
State Water Resources Control Board

REVISED

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY TO COMMENT AND STAFF WORKSHOP

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SECOND STATEWIDE AGRICULTURAL EXPERT PANEL DRAFT REPORT

Staff of the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will accept comments on the Recommendations of the Second Statewide Agricultural Expert Panel (Panel) Draft Report (Draft Panel Report). The Draft Panel Report presents the independent recommendations of the Panel in response to the [Panel charge questions](#), which ask the Panel to consider the approaches in State Water Board [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 River Watershed that are Members of the Third-Party Group (Eastern San Joaquin Petition Order) and State Water Board [Order WQ 2023-0081](#), In the Matter of Review of General Waste Discharge Requirements for Discharges from Irrigated Lands Order No. R3-2021-0040 (Central Coast Ag Petition Order).

Staff of the State Water Board will hold a public workshop on April 10, 2026. During the public workshop, a presentation will be provided, followed by the opportunity for verbal comments on the Draft Panel Report. Additional information about the public workshop is provided below.

The public workshop will be held in person and virtually on:

**Friday, April 10, 2026
2:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
Byron Sher Auditorium – Second Floor
Joe Serna Jr. - CalEPA Building
1001 I Street, Sacramento
And via Video and Teleconference**

A quorum of the Board may be present at the public workshop but no decisions will be made.

Participation Options

Review the Available Documents

The Draft Panel Report will be available for review on or before March 30, 2026, through the following link. Physical copies of the document may be mailed to you upon request by contacting staff as described below.

E. JOAQUIN ESQUIVEL, CHAIR | ERIC OPPENHEIMER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/agriculture/2025-expert-panel.html.

Attend the Public Workshop

- Participate in person to observe or provide a comment on April 10, 2026: Byron Sher Auditorium – Second Floor, CalEPA Building, 1001 I Street, Sacramento
- Participate in the meeting remotely on April 10th. To participate virtually via Zoom or by phone, registration is required in advance. If you prefer to call in, a phone number will be provided upon registration. Please register at: <https://waterboards.zoom.us/meeting/register/f7uc9sTNQhWhbHSHEsx7vA>.
- Watch the meeting online through the CalEPA webcast on April 10th: video.calepa.ca.gov.

The workshop agenda will be accessible through the Water Board Agriculture Second Statewide Agricultural [Expert Panel website](#) no less than ten (10) days prior the workshop date.

Oral comments at the Workshop will generally be limited to three minutes per speaker. If you would like to provide an oral comment, please email your name to DWQ-ILRP@waterboards.ca.gov by April 6, 2026.

Submit Written Comments

Written comments on the Draft Panel Report must be received by **12:00 p.m. (noon) on April 30 May 4, 2026**. Comments received after this time and date may not be considered.

At the Panel's request, commenters are encouraged to reference the related [Panel charge questions](#) and recommendations in their comments.

Please email your written comments in PDF format to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov and include "**Comment Letter— Agricultural Expert Panel Draft Report**" in the subject line. You may also mail, or hand deliver your written comments to the following address:

State Water Resources Control Board
Attention: Courtney Tyler, Clerk to the Board
P.O. Box 100, Sacramento, CA 95812-0100 (by mail)
1001 I Street, 24th Floor Sacramento, CA 95814 (hand delivery)

Electronic comments may also be provided using the comment submission form through the following link. Note that the comment submission form is unable to allow attachments.

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=JWoY_kl95kGZQQXSKB02wUci9IUQWMZAJCn60QQoSNUMEMzM1VSOFNIUjQ4TjY0R1FQTVNMNzdaMSQIQCN0PWcu

Language Services

This meeting will be offered in English and Spanish. To request interpretation services for the meeting, or sign language services, please use one of the following options at least ten (10) business days before the meeting, if possible by March 26th:

- Submit an online request: bit.ly/LanguageAccessForm
- Call (916) 341-5254
- Email languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov

Contact us to request information in your language.

Contáctenos para solicitar información en su idioma.

Liên hệ chúng tôi để yêu cầu thông tin bằng ngôn ngữ của quý vị.

