

**State Water Resources Control Board
September 21, 2021 – Item 14
Executive Director’s Report**

DIVISION OF WATER QUALITY

Regulatory Relief Efforts in Response to COVID-19: In 2020, at the start of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Water Boards began to receive requests for relief from regulatory requirements. In response, the Water Boards established a working group to compile, track, and respond to these requests in a consistent manner; and to provide summary reports to CalEPA and the public. As the state transitions to re-opening, the requests for relief have significantly decreased, eliminating the need for this COVID-19 response tracking effort. Therefore, the working group concluded and ceased the tracking system.

In total, the Water Boards received 593 requests for COVID-19 relief. The requests focused largely on delayed monitoring or reporting, and most were approved. Table 1, Requests for Regulatory Relief by Category, shows categories of requests received, and the current status. “Active” means the request was approved and the is still in a period of relief. “Denied” means the request was denied by the Water Board. “Withdrawn” means an initial request was made, but the requestor was able to comply before a period of relief was needed. “Complete” means a request was made and approved, and the requestor was able to return to compliance with requirements. “Non-Compliance” indicates a request was made and approved, but the requestor was not able to return to compliance within the relief period. Table 2, Requests for Regulatory Relief by Region, Office, or Division, shows the number of requests received across the Water Boards.

The effort required staff to manage a large number of relief requests in addition to their normal workloads, while navigating the challenges created by the COVID-19 pandemic. Water Board staff worked collaboratively with one another, executive management, and with stakeholders to successfully respond in an expedient, consistent manner while continuing to protect water quality.

Table 1. Requests for Regulatory Relief by Category

<u>Category</u>	<u>Active</u>	<u>Denied</u>	<u>Withdrawn</u>	<u>Requested More Information</u>	<u>Complete</u>	<u>Non- Compliance</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u>
Suspend debt collection	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
Delay issuing invoices	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	<1%

<u>Category</u>	<u>Active</u>	<u>Denied</u>	<u>Withdrawn</u>	<u>Requested More Information</u>	<u>Complete</u>	<u>Non- Compliance</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Percent of Total</u>
Accommodate reasonable payment requests	0	0	0	1	4	0	5	<1%
Monitoring and/or reporting relief	8	79	57	0	326	7	477	80%
Delay implementation	2	5	4	0	24	2	37	6%
Certification extension and/or waiver	0	0	1	0	4	0	5	<1%
Water Right Order D-1641	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
Payment deferment/loan refinance	0	3	2	0	4	0	9	2%
Remediation relief	0	8	0	0	18	0	26	4%
Extend Comment Period	2	4	5	0	13	0	24	4%
Disaster Waiver/Order	1	0	0	0	4	0	5	<1%
Backflow testing relief	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
Suspend fluoridation	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	<1%
Total	13	99	69	1	402	9	593	

Table 2. Requests for Regulatory Relief by Region, Office, or Division

	<u>Active</u>	<u>Denied</u>	<u>Requested More Info</u>	<u>Withdrawn</u>	<u>Completed</u>	<u>Non- Compliance</u>	<u>Total</u>
R1	1	7	1	9	7	2	27
R2	0	0	0	2	43	0	45

	Active	Denied	Requested More Info	Withdrawn	Completed	Non- Compliance	Total
R3	0	5	0	0	32	0	37
R4	4	32	0	39	112	7	194
R5	0	5	0	0	64	0	69
R6	6	1	0	4	12	0	23
R7	0	0	0	0	14	0	14
R8	0	19	0	6	13	0	38
R9	0	11	0	5	22	0	38
AHO	0	1	0	0	0	0	1
DAS	0	0	0	0	3	0	3
DDW	0	13	0	0	34	0	47
DFA	0	4	0	2	14	0	20
DWQ	2	1	0	2	21	0	26
DWR	0	0	0	0	11	0	11
Total	13	99	1	69	402	9	593
Percent Total	2.19%	16.69%	0.17%	11.64%	67.79%	1.52%	

USGS Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) program

Update: A US Geological Survey study, released on August 30, correlates that intensive pumping during droughts speeds up the deterioration of groundwater quality in the Central Valley on a basin/regional scale. The study was conducted as a result of the cooperative agreement between the State Water Board and the USGS Groundwater Ambient Monitoring and Assessment (GAMA) program.

The study analyzed 30 years of data to find nitrate concentrations for public water system wells increased in areas where groundwater levels dropped rapidly during drought. The study found that increased pumping during drought can draw (pull) shallow, contaminated groundwater down to depths commonly tapped for public drinking-water supply.

Information is available on the State Board [GAMA website](#) with a brief summary of the paper with a link to the technical paper.

Cleanup Program’s Fact Sheet: State Water Board staff in the Division of Water Quality in coordination with the Division of Financial Assistance staff have created a public fact sheet summarizing our Site Cleanup and Underground Storage Tank Program. The fact sheet summarizes the work done to address risks to human health and drinking water supplies at contaminated properties throughout California, available funding for cleanup, and the need for additional resources. The fact sheet is available on the [Site Cleanup Program webpage](#).

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program Update: The Irrigated Lands Regulatory reports are included in Appendix A of this report.

Statewide Policies and Significant General Permits: The Statewide Policies and Significant General Permits report can be accessed at: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/board_info/exec_dir_rpts/pol_per_view.html

DIVISION OF WATER RIGHTS

➤ Drought-related Items

Minor Change Petition to Facilitate Emergency Tribal Water Supply: The Kashia Band of Pomo Indians, located at Stewarts Point on the Sonoma Coast is projected to have a dry well by early to mid-September. The Sea Ranch Water Company is able to provide hauled water in the interim, but the tribe is located outside of the place of use authorized under Sea Ranch’s water rights. Division staff is coordinating with Division of Drinking Water staff on the issue and plans to utilize the new minor change process under SB 779 to facilitate this expedited emergency tribal water supply solution.

Emergency Regulation for Curtailment of Water Rights in the Delta Watershed: On August 3, 2021, the State Water Board adopted an emergency regulation for curtailment of water rights in the Delta watershed with measures to preserve stored water to protect drinking water supplies, prevent salinity intrusion and minimize impacts to fisheries and the environment. On August 19, 2021, the [emergency regulation was approved by the Office of Administrative Law](#) and filed with the Secretary of State, becoming effective that day.

Following the approval of the emergency regulation, on August 20, 2021, the State Water Board issued Orders Imposing Curtailment and Reporting Requirements to 17,000 water rights, informing right holders/claimants that they either are curtailed or may be curtailed in the future - a dynamic Curtailment Status List is available online to reflect the latest curtailment status.

All right holders/claimants subject to this Order are required to submit a compliance certification form by September 10, 2021. Right holders/claimants with diversion $\geq 5,000$ acre-feet annually are required to submit additional monthly reports, starting September. Right holders/claimants may also claim curtailment exceptions for non-consumptive uses and minimum Human Health & Safety (HH&S) uses by September 17, 2021. To

help right holders/claimants comply with the order, staff held a compliance assistance webinar on August 31, 2021, created online video tutorials and reference guides, and assisted with over 900 phone calls to-date. All information related to the emergency regulation, Curtailment Status List, Orders, and compliance assistance is available on the [Delta Drought webpage](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/delta/) (<https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/delta/>)

As of September 10, 2021:

- ~9,195 certifications have been received (55% response rate)
- ~621 non-consumptive use exceptions have been claimed
- ~673 minimum HH&S use exceptions have been claimed
- 12 Petitions for Reconsideration have been received (from 9 entities)

➤ *Permitting and Enforcement Branch*

SB 88 Water Measurement Regulation Enforcement: In August 2021, the Permitting and Enforcement Branch of the Division of Water Rights began drafting up an Administrative Civil Liability complaint template for diverters who have not submitted the required information about SB 88 water measurement devices or water measurement data. Water diverters have been required to measure and report their water use under SB 88 since 2016, and Division staff have been providing information and technical assistance to help diverters comply since the regulations have been in effect. Hundreds of diverters and their agents have been responsive to submitting the required data, including correcting data previously submitted. Those diverters who have not been responsive to the measurement regulations can expect to receive an Administrative Civil Liability complaint, with a proposed penalty for non-compliance. The much of the state continues to be in a drought emergency, and timely, accurate diversion information helps protect the water rights priority system and provides drought resilience for communities and the environment.

➤ *Delta, Hearings, and Special Projects Branch*

Russian River: On August 2 and August 10, the Division of Water Rights issued Curtailment Orders to water rights diverters in the Upper and Lower Russian River watersheds, respectively. The curtailment orders in the Lower Russian River are based on the order of water right priority and an analysis of water availability in discrete sub-basins; curtailment orders were issued for all water rights in the Upper Russian River Watershed. The Curtailment Orders are authorized under emergency regulations adopted by the Board on June 15, 2021, and subsequently approved by the Office of Administrative Law. Division staff held a virtual compliance assistance workshop on August 20, 2021 to help water right holders in the Upper and Lower Russian River Watersheds respond to their curtailment notices. Staff provided information on how to comply with the curtailment orders, including a demonstration of how to use the online portal to respond to the orders, how the Division will be following up to ensure compliance in the field, and a question-and-answer session. The virtual workshop recording can be accessed at the [Drought Webpage Calendar](#).

Scott and Shasta Rivers: On August 30, 2021, the [Office of Administrative Law](#) approved and filed with the Secretary of State the Klamath River Watershed Emergency Requirements, which establish drought emergency minimum instream flows in the Scott River and Shasta River watersheds for the protection of fish. The emergency regulation also provides the State Water Board with the authority to curtail surface water and groundwater to support achievement of the minimum flows. Additional information on the drought emergency regulation effort is available on the [Scott River and Shasta River Watersheds Drought Response webpage](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/scott_shasta_rivers/).

