Corporation
RCAC Rural Community Assistance Corporation
SHE Self-Help Enterprises
UEI University Enterprise, Inc (CSU Sacramento)
CSUSB University Enterprise (CSU San Bernardino)
P&P Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group

** DW = drinking water; WW = wastewater

Additionally, the following Technical Assistance Requests were approved as capacity development/subvention tasks:

AR Number	TA Recipient	Project Description	TA Provider	TA Type
7108	McCloud Community Services District	Rate Study	RCAC	DW
7109	Lower Lake County Water Works District #1	Rate Study	RCAC	DW
7116	Amarillo MWC	Rate Study	RCAC	DW

Capacity development is focused on building the technical, managerial, and financial capacity of water and wastewater systems, including rate evaluation, assistance on compliance requirements, and preparing funding applications.

**Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Summary
(includes Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund, Proposition 84 Emergency, General Fund, and CAA Urgent Drinking Water Needs funding sources)**

SAFER Program Approved Projects and Amendments December 2023				
Recipient	Project Purpose	Funding Amount	Funding Program	Category
Self Help Enterprises	The Project will provide interim and long-term solutions served by domestic wells and state small water systems who have a failed or damaged water well due to flooding.	\$14,000,000	General Fund	Construction and Interim Solutions
Butte County	The Project will provide immediate short- and long-term solutions to State Small water systems and domestic well users who are facing drinking water challenges.	\$5,745,082	SADW	Construction and Interim Solutions
Daggett CSD	The Project will provide funding for continued bottled water deliveries for residents and customers of Daggett CSD.	\$264,384	SADW	Interim Solutions

Funding Provided for Emergency Drought Response

DFA staff continue to coordinate closely with the Department of Water Resources (DWR) on their drought funding as well as outreach to set up county-level programs to respond to either water shortage or water quality issues for those served by state small water systems and domestic wells. Combined, the State Water Board and DWR are

working with 16 counties and continue to coordinate with several other counties on submitting applications.

Cleanup and Abatement Account Projects

The following request for Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) funding was approved in December 2023.

CAA Approved Projects and Amendments October 2023				
Recipient	Project Purpose	Funding Amount	Funding Program	Category
San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board	CAA Emergency Funding Request for Coronado Cays, San Diego Caulerpa Prolifera Eradication	\$500,000	CAA	Invasive species eradication

Drinking Water for Schools Grant Program

No updates for the month of December 2023.

Office of Operator Certification Program Activity

The State Water Board, Office of Operator Certification, which is comprised of the Drinking Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Program, provides support to approximately 40,000 operators and new applicants entering the water industry.

Completed Events

In September 2023, the Office of Operator Certification launched phase 1 of an interactive online application portal for applicants to submit drinking water and wastewater lower-level examination applications.

On November 8, 2023, the Office of Operator Certification staff presented an informational item at the Board meeting to provide a status update on the Drinking Water Operator Certification Program and Wastewater Operator Certification Program.

Future Significant Events

Both Drinking Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Programs are working with the Division of Information Technology to continue development of an interactive online application portal for applicants to submit drinking water and wastewater operator applications for examinations, certifications, and certification renewals. The applicants will be able to update, edit, and monitor their applications. This will be a phased approach, lower-level examination applications were launched in phase 2. The interactive online application portal phase 2 will consist of higher-level examination applications and is anticipated to be operational in the fall of 2024.

In April 2024, the Drinking Water Operator Certification Program will hold its semi-annual Advisory Committee Meeting at the CalEPA building. This meeting is attended by Drinking Water industry professionals and provides an opportunity for their input and feedback on topics concerning the program.

OFFICE OF OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (OOC)

DISTRIBUTION DRINKING WATER		
	2022 7/1/2022- 12/31/2022	2023 7/1/2023-12/31/2023
Applications received (exam, cert, renewals)	5,495	4,471
Certificates issued (new and renewals)	3,100	2,964
TREATMENT DRINKING WATER		
	2022 7/1/2022- 12/31/2022	2023 7/1/2023-12/31/2023
Applications received (exam, cert, renewals)	3,784	3,197
Certificates issued (new and renewals)	2,370	1,907
WASTEWATER		
	2022 7/1/2022- 12/31/2022	2023 7/1/2023-12/31/2023
Applications received (exam, cert, renewals)	1,360	4,782
Certificates issued (new and renewals)	747	549

ANNUAL NUMBER OF DISTRIBUTION CERTIFICATE HOLDERS, BY GRADE						
Grade	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023
1	3,553	3,545	3,547	3,169	3,154	3,463
2	9,474	9,461	9,443	9,435	9,385	9,256
3	4,140	4,131	4,114	4,104	4,089	4,079
4	1,905	1,897	1,890	1,885	1,877	1,870
5	1,256	1,251	1,248	1,243	1,240	1,237
Total	20,328	20,285	20,242	19,836	19,745	19,905

