



MONTHLY REGULATORY ROUNDUP

ACWA 
OCTOBER 2024

UPCOMING ACWA EVENTS

ACWA REGION EVENTS

- ACWA Regions 6 and 7 / Water Forum / October 11 at 9:30 am / Register [here](#).
- ACWA Region 10 / Event / October 15 at 8:30 am / Register [here](#).
- ACWA Region 1 / Tour / October 30 at 8:00 am / Register [here](#).

ACWA FALL 2024 CONFERENCE

ACWA will host its 2024 Fall Conference and Exhibition in Palm Desert, CA from December 3-5. ACWA Regulatory Committee Meetings will be held in person on Tuesday, December 3 (preliminary schedule below). Click [here](#) to register for Fall Conference, including the Regulatory Committee Meetings.

9:30 am – 10:45 am	Groundwater Committee
11:00 am – 12:15 pm	Water Management Committee
11:00 am – 12:15 pm	Energy Committee
1:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Agriculture Committee
1:45 pm – 3:00 pm	Water Quality Committee

POLICY UPDATES

FEDERAL

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

WATER MANAGEMENT

30x30 Update

- In September, the Newsom Administration released [Pathways to 30x30: California Annual Progress Report](#) (Report). The Report found that, as of June 2024, 25.2% of California's lands and 16.2% of its coastal waters are under long-term conservation and care for the benefit of plant, animal, and human communities, including an addition of 861,000 acres of conserved lands across the state.

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Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program

- On September 19, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) [opened](#) the 30-day proposal solicitation period for the [Dam Safety and Climate Resilience Local Assistance Program](#) (Program). The Program provides state funding for repairs, rehabilitation, enhancements, and other dam safety projects at existing state jurisdictional dams and associated facilities. Information on eligibility requirements can be found [here](#).
 - Proposal deadline: October 21

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Delta Conveyance Project

- On September 17, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released a [Notice of Pre-Hearing Conference and Procedural Ruling](#) regarding DWR's pending Petitions for Change of Water Rights Permits associated with the State Water Project. The pre-

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hearing conference will address DWR's withdrawal of the petitions for water rights extension of time and request to amend the change petitions. The hearing officer anticipates issuing an amended notice and procedural ruling after the pre-hearing conference. ○ Pre-hearing conference statements due October 10 ○ Pre-hearing conference: October 17 at 9:00 am	
Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners Collaborative • DWR will convene its Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners Collaborative to continue discussions around drought strategies and building resilience to the increasingly arid conditions that California faces. ○ Public meeting: October 8 at 10:00 am	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com
Electronic Annual Report • The State Water Board is hosting its second electronic Annual Report (eAR) input forum to discuss survey results from the first eAR input forum held in September and to provide information on reporting year 2024. ○ eAR input forum #2: October 9 at 2:00 pm	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Emergency Fee Increases • On September 18, the State Water Board adopted several Emergency Fee Increases to conform to the revenue levels set forth in the Budget Act for Fiscal Year 2024-25. Adjustments were made to the fee schedules for Drinking Water, Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program, Water Quality, and Water Rights fees.	Staff Contact Chelsea Haines chelseah@acwa.com
Flood Diversions for Groundwater Recharge • On August 28, the State Water Board released a Notice of Staff Workshop on Flood Diversions for Groundwater Recharge. The workshop will provide an overview of Water Code 1242.1 in terms of flood diversions for groundwater recharge. ○ Staff workshop: October 9 at 10:00 am	Staff Contact Soren Nelson sorenn@acwa.com
Urban Water Management Plans • DWR is in the process of updating its 2025 Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) Guidebook and will hold its final series of working group (WG) meetings this fall to solicit input. DWR anticipates that it will release a draft 2025 UWMP Guidebook in November, a revised draft in February 2025, and a final version by July 1, 2025. To attend the WG meetings and access DWR's WUE SharePoint, email UWMPhelp@water.ca.gov. ○ Ocean water desalination WG meeting: October 3 at 9:00 am ○ Water loss WG meeting: October 7 at 9:00 am ○ Direct potable reuse WG meeting: October 8 at 9:00 am ○ Stored water accounting WG meeting: October 22 at 1:30 pm ○ SB X7-7 reporting WG meeting: October 25 at 9:00 am ○ General table updates WG meeting: October 29 at 9:00 am ○ Climate change WG meeting: October 31 at 9:00 am	Staff Contact Sonja Eschenburg sonjae@acwa.com

California Pesticide Electronic Submission Tracking

- On September 24, the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (DPR) launched the [California Pesticide Electronic Submission Tracking](#) (CalPEST) system. CalPEST will streamline and improve transparency in DPR's pesticide registration and evaluation process, and facilitate approval of safer alternatives needed to transition California to more sustainable pest management.

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GROUNDWATER

PRIORITY

Interconnected Surface Water

- On September 20, DWR [released](#) the [second](#) and [third](#) in a series of three papers that discuss the technical aspects of interconnected surface water and quantification of depletions. The release of these papers opens a 45-day public comment period. DWR will release a pre-recorded webinar that summarizes the papers and describes next steps in the development of the guidance document in mid-October.
 - Written comments due November 4

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State Intervention: Tule Subbasin Probationary Designation

- On September 17, the State Water Board adopted its [Final Tule Subbasin Probationary Hearing Staff Report](#) and [designated](#) the Tule Subbasin as probationary under the Sustainable Groundwater Manamgenet Act. The determination compels, among other things, the installation of well meters by groundwater users who extract more than 500 acre-feet per year by March 1, 2025. The State Water Board will next consider placing the Kern Subbasin in probation in February.

