

State Water Resources Control Board

Workshop Guide: *Draft Emergency Information Order Regulations for the Clear Lake Watershed*

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) staff are holding two public workshops in October 2023 to discuss [Draft Emergency Information Order Regulations for the Clear Lake Watershed \(emergency regulations\)](#). The following information is intended to help you prepare for the workshops.

Workshop Details

October 19, 2023, 5:30 pm
Lake County Board of Supervisors Chambers
255 N. Forbes St #109, Lakeport, CA 95453

October 24, 2023, 10:00 am
Remote Participation Only
Register at bit.ly/CLH_Oct24

Workshop Goals

- Clarify the purpose of the emergency regulations.
- Describe the content of the emergency regulations and answer questions.
- Collect public comments regarding water use reporting.
- Continue developing effective relationships between the Board and interested parties.

Purpose of the Emergency Regulations

The Clear Lake hitch population has been struggling for some time and the recent drought exacerbated the situation. Since 2014, the hitch has been listed as a Threatened species under the California Endangered Species Act, and the State Water Board is committed to helping communities and Tribes protect the hitch and maintain a healthy watershed. Currently, the Board does not have sufficient information about water use in the Clear Lake Watershed to understand how groundwater pumping influences creek flows. The emergency regulations would allow the Board to issue an information order to collect data from users in the Clear Lake Watershed to fill those data gaps. A map of the Clear Lake Watershed is included at the end of this document.

Public Input Requested

We look forward to hearing from you during the workshops on October 19 and 24 and in writing (email your written comments to ClearLakeHitch@waterboards.ca.gov by noon on October 31, 2023).

As you prepare your comments, Board staff are particularly interested in your answers to the following questions:

- What questions do you have about the emergency regulations?
- What concerns do you have about complying with the emergency regulations?
- What types of water use do you think should be excluded from the emergency regulations, if any, and why?

Questions

We will be answering questions about the emergency regulations during the workshops. Also, we are developing a list of answers to frequently asked questions that will be available on our [Clear Lake hitch website](https://waterboards.ca.gov/clearlakehitch) soon (waterboards.ca.gov/clearlakehitch). You are also welcome to email questions to ClearLakeHitch@waterboards.ca.gov.

Proposed Clear Lake Emergency Regulation Area

