State Water Resources Control Board



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT August 6, 2024





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California Water Supply Strategy and Implementation Strategy

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 Report.

Division of Water Quality

Seawater Desalination (Action 1.2)

State Water Board staff, in coordination with Coastal Commission, Department of Water Resources and other State entities (e.g. State Lands Commission), will identify potential available mitigation sites to facilitate the expedited approval of desalination facilities and will consider amendments to the Ocean Plan to streamline permits that meet the recommended siting and design standards for projects located in the identified priority areas.

State Water Board staff is developing proposed amendments to the Ocean Plan to help expedite approval of desalination facilities and is considering the recommendations in the December 2023 Seawater Desalination Siting and Streamlining Report to Expedite Permitting for the proposed amendments.

Office of Research, Planning, and Performance

Conservation (Action 3.1)

Build upon conservation achievements of the last two decades to reduce annual water demand in towns and cities by at least half a million acre-feet by 2030.

On July 3rd, the State Water Board adopted a regulation to make conservation a California way of life. Staff is now working to move the regulation through the OAL process.

Division of Financial Assistance

The SFY 2024-25 CWSRF Intended Use Plan is posted for public comment (closing July 15) and includes grant maximums for the Water Recycling Funding Program. The recently adopted 2024 Budget Act returns approximately \$74 million in grant to State Water Board to administer for water recycling projects. The State Water Board will consider adopting the SRF 2024-25 CWSRF IUP on August 6, 2024.

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

Small MS4 Permit Reissuance

In 2013, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) adopted the current statewide NPDES Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s). The permit expired in 2018 and has been administratively extended. State Water Board staff has developed an informal draft Small MS4 permit reissuance in coordination with Regional Water Board staff and interested parties. The informal draft permit addresses updated regulations (including total maximum daily loads) and State Water Board resolutions adopted since 2013 (including the statewide trash provisions).

On August 1, 2024, State Water Board staff issued a public notice regarding the availability of the informal draft Permit for a 60-day public comment period. Public comments are due by 12:00 p.m. (PDT) on Friday, October 4, 2024. Staff will make available a high-level response to comments, and based on comments received, will prepare a draft permit for public comments at a future date.

State Water Board staff will conduct two public workshops to provide information regarding the informal draft permit as follows:

- Virtual workshop: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 1:00 p.m. 4:00 p.m.
- In-person workshop: Thursday, September 5, 2024 9:00 a.m. 12:00 p.m., Sierra Hearing Room

The public notice and informal draft permit is available on the Small MS4 program web page at: <u>Phase II Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer System (MS4) Program |</u> California State Water Resources Control Board

Wildfire prevention general order and impact report released

On June 28th, the Utility Wildfire Order was released for public comment. On August 20, 2024, the Water Board will hold a hearing to gather oral comments on a draft general order and environmental impact report for waste discharges from electric utility wildfire mitigation activities. Senate Bill 901 (Dodd 2018) requires that utility companies develop wildfire prevention plans, which include managing vegetation along utility corridors. These activities result in waste discharges into state waters, necessitating compliance with the Water Code's waste discharge requirements. The proposed general order aims to streamline the permitting process to support wildfire prevention efforts, and similar activities, while protecting water resources.

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

<u>Statewide Policies and Significant General Permits</u>: The Statewide Policies and Significant General Permits report can be accessed at the <u>Statewide and Regional Policies / Significant General Permits website</u>.

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

Permitting and Enforcement Branch

Water Right Permits: In July 2024, the Division of Water Rights issued 1 permit. See table below for more details of the permit issued.

Primary Owner	Application ID	Permit ID	Date Issued	Brief Description
BLACK OAK RANCH LP	A033365	21457	7/18//2024	Permit authorizing diversion and use of up to 14 acre-feet from December 1 to May 15. Diversion from 3 points of diversion from tributaries of the South Fork Eel River. Diverted water stored in reservoir and tank farm. Use for irrigation use on up to 11 acres, domestic, dust control and incidental fire protection. Project includes a Water Code 1707 instream flow dedication of a riparian claim S015602 of up to 5.55 acre- feet (1.11 acre-feet/month) of water to be dedicated to instream flow in Streeter Creek during the dry season (May through September) each year.

Water Right Petitions: Between April 1, 2024, and June 30, 2024, the Division of Water Rights completed 11 petitions and minor change requests. See table below for more details of the completed petitions and requests.

Primary Owner	Application ID	Petition Type	Date Completed	Brief Description
DUCKHORN WINE COMPANY	A030794	Request Minor Change	05/30/2024	Approved the removal of domestic use as a Purpose of Use.
USDA FOREST SERVICE LAKE TAHOE BASIN MANAGEMENT UNIT	A027988	Request Minor Change	06/05/2024	Approved the removal of the Unnamed Stream (aka Quail Lake Creek) as a Place of Use.

SONOMA COUNTY WATER AGENCY	A012919A A015736 A015737 A019351	Temporary Urgency Change	06/06/2024	Approved temporary urgency change petitions to modify the minimum instream flow requirements for the Russian River as established by Decision 1610.
SYDNEY APARTMENTS INC	A030698	Request Minor Change	06/07/2024	Approved multiple changes (amount, season, points of diversion, and place of use) to the pending water right application
LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER	A008042 A008043	Temporary Urgency Change	06/14/2024	Approved temporary urgency change petitions to modify the Stream Ecosystem Flows in Rush Creek due to rotovalve failure at Grant Lake Reservoir.
BLACK OAK RANCH LIMITED PARTNERSHIP	A033365	Request Minor Change	06/14/2024	Approved the reduction in diversion amount.
AMADOR WATER AGENCY	A005647C	Assignment of State Filing	06/14/2024	Approved petition for partial assignment of state filing.

<u>Water Rights Enforcement</u>: Between April 1, 2024, and June 30, 2024, the Division of Water Rights issued the following actions:

Type of Action Issued	Description	Website Link
Notices of Violation	432 NOVs for Annual Water Use Reporting Violations	Notices of Violation Page
	43 NOVs for SB 88 Violations	
	22 NOVs for Cannabis Enforcement	
Cease and Desist Orders	1 CDO for SB 88 violation	Cease and Desist Orders
	1 CDO for unauthorized diversion	
Administrative Civil Liabilities	18 ACLCs for Annual Water Use Reporting Violations	Administrative Civil Liabilities

Delta, Hearings, and Special Projects Branch

Sites Reservoir and Delta Conveyance Projects: These are on-going water rights hearings that are co-managed by the Administrative Hearings Office (AHO) and the Division of Water Rights. Ex parte provisions are in effect for both projects. For more up-to-date information, please visit the following websites:

Sites Project Authority:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water issues/programs/administrative hearings office/s ites-project-authority.html

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/wsip/ (Background Information Only)

Delta Conveyance:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/administrative_hearings_office/ delta-conveyance.html

<u>https://waterboards.ca.gov/bay_delta/delta_conveyance.html</u> (Background Information Only)

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

Scott and Shasta Rivers: On February 1, 2024, the Office of Administrative Law approved an <u>emergency regulation</u> for the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds, which is effective for one year (i.e., through January 2025).

• Shasta River Watershed Curtailments

Addendum 1 to Order WR 2024-0006-DWR was issued on July 3, 2024, for water rights in the Shasta River watershed. This addendum reinstated conditional curtailments to water rights that had been curtailed. The addendum allows the Deputy Director for Water Rights to impose curtailments to water rights junior to 1912 if necessary to meet and sustain the minimum flow requirement at the <u>Yreka USGS Gage</u>. Water rights with a priority date junior to January 1, 1958, have additional conditions necessary before they can divert.

• Scott River Watershed Curtailments

Flows in the Scott River at the USGS gage near Fort Jones fell below the minimum flow requirement on July 21, 2024. The Division of Water Rights was monitoring the Shelly Fire, which as of Monday, July 22nd was approximately 50 percent contained. Earlier evacuation orders and warnings were still in place as of that date but were being lifted or lowered in some cases. Based on declining flows and the lessening of fire danger to the Valley floor, the Division issued surface and groundwater curtailment orders on July 24th, 2024. The curtailments did not affect or prohibit water diversion or groundwater pumping for firefighting activity and included extended timelines for those affected by evacuations.

