



Tribal-State Cooperation & Coordination on Water Quality Standards

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California

State Water Resources Control Board

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Tribal-State Cooperation

Discuss how tribes can coordinate with state counterparts on state water quality standards

- Water Boards Overview
- California Standards
- Opportunities for Cooperation
- Current Standards Projects
- Monitoring Coordination
- Questions & Discussion





About the California Water Boards



Our Mission:

To preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

REGIONAL WATER BOARDS

- 1** | North Coast
- 2** | San Francisco Bay
- 3** | Central Coast
- 4** | Los Angeles
- 5** | Central Valley
- 6** | Lahontan
- 7** | Colorado River Basin
- 8** | Santa Ana
- 9** | San Diego





Water Quality Standards in California

Authority is derived from both the federal Clean Water Act and the state Porter-Cologne Water Quality Control Act (California Water Code)

Authority pertains to:

- Waters of the United States
 - Navigable surface waters and their tributaries
- Waters of the State
 - Surface waters, navigable and non-navigable
 - Groundwater





Federal & State Standards Terminology

Federal Terminology

- Designated Uses
- Water Quality Criteria
- Antidegradation Policies

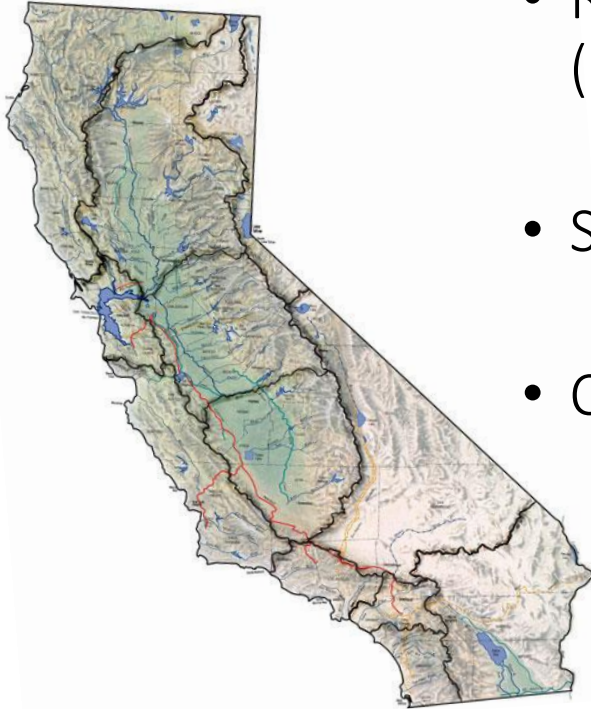
California Terminology

- Beneficial Uses
- Water Quality Objectives
- Programs of Implementation
 - Antidegradation Policy





Where can you find California's Standards



- Regional Water Quality Control Plans (also known as Basin Plans)
 - www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies
- Statewide Water Quality Control Plans
 - www.waterboards.ca.gov/plans_policies
- California Toxics Rule
 - 40 C.F.R. § 131.38
 - <https://www.epa.gov/wqs-tech/water-quality-standards-establishment-numeric-criteria-priority-toxic-pollutants-state>





Opportunities for Coordination

- How to Stay Informed
 - Email Subscription/Listservs:
https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/resources/email_subscriptions/
- Citizen's Guide to Working with the California Water Boards
 - <https://cawaterlibrary.net/document/citizens-guide-to-working-with-the-california-water-boards/>
- **Tribal Affairs webpage:**
 - https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/about_us/public_participation/tribal_affairs/





Opportunities for Coordination

Tribal liaisons and coordinators are present at the State Water Board and each Regional Water Board.

<https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/about-us/public-participation/tribal-affairs/tribal-contacts.html>



Board Programs Drinking Water Water Quality Water Rights Notices Water Boards Search

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Water Boards' Tribal Affairs Contacts

The California Water Boards have a designated Tribal Liaison that oversees the coordination of the Tribal Affairs program. To help strengthen the Tribal Affairs program and assist the Liaison, each of our Regions and Divisions designated Regional/Divisional Tribal Coordinators. These individuals are the key programmatic and regional points of contact.

State Water Resources Control Board Tribal Liaison	
Adriana Renteria 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone: (916) 341-5501	Moy Moreno-Rivera 1001 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814 Phone: (916) 341-5261

(Region 1) North Coast Regional Board Tribal Coordinator
<i>(Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Marin, Mendocino, Modoc, Siskiyou, Sonoma, and Trinity counties.)</i>
Charles (Chuck) Striplen 5550 Skyland Blvd., Suite A Santa Rosa, CA 95403 Phone: (707) 576-2689

(Region 2) San Francisco Regional Board Tribal Coordinator



(click to view larger image)





Government-to-Government Consultation

- The Water Boards are committed to improving our communications and working relationship with California Native American Tribes.
- June 2019 Tribal Consultation Policy
- We encourage Tribes to be part of the State Water Board's AB 52 contact list so we know who to contact to offer consultation with new CEQA projects.
- https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/about_us/public_participation/tribal_affairs/





Current Standards Projects

- Tribal Beneficial Use Definitions & Designations
 - Individual projects at the Regional Water Boards
- Nutrient and Biological Integrity Project
 - Statewide Water Quality Control Plan amendment effort





Tribal Use Definitions & Designations

Statewide beneficial use definitions were adopted May 2017

Tribal Traditional Culture (CUL):

Uses of water that support the cultural, spiritual, ceremonial, or traditional rights or lifeways of California Native American Tribes, including, but not limited to: navigation, ceremonies, or fishing, gathering, or consumption of natural aquatic resources, including fish, shellfish, vegetation, and materials.

