



EXECUTIVE OFFICER’S REPORT

North Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

August 14-15, 2025

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Prohibitions and the Importance of the Basin Plan

Bryan McFadin

Introduction

The state’s regional Water Quality Control Plans, commonly referred to as “Basin Plans”, are regulatory documents that designate the beneficial uses of water in a region, establish water quality objectives to support those beneficial uses, and provide regulatory approaches to ensuring water quality objectives are met and beneficial uses are supported. Those regulatory approaches are spelled out in policies, implementation plans, and prohibitions.

Policies describe broad goals and approaches for addressing water quality issues across programs and geographies and may include regional or statewide policies. Implementation plans (often called action plans) are like policies but describe more specific regulatory

approaches to address water quality issues, including identification of parties responsible for specific actions for implementing water quality protections, permits that will be used to implement water quality controls, and other actions such as schedules for reassessment by the Regional Water Board. Prohibitions of waste discharge (prohibitions) are a regulatory tool that may be defined in policies, implementation plans, or permits, and are discussed in greater detail below.

Implementation of the Basin Plan

Basin Plans form the basis of terms in permits issued by the water boards, water board enforcement actions, and evaluation criteria for impairment determinations. Water quality objectives, beneficial use designations, and the anti-degradation policy define the state’s water quality standards. However, water quality standards are not self-implementing or enforceable on their own. Water quality

standards are achieved through the implementation of permits and the enforcement of prohibitions. The terms and conditions of water board permits are based on achievement of water quality objectives and the protection of the beneficial uses identified in the basin plans for the waterbodies that the permit addresses. The effluent limitations and pollutant source control measures required in permits are developed to ensure the authorized waste discharges are consistent with the water quality standards defined in Basin Plans.

The basin planning authorities provided by the [Water Code](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/portercologne.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/laws_regulations/docs/portercologne.pdf) allow the Regional Water Boards to identify activities or factors that may affect water quality in addition to discharges of waste. Section 13263 of the Water Code also directs Regional Water Boards to develop requirements when developing WDRs that "...implement any relevant water quality control plans that have been adopted, and shall take into consideration the beneficial uses to be protected, the water quality objectives reasonably required for that purpose, other waste discharges, the need to prevent nuisance, and the provisions of section 13241."¹ Section 13241 requires Regional Water Boards to consider "water quality conditions that could reasonably be achieved through the coordinated control of all factors which affect water quality in the area." In this way, the Water Code allows for the Regional Water Boards, through the permitting process, to address the controllable water quality factors that occur in association with the discharge of waste.

Basin Plans also influence the actions of entities other than the Water Boards and can include requirements for actions by other state agencies. The Water Code assigns the

Regional Water Boards the responsibility of encouraging "coordinated regional planning and action for water quality control" (Wat. Code §13225(j)) through their authorities, including the basin planning authority (Wat. Code §13240). Section 13246 of the Water Code requires that "state offices, departments and boards, in carrying out activities which affect water quality, shall comply with state policy for water quality control unless otherwise directed or authorized by statute, in which case they shall indicate to the state board in writing their authority for not complying with such policy." This provision of the Water Code is a powerful element of the state's water quality control strategy that contributes to a coordinated approach across all state departments.

Basin Plans are also considered by government agencies during the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) compliance process. The Environmental Checklist maintained by the Governor's Office of Land Use and Climate Innovation is used as a screening tool in CEQA environmental impact evaluations and specifically asks project proponents to evaluate whether their project will "violate any water quality standards or waste discharge requirements or otherwise substantially degrade surface or ground water quality". Water quality standards are defined by water quality objectives, beneficial uses, and the anti-degradation policy, all of which are defined in Basin Plans.

Prohibitions of Waste Discharge

Water Code section 13243 states that "a regional board, in a water quality control plan or in waste discharge requirements, may specify certain conditions or areas where the discharge of waste, or certain types of waste, will not be permitted." This authority granted by the Water Code establishes a powerful tool for water quality protection. By prohibiting

consider when establishing water quality objectives.

¹ Water Code section 13241 outlines the factors that Regional Water Boards must

conditions, areas, or types of discharges, the water boards can establish water quality protections that extend across programs. A few examples of prohibitions in the Basin Plan are the seasonal and year-round point source discharge prohibition, the prohibition against discharges and threatened discharges of soil, silt, bark, slash, sawdust, or other organic and earthen material to blue-line streams contained in the *Action Plan for Logging, Construction, and Associated Activities*, and the prohibition of discharges in violation of water quality objectives in the Klamath River basin.

One important aspect of prohibitions is that they can be implemented through enforcement mechanisms in the absence of a permit.

Permits are enforceable orders that allow the Water Boards to act to protect water quality, but only in the context of the process they establish. Permits allow the Water Boards to develop comprehensive approaches to addressing an activity and can establish area or activity-specific prohibitions, treatment criteria, and thresholds; however, there are situations where addressing water quality issues through permits may not allow for a timely response to acute water quality concerns. For instance, in the absence of an applicable permit the Water Boards may decide to request a report of waste discharge, which then leads to the development of individual or general waste discharge requirements, or a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements to address the activity resulting in discharges that threaten water quality. The development of individual waste discharge requirements can take more than a year and development of general waste discharge requirements often takes multiple years.

Prohibitions allow for timely Water Board responses to water quality issues. Where a prohibition applies to an activity impacting water quality, the Water Boards can take action to stop the impacts through issuance of

enforcement orders, such as cease and desist orders, cleanup and abatement orders, and orders requiring the submittal of plans and monitoring data. The power of a prohibition is that actions to remedy discharges of waste that affect water quality can occur quickly, providing another mechanism for water quality protection when a permit does not exist (or is under development) to address the discharge. Additionally, prohibitions provide a tool to address waste discharges and their impacts without having to develop a permit for every type of discharge activity that may occur. A benefit to a regulated party is that, when no permit is issued there are no permit fees, allowing for those financial resources to be applied to achieving compliance with the prohibition.