ANNUAL NUMBER OF TREATMENT CERTIFICATE HOLDERS, BY GRADE						
Grade	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023
1	2,245	2,201	2,191	2,186	2,178	2,171
2	8,485	8,369	8,347	8,336	8,322	8,273
3	1,857	1,852	1,841	1,834	1,832	1,819
4	1,057	1,053	1,049	1,047	1,044	1,032
5	534	533	528	527	520	519
Total	14,178	14,008	13,956	13,930	13,896	13,814

ANNUAL NUMBER OF WASTEWATER CERTIFICATE HOLDERS, BY GRADE						
Grade	July 2023	Aug 2023	Sep 2023	Oct 2023	Nov 2023	Dec 2023
OIT	587	589	588	603	615	627
1	789	790	790	797	801	790
2	1,494	1,500	1,503	1,508	1,512	1,471
3	1,809	1,814	1,822	1,826	1,829	1,791
4	442	443	442	440	440	432
5	1,091	1,095	1,095	1,096	1,099	1,078
Total	6,212	6,231	6,240	6,270	6,296	6,189

COMPUTER-BASED TESTING PASS/FAIL – DWOCF and WWOCP 2022				
Reporting Period 7/1/2022- 12/31/2022				
Grade	Examinees	Pass Count	Fail Count	Pass Percent
Dist. Grade 1	444	281	163	63%
Dist. Grade 2	754	482	272	64%
Dist. Grade 3	323	201	122	62%
Dist. Grade 4	143	83	60	58%
Dist. Grade 5	59	30	29	51%
Treatment Plant				
Treat. Grade 1	199	126	73	63%
Treat. Grade 2	483	328	155	68%
Treat. Grade 3	158	102	56	65%
Treat. Grade 4	64	41	23	64%
Wastewater Treatment Plant				
WW Grade 1	197	110	87	56%
WW Grade 2	151	83	68	55%
WW Grade 3	150	56	94	37%
WW Grade 4	42	11	31	26%
WW Grade 5	77	18	59	23%

COMPUTER-BASED TESTING PASS/FAIL – DWOCP and WWOCP 2021				
Reporting Period 7/1/2023- 12/31/2023				
Grade	Examinees	Pass Count	Fail Count	Pass Percent
Dist. Grade 1	396	247	149	62%
Dist. Grade 2	747	503	244	67%
Dist. Grade 3	290	191	99	66%
Dist. Grade 4	142	82	60	58%
Dist. Grade 5	65	40	25	62%
Treatment Grades				
Treat. Grade 1	184	122	62	66%
Treat. Grade 2	487	318	169	65%
Treat. Grade 3	148	103	45	70%
Treat. Grade 4	63	43	20	68%
Workshop Grades				
WW Grade 1	148	84	64	57%
WW Grade 2	164	97	67	59%
WW Grade 3	164	60	104	37%
WW Grade 4	54	14	40	26%
WW Grade 5	79	18	61	23%

CUMULATIVE COMPUTER-BASED TESTING PASS/FAIL – DWOCP and WWOCP				
Reporting Period: 2/20/2021 (CBT Inception) – 12/31/2023				
Grade	Examinees	Pass Count	Fail Count	Pass Percent
Dist. Grade 1	2,518	1,818	700	72%
Dist. Grade 2	4,256	3,181	1,075	75%
Dist. Grade 3	1,533	1,121	412	73%
Dist. Grade 4	745	501	244	67%
Dist. Grade 5	323	213	110	66%
Treatment Grades				
Treat. Grade 1	1,247	856	391	69%
Treat. Grade 2	2,878	2,132	746	74%
Treat. Grade 3	755	561	194	74%
Treat. Grade 4	349	239	110	68%
Workshop Grades				
WW Grade 1	1,021	555	466	54%
WW Grade 2	1,036	565	471	55%
WW Grade 3	984	325	659	33%
WW Grade 4	301	77	224	26%
WW Grade 5	477	119	358	25%

*Treatment Grade 5 examination are oral exams and not conducted via computer-based testing

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

Permits

Permits are issued when a public water system undertakes action that may impact public health (i.e. a new source of supply, modifying treatment or adding a large distribution reservoir), when the original permit has numerous amendments, or following new regulations or conditions that DDW deems necessary for the protection of public health.

The following 31 permits were documented between December 16, 2023, and January 15, 2024.

