



Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

concerning

WASTE DISCHARGE REQUIREMENTS

FOR

**SAN LUIS & DELTA-MENDOTA WATER AUTHORITY AND UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR BUREAU OF RECLAMATION SURFACE WATER
DISCHARGES FROM THE GRASSLAND BYPASS PROJECT
MERCED AND FRESNO COUNTIES**

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (Central Valley Water Board) will consider adoption of the subject Order at a public meeting scheduled for:

DATE: 10 DECEMBER 2026
TIME: TBD a.m.
PLACE: Central Valley Water Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

The date, time, and location of the public meeting may change after this Notice is issued. A Final Agenda for the meeting will be made available at least 10 days before the meeting. The Final Agenda will provide the location and format of the meeting, the anticipated date that the proposed order will be considered, and the anticipated order of all agenda items; however, the Board may consider agenda items out of their listed order. The agenda materials may also include staff revisions to the proposed order.

The Final Agenda, and any information concerning changes to the date, time, location, or format of the public meeting, will be posted on the Central Valley Water Board's website, [Central Valley Water Board's website](#) at:

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/)

and will be emailed to all persons that sign up for the [GovDelivery subscription list](#) at:

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/reg5_subscribe.html).

The meeting will be webcast live on YouTube. A weblink for viewing will be provided in the Final Agenda. Any person who would like to participate in the meeting, but who is

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority and United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Grassland Bypass Project
Merced and Fresno Counties

unable to attend in-person, may participate remotely via video or teleconference. Instructions for doing so will be provided in the Final Agenda for the meeting.

- The hearing facilities will be accessible to people with disabilities. Individuals requiring special accommodations are requested to contact Ms. Mindy Bunn at (916) 464-4839 or Mindy.Bunn@waterboards.ca.gov at least five working days prior to the meeting. TTY users may contact the California Relay Service at 1-800-735-2929 or voice line at 1-800-735-2922. To request oral interpretation or sign language services, please submit your request at least 10 business days before the meeting by calling (916) 341-5254 or e-mailing opp_languageservices@waterboards.ca.gov.

Opportunities to Comment

The Central Valley Water Board will consider oral and written comments on the proposed Order before it votes on whether to adopt the Order.

Written comments or evidence concerning the Order must be submitted by 5:00 pm on 2 December 2026. Please email any comments to Ashley.Peters@waterboards.ca.gov, with the subject line, "Comments on GBP Surface Water Order." While email is preferred, written comments may also be mailed to the following address:

Attention: Ashley Peters
Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board
11020 Sun Center Drive, #200
Rancho Cordova, California 95670-6114

The Board Chair may refuse to admit any comments or evidence received after the comment period unless the submitting party provides a reasonable explanation for why the submission is late and the Board Chair determines that admission of the late submission would not prejudice any other party.

Oral comments concerning the Order must be presented at the scheduled public meeting. Interested parties are generally allowed up to three minutes each to provide their comments. Certain **designated parties** may provide longer comments and have the right to call and examine witnesses, introduce exhibits, cross-examine opposing witnesses, impeach any witness, and to rebut the evidence against him or her. The parties subject to the proposed Order are designated parties. Any other party may request recognition as a designated party by submitting a written statement of how they are directly affected by the discharge(s) to be regulated and why they would like to be considered a designated party. Such requests must be submitted to Central Valley Water Board no later than 5:00 p.m. on 2 December 2026. Instructions on how to provide oral comments will be included in the Final Agenda for the meeting.

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority and United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Grassland Bypass Project
Merced and Fresno Counties

Proposed Order

Waste Discharge Requirements (WDRs) Order No. R5-2019-0077 was adopted on 5 December 2019 and issued to San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority and United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation. WDRs Order R5-2019-0077 addresses the portions of the Grassland Bypass Project that involve the collection, transport, and discharge of agricultural subsurface drainage flows and stormwater to surface waters via the Grassland Bypass Channel to a portion of the San Luis Drain (Drain) that discharges to Mud Slough (north), a tributary of the San Joaquin River. Discharges to groundwater are addressed in Order R5-2015-0095-07, Waste Discharge Requirements General Order for Growers in the Grassland Drainage Area.

If adopted, the proposed Order amendments will recognize Grassland Basin Authority as a discharger replacing San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority as the operator of the Drain. United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation, the owner of the Drain, remains a named discharger. Together the Grassland Basin Authority and United States Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation will act as the “Dischargers” under the proposed Order.

Interested parties may access a digital copy of the Order on the Central Valley Water Board’s [Tentative Orders website](#), under the heading, “Discharger-Specific Order for Future Board Meetings,” at:

(https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_decisions/tentative_orders/).

Copies of the proposed Order and associated documents may also be obtained by visiting the office of the Central Valley Water Board at 11020 Sun Center Drive, #200, Rancho Cordova, California, 95670-6114 or by contacting the Board by phone at (916) 464-3291, weekdays between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Questions concerning the proposed Order or anything in this Notice should be directed to Ashley Peters at (916) 464-4857 or Ashley.Peters@waterboards.ca.gov.

Other Information

The [Procedures Governing Central Valley Water Board Meetings](#) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/) may be found in California Code of Regulations, title 23, division 3, chapter 1.5 (starting with section 647) and are available upon request.

Additional information on meeting procedures can be found on the Central Valley Water Board’s [Meeting Procedures webpage](#) at:

(http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/board_info/meetings/mtgprocd.shtml).

San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority and United States Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Grassland Bypass Project
Merced and Fresno Counties

Hearings before the Central Valley Water Board are not conducted pursuant to Government Code section 11500 et seq.

All meeting procedure information is also available on request to any one of the Central Valley Water Board's offices. Questions regarding such procedures should be directed to Mindy Bunn at (916) 464-4839 or Mindy.Bunn@waterboards.ca.gov.

 Digitally signed by Eric Warren
Date: 2026.10.28 10:02:17
-07'00'

Eric Warren
Program Manager
Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program