Use of enforcement mechanisms to achieve water quality compliance through prohibitions provides the Water Boards with a tool that allows flexibility in the approach implemented commensurate with the severity of water quality impact resulting from the violation. Violating a prohibition does not automatically result in a formal enforcement case nor does it carry a mandatory penalty. The enforcement approach usually begins with inspections, communications, and if warranted a written inspection memo and Notice of Violation (NOV) detailing impacts, deficiencies, and recommendations. Regional Water Board staff make themselves available and aim to provide compliance assistance, including discussions with the discharger regarding actions that they can implement to eliminate the violation and mitigate any impacts to water quality, thereby resulting in Basin Plan compliance without formal enforcement actions.

The Water Boards as a routine practice exercise discretion by classifying and prioritizing violations through several filters before conducting formal enforcement. Programmatic enforcement priorities are established by staff and confirmed by the

Regional Water Board. The Enforcement Policy establishes a classification system for the severity of violations and staff use screening criteria to further evaluate potential and actual impact/harm to beneficial uses. Assigning low priority to minor prohibition violations allows for a triage approach to addressing discretionary prohibition violations when staff resources do not allow for immediate responses to every known violation. The progressive enforcement approach is applied to address water quality issues as broadly as the scope of the prohibition.

Effective Prohibitions

While the term “prohibition” may invoke a rigid, perhaps draconian, limitation on discharges, carefully crafted prohibitions can be constructed to allow a significant amount of flexibility for dischargers to comply with the prohibition, and can work within larger regulatory approaches.

Prohibitions can also be crafted to establish processes that function much like a permitting program, but without enrollment requirements or associated permit fees. The Regional Water Boards can require corrective action plans and collection and reporting of monitoring data and other information, as warranted by the seriousness of the water quality impacts involved, through standard enforcement authorities (request for information (Wat. Code §13267), cleanup and abatement (Wat. Code §13304), cease and desist (Wat. Code §13301)). These requirements can be used to implement a similar process to those often implemented to achieve water quality goals in permitting programs. The use of this approach is best suited for addressing water quality issues that are not widespread or persistent and don’t warrant the development of a permit.

Prohibitions can also be written in a form that resembles a conditional waiver of waste discharge requirements. Much like a conditional waiver that establishes conditions

that waive the need to obtain waste discharge requirements if achieved, prohibitions can be written to exempt prohibited discharges if certain conditions are met, such as implementation of specific practices or technologies, compliance with a permit that addresses the discharge, or specific approval by the Regional Water Board or executive officer. Likewise, prohibitions can include components that prohibit discharges in specific time periods (i.e., low flow season), or exempt specific types of discharges (i.e., low threat discharges).

Prohibitions can be incorporated as one component of a larger regulatory construct to offer dischargers options for compliance. For instance, the Action Plan for the Garcia River Watershed Sediment TMDL includes three compliance pathways for landowners: comply with an approved erosion control plan and an approved site-specific management plan, comply with an approved erosion control plan and the Garcia River Management plan, or comply with the waste discharge prohibitions applicable to the Garcia River Watershed. This approach allows landowners without substantial controllable sediment discharges to comply with the Basin Plan while avoiding development and implementation of site-specific or general plans by simply eliminating whatever minor discharges they have and ensuring that their activities do not create new sediment discharges. This approach also creates an enforcement backstop for addressing recalcitrant landowners that have controllable sediment discharge sites but fail to comply with the other two options.

Summary

Basin Plans are fundamental to the state’s water quality protection approach. They define the standards that water quality permits and waste discharge prohibitions are developed to achieve. Additionally, they establish policies and action plans, including those that address water quality issues caused by factors beyond

waste discharges. Those policies and action plans guide and direct the Water Boards, other state agencies, municipal planning agencies, and regulated dischargers to address specific water quality issues.

Prohibitions are a basin planning tool that provides an additional pathway for the Regional Water Boards to take timely action to correct the impacts of waste discharge. Prohibitions provide the Regional Water Boards flexibility to identify conditions in which the discharge of waste is not permitted, define criteria for exemptions, and identify steps dischargers can take to comply. Taken together, prohibitions, policies, and permits provide the Regional Water Boards with effective tools to protect and restore water quality and beneficial uses.

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FY 2024-2027 Triennial Review Projects Status Updates

Lisa Bernard

The North Coast Water Board approved the 2023 Triennial Review process and the *Planning Program Workplan for Fiscal Years 2024-2027* (Workplan) in June 2024. The Workplan serves to identify the planning projects that staff in various divisions and units will work on over the next three fiscal years, and denotes which projects the four (4) planning unit staff will lead and support.

The following summarizes the status of active projects detailed in the [Final Staff Report 2023 Triennial Review of the Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/06_2024/pdf/7/triennial-finalstaffrprt.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/06_2024/pdf/7/triennial-finalstaffrprt.pdf) and listed on the [FY 24-27 Workplan](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/06_2024/pdf/7/triennial-workplan.pdf) (https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_info/board_meetings/06_2024/pdf/7/triennial-workplan.pdf):

Coastal Pathogen Project: Consistent with the USEPA Vision, the North Coast Water Board staff developed a Category 4b Demonstration for the Coastal Pathogen Source Reduction Strategy (Implementation Plan). The Implementation Plan identifies existing or planned permit conditions and regulatory authorities that address the controllable anthropogenic (human, dog, cattle) fecal sources that have been identified as sources leading to impairment of Water Contact Recreation (REC1) and/or Shellfish Harvesting (SHELL) in certain waterbodies. It addresses pathogen impairment in six streams and at nine beaches along the North Coast. In addition, although not required as part of a Category 4b demonstration, the Implementation Plan also addresses the need for source control at 13 additional Humboldt County streams currently not on the Section 303(d) List, but where data indicates at least one exceedance of the REC1 bacteria water quality objective. Staff presented the Implementation Plan to the North Coast Water Board during the April 2025 board meeting. The Board adopted a resolution supporting submittal of the plan to the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) as part of the 2028 Integrated Report.