Groundwater Local Cooperative Solutions Division staff have posted and continue to update a list of the proposals to the Local Cooperative Solution webpage. Specific proposals have been posted for greater than seven days allowing for public review. Staff have posted decisions on those proposals as they are completed.

Notice of Opportunity for Public Comments and Board Consideration of Proposed Order Setting Aside Water Quality Certification for the Yuba River Development Project: On July 15, 2024, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) issued a Notice of Opportunity for Public Comments and Board Consideration of a Proposed Order Setting Aside Water Quality Certification for the Yuba River Development Project (Notice). The State Water Board will accept written comments on a proposed order setting aside the water quality certification (certification) for hydropower project license for Yuba County Water Agency's Yuba River Development Project (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 2246), issued July 17, 2020. The proposed order would set aside this certification and dismiss the pending petitions for reconsideration of the certification.

Lake Fordyce Dam Seepage Mitigation Project: On May 23, 2024, the Executive Director of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) issued a Clean Water Act section 401 water quality certification amendment and adopted the California Environmental Quality Act Addendum to the Initial Study/Mitigated Negative Declaration for the Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Lake Fordyce Dam Seepage Mitigation Project (Project). The Project is intended to reduce excessive seepage below Lake Fordyce Dam as required by the California Division of Safety of Dams. This water quality certification amendment is issued to incorporate PG&E proposed Project design changes. Additional information is available on the State Water Board's <u>Project webpage</u> at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/d rum_spaulding_ferc2310.html#FordyceDam

Courtright Intake/Discharge Gate, Cylinder, and Piping Improvements Project: On July 3, 2024, the Executive Director issued a water quality certification for Pacific Gas and Electric Company's Courtright Intake/Discharge Gate, Cylinder, and Piping Improvements Project (Project). The Project involves equipment replacement at Courtright Dam, which is part of PG&E's Haas-King River Project and Helms Pumped Storage Project (also known as Federal Energy Regulatory Commission [FERC] Project Nos. 1988 and 2735, respectively). The Project is located on the North Fork Kings River in Fresno County, California, approximately 91 miles northeast of the city of Fresno. The certification is available on the <u>State Water Board's webpage</u> at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/d ocs/2024/courtright-cert.pdf

Camp Far West Transmission Line Project: On July 12, 2024, the Executive Director issued a water quality certification for Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of Pacific Gas and Electric Company's (PG&E) Camp Far West Transmission Line Project (Project). The Project involves continued operation and maintenance of

approximately 10.9 miles of transmission lines running from South Sutter Water District's Camp Far West Hydroelectric Project switchyard to a transmission line near Beale Air Force Base. The Project transmission lines cross Camp Far West Reservoir, the Bear River, and Dry Creek in Placer and Yuba counties, California. The certification is available on the <u>State Water Board's webpage</u> at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/4_01_certifications.html

DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Environmental Review

Completed Significant Events

• Environmental Package update completed as part of Division of Financial Assistance's overall Drinking Water Funding Application update on January 30, 2024, to ensure consistency with the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund State Environmental Review Process approved by Region 9, USEPA Administrator June 2023. Regular updates to the funding applications are one example of streamlining procedures and implementing process improvements for funding programs.

Drinking Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities in California: Historic Context and Research Design for National Register Evaluation completed and posted to the State Water Boad's public website on March 11, 2024. This study is the first of its kind prepared by any State Revolving Fund (SRF) Program. The purpose of the study is to guide SRF Program applicants/environmental consultants with evaluation of historic significance of drinking water and wastewater facilities and preparation of reports for compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and California Environmental Quality Act documents. SRF Program staff believe this process improvement will ultimately reduce the time it takes to receive a SRF funding agreement when applicants prepare the appropriate documents earlier in the project planning stage.

Future Significant Events

- Drafts of the Section 106 programmatic agreements for the Clean Water State Revolving Fund and Drinking Water State Revolving Fund programs will be submitted to the State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation for review in July 2024
- Anticipated completion of the Clean Water State Environmental Review Process

Environmental Reviews completed

Between January 1, 2024, to June 30, 2024, Environmental Section Staff completed 16 California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Lead Agency reviews for Division of Drinking Water (DDW) Water Supply Permit projects. Environmental Section Staff also completed 27 CEQA Responsible Agency Reviews for DFA funding projects and 14 CEQA Responsible Agency Reviews for DDW Water Supply Permit projects.

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 June 2024.

	Drinking Water Projects Funded (June 2024)							
Project #	Recipient – Project Purpose	Funding Amount						
1210015-002C	Willow Creek Community Services District - The Applicant proposes to construct a steel water tank. The tank size will be either 72 feet in diameter, storing 650,000 gallons of water or 60 feet in diameter, storing 409,000 gallons. In addition, the proposed Project includes concrete foundations, appurtenances, storm culverts, fencing and gate, asphalt pavement around the tank, and a new water pipeline that connects the new water tank to the existing distribution system.	\$2,112,750						
EDWG-1000057-001C	Fresno, City of - The goal of this regional consolidation project is to provide two vulnerable water systems with a safe and reliable drinking water source via a partial consolidation with the City of Fresno. The water systems involved in this project include 1) Del Oro Metropolitan District (PWS 1000057) and 2) New Horizon Mobile Home Park (PWS 1000259).	\$5,873,821						
EDWG-4710004-001C	Etna, City of - The recommended project includes replacement of the existing in-line pressure media vessels with a newly accepted direct filtration method of filtration which includes a flocculation process.	\$7,936,080						
EDWG-5401003-001C	East Orosi Community Services District - The consolidation of the East Orosi water system with Orosi PUD will address East Orosi's water quality compliance issues, lack of storage, aging infrastructure, and lack of technical, managerial, and financial capacity.	\$13,521,607						

Drinking Water Projects Amended (June 2024)					
Project #	Recipient – Amendment Purpose				
1210008-008P	Garberville Sanitary District – The purpose of the amendment is to increase funding amount by \$347,000.				
4510001-002C	Anderson, City of – The purpose of the amendment is to extend agreement dates, incorporate the FBA, and increase funding by \$2,002,100.				

Wastewater Projects Funded (June 2024)					
Project #	Recipient – Project Purpose	Funding Amount			
8117-110	Anderson Valley Community Services District - The project will include a feasibility report and Environmental documents.	\$198,324			

Wastewater Projects Amended (June 2024)						
Project #	Recipient – Amendment Purpose					
7878-210	Woodlake, City of – The purpose of the amendment is to extend agreement dates, incorporate the FBA, and increase funding by \$5,516,954.					
8117-110	Anderson Valley Community Services District - The purpose of the amendment is to extend agreement dates and increase funding by \$132,500.					
8423-110	Freedom County Sanitation District – The purpose of the amendment is to extend agreement dates and increase funding by \$619,905					

Administrator Summary

There were no new administrator agreements or work plans approved in the month of June 2024.

Operation and Maintenance (O&M)

One new direct operation and maintenance project was approved from the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund. Weott Community Service District applied and was approved for \$72,460 to reimburse operation and maintenance costs associated with the District's drinking water system. The funding agreement will require the District to reduce the residential water bills down to around 2.5% of the communities median household income for three years.

Technical Assistance Summary

The following new technical assistance agreements or amended technical assistance agreements were approved in the month of June 2024.