➤ [Water Quality Certification, Public Trust, Cannabis, Administrative, & Reporting Branch](#)

Lake Fordyce Dam Seepage Mitigation Project: On August 20, 2021, the Executive Director issued a water quality certification (certification) amendment and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Addendum for the Lake Fordyce Dam Seepage Mitigation Project (Project). The Project involves repairing Lake Fordyce Dam to bring it into compliance with the Division of Safety of Dam's seepage threshold. On October 30, 2020, the State Water Board issued a certification for the Project. Following certification issuance, Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) updated its Project description to ensure the cofferdam, which is needed to complete the dam safety improvements, is stable and structurally sound. This Project is part of PG&E's Upper Drum-Spaulding Hydroelectric Project (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 2310). The certification amendment and CEQA Addendum are available on the State Water Board's [Drum-Spaulding Hydroelectric Project webpage](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/drum_spaulding_ferc2310.html).

Yuba River Development Project: On August 13, 2021, State Water Board staff released a [notice](#) for a staff workshop on topics raised in petitions for reconsideration related to the water quality certification issued by the Executive Director for Yuba County Water Agency's Yuba River Development Project on July 17, 2020. The workshop is scheduled for September 17, 2021 and will be open to the public via Zoom and the CalEPA webcast. Additional information is available on the State Water Board's [Yuba River Development Project webpage](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/yubariver_ferc2246.html).

Lower Klamath Project License Surrender and Removal: On August 19, 2021, State Water Board staff sent a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) that provides comments on FERC's Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Scoping Document for the Lower Klamath Project License Surrender and Removal (Project). The comment letter reminded FERC that an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) was certified by the State Water Board on April 7, 2020, and that FERC staff should review and consider the EIR when developing the EIS. FERC's notice noted that it anticipates a Final EIS by September 2022. Additional information is available on the State Water Board's [Lower Klamath Project](#)

[webpage](#)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/lower_klamath_ferc14803.html).

Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage Project: On August 5, 2021, State Water Board staff held a tribal consultation meeting with the Pechanga Band of Luiseño Indians (Pechanga Tribe) regarding the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process for the Lake Elsinore Advanced Pumped Storage (LEAPS) Project, per [Assembly Bill 52](#) (Statutes 2014, Chapter 532, Gatto). As background, Nevada Hydro Inc. proposes to construct and operate a new hydroelectric project that would be located in Riverside County. Additional information is available on the State Water Board's [LEAPS Project webpage](#)

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/leaps_14227.html).

McCloud-Pit Hydroelectric Project: On August 4, 2021, State Water Board staff met with the Winnemem Wintu Tribe pursuant to [Order WQ 2020-0041-EXEC](#), *In the Matter of Petitions for Reconsideration of the Water Quality Certification for the McCloud-Pit Hydroelectric Project*. This interim order directed staff to reinitiate consultation with California Native American tribes that requested to be informed of projects in the geographic area of the McCloud-Pit Hydroelectric Project (Project) pursuant to Public Resources Code section 21080.3.1. The Project is located on the McCloud River, Iron Canyon Creek, and the Pit River, in Shasta and Siskiyou Counties. Additional information is available on the [State Water Board's McCloud-Pit Project webpage](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/water_quality_cert/mccloudpit_ferc2106.html).

DIVISION OF FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

Environmental Review

Completed Significant Events

None.

Future Significant Events

Division staff is continuing to coordinate with the State Historic Preservation Officer staff to schedule a meeting to discuss next steps in the development of a Programmatic Agreement under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The Agreement will provide the State Water Board more authority to complete SRF project reviews in-house.

Division staff is finalizing the Drinking Water SRF Program State Environmental Review Process and will send to the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) Region 9, Regional Administrator for approval.

Division staff is coordinating with the U.S. EPA Region 9 SRF staff to start revision process on the Clean Water SRF Environmental Review Process.

California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) Approvals (August 2021)	
CEQA Lead Agency Documents	
Project No.	Entity - Description
1500571	Kern Mobile Estates LLC, Kern Mobile Estates LLC Chlorination Treatment Project, a Notice of Exemption (NOE) for a categorical exemption (CE) was prepared and sent to the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) District to approve and file with the Governor's Office of Planning and Research (OPR).
1000050	Huckleberry Water Development, Test Wells Project, an NOE for a CE was prepared and sent to the DDW District to approve and file with the OPR.
TBD	Sun Valley Group Inc., New Public Water System, an NOE for a CE was prepared and sent to the DDW District to approve and file with the OPR.
1600507-002C	Hardwick Water Company, Hardwick Safe Drinking Water Project, CEQA Determination on an NOE as the Lead Agency approved on August 25, 2021, and an NOE was filed with the OPR on August 30, 2021.
Clean Water	
8264-210	Silicon Valley Clean Water, Front of Plant Project, CEQA Determination on Environmental Impact Report (EIR) as the Responsible Agency approved on August 10, 2021, and a Notice of Determination (NOD) was filed with the OPR on August 11, 2021.
8405-110	Forestville Water District, 2018 Sewer System Improvements Project, CEQA Determination on Mitigated Negative Declaration (MND) as the Responsible Agency approved on August 23, 2021, and an NOD was filed with the OPR on August 23, 2021.
8433-110	City of Oxnard, City of Oxnard Treatment Plant Rehabilitation Projects (3-5 year CIP), CEQA Determination on an NOE as the Responsible Agency approved on August 25, 2021, and an NOE was filed with the OPR on August 26, 2021.
Drinking Water	
5510033-001C	Tuolumne Utilities District, Tuolumne Utilities District/Curtis Creek Elementary School District Water System Project, CEQA Determination on an MND as the Responsible Agency approved on July 30, 2021, and an NOD was filed with the OPR on August 2, 2021.

1000577-001C	Kings Canyon Unified School District, Dunlap Leadership Academy Water Supply Upgrade Project, CEQA Determination on an MND as the Responsible Agency approved on July 30, 2021, and an NOD was filed with the OPR on August 5, 2021.
Water Supply Permit	
None to report.	

Office of Sustainable Water Solutions (OSWS)

Completed Significant Events

None

Planning/Construction Project Summary

The tables below summarize the planning and construction agreements and amendments approved for the month of August 2021.

Drinking Water Projects Funded (August 2021)		
Project #	Recipient – Project Purpose	Funding Amount
1510007-002C	Frazier Park Public Utility District- Replace old and inaccurate water meters with radio read meters (1270 residential meters) and 4 well meters. Replace well 5 which is past its useful life. Both of these project elements will help make FPPUD prepared for consolidation with Lake of the Woods as part of planning agreement 150007-001P.	\$3,997,427
1700546-001C	Clear Water Mutual Water Company- The Project includes replacement of the existing 35,000 gallon redwood tank and three 10,000 gallon temporary plastic tanks with a single 122,000 gallon welded steel tank.	\$1,364,000
1805007-001C	Herlong Public Utility District- The Project will replace the existing water distribution system in the West Patton Village area and install approximately 8,469 linear feet (LF) of 8-inch polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipe, 430 LF of 10-inch PVC pipe, 28 8-inch gate vales, 2 10-inch gate valves, and 156 water service meters. The Project will address the 60-year-old water distribution system in the West Patton Village area that has exceeded it's useful life, has limited hydraulic capacity to adequately meet current fire	\$2,398,727

Drinking Water Projects Funded (August 2021)		
	flows, has significant leakage, and consists of asbestos concrete which makes it difficult to maintain.	
5210004-001C	Red Bluff, City of- Consolidation between Gurnsey Avenue Mutual Water Company and City of Red Bluff. The main components in this project will include an extension of the water main using approximately 640 ft of 6" pipeline, and about 700 ft of 1" water service line plus 13 water meters to connect to each customer.	\$354,000
4510004-006C	Shasta, County of - The Project is to install approximately 393 automatic meter readers at residential service connections and to install a backwash pump and SCADA system at the treatment plant.	\$793,000
Wastewater Projects Funded (August 2021)		
Project #	Recipient – Project Purpose	Funding Amount
8225-210	Williams, City of- This project will include repair of 42 pipeline mechanical deficiencies, replacement of 15 manhole, replacements of approximately 12,245 ft of existing deficient vitrified clay pipe, replacement of approximately 3,125 ft of existing pipeline currently at capacity, and improvements to the PD lift station, North Street lift station and Peto lift station.	\$5,458,000
8378-310	Calaveras Unified School District- The Project is a regionalization project connecting the Jenny Lind Elementary School (JLES) wastewater system to the Calaveras County Water District's (CCWD) gravity sewer line. Replacement of the wastewater system at JLES consists of off-site improvements including but not limited to construction of new headworks equipment at a new lift station on campus, reconstruction of the on-campus gravity pipeline, removal of the existing wastewater treatment plant and treated effluent storage, and construction of a new, off-site force main pipeline.	\$7,749,331

**Drinking Water Projects Funded
(August 2021)**

8405-110	Forestville Water District- FWD samples of treated wastewater discharged to their storage pond resulted in 30 BOD violations; the majority occurring immediately after storm events. Increased influent flows due to inflow and infiltration (I/I) during large storm events cause insufficient detention time in the aerated pond and incomplete treatment of BOD. The objective of this project is to bring FWD's wastewater into compliance for BOD on a more consistent basis by reducing the peak flows through the aerated ponds.	\$3,008,334
8428-110	Trinity County Waterworks District #1- The Trinity County Waterworks District (TCWWD or District) has been operating their Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) to produce undisinfected secondary effluent based on Regional Board and Department of Public Health requirements and their current waste discharge order (WDR). The District will install the chlorine contact basin and complete other upgrades necessary to the WWTP to produce reclaimed/recycled water suitable for use in irrigating the golf course as well as for irrigation of other permitted uses in the surrounding area. The upgrade of the WWTP to the production of reclaimed water will also require an update to the Waste Discharge Order for the facility.	\$500,000

**Drinking Water Projects Amended
(August 2021)**

Project #	Recipient – Amendment Purpose
2010008-003C	Madera, County of (MD10A - Madera Ranchos)- The objective of this Project is to provide safe drinking water to two public water systems in noncompliance with the arsenic maximum contaminant level (MCL). Valley Teen Ranch is under compliance order #CC0002573 because its well produces water which exceeds the arsenic MCL. Golden Valley Unified School District (GVUSD), a public water system serving drinking water to both Liberty High School and Ranchos Middle School, is under compliance order #CC0002759 for exceeding the arsenic MCL. Amendment 1 (Increase of \$4,261,368)

Drinking Water Projects Funded (August 2021)	
Wastewater Projects Amended (August 2021)	
Project #	Recipient – Amendment Purpose
N/A	N/A

Administrator Summary

No administrator projects were approved in the month of August 2021.