Photo of the South Fork Trinity River featured on the cover of the Triennial Review Staff Report (photo by Michelle Fuller)

Basin Plan Remediation: The Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region (Basin Plan) forms the basis for regulatory actions taken by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, North Coast Region (North Coast Water Board) to protect waters of the state and to ensure compliance with applicable state and federal laws, including the California Water Code and the federal Clean Water Act. The Basin Plan establishes beneficial uses for surface waters and groundwater, water quality objectives to support beneficial uses, and describes the programs, plans, prohibitions and other actions that are necessary to achieve water quality objectives. Staff completed editorial revisions to all seven chapters of the Basin Plan, including reorganization of chapters to improve clarity and make the Basin Plan more accessible. Staff presented revisions to the North Coast Water Board during the June 2025 board meeting, where the Board adopted the Basin Plan amendment. The materials will next go to the State Water Board for consideration.

Russian River Pathogen TMDL Action Plan: Several reaches of the Russian River Watershed have been listed on the 303(d) list of impaired waters for pathogens triggering total maximum daily load (TMDL) studies that confirmed evidence of pollution and fecal waste discharge from numerous land use sectors throughout the watershed. Staff have developed and revised an action plan that addresses impairments and protections by establishing a TMDL, a fecal waste discharge prohibition, and a program of implementation for wastewater treatment facilities, sanitary sewer systems, recycled water, land application of biosolids, municipal stormwater runoff, onsite wastewater treatment systems (OWTS), dairies, ranches and hobby farms, and homeless encampments.

On July 31, 2025, staff published the Proposed Action Plan for Pathogens in the Russian River Watershed (proposed Action Plan), which

includes revisions based upon public comments received from a 45-day public comment period that closed on May 8, 2025. The proposed Action Plan will be presented to the Board at the August board meeting for consideration. It sets a TMDL equal to the statewide bacteria objective, establishes a fecal waste discharge prohibition, and provides a framework for compliance measures. Once adopted by the North Coast Water Board, it will be submitted to the State Water Board for consideration.

Gualala Sediment TMDL Action Plan: North Coast Water Board staff have developed a draft Action Plan for the Gualala River Sediment TMDL (Action Plan) and draft Staff Report Supporting the Gualala River Sediment TMDL Action Plan (Staff Report) to address sediment discharges in the Gualala River watershed. The Action Plan and Staff Report reference and summarize key components of the Gualala River Sediment TMDL and the associated technical support document. The Action Plan and Staff Report provide an implementation strategy to achieve the TMDL load allocations through various measures to manage sediment sources and attain water quality standards. The Action Plan will be proposed as an amendment to the Basin Plan. On July 11, 2025, the North Coast Water Board opened a 45-day public comment and review period for the Action Plan and Staff Report. The public comment and review period will close on August 25, 2025. Upcoming events include a public workshop in August 2025, responding to public comments, and a hearing to consider adoption in December 2025 by the North Coast Water Board.

Laguna de Santa Rosa Watershed Sediment, Phosphorus, Nitrogen, and Temperature TMDLs: The Laguna de Santa Rosa mainstem and portions of its watershed are 303(d) listed for sediment, phosphorus, dissolved oxygen, and temperature. Planning staff developed a peer review draft Staff Report

that documents the problem, identifies TMDLs for pollutant sources, and broadly notes implementation measures to address the impairments. Work on this project has largely been on pause due to staff turnover and open positions. A new staff will start in the Planning Unit in August 2025, and will be serving as the lead for the Laguna project. Once staff are on board, the next steps will be to create a scope of work for a detailed analysis of existing source control and restoration programs in the watershed. This information will help identify gaps in implementation that may be addressed by an action plan or other tool developed by North Coast Water Board staff for Board consideration. Outreach efforts, including California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping, will proceed once new staff are onboarded and trained.

Native American Culture Beneficial Uses:

California Native American tribes have used water to support their cultural and traditional practices since time immemorial. In 2003, in coordination with tribes in the North Coast Region, the North Coast Water Board was the first in the state to add a beneficial use to the Basin Plan recognizing Native American cultural uses of water and designate water bodies with that use. In response to the State Water Board's adoption of new beneficial use definitions for cultural uses, staff have initiated a project to affirm the definition(s) preferred by North Coast Tribes and ultimately designate additional waterbodies for protection. Staff recently sent invitations to 50 Tribes across the North Coast Region inviting government to government consultation. Responses have started to come in, and some information-sharing meetings are underway. An article about this project was published in the June 2025 Executive Officer's Report for the North Coast Water Board.

Narrative Flow Objective: Historically, water management has been compartmentalized into flood control, water quality and water supply

interests. Coupled with the timing of increased water demands occurring during dry summer months, under current water supply schemes and pollution management practices, water in North Coast streams is not of sufficient quantity or quality to support or restore all beneficial uses, especially under drought conditions. In order to protect beneficial uses, the goal of this Project is to achieve and protect instream water quality objectives and protection of beneficial uses, which are susceptible to degradation from controllable factors related to altered hydrologic function, including the effects of climate change. Staff have completed a peer review draft staff report and potential Basin Plan amendment language which is currently undergoing internal review and comment. These documents and other supporting information will be shared with the State Water Board and USEPA in a series of briefings before being sent for external scientific peer review which is expected to occur in 2026. Staff are also drafting materials to support future CEQA scoping.

Lower Eel River Exception to Seasonal Discharge Prohibition:

The Basin Plan includes a point source discharge prohibition, which applies to all surface waters in the North Coast Region, except the Mad, Eel and Russian rivers to which point source discharges are allowed during winter months provided that specific exception criteria are met. Because many point source discharges qualify for the wintertime exception, the prohibition is often referred to as the summertime discharge prohibition. To comply with the summertime discharge prohibition, the City of Fortuna discharges to a percolation pond in the gravels beside the Eel River. This percolation pond method of discharge has been in place for decades. Information from special studies conducted by the City provide evidence that the existing discharge enters the Eel River via subsurface migration during summer months. The City of Fortuna requested that the Regional Water Board

consider developing criteria that would allow an exception to the summertime discharge prohibition for point source waste discharge to the Eel River. Staff has been collaborating with the City of Fortuna to address seasonal discharge in the lower Eel River mainstem in a manner that meets permit requirements. The City is currently seeking to extend the permit compliance deadline from 2027 to 2030. This extension is necessary to complete required studies, including CEQA, and secure approvals from other resource agencies. The project may involve creating habitats for salmonids and will focus on monitoring ammonia and phosphorus levels, safeguarding water quality, and involving disadvantaged communities and Tribes in the process.