Tribal Subsistence Fishing (T-SUB):

Uses of water involving the non-commercial catching or gathering of natural aquatic resources, including fish and shellfish, for consumption of individuals, households, or communities of California Native American Tribes to meet needs for sustenance.





Tribal Use Definitions & Designations

For Regional Water Board updates on Tribal Beneficial Uses within Basin Plans

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/about_us/public_participation/tribal_affairs/regional_tbu_updates.html



Home : Tribal Affairs : Regional TBU Updates

Regional Water Board Updates on Tribal Beneficial Uses within Basin Plans

Welcome to the Regional Water Board Updates on Tribal Beneficial Uses within Basin Plans page. The nine Regional Water Boards are in different stages of their Basin Plan amendment processes to include the Tribal Beneficial Uses and designate surface waters. Below are ways to get involved:

- Contact your Regional Water Board Tribal Coordinator(s) to set up a time to meet and learn about Tribal Beneficial Uses efforts and timeframes in your region.
- Share information about Tribal Beneficial Uses with your Tribal Council and/or community.
- Submit a letter of support to a Regional Water Board, attend a Regional Water Board meeting, and encourage your Tribe or allies to submit letters of support.

For any questions or assistance on this page, please contact: Tribal-Liaison@waterboards.ca.gov

Regional Water Boards' Quarterly Updates

- (Region 1) North Coast Regional Water Board – TBU Update >
- (Region 2) San Francisco Regional Water Board – TBU Update >
- (Region 3) Central Coast Regional Water Board – TBU Update >
- (Region 4) Los Angeles Regional Water Board – TBU Update >
- (Region 5) Central Valley Regional Water Board – TBU Update >
- (Region 6) Lahontan Regional Water Board – TBU Update >
- (Region 7) Colorado River Basin Regional Water Board – TBU Update >
- (Region 8) Santa Ana Regional Water Board – TBU Update >
- (Region 9) San Diego Regional Water Board – TBU Update >

Regional Water Boards Map

REGIONAL WATER BOARDS

1 North Coast	6 Lahontan
2 San Francisco Bay	7 Colorado River Basin
3 Central Coast	8 Santa Ana
4 Los Angeles	9 San Diego
5 Central Valley	





Nutrients & Biological Integrity

Likely Components

- Numeric objectives or thresholds
 - Nutrients (TN, TP)
 - Biostimulatory Substances (Chl-a, DO)
 - Cyanotoxins (microcystin, anatoxin-a)
- Biological condition assessment methods, scoring tools, and thresholds
 - CA Stream Condition Index (CSCI) for insect larvae, macroinvertebrates
 - Algal Stream Condition Index (ASCI)
- Program of implementation



https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/biostimulatory_substances_biointegrity





Monitoring Coordination

- We welcome coordination on monitoring projects
 - Watershed monitoring projects
 - Sharing data across organizations
- The Water Boards can provide support for sampling & monitoring





Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program (SWAMP)

https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/swamp/

What's New   

- 2018 Water Quality Status Report
- Russian River Watershed Monitoring of Constituents of Emerging Concern (CECs)
- Cyanotoxin and Cyanobacteria Monitoring in Lake Elsinore and Canyon Lake



About SWAMP

- Mission
- History
- Partners
- Contact Us



Monitoring & Assessment

- Statewide Monitoring Programs
- Regional Monitoring Programs
- Special Studies
- SWAMP Reports



Data Management & QA

- SWAMP QA Resources
- State Water Board QA/QC Website
- SWAMP IQ



Data Access & Maps

- CA Environmental Data Exchange Network
- CA Open Data Portal



Citizen Monitoring

- Clean Water Team
- Clean Water Team Videos



Find Out More

- SWAMP Newsletter
- NIM& Brown Bag Seminar Series





My Water Quality Portals

<https://mywaterquality.ca.gov/index.html>

Welcome to My Water Quality

Is Our Water Safe to Drink?



Safe drinking water depends on a variety of chemical and biological factors regulated by a number of local, state, and federal agencies. [Learn more >>](#)

Are Our Aquatic Ecosystems Healthy?



The health of fish and other aquatic organisms and communities depends on the chemical, physical, and biological quality of the waters in which they live. [Learn more >>](#)

Is it Safe to Swim in Our Waters?



Swimming safety of our waters is linked to the levels of pathogens that have the potential to cause disease. [Learn more >>](#)

Are harmful algal blooms affecting our waters?



Harmful algal blooms can make water unsafe for swimming and other recreational activities. The toxins they produce can harm pets, livestock, and people. [Learn more >>](#)

Is it Safe to Eat Fish From Our Waters?



Aquatic organisms are able to accumulate certain pollutants from the water in which they live, sometimes reaching levels that could harm consumers. [Learn more >>](#)

Is There Monitoring Data Near Me?



A number of regional monitoring programs throughout California collect and display water quality and aquatic ecosystem health data. [Learn more >>](#)





Questions?

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