

MONTHLY
**REGULATORY
ROUNDUP**



JULY 2024

UPCOMING ACWA EVENTS

ACWA QUARTERLY REGULATORY COMMITTEE MEETINGS

ACWA's next [Quarterly Regulatory Committee Meetings](#) will be held virtually on August 28 from 9:00 am – 4:30 pm. [Register](#) once to attend any or all of the meetings. The preliminary schedule includes:

9:00 AM – 10:15 AM	Water Management Committee
10:30 AM – 11:45 AM	Groundwater Committee
12:15 PM – 1:30 PM	Water Quality Committee
1:45 PM – 3:00 PM	Agriculture Committee
3:15 PM – 4:30 PM	Energy Committee

ACWA REGION EVENTS

ACWA Regions 3 and 4 / Program and Tour / July 31 at 10:00 am / Register [here](#).

POLICY UPDATES

FEDERAL

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

WATER MANAGEMENT

Long-Term Operation of the State Water Project

- On June 18, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) held a [public hearing](#) to discuss the Draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for Long-Term Operation of the State Water Project (SWP) in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Suisun Marsh, and Suisun Bay. The project will provide a framework for future projects involving SWP operations. Draft EIR documents are accessible [here](#).
 - Written comments due July 15 by 5:00 pm

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California Endangered Species Act: White Sturgeon

- On June 19, the California Fish and Game Commission (Commission) [found](#) that the petition to list white sturgeon as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act may be warranted. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife will conduct a status review of the species to inform the Commission's final determination, which will be made in 2025.

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California Water Plan Update 2023: Watershed Resilience

- On June 26, DWR released a [California Water Plan Update 2023](#) companion document that provides a planning guide to support watershed managers. The [draft Watershed Resilience Framework and Toolkit - A Guide to Accelerate Resiliency in California's Watersheds](#) aims to help managers better understand climate effects and vulnerabilities.

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Clean Water State Revolving Fund: Intended Use Plan

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- On June 14, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released a Notice of Opportunity to Comment, Board Workshop, and Consideration of Adoption of the State Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25 Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) Intended Use Plan (IUP). The draft CWSRF IUP outlines the State Water Board's business plan for administering the CWSRF and the types of projects eligible for financing. - Public Workshop: July 2 at 9:00 am - Written comments due July 15 by 12:00 pm - Consideration to adopt: August 6 at 9:00 am	
Drinking Water State Revolving Fund: Intended Use Plan - On June 24, the State Water Board released a Notice of Opportunity to Comment, Board Workshop, and Consideration of Adoption of the State FY 2024-25 Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) IUP. The draft DWSRF IUP outlines the State Water Board's business plan for administering the DWSRF and the types of projects eligible for financing. - Public Workshop: July 16 at 9:00 am - Written comments due July 24 by 12:00 pm - Consideration of Adoption: August 20 at 9:00 am	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com 
Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners Collaborative - DWR will convene its Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners (DRIP) Collaborative to continue discussions around drought strategies and building resilience to the increasingly arid conditions California faces. - Public Meeting: July 12 from 10:00 am – 5:00 pm	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com
Flood Emergency Response Grant Program - On June 25, DWR announced a 15-day public comment period for the draft directed funding recommendations of the Statewide Flood Emergency Response Grant Program (grant program) Third Round. The grant program provides funding for local emergency responders to improve their capacity to respond to flood emergencies. - Written comments due July 10 by 5:00 pm	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com
PRIORITY Making Conservation a California Way of Life - On June 14, the State Water Board released a Notice of Public Availability of Changes to Proposed Regulation and Addition of Material to the Rulemaking Record Regarding Making Conservation a California Way of Life. The fourth version of the revised draft regulation makes minor changes to the draft Regulation, which would establish unique water use objectives for each urban retail water supplier; commercial, industrial, and institutional performance measures; and reporting requirements. - Written comments due July 1 by 12:00 pm - Consideration to adopt: July 3	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com 
Sacramento River Temperature Management Plan On June 5, the State Water Board announced the availability of the Final Sacramento River Temperature Management Plan (TMP) for 2024. The TMP describes how the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) plans to operate Shasta Reservoir for water temperatures on the Sacramento	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com 