Water System	Permit Type	Permit Purpose
USFS UTICA UNION CAMPGROUND	FULL PERMIT	NEW PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM (TNC)
H AND R FACILITIES	FULL PERMIT	NEW WATER SYSTEM
PARK WEST MUTUAL WATER COMPANY	FULL PERMIT	LPA TO DDW 2023 PERMIT
PAICINES RANCH	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	WELL 02 SODIUM HYPOCHLORITE
GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY- CYPRESS RIDGE	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	INACTIVATE RWC WELL 03
GOLDEN STATE WATER COMPANY - ORCUTT	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	INACTIVATE WOODMERE WELL 01
PORT HUENEME WATER AGENCY	FULL PERMIT	UPDATE PERMIT AND INACTIVATE FLUORIDATION TREATMENT
LAKE DON PEDRO HOMEOWNERS	FULL PERMIT	REACTIVATION OF WELL NO. 1
WHITE CHIEF MOUNTAIN LODGE	FULL PERMIT	CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP
CSP-GOAT ROCK STATE BEACH	FULL PERMIT	UPDATED PERMIT
RIVERLAND RESORT	FULL PERMIT	CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP
WEST VALLEY WATER DISTRICT	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	WATER MAIN SEPARATION DISTANCE BLANKET WAIVER
LAKE SUCCESS MOBILE LODGE	FULL PERMIT	UPDATED TO REFLECT TO CURRENT OWNERSHIP AND OPERATIONS
OXNARD PALLET COMPANY	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	ADD CHLORINE TREATMENT, WELL 01
CASTLEWOOD DOMESTIC WATER SYSTEM	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	INACTIVATE FIFTH STREET WELL

CASTLEWOOD DOMESTIC WATER SYSTEM	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	ADDITION OF TWO 400K TANKS AND TTHM TREATMENT
COLTON, CITY OF	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	WELL 27 ACTIVE TO STANDBY STATUS
COLTON, CITY OF	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	ADD WELL 31 AS AN APPROVED SOURCE
GUADALUPE WATER DEPARTMENT	FULL PERMIT	PERMIT UPDATE, INACTIVATE FIFTH STREET WELL
USN SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	ADDITION OF TWO 400K TANKS AND TTHM TREATMENT
GOLDEN STATE WC - COWAN HEIGHTS	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	REPLACEMENT HUNTING HORN RESERVOIR
RANCHO PAUMA MUTUAL WC	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	UPDATE PERMIT CONDITIONS 13 & 14
CWSC SALINAS	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	WELL 26 CHANGE STATUS TO STANDBY
NEVADA ID - LOMA RICA	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	NEW 3.0 MG CONCRETE TANK
HOLT 7518	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	REVERSE OSMOSIS ARSENIC TRT
CAL-WATER SERVICE-CHICO	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	WELL 10-01 ACTIVE TO INACTIVE
MAMMOTH CWD	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	REPLACEMENT TANK T-8 ADDED
CITY OF SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO	PERMIT AMENDMENTS	RESERVOIR MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS INACTIVATION
MODOC VINEYARD ACADEMY	FULL PERMIT	NEW WATER SYSTEM
MNF-MEDICINE LAKE	FULL PERMIT	REPLACE OLD PERMIT
PRIMROSE LANE APARTMENTS	FULL PERMIT	CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP AND 2023 SANITARY SURVEY

Violations & Enforcement Actions

Violations for a water system include whether the system has failed to follow established monitoring and reporting schedules, failed to comply with mandated treatment techniques, violated any Maximum Contaminant Levels, or failed to communicate required information to their customers. Enforcement Actions are used to obtain water system compliance with drinking water requirements to provide a safe and reliable supply of water. The Division of Drinking Water's formal enforcement actions involve the use of statutory authority and includes issuance of citations and compliance orders.

The following enforcement actions were documented from January 1 and January 15, 2024.

