

EXECUTIVE OFFICER'S REPORT
OCTOBER 2026

CALIFORNIA REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
CENTRAL VALLEY REGION

PATRICK PULUPA, EXECUTIVE OFFICER



STAFF RECOGNITION	3
PROGRAM REPORTS	3
SPECIAL FOCUS AREAS.....	30
ENFORCEMENT REPORT.....	33
CLEANUP SUCCESSES.....	35
GRANT OVERSIGHT	40
OUTREACH.....	40
PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION	45
FUTURE BOARD ACTIVITIES.....	48

STAFF RECOGNITION

SUPERIOR ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARDS

The Central Valley Water Board believes in recognizing superior employee performance via the Employee Recognition Program. This Program consists of monthly Employee Recognition Awards (ERAs) and Superior Accomplish Awards (SAAs). ERAs are presented at monthly All Staff Meetings with a certificate and announcement by the Executive Officer (EO). SAAs are presented at Board Meetings and include a certificate, monetary award, and announcement by the EO. [Employee Recognition Awards](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/press_room/employee_recognition/) can be viewed on the Board's website at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/press_room/employee_recognition/).

PROGRAM REPORTS

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM (ILRP)

ILRP QUARTERLY STAKEHOLDER MEETINGS

More information regarding the stakeholder meetings can be found on the Central Valley Water Boards' [ILRP – Stakeholder Meetings and Workgroups web page at](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_land/regulatory_information/stakeholder_advisory_workgroup/)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/irrigated_land/regulatory_information/stakeholder_advisory_workgroup/).

DRINKING WATER WELL MONITORING OUTREACH

All ILRP enrollees are required to monitor drinking water wells on enrolled parcels for nitrate plus nitrite as nitrogen and notify users if the drinking water standard is exceeded. This started with members of the East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition and Tulare Lake Basin Coalitions in 2019 and 2020, respectively. Members of the San Joaquin & Delta, Grasslands and Westside San Joaquin River Coalitions started monitoring in 2021, and members of the Rice Commission and Sacramento Valley and Westlands Water Quality Coalitions in 2022.

Board staff are tracking notification submittals and conducting follow-up as needed to ensure that members/landowners with wells exceeding the nitrate drinking water standard are notifying users of the impacted wells. Between 1 July to 31 August, 41 samples were submitted to GeoTracker by 28 agricultural coalition members/landowners. Approximately 4.9 percent of the samples exceeded the drinking water standard. During the same period, staff sent emails/phone calls to members reminding them of the notification requirement. Out of 4,638 drinking water well exceedances since the beginning of the program, staff have received 4,574 notification responses. Staff continue to follow up with phone calls, emails, letters and notices of violation, as necessary, for inadequate notification action.

Board staff sent 703 “Reminder to Sample” postcards to members of the Tulare Lake Basin Coalitions during this period.

Region-wide, this effort has resulted in 26,739 nitrogen samples being collected and entered into GeoTracker for over 14,736 wells, with approximately 31 percent of the wells exceeding the nitrate drinking water standard (as of 31 August 2026).

OUTREACH PACKAGES FOR ENROLLMENT

Water Board staff sent outreach packages prior to 13260 Directives to owners of potential commercial irrigated lands. Outreach packages are sent to potential non-filers to provide them with information on the ILRP and steps for enrolling in the program. Staff then follow up with Directives as needed. Coalition areas not shown had no outreach packages mailed during the reporting period.

Coalition Area	Outreach Package sent 1 Jul – 31 Aug
East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition	2
Kaweah Basin Water Quality Coalition	38
Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority	79
Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority	117
Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition	49
Westlands Water Quality Coalition	1
Total	286

REMINDER LETTERS FOR MEMBER REPORTS

Water Board staff sent reminder letters prior to notices of violation to members who have failed to submit their member report(s) by the Board-approved due dates. Coalition areas not shown had no reminder letters mailed during the reporting period.

Coalition Area	Reminder Letters sent 1 Jul – 31 Aug
East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition	252
Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition	133
San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition	676

Coalition Area	Reminder Letters sent 1 Jul – 31 Aug
Westside San Joaquin River Watershed Coalition	465
Grasslands Drainage Authority	16
Cawelo Water District Coalition	4
Kaweah Basin Water Quality Coalition	1
Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority	2
Kings River Watershed Coalition Authority	273
Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition	4
Westlands Water Quality Coalition	14
Total	1,840

ON-FARM INSPECTIONS FOR GENERAL ORDER COMPLIANCE

The purpose of on-farm inspections is for Board staff to visit coalition-enrolled farms and 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 inspect the site conditions, including potential discharge points to surface waters, pollution management practices, chemical storage and handling areas, and wellhead protection practices. Coalition areas not shown had no on-farm inspections during the reporting period.

Coalition Area	On-Farm Inspections 1 Jul – 31 Aug
San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition	1
Total	1

WATER CODE SECTION 13260 DIRECTIVES

Staff sent Directive letters to owners of potential commercial irrigated lands identified through staff inspections of agricultural-zoned parcels. The directives require recipients to obtain permit coverage within 15 days of receipt. Coalition areas not shown had no Directives mailed during the reporting period.

Coalition Area	Directive Letters sent 1 Jul – 31 Aug
East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition	1
Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition	19
San Joaquin County & Delta Water Quality Coalition	72
Total	92

NOTICES OF VIOLATION FOR FAILURE TO RESPOND TO SECTION 13260 DIRECTIVES

Notices of Violation (NOVs) were sent to those who did not respond to a Directive letter. Failure to respond to the NOV subjects the discharger to further enforcement actions which may include an administrative civil liability order. Coalition areas not shown had no directives mailed during the reporting period.

Coalition Area	NOVs sent 1 Jul – 31 Aug
East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition	4
Total	4

NOTICES OF VIOLATION FOR FAILURE TO SUBMIT A MEMBER REPORT

Notices of Violation (NOVs) were sent to coalition members for failure to submit their member report(s) by the Board-approved deadlines. Members who did not respond to our reminder letters were issued NOVs urging them to promptly provide their report(s) to their respective coalitions or potentially face monetary penalties. Coalition areas not shown had no directives mailed during the reporting period.

Coalition Area	NOVs sent 1 Jul – 31 Aug
Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition	79
Kaweah Basin Water Quality Coalition	58
Kern River Watershed Coalition Authority	10
Tule Basin Water Quality Coalition	20

Coalition Area	NOVs sent 1 Jul – 31 Aug
Total	167

ENFORCEMENT FOLLOW-UP

ILRP staff continues to conduct significant compliance and outreach efforts associated with obtaining appropriate enrollment in the program and ensuring late member reports are submitted to the coalitions. During this reporting period, staff conducted an on-farm inspection and issued reminders and Notices of Violations (NOVs) to members who failed to submit their Farm Evaluations and/or Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan Summary Reports. Staff also followed up with potential non-filers by mailing 13260 Directive Orders and NOVs.

Throughout the compliance and enforcement process, staff works closely with the agricultural water quality coalitions.

SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED COALITION GROUPS

ILRP Acronyms

Acronyms	Meaning
AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
<i>C. dubia</i>	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>
GW	Groundwater
MPPR	Management Plan Progress Report
QAPP	Quality Assurance Project Plan
SQMP	Surface Water Quality Management Plan
SW	Surface water
TMDL	Total Maximum Daily Load
WY	Water Year

CALIFORNIA RICE COMMISSION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
5/11/2026	Algae Toxicity SQMP	Under review	

SACRAMENTO VALLEY WATER QUALITY COALITION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
03/11/2026	SQMP: Unknown Toxicity to <i>C. dubia</i> in Freshwater Creek	Approved 08/07/2026	Revisions submitted through 04/15/2026
03/12/2026	SQMP: Unknown toxicity to <i>C. dubia</i> in Anderson Creek	Approved 08/07/2026	Revisions submitted through 04/15/2026
03/18/2026	SQMP: Unknown Toxicity to <i>C. dubia</i> in Lower Honcut Creek	Approved 08/07/2026	Revisions submitted through 04/15/2026
05/01/2026	2025 SW AMR	Reviewed 08/27/2026	Revisions submitted through 08/14/2026
05/01/2026	2025 SW MPPR	Reviewed 08/27/2026	Revisions submitted through 08/14/2026
05/01/2026	2025 Chlorpyrifos and Diazinon TMDL Compliance Reporting	Reviewed 08/28/2026	Submitted under same cover as the 2025 SW MPPR
08/12/2026	2026 WY 2 nd Quarter Data Submittal	In Progress	
08/20/2026	GW QAPP Revision	In Progress	

SAN JOAQUIN RIVER WATERSHED COALITION GROUPS

ILRP Acronyms

Acronyms	Meaning
AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
AMPINAR	Annual Management Practice Implementation and Nitrogen Application Report
GAR	Groundwater Quality Assessment Report
GQTMP	Groundwater Quality Trend Monitoring Plan
GW	Groundwater
QAPP	Quality Assurance Project Plan

Acronyms	Meaning
SW	Surface Water

EAST SAN JOAQUIN WATER QUALITY COALITION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
10/21/2024	SW QAPP	Approved 8/7/2026	
5/1/2026	SW AMR	Approved 7/31/2026	
5/1/2026	GW AMR	Approved 7/31/2026	
8/1/2026	AMPINAR	Under review	

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY AND DELTA WATER QUALITY COALITION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
12/28/2025	GAR 5-Year Update	Approved 8/7/2026	Groundwater Quality Assessment Report

TULARE LAKE BASIN COALITION GROUPS

ILRP Acronyms

Acronyms	Meaning
AMR	Annual Monitoring Report
ASR	Annual Status Report
<i>C. dubia</i>	<i>Ceriodaphnia dubia</i>
CGQMP	Comprehensive Groundwater Quality Management Plan
DDE	Dichlorodiphenyldichloroethylene
<i>E. coli</i>	<i>Escherichia coli</i>
GQTM	Groundwater Quality Trend Monitoring
PEP	Pesticide Evaluation Protocol
SC	Specific Conductivity
SIS	Source Identification Study
SQMP	Surface Water Quality Management Plan

Acronyms	Meaning
SW	Surface Water
TDS	Total Dissolved Solids

BUENA VISTA COALITION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
08/31/2026	2025 AMR	Under Review	

CAWELO WATER DISTRICT COALITION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
08/31/2026	2025 AMR	Under Review	

KAWEAH BASIN WATER QUALITY ASSOCIATION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
08/31/2026	2025 AMR	Under Review	
08/31/2026	2025 CGQMP ASR	Under Review	

KERN RIVER WATERSHED COALITION AUTHORITY

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
10/20/2025	Chanac Creek SIS Proposal for Molybdenum and Total Zinc / SQMP Total Zinc Addendum	Under Review	

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
01/09/2026	GQTM Well Network Update	Under Review	
04/14/2026	Kern River SQMP <i>C. dubia</i>	Under Review	
05/26/2026	Chanac Creek SQMP Request for Management Plan Closure for DDE, TDS/SC, and <i>E. coli</i>	Under Review	
06/01/2026	1 st Quarter 2026 SW Data Submittal	Completed 07/02/2026	
08/31/2026	2025 AMR	Under Review	
08/31/2026	Chanac Creek 2025 SQMP ASR	Under Review	
08/31/2026	2025 CGQMP ASR	Under Review	

KINGS RIVER WATER QUALITY COALITION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
08/31/2026	2025 AMR	Under Review	
08/31/2026	2025 CGQMP ASR	Under Review	

TULE BASIN WATER QUALITY COALITION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
05/22/2026	1 st Quarter 2026 SW Data Submittal	Completed 08/19/2026	

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
05/22/2026	2 nd Quarter 2026 SW Data Submittal	Completed 08/19/2026	
07/06/2026	Revised GAR 5-Year Update	Under Review	
07/31/2026	2027 PEP	Pending Revision from Coalition	

WESTSIDE WATER QUALITY COALITION

Deliverables and Activities

Submittal Date	Item	Review Status	Notes
08/31/2026	2025 AMR	Under Review	
08/31/2026	2025 CGQMP ASR	Under Review	
08/31/2026	2 nd Quarter 2026 SW Data Submittal	Under Review	

OTHER PROJECTS

DATA MANAGEMENT

ILRP staff routes water quality monitoring data through the Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP) for transfer to California Environmental Data Exchange Network (CEDEN), with uploads occurring monthly. After a completeness check, SWAMP staff loads coalition data to CEDEN. Six coalitions submit data directly to the Central Valley Regional Data Center, and eight coalitions submit data through Region 5.