Technical Assistance Summary

The following requests for emergency funding under the Self-Help Enterprises Technical Assistance to Implement the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund project were approved in the month of August 2021.

Work Plan Type	TA Recipient	Water System No.	TA Provider	Total Amount Approved
Emergency Fund	Home Garden	1610007	Self Help Enterprises Emergency Fund (SAFER)	\$85,527

The table below summarizes the Technical Assistance work plans approved in the month of August 2021.

Work Plan Type	TA Recipient	Work Plan #	TA Provider	Total Amount Approved
New Work Plan	Juniper Riviera	6227-A	University Enterprises, Inc. (SAFER)	\$481,201
New Work Plan	Upper Lake CWD / Cal 20 Village	6330-A	University Enterprises, Inc. (SAFER)	\$339,127
Work Plan Amendment	Elk Creek CSD	6027-E	Rural Community Assistance Corporation	\$11,847
Work Plan Amendment	Valley Ford WA	6046-C	Rural Community Assistance Corporation	\$46,468

Work Plan Type	TA Recipient	Work Plan #	TA Provider	Total Amount Approved
New Work Plan	Big Valley Rancheria WD	6309-A	Rural Community Assistance Corporation (SAFER)	\$12,295
New Work Plan	Carrisa Plains Elementary School	6326-A	Rural Community Assistance Corporation (SAFER)	\$31,509
New Work Plan	Bar "H" MWC	6327-A	Rural Community Assistance Corporation (SAFER)	\$60,635
New Work Plan	Baldwin Lake	6338-A	Rural Community Assistance Corporation (SAFER)	\$13,529
New Work Plan	Bridgeville Elementary School	6366-A	Rural Community Assistance Corporation (SAFER)	\$10,356
New Work Plan	Hydesville CWD	6370-A	Rural Community Assistance Corporation (SAFER)	\$14,206
New Work Plan	California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program	RCAC_Arrearage Program-A	Rural Community Assistance Corporation (SAFER)	\$405,433
New Work Plan	Lake Morena Views	6378-A	UC Davis	\$57,313
New Work Plan	California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program	CRWA_Arrearage Program-A	California Rural Water Association (SAFER)	\$845,937
New Work Plan	Darwin CSD	CRWA_6216-B	California Rural Water Association	\$123,014
Work Plan Amendment	Knights Landing CSD	CRWA_5834-E	California Rural Water Association	\$45,139
New Work Plan	Shasta View Heights Owners' Association	CRWA_6371-A	California Rural Water Association	\$33,848
New Work Plan	California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program	SHE_Arrearage Program-A	Self-Help Enterprises (SAFER)	\$142,336
New Work Plan	Hornbrook CSD	6385-A	UC Davis	\$52,504
	Lower Lake	5504-C	UC Davis	\$61,827

Work Plan Type	TA Recipient	Work Plan #	TA Provider	Total Amount Approved
Work Plan Amendment				
Work Plan Amendment	Ali MWC	6260-B	UC Davis	\$28,743
New Work Plan	Feather River SDA School	6045-A	University Enterprises, Inc. (SAFER)	\$29,733
New Work Plan	South Mesa	6351-A	University Enterprises, Inc. (SAFER)	\$85,272
Work Plan Amendment	Floriston	6149-B	University Enterprises, Inc.	\$18,624
Work Plan Amendment	Bonny Doon School	5700-E	University Enterprises, Inc.	\$436,201
Work Plan Amendment	Palomino Estates Water Company	6036-B	University Enterprises, Inc.	\$391,307
Work Plan Amendment	Orick CSD	5756-D	University Enterprises, Inc.	\$256,977
Work Plan Amendment	Bluff Jensen	6122-B	Community Water Center (SAFER)	\$215,489
Work Plan Amendment	Le Grand Community Services District (Sewer)	5263-B	Self-Help Enterprises (Prop. 1)	\$63,500
Work Plan Amendment	Le Grand Community Services District	5426-B	Self-Help Enterprises (Prop. 1)	\$38,200
Work Plan Amendment	Weldon Regional Water District	5225-D	Self-Help Enterprises (Prop. 1)	\$294,500
Work Plan Amendment	Richgrove Community Services District	5953-B	Self-Help Enterprises (Prop. 1)	\$22,500
Work Plan Amendment	Planada Community Services District	5292-B	Self-Help Enterprises (Prop. 1)	\$42,900
Work Plan Amendment	Madera County Maintenance District #37 - La Vina	5113-B	Self-Help Enterprises (Prop. 1)	\$ 36,700
New	Cressey Elementary School	5790-A	Self-Help Enterprises (SAFER)	\$58,900

Work Plan Type	TA Recipient	Work Plan #	TA Provider	Total Amount Approved
Work Plan Amendment	Kings Canyon Unified School District	6174-B	Self-Help Enterprises (SAFER)	\$149,500
Work Plan Amendment	Pond Mutual Water Company	5879-B	Self-Help Enterprises (Prop. 1)	\$70,900
Work Plan Amendment	Easton JPA (School)	5244-E	Self-Help Enterprises (Prop. 1)	\$63,000
Work Plan Amendment	Riverdale Park Tract CSD	5940-D	Self-Help Enterprises (SAFER)	\$291,000
Work Plan Amendment	R.S. Mutual Water Company	5295-B	Self-Help Enterprises (SAFER)	\$180,900
New	California Water and Wastewater Arrearage Payment Program Assistance	6356-A	Self-Help Enterprises (SAFER)	\$142,336

Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience (SAFER) Summary (includes Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund, Proposition 84 Emergency, General Fund, and CAA Urgent Drinking Water Needs funding sources)

The table below summarizes the projects approved by funding category in the month of August 2021. All projects benefit a disadvantaged community that has a water quality compliance issue or an urgent drinking water need.

Funding Category	Types of Projects	Number of Projects Approved for the Month of August	Total Amount Approved for the Month of August	Total Amount Approved for FY 2021-22
Permanent solutions	New Wells, Consolidation, Treatment System	1	\$148,726	\$148,726.00

Individual SAFER Projects approved in August 2021 (includes Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Fund, Proposition 84 Emergency, General Fund, and CAA Urgent Drinking Water Needs funding sources)

SAFER Drinking Water List of All Approved Projects August 2021				
Recipient	Project Purpose	Funding Amount	Funding Program	Category
Lake Morena Views Mutual Water Company	The funding will be utilized to perform pilot testing for their new treatment plant and for bottled water for 6 months or until their long-term solution is complete, whichever occurs first.	\$148,726.00	General Fund 2019-AB74-Provision 2.5	Permanent Solutions

Funding Provided for Emergency Drought Response

The table below summarizes the Emergency Drought Response Projects approved in the month of August 2021.

Emergency Drought Response List of All Approved Projects August 2021				
Recipient	Project Purpose	Funding Program	Category	Funding Amount
N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA)

Completed Significant Events

None

Drinking Water for Schools Grant Program

Completed Significant Events

None

California Water and Wastewater Payment Program:

- Through \$985 million in federal funding allocated by the state legislature, the State Water Board is creating a new program to provide relief to community water and wastewater systems for unpaid bills related to the pandemic. The funding will cover water debt from residential and commercial customers accrued between March 4, 2020 and June 15, 2021. DFA is tasked with the reviewal and approval of payment disbursements and is ramping up staff hires to meet the demands of this new program. DFA has received three units of limited term staff to handle this program.

Underground Storage Tank Cleanup:

Notable Events

- A performance audit of the Underground Storage Tank Cleanup Fund was completed in March 2021. Auditors found significant improvements in nearly every aspect of the program since the previous performance audit of the Fund in 2010. Senior leadership within DFA were pleased with the notably positive findings, considering the challenges that the Covid-19 pandemic presented to SWRCB within the previous year. Among many other things, the audit lauded the improved financial position of the Fund and action taken to contain cleanup costs and streamline eligibility and reimbursement processes.

