

**18/19 FEBRUARY 2021 BOARD MEETING
CONTESTED ITEM**

AGENDA ITEM: 20

SUBJECT:

East San Joaquin Surface Water Framework Expert Review Panel Recommendations

BOARD ACTION:

Information Item Only

BACKGROUND:

Irrigated Lands Regulatory Program (ILRP) staff will provide an update to the Board on the Findings and Recommendations of the Expert Review Panel for the Eastern San Joaquin (ESJ) Surface Water Monitoring Program.

The ESJ surface water monitoring framework was petitioned to the State Water Resources Control Board because environmental interests asserted that it does not adequately meet regulatory requirements and protect water quality. In response, State Board Order WQ-2018-0002 directed the Central Valley Water Board to convene an external expert review of the ESJ Water Quality Coalition's surface water monitoring framework. During 2020, a five-member Expert Panel was convened and conducted an external review, which included three public panel meetings and multiple opportunities for public comments. The final Findings and Recommendations Report was submitted on 17 December 2020. The Expert Panel found that the overall monitoring framework meets the ILRP's regulatory requirements. The Expert Panel also made several technical recommendations to improve the monitoring program. These will be presented during the update to the Board.

Additional panel and meeting information, along with the final panel report, are available on the following website: [Expert Review Panel for the East San Joaquin \(ESJ\) Surface Water Quality Monitoring Program](http://www.sccwrp.org/about/research-areas/additional-research-areas/east-san-joaquin-expert-panel/) (www.sccwrp.org/about/research-areas/additional-research-areas/east-san-joaquin-expert-panel/).

RECOMMENDATION:

Not applicable

REVIEWS:

Management Review:	SYM	20 January 2021
Legal Review:	JMJ	28 January 2021

BOARD MEETING LOCATION:

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board meeting
11020 Sun Center Dr. #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Internet Zoom Meeting