Public Water System	Violation	Contaminant or Rule
AFUERA DE CHORRO WATER COMPANY	Monitoring	LCR
ALI MUTUAL WATER CO	Monitoring	LCR
AUSTIN INDUSTRIAL PARK WATER SYSTEM	MCL	ARSENIC
BANNING HTS. MUTUAL WATER CO.	Monitoring	LCR
BASS LAKE ANNEX 3	MCL	COMBINED URANIUM
BUTTERFIELD RANCH	Monitoring	LCR
CAMPS MUNZ AND MENDENHALL	Monitoring	NITRATE
CDFW ELKHORN SLOUGH ECOLOGICAL RESERVE	Monitoring	RTCR
CENTRAL VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH WS	MCL	1,2,3 TCP
CENTRAL VALLEY BAPTIST CHURCH WS	MCL	NITRATE
CENTURY MOBILE HOME PARK	MCL	ARSENIC
CUYAMA LANE WATER COMPANY	Monitoring	LCR
ECONO LODGE INN AND SUITES	Monitoring	NITRATE
ELKS LODGE #322	Monitoring	LCR
GICO MANAGEMENT	MCL	ARSENIC
HUTTOPIA PARADISE SPRINGS	Monitoring	NITRATE
INYO COUNTY PWD - INDEPENDENCE	Reporting	CCR
INYO COUNTY PWD - LONE PINE	Reporting	CCR
JOHN HOVANNISIAN WATER SYSTEM	Monitoring	TURBIDITY
JOHN HOVANNISIAN WATER SYSTEM	Monitoring	IRON
JUNIPER RIVIERA CWD	Monitoring	DBP STAGE 1
LACTALIS HERITAGE DAIRY	Monitoring	LCR
LAWS TOWN INYO COUNTY	Reporting	CCR
MADONNA INN WATER COMPANY	Monitoring	LCR
MARTINEZ APARTMENTS	MCL	NITRATE

MARTINEZ APARTMENTS	MCL	ARSENIC
MNF-BLUE LAKE CG	MCL	E. COLI
MOUNTAIN VIEW DUPLEXES	Monitoring	LCR
MUSD-NILE GARDEN SCHOOL	MCL	1,2,3 TCP
MUSD-NILE GARDEN SCHOOL	MCL	ARSENIC
PATTERSON TRACT CSD	Monitoring	LCR
PNP STOCKTON #80	MCL	NITRATE
SAN-I-PAK INC	MCL	NITRATE
SHADY OAKS MOBILE HOME PARK LLC	MCL	GROSS ALPHA PARTICLE ACTIVITY
SIERRA LINDA MUTUAL WATER CO	MCL	IRON
SIERRA LINDA MUTUAL WATER CO	MCL	MANGANESE
SIERRA TAHOE GRANDVIEW	Monitoring	NITRATE
SIERRA TAHOE MAIN LODGE	Monitoring	NITRATE
SIERRA TAHOE WEST BOWL	Monitoring	NITRATE
SKY ACRES MUTUAL WATER CORP	MCL	GROSS ALPHA PARTICLE ACTIVITY
SKY ACRES MUTUAL WATER CORP	MCL	IRON
SKY ACRES MUTUAL WATER CORP	MCL	ARSENIC
SKY ACRES MUTUAL WATER CORP	MCL	TURBIDITY
STAR MOTEL	MCL	NITRATE
SUNNY ROAD WATER SYSTEM	MCL	ARSENIC
TWO TWENTY FOUR MOBILE HOME PK	Monitoring	GROSS ALPHA PARTICLE ACTIVITY
TWO TWENTY FOUR MOBILE HOME PK	Monitoring	COMBINED URANIUM
WOODLAND PARK MUTUAL WATER CO	Monitoring	LCR
Total Violations	48	

Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP)

Accreditation Activities

ELAP ACCREDITATIONS ISSUED		
	Jan. 1, 2024 – Jan. 15, 2024	Year-To-Date
New Accreditations	0	0
Renewed Accreditations	12	12
Reciprocity Accreditations	3	3
Amended Accreditations	10	10
Total	25	25

DDW & DWQ PFAS Strategy Team

ELAP continues to regularly participate in the multi-divisional strategy team for regulation of PFAS. ELAP offers two US EPA methods for analysis of PFAS in drinking water, EPA 537.1 and EPA 533, and continues to offer accreditation to the DoD Quality Systems Manual version 5.1 (or newer). Based on a request from the Division of Water Quality, ELAP now offers EPA 1633 and draft method EPA 1621 for non-potable water analysis. While EPA 1633 is like the method offered previously, EPA 1621 uses new and alternative instrumentation to look for total organo-fluorine, adding a new tool to supplement PFAS investigations.

DDW-SAFER

The SAFER Clearinghouse Summary Results for January 2024 (from 12/15/2023 - 1/14/2024)

Summary Results			
Failing Systems	388	Removed Failing Systems	2

Water Systems Removed from the Failing List in January 2024 (12/15/2023 – 1/14/2024)

PWS ID	System Name	Last Status Change	County	Population
4400664	JARDINES DEL VALLE	12/13/2023	SANTA CRUZ	130
5500116	PEPPERMINT CREEK MHP	12/28/2023	TUOLUMNE	280

Water Systems Added to the Failing List in January 2024 (12/15/2023 – 1/14/2024)

PWS ID	System Name	Last Status Change	County	Population
4010003	SAN MIGUELITO MWC	12/19/2023	SAN LUIS OBISPO	1,600
5610024	CASITAS MUNICIPAL WATER DIST	12/19/2023	VENTURA	11,005

SAFER Engagement Units

Southern Engagement Unit met with Allensworth Community Services District (Allensworth CSD) on December 19, 2023, to discuss Allensworth CSD's needs and the potential role of an Administrator for the water system. The Southern Engagement Unit participated in an Allensworth CSD Board Meeting on January 9, 2024, to continue discussions on the appointment of an Administrator.