Claims Program

- There are approximately 26 claims on the Priority List waiting to receive a Letter of Commitment, which enables eligible claimants to begin submitting Reimbursement Requests (RR) for eligible cost reimbursement. The Priority List is comprised of Priority D claims where most of the cases are closed and are no longer incurring cleanup costs.
- In Fiscal Year 2020-21, 1,043 claims were activated. Program staff anticipate activating all the remaining claims from the Priority List in the first half of Fiscal Year 2021-22.
- There are more than 4,358 active claims that can submit RRs for eligible cost reimbursement. Over 3,465 claims are Priority Class D claims.
- For more information, see:
https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/cuf_report.asp?report=ranking

Claims Reimbursements

- The Fund sent \$200M in budget authority for claims reimbursements to Accounting and reimbursed \$85.2M against this authority.
- This fiscal year, the Fund is doubling its budget authority for claims reimbursements to \$400M.
- During the first two months of this fiscal year, approximately 298 reimbursement requests (\$18.4 million) have been submitted through FISCAL for payment processing. Last fiscal year, a total of 1,828 RRs (\$140 million) were submitted and paid.
- For more information, see:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ustcf/payments_status.shtml#waiting

Beginning in September 2017, the Fund initiated a Project to resolve the backlog of pending appeals. All 240 appeals pending have been resolved. During FY 20/21, 96 Appeal Responses were completed.

UST Case Closure Reviews

- For Fiscal Year 2021-22, Fund staff anticipate completing 250 Review Summary Reports (RSRs) and have completed 51 RSRs within the first two months of this fiscal year. In Fiscal Year 2020-21, 451 RSRs were completed.
- During Fiscal Year 2020-21, Fund staff anticipate closing 200 USTCF claims with closed cases. In Fiscal Year 2020-21, 192 USTCF claims were closed with closed cases.
- For more information, see:
http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ustcf/prop_closure_cases.shtml

Expedited Claim Account Program (ECAP)

- Since inception, there have been 237 claims accepted into the program. Approximately \$68 million of the \$100 million has been committed to ECAP eligible sites and over \$44 million has been paid for corrective action costs.
- A total of 116 cases (48.95%) have been closed to date or are in the closure process.
- A total of 79 cases have been closed to date. The first site was closed on January 19, 2018.
- In Fiscal Year 2020-21, ECAP closed a total of 27 cases.

Grant Programs

- The **Orphan Site Cleanup Fund (OSCF)** received 21 applications during Fiscal Year 2020-21 seeking eligibility into the program. OSCF intends to fund 30 projects (\$8.4 million) in this fiscal year.
- The **Site Cleanup Subaccount Program (SCAP)** has committed over \$94 million in grants and contracts to 90 projects since inception. In Fiscal Year 2020-21, 14 projects were funded for \$16.2 million. In Fiscal Year 2021-22, 12 new projects and 32 amendments to existing contracts and grants are anticipated to be funded for \$43 million. SCAP has increased its budget authority to \$34M to fund additional projects and management has initiated recruitment efforts to increase staff to support the increased workload.
- For more information, see:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/grants_loans/scap/docs/projects_list.pdf

Replacing, Removing, or Upgrading Underground Storage Tanks Program (RUST)

- In Fiscal Year 2020-21, RUST received 52 grant, loan, or loan/grant combo applications requesting more than \$15.6 million. RUST executed 33 grants or loans within the fiscal year totaling nearly \$11.5 million.
- For more information, see:
https://waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ustcf/rust.html

Operator Certification Program

Completed Significant Events

The State Water Board's Operator Certification Program continues the Computer Based Testing (CBT) rollout. Candidates who applied for and were approved for the Fall 2020 Drinking Water Operator Certification examination were provided CBT instructions/opportunities.

Drinking Water Operator Certification

Reporting period: August 1, 2021 – August 31, 2021	
Drinking Water Operator Certification Program	Distribution
Applications received (exam, cert, renewals)	607
Certificates issued (new and renewals)	187

Drinking Water Annual Number of Distribution Certificate Holders, by Grade						
Grade	Aug. 2021	July 2021	May 2021	Apr-2021	Mar-2021	2020
1	3,477	3,674	3,767	3,775	3,791	3,888
2	8,996	8,995	9,035	9,071	9,127	9,218
3	4,000	4,013	4,054	4,069	4,104	4,032
4	1,751	1,766	1,771	1,782	1,799	1,814
5	1,193	1,193	1,191	1,191	1,195	1,171
Total	19,417	19,641	19,818	19,888	20,016	20,123

Reporting period: August 1, 2021 – August 31, 2021	
Drinking Water Operator Certification Program	Treatment
Applications received (exam, cert, renewals)	542
Certificates issued (new and renewals)	61

Drinking Water Annual Number of Treatment Certificate Holders, by Grade						
Grade	Aug. 2021	July 2021	May 2021	Apr-2021	Mar-2021	2020
1	2,412	2,471	2,487	2,487	2,503	2,680
2	8,147	8,259	8,133	8,143	8,160	8,511
3	1,875	1,869	1,857	1,857	1,865	1,839
4	982	980	971	975	978	985
5	517	516	516	518	518	507
Total	13,933	14,095	13,964	13,980	14,024	14,522

Wastewater Operator Certification

Reporting period: August 1, 2021 – August 31, 2021	
Wastewater Operator Certification Program	
Applications received (exam, cert, renewals)	236
Certificates issued (new and renewals)	191

Grade	Wastewater Annual Number of Certificate Holders, by Grade					
	Aug-2021	July-2021	June-2021	May-2021	Apr-2021	Mar-2021
OIT	676	692	707	720	732	731
1	794	798	818	811	804	794
2	1,464	1,439	1,475	1,479	1,466	1,466
3	1,791	1,785	1,827	1,815	1,815	1,815
4	434	426	442	447	446	466
5	1,067	1,059	1,084	1,080	1,072	1,069
Total	6,226	6,199	6,353	6,352	6,335	6,341

Future Significant Events

Approved examination applicants that submitted applications after the Fall 2020 examination deadlines, up though present, will be provided scheduling opportunities.

An overview of the CBT process and Frequently Asked Questions document is available on the Operator Certification websites:

[Drinking Water Treatment & Distribution System Operators | California State Water Resources Control Board](#)

[Wastewater Operator Certification Program | California State Water Resources Control Board](#)

DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

Drought / Drinking Water / Groundwater Management / Public Engagement

Governor Newsom's [April 21, 2021 State of Emergency Proclamation](#) stated, "To ensure the potential impacts of drought on communities are anticipated and proactively addressed, the Department of Water Resources, in coordination with the Water Board, shall develop groundwater management principles and strategies to monitor, analyze, and minimize impacts to drinking water wells." Staff of the Department and the Water Board are working together on this effort. In June, the Department of Water Resources hosted three identical public listening sessions to gather input. In July, the Department hosted a public workshop to present the early input received. On September 8, the

Department, in coordination with the State Water Board, released these [Draft Groundwater Management and Drinking Water Well Principles and Strategies](#) and initiated a 30-day public comment period. The comment period ends October 7, 2021. A public webinar to explain the draft principles and strategies and to accept public comments will occur on Thursday, September 23, from noon to 1:30 PM.

Permits

Permits are issued when a public water system undertakes action that may impact public health (i.e. a new source of supply, modifying treatment or adding a large distribution reservoir), when the original permit has numerous amendments, or following new regulations or conditions that DDW deems necessary for the protection of public health.

The following 37 permits were uploaded into ECM between July 26 and August 25, 2021.

Water System	Permit Type	Permit Purpose
HAM'S STATION	FULL PERMIT	2021 FULL PERMIT
PLASSE HOMESTEAD WATER ASSOCIATION	FULL PERMIT	2021 FULL PERMIT
SO. SILVER LAKE HOMEOWNERS	FULL PERMIT	2021 FULL PERMIT
DINO MART 1	FULL PERMIT	NEW WELL, NITRATE TRTMT
BAKMAN WATER COMPANY	PERMIT AMENDMENT	REACTVTE_WELLS 06 & 09
KINGSBURG, CITY OF	PERMIT AMENDMENT	GAC AND CHLORINATION
ENOS LANE PUBLIC UTILITY DISTRICT	PERMIT AMENDMENT	ADD ARSENIC BLEND TRT
WM. BOLTHOUSE FARMS, INC.	FULL PERMIT	Update Permit & Add GAC TCP treatment
WONDERFUL NURSERIES, LLC	PERMIT AMENDMENT	NEW WELL 2
ARVIN COMMUNITY SERVICES DIST	PERMIT AMENDMENT	NEW WELL 12
KETTLEMAN CITY CSD	PERMIT AMENDMENT	PA SWTP- baffling assignment
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY W.A.-SANTA CLARITA	PERMIT AMENDMENT	SKYLINE RANCH TANKS AND BOOSTERS
GSWC - CLAREMONT	PERMIT AMENDMENT	NEW WELL - POMELLO WELL 5
SANTA CLARITA VALLEY W.A.-VALENCIA DIVIS	PERMIT AMENDMENT	MAGIC MOUNTAIN TANK 2

