
State Water Resources Control Board

December 2024 State Board Liaison Report

Recent Media Releases

- November 25: [Colorado River Basin Water Board selects new executive officer](#)

Safe Drinking Water Act Anniversary

December 16, 2024, marks the 50th anniversary of the Safe Drinking Water Act (SDWA). On December 4 [the state board adopted](#) a resolution from state Senator John Laird's office. The proposed resolution designates December 16th as Safe Drinking Water Act Day. A presentation at the board meeting showcased California's leadership in water protection, predating the federal SDWA, along with the launch of a website featuring historical milestones and industry leader statements.

Draft Sacramento/Delta Updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed

The board held workshops on November 20 and 22, also on December 3rd; with another scheduled for December 2, 2024; and January 23, 2025 (comments on the January 23 topics are due January 30). Please see [the notice](#) for the workshop agenda that identifies the specific topics that will be covered each day, as well as additional information on how to submit written comments and participate in the workshop.

SGMA Probationary Hearings

The state board has cancelled the January 7, 2025, Public Board Hearing for the Proposed Designation of the Kaweah Subbasin as a Probationary Basin (probationary hearing). If the State Water Board schedules a new probationary hearing at a later date, the Board will release a new public notice at least 90 days prior to the scheduled hearing.

Local groundwater sustainability agencies in the Kaweah Subbasin released amended plans on June 3, 2024, and revised versions of those amended plans on October 3, 2024. At the request of the State Water Board, Board staff have completed a high-level preliminary review of these amended plans and have seen substantial progress on how these plans address the deficiencies identified in the Kaweah Subbasin [Draft Staff Report](#). The State Water Board is cancelling the probationary hearing so that staff can complete a thorough review of these plans to fully determine if deficiencies are sufficiently addressed to achieve groundwater sustainability in the subbasin.

The [probationary hearing](#) for the Kern County Subbasin is currently scheduled for February 20, 2025.

Administrative Hearings Office

Delta Conveyance Project

On December 16, The hearing officer will hold a third pre-hearing, starting at 9:00 a.m., as indicated in the [July 31 Notice of Hearing](#). The November 18th [amended hearing notice](#) outlines the issues that will be addressed in the pre-hearing conference on page 15. More information can be found on the [project webpage](#).

Sites Project Authority

On November 25 Staff released the [seventh amended public hearing notice](#), which notes that Sites Hearings will resume in February 2025. More details can be found on the Administrative Hearings Office [program webpage](#).

CALIFORNIA WATER SUPPLY STRATEGY and IMPLEMENTATION ACTIONS

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

Division of Water Rights

Water Rights Modernization (*Action 4.3*)

- **Telemetry Pilot Project**
Outreach and Engagement: Staff are engaging with the Office of Public Participation to plan 1-2 public meetings in January 2025 to further socialize the Pilot Project and solicit volunteers. Contracting: Staff have completed response to DAS comments on a Request for Qualifications. The RFQ is anticipated to post in December to select a contractor to perform procurement, installation, and O&M of telemetered water monitoring equipment in the Russian River 2025-2028.

Division of Financial Assistance

The SFY 2024-25 CWSRF Intended Use Plan was adopted on August 6, 2024, and includes grant maximums for the Water Recycling Funding Program. The recently adopted 2024 Budget Act returns approximately \$74 million in grant to State Water

Board to administer for water recycling projects. Staff will continue to encumber and fund project applications as they are ready to proceed.

Statewide Policies and Significant General Permits:

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

Report prepared by Meredith Thompson & approved by Eric Oppenheimer.