

MONTHLY
REGULATORY
ROUNDUP

ACWA 
JANUARY 2025

UPCOMING ACWA EVENTS

ACWA DC 2025 CONFERENCE

ACWA will host its DC 2025 Conference February 25-27 in Washington DC. Register [here](#) to attend.

ACWA REGION EVENTS

- ACWA Region 9 / Board Meeting and Tour / January 17 at 10:00 am / Registration capacity has been reached, but interested attendees can be added to a waitlist by clicking [here](#).

POLICY UPDATES

FEDERAL

ACWA's Federal Regulatory Issues chart is accessible [here](#).

WATER MANAGEMENT

PRIORITY Bay-Delta Plan Update - On November 1, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released a revised Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment and Workshop on the Draft Sacramento/Delta Updates to the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed (Bay-Delta Plan). The draft Sacramento/Delta updates include options for incorporating an unimpaired flow pathway, based on the proposed Plan amendments in the State Water Board's draft Staff Report, or a pathway based on the Healthy Rivers and Landscapes Program. - Public workshop: January 23 at 9:00 am - Written comments on Alternative 5a and 6a due January 30	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com 
California Endangered Species Act - On November 14, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) requested data and public comments as part of the status review process for the petition to list the western burrowing owl under the California Endangered Species Act (CESA). As of October 25, 2024, CDFW has one year to conduct its status review that will inform the California Fish and Game Commission's final decision on whether to list the western burrowing owl under CESA. - Deadline to submit data and comments: February 15	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
California Water Commission Strategic Plan The California Water Commission (CWC) released its 2025 Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan provides direction for the CWC's work through 2030 and sets goals and objectives that advance California's adaptation to a hotter, drier climate and more frequent hydrologic extremes.	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com
Delta Conveyance Project	Staff Contact Stephen Pang

- On November 18, the State Water Board released an Amended Notice of Public Hearing and Procedural Ruling regarding the Department of Water Resources' (DWR) pending Petitions for Change of Water Rights Permits associated with the State Water Project (SWP). The hearing will develop an evidentiary record on which the State Water Board will rely when acting on the petitions to authorize operation of the proposed Delta Conveyance Project. - Written comments on hearing issues due January 20 - Public hearing: February 18 at 9:00 am, March 24-25, and April 1, 4, 7-9, 14, 17, and 22-24	stephenp@acwa.com
Electronic Annual Report - On January 3, the State Water Board announced that it is closing the reporting year (RY) 2023 electronic Annual Report (eAR) Survey. All public water systems are required to complete the eAR under the January 2024 Technical Reporting Order. The State Water Board anticipates releasing an eAR reporter excel worksheet for RY 2024. - RY 2023 release: January 31	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Mill, Deer, and Antelope Creek Instream Flows - On December 9, the State Water Board held a public workshop on the scope of a Scientific Basis Report (Report) for Mill, Deer, and Antelope Creeks. The Report will compile best available science and describe how it relates to flow setting and flow conditions conducive to the health and survival of salmon populations. - Written comments due January 15 at 12:00 pm	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
Model Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance As of January 2, the amendments to the Model Water Efficient Landscape Ordinance have been approved by the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) and are in effect. The amendments are intended to reduce ambiguities, provide clarity, and improve organization consistent with the Governor's Water Resilience Portfolio (2020), Action 2.2.	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Scott-Shasta Emergency Regulation On January 7, the State Water Board adopted an emergency regulation for the Scott River and Shasta River (Scott-Shasta) Watersheds. The emergency regulation re-adopts, with minor amendments, the current drought emergency regulation in the Scott-Shasta Watersheds, which went into effect on January 31, 2024. The State Water Board will submit the emergency regulation to OAL for review and approval. The full rulemaking package is available here.	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
State Water Project and Central Valley Project Biological Opinion On November 8, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) issued a biological opinion for the long term operations (LTO) of the SWP and Central Valley Project. The biological opinion addresses the effects of LTO to 16 federally-listed and proposed species and designated critical habitat.	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
State Water Project 2024 Annual Review	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com