Hexavalent Chromium Maximum Contaminant Level Status

The proposed hexavalent chromium maximum contaminant level notice of proposed rulemaking was published June 16, 2023. An Administrative Procedure Act public hearing to receive public comments on the proposed regulation was held Wednesday, August 2, 2023, and a 15-day notice of proposed changes was released on November 22, 2023, with written comments on changes due Friday, December 15, 2023.

Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook

The Cross-connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH) was adopted by the State Board in the Board Meeting of December 19, 2023, with an effective date of July 1, 2024. As requested by the State Board, the Division of Drinking Water will provide regular updates on the development of guidance to implement the CCCPH prior to effective date. Guidance and other work will transition from the workgroup to the Cross-Connection Control Committee.

Adoption of Direct Potable Reuse regulations

On December 19, 2023, the State Water Resources Control Board adopted the proposed direct potable reuse regulations. Direct potable reuse is the planned use of municipal wastewater to produce water that is placed into the water distribution system of a public water system or into a water supply immediately upstream of a public water system's water treatment plant. The direct potable reuse regulations establish minimum criteria for the protection of public health applicable to public water systems that may choose to engage in direct potable reuse. The adoption of the proposed regulations follows extensive public engagement, starting with the investigation of the feasibility of developing regulations for direct potable reuse and publication of the results of the investigation in a State Water Board report to the legislature in 2016. The State Water Board held a series of public workshops to engage the public and stakeholders and solicited public comments on the draft report to the legislature on the feasibility of developing the regulations, as well as after publication of editions of the framework for regulating direct potable reuse in 2018, 2019, and 2021. The State Water Board also received extensive comments and recommendations on public health issues and scientific and technical matters regarding development of regulations for direct potable reuse from a stakeholder advisory group in 2016 and two independent expert panels in 2016 and 2022. A CalEPA external scientific peer review of the scientific portions of the regulations was also completed in 2021. The State Water Board initiated the rulemaking process under the Administrative Procedure Act for the proposed direct potable reuse regulations with the publication of the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking in the California Notice Register on July 21, 2023. The State Water Board conducted the APA public comment period process and has considered all public input relevant to the proposed regulations. With the adoption of the regulations the rulemaking package must now be submitted to the Office of Administrative Law for review and, if approved, filing with the Secretary of State.

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Update on Water Quality, Water Rights, Drinking Water and Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) Fees Stakeholder Process

Staff is planning to hold the following stakeholder meetings to discuss FY 2024-25 fees: March 7 – Water Quality and Water Rights and March 8 – Drinking Water and ELAP.

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT

Press Releases:

Court approves \$1.75 million settlement for cannabis cultivator's environmental violations: A Humboldt County Superior Court judge approved a settlement requiring a cannabis cultivator to pay \$1.75 million for building and diverting water from illegal onstream reservoirs without first obtaining permits required by the California Water Boards and California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW).

The settlement, which was reached after a lengthy investigation, resolves violations by Joshua Sweet and his companies, The Hills LLC, and Shadow Light Ranch LLC, that include: the owner's destruction of wetland habitat and stream channels; conversion of oak woodland to grow cannabis; and failure to work with the State Water Resources Control Board, North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board and CDFW to satisfy permitting requirements.

If Sweet completes restoration of the damaged property by 2026, \$1 million of the penalty will be suspended. This work includes the removal of three unauthorized reservoirs and the rehabilitation of stream channels and damaged wetlands.

According to the settlement, Sweet must pay \$500,000 to the Division of Water Rights, \$175,000 to the North Coast Water Board, and \$75,000 to CDFW over five years. Additionally, he is required to obtain all the necessary permits, cease unauthorized water diversions and use of water, restrict future property development, and comply with all applicable regulations.

Southern California consulting firm agrees to pay the state \$150,000 to resolve multiple fraud allegations: A Los Angeles-based environmental consulting firm agreed to pay \$150,000 in penalties for submitting inflated invoices to the State Water Resources Control Board's Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund for remediation work it performed at multiple locations.

A review of the invoices Associated Consulting Civil & Environmental Services submitted for reimbursement found that the company inflated labor hours, costs on rental units and subcontractor costs and was repaid for ineligible expenses.

