



# YEAR IN REVIEW

2024-2025



**B A C W A**  
**BAY AREA**  
**CLEAN WATER**  
**AGENCIES**

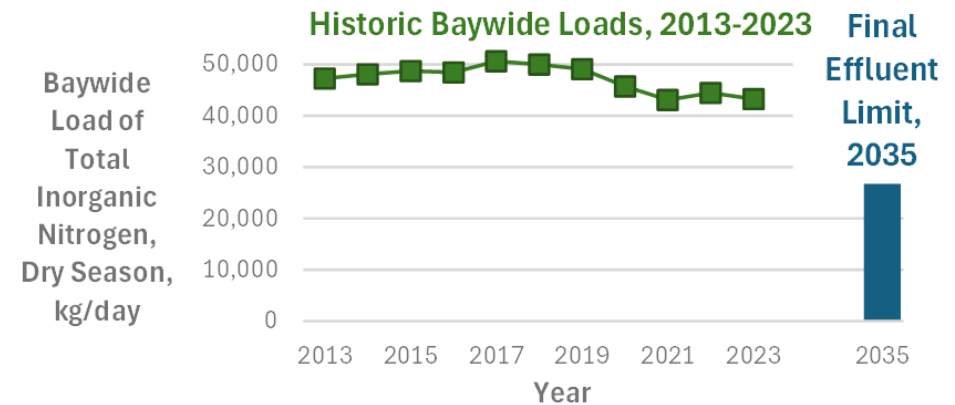
Annual Meeting

May 2, 2025

# Nutrient Watershed Permit 3.0 Adopted!

## San Francisco Chronicle

Poop and pee cause algae blooms in S.F. Bay. Water agencies will spend \$11 billion to fix the problem





# What was new in Fiscal Year 2025 – Aug 29

## David Jenkins Nutrient Removal Seminar

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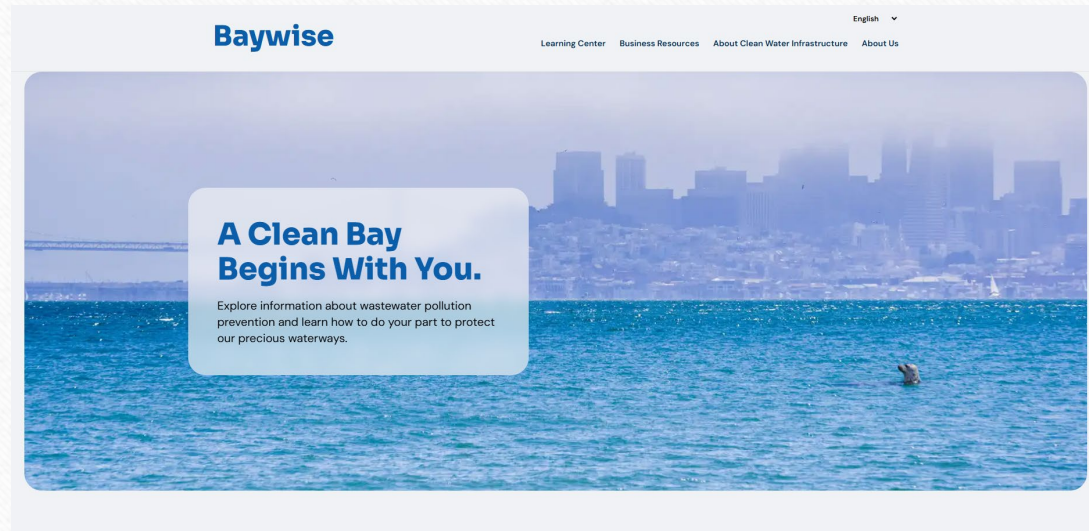
# What was new in Fiscal Year 2025 – Apr 29