NATIONAL POLLUTANT DISCHARGE ELIMINATION SYSTEM PROGRAM (NPDES)

GENERAL ORDER ENROLLMENTS

The Central Valley Water Board has issued several NPDES general orders to streamline the permitting process for similar type discharges. Where existing NPDES permittees meet the eligibility requirements of the general orders, staff seek to enroll the permittees under the general orders to streamline the permitting process. No Notices of Applicability have been issued thus far for Fiscal Year 2026/2027 for the Waste

Discharge Requirements for Municipal Waste Dischargers that Meet Objectives/Criteria at the Point of Discharge to Surface Water (Municipal General Order), the Waste Discharge Requirements for Cold Water Concentrated Aquatic Animal Production Facility Discharges to Surface Water (CAAP General Order) and the Waste Discharge Requirements for Limited Threat Discharges to Surface Water (Limited Threat General Order).

GROUNDWATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAM

GENERAL ORDERS UNDER DEVELOPMENT

Three groups of similar discharges have been identified within the Groundwater Quality Protection Program for development of new General Orders. These groups represent a substantial portion of the permit backlog that requires updating. They include:

- the **Large Domestic General Order**, covering domestic wastewater treatment systems with flows greater than 100,000 gallons per day;
- the **Nut Processing General Order**, covering walnut, pistachio, and almond processing operations; and
- the **Fruit and Vegetable Packing General Order**, covering packing and handling facilities for fruits and vegetables.

Adopting and implementing these General Orders will improve regulatory consistency across the region and significantly reduce the permitting backlog within the Groundwater Quality Protection Program.

At the June 2026 Board Meeting, the Central Valley Water Board adopted the Large Domestic General Order (Order R5-2026-0023). At the August 2026 Board Meeting, the Central Valley Water Board adopted the Fruit and Vegetable Packing General Order (Order R5-2026-0041). Staff will begin implementing these General Orders during Fiscal Year 2026–2027.

For the proposed Nut Processing General Order, staff is preparing the initial draft and beginning outreach with stakeholders. Staff anticipate presenting the Nut Processing General Order for Board consideration at the February 2027 Board Meeting.

BASIN PLANNING

TRIENNIAL REVIEW

Pursuant to the Federal Clean Water Act and section 303(c) and Water Code section 13240, the Board reviews the water quality standards contained in the Water Quality Control Plan for the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins and in the Water Quality Control Plan for the Tulare Lake Basin (Basin Plans) every three years. The

process of soliciting information pertinent to this review and the review itself is referred to as the “Triennial Review.”

The Triennial Review consists of 1) solicitation for public comments on water quality issues in the Central Valley that may need to be addressed through basin plan amendments, and 2) preparing a workplan for each Basin Plan which describes the actions the Board may take over the next three years to investigate and respond to the issues. After public input is received, the Board develops and adopts a prioritized workplan that is used to direct basin planning efforts over the next three years. Implementation of the workplan depends upon the Board's program priorities, resources, and other mandates and commitments.

Board staff issued the solicitation for public comments on 14 August 2026. The reviews of both Basin Plans are occurring concurrently, and the public may provide comments on either Basin Plan until 2 October 2026. Written comments will be accepted during the 45-day solicitation period for both Basin Plans at the Rancho Cordova office and through email (Mason Gatti at r5triennial-review@waterboards.ca.gov). Additionally, commenters may submit comments using the online submission form (new this year) on the [Triennial Review webpage](#) at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/triennial_reviews/).

Board staff will compile comments for the appropriate Basin Plans and use them to inform the development of the draft 2027 Triennial Review Workplan.

The 2027 Triennial Review Notice of Solicitation can be found on the Board's [Public Notices webpage](#) at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/public_notices/#bpa).

More information on the Triennial Review process, including the 2024 Workplan, can be accessed at the Central Valley Water Board's [Triennial Reviews webpage](#) at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/triennial_reviews/).

TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) PROGRAMS

DELTA METHYLMERCURY CONTROL PROGRAM/TMDL

The Delta Methylmercury TMDL and associated program of implementation, collectively referred to as the Delta Mercury Control Program (DMCP), was adopted by the Regional Board on 22 April 2010. Final approval by the U.S. EPA was received on 20 October 2011. The DMCP includes a phased control program to reduce methylmercury and inorganic mercury in the Delta and includes a comprehensive program review between phases, referred to as the DMCP Review.

The first phase of the DMCP requires entities responsible for discharging methylmercury in the Delta to conduct source control studies and subsequently develop and evaluate methylmercury management methods. Board staff reviewed the control studies and the report by an independent Review Panel. Board staff met with stakeholders and hosted a meeting for control study participants to discuss the control study reports and to summarize control study findings. ADA-compliant versions of the Review Panel's Final Reports can be viewed on the [Delta Science Program's webpage](#) at

(<https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/independent-science-review-of-the-delta-mercury-control-program>).

The studies conducted during Phase 1 affirm that regulated sources of mercury within the Delta, including wastewater plants, irrigated agriculture, and stormwater, are not the most significant drivers of methylmercury impairments in the Delta. In contrast, methylmercury inputs from tributary watersheds and open water sediment flux are described in the Report as comprising an even larger proportional share of methylmercury loading to the Delta than was previously estimated. Board staff are using information from these studies and recommendations from both Panels during the DMCP Review.

Board staff additionally reanalyzed new data and literature to assess whether the TMDL required modification and prepared the *Delta Mercury Control Program Phase 1 Review of the Sacramento–San Joaquin Delta Estuary Total Maximum Daily Load for Methylmercury Staff Report for Scientific Peer Review* (Staff Report). Finalized in March 2024, the report was submitted for independent external scientific peer review and was released to the public. A workshop followed in September 2024, and staff received the final peer-review report in June 2025. Board incorporated relevant modifications into the DMCP Report and held another public staff workshop on 03 September 2026 to share project updates and provide an opportunity to hear from the public.

Board staff are using the peer-reviewed conclusions in the Phase 1 control studies, peer-reviewed Staff Report conclusions, as well as initiating discussions with Tribes, the public, and partner agencies to complete the Staff Report. Board staff will continue the BPA process and engage Tribes, stakeholders, and partner agencies to develop program adjustment options for the Board's consideration.

Phase 2 began on 20 October 2022 and requires dischargers to implement methylmercury control programs to meet allocations, continue total mercury reduction programs, and conduct compliance monitoring with a final attainment date of 2030.

More information on the DMCP, including the Staff Report, Scientific Peer Review Final Report, and Public Workshop presentations, can be found on the [DMCP webpage](#) at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/tmdl/central_valley_projects/delta_hg/).

DISSOLVED OXYGEN TMDL

In 2006-2007, an aeration facility was constructed on the Port of Stockton's West End Complex as part of the Stockton Deepwater Ship Channel/San Joaquin River (SDWSC/SJR) Dissolved Oxygen TMDL Implementation Program. Since 2011, the Port of Stockton has operated the aeration facility when dissolved oxygen concentrations are expected to fall below the dissolved oxygen water quality objective. The water quality objective is 5 mg/L December through August and 6 mg/L September through November in the channel.

From 26 July to 22 September 2026 there was one excursion detected exceeding the applicable water quality objective. This occurred on September 1, and the aerator was turned onto increase oxygen. No other excursions have occurred.

Real-time [dissolved oxygen data](#) for the SDWSC can be found at

(<https://cdec.water.ca.gov/dynamicapp/QueryF?s=SDO>).

More information on the [SDWSC/SJR Dissolved Oxygen TMDL Control Program](#) can be viewed at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/tmdl/central_valley_projects/san_joaquin_oxygen/index.shtml).

CLEAR LAKE NUTRIENT CONTROL PROGRAM/TMDL/BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE

Board staff continued implementation of the Nutrient TMDL and considered future revisions to the Control Program and TMDL based on information currently being gathered through studies and projects in the watershed, including the Board's Environmental Driver's study, the UC Davis study, Tribal monitoring data, and other stakeholder efforts.

Board staff continued to participate in the Blue-Ribbon Committee. More information regarding the Blue Ribbon Committee can be found on the Natural Resources Agency's [Blue Ribbon Committee website](#) at

(<https://resources.ca.gov/Initiatives/Blue-Ribbon-Committee-for-the-Rehabilitation-of-Clear-Lake>).

LOWER SAN JOAQUIN RIVER SALT AND BORON TMDL

The United States Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) has submitted their draft 2027 Management Agency Agreement Annual Workplan. The Annual Workplan describes activities to be completed by USBR in fiscal year 2027 under the Management Agency Agreement to meet obligations assigned to it by the Salt and Boron TMDL for the lower San Joaquin River. The draft Annual Workplan was posted to the [USBR website](#) for the Program to Meet Standards and available for public comment for a period of 30 days.

One comment letter was received. The Board will consider approval of the draft Workplan along with the written response to comments by USBR. The USBR website can be viewed at

(<https://www.usbr.gov/mp/ptms/>).

CV-SALTS/SALT CONTROL PROGRAM

SALT PRIORITIZATION AND OPTIMIZATION (P&O) STUDY

The first of three phases of the Salt Control Program, the P&O Study, is a ten- to fifteen-year project to characterize the status of salinity in the Central Valley and evaluate salinity management solutions to inform Phases 2 and 3 of the Salt Control Program.

Monthly meetings of the Executive Committee of interested parties are conducted, as well as subcommittees of the Executive Committee that discuss modeling, salt management technologies, and regulatory/policy topics.

Archetype Studies were completed for the Delta-Mendota sub-basin (Archetype #1 Study) and the western portion of the Kings Sub-basin (Archetype #2 Study). These two Archetype studies included gathering information from entities in the study area, gathering crop tolerance information, conducting salinity modeling scenarios, developing initial salinity target ranges, and developing salinity management scenarios. Additionally, the modeling small group developed a CVHM2 comparative analysis on model approaches in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin, including water budget components and predicted groundwater salinity.

The Technical Team released the final Archetype Report of these two Archetype Studies in May 2026 for Executive Committee review. The Archetype Report includes methods and tools used, key findings, and lessons learned, for the Archetypes # 1 and #2 Studies, as well as the CVHM2 comparative analysis on modeling approaches in the Delta-Mendota Subbasin. The final report was accepted by the Executive Committee in June 2026.

This year's scope of work includes working on the Central Valley-Scale analysis to identify areas with projected salinity problems, Pilot Study analyses for Salt Management Areas to address future salinity issues, and coordinating with the Regulatory and Policy Small Group to collaborate on solutions for policy issues identified in the Pilot Studies.