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Water Plan Update 2023

- In August, DWR released the [Watershed Hub Resilience Indicators and Metric Report](#) (Report). The Report is a supporting document for [California Water Plan Update 2023](#) and details processes to measure, track, and report on changing conditions throughout California's watersheds.

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Water Resilience Assessment Framework: Basin Management and Planning

- In August the Pacific Institute, in collaboration with CEO Water Mandate and BHP, released the [Water Resilience Assessment Framework: Guidance for Basin Managers and Planning Authorities](#) (Framework). The Framework offers actions and strategies, along with indicators and tools, to measure and monitor progress towards and best practices in building resilient water systems.

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WATER QUALITY

Draft Small Municipal Stormwater Permit

- On August 1, the State Water Board released a [Notice of Opportunity for Public Comments and Public Workshops for the Informal Draft National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System \(NPDES\) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges from Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems](#) (Informal Draft Permit). The [Informal Draft Permit](#) requires regulated entities to address six minimum control measures and includes updates, revisions, and implementation requirements.

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○ Written comments due October 4 at 12:00 pm	
Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California: Seawater Desalination • On September 12, the State Water Board released a Notice of Opportunity for Public Comment and Scoping Meeting on Proposed Amendments to the Seawater Desalination Provisions of the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California. The State Water Board is soliciting input on proposed amendments that focus on improving seawater desalination implementation and permitting processes while protecting water quality and related beneficial uses of ocean waters. ○ Public scoping meeting: October 28 at 1:00 pm ○ Written comments due November 13 at 12:00 pm	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
White Sturgeon Status Review • On August 29, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) began soliciting data and comments on the petitioned action to list white sturgeon (<i>Acipenser transmontanus</i>) as threatened under the California Endangered Species Act. CDFW has until July 12, 2025 to conduct a status review that will inform the Fish and Game Commission's final decision on whether to list the species as threatened. ○ Data and comments due October 31	Staff Contact Stephen Pang stephenp@acwa.com
ENERGY	
Clean Transportation Program Funding • The California Energy Commission (CEC) will host a public meeting of the Advisory Committee for the Clean Transportation Program Investment Plan (Meeting). The Meeting will discuss proposed funding allocations included in the revised draft staff report of the 2024–2025 Investment Plan Update for the Clean Transportation Program, implementation, and related zero-emission vehicle infrastructure analysis and planning activities. ○ Public meeting: October 1 at 9:00 am	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com 
2024 Integrated Energy Policy Report • On September 18, the CEC released a Notice of Integrated Energy Policy Report (IEPR) Commissioner Workshop on Forecast Use in Electricity System Planning. The CEC is directed by California Public Resources Code Section 25301 to prepare an IEPR every two years that includes assessments and forecasts of all aspects of energy industry supply, production, transportation, delivery and distribution, demand, and prices. On alternate years, the CEC updates the statewide forecast of electricity demand. ○ IEPR commissioner workshop: October 2 at 10:00 am	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
PRIORITY Advanced Clean Fleets Regulation • The California Air Resources Board (CARB) will host a second workshop on targeted amendments to the Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) regulation that implement the requirements of Assembly Bill 1594. The ACF	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com

regulation complements CARB's Advanced Clean Trucks regulation, and will help advance the introduction of zero-emission technologies into California's truck and bus fleets. ○ Workshop on targeted amendments to the ACF regulation: October 3 at 9:00 am	
Off-Road New Diesel Engine Emissions Standards • The CARB will host a workshop to discuss proposed amendments to the off-road new diesel engine emissions standards to reduce oxides of nitrogen, particulate matter, and carbon dioxide emissions from new off-road compression-ignition engines (Tier 5 rulemaking). The CARB will discuss proposed amendments to the off-road new diesel engine emissions standards including changes to the On-Board Diagnostics and Tier 5 proposals since the October 2023 workshop. The workshop will clarify and update the diesel engine emission standards and OBD topics. ○ Workshop on Tier 5 rulemaking: October 8 at 9:00 am	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
California Greenhouse Gas Emissions • On September 20, the CARB released the California Greenhouse Gas Emissions from 2000 to 2022: Trends of Emissions and Other Indicators Report (Report). The Report found that from 2000 to 2022, the carbon intensity of California's economy decreased by 54.8% while the gross state product increased by 77.5%.	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
Long Duration Energy Storage Systems • The CEC, in collaboration with the United States Department of Energy and Sandia National Laboratories, is holding a series of energy storage webinars. The webinars will focus on harnessing the power of renewables, relieving generation, transmission, and distribution demands, and hastening the transition to a carbonized future. ○ Long duration energy storage technologies webinar : October 4 at 1:00 pm ○ Long duration energy storage systems policy and regulatory issues webinar: October 18 at 1:00 pm	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
Non-Energy Impacts • On September 23, the CEC released a Notice of Initial Workshop for the Non-Energy Impacts Informational Proceeding. The workshop will provide a review of and solicit input on existing models, tools, and methodologies that inform state resource planning, processes, and decision making on non-energy impacts including benefits and social costs. ○ Initial workshop: October 7 at 10:00 am ○ Written comments due October 21 at 5:00 pm	Staff Contact Nick Blair nickb@acwa.com
ACWA COMMENT LETTERS	
• Five-Year Review of the Perchlorate Public Health Goal, Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, September 5, 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