- The CWC will consider for approval the draft 2024 Annual Review of the SWP at its next Board meeting. The 2024 Annual Review implements goal 5 of the CWC's 2025 Strategic Plan. CWC Board meeting: January 15 at 9:30 am	
Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook DWR anticipates releasing a draft 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Guidebook in February, a revised draft in March, and a final version by July 1. To access DWR's WUE SharePoint, which includes DWR's proposed changes, email UWMPhelp@water.ca.gov.	Staff Contact Sonja Eschenburg sonjae@acwa.com 
WATER QUALITY	
Clean Water Act Section 303(d) - On January 2, the State Water Board released a Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment, Public Staff Workshop, and Public Hearing for the Draft 2026 California Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Impaired Waters (list) of the 2026 California Integrated Report (report). The draft 303(d) list and draft staff report will be accessible here by January 30. Public workshop on the 2026 report: February 11 at 1:00 pm - Public hearing on the list and draft staff report: March 18 at 9:00 am - Written comments on the list and draft staff report due April 2 at 12:00 pm	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
Municipal Stormwater Cost Policy - On December 3, the State Water Board released a Notice of Consideration of Adoption of a Water Quality Control Policy for Standardized Cost Reporting in Municipal Stormwater Permits. If adopted, the policy would require permittees to use a list of standardized cost categories to track their MS4 permit implementation costs and report annual expenditures for implementing their MS4 permits using a statewide cost data portal. The final draft proposed Municipal Stormwater Cost Policy, Staff Report, and staff response to public comments are accessible here. - Consideration of adoption: January 22 at 9:00 am - Anticipated effective date: April 1	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
Underground Storage Tank Regulations - On December 26, the State Water Board released a revised Notice of Proposed Regulatory Action regarding Title 23. Waters Division 3. State Water Board and Regional Water Quality Control Boards Chapter 16. Underground Storage Tank (UST) Regulations (regulations). The State Water Board is proposing to amend the regulations to make them more consistent with current technology and operational practices, including deleting deadlines that have passed, and to implement amendments to the Health and Safety Code. Documents related to the proposed action are accessible here. - Written comments due January 17 at 12:00 pm	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
Urban Stormwater Infiltration	Staff Contact Stephen Pang

- On January 2, the State Water Board released a Notice of Public Workshops Regarding the Proposed Urban Stormwater Infiltration Water Quality Control Policy (policy). The proposed policy aims to benefit urban areas by encouraging responsible stormwater infiltration to protect water quality in rivers, lakes, and streams and will include a risk-based framework to clarify when and where it is safe to implement a stormwater infiltration system. Virtual public workshop #1: February 3 at 6:00 pm Virtual public workshop #2: February 6 at 10:00 am - Written comments due February 24 at 12:00 pm	stephenp@acwa.com
Wastewater Needs Assessment - The Wastewater Needs Assessment (WWNA) Advisory Group will meet to provide information on strategies to address California's water-related sanitation system needs and advise on project development related to specific tasks like wastewater data gathering and gaps, baseline assessment survey and effective outreach methods, identifying "At-Risk" definitions, and other areas of expertise. WWNA advisory group meeting: January 24 at 9:30 am	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
ENERGY	
2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report On December 12, the California Energy Commission (CEC) held a public workshop to review draft results for the 2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report Update (2024 IEPR Update) electricity demand forecast. Written comments on the 2024 IEPR Update were due January 2 and can be accessed here.	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
Clean Transportation Incentives - The California Air Resources Board (CARB) will host a series of virtual monthly community meetings to discuss its Clean Transportation Incentives (CTI) Funding Plan Development process. The CTI Funding Plan Development process explains how CARB will spend money on projects related to zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) and improving air quality. Community meeting #1 (updates and proposed changes to the Clean Mobility Options Vouchers Pilot program): January 21 at 5:00 pm	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
Community Energy Reliability and Resilience Investment Program - The CEC will host an information session to provide an overview of the Community Energy Reliability and Resilience Investment (CERRI) program's background, project eligibility requirements, and solicitation for funding opportunities. The CERRI program funds grid hardening and energy resilience projects across California that increase community energy resilience and reliability, advance state energy and climate goals, improve energy justice and equity, and create jobs. - Virtual information session: January 15 at 10:00 am	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
PRIORITY Group Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation: Truck Regulation Implementation	Staff Contact Nick Blair

- CARB will host Truck Regulation Implementation Group meetings to continue discussion of Advanced Clean Fleet regulation implementation. Meeting topics will include outreach and infrastructure.
 - [Outreach meeting](#): January 30 at 3:00 pm
 - [Infrastructure meeting](#): February 10 at 1:00 pm

nickb@acwa.com

ACWA COMMENT AND COALITION LETTERS

- [Statement on Ocean Plan Amendment Scoping Proposal](#), State Water Board, November 13, 2024
- [Water Measurement and Reporting Regulation](#), State Water Board, December 2, 2024
- [Draft Sacramento/Delta Bay-Delta Plan Updates](#), State Water Board, January 10, 2025

To receive a monthly email of Regulatory Roundup, please contact [Sonja Eschenburg](#). Regulatory Roundup is also available on ACWA's [website](#).



Indicates ACWA Working Group



Indicates ACWA Priority Issue