The Central Valley-Scale Analysis includes identification of areas with projected problems in sustaining current beneficial uses by creating a "heat map" for the beneficial uses of AGR and MUN. The AGR "heat map" for applied water for salinity planning targets is complete and the "heat map" for the MUN groundwater Basin Plan objectives is being finalized. It also includes a Sensitivity Analysis to evaluate the impact of surface water salinity changes on the heat maps.

The Pilot Study analyses are being conducted to inform us how to address future salinity problems. The analyses include coordination with local stakeholders, accounting for planned actions, evaluating components such as desalting, water supply management, brine management, conveyance and salt disposal, and engineering considerations, such as cost, feasibility, and permitting.

Additionally, discussions are underway to evaluate potential de-designation Basin Plan Amendments (BPAs) for salt management purposes, as well as ways of potentially streamlining the BPA process. The Regulatory and Policy small group met on 19 August to discuss ideas for the potential sub-categories of the AGR and MUN beneficial uses in future Basin Plan Amendments.

EVALUATION OF MUNICIPAL AND DOMESTIC SUPPLY (MUN) BENEFICIAL USE IN AG DOMINATED SURFACE WATER BODIES

On 11 August 2017, the Board adopted a Basin Plan Amendment to develop a region wide MUN evaluation process in Ag dominated surface water bodies. A State Board Meeting to consider approval of the Basin Plan Amendment was held on 10 July 2018. State Board members deferred their decision on the amendments to a future date. Board staff continue to work on addressing questions and concerns that were raised during the 10 July 2018 State Water Board Meeting. Board staff developed a summary of needed revisions and a project charter.

More information on the [Municipal and Domestic Supply \(MUN\) Beneficial Use Project](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/mun_beneficial_use/) can be found at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/mun_beneficial_use/).

OIL FIELD SALINITY BASIN PLANNING ACTIONS

Groundwater within the Tulare Lake Basin is designated to have both Municipal and Domestic (MUN) and Agricultural Supply (AGR) beneficial uses, unless specifically de-designated by a Basin Plan Amendment. The need for evaluating appropriate beneficial uses, specifically for MUN and AGR, has been recognized by stakeholders and the Central Valley Water Board through the 2011, 2013, 2018, 2021, and 2024 Triennial Reviews. In addition, the Central Valley Salinity Alternatives for Long-Term Sustainability (CV-SALTS) initiative also identified the need to evaluate the level of protection of MUN and AGR beneficial uses as an essential activity of the CV-SALTS initiative to find solutions to the salt problem in the Central Valley.

McKittrick Oil Fields Area Basin Plan Amendment Evaluation

Valley Water Management Company (Valley Water) operates oil field-produced wastewater disposal facilities in Kern County. The facilities receive produced wastewater from oil and gas producers in adjacent oil fields. Valley Water has requested to have MUN and AGR beneficial uses removed from portions of the groundwater adjacent to, and within, the administrative boundaries of the South Belridge, Monument Junction, and Cymric oil fields. Board staff have initiated a

beneficial use designation evaluation to determine if the removal of MUN and AGR beneficial use designations from the subject groundwater is appropriate and have completed AB-52 and B10-11 tribal consultation. Board staff held a CEQA Scoping Meeting on 25 May 2023 in Buttonwillow, CA.

A draft Staff Report for this project has been developed and internally and externally reviewed. An independent external scientific peer review was conducted, and the final reports were received on 19 June 2025. Board staff made minor revisions to the Draft Staff Report based on the peer review reports. On 16 September 2025 the revised Draft Staff Report was publicly released with the external scientific peer review reports and a public comment period for the Staff Report was held from 16 September 2025 to 31 October 2025. Five public comment letters were received during the public comment period. Board staff reviewed and considered the public comments and developed a Response to Comments document.

Additionally, Board staff developed a Late Revisions document. Board staff presented the proposed Basin Plan Amendment, with the Late Revisions incorporated, for adoption consideration at the December 2025 Board hearing. The BPA, with the Late Revisions incorporated, was adopted by the Central Valley Water Board.

Board staff also posted an Executive Officer's Corrections Memorandum, dated 27 May 2026, detailing minor, non-substantive edits to the Staff report and associated appendices, and the Late Revisions Document.

Final versions of the Staff Report and associated Appendices, as well as the Late Revisions Document, have been posted on the project webpage. These final versions include revisions from the adopted Late Revisions document (dated 12 December 2026) and the Executive Officer Corrections Memorandum (dated 27 May 2026).

Board staff are now preparing to present the BPA to State Water Board for consideration of approval. A Notice of Opportunity to Comment regarding public comments on the State Water Board consideration of approval for this BPA was posted on 27 July 2026 and emailed to interested parties. The public comment period extends from 27 July 2026 to 11 September 2026. The Notice is posted on the project website in both [English](#)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/comments/mckittrick/notice-mckittrickbpacmt.pdf) and

and [Spanish](#) (aviso español)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/public_notices/comments/mckittrick/aviso-mckittrickbpacmt.pdf).

Twelve public comments were received from the public comment period. Board staff are currently reviewing all the comments received and developing a Response to Comments document.

Information on the McKittrick Oil Fields BPA Evaluation can be found [here](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/mckittrick/) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/mckittrick/).

California Independent Petroleum Association (CIPA) Basin Plan Amendment

CIPA submitted information relevant to evaluate MUN and AGR designations on the southwestern portion of the Tulare Lake Basin in western Kern County. Both Central Valley Water Board staff and the Central Valley Salinity Coalition reviewed the information and provided feedback to CIPA's consultant. CIPA submitted a technical report for this project to the Central Valley Water Board to provide information for a beneficial use evaluation. This report was reviewed by Board staff and on 24 October 2023 a meeting was held to discuss the report. Board staff requested more information and CIPA agreed to provide a revised technical report to the Central Valley Water Board. Board staff met with CIPA to discuss the proposed revisions to the CIPA technical report in June 2024.

On 31 July 2024, a revised CIPA technical report was submitted to the Central Valley Water Board. Board staff reviewed the revised CIPA technical report and submitted their review comments regarding this report to CIPA on 18 February 2025. CIPA submitted a revised technical report to the Central Valley Water Board in June 2025. Board staff have reviewed the revised technical report and discussed the results with CIPA in a meeting on 2 February 2026 to determine the next steps forward.

On 9 September 2026 Board staff met with CIPA again to discuss the current next steps of the project.

TRIBAL BENEFICIAL USES DESIGNATIONS

On 2 May 2017, the State Water Board adopted Resolution 2017-0027, establishing two tribal beneficial use definitions: Tribal Tradition and Culture (CUL) and Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB). The T-SUB beneficial uses pertain to human health risks associated with consuming fish or shellfish. The CUL definition encompasses consumption of aquatic resources for cultural, spiritual, ceremonial, and traditional purposes.

On 18 February 2022, the Central Valley Water Board incorporated the TBU definitions into both the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River Basins Plan and the Tulare Lake Basin Plan. The Board has initiated the process to consider amendments to these Basin Plans (BPAs), aiming to designate the CUL and COMM beneficial uses in high-quality surface water bodies within the Sacramento and San Joaquin River watersheds and the Tulare Lake watershed.

The proposed BPA will also designate Commercial and Sport Fishing (COMM) in the same waterbodies under consideration for CUL designation, due to the overlapping nature of these uses.

Demonstrating its commitment to government-to-government engagement, staff have been conducting tribal consultation meetings in accordance with AB52 requirements.

A CEQA Public Scoping Meeting was held on 15 May 2026, with the public comment period concluding on 15 June 2026. No verbal or written comments pertinent to CEQA were received.

Staff continued internal coordination with the nine Regional Water Boards and various divisions within the State Water Board—including the Office of Chief Counsel, Office of Public Participation, Division of Water Quality, and Division of Water Rights—regarding TBU designations. On 21 July 2026, Board staff presented a brief update on the Central Valley Water Board's TBU Designation Project at the State Water Board's TBU Guidance Workshop. More information on the [Draft Guidance](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tribal_affairs/beneficial_uses/draft_guidance.html) on Designating Tribal Beneficial Uses can be found at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/tribal_affairs/beneficial_uses/draft_guidance.html).

On 9 October 2026, staff hosted a Tribal Update Meeting to provide project updates and seek input from tribes for inclusion in the Board's approach. The next tribal update meeting is scheduled for Winter 2027.

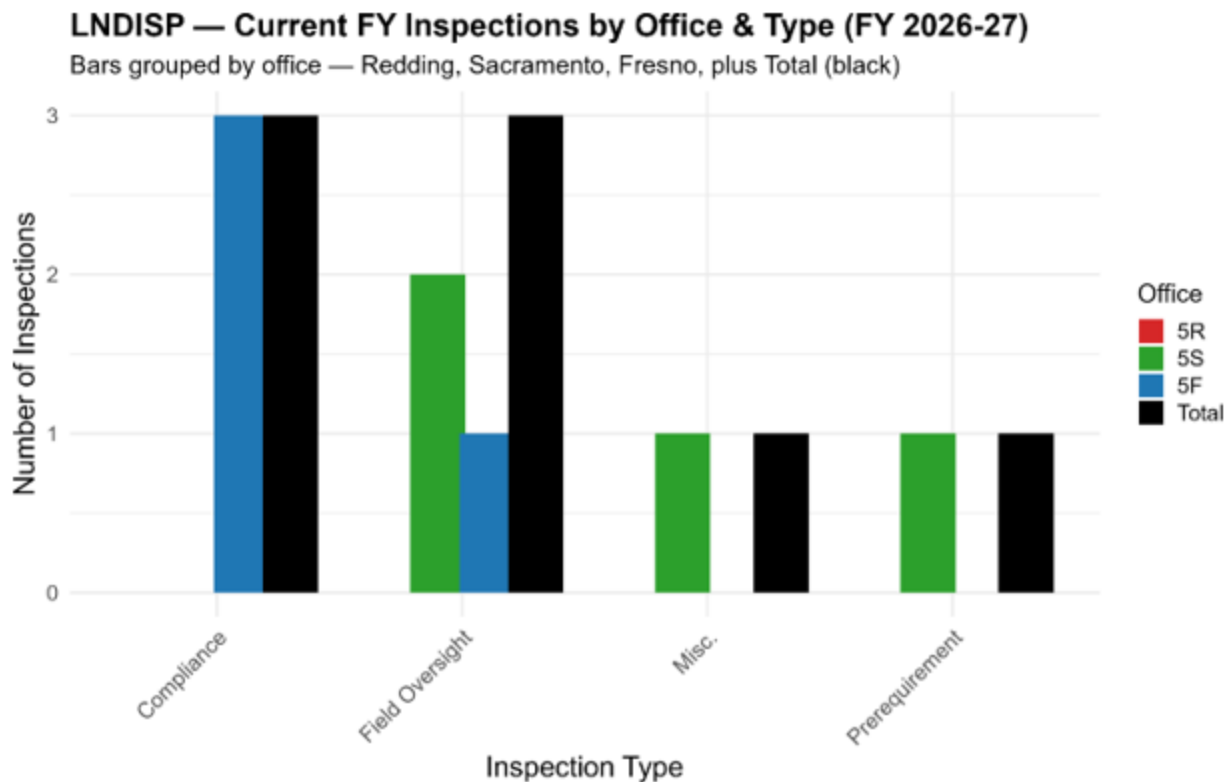
More information on the Central Valley Water Board's TBU Designation Project can be found on the [Tribal Beneficial Uses](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/tribal_beneficial_uses/) website at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/basin_plans/tribal_beneficial_uses/).

LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAM

Board priorities for the Land Disposal Program in Fiscal Year 2026/2027 include completing new, revised, and amended WDRs, reviewing milestone Decision Documents, conducting inspections, and continued implementation of Racial Equity goals outlined in the Board's Racial Equity Resolution. Target performance measures for this Fiscal Year include the adoption of individual WDRs, permitting and construction inspections, Composting General Order enrollments, and WDR reviews. Additionally, efforts are ongoing to cleanup databases, namely CIWQS and produce database tools and summaries for the program.

2026/2027 FY progress on Land Disposal Program inspections, summarized by inspection and type of office, with total counts shown in black are summarized below.



DAIRIES/CONFINED ANIMAL FACILITIES

ANNUAL INSPECTION PROGRESS

For the 2026/2027 fiscal year through September 2026, the Sacramento Confined Animals Facilities Unit conducted 7 inspections, and the Fresno Confined Animals Facilities Unit conducted 44 inspections, for a total of 51. Our annual inspection performance target is 175 for fiscal year 2026/2027. The performance target for fiscal year 2026/2027 has been reduced from the previous fiscal year due to the anticipated workload of revising the Reissued Dairy General Order in response to the dairy general order petition.

ANNUAL REPORTS

The dairy and bovine annual reports are due by 1 July of each year. The poultry annual reports are due 1 August of each year. Staff from the Sacramento office have not received annual reports from 42 dairies, 12 bovine facilities, and 12 poultry facilities. Staff from the Fresno office have not received annual reports from 36 dairies, 16 bovine facilities, and 7 poultry facilities. Notices of Violation will be sent to these facilities in October 2026.

DAIRY REMAND ORDER

On 3 October 2013, the Central Valley Water Board adopted Order No. R5-2013-0122, Reissued Waste Discharge Requirements for Existing Milk Cow Dairies (Reissued Dairy GO) regulating discharges of dairy waste that could affect the quality of waters of the state from approximately 1,300 existing milk cow dairies within the Central Valley. The Asociación de Gente Unida por el Agua and the Environmental Law Foundation filed a petition requesting that the State Water Board review the Dairy General WDRs. On 15 September 2026, the State Water Board remanded the Reissued Dairy GO to the Central Valley Water Board via [State Water Resources Control Board Order WQ 2026-0028](https://waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2026/wqo2026-0028.pdf) which can be found at

(https://waterboards.ca.gov/board_decisions/adopted_orders/water_quality/2026/wqo2026-0028.pdf).

Near term tasks through 2027 for Regional Board staff to include:

- **Promptly** provide State Board staff with a complete list of all dairies in the Central Valley region so that we can ensure that the dairy program costs are shared equitably by all dairies. (p. 80, fn. 220).
- **Promptly** issue 13267s requiring, by 15 September 2028: Sampling of all private domestic wells that are (1) within 1 mile of a non-Management Zone dairy's land application area or pond and (2) are within a high risk area for nitrate contamination per GAMA unless R5 Board determines: (i) well is not used or likely to be used for domestic supply, (ii) well not likely to exceed 8 mg/L, or (iii) well owner has affirmatively declined to sampling or failed to respond after 3 attempts by dairy. (p. 112)
 - If Nitrate = 7.5+ mg/L and the Regional Board determines it is likely that dairy has caused or contributed to the exceedance, the dairy must re-test for free annually until Nitrate < 7.5.
 - If Nitrate < 7.5 mg/L, the dairy will provide recurring once-per-five year free testing.
 - If sampling indicates that nitrate extends more than 1 mile from dairy, the Regional Board shall expand required sampling area to include additional nearby domestic wells.
 - If a non-management zone dairy is causing exceedance of 10 mg/L Nitrate, the Regional Board must require them (via Cleanup and Abatement Order, Notice to Comply, or otherwise) to provide short- and long-term drinking water supplies to impacted users and help defray costs to public well systems incurred for monitoring and treatment. The Regional Board should prioritize based on Aquifer Risk Map & other data.

- **By 12 February 2027**, amend 2013 Reissued Dairy GO to authorize enrollment of "any dairy that is currently operating" as of 15 September 2026. Require submission by 13 April (or sooner, see below) of current operational details, including current herd size as of 15 September 2016, and documentation sufficient to verify the accuracy of the herd size. (p. 81).
- **By 12 March 2027**, "identify all dairies, and their current herd sizes, that are currently operating and distinguish between those that are already formally enrolled under the 2013 Dairy General WDRs for their current herd size, those that become newly enrolled under the amended 2013 Dairy General WDRs for their current herd size, and those that are still not enrolled under the 2013 Dairy General WDRs for their current herd size, in CIWQS." (p. 80, fn. 220).
- **By 15 March 2027**, provide the first progress update to State Board (recurring every 6 months on approximately 15 September and 15 March each year).
- **By 13 April 2027** (or 60 days after amendment of Dairy GO, if sooner), have all existing dairies enrolled under amended Dairy GO.
- **After 13 April 2027** (or sooner), all new/expanded dairies must go under a Digester GO order or enroll under the 2013 Reissued Dairy GO by demonstrating immediate compliance with 1.4 A/R for portion of manure that will be generated by the new cows and proof of CEQA compliance.
- **By 15 September 2027**, the Regional Board must have started issuing 13267s for evaluations of ponds that may have hydraulic continuity with groundwater. (pp. 107-108.) Recipients get 1 year to demonstrate lack of continuity or submit pond design to replace pond that meets 2013 Reissued Dairy GO Order Tier 1 or 2 reqs. or equivalent. Any replacement pond must be built within 2 years of Executive Officer design approval. The Executive Officer can extend both deadlines for dairies acting in good faith.

The CAF Program has identified staff to work collaboratively with State Water Board staff to address tasks identified in the State Water Board Remand of the Dairy GO that are to be completed by both the State Water Board and the Regional Board.

DAIRY DIGESTERS/DAIRY POND LINER DESIGN REPORTS

Dairy digester projects usually begin as a double lined pond that once constructed is covered and converted to a digester. Staff review design reports related to double-lined ponds and digesters at dairies to ensure they are protective of water quality. For the 2026/2027 fiscal year, staff reviewed and issued letters of approval for 8 lined pond and/or digester related reports. These reports include design reports, post construction reports, and final fill reports. Staff have also reviewed design reports for the construction of Biodynamic Aerobic (BIDA®) wastewater treatment systems.

OIL FIELD PROGRAM

WASTEWATER SURFACE PONDS

Central Valley Water Board staff (Staff) continues to work on enrolling oil field operators (operators or dischargers) under the Oil Field General Orders for Discharges to Land (General Orders) or individual waste discharge requirements (WDRs) and evaluating operator compliance with those that have been issued. Staff also continue to work on closure plans for oil field produced wastewater (produced wastewater or discharge) disposal ponds. Major items completed by Staff are identified below.

- Staff continue to review reports of waste discharge (RWDs) and monitoring reports for drilling mud sumps regulated under the Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges to Land with a Low Threat to Water Quality (Low Threat General Order).
- Staff conveyed a draft revised monitoring and reporting program (MRP) to an operator with coverage under the Low Threat General Order. The revised MRP increases the sampling requirements for the sites and activities covered by the Low Threat General Order.
- Staff reviewed a report of waste discharge (RWD) for a proposed project which would reuse produced wastewater for irrigation. The proposed project is in the Edison Oil Field.
- Staff reviewed closure reports for three facilities in the Coalinga, Lost Hills and Midway-Sunset Oil Fields. Staff found that all closure work had been completed and issued No Further Action letters for the facilities.
- Staff conveyed a workplan review for a facility in the process of closure. The review found that more work needs to be conducted to address soils impacted with concentrations greater than approved cleanup goals.
- Staff conducted a review of two soil sampling workplans for facilities in the process of closure in the Edison Oil Field. Most of the proposed work was approved. However, a request to abandon monitoring wells not previously evaluated for abandonment was denied.
- Staff reviewed a soil sampling workplan for a facility in the Midway-Sunset Oil Field. The review found that more information needs to be provided before the proposed work can be approved.
- Staff reviewed closure work plans for two facilities in the Mount Poso Oil Field with inactive unlined ponds. Staff conditionally concurred with the proposed excavation and confirmation sampling.

- Staff reviewed a pond closure work plan for a facility in the Jasmin Oil Field with two inactive unlined ponds. Staff requested a revised work plan.
- Staff reviewed a closure work plan for a facility in the North Belridge Oil Field with one unlined pond. Staff conditionally concurred with the proposed excavation and confirmation sampling.
- Staff reviewed a sampling summary report and delineation work plan for an approximately two-mile long former conveyance ditch in the Kern Front Oil Field. Staff requested a work plan addendum to address Staff comments.
- Staff reviewed and conditionally concurred with a request to plug back a monitoring well in the North Belridge Oil Field.
- Staff issued four Notice of Violation letters (NOV) to operators in the Deer Creek, Edison, Poso Creek, Kern Front, and Mount Poso Oil Fields. The violations were from observations made during inspections and related file reviews. Violations include violations of waste discharge requirements, monitoring programs, and the California Water Code.
- Staff conducted field inspections of facilities in the Poso Creek and Kern Front Oil Fields.

SPILL RESPONSE

Staff respond to oil field spill events reported to the Office of Emergency Services (OES). Since the last Executive Officer's report, Staff responded to 6 new oil field-related spill events. Major spill events and related work conducted by Staff are summarized below.

- Spill Event No. 26-3261- An operator with a facility in the Midway-Sunset Oil Field had a tank fail, resulting in the release of 155 barrels (bbls) of oil field produced fluids. The release was observed by the Kern County Fire Department, who visited the facility in response to a fire. In response to the event, Staff inspected the facility in conjunction with other State agencies. The California Geologic Energy Management Division (CalGEM) is overseeing the cleanup. The operator was issued an NOV, which listed several observed violations of the California Water Code and General Order Three.
- Spill Event No. 26-3368- An operator with a facility in the Cymric Oil Field experienced a leak from a pipeline, resulting in the release of 128 bbls of oil field produced fluids, which went into a blue line stream. Staff inspected the release site after the cleanup was complete. Staff observed that the cleanup work was sufficient, and no further action was required.
- Spill Event No. 26-3483- An operator with a facility in the Cymric Oil Field experienced a leak from a pipeline resulting in 32 bbls of oil field produced fluids

being released into a blue line stream. Cleanup of the release site is being overseen by the operator and is ongoing. Staff will inspect the spill site to ensure that cleanup work was sufficient.

- Spill Event No. 26-3808 - An operator with a facility in the Elk Hills Oil Field had a well head pipe leak, resulting in about 23 bbls of oil field produced wastewater being released into a dry stream bed. Cleanup of the release site is being overseen by the operator and is ongoing. Staff will inspect the spill site to ensure that cleanup work was sufficient.
- Spill Event No. 26-3838 – An operator with a facility in the McKittrick Oil Field observed a seep at the surface of the facility. The seep is assumed to be comprised of produced wastewater. The operator is overseeing cleanup work and investigating the source of the fluids. Staff are working with CalGEM to address the spill and seep.

UIC PROGRAM

During the period from 29 July 2026 to 22 September 2026, Staff of the Underground Injection Control Unit (UIC) performed the following activities:

AQUIFER EXEMPTIONS

Midway-Sunset Oil Field, Tulare Formation Aquifer Exemption –CalGEM provided Staff and State Water Board staff the operator’s Revised Remediation and Monitoring plan to address potential conduit wells for review. Staff continue to provide comments to State Board and CalGEM on the operators’ Remediation and Monitoring plan.