Outstanding National Resource Waters: Staff are working with California Trout, Inc. (CalTrout) and others to finalize a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and workplan aimed to support designation of Cedar and Elder Creeks as Outstanding National Resource Waters (ONRW). Staff anticipate the MOU will be set for signature early in FY 25-26. The partners have chosen a contractor for the project's environmental analysis, which will lead to a technical report that informs development of a North Coast Water Board peer review draft staff report. A schedule for completing the draft technical report is currently being determined.

2027 Triennial Review: The next triennial review process, to establish the FY 27-30 Workplan, is scheduled to begin FY 26-27.

Trinity Temperature Objective: The Basin Plan establishes waterbody-specific objectives for temperature in the Upper Trinity River (Basin Plan Table 3-1b). However, Trinity River temperature objectives may need to be updated to consider current, best available science. Research findings on thermal tolerance of Chinook salmon embryos have shown lower temperatures are needed in the

wild compared to laboratory study results. Trinity River Hatchery has experienced high levels of coho salmon egg mortality in recent years when low Trinity Reservoir storage resulted in the release of warm water from Lewiston Dam. Trinity River water temperatures are causing concern for Endangered Species Act-listed wild coho salmon eggs. Diversion of Trinity River water to the Sacramento River through Water Rights Order (WRO) 90-5 informs much of the management in this area. WRO 90-5 establishes water right requirements on the Bureau of Reclamation's operations of Keswick Dam, Shasta Dam, the Spring Creek Power Plant, and the Trinity River Diversion. Staff provided written comments on proposed revisions to the State Water Board's October 2024 Draft of the Water Quality Control Plan for the San Francisco Bay/Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Watershed (Draft Bay/Delta Plan), noting that US Bureau of Reclamation's operational decisions have the potential to result in adverse impacts on Trinity River temperatures. Staff have also had two meetings with State Water Board leadership to discuss the implementation of Basin Plan temperature objectives in the water rights process, understanding that the North Coast Water Board has few regulatory avenues to ensure temperature objective attainment that is controlled by operation of the US Bureau of Reclamation's Trinity Project. Staff will continue to pursue dialog with the State Water Board and monitor projects that influence Trinity Temperatures. The project is currently on hold and will be reassessed for staffing during the next Triennial Review (FY 26-27).

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Enforcement Report for August 2025 Executive Officer's Report

Monica Bueno

Summary of Enforcement Actions issued between **May 15, 2025 – June 30, 2025**

Throughout the year, with support from the State Water Board's Office of Enforcement (OE), North Coast Water Board staff (Staff) develop and manage enforcement cases starting informally through direct correspondence including issuing Notices of Violations (NOVs) and pursuing a progressive enforcement approach that results in formal enforcement actions such as Cleanup and Abatement Orders (CAOs), Cease and Desist Orders (CDOs), and Administrative Civil Liability (ACL) Complaints. Once Staff determine that an enforcement action will result in the issuance of an ACL Complaint, the Enforcement Team prepares supporting evidence and provides the discharger(s) an opportunity to discuss the facts relating to the violations, including the option of settlement.

Table 1 summarizes NOVs and Staff Enforcement Letters. Table 2 summarizes CAOs, Investigative Orders (13267/13383 Orders), Notices of Non-Compliance (NNCs), regulatory directives, and No Further Action Letters (NFAs). Table 3 summarizes proposed and adopted CDOs and Time Schedule Orders (TSOs) as well as ACL Complaints, ACL Orders, settlement negotiations pending the adoption of a final Stipulated ACL Order, and the status of Compliance Projects (CPs) and Supplemental Environmental Projects (SEPs).

During this reporting period:

- Staff issued 12 NOVs, two directives to modify enrollment for risk level, and two NFAs.
- Staff continued settlement negotiations with dischargers on five cases.
- The City of Eureka completed one SEP by installing three Pollution Reduction Low Impact Development (LID) features in the city.
- The Regional Water Board issued two ACL Complaints.

Table notes and other acronyms:

Basin Plan	Water Quality Control Plan for the North Coast Region
CSD	Community Services District
WPCAA	Water Pollution Cleanup and Abatement Account
MMPs	Mandatory Minimum Penalties
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
WDRs	Waste Discharge Requirements

Table 1. NOVs and Staff Enforcement Letters Issued Between May 15, 2025 – June 30, 2025

To view and download NOVs and other enforcement actions, go to:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ciwqs/publicreports.html

Select Interactive Violation Reports > select Display Results > select Date Range (of violation or action) > select Run Report.

Then select the linked violations next to the region and select the facility of interest below the Facility column. NOVs can be found under the Enforcement Action drop-down menu and are often hyperlinked as "null". **Select null to download an NOV.**

For Groundwater Cleanups go to [GeoTracker](https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/) (https://geotracker.waterboards.ca.gov/). Search the facility by name or address > select facility from the dropdown menu > select Regulatory Activities > within Regulatory Activities Action Type Filter select enforcement/orders.

If you have any questions on this database or current enforcement actions within the North Coast Region, please contact North Coast Water Board Enforcement Coordinator Jeremiah Puget at Jeremiah.Puget@waterboards.ca.gov or 707-576-2835.

