

SUPERIOR ACCOMPLISHMENT AWARD

February 2026

EMPLOYEE: Kate Sjoberg

UNIT: Groundwater Unit, Redding office

TITLE: Engineering Geologist

SUPERVISOR/TITLE: Stacy Gotham / Supervising Water Resource Control Engineer



Kate Sjoberg, Engineering Geologist in the Redding Groundwater Unit, joined the Water Board in October 2018 following her graduation from UC Davis. After 19 months in the NPDES Unit, she transitioned to the Groundwater Unit in May 2020.

Kate is recognized for her exceptional dedication to case management and her leadership in office revitalization efforts. Upon joining the Groundwater Unit, she assumed responsibility for the high-priority Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) North Dunsmuir Railyard case. She played a key role in the Unified Command emergency response alongside UPRR, CDFW, and US EPA, offering critical technical input and field oversight. Her long-standing involvement enabled her to

provide expert review and commentary on Response Action Work Plans, often surpassing the expertise of external consultants.

Significant progress has been made under her guidance: over 100,000 gallons of oil have been removed, 160,000 tons of debris excavated, and 1,500 feet of shoreline restored. With the dissolution of Unified Command in October 2025, Kate continues to oversee compliance under the Cleanup and Abatement Order (CAO), ensuring ongoing remediation and monitoring of residual contamination.

In 2024, Kate took on a priority case from the Rancho Cordova office involving a site in Yuba City funded through DTSC's Equitable Community Revitalization Grant. She expedited document reviews to support grant timelines and coordinated with the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment (OEHHA) for technical evaluations, balancing fiscal constraints with environmental and public health protections.

Kate has also stepped up in the absence of senior leadership, managing weekly meetings, unit coverage, monthly reporting, EO entries, and performance tracking. She currently supports a colleague on paternity leave and remains a reliable resource for her team.

Additionally, Kate contributes to the Office Optimization Team, a new initiative aimed at enhancing workplace culture through inclusivity, respect, and continuous learning.

Her exemplary performance, leadership, and commitment to both her cases and colleagues make her a deserving recipient of the Superior Accomplishment Award.