
State Water Resources Control Board

March 2025 State Board Liaison Report – Region 9

Recent Media Releases

- February 20: [State Water Board postpones SGMA probationary decision for Kern Subbasin](#)
- February 27: [State expands program that has provided free replacement water for over 1,800 nitrate-impacted wells](#)
- February 27: [State and Local Water Agencies Complete Initial Plan Determinations to Advance Groundwater Sustainability](#) (Department of Water Resources)

State Board Strategic Work Plan Update

On March 4 state board staff held an informational item to discuss its [2025 draft strategic work plan](#). This strategic work plan update lays out actions to advance the State Water Board's four thematic priorities and subsidiary goals.

Racial Equity Action Plan Annual Update

The State Water Board has completed its second year of implementing the Racial Equity Action Plan. The 2024 Annual Update, now available for review, highlights progress on the 53 actions prioritized for 2023–2025

- [Review the annual update](#)
- Explore the interactive report. An interactive report is also available online at waterboards.ca.gov/racial_equity. The interactive report allows viewers to filter updates by divisions and offices or stage of completion.

2026 Integrated Report

On March 18 [state board staff will hold](#) a public hearing to receive oral comments on the draft 303(d) List for the 2026 California Integrated Report and draft staff report during a regularly-scheduled state board meeting. The State Water Board will not be taking any action at the hearing. Visit the [program webpage](#) for more information.

Administrative Hearings Office

Delta Conveyance Project

The DCP [hearing continues](#) on March 24 with remaining policy statements and Petitioner's case-in-chief. More information can be found on the [project webpage](#).

Sites Project Authority

Sites Reservoir public [hearings will continue](#) on March 4, 5, and 6. The hearing will be held by Zoom teleconference on all days. More details can be found on the Administrative Hearings Office [program webpage](#).

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Urban Stormwater Infiltration

On March 12 [state board staff will conduct](#) a California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) public scoping meeting for the proposed urban stormwater infiltration water quality control policy (proposed policy) that will set statewide standards for urban stormwater infiltration. The meeting will consist of a presentation on the proposed policy development, and an opportunity for meeting participants to provide oral comments regarding the content of the draft SED. Written comments are due by 12:00 p.m. (noon) on Monday, March 31, 2025.

Upcoming Fees Stakeholder Meetings

The Division of Administrative Services held meetings with stakeholders on fees for water quality and water rights on March 6, 2025. On March 7, meetings were held for drinking water and ELAP. The next round of meetings will take place in June.

SAFER Drinking Water

The Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Advisory Group [will hold a meeting](#) on March 13, 2025. This meeting will occur virtually, and all SAFER Advisory Group members will be joining virtually. There will be a physical and a remote meeting location for the public to participate.

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)

Supply & Demand Assessment

The Supply & Demand unit is continuing water allocation analyses in ten watersheds, in Northern California. The outcome of the assessment will inform future supply and demand analysis in the state. In the past month, staff have continued outreach and engagement to interested parties, agencies, and other organizations, including meetings with Salmon Coalition (1/21/2025), Russian River Water Sharing Program (ongoing), North Coast Stream Flow Coalition (1/28/2025), California Department of Fish and Wildlife staff (2/3/2025), Friends of Gualala River (2/6/2025), and North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board staff (2/10/2025).