귀하의 언어로 작성된 정보를 요청하려면 저희에게 문의하십시오.

ਆਪਣੇ ਭਾਸ਼ਾ ਵਿਚ ਜਾਣਕਾਰੀ ਪਾਪਤ ਕਰਨ ਲਈ ਸਾਡੇ ਨਾਲ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Makipag-ugnayan sa amin para humiling ng impormasyon sa iyong wika.

请联系我们，以您的语言获取相关信息。

Accessibility & Reasonable Accommodations

Users of a Telecommunications Device for the Deaf (TDD) may contact the California Relay Service at (800) 735-2929 or the teletype (TTY) voice line at (800) 735-2922.

Any person who requires a reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should email contact@waterboards.ca.gov or call (916) 341-5254, at least ten (10) business days prior to the meeting. Learn more about accessibility within Zoom at www.zoom.com/en/accessibility.

Building and Parking Information

- The meetings will be held at the Joe Serna Jr. the CalEPA Building. Directions to the Joe Serna, Jr. (CalEPA) Building and public parking information: <http://www.calepa.ca.gov/headquarters-sacramento/location/>.
- Visitors to the CalEPA Building are required to sign in and obtain a badge at the Visitor Services Center located just inside the main entrance on 10th Street.
- Please allow 5 to 10 minutes to receive security clearance.

Background

Water quality impacts associated with agriculture are complex and addressing them requires pooling and focusing the knowledge, expertise, and resources of all interested parties, including growers and their representatives, regulatory agencies, environmental advocates, environmental justice communities, and Tribes and Tribal communities. The State Water Board and the regional water quality control boards (collectively, Water Boards) must develop and implement a long-term sustainable Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) that protects the quality of waters of the state while supporting the viability of agriculture. With the help of our partners, the Water Boards

made substantial progress in defining a science-based approach that provides a solid foundation for next steps.

As described on the [Expert Panel website](#), the Water Boards convened a Panel to evaluate the data collected as part of the ILRP and consider the approaches adopted in the Eastern San Joaquin Petition Order and the Central Coast Ag Petition Order. State Water Board contracted with Sacramento State University College of Continuing Education to convene the Panel to provide recommendations for the ILRP. Several meetings have been conducted in support of the Panel process including:

- The first Plenary Panel meeting included a two-day kick-off meeting and was held in August 2025. The two-day meeting provided the Panel with an ILRP overview, perspectives from agricultural representatives and non-governmental organizations, presentations on Indigenous land stewardship and food systems, and available data sources from the Water Boards, approved third-party agricultural representatives, and environmental justice organizations.
- Two Public Listening Sessions were held on October 1, and December 17, 2025, to gather input from the public and all interested parties that were shared with the Panel members for their consideration of the Panel charge questions.
- The second Plenary Panel meeting was held on October 31, 2025, to receive presentations for the Panel's consideration, and for the Panel to discuss initial recommendations in response to the Panel charge questions.
- Twelve Panel working group meetings were held on October 13, October 22, November 14, November 19, December 5, and December 12, 2025, and January 7, January 14, January 21, January 29, February 11, and March 11, 2026, to support Panel deliberations on the Panel charge questions.

All written and verbal comments to the Draft Panel Report will be provided to the Panel for consideration but a formal response to comments will not be developed. The Panel may request working group sessions to discuss comments and document revisions. A Final Plenary Panel meeting will be held in June 2026. It is anticipated that the Panel will present their recommendations to the Panel charge questions and finalize the Panel Report. The Panel Chair will present the recommendations and Final Report to the State Water Board in June 2026.

Stay Informed

Subscribe to receive email notifications on the [Water Board Agriculture website](#).

Enter your email address and password, then select the submit button. If this is your first time subscribing to a Water Boards email subscription list, you will have to register and create a password.

Any person interested in receiving additional information about the Draft Panel Report, including any change to the date, time, or meeting location in this public notice, should subscribe to the email distribution list.

Contact Information

- Program contact: Please direct all questions regarding this notice to Water Board ILRP at DWQ-ILRP@waterboards.ca.gov.
- Website: [Expert Panel website](#).

Date April 28, 2026



Courtney Tyler
Clerk to the Board