Facility Name	Agency	City	County	Program	Action Date	Reg Meas ID
Shadi Elayyan	Elayyan, Shadi	Willits	Mendocino	Cannabis	5/21/2025	461073
Eduardo Haro Reza Property	Eduardo Haro Reza	Covelo	Mendocino	Cannabis	5/23/2025	460933
Luis M Paramo Rivera Property	Luis M Paramo Rivera	Covelo	Mendocino	Cannabis	5/23/2025	460937
Ruiz Property	Omar David Gutierrez Ruiz	Covelo	Mendocino	Cannabis	5/23/2025	460935
Pure Organic Medicinals POM420 Gio Sky Samorl	Pure Organic Medicinals	Forestville	Sonoma	Cannabis	5/23/2025	461200
Fortezzo, Matthew Property	Fortezzo, Matthew	Carlotta	Humboldt	Cannabis	5/24/2025	460929
THP 1-02NTMP-027 HUM Rock NTMP	Leland Rock Logging		Humboldt	Timber Harvesting	5/27/2025	461242
Margarita Vizcaino Andrade	Margarita Vizcaino Andrade	Covelo	Mendocino	Cannabis	5/27/2025	461302
Hely, Little Larabee, and Butte Creek Bridges Hwy 36	Caltrans District 1	Bridgeville	Humboldt	Construction Stormwater	6/2/2025	S456575

Table 1. NOVs and Staff Enforcement Letters Issued Between May 15, 2025 – June 30, 2025

Facility Name	Agency	City	County	Program	Action Date	Reg Meas ID
Garcia, Carlos Property	Garcia, Carlos	Potter Valley	Mendocino	Cannabis	6/12/2025	461373
Casarotti	Casarotti, Charles and Maxine	Covelo	Sonoma	Cannabis	6/19/2025	461451
Koyising Yang	Yang, Koyising	Hayfork	Trinity	Cannabis	6/30/2025	461578