River. To receive access to the TMP, email Bay-Delta@waterboards.ca.gov. On June 14, the State Water Board announced its conditional approval of Reclamation's TMP for 2024.	
Sea Level Rise Guidance On June 12, the California Ocean Protection Council adopted the State of California Sea Level Rise Guidance: 2024 Science and Policy Update (2024 Guidance). The 2024 Guidance provides updated policy recommendations to assist California coastal communities in incorporating impacts of rising sea levels into planning and projects.	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Shasta River Watershed Curtailment Order On June 7, the State Water Board issued a Conditional Curtailment Order for the Shasta River watershed (Order). The Order conditionally curtails the water right owner or landowner of record in the Shasta River watershed for water rights with a priority date of, or junior to, November 25, 1912.	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
Urban Water Management Plans - DWR is in the process of updating its 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Guidebook and will hold a series of working group (WG) meetings this summer to solicit input. DWR anticipates that it will release a draft 2025 UWMP Guidebook in November, a revised draft in February 2025, and a finalized version by July 1, 2025. To attend the WG meetings and access DWR's WUE SharePoint, email UWMPhelp@water.ca.gov. - General Table Updates WG Meeting: July 2 from 9:00 – 11:00 am - Climate Change WG Meeting: July 9 from 9:00 – 11:00 am	Staff Contact Sonja Eschenburg sonjae@acwa.com 
AGRICULTURE	
Healthy Soils Program - On June 5, the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) began accepting proposals for new conservation management practices for inclusion in its Healthy Soils Program (HSP). The HSP supports activities and projects that sequester carbon, reduce atmospheric greenhouse gases, and enhance soil health. Program requirements, the process for consideration, and submission details can be found here. - Deadline to submit proposals: August 2 by 5:00 pm	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
Regulatory Alignment Study - On May 2, CDFA, in collaboration with the California Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the State Water Board, released a Regulatory Alignment Concept Paper (Paper). The Paper is part of a Regulatory Alignment Study to streamline administrative processes and data collection by evaluating food safety and water quality regulatory reporting requirements. Workshops to review the Paper and provide feedback are scheduled throughout the summer. Produce Safety Program Workshop #2: July 11 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm ILRP Workshop #2: July 16 from 3:00 – 6:00 pm	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com

- [Confined Animal Facilities Workshop #2](#): July 24 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm
- [State Winery Order Workshop #2](#): July 30 from 4:00 – 6:00 pm

GROUNDWATER

Groundwater Sustainability Plans

- On June 27, DWR [released](#) nine periodic reviews of Alternatives to a Groundwater Sustainability Plan submitted by local agencies to meet the requirements of the Sustainability Groundwater Management Act. The release includes approval of Alternatives for the Pajaro Valley Subbasin, Coastal Plain of Orange County Basin, Llagas Area Subbasin, Santa Clara Subbasin, Mission Creek Subbasin, Niles Cone Subbasin, Livermore Valley Basin, Indio Subbasin, and Tahoe South Subbasin. The Alternatives are approved with recommended corrective actions that the agencies will need to address in their next periodic evaluation, due in December 2026.

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PRIORITY State Intervention: Kaweah Subbasin Proposed Probationary

Designation

- On May 6, the State Water Board released a [Notice of Opportunity to Provide Feedback, Public Staff Workshops, and Public Board Hearing for the Proposed Designation of Kaweah Subbasin as a Probationary Basin](#). If designated as probationary, Kaweah Subbasin would have one year to address the identified deficiencies while the State Water Board would focus on data collection and analysis to understand what management challenges are occurring in the subbasin.
 - Written comments due July 8 by 12:00 pm
 - Public Board Hearing: January 7, 2025

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SAFE DRINKING WATER

PRIORITY Drinking Water Needs Assessment

- In June, the State Water Board released the final [2024 Drinking Water Needs Assessment](#). The Assessment analyzes the state's progress in achieving the Human Right to water and identifies communities with water systems that are failing and at risk of failing. The Assessment also informs the prioritization of available state funding of the State Water Board's [Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience](#) (SAFER) program, and tracks progress in achieving safe drinking water in communities that have historically lacked solutions. The Assessment estimates a 5-year funding need of \$11.5 billion.