As part of the settlement, the consulting firm and its principal owner, Hamid Assadi, are also disqualified from participating in future State Water Board funding programs.

Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaints Issued:
No ACL Complaints were issued in December 2023.

ACL Orders Issued:

Region	Discharger/ City	Violation(s) Addressed	ACL Order Amount	Date Issued
1	Sonoma County Water Agency (SCWA)/ Santa Rosa	Discharge had three sanitary sewer overflows that resulted in 885,664 gallons of raw sewage mixed with rainwater being discharged to the Russian River.	\$1,033,546 (\$147,001 to Cleanup and Abatement Account & \$886,545 to Enhance Compliance Action (ECA)	12/20/2023
4	Josef Mamaliger/ Los Angeles	Mandatory minimum penalty (MMP) for a late report that was due on 5/15/2022 but submitted on 9/12/2022.	\$9,000 (all to CAA)	12/6/2023
4	MPI, Ltd./ Beverly Hills	MMPs for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9 exceedances of the maximum daily effluent limit (MDEL) for residual chlorine • 16 exceedances of the average monthly effluent limit (AMEL) for selenium • 4 exceedances of the MDEL for selenium • Exceedance of both the MDEL and AMEL for oil and grease 	\$93,000 (all to CAA)	12/6/2023

13260 Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
3	California American Water, Monterey/ Carmel Valley	Requires the Carmel Valley Ranch to enroll under Order WQ 2022-0103-DWQ, Statewide Waste Discharge Requirements, General Order for Sanitary Sewer Systems based on its history of spills and proximity to Carmel River.	12/1/2023
3	South County Regional Wastewater Authority/ Gilroy	South County Regional Wastewater Authority (SCRWA) is currently permitted by <i>Master Water Reclamation Requirements Order 98-052 for South County Regional Wastewater Authority and Indirect Users</i> . Central Coast Regional Board staff reviewed the documents associated with the system and determined that it would be more appropriately regulated under <i>Order WQ 2016-0068-DDW, Water Reclamation Requirements for Recycled Water Use</i> . Requires the submittal of a Notice of Intent.	12/8/2023

Investigative Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
1	Ray's Station Winery/ Hopland	13267 Order No. R1-2023-0058 requires the Discharger to conduct a groundwater monitoring and subsurface investigation, develop a stormwater monitoring plan, conduct an investigation of biofilm presence at the facility, submit data related to solids storage and disposal, and submit information related to a land application of treated process wastewater effluent via a water truck that occurred in 2023.	12/20/2023
2	Port of San Francisco/ San Francisco	13267 Order requires the submittal of a site-history report for Wharfs J9 and J10 (Wharf Properties) and an investigation work plan for soil, sediment, groundwater, and surface water affected by petroleum discharges from historic fuel storage and distribution operations at the Wharf Properties located at the Hyde Street Harbor.	12/8/2023
4	Ideal Metal and Salvage Company and LGL 18700 Broadway LLC/ Carson	13267 Order No. R4-2023-0361 for requiring submittal of technical reports, work plan(s), and completion of a Chemical Storage and Use Questionnaire for the site located at 18700 S. Broadway Street in Carson.	12/11/2023
4	3840 Crenshaw, LLC/ Los Angeles	13267 Order No. R4-2023-0369 requires the submittal of technical reports and work plans for an evaluation of vapor intrusion assessment beneath the site to the existing onsite building located at 3840 Crenshaw Boulevard in Los Angeles.	12/27/2023
6V	U.S. Borax, Inc., Rio Tinto Minerals/ Boron	Requires the submittal and implementation of a submit Subsurface Investigation Work Plan for Boric Acid Pond 6; to submit a Dewatering Method Evaluation Study Work Plan, which will then inform a Feasibility Report of the piloted dewatering methods; and submit a Preliminary Closure/Post-Closure Maintenance Plan (PCPCMP) for the active surface impoundments	12/04/2023

Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10(c) Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
2	840 Harrison Street Properties, LLC/ San Francisco	Requires the completion of a conceptual site model and groundwater monitoring for the property located at 840 Harrison Street in San Francisco.	12/4/2023
4	George Adamian Trust/ Long Beach	Responsible party has failed to submit reports summarizing the off-site groundwater monitoring investigation, a workplan to install a replacement groundwater monitoring well for groundwater monitoring well MW-4, semi-annual groundwater monitoring reports, and monthly progress reports summarizing free product removal	12/4/2023