Kern River Oil Field, Kern River Formation Aquifer Exemption –State Board during its 16 June 2026 board meeting adopted a resolution to approve the Kern River Aquifer Exemption. State Board staff issued their final concurrence letter for the aquifer exemption on 10 August 2026. CalGEM submitted the aquifer exemption package to US EPA on 2 September 2026 for review and approval.

North Antelope Hills Oil Field, Tulare Formation Aquifer Exemption -CalGEM, State Board, and Staff have finished their review of the aquifer exemption application and remediation and monitoring plan. State Board staff issued its preliminary concurrence letter for the aquifer exemption on 8 April 2026. A public comment period was held from 16 June to 31 July 2026. CalGEM also hosted a public hearing in Lost Hills on 16 July 2026 to receive oral comments. CalGEM and State Board staff are preparing responses to comments.

UIC PROJECT REVIEWS

Staff issued no objection letters for two non-expansion steam flood/cyclic steam injection projects in the Cymric and Lost Hills Oil Fields and one water flood project in the Pyramid Hills Oil Field. In addition, Staff provided additional questions and comment

for two water disposal projects in the Midway-Sunset and Mount Poso Oil Fields. Staff also issued a completeness check and initial review for a steam flood/cyclic steam injection project in the Poso Creek Oil Field.

Staff completed five preliminary reviews for several UIC projects. The preliminary reviews focused on identifying the presence of groundwater with identified beneficial uses and an evaluation of the operator's water supply well survey to check for completeness.

CANNABIS PROGRAM

CANNABIS GENERAL ORDER ENROLLMENT AND DEVELOPMENTS

Staff continue to enroll dischargers into the Cannabis General Order and process terminations. The Division of Water Quality (DWQ) is expecting an influx in termination requests as approximately 500 dischargers have terminated their DCC licenses. Additionally, DWQ has issued pending administrative termination letters to 96 sites in Region 5.

Cannabis Table 1. Summary of the Statewide General Order enrollments in the Central Valley Region to date

(CE = Conditionally exempt, enrolled in the Statewide Cannabis Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements.)

County	Tier 1H	Tier 1L	Tier 1M	Tier 2H	Tier 2L	Tier 2M	CE	Total Active Enrollments
Calaveras		26	2		72	3	3	106
Colusa		1			1		9	11
Contra Costa							5	5
El Dorado		2			3			5
Kern							3	3
Kings					2		3	5
Lake		52	1	2	122	0	23	200
Fresno					3		8	11
Merced							5	5
Nevada	1	153	4		22		10	190
Sacramento							129	129
San Joaquin							7	7
Sierra								0
Solano							6	6
Shasta							19	19
Siskiyou							6	6

County	Tier 1H	Tier 1L	Tier 1M	Tier 2H	Tier 2L	Tier 2M	CE	Total Active Enrollments
Stanislaus		2					27	29
Tulare							8	8
Yolo		2			24		2	28
Yuba							0	0
Totals	1	238	7	2	249	3	270	773

ENROLLMENT ENFORCEMENT

- Redding:
 - Staff issued a NOV to a permitted, 5S17CC420680, site on 8/27/2026
 - Staff conducted an inspection on one permitted site, 5S17CC420680, on 9/8/2026
- Rancho Cordova:
 - Staff conducted inspections on two permitted sites, 5S05CC426223 and 5S05CC426324, on 8/18/2026
 - Staff have been working on an audit project for permitted site inspections 2019-2021

OTHER ENFORCEMENT

- Redding:
 - Staff conducted an enforcement inspection in Yuba County on 8/4/2026
 - Staff conducted a follow-up inspection in Yuba County on 8/4/2026
 - Rochette CAO follow-up inspection on 9/15/2026
 - Ceballos CAO follow-up inspection on 9/17/2026
 - Correll follow-up inspection 9/28/2026
- Rancho Cordova:
 - Staff conducted an enforcement inspection in Calaveras County on 8/24/2026

SPECIAL FOCUS AREAS

DELTA ACTIVITIES

DELTA REGIONAL MONITORING PROGRAM (DELTA RMP)

Board staff continued to attend Steering Committee, Technical Advisory Committees, and other Delta RMP meetings to provide support for the program and implementation of Board Resolution R5-2021-0054. More information on the Delta RMP can be found on its [website](https://deltarmp.org/) (<https://deltarmp.org/>).

DELTA NUTRIENT RESEARCH PLAN

Board staff are implementing the Delta Nutrient Research Plan (Resolution R5 2018-0059) through special studies and in coordination with the Delta Regional Monitoring Program's focus on nutrients.

- Board staff are assisting with sampling for a project to test effectiveness of dredging for reducing the abundance of overwintering cyanobacteria. The project began in June 2025 and includes two years of characterization of the Stockton Channel prior to dredging, tentatively scheduled for late fall 2026.
- The Delta RMP is working with the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) to further biogeochemical modeling of the Delta. The model will be used to examine fate and transport of nutrients under various scenarios of reduced nutrient inputs.
- Board staff continue to participate in a federally funded project to advance integrated HAB monitoring and data reporting systems across the San Francisco Estuary. A summary of this project can be found on the Central Valley Water Board's website [here](#):

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/harmful_algal_blooms/projects/#merhab)

NITRATE CONTROL PROGRAM

PRIORITY 1 GROUNDWATER BASINS

Management Zones in the Priority 1 groundwater basins submitted Management Zone Implementation Plans (MZIPs) to the Central Valley Water Board on 5 September 2023. The Executive Officer issued a letter finding that all six Priority 1 MZIPs are complete and an informational hearing regarding the MZIPs was held during the 19 April 2024 Central Valley Water Board Meeting.

Early Action Plan Drinking Water Implementation

Additionally, the MZIPs incorporate the respective Early Action Plans (EAPs) as part of the Management Zones' Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Program. The Priority 1 [Management Zone Implementation Plans](#) can be found here:

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/nitrate_mz/)

As required by the Nitrate Control Program, EAP implementation to provide safe drinking water to impacted communities began on 7 May 2021. The Priority 1 Management Zones are also coordinating its Emergency and Interim Drinking Water Program with the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) Drinking Water Well Monitoring Program as there are overlaps between both programs.

Priority 1 Management Zone drinking water program status and ILRP Drinking Water Well Monitoring Program data are available at the [CV-SALTS: Management Zone Dashboard](#):

(<https://cvsalts.mljenv.com/>)

Management Zone Implementation Plan Approval

As part of the implementation of the Nitrate Control Program, the Board adopted the Modesto Management Zone Order and the associated revisions to the sector-based Orders (Dairy, Bovine, Poultry, Non-15, ILRP) on 3 June 2026. Tentative orders are in development for the remaining Priority 1 Management Zones.

PRIORITY 2 GROUNDWATER BASINS

On 29 December 2023, Notices to Comply were sent to dischargers in Priority 2 groundwater basins to begin Nitrate Control Program implementation. There are eight Priority 2 groundwater basins: Delta Mendota, Eastern San Joaquin, Madera, Merced, Kern County (Poso), Kern County (Westside South), Tulare Lake, and Yolo. Notices of Intent, indicating compliance pathway selection, were due to the Central Valley Water Board no later than 26 February 2025.

The Central Valley Water Board received Priority 2 groundwater basin Preliminary Management Zone Proposals (PMZPs) and the associated EAPs for each of the eight Priority 2 groundwater basins on 30 December 2024. The Executive Officer issued a Conditional Approval letter to each Priority 2 Management Zone on 25 February 2025. As required by the Nitrate Control Program, Priority 2 EAP implementation to provide safe drinking water to impacted communities began on 26 February 2025. Board staff reviewed the Priority 2 PMZPs and the Executive Officer issued a comment letter to each Priority 2 Management Zone on 20 August 2025.

Priority 2 Final Management Zone Proposals (FMZPs), were submitted to the Board on 16 February 2026. The FMZPs were posted for a 30-day public comment period from 23 February 2026 to 24 March 2026. No comment letters were received. In addition, Board staff have completed review of the FMZPs, and the Executive Office issued a comment letter approving the FMZPs on 2 July 2026. Priority 2 Management Zone

Implementation Plans are due to the Central Valley Water Board on 4 January 2027. The Priority 2 FMZPs are available on the [CV-SALTS webpage](#):

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/salinity/nitrate_mz/#p2_submittals)

Priority 2 Management Zone drinking water program status is available at the [CV-SALTS: Management Zone Dashboard](#):

(<https://cvsalts.mljenv.com/>)

SURFACE WATER AMBIENT MONITORING PROGRAM (SWAMP)

SUMMER 2026 RECREATIONAL BENEFICIAL USE ASSESSMENTS

Each summer since 2007, the Central Valley Water Board has conducted Recreational Beneficial Use Assessments in popular recreational areas. Recreational beneficial uses are assessed using *E. coli* as an indicator of fecal pollution.

In September 2026, SWAMP staff completed recreational beneficial use assessments in Lake Natoma and Folsom Lake, Delta waterways in the Stockton area, and the Upper San Joaquin and Lower Kings River watersheds. Select monitoring sites had *E. coli* levels that exceeded the [State Water Board Bacteria Objectives](#) (<https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/bacterialobjectives/>) at various times during the summer. SWAMP staff coordinated with relevant local agencies on public communication of these elevated *E. coli* results.

Online maps and more information on these SWAMP projects are available on the [SWAMP Recreational Water Quality Monitoring webpage](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/swamp/rbua/).

CYANOBACTERIA AND HARMFUL ALGAL BLOOMS UPDATE

Cyanobacteria and harmful algal blooms (HABs) are a common occurrence in surface waters across California. To address this issue, the State Water Board developed the Freshwater and Estuarine Harmful Algal Bloom (FHAB) Program that was funded through Assembly Bill No. 834 in 2019. As part of the statewide FHAB Program, the Central Valley Water Board investigates and responds to reports of suspected HABs in the region and works to develop HAB monitoring partnerships with agencies such as tribes, local environmental health departments, local waterbody managers, and scientific non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

HAB advisories updated by Board staff are published on the HAB Reports Map available through the [California Harmful Algal Blooms Portal](#). The portal was developed

by the FHAB Program to provide public resources and guidance for organizations about HABs and is available at

(<https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/habs/>).

In addition to the statewide portal, Board staff created a [Central Valley Water Board HABs webpage](#) to highlight the Regional Board's efforts to understand and address HABs. The webpage is available at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/water_issues/harmful_algal_blooms).

ENFORCEMENT REPORT

Enforcement is a critical ingredient in creating deterrence needed to encourage the regulated community to anticipate, identify, and correct violations. Appropriate penalties and other consequences for violations offer some assurance of equity between those who choose to comply with requirements and those who violate them. It also improves public confidence when the government is ready, willing, and able to back up its requirements with action. This section of the EO Report is intended to inform the Board and the public of enforcement efforts since the last EO Report was issued. For this reporting period, the following sections provide: 1) a summary of enforcement orders issued; and 2) a summary of all enforcement actions issued.

ENFORCEMENT ACTIONS IN CIWQS

The tables below represent the enforcement actions taken by the Regional Board over the last reporting period in the CIWQS database. These include the formal orders and complaints described above along with additional informal enforcement actions such as Notices of Violation and Verbal Communications.

