

State Water Resources Control Board

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VETERAN ENVIRONMENTAL ENFORCER NAMED STATE WATER BOARD'S NEW ENFORCEMENT DIRECTOR

SACRAMENTO – The California State Water Resources Control Board has named Reed Sato as its first Director of the Office of Enforcement. Sato will focus the office on prosecution.

Sato is one of California's leading environmental attorneys, having served at the California Department of Justice, the California Department of Health Services and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

"I look forward to Reed leading a vigorous and robust enforcement team. It will complement our efforts to work collaboratively with interested parties around the state," said State Water Board Chair Tam Doduc. "Enforcement actions taken by the California Water Boards must be firm, timely and fair. Reed's history of important wins adds a new dimension to our efforts to protect and restore California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use."

As a renowned legal professional, Sato worked for the people of California, prosecuting environmental abuses and helping to protect California's groundwater. His successes include the ARCO underground storage tank case, which was the largest enforcement action of its kind in the United States, as well as the AT&T underground tank case, which was the second largest.

Sato and the other ten environmental investigators and attorneys make up the Office of Enforcement which will now have an increased concentration on environmental protection through prosecution. Exposing and prosecuting pollution protects human health and eliminates the unfair competitive advantage polluters may have against businesses that obey the law and are responsible corporate citizens.

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