BAKMAN WATER-ROLLING HILLS	FULL PERMIT	CHANGE OR OWNERSHIP AND ADD'L SOURCE OF SUPPLY
HIDDEN PINES CAMPGROUND	PERMIT AMENDMENT	NITRATE BLENDING
CSP-MACKERRICHER STATE PARK	FULL PERMIT	SOURCE CHANGE FROM LAKE CLEONE TO MILL CREEK
BUHACH PRESCHOOL (KINDERGARTEN)	FULL PERMIT	Revised 2021 Well 1 Inactivated
STEVINSON RANCH MAINT. SHOP/THE GROVE	PERMIT AMENDMENT	REVISED OPERATING PERMIT
CITY OF ATWATER	PERMIT AMENDMENT	ADDITIONAL GAC TREATMENT
CITY OF ORANGE	PERMIT AMENDMENT	WELLS 8, 9, 15, 19, 23, AND 24 INACTIVATION
GOLDEN STATE WC - PLACENTIA/YORBA LINDA	PERMIT AMENDMENT	BRADFORD WELL 3 Inactivation
SACRAMENTO SUBURBAN WATER DISTRICT	PERMIT AMENDMENT	CONDITION F LETTER, MEMO & DOCS
CSA 70 W-4 PIONEERTOWN	PERMIT AMENDMENT	CSA 70 W-4 PIONEERTOWN
CAMP ALANDALE	FULL PERMIT	PERMIT NO. 05-66-21P-005
SAN ANTONIO WATER COMPANY	PERMIT AMENDMENT	REPLACE HOLLY DRIVE POTABLE WATER STORAGE TANK
PINE HILLS MUTUAL WATER COMPANY	PERMIT AMENDMENT	WELL 06 INACTIVATION
PALOMAR OBSERVATORY	PERMIT AMENDMENT	CHANGE IN WELL SOURCE (LPA ISSUED)
RANCHO PAUMA MUTUAL WC	PERMIT AMENDMENT	New Well
RAINBOW MUNICIPAL WD	FULL PERMIT	05-14-21PF-003 3710016
OTAY WATER DISTRICT	PERMIT AMENDMENT	New Chemical feed system
TREASURE ISLAND	PERMIT AMENDMENT	NEW RESERVOIRS, C12 FEED, AND BOOSTER PUMP STATION

CITY OF DALY CITY	PERMIT AMENDMENT	SULLIVAN WELL REACTIVATION AND VALE WELL INACTIVATION
BUTANO STATE PARK - CSP	FULL PERMIT	20200622
SAFARI WEST	FULL PERMIT	REISSUED ADDING WELL 04
GOLDEN STATE VINTNERS CUTLER	PERMIT AMENDMENT	REFLECT CURRENT OPERATIONS
RAWHIDE INVESTMENT COMPANY	FULL PERMIT	ADDITIONAL/REVISED PROVISIONS & TRANSFER PRIMACY TO SWRCB-DDW

Violations & Enforcement actions

Violations for a water system include whether the system has failed to follow established monitoring and reporting schedules, failed to comply with mandated treatment techniques, violated any Maximum Contaminant Levels, or failed to communicate required information to their customers. Enforcement Actions are used to obtain water system compliance with drinking water requirements to provide a safe and reliable supply of water. The Division of Drinking Water’s formal enforcement actions involve the use of statutory authority and includes issuance of citations and compliance orders.

The following enforcement actions were documented from August 1 and August 31, 2021.

Water System	Violation	Contaminant or Rule
ALLIANCE REDWOODS CONFERENCE GROUNDS	Monitoring	RTCR
APTCO LLC	Monitoring	NITRATE
APTOS HIGH SCHOOL	Monitoring	VOC
APTOS RIDGE MUTUAL WATER CO	Monitoring	VOC
BIG BASIN WATER COMPANY	Other	CCR §64602 – WATER OUTAGE
BOONT BERRY FARM STORE	Monitoring	RTCR
COLLEGE PARK MUTUAL WATER COMPANY	Monitoring	LGR
COLUSA CO. SERVICE AREA #1-CENTURY RANCH	Monitoring	RTCR
COLUSA CO. SERVICE AREA #2-STONYFORD	Monitoring	RTCR

DINKEY CREEK INN	Monitoring	RTCR
EMERALD FOREST	Treatment Technique	TURBIDITY
FARMING D	MCL	TTHM
FLORISTON WATER SYSTEM	Treatment Technique	SWTR
GRIZZLY CREEK SP-STATE PARKS	Treatment Technique	TURBIDITY
GSA TECATE PORT OF ENTRY	Monitoring	RTCR
GUATAY MUTUAL BENEFIT CORPORATION	MCL	COLIFORM
HAPPY ACRES MWC	Monitoring	LCR
HARI'S MARKET	Monitoring	RTCR
HAYDEN FLAT CAMPGROUND F	MCL	COLIFORM
HEAVENLY OAKS	MCL	COLIFORM
HOLLAND PARK WEST	Monitoring	RTCR
INDIAN CREEK TRAILER PARK	Monitoring	RTCR
KERMAN, CITY OF	MCL	1,2,3 TCP
LAKERIDGE CAMPING/BOATING RSRT	MCL	E. COLI
LEE'S MARKET	Monitoring	RTCR
MANNY WATER SYSTEM	Monitoring	RTCR
MDF-MILL CREEK FALLS CG	Treatment Technique	RTCR
MONO HOT SPRINGS RESORT	Monitoring	RTCR
MONTEBELLO-CITY, WATER DEPT.	Monitoring	HAA5
MONTEBELLO-CITY, WATER DEPT.	Monitoring	TTHM
MONTECITO LAKE RESORT	Monitoring	RTCR
OAK RUN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	Monitoring	RTCR
PALM SPRINGS AERIAL TRAMWAY	Monitoring	COLIFORM
PHILLIPSVILLE C.S.D.	Treatment Technique	RTCR
RENAISSANCE HIGH SCHOOL	Monitoring	VOC
RIDGEVIEW ESTATES MWC	Monitoring	VOC
RIVER RANCH RAISINS	Monitoring	RTCR

RODRIGUEZ LABOR CAMP	Monitoring	1,2,3 TCP
SALYER HEIGHTS W.S., INC	Monitoring	RTCR
SAN JOSE COMMUNITY WATER SYSTEM	Monitoring	ARSENIC
SANTA CRUZ MOUNTAIN PURE WC	Reporting	
SANTA LUCIA SCHOOL	Monitoring	LCR
SEQUOIA GROVE VINEYARDS	Monitoring	LCR
SIERRA INN	Monitoring	RTCR
SIERRA VISTA ASSN	Monitoring	1,2,3 TCP
SONOMA COUNTY PUB WORKS-CENTRAL LANDFILL	Monitoring	LCR
SONOMA COUNTY PUB WORKS-CENTRAL LANDFILL	Monitoring	PH
SONOMA COUNTY PUB WORKS-CENTRAL LANDFILL	Reporting	LCR
STERLING VINEYARDS	Monitoring	RTCR
STONY CREEK LODGE	Monitoring	RTCR
TRINITY ALPS MARINA	Treatment Technique	
TRINITY CENTER M.W.C.	Monitoring	RTCR
VIE-DEL COMPANY	Monitoring	1,2,3 TCP
WONDERFUL PISTACHIOS & ALMONDS-EL DORADO	Monitoring	RTCR
Total	54	

Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP)

Accreditation Activities

ELAP ACCREDITATIONS ISSUED		
	August 2021	Year-to-Date
New Accreditations	0	4
Renewed Accreditations	30	224
Reciprocity Accreditations	11	47
Amended Accreditations	8	49
Total	49	324

Sacramento County Superior Court Upholds ELAP Regulations

On Friday, August 20, 2021, Judge Arguelles of the Sacramento County Superior Court upheld the Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program (ELAP) regulations that the State Water Board adopted on May 5, 2020. Following the hearing, the court affirmed its comprehensive, 33-page tentative decision rejecting all challenges. To view the Case, visit the [Civil Tentative Ruling Directory](#) and search for *Department 17; August 20, 2021*. The Coalition of Accredited Laboratories (CAL) had challenged the regulations, both during the rulemaking proceeding and subsequently in court. In response to the issues raised by the court, the State Water Board will maintain availability of a read-only copy of the 2016 TNI standard on the [TNI website](#) (<https://nelac-institute.org/amember/signup/CALAB>). To access the documents, enter the password: *T6E79WS*.

Roadmap to ELAP Accreditation

ELAP continues to support laboratories in transitioning to new regulatory requirements through a compliance assistance initiative, the Roadmap to ELAP Accreditation, including one-on-one Transition Appointments with individual laboratories to answer questions and help them create a plan. Laboratories may request an appointment by emailing ELAP's general email inbox.

The eleventh session of the TNI Quality System Documentation Workshop was delivered in July and registration is open for sessions through the end of 2021. The virtual workshop is broken into four parts over the course of two days with a maximum

of 30 attendees per class. The workshop includes an introductory course about the TNI Standard and its requirements. The workshop provides fillable templates for policies and procedures, an extensive document describing the requirements, explanations, and context for key areas of the Standard, examples of policies and procedures, a quick-look job aid identifying where policies, procedures, and records that participants can use as a checklist to ensure they comply with the standard. A final recording of the meeting will be posted to the ELAP website.

National Environmental Monitoring Conference 2021

ELAP staff presented at the National Environmental Monitoring Conference hosted by the US EPA and the NELAC Institute. Staff presented at three different sessions – an enforcement case study on inappropriate laboratory practices, operational issues impacting the environmental laboratory industry, and efforts to accredit laboratories for monitoring of microplastics in California.

ELTAC Subcommittee on Method Selection for Regulatory Testing

ELAP’s advisory committee, ELTAC, created a subcommittee in January of 2021 to develop guidance on how laboratory methods should be developed and what criteria California’s regulatory agencies should consider when selecting laboratory methods to utilize for their regulatory programs. The subcommittee held its sixth meeting on August 23, 2021 where they distributed and discussed a draft of its guidance document. Work will continue and progress will be discussed during the next meeting to be scheduled.

DDW & DWQ PFAS Strategy Team

ELAP participates in the multi-divisional strategy team for regulation of PFAS. The Division of Drinking Water recently requested ELAP to accredit laboratories to EPA method 533, a method focused on shorter chain PFAS in drinking water. ELAP hopes to begin accrediting laboratories to this method starting in October 2021.