Figure 1: NOVs Issued Between May 15, 2025 and June 30, 2025

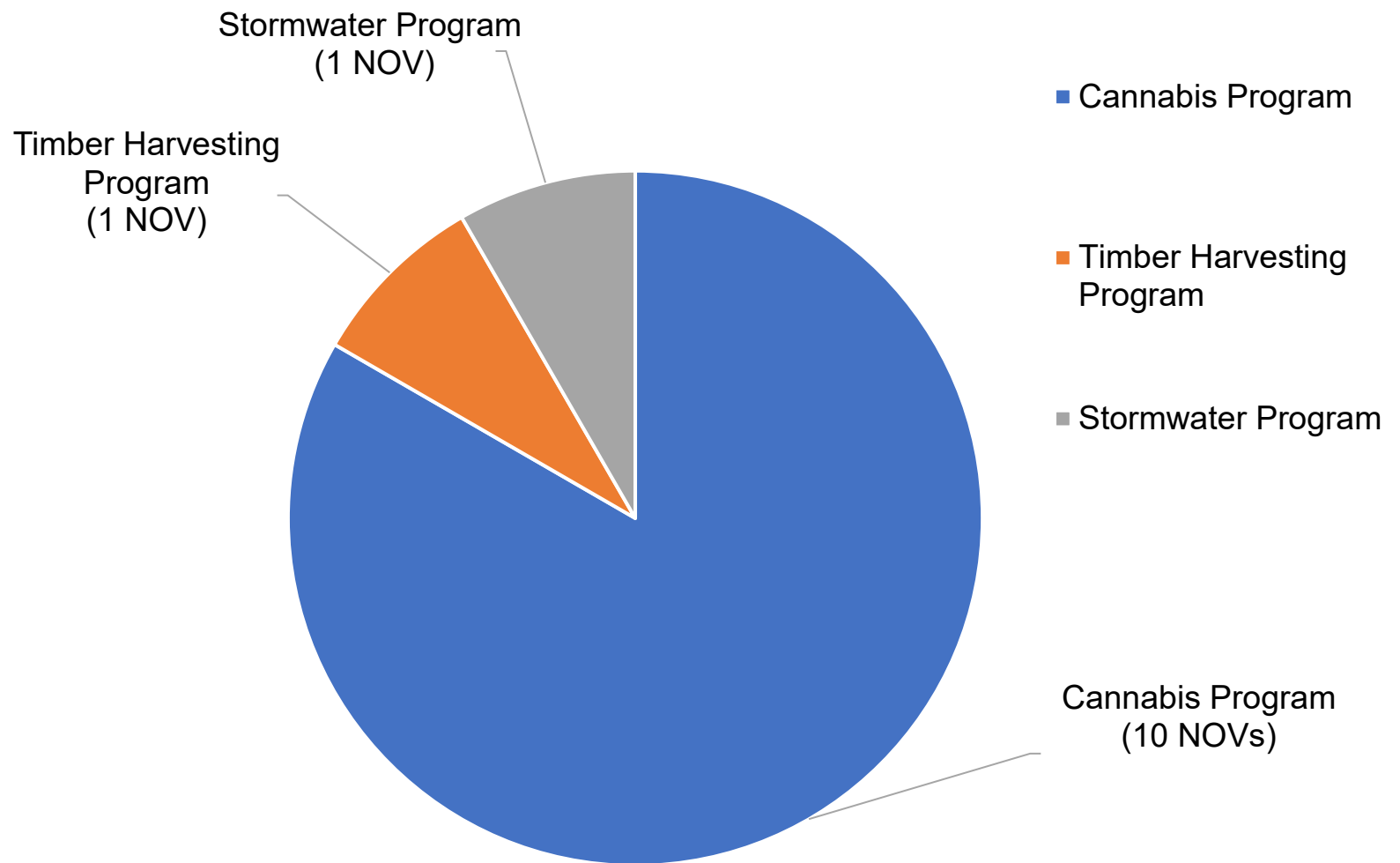


Figure 2: Cannabis NOVs Issued Between May 15, 2025 and June 30, 2025 by County

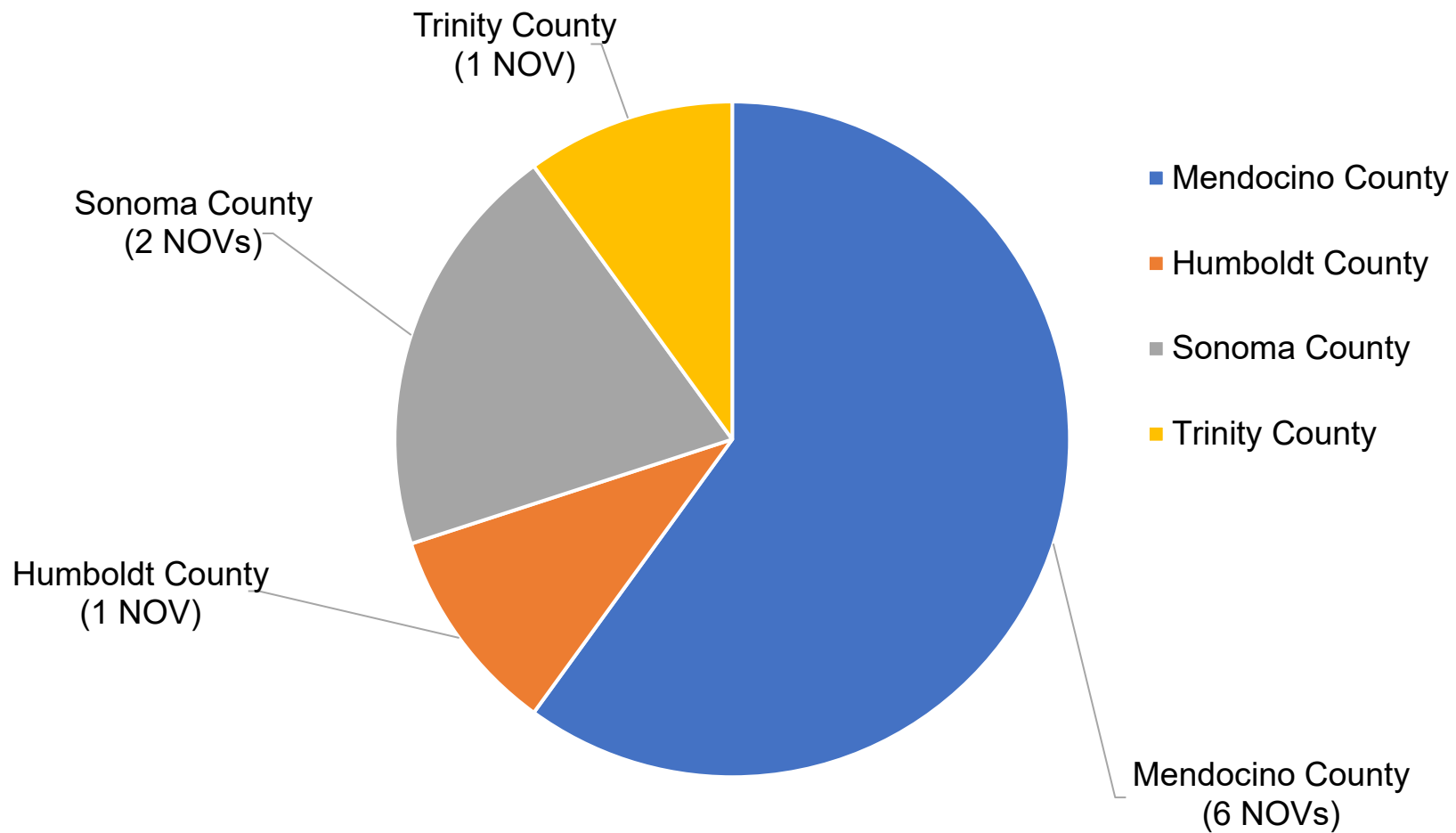


Table 2.**Investigative Orders (13267/13383 Orders), Cleanup and Abatement Orders (CAOs), Compliance Notices & Directives, Notices of Non-Compliance (NNCs), and No Further Action Letters (NFA) Issued Between May 15, 2025, and June 30, 2025**

Date Issued	Action	Owner/ Operator Name	County	Watershed	Program	Cause for Action
May 21, 2025	No Further Action	Thomas and Tina Harwood	Humboldt	South Fork Eel River	Cannabis	The Discharger has complied with the conditions of the Cleanup and Abatement Order and Investigative Order No. R1-2018-0027 issued on April 9, 2018.
May 23, 2025	Directive to Modify Enrollment	Jim Vattuone	Sonoma	Russian River	Cannabis	Directive to modify permit enrollment within 30 days to alter risk level.
June 25, 2025	No Further Action	Toua Lee	Trinity	South Fork Trinity River	Cannabis	The Discharger has satisfied the cleanup of cannabis cultivation-related activities detailed in the Notice of Violation dated March 5, 2025.
June 30, 2025	Directive to Modify Enrollment	Koyising Yang	Trinity	South Fork Trinity River	Cannabis	Directive to reassess and modify permit enrollment within 30 days to alter risk level.

Table 3.
**Time Schedule Orders (TSOs), Cease and Desist Order (CDOs), Administrative Civil Liability (ACLs),
Stipulated Orders, and Settlement Discussions (Underway or Completed)**

Discharger	Program	Violation Type	Proposed Liability Amount	Comments	Status as of June 30, 2025 ²
Fort Bragg City WWTP	Wastewater	NPDES Permit Effluent Limit Violations subject to MMPs.	\$48,000	ACL Complaint No. R1-2025-0023 issued on June 17, 2025. Violation Period: March 15, 2023, to May 1, 2025.	The Discharger has formally waived its right to a hearing within 90 days and settlement discussions are ongoing. Staff are awaiting a project proposal.
Harding	Cannabis	Failure to comply with CAO R1-2024-0054 Required Action Nos. 1 and 2 submittals of a CRW by November 17, 2024, and a CRMP by April 15, 2025.	\$66,469	ACL Complaint No. R1-2025-0022 issued on May 16, 2025. Violation 1 Period: November 18, 2024, to April 15, 2025. Violation 2 Period: April 16, 2025, to May 1, 2025.	The Discharger has not responded. The Regional Water Board will hold a hearing on this complaint during the Board meeting scheduled for August 14 or 15, 2025.
Carrillo	Cannabis	Failure to comply with CAO R1-2024-0034 Required Action No. 1 submittal of a CRMP by September 15, 2024.	\$55,335	ACL Complaint No. R1-2025-0006 issued on February 10, 2025. Violation Period: September 15, 2024, to February 10, 2025.	On May 7, 2025, the Regional Water Board adopted the proposed ACL Complaint No. R1-2025-0006. This matter is ongoing.

² Public hearing notices on pending enforcement actions can be found at:

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/public_notices/public_hearings/enforcement_hearings/.

More information on ACL Complaints and ACL Orders can be found online at the Regional Water Boards Adopted Orders Page: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/northcoast/board_decisions/adopted_orders/ or at the California Integrated Water Quality System (CIWQS) Public Reports Portal: https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/ciwqs/publicreports.html.