## Recycled Water/Nutrient Nexus Workshop





# What was new in Fiscal Year 2025 – Value of Wastewater Campaign

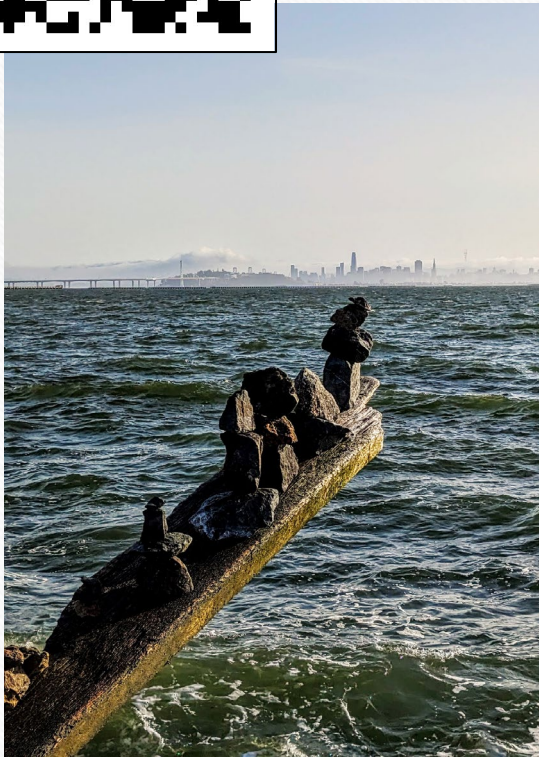






# Membership Services

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- Committee activities and email lists
- BACWA Bulletin
- NPDES compliance reporting
- Regional POTW information clearinghouse
- Managers Roundtable
- Support for member fundraising
- Support for Projects of Special Benefit: BABC, BACC, and BACWWE



# Regulatory Engagement



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Contaminants of Emerging Concern (CECs)	7
Microplastics	8
Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS)	9

## KEY REGULATORY ISSUE SUMMARY Updated May 1, 2025

Action items for member agencies are in **bold**

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New updates in this version are shown in Purple highlighting – [Link to Previous Versions](#)