	Technical Assistance Agreements Funded (June 2024)							
Project #	Recipient – Project Purpose	Funding Amount						
D2118007, Amendment No. 1	Rural Community Assistance Corporation - The project provides TA to small, disadvantaged communities to develop, fund, and implement capital improvement projects for wastewater and to provide circuit rider services. Priority will be given to supporting capital improvement projects for providing sewer services to DACs with Onsite Sewage Treatment Systems, or regionalization of small wastewater systems.	\$7,122,035 (additional \$2,240,263)						
D2318107	Community Water Center - The project provides TA to small, disadvantaged communities to develop, fund, and implement capital improvement projects for wastewater. Priority will be given to supporting capital improvement projects for providing sewer services to DACs with Onsite Sewage Treatment Systems, or regionalization of small wastewater systems.	\$3,789,581						

DFA is providing Technical Assistance to 429 public water systems (189 Failing and 78 At-Risk systems) and to 60 wastewater systems. 42.8% of all Failing systems are receiving TA.

The table below summarizes the technical assistance work plans approved in the month of June 2024.

Work Plan Type	Work Plan No.	TA Recipient	Project Description	TA Provider*		Total Amount Approved	HR2W Status	Primary MCL Violation
Work Plan Amendment		High	Assist with planning project to connect the school with CSA-11	-	DW	\$564,201 (No Change)	U	Nitrate

Work Plan Type	Work Plan No.	TA Recipient	Project Description	TA Provider*	ТА Туре	Total Amount Approved	HR2W Status	Primary MCL Violation
Work Plan Amendment		Palomino Estates WC	Full planning project to address infrastructure deficiencies and treatment technology recommendation	UEI	DW	\$560,177 (No Change)		N/A
Work Plan Amendment		Cross Rd Villa Colonia	Community outreach to extend service from City of El Centro to the Cross Rd Villa Colonia community.		DW	\$28,716 (\$9,430 Increase)		N/A
Work Plan Amendment	6871-C	Lake Alpine Water Company	Full Planning to address DBP contamination	RCAC	DW	\$139,418 (No Change)	At-Risk	N/A
Work Plan Amendment		Antelope Blvd are - Tehama County	Full planning and outreach to consolidate homes in the Antelope Blvd area to the City of Red Bluff. (AR involves 19 water systems including state smalls in high- risk aquifers)	RCAC	DW	(\$86,074 Increase)	4 At-Risk / 3 Potentially At-Risk / 7 Not At- Risk / other state smalls and domestic wells	impacted by nitrate
Work Plan Amendment		White Fence Farms Mutual Water Company	Assistance with aquifer zone sampling and testing	UEI	DW	\$57,161 (\$5,676 Increase)		N/A
Work Plan Amendment		Mendocino City CSD	Feasibility Study	GHD	DW	\$446,094 (No Change)	3 Not At- Risk	N/A

Work Plan Type	Work Plan No.	TA Recipient	Project Description	TA Provider*	ТА Туре	Total Amount Approved	HR2W Status	Primary MCL Violation
New Work Plan	7010-A	mutual Water Company	Assistance with full planning project for consolidation project with Ventura River Water District; receiving DWR construction funding	NV5	DW	\$69,183 (New Work Plan)		N/A
New Work Plan	7011-A	Road Domestic Users Group	Assistance with full planning project for consolidation project with Ventura County WWD NO. 1 - Moorpark	NV5	DW	\$96,264 (New Work Plan)	Potentially At-Risk	N/A
New Work Plan	7114-A	-	Full planning application for consolidation with OCSD	UCD	DW	\$86,077 (New Work Plan)	-	Nitrate; selenium
New Work Plan	7121-A	Agency	Stantec will conduct the following: 1) Community Engagement Strategy Plan 2) Develop a Technical Memo 3) Complete a Consolidations Options Report	Stantec	DW	\$149,696 (New Work Plan)		N/A
Work Plan Amendment	7193-B	Sierra Linda Mutual Water Company	Full Planning	NV5	DW	\$114,960 (\$85,591 Increase)	2 Failing	Uranium

* 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	ТА Туре
7220	Century Mobile Home Park	Drought Reporting	SHE	DW
7224	Jackson Valley Irrigation District	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)

SAFE	R Program Approved Proje	cts and Amen	dments June	2024
Recipient	Project Purpose	Funding Amount	Funding Program	Category
Weott C.S.D	The project's purpose is to reduce water bills to the extent that residents are only paying around 2.5% of their MHI. Weott CSD provides water to a population of 364 through 139 connections. Weott CSD's water rate is comprised of a flat rate and volumetric charge based on usage. The average rate is about \$86 per month.	\$72,460	Safe and Affordable Drinking Water	Direct Operation & Maintenance
Six Acres Water Company	The project's purpose is to provide bottled water to the community while a disinfection system is installed.	\$14,300	Safe and Affordable Drinking Water	Bottled Water

Emergency Repair Funding Programs

The following requests for emergency funding under the Self-Help Enterprises (SHE) or Pueblo Unido Community Development Corporation (PUCDC) Emergency Fund Programs were approved in the month of June 2024.

Water System Requesting Assistance	Water System No.	TA Provider	Emergency Type	Project Scope	Total Amount Approved
Ferro MHP	N/A	PUCDC	Loss of Water Supply	Pump Replacement	\$8,500
Vargas MHP	N/A	PUCDC	Loss of Water Supply	Pump Replacement	\$6,300

Tooleville	CA5400567	SHE	Loss of Water	Well	\$22,987
			Supply	Rehabilitation	

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

No requests for Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA) funding were approved in June 2024.

Schools Grant Programs

<u>Drinking Water for Schools Grant Program</u> No updates for the month of June 2024.

Bottled Water for Schools Grant Program

The following schools were approved for enrollment during the month of June 2024.

District Name	School Name	Water System Name	Duration	Number of Students/Staff
Byron Union School District	Excelsior Middle School	Excelsior Middle School	2 years	455

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

On March 27, 2024, the Drinking Water Operator Certification Program staff gave a presentation to Drinking Water industry professionals at the American Water Works Association Spring 2024 Operator Symposium and Conference.

On April 5, 2024, the Drinking Water Operator Certification Program held its semi-annual Advisory Committee Meeting at the CalEPA building. This meeting was attended by Drinking Water industry professionals and provided an opportunity for their input and feedback on topics concerning the program.

On May 30, 2024, the Wastewater Operator Certification Program held its semi-annual Advisory Committee Meeting at the CalEPA building. This meeting was attended by Wastewater industry professionals and provided an opportunity for their input and feedback on topics concerning the program.

On June 5, 2024, the Wastewater Operator Certification Program held an Advisory Committee Meeting at the CalEPA building. This meeting was attended by Wastewater industry professionals and provided an opportunity for their input and feedback on fee changes for the program.

Future Significant Events

Interactive Online Application Portal

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 1. The interactive online application portal phase 2, will consist of higher-level examination applications and renewal applications, and is anticipated to be operational this fiscal year.

Regulations

In February 2024 Office of Operator Certification staff attended Office of Administrative Law's 3-day Law Making Course in preparation for the rulemaking process. In May 2024 Office of Operator Certification staff began conducting bi-weekly meetings to initiate scoping regulatory updates necessary for each program. Some of the regulatory updates identified at this stage in the scoping process include:

Drinking Water Operator Certification Program

- New and revised definitions
- Deletion of obsolete language
- Clarification of qualifying experience for certification
- Clarification of education requirements for examination

Wastewater Operator Certification Program

- Revised definitions
- Revisions to the Operator-in-Training requirements
- Deletion of obsolete language
- Revisions to acceptable science courses

Wastewater Operator Certification Program regulatory updates are anticipated to be straightforward and requiring only one rulemaking package. Drinking Water Operator Certification Program regulatory updates are expected to result in a large and complex

rule making package. Scoping regulatory updates necessary for the Drinking Water Operator Certification Program will include prioritizing the regulatory updates into multiple smaller rulemaking packages, for efficiency.

Advisory Committee Meetings

In late fall 2024, both Drinking Water and Wastewater Operator Certification Programs will hold semi-annual Advisory Committee Meetings at the CalEPA building. These meetings will be attended by water industry professionals and provide an opportunity for their input and feedback on topics concerning the programs.