DDW-SAFER

The SAFER Clearinghouse Summary Results for August 2021 (on 9/1/2021)

Summary Results			
HR2W Systems	341	Removed HR2W Systems	7

Water Systems Removed from the HR2W List August 2021

PWS ID	System Name	Date	County	Pop	Notes
4900640	SONOMA COUNTY MUTUAL WATER COMPANY	8/8/21	SONOMA	40	Installed surface water treatment plant
5410020	WOODLAKE, CITY OF	8/8/21	TULARE	7,950	Disinfection byproduct levels decreased
5410050	ALPAUGH COMMUNITY SERVICES DISTRICT	8/9/21	TULARE	1,026	Treatment installation for arsenic completed
5402036	R-RANCH IN THE SEQUIOAS	8/15/21	TULARE	330	New source online with lower arsenic levels
1010019	KINGSBURG, CITY OF	8/22/21	FRESNO	12,002	Treatment installed for 1,2,3-TCP
5410015	TULARE, CITY OF	8/31/21	TULARE	65,982	Treatment installed for 1,2,3-TCP
5200550	NEW ORCHARD MOBILE HOME	8/31/21	TEHAMA	125	Consolidation

Water Systems Added to the HR2W List in August 2021

PWS ID	System Name	Date	County	Pop.	Notes
1010018	KERMAN, CITY OF	8/1/21	FRESNO	15,282	1,2,3-TCP
3500930	BENITO VALLEY FARMS	9/6/21	SAN BENITO	44	Monitoring & Reporting violations
4000775	MUSTANG SPRINGS MUTUAL WATER*	8/8/21	SAN LUIS OBISPO	30	Fluoride violation
1009147	FARMING D	8/22/21	FRESNO	29	TTHM violation

2000688	ECCO	8/29/21	MADERA	100	Manganese violation
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* Removed and readded to the list due to data error.

SAFER Engagement Units

Tooleville Mutual & City of Exeter 6-month Consolidation Letter

On August 23, 2021, the State Water Board issued letters to Tooleville Mutual Non-Profit Water Association (Tooleville) and the City of Exeter (City) regarding mandatory consolidation. The first step in the mandatory consolidation process is to provide a six-month period for the parties to negotiate a voluntary consolidation, pursuant to Section 116682 of the California Health and Safety Code (CHSC). The letters serve as official notification that pursuant of CHSC Section 116682(b), Tooleville and the City are to negotiate.

East Oroshi CSD & Oroshi PUD Petition Dismissed

The State Water Board issued a mandatory consolidation order to East Oroshi CSD and Oroshi PUD on October 27, 2020. On November 30, 2020, Oroshi PUD filed a petition for reconsideration of the Order, pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 116701. After careful consideration, it was concluded that the petition fails to raise substantial issues that are appropriate for review by the State Water Board. The petition was dismissed as of August 27, 2021.

Water Partnership Workshop Virtual Events

On August 19 and 26, the SAFER Engagement Units held two virtual water partnership workshops in Placer and Los Angeles counties, respectively. The purpose of the workshops was to learn how water system partnerships can benefit water systems and how to leverage resources to increase Technical, Managerial, and Financial (TMF) capacity. The workshop also offered two free contact hours for water operators. Some of the topics discussed were background information on the area, partnership overview, funding opportunities, and partnership success stories. Upcoming workshops can be found at the website below:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/certlic/drinkingwater/wpc_events.html

Partnership Outreach Letters

In August, the SAFER Engagement Units sent out approximately 220 letters to public water systems and/or state small water systems this month inviting them to the workshops and/or recommending that they investigate partnerships and consolidation.

Needs Analysis Unit -- Arrearage Webinars and Support

The Drinking Water Arrearage Program Survey is open until September 10, 2021. This survey will help inform how arrearage funding should be allocated by the State Water Board. The Needs Analysis Unit supported webinars on the Drinking Water Arrearage program on August 19, 2021 and August 31, 2021. More information on the program and a link to the recorded August 19, 2021 video is available on the following website:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/arrearage_payment_program/

Completed Consolidations Summary

The following water system consolidations were completed during August 2021.

Name	Type	Pop.	County	Notes
Copper River Country Club	NTNC	125	Fresno	1,2,3-TCP violation
Carneros Inn	C	30	Napa	--

DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

Update on Water Quality, Water Rights, Drinking Water and ELAP Fees Stakeholder Process

Staff is taking proposed changes to the FY 2021-22 fee schedules for all four fee programs (Water Quality, Water Rights, Drinking Water and Environmental Laboratory Accreditation Program) to the September 22 Board Meeting for the Board's consideration.

OFFICE OF ENFORCEMENT

Monterey One Water to pay \$800,000 for discharges of untreated wastewater into

Monterey Bay: On August 13, 2021, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board [approved an \\$800,000 settlement](#) agreement with Monterey One Water for unauthorized discharges of approximately 3 million gallons of untreated domestic and municipal wastewater to Monterey Bay and the Pacific Ocean. On January 19 and 20, 2018, Monterey One Water's wastewater treatment plant headworks overflowed, causing a discharge of approximately 2,869,230 gallons of untreated wastewater through an ocean outfall two miles offshore. On February 20, 2017 and October 17, 2019, two of Monterey One Water's sanitary sewer system pump stations in Pacific Grove overflowed, causing unauthorized discharges of approximately 167,107 gallons of untreated wastewater. Monterey County Health Department issued beach closures and health warnings after all three overflows.

Under the settlement agreement, Monterey One Water agreed to pay \$10,000 to the State Water Board Cleanup and Abatement Account and \$790,000 toward a supplemental environmental project consisting of assessment, repair, and replacement of defective privately-owned residential sewer laterals within disadvantaged community areas in the Castroville Community Services District's service area. The project aims to improve the sanitary sewer system integrity to reduce the potential for rainwater entering and sewage exiting the system, thereby preventing sanitary sewer overflows and protecting local surface water and groundwater quality and public health.

ACL Complaints Issued:

No Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaints were issued in August 2021.

ACL Orders Issued:

Region	Discharger/City	Violation(s) Addressed	ACL Order Amount	Date Issued
3	Monterey One Water/ Marina	Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP) overflow and two sanitary sewer overflows (SSOs) that discharged to Monterey Bay between 2017 and 2019.	\$800,000 (\$790,000 to Supplement Environmental Project (SEP) and \$10,000 to Cleanup and Abatement Account (CAA))	8/13/2021
5S	Yuba City/ Yuba	Mandatory Minimum Penalty (MMP) for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 exceedances of the average monthly effluent limit (AMEL) for ammonia • 2 exceedances of the 7-day median effluent limit for total coliform 	\$15,000 (MMP - all to CAA)	8/3/2021
5S	City of Williams/ Williams	MMP for exceedance of the average weekly effluent limit (AWEL) for ammonia.	\$3,000 (MMP – all to Compliance Project (CP))	8/3/2021
5S	City of Vacaville/ Elmira	MMP for exceedance of the AMEL for dibromochloromethane	\$3,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	8/3/2021
5S	Grass Valley City/ Grass Valley	MMP for exceedance of the not to exceed more than once in 30 days effluent limit for total coliform	\$3,000 (MMP – all to CAA)	8/3/2021

Cleanup and Abatement Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
1	Susan Yang Xiong/ Hayfork	Order No. R1-2021-0040 for the unauthorized discharge or threat of discharge of waste to receiving waters through site development, including placement of fill material in a tributary to Barker Creek; installation of a concrete diversion structure in a tributary to Barker Creek; construction of a water storage pond, redirection of a section of the tributary, installation of a storm water drainage pipe; improper containment of wastewater, solid waste and domestic greywater; and erosion of the main access road above a tributary to Barker Creek. Cannabis cultivation and associated activities at the Property were conducted without adequate best management practices to ensure water quality protection. The Order requires the development and implementation of a Cleanup, Restoration, and Monitoring Plan.	7/21/2021
9	Olivia Liu/ Ranchita	Order No. R9-2021-0165 requires the Discharger to cleanup cannabis cultivation related waste and sediment that is discharging or threatening to discharge to a tributary of Buena Vista Creek. These discharges and threatened discharges of waste are the result of unauthorized grading and land disturbance activities that were conducted within and adjacent to an ephemeral stream channel for the purpose of cannabis cultivation activities, including the construction of earthen berms, excavated areas to bury discarded waste, and trench and channel excavations for the purpose of diverting cannabis irrigation runoff into the stream channel. The Order requires the development and implementation of a Restoration and Monitoring Plan.	7/12/2021

Time Schedule Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
4	The Sherwin Williams Manufacturing Company/ Los Angeles	Time schedule order requiring compliance with Amended Industrial Stormwater General Permit (IGP) numeric effluent limits for zinc and copper.	8/17/2021

4	Magnesium Alloy Product Co/ Compton	Order No. R4-2021-0014 requiring compliance with Amended Industrial Stormwater General Permit (IGP) numeric effluent limits for cadmium, copper, lead, zinc, nitrate-nitrogen, nitrite-nitrogen, nitrate plus nitrite-nitrogen, and ammonia.	8/17/2021
4	Tabc Inc/ Long Beach	Order R4-2021-0012 requiring compliance with Amended Industrial Stormwater General Permit (IGP) numeric effluent limits for zinc and copper.	8/17/2021

Cease and Desist Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
1	Dean Soiland/ Santa Rosa/	Order No. R1-2021-0027 issued for improper Best Management Practices (BMPs) at the Santa Rosa Hot Plant, a 6-acre asphalt batch and material plant located at 1060 Maxwell Drive, in Santa Rosa. Stormwater runoff is regulated under the Industrial Stormwater General Permit (IGP) and inspections revealed the lack of appropriate BMPs and exceedances of the numeric action level for total suspended solids (TSS).	8/31/2021

