

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARD
SAN FRANCISCO BAY REGION**

**STAFF SUMMARY REPORT: Jessica Watkins
MEETING DATE: June 11, 2025**

ITEM: 6

Shallow Groundwater Mapping in Contra Costa County – Information Item

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DISCUSSION:

This informational Board item is an opportunity to hear from the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI) about its work with Pathways Climate Institute (Pathways) to map shallow groundwater in Contra Costa County. This effort expands the Shallow Groundwater Response to Sea Level Rise project led by SFEI and Pathways, which previously did not include data for Contra Costa County. The San Francisco Bay Regional Water Board funded the inclusion of Contra Costa County in this mapping project.

Ellen Plane, Senior Scientist at SFEI, will present findings from the mapping effort. The presentation will provide brief context on groundwater rise and its implications for infrastructure, contamination, and resilience planning, then focus on sharing the new depth-to-groundwater maps for Contra Costa County. Ellen Plane will describe the methods used to develop high-resolution mapping of depth to groundwater and projected future conditions, highlight key areas of concern, and discuss how the mapping supports adaptation planning by local agencies and communities. This effort aligns with the Water Board's priorities to advance climate resilience and address groundwater-related climate vulnerabilities in low-lying urban and industrial areas.