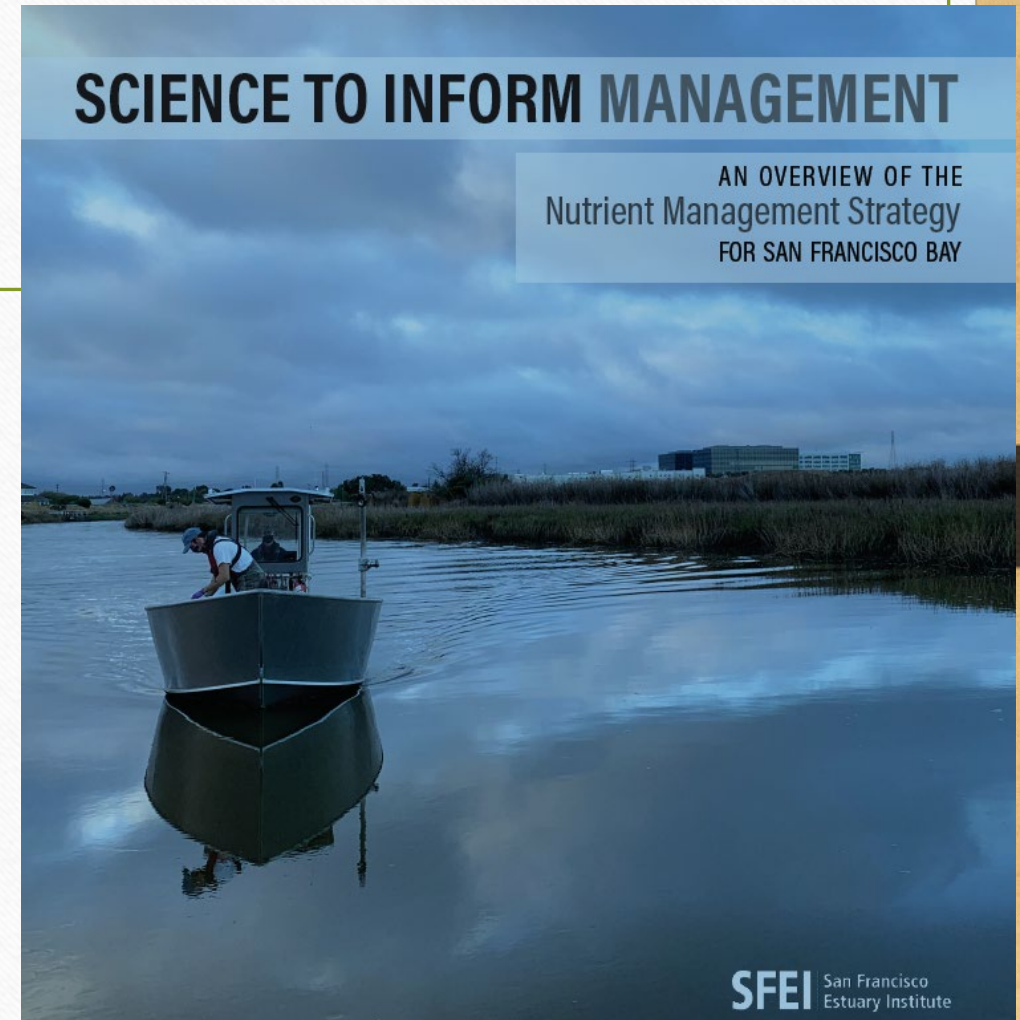
Background Highlights	Challenges and Recent Updates	Next Steps for BACWA	Links/Resources
<b>NUTRIENTS IN SAN FRANCISCO BAY</b>			
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>San Francisco Bay receives some of the highest nitrogen loads among estuaries worldwide, yet has not historically experienced the water quality problems typical of other nutrient-enriched estuaries.</li><li>In the early 2000s, monitoring data of the Bay suggested that this historic resilience could be weakening. In 2012, stakeholders in the region formed the Nutrient Management Strategy (NMS) to prioritize scientific studies and ensure that all science to be used for policy decisions is conducted under one umbrella.</li><li>Program management of the NMS is led by the San Francisco Estuary Institute (SFEI).</li><li>In summer 2022, a harmful algae bloom in San Francisco Bay brought increased public attention to this topic.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>For FY26, BACWA will contribute \$2.2M to fund scientific research by the NMS science team, fulfilling a requirement of the <a href="#">2024 Watershed Permit</a>.</li><li>In recent years, the NMS has been successful in attracting funding from other sources, such as NOAA and EPA, complementing BACWA's contributions. <b>Continued federal funding is uncertain.</b></li><li>The focus of current scientific efforts is improving model representation of biogeochemistry, light attenuation, dissolved oxygen, and harmful algal bloom dynamics.</li><li>The science team is currently working with stakeholders to develop a multi-year work plan for 2025-2029, as well as a more detailed plan for FY26.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><b>Share the recently-completed summary of the NMS science program with interested community members.</b> <a href="#">Science to Inform Management: An Overview of the Nutrient Management Strategy</a> is suitable for wide distribution.</li><li><b>Continue to participate in NMS steering committee, planning subcommittee meetings, and technical workgroups.</b></li><li><b>Provide funding for scientific studies via the Nutrient Surcharge.</b></li><li><b>Continue to leverage BACWA members and technical consultants to provide review of recent work products and charge questions for the science team.</b></li><li><b>Continue to work with NMS scientists to obtain summaries of scientific accomplishments for public use.</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><a href="#">Science to Inform Management: An Overview of the Nutrient Management Strategy</a></li><li><a href="#">BACWA Nutrients Page</a></li><li><a href="#">SFEI Nutrient Management Strategy Page</a></li><li><a href="#">NMS FY25 Science Program Plan Materials</a></li><li><a href="#">NMS Steering Committee Meeting Materials</a></li><li><a href="#">NMS Work Products</a></li><li><a href="#">Real-Time Satellite Data on Harmful Algae Blooms</a></li><li><a href="#">Baywise Website</a></li></ul>

- Nutrients in the Bay and Ocean
- Mercury and PCBs Watershed Permit Compliance
- Toxicity, CECs, Pesticides, Microplastics, PFAS
- Sanitary Sewer Systems General Order (SSS-WDR)
- Laboratory Accreditation (ELAP)
- Air Issues
- Biosolids
- Climate Change
- Recycled Water



# Collaboration

- Representation at state and national associations
- Representation on key regional efforts and issues
- Bay Area scientific investigations
- Mercury and PCB risk reduction
- Bruce Wolfe memorial scholarship





# Look ahead to Fiscal Year 2025/26

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- Compliance with the 3<sup>rd</sup> Nutrient Watershed Permit
- Nutrient technology tours and innovation infoshare
- Forum for PFAS regulatory developments and communications
- Workforce development
- Building BACWA communications initiative
- **New POTW members from outside SF Bay Region**
- **Welcome Bay Area Biosolids Coalition as a BACWA Committee**



# Get involved!

## Contact Us

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**B A C W A**  
**B A Y A R E A**  
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