Cleanup and Abatement Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
1	Scotia Sawmill & Cogeneration Plant/ Scotia	Emergency CAO R1- 2023-0059 directs the discharger to submit an Interim Cleanup and Stabilization Plan by December 20, 2023 and then complete the ICSP immediately but no later than January 15, 2024.	12/8/2023
4	177 Indian Hill, LLC/ Claremont	Order No. R4-2023-0324 requires investigating and cleaning up soils and groundwater from releases of trichloroethene at the former Garner Glass Company located at 177 South Indian Hill Boulevard in Claremont.	12/15/2023

Other Enforcement Actions Taken:

Region/Division	Actions Issued	Region/Division	Actions Issued
1	10	5S	18
2	34	6T	4
3	11	6V	1
4	864	7	3
5F	43	8	17
5R	4	9	24

OFFICE OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS and the CALIFORNIA WATER QUALITY MONITORING COUNCIL

California Water Quality Monitoring Council

Clean Water Team: The Clean Water Team Calendar is available for download at [Clean Water Team's Calendar of events and activities](#). The downloadable iCal file will populate the togglable calendar into your Outlook or other calendar apps. Hovering over the calendar events will show a brief description and a link to more information.

- [2024 California Citizen and Community Monitoring Calendar](#) (PDF version)

Freshwater and Estuarine Harmful Algal Bloom (FHAB) Program: The FHAB Program recently released the [Water Code Section 13182\(a\) 2023 Annual Report](#) that outlines the efforts of the FHAB Program in 2023 and identifies continued resources needs to wholly implement the program as mandated by Assembly Bill 834 (Quirk, 2019). The FHAB Program staff, both dedicated and undedicated, have responded to almost 2,000 HAB incident reports across the state, developed a dozen new partner monitoring programs, performed three years of holiday assessments, launched an entirely new web-based data system, and encumbered over \$2.25 million into contracts including laboratory services and HAB research.

The FHAB Program has strived for improving coordination and collaboration in addressing HABs across the state, but limited resources have resulted in triaging response to these types of events based on threat to public health. Even with the improvements to the Water Boards FHAB web-based data system, compiling and collating statewide data also remains a challenge due to differing repositories and data ecosystems. Additional information on prior legislative reporting that contains more granular information on previous programmatic efforts and the 2022 comprehensive gap assessment that outline additional resources and funding needed to implement AB 834 can be found on the [SWAMP FHAB Programmatic webpage](#)

OFFICE OF RESEARCH, PLANNING, AND PERFORMANCE

OFFICE OF RESEARCH, PLANNING, AND PERFORMANCE

Water Conservation

For the October 2023 Urban Water Conservation Report, the statewide R-GPCD was 89 GPCD, based on 404 out of 421 reports.

In December 2023, we received 208 water waste reports through the [Save Water](#) site.

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Nothing to Report for this month.

OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL

Water Quality Petitions Currently Under Consideration for Review by the State Water Board (as of January 14, 2023)

The State Water Board is considering whether to grant review of the following current active petitions for review of regional water quality control board actions or failures to act in accordance with Water Code section 13320. These petitions for review will be dismissed by operation of law if (1) the State Water Board does not issue a letter granting review or (2) the State Water Board does not receive a written request from the petitioner that the petition be held in abeyance, prior to 5:00 p.m. on the corresponding deadline. Any exhibits identified in the petitions are available upon request by emailing waterqualitypetitions@waterboards.ca.gov.

PETITION NUMBER AND LINK TO PETITION	PETITION INFORMATION	DATE PETITION RECEIVED	DEADLINE FOR STATE WATER BOARD TO GRANT REVIEW
A-2841(a)	Petition of The City of Santa Maria for Review of Cleanup and Abatement Order, No. R3-2023-0070 For the Former Semco Twist Drill and Tool Company, Inc. et al, Industrial Parkway, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara County; Issued by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	10/24/23	01/22/2024
A-2841(b)	Petition of Santa Maria Public Airport District for Review of Cleanup and Abatement Order, No. R3-2023-0070 For the Former Semco Twist Drill and Tool Company, Inc. et al, Industrial Parkway, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara County; Issued by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	10/25/2023	01/23/2024