- 13267 – Water Code section 13267 Investigation Order
- NNC – Notice of Non-Compliance
- ACL – Administrative Civil Liability
- CAO – Cleanup and Abatement Order
- CDO – Cease and Desist Order
- EPL – Expedited Payment Letter
- NOV – Notice of Violation
- NTC – Notice to Comply
- SEL – Staff Enforcement Letter
- TSO – Time Schedule Order
- VER – Verbal Communication

**Enforcement Actions in CIWQS
1 July through 31 August 2026**

Issuing Office	NNC	13267	ACL	CAO	EPL	NOV	SEL	TSO	VER	Total
Fresno	0	0	1	0	0	93	2	0	0	96
Redding	0	0	0	0	0	43	0	0	0	43
Sacramento	55	2	12	0	1	187	1	0	2	260
Total	55	2	13	0	1	323	3	0	2	399

SANITARY SEWER OVERFLOWS (SSOS)

Statewide General Waste Discharge Requirements for Sanitary Sewer Systems (SSS General Order) 2022-0103-DWQ requires enrollees to submit SSO technical report for any Category 1 SSO in which 1,000 gallons or greater are spilled to surface waters to the State of California's Office of Emergency Services. For the period between 1 July 2026 through 31 August 2026, there was 1 reported SSO incident in which 1,000 gallons or greater spilled reached surface water. Compliance and Enforcement staff follow up with all spills where 1,000 gallons or more reached surface water to ensure compliance with the spill reporting and/or monitoring requirements established in the SSS General Order.

**SSO Incidents: 1,000+ Gallons Reached Surface Water
1 July 2026 through 31 August 2026**

Volume Reached Surface Water (gallons)	Responsible Agency
1,701	Sacramento Area Sewer District
2,667	Folsom City

Additional information regarding SSOs including the current Monitoring and Reporting Program (MRP) can be found at the [State Water Board's Sanitary Overflow Reduction Program](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/sso/index.html) at

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/sso/index.html).

COMPLAINT RESPONSE TRACKING

Central Valley Regional Board staff are responsible for responding to complaints related to water quality within the Central Valley Region as they are received. From 1 July 2026 through 31 August 2026, Central Valley Water Board staff received a total of 26 complaints from phone calls, emails, and from the CalEPA Complaint database. To date, 26 (100%) of complaints have been investigated and closed or referred to other environmental enforcement agencies.

The [CalEPA Complaint database](https://calepacomplaints.secure.force.com/complaints/) can be found at

(<https://calepacomplaints.secure.force.com/complaints/>).

CLEANUP SUCCESSES

Summary of Cleanup Successes for the period covering 1 July 2026 through 31 August 2026

Programs	Actuals Achieved	% Complete = Actuals/ Original Target	Annual Achieved	% of Annual Target
New DoD Sites into Active Remediation	0	0%	0	0%
New SCP Sites into Active Remediation	1	38%	12	75%
Cleanup Program Sites Closed	4	93%	24	92%
Underground Storage Tank Sites Closed	7	123%	34	100%

UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANKS – SUCCESSFULLY CLOSED – NO FURTHER ACTION REQUIRED

The following are sites where Board staff concluded that residual hydrocarbons pose a low threat to human health and safety or anticipated future beneficial uses of water. This decision is based on site-specific information provided by the responsible party and assumes that the information provided was accurate and representative of site conditions. These cases have been evaluated in accordance with criteria in the State Water Board's Low-Threat Underground Storage Tank (UST) Case Closure Policy (*Low-Threat Closure Policy*).

For more information regarding the site, the appropriate office personnel should be contacted: Fresno (559) 445-5116, Redding (530) 224-4845, and Sacramento (916) 464-3291.

SACRAMENTO

SAVE CENTER NO. 1, 715 ATWATER BLVD. ATWATER, MERCED COUNTY

In 2003, subsurface petroleum impacts were discovered during the removal of four USTs, fuel dispensers, and the associated piping network. In 2004, the consultant excavated impacted soil from the former diesel fuel dispenser area. In 2010, the consultant conducted active remediation using a soil vapor extraction system. The property owner received an Orphan funding grant to complete case closure activities.

Staff closed the case on 22 June 2026. The neighborhood has a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score of 90-95%.

DOS PALOS Y BP STATION, 8024 AZUSA AVENUE, DOS PALOS, MERCED COUNTY

The Site is currently a vacant former gas station property. In 1996, confirmatory soil and groundwater samples collected during UST removal activities indicated that an unauthorized release had occurred. In 2004, the owner began an environmental assessment and investigation. Between 2010 and 2022, investigations determined the extent of the release. The property owner received an Orphan funding grant to complete the cleanup. In 2024, monitored natural attenuation was selected as the primary remediation method. In 2025, Atlas compared case data to the criteria in the Low-Threat Closure Policy and concluded that the residual petroleum in soil and groundwater is unlikely to pose a risk to current and future receptors. Staff closed the case on 22 June 2026. The neighborhood has a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score of 90-95%.

LARRY'S AUTO, 308 GRANT ST N, STOCKTON, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Between 1987 and 1990, the former property owner removed three USTs. Between 2008 and 2017, the consultant operated a soil vapor extraction and air-sparge remediation system, removing approximately **15,810 pounds** of petroleum from the subsurface. Staff concurred with the consultant's evaluation that the case meets Low-Threat Closure Policy criteria and closed the case on 22 June 2026. The neighborhood has a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score of 95-100%.

FRESNO

B&G SALES, 10780 14TH AVENUE, ARMONA, KINGS COUNTY

An unauthorized release of gasoline was discovered in 1988 during the removal of the UST system. Investigation was not conducted until the case was accepted into the Orphan Site Cleanup Fund. An initial assessment in May 2022 determined the extent of soil contamination and confirmed that residual gasoline constituents remained in groundwater. Low concentrations of toluene, ethylbenzene, and xylenes were detected during three groundwater monitoring events. Benzene, ethylbenzene, and naphthalene were not detected in shallow soil and soil vapor samples collected in 2025. The Low Threat Policy's Criteria were met, and the case was closed on 12 May 2026. The CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score for this Site is 85%-90%. (JDW)

HICKAM TRUST (PRIVATE RESIDENCE), 20090 AVENUE 264, EXETER, TULARE COUNTY

In September 2022, an unauthorized release was discovered when gasoline constituents, including the fuel oxygenate MTBE, were detected during UST removals. Soil assessment and monitoring well installations were conducted from June 2023 through October 2024. Soil vapor sampling during November 2022 indicated that

benzene, ethylbenzene, and naphthalene adjacent to the residence exceeded the Low Threat Policy's Residential Criteria. Approximately 513,972 lbs. of soil containing approximately 4,285 lbs. of gasoline constituents were removed during June 2024. Soil vapor sampling conducted in December 2024 confirmed that the Residential Criteria were met.

MTBE concentrations decreased to less than Drinking Water Maximum Contaminant Levels during the last of four consecutive groundwater monitoring events. The onsite domestic well was sampled quarterly with no detections. The case was closed on 2 June 2026. The Site has a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score of 55-60%. (MLE)

UST CASE MILESTONES - ENFORCEMENT

SACRAMENTO

WOODY'S GAS / POPPIE FAMILY LIVING TRUST, 220 HWY 20 E, UPPER LAKE, LAKE COUNTY

On 12 May 2026, staff issued a Health and Safety Code 25296.10 Directive to Take Corrective Action and Submit Technical Reports. Since 2022, the single-wall USTs have been abandoned. The property owner has not applied for state funding and reportedly lacks the financial means to remove the USTs and complete case closure activities. The property owner is aware that staff will nominate the case for EAR funding to complete the corrective action after the directive deadline. The neighborhood has a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score of 35-40%.

UST CASE MILESTONES – NEW CASE

SACRAMENTO

7-ELEVEN INC. #42034, 10067 COMMERCIAL AVENUE, PENN VALLEY, NEVADA COUNTY

In January 2026, the UST owner removed three double-walled USTs and replaced them with new USTs. The consultant observed water in the tank pit, sampled it, pumped it out, and again sampled the water that infiltrated the tank pit. Both water samples contained petroleum compounds. The consultant submitted the tank removal and sampling report on 22 April 2026. Due to the apparent groundwater contamination, staff opened a leaking UST case on 8 May 2026. This is the first case on this property. The neighborhood has a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score of 15-20%.

SITE CLEANUP PROGRAM SUCCESSES

The following are sites where Board staff concluded that the residual contaminants in soil, soil gas, or groundwater no longer pose a threat to human health or the environment. Where necessary, a land use covenant was recorded with the relevant County Agency to ensure site conditions remain protective of beneficial uses.

SACRAMENTO

CENTURY CENTER DRY CLEANERS, 2401 EAST ORANGEBURG AVENUE, MODESTO, STANISLAUS COUNTY

The Century Center Dry Cleaners used the dry-cleaning solvent tetrachloroethylene (PCE) from about 1980 until the early 2000s resulting in the discharge of PCE and breakdown products including trichloroethylene (TCE) and cis-1,2-dichloroethylene (cis-1,2-DCE) to the environment. In 2011, an air sparges and soil vapor extraction (AS/SVE) system was pilot tested to remove PCE and breakdown products from soil vapor and groundwater beneath the property. The full-scale AS/SVE system operated through 2017. Additional targeted remediation was conducted in 2020 to address PCE breakdown products in a down-gradient well. Post-remedial groundwater monitoring and soil vapor assessment continued through 2025. Based on an evaluation of groundwater trends, residual concentrations in groundwater are expected to meet water quality objectives within a reasonable amount of time. PCE concentrations in soil vapor remain at some locations, but indoor air testing confirmed no excess risk to building occupants. A land use covenant limiting future land uses and requiring additional sampling in the event of changes to existing structures was recorded with Stanislaus County on 9 October 2025, and a Conditional No Further Action letter was issued 16 January 2026. Following confirmation of monitoring well destruction, a final No Further Action Determination was issued with an effective date of 4 June 2026.

SIERRA MOTOR SPORTS, 2121 NEVADA CITY HIGHWAY, GRASS VALLEY, NEVADA COUNTY

Sierra Motor Sports was an off-road vehicle dealer and maintenance facility and prior to that was a gasoline service station. In 2024, a fire damaged the building and presented a potential risk to occupants from contaminants associated with ash and debris. An investigation found lead and arsenic, greater than screening levels in soil samples. Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate was also found. The identified area along the east of the building was excavated to remove impacted soil. Subsequent confirmation sampling found lead and Bis(2-ethylhexyl) phthalate below screening levels. Arsenic found in soil is within the expected range of background soil concentrations for the area. The fire damaged building was demolished removing potential additional sources of contamination. The potential exposure pathways and risks from ash and debris have been addressed at the Site and a No Further Action Determination was issued on 30 June 2026.

WILBUR-ELLIS CO, 212 INDUSTRIAL DRIVE, STOCKTON, SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY

Wilbur-Ellis operated at the Site from 1965 to 1992. Operations consisted of sales and distribution of packaged agricultural chemicals and fertilizers. Bulk liquid fertilizers were stored at the Site in three above ground storage tanks in the southwest portion of the Site. The Site was also potentially used as an applicator site and included a wash pad. In 1984, soil in a stormwater retention pond was excavated due to elevated detections

of toxaphene. Toxaphene was not reported in confirmation soil samples. Prior to selling the property in 1992, Wilbur-Ellis conducted soil sampling throughout the site. Areas with elevated detections of nitrate and toxaphene were subsequently excavated. Based on remedial activities completed at the Site, a No Further Action Determination was issued for the Site on 30 June 2026.