Investigative Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
2	CMG Financial/ Sunol	Construction, dredging, and fill activities continued after submission of a Notice of Termination, and additional unpermitted activities were performed outside the scope of that coverage. Investigative Order requires the discharger to submit technical reports for historical construction, dredging, and fill activities; any associated environmental assessments; any authorizations obtained to perform these activities; and a work plan of corrective actions to restore waters of the State.	7/16/2021

4	Medford XC II, LLC/ Los Angeles	The Site is the location of the former Precision Specialty Metals, Inc. (PSM) where releases of volatile organic compounds (VOCs), such as perchloroethylene (PCE) and trichloroethylene (TCE), and other contaminants have been documented in multiple site investigation reports. submit information in a technical report by November 8, 2021.	8/9/2021
5R	Scottie Saechao/ Shasta County	Investigative Order requires the responsible party to submit an Emergency Response Communication Plan by 15 October 2021 for the Greenhorn Mine.	8/23/2021
5R	California Resources Production Corp/ Bakersfield	Investigative Order requires technical reports related to the migration of injected fluids into a non-exempt aquifer that may be suitable for drinking water supply and other beneficial uses. This Order is designed to assess the lateral and vertical extent of the fluids injected and address potential water quality impacts.	8/27/2021
5R	Tommy Sisomsouk/ Igo	Investigative Order requires the submittal a Work Plan for Site restoration and mitigation measures by September 30, 2021 to address the unpermitted cannabis cultivation and associated activities, which have resulted in unlawful discharges of waste and threatened discharges of waste into waters of the state.	8/27/2021

13260 Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
3	King City/ King City	Order requires King City to submit a notice of intent serving as an application (also referred to as a report of waste discharge (ROWD)) for enrollment of the King City Wastewater Treatment Facility under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Domestic Wastewater Systems with Flows Greater than 100,000 Gallons per Day General Permit by October 20, 2021.	8/4/2021

3	San Miguel Community Services District/ San Miguel	Order requires San Miguel Community Services District enroll in the General Permit. San Miguel Community Services District must submit a notice of intent serving as an application/ROWD for enrollment of the San Miguel Wastewater Treatment Plant under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Domestic Wastewater Systems with Flows Greater than 100,000 Gallons per Day General Permit by November 11, 2021.	8/11/2021
3	City of Atascadero/ Atascadero	Order requires City of Atascadero to submit a notice of intent serving as an application/ROWD for enrollment of the Atascadero Wastewater Treatment Plant under the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Domestic Wastewater Systems with Flows Greater than 100,000 Gallons per Day General Permit by December 1, 2021.	8/31/2021

Health and Safety Code Section 25296.10(c) Orders

Region	Discharger/City	Violations Addressed/Action(s) Required	Date Issued
4	Avenue Trailer Town Partners, LLC/ Ventura	Order denies closure and requires the responsible parties to take corrective action at the Avenue Trailer Town Partners located at 251 North Ventura Avenue in Ventura.	8/2/2021
4	Equilon Enterprises LLC/ West Hollywood	Order requires that All wells associated with the Site, including ground and a Well Abandonment Report be submitted by October 4, 2021.	8/3/2021
4	Sung Ho Han/ Whittier	Order denies closure and requires the responsible parties to take corrective action at the Santa Fe Car Wash located at 13495 East Telegraph Road in Whittier.	8/4/2021
4	ExxonMobil Environmental and Property Solutions Company/ Los Angeles	Order denies closure and requires the responsible parties to take corrective action at the former Mobil Station No. 17314, located at 5501 Adams Boulevard in Los Angeles.	8/12/2021
4	Glenville Property, LLC/ Los Angeles	Order requires the responsible party to take corrective action (i.e., Preliminary Site Assessment, Soil and Water Investigation, Corrective Action Plan Implementation, and Verification Monitoring) at the Glenville Property located at 9301 West Pico Boulevard in Los Angeles.	8/12/2021

4	Marathon Petroleum Company, LP/ Culver City	Order requires responsible parties to take corrective action (i.e., Preliminary Site Assessment, Soil and Water Investigation, Corrective Action Plan Implementation, and Verification Monitoring) at the former Arco Station No. 0194, located at 5884 Washington Boulevard in Culver City.	8/30/2021
6	Beck Oil, Inc/ Inyokern	Corrective Action Order for additional site investigation and rescission of Recommendation for No Further Action for Beck Oil, located at 1109 South Brown Road in Inyokern.	8/19/2021

Other Enforcement Actions Taken:

Region/Division	Actions Issued	Region/Division	Actions Issued
1	26	5S	14
2	1	6T	5
3	0	6V	2
4	36	7	7
5F	9	8	217
5R	8	9	4

OFFICE OF INFORMATION MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

2022-21 California Water Data Challenge, Partnering with Other Challenges and Progress on Consumer Confidence Reports

The Water Boards began the [#waterdatachallenge](#) in 2016 and have helped guide it to be the partner-driven event it is today. The addition of support from the [West Big Data Innovation Hub](#) in 2018 has transformed the challenge by providing prize money in the range of \$10,000 to \$16,000 per year to winners in a variety of categories. The pandemic put the last challenge into a two-year cycle, and we will be announcing the winners and other news this month. Please watch the [website](#) to see the results of the current challenge. [Projects from previous challenges](#) can also be accessed.

Partnering with the Environmental Policy Innovation Center (EPIC), the drinking water and open water data teams at the Water Boards also helped with the [national challenge](#) on Consumer Confidence Reports. One of the projects in the national challenge was an iteration of the projects in our prior [#waterdatachallenge](#) events, showing how this iterative work to develop the data ecosystems, the regulatory drivers, and the technological innovations brought by teams is making us get closer every year to having a "weather app" style approach to drinking water, allowing us to get almost real-time information for any place in California served by a public water system.

The Trash Monitoring Webinar Series Concludes in a Big Way with Microplastics

The Trash Monitoring Webinar Series will conclude this month by hosting the [Microplastics Monitoring Subcommittee Kickoff Meeting](#). This extended webinar meeting will discuss all things microplastic to form a multi-talented, cross-disciplinary team of individuals to address microplastic science and monitoring. This will be the ninth webinar of our well attended series. The goal of this webinar series was to share our collective knowledge to support the current practices and advances in trash monitoring, and the development of data analysis and visualization tools aimed at assessing the effectiveness of policies and practices for limiting the amounts of trash in the environment. As a lead-up to [California Coastal Cleanup Day](#), which happens this month (September 18), the series featured “California Coastal Cleanup Day – History, Data, Action, and Community Engagement” ([video available with subtitles](#)) as our topic in August. Videos of each presentation can be found in our YouTube [playlist](#). The webinar series’ success has been due to the combined efforts of the [California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network](#), [Trash Monitoring Workgroup](#), and the [Clean Water Team](#), along with all of our fantastic and very giving presenters.

California Coastal Cleanup Day (September 18, 2021)

Help remove the trash and plastic pollution at beaches and waterways throughout the state. In 2019, more than 74,000 volunteers picked up more than 900,000 pounds of trash from beaches and waterways throughout California. To join a cleanup effort or start a self-guided neighborhood cleanup, visit the [California Coastal Commission website](#). Be sure to also download the [CleanSwell app](#) to count your trash, and to have your trash counted.

OFFICE OF RESEARCH, PLANNING, AND PERFORMANCE

COVID-19

The water shutoff reporting site received 5 reports for August.

Climate Change

Staff collected comments on the 2021 State Adaptation Strategy Update and submitted them to CalEPA. OPR and CNRA will prepare the next draft for the Governor’s Office and send it to staff for comments before releasing a draft for public comment.

Staff continued to facilitate regular meetings with Region 1 staff and Coastal Commission staff on the Arcata wastewater treatment facility’s planned upgrades and sea level rise. Going forward, the meetings will also include updates on the Eureka wastewater treatment plant, which faces similar challenges.

Staff continued to contribute to statewide climate initiatives, including the OPR-led Extreme Heat framework update, the Ocean Protection Council-led Sea Level Rise Leadership Team Work Plan, and the Coastal Commission’s Sea Level Rise Planning Guidance.

Sustainable Groundwater Management

Staff submitted public comments on five groundwater sustainability plans to the Department of Water Resources, which is in the process of reviewing groundwater sustainability plans adopted for basins pursuant to the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act:

1. [Chowchilla Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan](#)
2. [Eastern San Joaquin Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan](#)
3. [Merced Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan](#)
4. [North and South Yuba Subbasins Groundwater Sustainability Plan](#)
5. [Tulare Lake Subbasin Groundwater Sustainability Plan](#)

Emergency Management

Staff hosted two drought funding workshops on August 25, 2021, and August 31, 2021. The purpose of the workshops was for staff of the State Water Board and the Department of Water Resources to make counties and local governments aware of funding available for emergency drought response. The workshops were well-received and had a combined attendance of approximately 500 participants.

The Water Boards currently have six “Other State Agency Personnel” (OSAP) deployed to the California Office of Emergency Services (Cal OES) 2020 Wildfire Recovery Northern Branch in support of CalRecycle’s Phase II Debris Removal Operations (CalOES Mission Tasks 37667). The OSAPs will complete 30-day assignments to mitigate potential threats to the local watersheds and help Californians impacted by wildfires return to their properties.

IRRIGATED LANDS REGULATORY PROGRAM UPDATE

August 2021

This month's Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) update provides a summary of significant activities of State Water Board staff from July 15, 2021 to August 15, 2021; and the North Coast, San Francisco Bay, Central Coast, Los Angeles, Lahontan, Colorado River Basin, Santa Ana, and San Diego Regional Water Boards from June 15, 2021 to August 15, 2021. Next month's report will present activities of the Central Valley Water Board's program activities and cover the time-period from July 15, 2021 to September 15, 2021.