Annual Program Update

In November 2024, the Office of Operator Certification staff plan to present an informational item at the Board meeting to provide a status update on the Drinking Water Operator Certification Program and Wastewater Operator Certification Program.

DISTRIBUTION DRINKING WATER						
	2023 2024					
	1/1/2023-6/30/2023	1/1/2024-6/30/2024				
Applications received	5,286	6,959				
(exam, cert, renewals)						
Certificates issued	2,698	3,569				
(new and renewals)						

OFFICE OF OPERATOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM (OOC)

TREATMENT DRINKING WATER						
	2023 2024					
	1/1/2023-6/30/2023	1/1/2024-6/30/2024				
Applications received	3,650	4,183				
(exam, cert, renewals)						
Certificates issued	2,139	2,202				
(new and renewals)						

WASTEWATER					
2023 2024					
	1/1/2023-6/30/2023	1/1/2024-6/30/2024			
Applications received	2,163*	2,510			
(exam, cert, renewals)					
Certificates issued	1,363	1,655			
(new and renewals)					

*Amending 2023 to reflect a 6-month reporting period from 1/1/2023-6/30/2023 instead of a full Fiscal Year, which was originally reported in August 2023.

ANNUAL	ANNUAL NUMBER OF DISTRIBUTION CERTIFICATE HOLDERS, BY GRADE						
Grade	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	June 2024	
1	3,629	3,610	3,599	3,588	3,542	3,476	
2	9,670	9,647	9,637	9,598	9,515	9,379	
3	4,193	4,187	4,176	4,144	4,108	4,075	
4	1,894	1,888	1,884	1,870	1,856	1,838	
5	1,287	1,284	1,285	1,281	1,276	1,270	
Total	20,673	20,616	20,581	20,481	20,297	20,038	

ANNUAL NUMBER OF TREATMENT CERTIFICATE HOLDERS, BY GRADE						
Grade	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	June 2024
1	2,258	2,222	2,204	2,202	2,196	2,187
2	8,586	8,483	8,455	8,445	8,429	8,421
3	1,886	1,881	1,878	1,869	1,860	1,852
4	1,051	1,047	1,039	1,035	1,032	1,030
5	536	531	529	528	527	527
Total	14,317	14,164	14,105	14,079	14,044	14,017

ANNUAL	ANNUAL NUMBER OF WASTEWATER CERTIFICATE HOLDERS, BY GRADE						
Grade	Jan 2024	Feb 2024	Mar 2024	Apr 2024	May 2024	June 2024	
OIT	742	737	735	728	720	705	
1	817	815	813	812	810	787	
2	1,539	1,536	1,530	1,526	1,524	1,468	
3	1,850	1,845	1,839	1,836	1,834	1,786	
4	440	437	437	436	437	424	
5	1,108	1,108	1,107	1,107	1,107	1,083	
Total	6,496	6,478	6,461	6,445	6,432	6,253	

COMPUTER-BASED TESTING PASS/FAIL – DWOCP and WWOCP 2023 Reporting Period 1/1/2023- 6/30/2023						
Grade	Examinees	Pass Count	Fail Count	Pass Percent		
Dist. Grade 1	539	343	196	64%		
Dist. Grade 2	933	615	318	66%		
Dist. Grade 3	366	224	142	61%		
Dist. Grade 4	168	96	72	57%		
Dist. Grade 5	77	48	29	62%		
		L	L			
Treat. Grade 1	248	148	100	60%		
Treat. Grade 2	618	396	222	64%		
Treat. Grade 3	154	103	51	67%		
Treat. Grade 4	72	40	32	56%		
WW Grade 1	142	75	67	53%		
WW Grade 2	156	71	85	46%		
WW Grade 3	170	65	105	38%		
WW Grade 4	47	15	32	32%		

	70			1.2.2.1
WW Grade 5	73	14	59	19%
			•••	

COMPUTER-BASED TESTING PASS/FAIL – DWOCP and WWOCP 2023 Reporting Period 1/1/2024- 6/30/2024						
Grade	Examinees	Pass Count	Fail Count	Pass Percent		
Dist. Grade 1	571	350	221	61%		
Dist. Grade 2	899	598	301	67%		
Dist. Grade 3	343	222	121	65%		
Dist. Grade 4	145	88	57	61%		
Dist. Grade 5	85	50	35	59%		
			1			
Treat. Grade 1	291	188	103	65%		
Treat. Grade 2	657	416	241	63%		
Treat. Grade 3	170	120	50	70%		
Treat. Grade 4	62	41	21	66%		
WW Grade 1	188	103	85	55%		
WW Grade 2	202	116	86	57%		
WW Grade 3	150	61	89	41%		
WW Grade 4	37	10	27	27%		
WW Grade 5	79	22	57	28%		

CUMULATIVE COMPUTER-BASED TESTING PASS/FAIL – DWOCP and WWOCP						
Rep	Reporting Period: 2/20/2021 (CBT Inception) – 6/30/2024					
Grade	Examinees	Pass Count	Fail Count	Pass Percent		
Dist. Grade 1	3,352	2,184	1,168	65%		
Dist. Grade 2	5,734	3,820	1,914	67%		
Dist. Grade 3	2,308	1,441	867	62%		

Dist. Grade 4	1,075	605	470	56%
Dist. Grade 5	493	292	201	59%
Treat. Grade 1	1,678	1,037	641	62%
Treat. Grade 2	3,893	2,546	1,347	65%
Treat. Grade 3	1,116	745	371	67%
Treat. Grade 4	481	296	185	62%
WW Grade 1	1,223	667	556	55%
WW Grade 2	1,245	681	564	55%
WW Grade 3	1,141	385	756	34%
WW Grade 4	341	88	253	26%
WW Grade 5	566	142	424	25%

*Treatment Grade 5 examination are oral exams and not conducted via computerbased testing

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

Permits

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

The following 24 permits were issued between June 16, 2024, and July 15, 2024.

Water System	Permit Number	Permit Purpose
JAKOV DULCICH & SONS WATER SYSTEM	FULL PERMIT	POU' ^s FOR NITRATE REMOVAL
EAST NILES CSD	FULL PERMIT	GAC-TCP & RO-NO3 TREATMENT
JOSEPH COLD STORAGE LLC	FULL PERMIT	CHANGE TO NTNC

JOSAN AND JOSAN, INC.	FULL PERMIT	FULL PERMIT UPDATE
ELK COUNTY WATER DISTRICT	FULL PERMIT	WELL 1 ACTIVATION
HUCKLEBERRY WATER DEVELOPMENT	FULL PERMIT	NEW WATER SYSTEM
CWS - SELMA	FULL PERMIT	ADD GAC-TCP TRT WELL 16 & UPDATE PERMIT
MORRO BAY PW DEPT - WATER DIVISION	PERMIT AMENDMENT S	MODIFY GROUNDWATER TREATMENT PERMIT CONDITIONS
LEMOORE, CITY OF	FULL PERMIT	ADD AIR STRIPPING TO REMOVE METHANE
TESORO VIEJO MASTER MWC, INC.	FULL PERMIT	PLANT EXPANSION
FOLEY FAMILY WINES CHATEAU ST. JEAN	FULL PERMIT	NEW PERMIT – CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP
BELMONT TERRACE MUTUAL WATER COMPANY	FULL PERMIT	PERMIT REISSUE
KERMAN, CITY OF	FULL PERMIT	UPDATED FULL PERMIT
MORAVIA WINES	FULL PERMIT	CL2 TRT AND UPDAT FULL PERMIT
GATEWAY MARKET WATER SYSTEM	PERMIT AMENDMENT S	ADD WELL 02, WELL 01 FROM ACTIVE TO STANDBY
MCFARLAND, CITY OF	FULL PERMIT	UPDATE PERMIT & ADD BROWNING WELL - RO TRT FOR NITRATE
CERES, CITY OF	PERMIT AMENDMENT S	ADD GAC TO WELL 16, WELLS 23 AND 32 TO INACTIVE, NEW 3M GAL TANK AND PUMP STATION, ADD PURCHASED TREATED SOURCE
CAMP AREV	PERMIT AMENDMENT S	ADDITION OF CONTINUOUS CHLORINATION
SO. CAL. EDISON COSANTA CATALINA	PERMIT AMENDMENT S	APPROVE STATUS CHANGE OF HOWLANDS LANDING 1 FROM ACTIVE TO INACTIVE
RAINS CREEK WATER DISTRICT	FULL PERMIT	PERMIT RENEWAL & UPDATE
LONE PINE MUTUAL WATER COMPANY	FULL PERMIT	PERMIT RENEWAL AND UPDATE
LOPEZ PROJECT	PERMIT AMENDMENT S	ADD EMERGENCY SOURCES OF SUPPLY