REDDING

PALO CEDRO LIFT STATION, LOGERO LANE, PALO CEDRO, SHASTA COUNTY

The Site is a sewage lift-station in the Shasta County Service Area No. 8, Palo Cedro Sewage Disposal system. In March 2024, a 500-gallon double walled diesel UST was removed. The excavation grabs groundwater sample analytical results indicated a petroleum hydrocarbon release. A preliminary site investigation was completed in February 2025, and analytical results showed no impact to groundwater and negligible soil impacts. The case was closed on 8 May 2026. The neighborhood has a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score of 12%.

BERNARDS, 37087 MAIN STREET, BURNEY, SHASTA COUNTY

The Site formerly operated as a gas station from 1947 to 1989 and is now a vacant lot with several dilapidated buildings. Four of the five USTs were improperly abandoned in 1991. A 2005 soil investigation indicated a petroleum release, and Staff opened the UST case in 2012. Since then, the case was added to the Stalled Case Initiative. In 2024, the property sold and RUST Funds and UST Cleanup Funds were obtained to help investigate and remediate the Site. In April 2025, the five USTs were properly abandoned, and a soil and groundwater investigation was conducted. The case was closed on 16 July 2026. The neighborhood has a CalEnviroScreen 4.0 score of 40%.

EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACTIVITIES

The Central Valley Water Board routinely receives and responds to the Governor's Office of Emergency Services (OES) Hazardous Material Spill Reports (Spill Reports). The offices are tasked in receiving and if necessary, responding to these OES spill reports. Table 1 provides a summary of spill reports received by the Central Valley Water Board's offices between 1 July 2026 and 31 August 2026.

**Spill Reports Received by the Central Valley Water Board's Offices
Between 1 July 2026 and 31 August 2026**

	Total Spill Reports Received	Total Spill Reports that Required No Action	Total Spill Reports that Required Follow up	Total Spill Reports that Required Further Actions
Sacramento	166	125	10	2
Redding	21	16	3	0

	Total Spill Reports Received	Total Spill Reports that Required No Action	Total Spill Reports that Required Follow up	Total Spill Reports that Required Further Actions
Fresno	205	205	23	28

GRANT OVERSIGHT

CLEAN WATER ACT §319(H) NONPOINT SOURCE GRANT SOLICITATION

Approximately \$4 million each year is awarded to the Water Boards through a grant from the USEPA 319(h) Program. The purpose of the program is to provide funds to restore and protect the beneficial uses of water throughout the State through the control of nonpoint source pollution consistent with completed TMDLs or TMDLs under substantial development. [For more information, please visit the NPS website](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/319grants.shtml) at

(www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/nps/319grants.shtml).

OUTREACH

(An asterisk in front of an entry below denotes “Outreach to Disadvantaged Communities” or “Outreach to Tribes.”)

On 14 July, staff attended a Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition tour of the Napa Subwatershed.

*On 3 August 2026, Jesse Milliken-Callan and Scott Perrou participated in the monthly meeting for the Roxy Lane and City of Shafter Sanitary Wastewater Project in Kern County. Attendees included representatives from Self-Help Enterprises and discussions focused on the septic-to-sewer project for small communities surrounding the City of Shafter and the City of Bakersfield.

*On 4 August 2026, Adriana Ross attended the IVAN Kern Task Force monthly meeting organized by the Central California Environmental Justice Network (CCEJN). Community representatives discussed water quality concerns, pollution, and trash issues in Bakersfield.

*On 4 August 2026, Adriana Ross attended the CalEPA Liaison Environmental Justice Enforcement Task Force meeting, where representatives from CalEPA agencies and the State Water Board shared updates on community environmental issues.

*On 5 August Jennie Fuller attended the Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) Quarterly Stakeholder Meeting. Topics included updates from the Central Valley Water Board, State Water Board, California Department of Food and Agriculture, Central

Valley Agricultural Water Quality Coalitions, Environmental Justice Representatives, and CV-SALTS, as well as a focused discussion regarding ILRP alignment with the CV-SALTS Surveillance and Monitoring Program.

*On 6 August 2026, Scott Perrou and Jesse Milliken-Callan participated in the monthly project meeting for the Cross Road and Villa Colonia communities in El Centro, Imperial County. The meeting, organized by RCAC, included representatives from El Centro, Imperial County, LAFCO, and State Water Board DFA and DWQ staff.

*On 6 August 2026, Adriana Ross attended the IVAN Tulare Task Force monthly meeting organized by CCEJN. State agencies shared updates, including information about Water Discharge Requirements permitting for Satton Farms.

On 6 August, ILRP staff and Sacramento Valley Water Quality Coalition representatives met for their quarterly meeting.

On 8 August 2026, Lani Andam, Scott Armstrong, Chad Neptune, and Helen Yu met with representatives from the City of West Sacramento to discuss wastewater discharges associated with a firefighter PPE extractor system and applicable permitting pathways.

*On 10 August 2026, Scott Perrou and Jesse Milliken-Callan participated in the Sunset Vista Estates monthly project meeting in Kings County. Attendees included representatives from the City of Lemoore, Kings County, Self-Help Enterprises, QK Engineering, Grainger Water, and DWQ staff.

*On 10 August 2026, Sajleen Phagura, Lisa Wilson and Jay Simi met with the representative of the Enterprise Rancheria Estom Yumeka Maidu Tribe and provided an update on the TBU Designation Project, addressed questions, and supported the tribe's TBU designation request.

*On 11 August 2026, Jesse Milliken-Callan and Scott Perrou participated in the IVAN Fresno Task Force monthly meeting, joined by representatives from 15 statewide organizations. Staff provided updates on the Lanare CSD and Riverdale PUD rate studies.

On 11 August, staff took a tour by the East San Joaquin Water Quality Coalition of the Coalition area.

*On 11 August 2026, Adriana Ross participated in the IVAN Fresno Task Force meeting, focused on environmental justice issues, including dry wells and lack of permanent drinking water solutions in Perry Colony.

On 12 August 2026, John Murphy met with San Joaquin County to discuss regulations associated with imported fill emplacement. John was also joined by Nathan Casebeer of the Site Cleanup Program.

*On 13 August and 10 September 2026, Patrick Pulupa, Angela Cleaver, Bob Ditto, Jennie Fuller, Daniel Ellis, Cindy Au-Yeung, Charlie Johnson, Bethany Soto, and Nate Willow attended the CV-SALTS Executive Committee Meeting. Topics included updates on implementation of the Nitrate Control Program (Regional Board and Management Zone activities) and implementation of the Salt Control Program (future Pilot Studies, Central Valley-Scale analysis, and policy development support).

*On 19 August 2026, Adriana Ross attended the Tribal Drought Report Discussion meeting organized by California Tribal Nations, Sherwood Valley Rancheria, Middletown Rancheria, and MLSTEP. The Tribal Drought Report detailed drought impacts on Tribal communities and was shared with state staff working with Tribal Nations.

On 19 August 2026, Angela Cleaver and Jennie Fuller attended the CV-SALTS Salt Control Program Regulatory and Policy Small Group meeting. Topics included future Basin Plan Amendment approaches for potential subcategories of AGR and MUN beneficial uses of groundwater and beneficial use de-/re-designation.

*On 20 August 2026, Adriana Ross attended the Wave Language Hub meeting, focused on language justice and policy impacts supporting underserved communities.

*On 25 August 2026, Adriana Ross participated in the CalEPA Language Access Workgroup meeting, where agencies continued developing guiding principles and gathering bilingual duty statement inventories.

On 26 August 2026, Jennie Fuller and Angela Cleaver attended the kickoff meeting for the CV-SALTS P&O Study Pilot Study in North Kern WSD GSA area. The meeting topic was an introduction to the Pilot Study and the next steps being taken.

On 27 August 2026, Jennie Fuller and Angela Cleaver attended the kickoff meeting for the CV-SALTS P&O Study Pilot Study in the Western Kings area. The meeting topic was an introduction to the Pilot Study and the next steps being taken.

On 27 August 2026, Cannabis staff presented a virtual outreach event on the Introduction to the General Order.

*On 1 September 2026, Adriana Ross participated in the IVAN Kern Task Force monthly meeting with community members, state agencies, and environmental justice organizations.

*On 1 September 2026, Adriana Ross also attended the CalEPA Liaison Environmental Justice Enforcement Task Force meeting led by the U.S. EPA, which provided updates from statewide community environmental meetings.

*On 3 September 2026, Jesse Milliken-Callan, Scott Perrou, and Scott Armstrong participated in a Riverdale PUD and Lanare community Wastewater Consolidation project meeting moderated by Self-Help Enterprises. Discussions focused on rate study parameters.

*On 3 September 2026, Scott Perrou and Jesse Milliken-Callan participated in the RCAC-organized monthly meeting for the Cross Road and Villa Colonia communities in El Centro.

*On 3 September 2026, Adriana Ross participated in the IVAN Tulare Task Force meeting, attended by Terra Bella Voices 4 Change, Tulare County representatives, and various state agencies. Discussions focused on Terra Bella's cease-and-desist order for Setton Company and water issues at Sequoia Orange Packing Facility.

*On 8 September 2026, Jesse Milliken-Callan and Scott Perrou participated in the IVAN Fresno Task Force monthly meeting and provided updates regarding ongoing rate studies.

*On 8 September 2026, Adriana Ross attended the IVAN Fresno Task Force project meeting, where participants discussed water quality issues affecting Central Valley communities.

*On 9 September 2026, Scott Perrou and Scott Armstrong participated in the Islander Mobile Home Park monthly project meeting in San Joaquin County, attended by Self-Help Enterprises, City of Manteca representatives, Oakwood Lake Water District, and county staff.

On 10 September 2026, Scott Hatton and Rebecca Asami attended the Jordan College of Agriculture and Technology Career Fair at Fresno St.

*On 14 September 2026, Scott Perrou, Chad Neptune, and Scott Armstrong conducted a site visit at Shadow Lake Mobile Home Park in San Joaquin County to discuss existing wastewater systems.

*On 14 September 2026, the same team conducted a site visit at Stockton Verde Mobile Home Park in San Joaquin County to discuss wastewater system limitations.

*On 15 September 2026, Scott Perrou met with Sacramento Area Sewer District staff to discuss their grant program and a potential septic-to-sewer project for Twilight Mobile Home Park.

On 15 September 2026, Madeline Kelsch met with Glenn County staff to discuss CVRWQCB comments on the county's Onsite Wastewater Treatment System Five-Year Water Quality Assessment Report.

On 15 September 2026, John Murphy and Brad Shelton met with Tuolumne County to discuss an inert debris engineered fill operation (IDEFO) and regulations associated with waste discharge to land.

On 15 September 2026, John Murphy and J.J. Baum attended the Central Valley Clean Water Association Annual Conference in Sacramento.

*On 16 September 2026, Scott Perrou and Jesse Milliken-Callan participated in the monthly meeting for Sunset Vista Estates in Kings County, with attendees from SHE, QK Engineering, Grainger Water, City of Lemoore, Kings County, and DWQ.

*On 17 September 2026, Madeline Kelsch and Chad Neptune visited the City of Patterson Water Quality Control Facility with city staff and consultants to review site improvements for amended Waste Discharge Requirements.

*On 17 September 2026, Adriana Ross attended the Tribal Coordinators Quarterly Meeting for CalEPA staff working with Tribal Nations, reporting to OPPEETA and coordinating with the Native American Heritage Commission.

On 21 September, Jenn LaBay, Dana Shultz and Janis Cooke toured an algae harvester demonstration project at Clear Lake. The harvesting process permanently removes cyanobacteria cells and associated nutrients from the lake. The project is one of several innovative test projects supported by the Blue Ribbon Committee for the Rehabilitation of Clear Lake.

