OUR MISSION: To preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.

What the State Water Resources Control Board does:

Created by the State Legislature in 1967, the five-member Board protects water quality by setting statewide policy, coordinating and supporting the Regional Water Board efforts, and reviewing petitions that contest Regional Board actions. The State Board is also solely responsible for allocating surface water rights.

Each of the five full-time salaried board members fills a different specialized position (representing the public, engineering expertise, water quality expertise and water supply). The members are appointed to four-year terms by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate.

TAM M. DODUC, *Board Chair*:
Civil engineer qualified in the fields of water supply, water rights and irrigated agriculture

GARY WOLFF, P.E. Ph.D, *Board Vice-Chair*:
Professional engineer qualified in the field of water quality

CHARLES R. HOPPIN, *Board Member*:
Qualified in the field of water quality

ARTHUR G. BAGGETT, JR., *Board Member*:
Attorney qualified in the fields of water supply and water rights

FRANCES SPIVY-WEBER, *Board Member*:
Public member

DOROTHY RICE, *Executive Director*

What the Regional Water Quality Control Boards do:

There are nine regional water quality control boards statewide. The nine Regional Boards are semi-autonomous and are comprised of nine part-time Board members appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Regional boundaries are based on watersheds and water quality requirements are based on the unique differences in climate, topography, geology and hydrology for each watershed. Each Regional Board makes critical water quality decisions for its region, including setting standards, issuing waste discharge requirements, determining compliance with those requirements, and taking appropriate enforcement actions.

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

State Water Board programs

The State Water Board has four major programs:

WATER QUALITY: The State Water Board works in coordination with the Regional Water Boards to preserve, protect, enhance and restore water quality. Major areas of focus include:

- Stormwater
- Wastewater treatment
- Water quality monitoring
- Wetlands protection
- Ocean protection
- Environmental education
- Environmental justice
- Clean up contaminated sites, including brownfields
- Low-impact development

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE: The State Water Board provides loans and grants for constructing municipal sewage and water recycling facilities, remediation for underground storage tank releases, watershed protection projects, and for nonpoint source pollution control projects. The State Water Board has several financial programs to help local agencies and individuals prevent or clean up pollution of the state's water.

WATER RIGHTS: Anyone wanting to divert water from a stream or river not adjacent to their property must first apply for a water right permit from the State Water Board. The State Water Board issues permits for water rights specifying amounts, conditions and construction timetables for diversion and storage. Decision-making stems from water availability, prior water rights and flows needed to preserve instream uses, such as recreation and fish habitat.

ENFORCEMENT: The State Water Board and the nine Regional Water Quality Control Boards are responsible for swift and fair enforcement when the laws and regulations protecting our waterways are violated. The State Water Board has recently created an Office of Enforcement to assist and coordinate enforcement activities statewide. The Water Boards also work with federal, state and local law enforcement, as well as other environmental agencies to ensure a coordinated approach to protecting human health and the environment.

Water Boards' strategic goals:

Goal 1: The Boards' organizations are effective, innovative, and responsive

Goal 2: Surface waters are safe for drinking, fishing, swimming, and support healthy ecosystems and other beneficial uses

Goal 3: Groundwater is safe for drinking and other beneficial uses

Goal 4: Water resources are fairly and equitably used and allocated consistent with public trust

Goal 5: Individuals and other stakeholders support our efforts and understand their role in contributing to water quality

Goal 6: Water quality is comprehensively measured to evaluate protection and restoration efforts

...working together

CALIFORNIA
Water Boards

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

For more information, or if you have any questions, contact:

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CALIFORNIA ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

CALIFORNIA
Water Boards

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
REGIONAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL BOARDS

Working together to protect California's water resources.