A-2841(c)	Petition of County of Santa Barbara for Review of Cleanup and Abatement Order, No. R3-2023-0070 For the Former Semco Twist Drill and Tool Company, Inc. et al, Industrial Parkway, Santa Maria, Santa Barbara County; Issued by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	10/26/2023	01/24/2024
A-2843	Petition of Ecological Rights Foundation and Humboldt Waterkeeper for Review of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R1-2023-0016 For the City of Eureka, Elk River Wastewater Treatment Plant, Humboldt County; Issued by the North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	11/02/2023	01/31/2024
A-2844	Petition of Timothy W. Starkweather, Jacqueline Starkweather, and Jacqueline Starkweather Living Trust for Review of Water Code Section 13267 Order For 100 Circle E Ranch Place & Adjacent Parcels, Contra Costa County; Issued by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board	11/06/2023	02/02/2024
A-2849	Petition of The Boeing Company for Review of Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R4-2023-0359 For Santa Susana Field Laboratory, Ventura County; Issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board	11/20/2023	02/16/2024
A-2853	Petition of CraneVeyor Corporation for Review of Amendment to Water Code Section 13267 Order No. R4-2018-0032 For 1524 N. Potrero Avenue, South El Monte, Los Angeles County; Issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board	01/05/2024	04/04/2024

A-2854	Petition of Becky Steinbruner for Review of Waste Discharge and Water Reclamation Requirements Order No. R3-2023-0033 For Pure Water Soquel Groundwater Replenishment Reuse Project Soquel Creek Water District and Waste Discharge Requirements Order No. R3-2023-0001 For City of Santa Cruz Wastewater Treatment Facility, Santa Cruz County; Issued by the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board	01/12/2024	04/11/2024
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OFFICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Submits on a Quarterly Basis

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM UPDATE

January 2024

This month's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) update provides a summary of significant activities of State Water Board staff for the month of December 2023. This update also covers the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Regional Water Board) compliance and outreach activities from November 1 to December 31, 2023. Next month's report will present activities from the North Coast, San Francisco Bay, Central Coast, Los Angeles, Lahontan, Colorado River Basin, Santa Ana, and San Diego Regional Water Boards from December 1, 2023 to January 31, 2024.

State Water Board staff continues its evaluation of nitrogen applied (A) and nitrogen removed (R) data collected since the adoption of Order WQ 2018-0002 (*In the Matter of Review of Waste Discharge Requirements General Order No. R5-2012-0116 for Growers Within the Eastern San Joaquin River Watershed that are Members of the Third-Party Group*). Staff plans to present an overview in a public meeting.

Central Valley Water Board staff provides regular bimonthly updates on compliance and outreach accomplishments and other key activities. The following table provides summary information on Region 5's Irrigated Lands compliance and outreach activities. More information can be found in the Central Valley Water Board's [Executive Officer's Reports website](#). The start date for the first 4 items of the table is November 1, 2023. The end date for all items is December 31, 2023.

On-Farm Inspections are performed at coalition-enrolled farms to discuss water quality-related issues with growers. These inspections include staff review of the farm evaluations, irrigation and nitrogen management plans and sediment and erosion control plans. Board staff inspects the site conditions, including potential discharge points to surface waters, pollution management practices, chemical storage and handling areas, and wellhead protection practices.

Notice of Violation for Late Report (INMSR) are sent to members who did not respond to the reminder letter for submitting their annual Irrigation Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report (INMPSR).

Notices of Violation (NOV) for failure to respond to Directive are sent to owners of parcels who did not respond to the Directive, informing them that they are in violation of the Directive and failure to respond may result in an Administrative Civil Liability Order.

Number of Drinking Water Wells Sampled is the number of drinking water wells that were sampled.

Drinking Water Well Samples is the number of drinking water well samples collected and reported in GeoTracker.

Notifications Required is the number of members required to notify users and Central Valley Water Board that their drinking water well samples exceeded the drinking water standard.

Notifications Received is the number of notification responses received from members whose drinking water well sample results exceeded the nitrate drinking water standard.

Indicated Only Member or Family User is the number of wells with samples exceeding the nitrate drinking water standard where the grower or grower's immediate family is the only user(s) of the well, precluding the grower from indicating if replacement water was provided.

Indicated Replacement Water Provided is the number of notification responses received indicating replacement water is provided. Note that growers are not required to indicate if replacement water is provided; therefore, this may not accurately reflect the number of people receiving replacement water.

Number of Wells Potentially Needing Replacement Water is the number of wells potentially needing replacement water for users beyond immediate family members. This was calculated by subtracting the combination of "Indicated Only Member or Family User" and "Indicated Replacement Water Provided" from the total number of "Notifications Required".

On-Farm Inspection	3
Notice of Violation for Late Report (INMSR)	119
NOV for failure to respond to Directive	17
Number of Drinking Water Wells Sampled	13,305
Drinking Water Well Samples	21,332
Notifications Required	4,187
Notifications Received	4,171
Indicated Only Member or Family User	1,869
Indicated Replacement Water Provided	1,115
Number of Wells Potentially Needing Replacement Water	1,203

Additional program information can be found at the [Central Valley Regional Board ILRP website](#)