*On 22 September 2026, Daniel Ellis, Sajleen Phagura, and Jay Simi met with representatives of the Mishewal Wappo of Alexander Valley, along with staff from the Central Coast Water Board and the San Francisco Bay Water Board. During the meeting, staff provided an update on the TBU Designation Project, addressed questions, and supported the tribe's TBU designation request.

On 22 September 2026, John Murphy, Scott Armstrong, Madeline Kelsch, Xuan Luo, Howard Hold, Brendan Kenny, Anne Walters, Josh Palmer, and Armando Martinez met with the City of Sutter Creek to discuss wastewater treatment plant upgrades.

*On 22 September 2026, Scott Perrou and Scott Armstrong participated in the Shadow Lake Mobile Home Park monthly project meeting in San Joaquin County, organized by Blackwater Engineering, Moonshot Missions, and county representatives.

*On 23 September 2026, Scott Perrou and Scott Armstrong participated in the Delhi County S2S WDP Project meeting in Merced County, organized by Self-Help Enterprises and attended by Delhi CWD, QK Engineering, DFA, and DWQ staff.

On 23 September 2026, Scott Hatton and Alex Mushegan attended the Lyles College of Engineering Career Fair at Fresno St.

On 24 September 2026, Scott Hatton attended the ACWA Foundation, Pathways to Water Careers in the Central Valley Symposium for high school counselors to explore water careers and build connections.

On 24 September 2026, Cannabis staff presented on Enrollment Enforcement.

*On 29 September 2026, Jesse Milliken-Callan, Scott Perrou, and Scott Armstrong participated in the Crows Landing septic-to-sewer monthly project meeting in Stanislaus County organized by Self-Help Enterprises.

*On 29 September 2026, the same team participated in a Riverdale PUD and Lanare community consolidation meeting focused on the rate study's next steps.

PERSONNEL AND ADMINISTRATION

STAFFING UPDATES – JULY 1, 2026 – AUGUST 31, 2026

PROMOTIONS

Xuan Luo – Sup WRCE

NEW HIRES

Harvest Vieira – SR ES (Sup)

Catherine Wesolowski – EG

Sarah Murphy – EG

Tyler Henderson – EG

Marissa Hartley – EG

Harkiran Singh – ES

Adam Rueckert – ES

Aide Escanuela – Sci Aid

Eva Paramo – Sci Aid

RETIREMENT

Hien Tran – Analyst II

Anna Mancillas – Analyst II

SEPARATIONS

Joe Borkovich – EG

Mitch Messmer – WRCE

True Khang - ES

Dylan Mitchley – Sci Aid

SUMMARY OF POSITIONS

Total Authorized Positions: 301.0

Total Temporary Positions: 19.0

Total Vacant Positions: 20.0

Sacramento

Authorized Positions: 164.0
 Temporary Positions: 10.0
 Vacant Positions: 10.0

Fresno

Authorized Positions: 86.0
 Temporary Positions: 4.0
 Vacant Position: 3.0

Redding

Authorized Positions: 51.0
 Temporary Positions: 5.0
 Vacancies: 7.0

TRAINING UPDATES – JULY 1, 2026 – August 31, 2026

Class Title	Number of Attendees
AI Communication Mastery - Crafting Effective Prompts	1
Anti-Harassment Training (SB1343) for Board Members, Supervisors, Managers, and C.E.A.s	4
Anti-Harassment Training (SB1343) for Non-Supervisory Staff	21
Basic GeoTracker Training	1
Boost Your Team's Performance	1
CEQA and Cumulative Impacts	1
Communication Skills: Connect More Effectively in Virtual and Remote Work to Maximize Productivity	1
Confronting Bias in AI: Strategies for Accountability and Fairness (Leadership Podcast featuring Dr. Mhairi Aitken)	1
Copilot in Excel 3652	2
Cornerstone Academy 101 for Non-Supervisory Staff	5
Critical Thinking and Problem Solving	1
Ergonomics Awareness	7
ESRI User Conference 2026	1
Field Safety Training	5
Fraud Awareness	2
Gen AI Series	5
HAZCOM Hazard Communication	7
Health and Safety Basics	1
Heat Illness Prevention	2
Improving Your Leadership Communications	1
Injury and Illness Prevention Program	7
Introduction to CEQA: Part 1	2

Class Title	Number of Attendees
Lab Safety Training	4
Learning Python	1
Microsoft 365 Excel - Intermediate	1
Mitigating Potential Sediment Delivery from Post-Fire Salvage Logging	1
Responsible AI for Public Professionals	204
SharePoint Sites 365 Fundamentals of Site Management - Intermediate	1
Statewide Enforcement Training: Basic Enforcement Tools	1
Statewide Enforcement Training: Compressed ACLs - Swift Enforcement for Straight-Forward Violations	1
Statewide Enforcement Training: Email Best Practices	1
Statewide Enforcement Training: Ex Parte Communications - Who Can You Talk to? What Can You Say?	1
Statewide Enforcement Training: Inspections Start to Finish	2
Statewide Enforcement Training: Pillars for Successful Negotiating	1
Statewide Enforcement Training: Water Quality Enforcement Policy	1
Statewide Inspection Training: SMR Review for NPDES & WDR	3
Stormwater and Erosion Control for Construction	1
Stormwater Pollution Prevention	1
The Groundwater Pollution and Hydrology Course	3
The Plain Writing Act	1
Thinking on Your Feet	8
Tick Bite Prevention	2
Use Copilot in Word to Draft New Content With Reference Files	1
Use Copilot to Summarize and Draft Emails in Outlook	1
Use Copilot to Summarize Teams Meetings	1
Water Quality Goals: Part 1	1
Water Quality Goals: Part 2	1
Water Quality Goals: Part 3	1
Water Quality Standards Academy: Part 1	1
Water Rights 101	1
Water Rights Law 101	1
Why Everyone Has Unconscious Bias	1
Working in or Near Water Safely	1

FISCAL UPDATE

A fiscal update cannot be provided at this time due to the Water Board's implementation of the Fi\$Cal accounting system. This information will be provided once budget reports become available.

CONTRACTS

Operational Support Services

Contract Number	Contractor Name	Description	Start Date	End Date	Amount
24-003-150	Capitol Helicopters	Helicopter aerial surveillance services (Rancho Cordova office – SB 901 funds)	7/1/2024	6/30/2027	\$60,000
25-001-150	Department of Water Resources	Drone Aerial Surveillance (Rancho Cordova Office)	7/1/2025	6/30/2028	\$59,999.60
26-002-150	Redding Air Service, Inc.	Helicopter aerial surveillance services (Redding office – SB 901 funds)	7/1/2026	6/30/2029	\$105,000

Water Quality Study/Planning

Contract Number	Contractor Name	Description	Start Date	End Date	Amount
22-028-150-1	Department of Water Resources	Support for Sacramento Water Coordinated Monitoring	10/1/2022	9/30/2027	\$700,000

FUTURE BOARD ACTIVITIES

The following are significant Board meeting actions anticipated for the next three Board meetings. This is not a complete listing of all Board meeting items. This listing is tentative and subject to change for many reasons. The listing is intended to give a longer-range view of planned Regional Board activities per program.

DECEMBER 2026 BOARD MEETING

NPDES PERMITTING

- Original Sixteen to One Mine NPDES Permit Renewal
- Turlock Regional WQCF NPDES Permit Renewal

TITLE 27 LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAM

- Altamont/Resource Recovery Class II & III Landfills, Class II Surface Impoundment - Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements

- Recology Ostrom Road Landfill - Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements
- Synagro Composting El Nido – Consideration of New Waste Discharge Requirements

GROUNDWATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAM

- City of Patterson Water Quality Control Facility (Revised WDRS)
- Baldin Hallwood (Revised WDRs)
- Liberty Packing Ingomar Facility (Revised WDRs)
- Harris Ranch Beef Company, Selma Beef Processing Facility (Revised WDRs)
- Zamora Pistachio (WDRs Amendment)

FEBRUARY 2027 BOARD MEETING

NPDES PERMITTING

- Chester PUD Treatment Plant NPDES Permit Renewal
- Sierra Pacific Industries Quincy Division Sawmill NPDES Permit Renewal
- Bell Carter Industrial WWTP NPDES Permit Renewal
- City of Lathrop Consolidated Treatment Facility NPDES Permit Renewal

TITLE 27 LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAM

- Washington Mine – Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements
- Bieber Class III Landfill – Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements
- Lebec Sanitary Landfill - Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements
- Teapot Dome SWDS – Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements

GROUNDWATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAM

- Nut Processing General Order (New General Order)
- University of California, Davis, et. al – Aquatic Weed Lab & Center for Aquatic Biology and Aquaculture Center (Revised WDRs)
- Calbee America Foods Madera Chip Facility (New WDRs)
- Wayne Lourence Rawson Road Septage Disposal Site (Revised WDRS)

APRIL 2027 BOARD MEETING

NPDES PERMITTING

- Sewerage Commission Oroville Region WWTP NPDES Permit Renewal
- American Sturgeon Farms NPDES Permit Renewal

TITLE 27 LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAM

- Redding Class III Landfill Benton
- Clean Harbors Buttonwillow Facility - Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements

PENDING ACTIONS BUT NOT YET SCHEDULED FOR A BOARD MEETING

NPDES PERMITTING

- Sliger Mine NPDES Permit Renewal
- Limited Threat General Order NPDES Permit Renewal
- City of Corning WWTP NPDES Permit Renewal

TITLE 27 LAND DISPOSAL PROGRAM (H4)

- Kiefer Road Class III Landfill SWDS – Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements
- Fink Road LF – Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements
- US Mine Corporation-lone Plant – Consideration of Revised Waste Discharge Requirements

GROUNDWATER QUALITY PROTECTION PROGRAM

- City of Lone Tertiary Treatment Plant (Revised)
- Ventura Coastal, LLC Visalita Citrus (Revised WDRs)
- Avenal Sand and Gravel Granite Construction (New WDRs)
- Goldstone Land Company Beer Creek Winery (Revised WDRS)
- Granite Construction Company Granite Capay (Revised WDRS)
- Zamora Pistachio LLC (Revised WDRs)
- Hidden Valley CSD Reclamation Facility (Revised WDRs)

- Ventura Coastal Corporation, Visalia Citrus Facility (Revised WDRs)
- OPA Pistachio, LLC Processing Facility (New WDRs)
- Richwood Meat Company Processing Facility (Revised WDRs)
- Wonderful Firebaugh Pistachio Processing Facility (Revised WDRs)
- Western Valley meat Processing Facility (Revised WDRS)
- Triangle Rock Products – Florin Road (Revised WDRs)
- Baldwin Contracting Hallwood (Existing WDRs)
- City of Dixon (Revised WDRs)
- City of Riverbank WWTF (Revised WDRs)
- CDCR Mule Creek State Prison (Revised)
- Central California Women’s Facility & Valley State Prison WWTF (Revised)
- City of Arvin WWTF (Revised)
- Morning Star Packing Company (Revised)
- Teichert Hallwood (Revised)
- Teichert Vernalis (Revised)
- Teichert Woodland (Revised)
- Tucson Ridge Development WWTF (New)
- Wasco State Prison WWTF (Revised)
- Woodbridge Winery (Revised)
- City of Lindsay WWTF (Revised)
- Porterville WWTF (Revised)
- Del Rey WWTF (Revised)
- City of Ceres WWTF (Revised)