

Committee Request for Board Action: None

Virtual meeting format with 29 attendees representing 18 member agencies

Recruitment for Vice Chair – The committee is currently recruiting for a Vice Chair to begin in summer 2024 and take over as chair in summer 2025. Interested members should contact BACWA staff, current committee chair [Amanda Roa](#), or the incoming chair, [Meg Herston](#).

Upcoming Permits / Tentative Orders - NPDES Permits for [West County Agency](#) (including City of Richmond and West County Wastewater) and [Port Costa](#) were scheduled for reissuance in June. Attendees reported no major issues with either permit.

Litigation - SFPUC staff shared information about recent Clean Water Act litigation. USEPA and the Regional Water Board are [suing San Francisco](#) for alleged Clean Water Act violations in the area served by the Southeast plant. Baykeeper has also [filed a lawsuit](#). The area served by the Oceanside plant is subject to a separate appeal that the [Supreme Court will hear](#) in its next term. At issue is the interpretation of receiving water limitations for combined sewer systems.

Basin Plan and Ocean Plan Updates

- The State Water Board has approved the [Basin Plan Amendment to Address NPDES Permitting Needs](#). It still requires approval by OAL (ongoing) and USEPA.
- On June 12th, the Regional Water Board adopted an updated Basin Plan Amendment on Climate Change and Aquatic Habitat Protection, Management, and Restoration.
- Regional Water Board staff have initiated the [2024 Triennial Review](#). BACWA staff recently responded to a survey of [candidate projects](#), including support for a project to refine the shellfish harvesting beneficial use. There will be a formal comment period this fall.
- The State Water Board is planning to conduct an [Ocean Plan Review](#) in 2025 (not 2024 as originally planned). An amendment regarding Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia is currently planned for 2026 ([link](#)).

Climate Change Policy Updates

- On June 4th, the Ocean Protection Council adopted [updated Sea Level Rise Guidance](#). It no longer includes the extreme (H++) scenario included in the 2018 version of the guidance. There is greater certainty about near-term sea level rise scenarios.
- BCDC is preparing guidance for preparation of Regional Shoreline Adaptation Plans, and there will be public engagement opportunities soon (workshops and review of draft guidance). Wastewater agencies should plan to participate in the development of adaptation plans, which will be led by cities and counties.

CECs Updates

- PFAS - USEPA plans an [Influent Study of POTWs](#). BACWA submitted a [comment letter](#). [SB903](#) banning non-essential uses of PFAS in California is no longer going forward. DTSC's [draft priority product work plan](#) for 2024-2026 includes potential work on PFAS source control under the Safer Consumer Products program. [PFAS411.org](#) (developed with support from POTWs) is now active.
- Microplastics - OPC-funded microplastics study of CA POTWs now available ([link](#))

Nutrient Watershed Permit

Attendees briefly discussed the [Tentative Order](#) Nutrient Watershed Permit, which is now scheduled for adoption at the July 10th Regional Water Board meeting. The Regional Water Board plans to release a response to comments and Revised Tentative Order around June 27th. BACWA staff and many agencies plan to attend the board meeting to provide oral comments.

Announcements

- Thursday, June 20 – [CASA/CWEA Navigating Nutrient Removal Workshop](#) (Walnut Creek)
- Thursday, August 29 – Dr. David Jenkins Technical Series on Nutrient Removal in Bay Area Water Reclamation Facilities (Oakland)

Next Permits Committee Meeting: August 13, 2024, 12:30 PM on MS Teams