
State Water Resources Control Board

Notice of Petitions for Change for Permits 11714 (A016454) and 11715 (A017291)

The Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District has filed petitions for change and instream flow dedication for permits 11714 (A016454) and 11715 (A017291) with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), Division of Water Rights. The project associated with the permits diverts water in the Mad River stream system in Humboldt and Trinity counties.

Summary of Water Right Permits and Requested Changes

Source of Water: The source of water for both permits is the Mad River, which is tributary to the Pacific Ocean.

The petitions do not propose to change the source of water.

Diversion Method and Amount: For permit 11714, water is diverted by collection to storage and is limited to 48,030 acre-feet per year. For permit 11715, water is diverted by collection to storage, with a maximum of 20,000 acre-feet per year collected to storage, and direct diversion at a rate not to exceed 116 cubic feet per second, with a maximum of 84,000 acre-feet per year by direct diversion. The total annual diversion and use allowed under both permits combined is 132,030 acre-feet per year.

The petitions do not propose to change the diversion method and amount.

Season of Diversion: The season for diversion of water by collection to storage for both permits is from October 1 of each year through April 30 of the succeeding year, and the season for direct diversion for permit 11715 is January 1 through December 31 of each year.

The petitions do not propose to change the season of diversion.

Points of Diversion: Water is diverted from seven points under both permits:

- The first point (Matthews Dam) is a point of collection to onstream storage for both permits. The point is located at North 2,020,980 feet and East 6,162,359 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 1, North American Datum 1983, within the Northwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 19, Township 1 South, Range 7 East, Humboldt Base and Meridian.

- The second point (Ranney Collector 1) is a point of redirection of water released from storage under both permits and a point of direct diversion under permit 11715. The point is located at North 2,220,774 feet and East 5,994,116 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 1, North American Datum 1983, within the Southeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Humboldt Base and Meridian.
- The third point (Ranney Collector 2) is a point of redirection of water released from storage under both permits and a point of direct diversion under permit 11715. The point is located at North 2,220,501 feet and East 5,995,641 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 1, North American Datum 1983, within the Southwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Humboldt Base and Meridian.
- The fourth point (Ranney Collector 3) is a point of redirection of water released from storage under both permits and a point of direct diversion under permit 11715. The point is located at North 2,219,735 feet and East 5,997,203 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 1, North American Datum 1983, within the Southwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Humboldt Base and Meridian.
- The fifth point (Ranney Collector 4) is a point of redirection of water released from storage under both permits and a point of direct diversion under permit 11715. The point is located at North 2,219,463 feet and East 5,998,086 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 1, North American Datum 1983, within the Southwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Humboldt Base and Meridian.
- The sixth point (Ranney Collector 5) is a point of redirection of water released from storage under both permits and a point of direct diversion under permit 11715. The point is located at North 2,219,165 feet and East 5,999,271 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 1, North American Datum 1983, within the Northeast quarter of the Southwest quarter of Section 14, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Humboldt Base and Meridian.
- The seventh point (Station 6) is a point of redirection of water released from storage under both permits and a point of direct diversion under permit 11715. The point is located at North 2,220,360 feet and East 5,993,699 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 1, North American Datum 1983, within the Southeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Humboldt Base and Meridian.

The petitions do not propose to change the points of diversion.

Purpose of Use: The purpose of use for water diverted under both permits is municipal.

The petitions propose to change the purpose of water for water released from storage under both permits by adding fish and wildlife preservation and use in the Mad River.

Place of Use: The place of use for water diverted under both permits is the service area of Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District.

The petitions propose to change the place of use for water released from storage under both permits by adding a portion of the Mad River as a place of use for fish and wildlife preservation and enhancement. The upstream limit is Matthews Dam located at North 2,020,980 feet and East 6,162,359 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 1, North American Datum 1983, within the Northwest quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 19, Township 1 South, Range 7 East, Humboldt Base and Meridian. The downstream limit is Station 6 located at North 2,220,360 feet and East 5,993,699 feet by California Coordinate System, Zone 1, North American Datum 1983, within the Southeast quarter of the Northwest quarter of Section 15, Township 6 North, Range 1 East, Humboldt Base and Meridian.

Permit and Petition Documents

Documentation related to these permits and petitions was previously available through the State Water Board's electronic Water Rights Information Management System (eWRIMS) database, but that system is currently unavailable. For access to the permit and petition documents, please contact Matthew McCarthy at (916) 341-5310 or Matthew.McCarthy@waterboards.ca.gov (email is the preferred means of communication).

Procedure for Filing Protests

Pursuant to Water Code section 1703.1, any interested person may file a protest against the approval of the subject petitions. Protests should be submitted via email to the staff contact listed below but may also be submitted via regular mail or hand delivered. If protests are sent by mail or hand delivered, please provide a courtesy email to the staff contact listed below. For hand delivery, please contact the State Water Board's Water Rights Records Room at dwr@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5300 to make an appointment. Protests must be received by the Division of Water Rights or postmarked by **October 8, 2025**, with copy provided to the petitioner. The State Water Board may, for good cause shown, allow additional time to file a protest. For more information regarding protests, please refer to the following web page:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/applications/docs/protests.pdf

Contact Information

Please direct all requests and inquiries regarding this notice to Matthew McCarthy at Matthew.McCarthy@waterboards.ca.gov or (916) 341-5310 (email is the preferred means of communication). Correspondence sent by mail should be addressed to:

State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights
Attn: Matthew McCarthy
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

All written correspondence directed to the petitioner should be addressed to:

Humboldt Bay Municipal Water District
Attn: Michiko Mares, General Manager
P.O. Box 95
Eureka, CA, 95502-0095

Date of Notice: The date that this public notice was issued is September 8, 2025.