GOLDEN STATE WC -	PERMIT	FAIRHAVEN WELLS 1 & 3 CHANGE OF
COWAN HEIGHTS	AMENDMENT	STATUS AND PFAS TREATMENT
	S	FACILITY
MAYWOOD MUTUAL	PERMIT	APPROVE STATUS CHANGE OF
WATER CO. #3	AMENDMENT	PROSPECT WELL NO. 8 FROM
	S	INACTIVE TO ACTIVE

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 June 16 to July 15, 2024.

Public Water System	Violation	Contaminant or Rule
AUSTIN INDUSTRIAL PARK		
WATER SYSTEM	MCL	ARSENIC
		BACKFLOW AND CROSS
BANDY CANYON RANCH CORP	Other	CONNECTION VIOLATION
		DROUGHT ORDER - FAIL TO RPT
BATES ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Reporting	DROUGHT INFO
		FAILURE TO COMPLETE AN
BIG REDWOOD PARK WATER	Reporting	ANNUAL REPORT
CASTLE MOUNTAIN MINE	Monitoring	LCR
CENTRAL VALLEY BAPTIST		
CHURCH WS	MCL	ARSENIC
CENTRAL VALLEY BAPTIST		
CHURCH WS	MCL	1,2,3 TCP
CENTRAL VALLEY BAPTIST		
CHURCH WS	MCL	NITRATE
CENTURY MOBILE HOME PARK	MCL	ARSENIC
CROWS LANDING COMM SVC		
DISTRICT	Monitoring	1,2,3 TCP
CROWS LANDING COMM SVC		
DISTRICT	Monitoring	NITRATE
CROWS LANDING COMM SVC		
DISTRICT	Monitoring	PERCHLORATE

DEL ORO RIVER ISLAND SERV		CCR §64602 – WATER OUTAGE
TERR #1	Other	(OTHER)
EASTON AUTHORITY JPA	Monitoring	LCR
	Wormoning	BACKFLOW AND CROSS
ESCALON, CITY OF	Other	CONNECTION VIOLATION
FARM MUTUAL W.C. (THE)	Monitoring	NITRATE
	Wormoning	FAILURE TO COMPLETE AN
FEATHER RIVER MANOR	Reporting	ANNUAL REPORT
	roporting	DROUGHT ORDER - FAIL TO RPT
FEATHER RIVER MANOR	Reporting	DROUGHT INFO
FREMONT ONE	MCL	NITRATE
GICO MANAGEMENT	MCL	ARSENIC
HANFORD, CITY OF	Monitoring	LCR
JOHN HOVANNISIAN WATER		DROUGHT ORDER - FAIL TO RPT
SYSTEM	Reporting	DROUGHT INFO
LAKESIDE SCHOOL	Monitoring	LCR
MARTINEZ APARTMENTS	MCL	NITRATE
MARTINEZ APARTMENTS	MCL	ARSENIC
		FAILURE TO COMPLETE AN
MARYSVILLE FLEA MARKET	Reporting	ANNUAL REPORT
		FAILURE TO COMPLETE AN
MARYSVILLE RACEWAY PARK	Reporting	ANNUAL REPORT
	Public	
MISSION FARM R.V. PARK	Notification	NOTIFICATION, STATE
MONTE VISTA FARMING	Monitoring	NITRATE
MONTE VISTA FARMING	Reporting	CCR
MURRIETA/HERNANDEZ FARMS	Monitoring	LCR
MUSD-NILE GARDEN SCHOOL	MCL	1,2,3 TCP
MUSD-NILE GARDEN SCHOOL	MCL	ARSENIC
		FAILURE TO COMPLETE AN
NORCAL ADVENTURE AREA	Reporting	ANNUAL REPORT
NORTH TRAILS MUTUAL WATER		
COMPANY	MCL	NITRATE
PAICINES RANCH	Monitoring	RTCR
		DROUGHT ORDER - FAIL TO RPT
PLEASANT GROVE MHP	Reporting	DROUGHT INFO
PNP STOCKTON #80	MCL	NITRATE
		DROUGHT ORDER - FAIL TO RPT
RANCHO MARINA	Reporting	DROUGHT INFO
		FAILURE TO COMPLETE AN
RED HILL SALOON	Reporting	ANNUAL REPORT

RINCON WATER & ROAD		
WORKS	MCL	HAA5
		DROUGHT ORDER - FAIL TO RPT
RIVER RD WS #25	Reporting	DROUGHT INFO
SHADY REST TRAILER COURT	MCL	1,2,3 TCP
SIERRA INN	Monitoring	RTCR
SOUTH KERN MUTUAL WATER	litionitoring	
COMPANY	Monitoring	LCR
ST FRANCIS MOTEL	MCL	NITRATE
STAR MOTEL	MCL	NITRATE
STRAWBERRY LODGE MWC	Monitoring	LCR
SUNNY ROAD WATER SYSTEM	MCL	ARSENIC
SUTHERLAND RESERVOIR		
RECREATION AREA	Monitoring	RTCR
		BACKFLOW AND CROSS
TURLOCK, CITY OF	Other	CONNECTION VIOLATION
USN SAN CLEMENTE ISLAND	MCL	HAA5
WALNUT GROVE ELEMENTARY		DROUGHT ORDER - FAIL TO RPT
SCHOOL	Reporting	DROUGHT INFO
WESTERN HILLS WATER		BACKFLOW AND CROSS
DISTRICT/DIABLO GRAN	Other	CONNECTION VIOLATION
		OPERATOR CERTIFICATION
WESTMINSTER WOODS CAMP	Other	LEVEL
		FAILURE TO COMPLETE AN
WILLOW CREEK CAMPGROUND	Reporting	ANNUAL REPORT
		DROUGHT ORDER - FAIL TO RPT
WILTON BIBLE CHURCH	Reporting	DROUGHT INFO
YOLO CO AIRPORT	Monitoring	RTCR
Total Violations	58	

Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP)

	ELAP ACCREDITATIONS ISSUED			
	June 16, 2024 – July 15, 2024	Year-To-Date		
New Accreditation s	0	2		
Renewed Accreditation s	18	120		
Reciprocity Accreditation s	8	32		
Amended Accreditation s	15	155		
Total	41	309		

Accreditation Activities

TNI Summer Conference Coming to California

The NELAC Institute (TNI) is holding its summer meeting in Garden Grove, California August 5-9, 2024. The **Environmental Measurement Symposium (EMS)** is the combined meeting of the National Environmental Measurement Conference (NEMC) and the TNI Forum on Environmental Accreditation. The theme of the 2024 symposium is **Reliable Data for Sound Decision Making**. A full day session is planned to focus on California laboratory accreditation issues. Board Member Sean Maguire will be the keynote speaker at the conference.