Table 3.
Time Schedule Orders (TSOs), Cease and Desist Order (CDOs), Administrative Civil Liability (ACLs),
Stipulated Orders, and Settlement Discussions (Underway or Completed)

Discharger	Program	Violation Type	Proposed Liability Amount	Comments	Status as of June 30, 2025 ²
Sexton Properties, LLC	Cannabis	Failure to comply with CAO R1-2023-0054 Required Actions 1, 2, 3, 5, and 6; for developing a cleanup plan, winterizing the site, and implementing and finishing a cleanup plan.	\$184,009	Time Schedule Order and Informational Order R1-2025-0020 issued on May 8, 2025. Violation Period: January 14, 2024, to February 18, 2025.	On May 8, 2025, the Regional Water Board adopted the proposed Time Schedule Order. The Discharger responded and complied with the first required action. This matter is ongoing.
City of Eureka – Elk River Wastewater Treatment Plant	NPDES Wastewater	NPDES Permit Effluent Limit Violations subject to MMPs.	\$51,000	Stipulated Order No. R1-2024-0059 issued on January 22, 2025.	The Discharger has implemented a Pollution Reduction SEP by installing 3 Low Impact Development (LID) features in the city of Eureka. Each LID feature includes the installation of bioretention planter boxes and native drought resistant plants. The SEP has been completed, ahead of the September 30, 2025 deadline. The Satisfaction of Order letter was issued on July 8, 2025.
City of Fortuna – Wastewater Treatment Plant	NPDES Wastewater	NPDES Permit Effluent Limit Violations subject to MMPs.	\$48,000	ACL Complaint No. R1-2023-0033A issued on October 30, 2024. Violation Period: April 1, 2021, to September 30, 2024.	The Discharger has formally waived its right to a hearing within 90 days and settlement discussions are ongoing. Staff are awaiting a project proposal.

Table 3.
**Time Schedule Orders (TSOs), Cease and Desist Order (CDOs), Administrative Civil Liability (ACLs),
Stipulated Orders, and Settlement Discussions (Underway or Completed)**

Discharger	Program	Violation Type	Proposed Liability Amount	Comments	Status as of June 30, 2025 ²
City of Loleta – Wastewater Treatment Plant	NPDES Wastewater	NPDES Permit Effluent Limit Violations subject to MMPs.	\$618,000	ACL Complaint No. R1-2023-0056A issued on October 31, 2024. Violation Period: March 15, 2018, to March 31, 2024.	The Discharger has formally waived its right to a hearing within 90 days and settlement discussions are ongoing.
Vintage Wine Estates, Inc.	WDRs / Food Processors	WDR Effluent Limit Violations, Discharge Prohibitions (nuisance odors and unauthorized discharges), and General Provisions.	Not Applicable	CDO No. R1-2024-0049 issued on October 3, 2024. Violation Period: September 20, 2021, to August 2, 2024.	Vintage Wine Estates, Inc., has sold the property to DFG Real Estate, LLC., who continue to update Staff on odor controls, pond repairs, treatment modifications, and upgrades. Staff are in communication with DFG Real Estate, LLC., regarding ongoing corrective actions, changes to their treatment and disposal plans, and pending investigations at the facility. Discussions are ongoing.

Table 3.
Time Schedule Orders (TSOs), Cease and Desist Order (CDOs), Administrative Civil Liability (ACLs),
Stipulated Orders, and Settlement Discussions (Underway or Completed)

Discharger	Program	Violation Type	Proposed Liability Amount	Comments	Status as of June 30, 2025 ²
Samoa WWTP	NPDES Wastewater	NPDES Permit Effluent Limit Violations subject to MMPs.	\$33,000	ACL Complaint No. R1-2024-0049 issued on September 9, 2024. Violation Period: March 22, 2023, to December 31, 2023.	The Discharger has formally waived its right to a hearing within 90 days and settlement discussions are ongoing.
City Ventures Homebuilding, LLC- Fox Hollow Development Site	NPDES Stormwater	Violation of Construction General Permit requirements including failure to implement effective and adequate minimum BMPs resulting in the unauthorized discharge of sediment laden stormwater to Peterson Creek, a tributary to Russian River.	\$833,316	Stipulated Order No. R1-2024-0042 adopted on September 10, 2024.	The Discharger has paid \$417,316 to the WPCAA and \$416,000 to the Laguna Foundation for implementation of the Petersen Creek Vernal Pool Restoration SEP. The quarterly SEP status report for Q1 2025 describes the completion of several scheduled tasks, including planning for installation of water infrastructure to support grazing, the filling of 65 soil pits, and removal and mowing of invasive Himalayan blackberry and Harding grass. The final SEP payment is due November 11, 2025.

Table 3.
Time Schedule Orders (TSOs), Cease and Desist Order (CDOs), Administrative Civil Liability (ACLs),
Stipulated Orders, and Settlement Discussions (Underway or Completed)

Discharger	Program	Violation Type	Proposed Liability Amount	Comments	Status as of June 30, 2025 ²
BoDean Company, Inc.- Mark West Quarry Site	NPDES Stormwater	Violation of Industrial General Permit requirements including failure to implement effective and adequate minimum and advanced BMPs resulting in the discharge of 10.5 million gallons of sediment laden stormwater to Porter Creek, a tributary to the Russian River.	\$8,589,406	Amended ACL Complaint No. R1-2021-0047-A was issued on September 14, 2023, and includes an increased potential liability for additional violations that occurred after the first ACL complaint was issued on September 10, 2021. Violation Period: December 2018 – January 2023.	On April 2, 2025, the Regional Water Board adopted ACL Order R1-2025-0017 for \$126,969. BoDean has paid the liability in full. On May 2, 2025, the Office of Enforcement (OE) requested that the State Board review the Regional Board's Order. On June 17, 2025, the Regional Water Board submitted a response, respectfully requesting that the State Board deny OE's request.
City of Arcata – Wastewater Treatment Facility	NPDES Wastewater	NPDES Permit Effluent Limit Violations subject to MMPs.	\$393,000	ACL Complaint No. R1-2023-0008 was issued on January 9, 2023.	First Amended ACL Complaint No. R1-2023-0008-A was issued on July 8, 2024. The Discharger formally waived its right to a hearing within 90 days for the First Amended ACL Complaint No. R1-2023-0008-A. New project must be submitted. Discussions with the City are underway. This matter is ongoing.