State Water Board staff hosted the quarterly program roundtable virtually on July 28, 2021. Topics included updates from regional program staff, CDFA Fertilizer Research and Education Program, and other related state programs. In addition, there was a presentation that showcased new improved imagery software used in virtual cannabis inspections; staff will eventually have access to the new software for agricultural inspections.

San Francisco Regional Water Board staff refined the annual compliance timeline to better meet the needs of stakeholders and address practical issues surrounding invoicing and annual reporting. Annual Report forms are now due in September 2021. Information from the Annual Reports and data collected from third parties will be used to assess compliance and inform the next steps for enforcement.

The group monitoring program is set to begin for the 2021/2022 wet season. There will be a meeting with the Monitoring and Reporting group in August 2021 to evaluate coordination, information sharing, and outreach to farmers.

Central Coast Regional Water Board staff began implementation of the General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands, Order No. R3-2021-0040 (Ag Order 4.0).

Staff held a series of Ag Order 4.0 grower workshops between July 20 and 28, consisting of six two-hour workshops: three English, two Spanish, and one Chinese (in Mandarin). Two of those workshops were held in the evening and all were recorded and made available for future reference. The workshops were intended to provide a high-level overview of the Ag Order 4.0 requirements for growers, service providers, and other stakeholders that did not follow the order development and approval process. Staff will be developing and implementing more workshops over the next twelve months that are focused on the various requirements that will be phased in over time starting next year; as well as to educate growers about changed and improved reporting tools (e.g., new electronic notice of intent form, total nitrogen applied reporting form, etc.). Additional workshops will be informed in part by grower and technical service provider input solicited during and following the initial high-level workshops.

Participation rates for the English and Mandarin workshops were relatively high. However, participation rates for the Spanish workshops were lower than anticipated even though staff directed English and Spanish outreach through Agricultural and Land-Based Training Association (ALBA), grower shipper associations, and farm bureaus in addition to targeted email outreach to all growers enrolled in the agricultural order. Prior to the initiation of future workshops, staff will be coordinating with the Office of Public Participation and agricultural service providers and associations to evaluate how to improve outreach and workshop accessibility to Spanish growers in the Central Coast.

Regional Board staff would like to thank staff from the State Water Board's Office of Public Participation for their help implementing the Mandarin and Spanish workshops. The Office of Public Participation is an actively engaged partner in support of shared outreach and education efforts, providing translation and communication services and expertise to our many programs.

Ag Order 4.0 includes a third-party compliance assistance program framework and associated process to form and administer third party programs. The first step of the process is to identify and approve third-party administrators via a request for proposal (RFP) process. The requests for third-party administrator proposals was initiated on April 23, 2021 and closed on June 22, 2021. Only one proposal was received, developed by Central Coast Water Quality Preservation, Inc. (Preservation, Inc), the current third-party administrator for the surface water Cooperative Monitoring Program (CMP) associated with the previous agricultural orders. The Preservation, Inc. proposal met all the third-party administrator criteria in Ag Order 4.0 and the RFP document, and the Executive Officer approved the proposal on July 2, 2021. This RFP process was to solicit and screen prospective administrators, not the actual third-party programmatic work plans. Submittal, review, and approval of the work plan(s) will be the next step in coordination with the third-party administrator. The proposal received from Preservation, Inc. addresses every component of the Ag Order subject to third-party compliance assistance and also includes functional partnerships with the Vineyard Team (SIP Certification), Central Coast Wetlands Groups, and Creek Lands Conservation, in addition to planned coordination with other agencies, service providers, researcher, NGOs, etc. The proposal went beyond the administrator scope of the RFP, identifying some of the programmatic functionality Preservation, Inc. plans on developing and implementing. Sarah Lopez with Preservation, Inc. began engaging with staff on next steps, including discussions about an advisory committee and associated process to provide additional vetting for the development and implementation of the forthcoming programmatic work plan(s). The [ILRP Third-Party Programs webpage](#) contains the RFP, Preservation, Inc. proposal, and its approval letter. Announcements regarding this process were posted to the ILRP home page and notices were emailed to stakeholders subscribed to the email list.

Los Angeles Regional Water Board staff met with representatives from Ventura County Agricultural Irrigated Lands Group (VCAILG) and their consultants to discuss certain elements in the existing conditional waiver on July 7, 2021. Specific questions regarding individual monitoring were raised by VCAILG. The next meeting is scheduled on August 24, 2021.

On June 23, 2021, staff inspected two more Devil Mountain Wholesale Nursery locations in Rosemead and Sunland to see if they were exempt from the Ag Waiver since there are allegedly no growing activities at these two locations.

Staff received multiple requests of notice for termination from Los Angeles Irrigated Lands Group. Follow-up site visits to determine the eligibility for termination will be scheduled.

On June 18, 2021, the **Santa Ana Regional Water Board** adopted Order R8-2021-004, Short-Term Renewal of Order R8-2016-0003, As Amended By R8-2017-0023, Conditional Waiver of Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Agricultural Operations in the Watershed of the San Jacinto River and its Tributaries, and Canyon Lake and Lake Elsinore and Their Tributaries, Collectively “The San Jacinto River Watershed,” Riverside County (Referred to as the “CWAD”). The CWAD was set to expire on July 28, 2021. The approved extension modifies the expiration/renewal date to February 7, 2023. The Order does not modify any other terms of the CWAD. The extension allows Santa Ana Water Board staff additional time to analyze the groundwater and surface water data presented by the coalitions over a 4-year period, and allows staff to incorporate the precedential requirements of the State Water Resources Control Board’s Order WQ 2018-0002, In the Matter of Review of Waste Discharge Requirements General Order No. R5-2012-0116 for Growers Within the Eastern San Joaquin Watershed that are Members of a Third-Party Group Issued by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Central Valley Region (Eastern San Joaquin Order) as well as incorporate the proposed revised Lake Elsinore Canyon Lake TMDL.

As of August 2021, there are 32 agricultural operations enrolled in the CWAD encompassing 12,216 acres. Acres include both irrigated and non-irrigated agricultural operations. Of the 32 agricultural operations, 26 are members of the San Jacinto Coalition coordinated by Eastern Municipal Water District. There are an estimated 4,000 acres in the San Jacinto Watershed that are not currently enrolled in the CWAD, staff are working to identify the landowner and/or agricultural operators and pursuing enrollment.

San Diego Regional Water Board staff have been building partnerships with local agencies, such as the San Diego County Water Authority. The San Diego County Water Authority now requires growers to enroll in the General Agricultural Orders prior to receiving the discounted water rate for agriculture uses. This prompting by the San Diego County Water Authority resulted in Program staff enrolling 130 new growers in the Agriculture Order since April 1, 2021.

Staff also continue stakeholder outreach and education efforts. In May 2021, staff presented an overview of the requirements from the Eastern San Joaquin Order at the online Virtual Climate Action and Agriculture Symposium.

Staff continue to encourage Third-Party Groups to educate their members on how to protect water quality and reduce discharges from their operations. Staff are planning a series of in-person meetings with growers to promote the implementation of effective best management practices (BMPs) and the requirements of the General Agricultural Order. This effort will also include the development of educational materials, such as a walkthrough presentation to be available on the San Diego Water Board website, to help growers with the enrollment process.

The Third-Party Groups submitted the 2020 Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) to the San Diego Water Board on April 30, 2021. Staff reviewed the AMRs and found eight Water Quality Benchmarks were exceeded. Staff are using this information to further prioritize inspection efforts within the Region.

The General Agricultural Order requires Water Quality Restoration Plans (WQRPs) when a Third-Party Group's monitoring site has a constituent that exceeds the Water Quality Benchmark in three of the last four monitoring events. The monitoring results included in the 2020 AMRs reported exceedances of eight Water Quality Benchmarks, triggering the threshold that requires a WQRP, as prescribed in the General Agricultural Order. The constituents that exceeded Water Quality Benchmarks included total nitrogen, total phosphorus, nitrate with nitrite, sulfate, total dissolved solids, escherichia coli, enterococci, and fecal coliform. Staff are coordinating with the Third-Party Groups to meet with growers and promote the use of BMPs through the WQRP that focus on constituents exceeding Water Quality Benchmarks.

The COVID-19 pandemic limited staff's ability to conduct inspections in the past year. However, complaint response inspections are ongoing, and more inspections are planned for the fall of 2021 based on the type of operation (i.e. orchards and nurseries), size of operation, proximity to impaired water bodies and key use areas, data presented in AMRs, and BMP practices. Program staff will coordinate inspection efforts with the Board's Monitoring Assessment and Research Unit to simultaneously conduct water quality monitoring during site inspections.

The San Diego Water Board issued three Administrative Civil Liabilities (ACLs) since November 2020. These ACLs were issued to growers who failed to pay their annual fee or failed to enroll in the General Agricultural Order within 30 days after receiving a Staff Enforcement Letter.

The San Diego Water Board also issued 34 Notice of Violations (NOV) to growers who formerly were members of the De Luz Third-Party Group (De Luz Group). Since the De Luz Group dissolved in the summer of 2019 due to a lack of funding, the growers with the De Luz Group are required to join a new Third Party Group. Over 75 percent of the 34 growers who received an NOV have joined a Third Party Group or reported that they no longer engaged in agricultural practices.

There are no significant program updates reported in the **North Coast, Lahontan, and Colorado River Basin Regions** from June 15, 2021 to August 15, 2021.