DDW-SAFER

The SAFER Clearinghouse Summary Results for July 2024 (on 7/16/2024)

Summary Results			
Failing Systems	381	Removed Failing Systems	7

Water Systems Removed from the Failing List in July 2024

PWS ID	System Name	Last Status Change	County	Population
2000529	BONADELLE RANCHOS NO. 2 MUTUAL WATER CO	07/11/2024	MADERA	50
1009039	PAPPAS & CO (MENDOTA)	07/05/2024	FRESNO	27
1910149	SIGNAL HILL - CITY, WATER DEPT.	06/28/2024	LOS ANGELES	11795
1510701	EDWARDS AFB - MAIN BASE	06/27/2024	KERN	11316
1510025	STALLION SPRINGS CSD	06/27/2024	KERN	4831
1500443	CANYON MEADOWS MUTUAL WATER	06/27/2024	KERN	465
3910012	CITY OF STOCKTON	06/18/2024	SAN JOAQUIN	190688

Water Systems Added to the Failing List in July 2024

No water systems were added to the failing list in this time period.

SAFER Engagement Units

Lake Morena Views and Lake Morena Oak Shores Consolidation

The Southern Engagement Unit had a second public meeting with Lake Morena Views and Lake Morena Oak Shores regarding their consolidation. In addition, the appointed administrator for Lake Morena Views, Stantec Consulting Services, Inc., participated in the public meeting. This was Stantec's first public meeting as the administrator. The meeting was well attended by both communities and the discussion was productive.

Completed Consolidations

The following consolidations were completed during this past months' time.

Name	Туре	Pop.	Conn.	Notes
KINGS MOUNTAIN PARK MUTUAL	C	33	23	Water System consolidated with California Water Service - Bear Gulch
SAF-T-CAB	NTNC	110	3	Water System consolidated with the City of Fresno

Regulation Update

On July 24, 2024, the Office of Administrative law (OAL) approved the hexavalent chromium maximum contaminant level (MCL) of 0.010 mg/L adopted by the State Water Board on April 17, 2024. The regulation takes effect October 1, 2024.

Cross-connection Update

- The cross-connection control handbook is now in full effect and the old cross-connection control regulations contained in the California Code of Regulations are non-enforceable and will be inoperable on October 1, 2024.
- The cross-connection control committee has been working with external stakeholders to provide training to public water systems. The next training will occur in mid-August.

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Update on Water Quality, Water Rights, Drinking Water and Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) Fees Stakeholder Process Staff held the following fees stakeholder meetings: August 1 – Water Quality and Water Pights and August 2 – Drinking Water and ELAP. These were the third and final

Rights and August 2 – Drinking Water and ELAP. These were the third and final stakeholder meetings to discuss the proposed FY 2024-25 fees. Staff is scheduled to take proposed FY 2024-25 Drinking Water, ELAP, Water Quality and Water Rights fee schedule changes to the State Water Board for consideration at the September 18 board meeting.

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT

Press Releases

None

Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaints Issued:

No ACL complaints were issued in June 2024.

ACL Orders Issued:

Region	Discharger/City	Violation(s) Addressed	ACL Order Amount	Date Issued
2		Minimum mandatory penalty (MMP) for failure to submit annual report for the 2022-2023 reporting year as required by the construction stormwater general permit.	\$1,000 (MMP - \$1,000 to the Waste Discharge Permit Fund (WDPF))	0/10/2024

Region	Discharger/City	Violation(s) Addressed	ACL Order Amount	Date Issued
2	BlueWave Express Carwash/ Morgan Hill	MMP for failure to submit annual report for the 2022-2023 reporting year as required by the construction stormwater general permit.	\$1,000 (MMP - \$500 to the WDPF and \$500 to a Supplemental Environmental Project (SEP))	6/19/2024
2	San Jose Evergreen Community College District/ San Jose	MMP for failure to submit annual report for the 2022-2023 reporting year as required by the construction stormwater general permit.	\$1,000 (MMP - \$500 to the WDPF and \$500 to a SEP	6/19/2024
2	The Elks Lodge 522/ San Jose	MMP for failure to submit annual report for the 2022-2023 reporting year as required by the construction stormwater general permit.	\$1,000 (MMP - \$1,000 to the WDPF)	6/19/2024
2	Meritage Homes/ Hayward	MMP for failure to submit annual report for the 2022-2023 reporting year as required by the construction stormwater general permit.	\$1,000 (MMP - \$1,000 to the WDPF)	6/19/2024
3	City of El Paso de Robles/ Paso Robles	MMPs for 6 exceedances of the average monthly effluent limit (AMEL) for copper.	\$18,000 (MMP - all to Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA))	6/19/2024
4	Steaven Jones Development Company/ Marina Del Rey	Violations related to construction work on the Glencoe Project, located at 4061-4065 South Glencoe Avenue in Marina del Rey. This includes deficient best management practices (BMPs) and an insufficient stormwater pollution prevention plan (SWPPP).	\$200,000 – all to CAA	6/10/2024
4	Los Angeles Cnty DPW/ Redondo Beach	MMP for exceedance of the AMEL for total suspended solids (TSS).	\$3,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	6/20/2024

Region	Discharger/City	Violation(s) Addressed	ACL Order Amount	Date Issued
4	Onni Atria L.P./ Los Angeles	MMPs for a late report that was due on 11/14/2022 but received 85 days late on 02/07/2023.	\$6,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	6/20/2024
4	Los Angeles City DWP/ Long Beach	MMP for exceedance of the MDEL for temperature.	\$3,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	6/20/2024
4	Ventura Cnty Watershed Protection District/ Moorpark	 MMPs for: Exceedance of the AMEL for mercury Exceedance of the maximum daily effluent limit (MDEL) for TSS 3 exceedances of the AMEL for TSS 	\$12,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	06/20/2024
4	G & L 436 Bedford, LLC c/o Welltower Inc./ Beverly Hills	MMP for exceedances of the AMEL for selenium.	\$3,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	06/20/2024
4	HPG Management/ Los Angeles	 MMPs for: Exceedance of the AMEL for biochemical oxygen demand (BOD) 2 exceedances of the MDEL for settleable solids 2 exceedances of the AMEL for copper 	\$15,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	06/20/2024
4	Los Angeles Cnty Sanitation Districts/ Whittier	Unauthorized discharge of 222,542 gallons of untreated wastewater on December 25, 2020.	\$410,126 (\$9,996 to the CAA and \$400,130 to SEP)	6/21/2024
5F	Merced City/ Merced	MMP for exceedance of the AMEL for copper	\$3,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	6/5/2024

Region	Discharger/City	Violation(s) Addressed	ACL Order Amount	Date Issued
5R	Alturas City/ Alturas	 MMPs for: 3 exceedances of the MDEL for copper 5 exceedances of the AMEL for copper Exceedance of the AMEL for zinc 	\$27,000 (MMP – all to Compliance Project (CP))	6/17/2024
5S	Nevada City/ Nevada City	 MMPs for: 20 exceedances of the 7-day median effluent limit for total coliform Exceedance of the average weekly effluent limit (AWEL) for TSS Exceedance of the MDEL for dichlorobromomethane Exceedance of the AMEL for dichlorobromomethane Exceedance of the AMEL for ammonia Exceedance of the AWEL for ammonia 	\$75,000 (MMP – all to CP)	6/28/2024
6Т	Town of Truckee/ Truckee	Failing to implement good housekeeping, best management practice, erosion control, and sediment control for the Coldstream Roundabout project.	\$559,701 (\$287,852 to CAA and \$271,849 to SEP)	6/17/2024
7	Brawley City/ Brawley	 MMPs for: 2 exceedances of the instantaneous maximum effluent limit for Escherichia coli (E. coli) Exceedance of the 6-week rolling average weekly effluent limit for E. coli Exceedance of the MDEL for ammonia 	\$12,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	
9	San Diego County/ Fallbrook	 MMPs for: 4 exceedances of the AMEL for total nitrogen 2 exceedances of the instantaneous maximum effluent limit for total nitrogen Exceedance of the instantaneous maximum effluent limit for total manganese 	\$18,000 (\$1,500 to CAA and \$16,500 to SEP)	6/18/2024

