



# State Water Resources Control Board

# June 2025 State Board Liaison Report – Region 9

# **Recent Media Releases**

- May 9: <u>L.A. firestorms recovery milestone: Safe drinking water restored for all impacted public water systems</u>
- May 9: <u>State-funded project to secure safe drinking water for multiple</u> disadvantaged Moss Landing communities breaks ground
- May 13: <u>California's groundbreaking water initiative in Tombstone helps residents</u> access safer and cleaner drinking water

# Water Quality Coordinating Committee

The Water Board's annual Water Quality Coordination Committee (WQCC) meeting was held on Thursday May 1 and Friday, May 2, 2025. Meeting recordings and materials are posted here: <u>Water Quality Coordinating Committee</u>

# Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) & Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF)

On May 6 the state board adopted the proposed amendments to the Policy for implementing the CWSRF and the Policy for implementing the DWSRF.

- Draft Resolution <u>CWSRF</u> | <u>DWSRF</u>
- Change Sheet #1 <u>CWSRF</u> | <u>DWSRF</u>

# Delta Conveyance Project

On April 25 AHO released the <u>fifth amended hearing notice</u> for the Delta Conveyance Project hearings. The evidentiary portion of the public hearing continued on May 1, 2, 5, 14, 15, 21-23, 27 & 28. <u>Policy statements were heard</u> in person and by Zoom on May 19, 2025. The hearings will resume June 10 & 11, 2025 via Zoom, and additional dates as necessary. More information can be found on the <u>project webpage</u>.

# Water Quality Certification Fees Stakeholder Meeting

State board staff held the first Water Quality Certification (WQC) <u>stakeholder meeting</u> on May 7 to discuss possible changes to the FY 2026-27 fee schedule. Future WQC stakeholder meetings will be scheduled as needed. Staff is planning to hold the following stakeholder meetings to discuss FY 2025-26 fees:

- June 10 Drinking Water and ELAP
- June 11 Water Quality and Water Rights

# **Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook**

On June 17 the state board will <u>consider adoption</u> of revisions to the Draft Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook (CCCPH). Visit the <u>program webpage</u> for more information.

# **Once-Through Cooling Interim Mitigation Funds**

On June 3 the State Water Board, Ocean Protection Council, and State Coastal Conservancy staff received public feedback regarding revisions to an Interagency Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on the Acceptance and Use of Interim Mitigations Funds for the Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling (Once-Through Cooling or OTC Policy). On May 19 staff released a <u>fact sheet</u> and will accept informal public feedback through June 21, 2025. More information is available on the <u>program webpage</u>.

#### Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

On June 3 the state board returned the Chowchilla Groundwater Subbasin back to the Department of Water Resources consistent with the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

- Draft Resolution
- Draft Letter to the Department of Water Resources
- <u>Staff Assessment Executive Summary</u>
- Written comments were due by noon on May 23, 2025

#### East Orosi Public Administrator

On April 17 the state board <u>conducted a public meeting</u> to discuss the proposed Identification of the East Orosi Community Services District (CSD) as a designated sewer system and identification of Tulare County Resource Management Agency (RMA) as a proposed sewer system administrator to the East Orosi CSD. In June 2025, the Executive Director of the State Water Board intends to adopt the resolution of findings and water quality order to designate East Orosi Community Services District (East Orosi CSD) as a sewer system in need of an administrator, and appoint Tulare County Resource Management Agency (RMA) as a sewer system administrator for East Orosi CSD. In August 2025, the State Water Board will certify its funding agreement with Tulare County RMA to execute funding for this project.

#### 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.

#### **DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS**

#### Water Rights Modernization (Action 4.3)

#### Updating Water Rights Data for California (UPWARD)

The Division of Water Rights held an UPWARD Advisory Group meeting on May 30, 2025, where staff gave a CalWATRS demo showing how to login and create an account; advisors were then given time to try out the system on their own and provide feedback. In May, the Division also launched the new CalWATRS website, which contains frequently asked questions and other information to help users. The first annual reporting period via CalWATRS starts October 1, 2025.

#### **Telemetry Pilot Project**

On May 13, 2025, the Division of Water Rights executed a contract with Balance Hydrologics (Balance) to procure, install, operate, and maintain telemetry equipment for the Russian River Telemetry Study. The first installation is planned for early fall. In May, the Division of Water Rights also approved an Alternative Compliance Plan for the Russian River Telemetry Study that will provide reporting flexibility to water rights holders that volunteer for the study.

#### Supply & Demand Assessment

The Division of Water Rights continues to develop water supply models, water demand datasets, and water allocation tools for selected watersheds across California. Staff are actively engaging with agencies, partners, water users, and other interested parties to share information on the Supply and Demand Assessment Program and the models and tools that are under development.

The Division of Water Rights executed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with Napa County/Napa County Groundwater Sustainability Agency on May 6, 2025. The MOU describes data sharing, technical collaborations, and model development that will be coordinated between the parties. Additionally, in May, staff met with the Gualala River Watershed Council (May 12, 2025) regarding the Gualala River watershed, City/County Association of Governments of San Mateo County (May 2, 2025) regarding the Pescadero Creek and San Gregorio Creek watersheds, the Russian River Water Sharing Program (May 1, 2025) regarding the Russian River watershed, and San Franciso Estuary Institute (April 22, 2025) regarding the Napa River, Petaluma River, and Sonoma Creek watersheds.

# **Groundwater Recharge (Action 2.1)**

#### Groundwater Recharge Workshop

The Division of Water Rights held a staff-level workshop on May 15, 2025, that focused on temporary groundwater recharge permitting and Water Code 1242.1 (flood recharge diversions). The purpose of the workshop was to engage stakeholders who plan to pursue diversions of surface water for recharge this coming winter.

Report prepared by Meredith Thompson & approved by Eric Oppenheimer. Edited by Nichole Morgan on June 6, 2025.

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