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SAFER Advisory Group

- On June 11, the State Water Board released a [Notice of Public Meeting](#) of the SAFER Advisory Group. No action will be taken at the meeting; instead, the Advisory Group will consider program goals, updates, member announcements; the Draft Fund Expenditure Plan (draft FEP); and technical assistance efforts.
 - Advisory group meeting: July 11 from 10:00 am – 4:00 pm

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SAFER Drinking Water Fund Expenditure Plan

- On June 14, the State Water Board released a [Notice of Opportunity for Public Comments, Board Workshop, and Board Consideration of Draft FEP](#)

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for the [Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund](#) (SADWF). The [draft FEP](#) discusses funding targets, funding prioritization, distribution of prior FY funds, metrics and performance, funding process, financing and programmatic requirements, and schedule.

- Board Workshop: July 16 at 9:00 am
- Written comments due July 24 by 12:00 pm
- Consideration of adoption: August 20 at 9:00 am



WATER QUALITY

Clean Water Act: Section 104(b)(3) Assistance Agreements

- On May 29, the State Water Board released a [Notice of Funding Opportunity: FY 2024 Building Partner Capacity and Promoting Resiliency and Equity under the Clean Water Act](#) (CWA). The U.S. EPA is soliciting applications to provide support for training and related activities that will advance the goals of the CWA Section 303(d) Program, CWA 305(b) Program, Total Maximum Daily Load Program, Nonpoint Source Program (NPS), Fish Monitoring/Advisory Programs, Recreational Waters/Beach Monitoring Programs, and Water Quality Monitoring Program. Information about eligibility can be found [here](#).
 - Applications due July 17 by 11:59 pm

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Clean Water Act: Nonpoint Source Program

- On June 18, the State Water Board adopted a [proposed Resolution](#) authorizing the Executive Director to apply for, accept, and/or amend the federal CWA Section 319(h) grant award; to negotiate and approve NPS workplans; and to issue contracts, grants, and amendments to support the NPS.

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Municipal Stormwater Cost Policy

- On June 11, the State Water Board released a [Revised Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment and Public Board Hearing on a Revised Draft Water Quality Control Policy for Standardized Cost Reporting in Municipal Stormwater Permits \(draft WQCP\)](#) for a second round of public comments. The revised draft WQCP, redline comparison to the August 2023 version, and revised draft Staff Report are accessible [here](#).
 - Written comments due July 9 by 12:00 pm

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ENERGY

Clean Transportation Advisory Tool

- On June 25, the Clean Truck and Bus Voucher Incentive Project (HVIP) shared an [informational post](#) encouraging the shift to zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs). The post discusses the [Clean Fleet Advisor tool](#), which offers fleet owners information about ZEVs, cost savings, and incentive opportunities.

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Clean Transportation Infrastructure Funding

- The CEC will host an [Energy Infrastructure Incentives for Zero-Emission \(EnergIIZE\) webinar](#) to discuss medium- and heavy-duty electric vehicle infrastructure installation processes and funding opportunities. EnergIIZE Jump Start Lane Funding will be available starting July 16.
 - EnergIIZE webinar: July 10 from 1:00 – 2:30 pm

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Climate Action Plan

- On June 12, DWR [announced](#) its update to [Phase 1](#) of the [Climate Action Plan](#) (Update 2023). Update 2023 highlights DWR's near- and long-term greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals, including achieving carbon neutrality by 2035 and supplying 100 percent of its electricity load with zero-carbon resources by 2035. In total, these measures will reduce annual GHG emissions by over 2.7 million metric tons per year in 2035.

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ACWA COMMENT LETTERS

- [Proposed Making Conservation a California Way of Life Regulation](#), State Water Board, June 4, 2024
- [Oppose Proposed Reduction of Funding for the Voluntary Agreements](#), Governor Newsom, Senate Pro Tem McGuire, Assembly Speaker Rivas, June 6, 2024
- [Draft Clean Transportation Program Investment Plan and Advisory Committee Meeting](#), California Energy Commission, June 20, 2024

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