Investigative Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
3	Rice Ranch Ventures LLC / Orcutt	13383 Order No. R3-2024-0038 requiring the calculation of offsite discharge volumes of stormwater and sediment, and the removal and disposal of sediment from construction activities.	6/27/2024
5R	Ennis Holdings LLC/ Burney	13267 Directive requiring a work plan and site investigation report for the unauthorized release of hazardous substances from the former and current UST systems at 37087 Main Street in Burney.	5/1/2024
8	Leonard A. Miller Trust/ Riverside	13267 Order R8-2024-0055 requires submittal of documentation related to past operation, a work plan, and a schedule for the property at 3016 and 3112 Kansas Avenue in Riverside.	6/14/2024

Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10(c) Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
2	Sunrise Investment L.L.C./ Oakland	Directive requiring corrective actions and groundwater monitoring for the unauthorized release of hazardous substances from underground storage tanks (USTs) at 829 54th Avenue in Oakland.	6/25/2024

Cleanup and Abatement Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
1	Cameron Amiri/ Nevada City	Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO) R1-2024-0036 requires the cleanup action plan for discharges of waste from process water from a winery regulated under Regional Water Board General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges of Wine, Beverage and Food Processor Waste to Land.	6/20/2024

Time Schedule Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
5S	Brentwood City/ Brentwood	Time Schedule Order (TSO) R5-2024-0021 contains interim limits for dibromochloromethane and dichlorobromomethane and requires the submittal of a certification signed by the Legally Responsible Official that includes photo documentation demonstrating that the Free Chlorine/Low CT Disinfection Process is operational.	6/1/2024

Region/Division	Actions Issued	Region/Division	Actions Issued
1	9	5S	45
2	5	6T	4
3	25	6V	2
4	68	7	1
5F	10	8	9
5R	9	9	6

Other Enforcement Actions Taken:

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

Freshwater and Estuarine Harmful Algal Bloom (FHAB) Program

The Water Boards Freshwater and Estuarine Harmful Algal Bloom (FHAB) Program has successfully completed the pre-Memorial Day and pre-Fourth of July holiday assessments for harmful algal blooms. Before major summer recreational holidays, the FHAB Program monitors popular waterbodies to inform the public where it is safe to recreate, including swimming and boating. Sampling is completed by Water Boards staff and through enlisted partners. Three new partners were onboarded this year in southern California including Los Angeles County, City of Los Angeles, and Imperial County. Headlines were made in Southern California this spring due to many waterbodies exceeding the caution threshold for cyanotoxins, which instructs the public to avoid areas of algae and scum and recommends pets stay out of the water. Without the participation from these partnering agencies, these waterbodies likely would not have been tested and the public would have been unaware of recreational risks. In sum, seventy-nine waterbodies were sampled across the state.

Over sixty sites were sampled as part of the pre-Fourth of July holiday assessment. News advisories were issued for Lake Elsinore, areas of Clear Lake, and Discovery Bay due to dangerous levels of toxins which recommends the public to stay out of and off the water with this assessment data. The next pre-holiday assessment is scheduled for Labor Day.

SWAMP Bioaccumulation Monitoring Program

The Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) <u>Bioaccumulation Monitoring</u> <u>Program</u>, in partnership with <u>California Indian Environmental Alliance</u>, is offering a tribally-centered Bioaccumulation Monitoring Training Series in 2024. The purpose of this training series is to support California Native American Tribes in developing programs in the areas of bioaccumulation monitoring, data analysis, and data use processes, and enable Tribes and other bioaccumulation monitoring groups to adopt those processes into their workflows and more easily partner with SWAMP and the <u>Safe to Eat Workgroup</u>.

The first three trainings were held Jan – Mar 2024, with over 50 individuals representing 37 tribes attending one or more the trainings.

- Jan 2024: Intro to the Bioaccumulation Monitoring Program and STEW -<u>Slides</u> | <u>Recording</u>
- Feb 2024: Bioaccumulation monitoring study design & preparation -<u>Slides</u> | <u>Recording</u>
- Mar 2024: Bioaccumulation monitoring sample collection protocols & processing -<u>Slides</u> | <u>Recording</u>

The next training will be offered Tue. Sep. 17, 2024, 9 am – 12 pm PT and will cover Bioaccumulation monitoring data QAQC & Tribal data use in the CA Integrated Report – Register Today!

Two additional trainings will be held later in the year (October – December) on the following topics:

- Bioaccumulation monitoring data analysis & interpretation
- OEHHA fish consumption advisory development

When dates are confirmed for the last two trainings, they will be announced via the California Water Board's <u>Tribal Matters</u> and <u>Safe to Eat Workgroup</u> email lists. For more information and to access slides and recordings of past trainings, visit the <u>Training Series Webpage</u>.

OFFICE OF RESEARCH, PLANNING, AND PERFORMANCE

Water Conservation

Suppliers submitted 356 completed reports for May 2024. The estimated total urban water use was 158 billion gallons (485 thousand acre-feet) and the estimated statewide residential per capita use was 68 gallons per capita daily.

In June 2024, we received 263 water waste reports through the Save Water site.

Climate Change

At the State Water Board meeting on June 4, 2024, ORPP presented a plan to initiate the development of a proposed new State Water Board climate resolution, for consideration for adoption in 2025.

OFFICE OF CHIEF COUNSEL

Water Quality Petitions Currently Under Consideration for Review by the State Water Board (as of July 15, 2024)

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
<u>A-2870(a)</u>	Petition of French Cleaners for Review of Water Code Section 13267 Order No. R5-2024-0807 for Investigation and Submission of Technical Reports for French Cleaners, 416 West Yosemite Avenue, Manteca, San Joaquin County; Issued by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board	4/16/2024	7/15/2024
<u>A-2872</u>	Petition of American Pacific Corporation and Western Electrochemical Company for Review of Water Code Section 13267 Order No. R4-2024-0005 for Former Potassium Perchlorate Plant, 2650 East Washington Boulevard, Vernon, Los Angeles County; Issued by the Los Angeles Regional Water Quality Control Board	6/5/2024	9/3/2024

OFFICE OF PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The Office of Public Participation ensures the Water Boards' decision-making processes involve the public and uplift the voices of environmental justice communities and California Native American tribes. Primary program areas include the Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Drinking Water program, public participation and engagement with environmental justice communities, racial equity, language access, and tribal affairs.

Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER)

The Office of Public Participation's role within the SAFER drinking water program includes developing and implementing effective community engagement and outreach strategies that ensure Californians who lack safe, adequate, and affordable drinking water receive it as quickly as possible and that the water systems serving them establish sustainable solutions.

SAFER Advisory Group

The Office of Public Participation convened a one-day SAFER Advisory Group virtual meeting on May 2, 2024. Meeting topics included the 2024 Needs Assessment results, draft priorities for the Fund Expenditure Plan with a large group discussion, and SAFER program updates for 2024. The 3rd SAFER Advisory Group meeting was held on July 10, 2024. The July meeting included the revised SAFER goals, draft Fund Expenditure Plan priorities, and a presentation on technical assistance provider efforts, including a panel of four existing technical assistance providers.

The Office of Public Participation is currently facilitating the 2024 application process for the SAFER Advisory Group. The Advisory Group has 11 seats that are up for appointment. The application period opened on July 2 and will close on August 31, 2024. The Office of Public Participation has been conducting outreach on an ongoing basis to solicit applications for all categories including Gov Delivery email lists, coordinating advertisement through the EJ Roundtable and other Water Boards programs, and relying on professional networks to encourage people to apply. Application review and appointments will be in Quarter 4 of this year.

Public Participation and Environmental Justice

The Public Participation and Environmental Justice program promotes inclusive, equitable, and transparent public engagement in Water Boards decision-making processes for all Californians, especially for environmental justice communities.

