

Water Measurement Regulation

Summary of October 2025 Changes to Proposed Regulation Text

On September 26, 2025, changes to chapters 2 (Appropriation of Water) and 2.7 (Water Diversion and Use Reports) of title 23 of the California Code of Regulations were approved and went into effect. The State Water Board is making further revisions to the proposed text of chapter 2.8 (Water Measurement) to provide added clarity and specify the process for the Deputy Director to approve large diversion websites and adjust regulatory thresholds. Since adoption is delayed, new diversion measurement requirements have been postponed until October 2026 or later to align with the start of the next water year. The revisions to the proposed text are outlined below.

Large Diversion Requirements

The previously released text allowed reporters to submit large diversion data (formerly known as “telemetry” data) to a public website other than CalWATRS upon approval by the Deputy Director. The newly revised text provides more information on the factors the Deputy Director will consider in approving alternative websites for large diversion submissions. The newly revised text also specifies requirements for identifying the website and associating the data with existing records in CalWATRS.

Threshold and Submission Schedule Adjustments

The newly revised text has been restructured to clarify how the Deputy Director may adjust thresholds or data submission schedules. The newly revised text also specifies a notice and public comment process to allow the public to respond to a proposed threshold or schedule adjustment before an order is issued.

Implementation Schedule and Effective Dates

The effective dates of various requirements in the newly revised text have been changed to align with the water year. The new effective dates give diverters extra time to understand their new requirements, get accustomed to the new reporting platform, submit newly required forms, and update their data submission practices. The table on the next page clarifies how the effective dates for requirements have changed.

Requirement	Previously Proposed Effective Date	Newly Proposed Effective Date
Begin measuring in accordance with new regulation • Measure specified parameters • Large diversion data must reflect specified parameters	October 2025	October 2026
Submit device registries, measurement methodologies, and ACPs (if applicable) in CalWATRS	January 2026 (device registries) and January 2027 (methodologies and ACPs)	January 2027
Begin submitting large diversion data to CalWATRS or another approved website (no individual websites)	October 2026	October 2027
Begin submitting annual datafiles using Board templates	January 2027	January 2028

Until these requirements take effect, diverters may continue to comply by following the requirements in the 2016 regulation text but have the option to submit data using the new templates and submit large diversion data to directly CalWATRS.