Table 3.
**Time Schedule Orders (TSOs), Cease and Desist Order (CDOs), Administrative Civil Liability (ACLs),
Stipulated Orders, and Settlement Discussions (Underway or Completed)**

Discharger	Program	Violation Type	Proposed Liability Amount	Comments	Status as of June 30, 2025 ²
Daniel Maldonado Suarez	Cannabis	Violations of Water Code sections 13267 and 13304 for failure to submit a CRMP by May 1, 2022, and implement the CRMP by October 15, 2022.	\$138,750	ACL Complaint R1-2023-0009 issued on January 9, 2023.	ACL Order No. R1-2023-0043 was adopted by the Regional Water Board on June 15, 2023. Due to the Discharger's delinquency on CAO compliance and payments on the ACL Order. Staff issued Payment Demand Letters, a lien has been recorded on the property, and this matter has been referred to collections.
Enclave, Santa Rosa LP and Morgan Properties, Inc. Marlow Commons Development Site	NPDES Stormwater	Violation of Construction General Permit requirements including failure to implement effective and adequate minimum BMPs resulting in the release of sediment from the site to a municipal storm drain discharging to Piner Creek, a tributary to the Russian River.	\$46,200	Stipulated Order No. R1-2023-0052 adopted on November 15, 2023.	Due to the Discharger's delinquency on payments towards the SEP and ACL Order, Staff issued three Payment Demand Letters. To date, Staff have not received a response. This matter has been referred to collections.

Table 3.
Time Schedule Orders (TSOs), Cease and Desist Order (CDOs), Administrative Civil Liability (ACLs),
Stipulated Orders, and Settlement Discussions (Underway or Completed)

Discharger	Program	Violation Type	Proposed Liability Amount	Comments	Status as of June 30, 2025 ²
Hugh Reimers and Krasilsa Pacific Farms LLC	Non-Point Source Program Complaint Response	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Basin Plan Section 4.2.1. - Water Code Section 13376. - CAO Required Actions 5 & 9 for failure to submit an acceptable Restoration, Mitigation and Monitoring Plan. 	\$3,750,852	Stipulated Order No. R1-2023-0045 was adopted on August 22, 2023, and imposes a \$450,000 liability.	The liability has been paid by the Dischargers. The Stipulated Order also required the Dischargers to complete the proposed Restoration Mitigation and Monitoring Plan by October 15, 2023. The Dischargers were granted extension by the Executive Officer until October 15, 2025, to fully implement and complete the Plan. This matter is ongoing.
Ken Bareilles	Southern Non-Point Source and Forestry Program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Discharges of waste into waters of the state in violation of Categorical Waiver and Basin Plan. - CAO R1-2022-0009 Required Action No. 1 for failure to submit plan by deadline. - CAO R1-2022-0028 Required Action No. 1 for failure to submit plan. 	\$276,000	ACL Complaint No. R1-2023-0026 issued on March 20, 2023, covering the period between December 1, 2020, and March 20, 2023. Based on violations of CAOs, Basin Plan Prohibitions, and Categorical Waiver conditions while conducting timber harvest activities on the property.	ACL Order No. R1-2023-0040 was adopted by the Regional Water Board on June 16, 2023, and the ACL was increased to \$276,000. The Discharger was required to complete cleanup work on the property by September 29, 2023. After re-inspecting the site on February 27, 2024, Staff found that no major cleanup or restoration has been completed at the site. This matter is ongoing.

Table 3.
Time Schedule Orders (TSOs), Cease and Desist Order (CDOs), Administrative Civil Liability (ACLs),
Stipulated Orders, and Settlement Discussions (Underway or Completed)

Discharger	Program	Violation Type	Proposed Liability Amount	Comments	Status as of June 30, 2025 ²
Russian River CSD and Sonoma Water Agency	NPDES Wastewater	Violations of the Sanitary Sewer Order including unauthorized discharge of 885,664 gallons of raw sewage from the Russian River CSD collection system to the Russian River.	\$1,033,546	Order No. R1-2023-0049 includes Enhanced Compliance Action for a study to evaluate regional projects that aim to improve water quality, water supply reliability, and climate change resiliency in the Russian River watershed. The Enhanced Compliance Action would cost \$887,000, and \$147,001 would be paid to the WPCAA.	Stipulated Order No. R1-2023-0049 was adopted on December 20, 2023. The Discharger paid the liability portion of the Order. The Discharger awarded the Feasibility Study Consultant Agreements for the Enhanced Compliance Action to West Yost during a Sonoma County Board of Supervisors meeting on March 26, 2024. The study has a completion date of June 30, 2027. This matter is ongoing.

Projected List of Future Regional Water Board Agenda Items

The following is a list of Regional Water Board agenda items that staff are planning for the next two Board meetings. **This list of agenda items is intended for general planning purposes and is subject to change.** Questions regarding the listed agenda items should be addressed to the identified staff person.

October 8, 2025 – Crescent City, CA

- Smith River Plain SWAMP Monitoring Report & Update on WDR Development (*Ben Zabinsky, Brenna Sullivan*) [I]

October 10, 2025 – Yreka, CA

- Scott and Shasta Watersheds Draft WDR Public Workshop (*Eli Scott*) [W]

December 4-5, 2025 – Santa Rosa, CA

- Rodney Strong WDR Revision (*Lynette Shipsey*) [A]
- Gualala TMDL Action Plan Adoption Hearing (*Lance Le*) [A]
- Broad Overview of Narrative Flow Objective (*Bryan McFadin*) [I]
- Rescission of Heritage house WDR & MRP Orders (*Rachel Prat*) [A]
- Potential Pending Administrative Civil Liability Complaints (*Staff TBD*) [A]
- Overview of Division of Financial Assistance Programs (*Staff TBD*) [I]
- Update on Outstanding National Resource Waters Project (*Matt St. John*) [I]