Sustainable Groundwater Management

In 2023, the Department of Water Resources found local groundwater sustainability plans inadequate in six groundwater subbasins under the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act's sustainability requirements. These subbasins have been referred to the State Water Board for possible probation. The Office of Public Participation continues coordinating outreach and engagement, leading to potential probationary hearings in each subbasin. For the Tule subbasin, staff held a virtual workshop on April 5 and an inperson workshop in Porterville on April 8, where staff presented the draft report and

sought input from the public. The State Water Board held the first SGMA probationary hearing – for the Tulare Lake subbasin – on April 16, 2024, and designated the basin as probationary. In May, staff released a draft staff report for the Kaweah subbasin with an executive summary and accompanying outreach materials available in English in Spanish. Staff held a virtual public workshop on June 24, and an in-person workshop in Visalia on June 27, where staff and local groundwater sustainability agencies presented, and members of the public provided comments for staff and Board consideration. Spanish interpretation was available at the Tule and Kaweah subbasin workshops and at the Tulare Lake probationary hearing.

Salton Sea Annual Workshop

The State Water Board held its annual workshop on the Salton Sea Management Program on May 22. The Board heard updates on the Salton Sea Management Program from State and Federal partners and others, including progress on the 10-year plan (2018-2028) and the development of a long-range plan for managing environmental conditions at the Sea beyond 2028. Community groups located in the Salton Sea held viewing locations in English and Spanish at two strategic locations at the Sea. The Board received eight written comment letters (which included ~500 signatories) in advance of the workshop and dozens of oral comments during the workshop.

Language Access

The Office of Public Participation's Language Access program ensures that the Water Boards comply with state and federal language access laws by providing all Californians with meaningful and consistent language access services.

Oral Interpretation Services

Between April and June 2024, the Office of Public Participation provided 22 interpretation services for meetings and conversations between staff members of the public. Some meetings included the SAFER Advisory Group meetings, Sustainable Groundwater Management public workshops, Allensworth Administrator Public meeting, Salton Sea Board Hearing, and Regional Board meetings. 21 interpretation services were provided in Spanish and one in Hmong White.

Written Translation of Documents

Between April and June 2024, the Office of Public Participation delivered 199 translations, for various regions, divisions, and offices. The translations included documents, presentations, and compliance letters. Programs and projects that utilized translation services include Site Clean-up, Hexavalent Chromium, Sustainable Groundwater Management, Enforcement, Underground Storage Tanks, Irrigated Lands Program, Ocean Desalination, and others. These translations were provided in a total of 13 languages to meet the community needs: Spanish, Simplified Chinese, Traditional Chinese, Vietnamese, Cantonese, Farsi, French, Hindi, Japanese, Korean, Punjabi, Russian, and Arabic.

Tribal Affairs

The Tribal Affairs program strengthens the Water Boards' relationships with California Native American Tribes, conducts meaningful government-to-government consultations, deepens the staff's understanding of tribal needs, and supports tribal participation in Water Boards' decision-making processes, meetings, events, and hearings.

Native American Day – Cultural Heritage Pavilion

The State Water Board will once again host the Cultural Heritage Pavilion at the 2024 California Native American Day on September 27 at the State Capitol. The Cultural Heritage Pavilion is a place where tribal cultural practitioners can share a cultural practice or wisdom with event attendees. This year's Cultural Heritage Pavilion has been expanded to include space for 20 cultural practitioners and 10 tribal cultural departments. The Office of Public Participation is currently soliciting applications from tribal cultural practitioners.

CalEPA Tribal Advisory Committee

In June 2024, the Tribal Liaison participated in the CalEPA Tribal Advisory Committee. The mission of the CalEPA Tribal Advisory Committee is to educate CalEPA and its Boards, Departments, and Offices and advocate concerning the Tribal beliefs and perspectives of cultural resources protection, environmental protection, historical and current day Tribal lands stewardship of the environment and develop strategies and action plans to address Tribal environmental issues under CalEPA purview.

Workplace Equity and Inclusion

The Workplace Equity and Inclusion program was created to foster a culture of respect, inclusion, equity, and equal opportunity, ensuring every Water Boards employee feels welcome and valued. The program centers on the practice of process equity and the creation of inclusive and authentic spaces for Water Boards employees.

Welcoming Equity in the Workplace Conversations

In July, the Office of Public Participation and the Office of Research Planning and Performance facilitated "Welcoming Equity in the Workplace" conversations for managers and supervisors at the Water Boards. This series of conversations focused on pre- and post- pandemic workplace culture and helping leaders understand their role in advancing equity efforts in support of the Water Boards Racial Equity Resolution and Action Plan. The conversation also focused on ways to make employees feel welcome while acknowledging the varying needs of each employee. The training, consisting of five virtual and in-person courses over two weeks for approximately 75 attendees, aims to enhance equitable communication and acknowledge diverse employee needs and contributions as we return to the office.

OFFICE OF SUSTAINABLE GROUNDWATER MANAGEMENT

Submits on a Quarterly Basis

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM UPDATE

July 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 June 2024. This update also covers the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board's (Regional Water Board) compliance and outreach activities from May 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024. 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 June 1, 2024 to July 31, 2024.

State Water Board staff hosted a fee stakeholder meeting to discuss FY 2024-25 fee changes on June 13, 2024. The next fee stakeholder meeting will be held on August 1, 2024.

Staff is in the process of developing an expert panel, as discussed in Order No. WQ 2023-0081, *In the Matter of Review of General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands Order No. R3-2021-0040.* A <u>Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment</u> on the expert panel expertise and proposed questions was released on May 13, 2024. Comments were due by 5:00 pm on June 28, 2024. Staff is currently reviewing comments.

State Water Board staff continues collaboration with the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) and their contractor on the CDFA regulatory alignment study. A <u>concept paper</u> was released for public comment in May, with comments due by 5:00 pm on July 31, 2024. Workshops discussing the concepts were held through June and July. Information regarding the regulatory alignment study can be found on the CDFA regulatory alignment study webpage.

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 <u>Executive Officer's</u> <u>Reports website</u>. The start date for the first 6 items of the table is May 1, 2024. The end date for all items is June 30, 2024.

<u>On-Farm Inspections</u> - Inspection 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.

<u>Outreach Package to Non-filers</u> - Information packages sent to owners of parcels who could potentially be irrigating a commercial crop and are not enrolled in the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP). Information on the ILRP and Drinking Water Well Monitoring Program is provided in the outreach package.

<u>Water Code Section 13260 Directives</u> - Directives sent to owners of parcels who do not respond to our initial outreach package requesting they enroll in the ILRP or claim an exemption. The directive requires the recipients to enroll with a third-party group within 15 days of receipt of the letter.</u>

<u>Notices of Violation (NOV) for failure to respond to Directive</u> - NOVs sent to owners of parcels informing them that they are in violation of a Directive and continued failure to respond may result in an Administrative Civil Liability Order.

<u>Reminder letters (INMPSR)</u> - Informal outreach reminding growers to submit late Irrigation Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Report (INMPSR).

<u>Reminder to Sample Postcard</u> - Postcards are sent to remind members of their requirement to sample their domestic well for Nitrate + Nitrite as nitrogen.

Number of Drinking Water Wells Sampled - Number of drinking water wells that have been sampled.

<u>Drinking Water Well Samples</u> - Number of drinking water well samples collected and reported in GeoTracker.

<u>Notifications Required</u> - Number of members required to notify users and Central Valley Water Board that their drinking water well samples exceeded the drinking water standard.

<u>Notifications Received</u> - Number of notification responses received from members whose drinking water well sample results exceeded the nitrate drinking water standard.

<u>Indicated Only Member or Family User</u> - 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.

<u>Indicated Replacement Water Provided</u> - 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.

<u>Number of Wells Potentially Needing Replacement Water</u> - 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	8
Outreach Package to Non-filers	481
Water Code Section Directives	117
NOV for failure to respond to Directive	41
Reminder Letter for Late Report (INMPSR)	33
Reminder to Sample Postcard	1031
Number of Drinking Water Wells Sampled	13,726
Drinking Water Well Samples	23,267
Notifications Required	4,359
Notifications Received	4,285
Indicated Only Member or Family User	1,931
Indicated Replacement Water Provided	1,135
Number of Wells Potentially Needing Replacement Water	1,293

Additional program information can be found at the <u>Central Valley Regional Board ILRP</u> <u>website</u>.