

Recycled Water Committee Updates

July 21, 2026

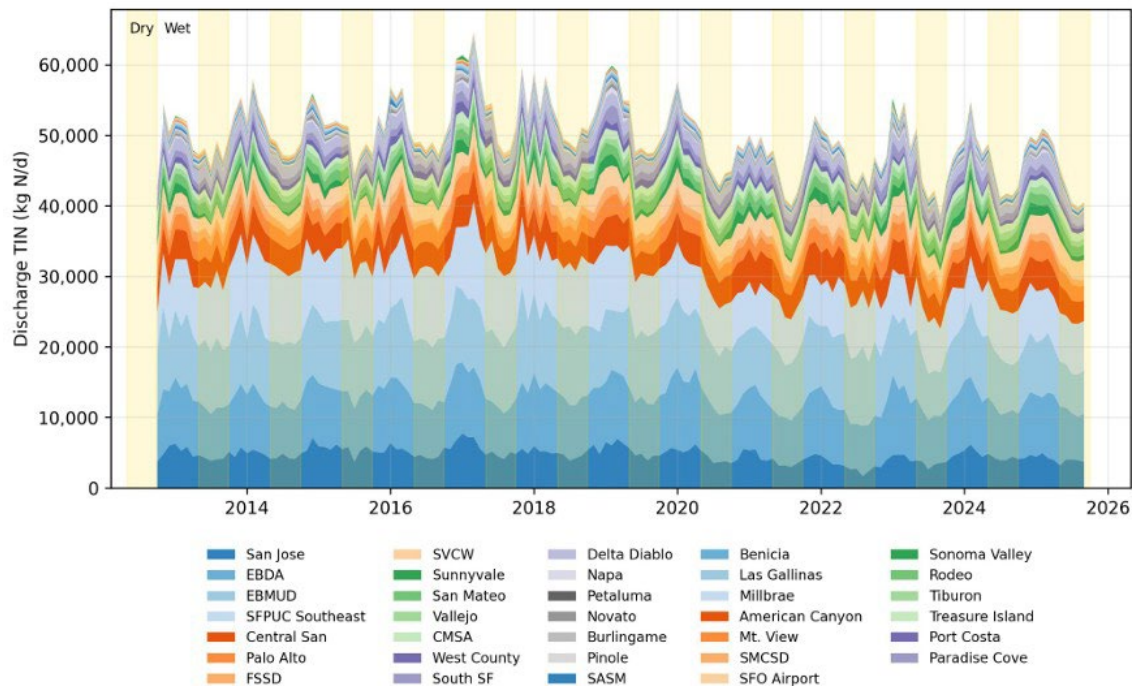


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A G E N C I E S

BACWA Updates – Nutrients Watershed Permit

BACWA Submitted the [Group Annual Report](#) (GAR) for the Nutrients Watershed Permit on April 1

- **Thank You** to BACWA members contributing to sample collection, laboratory analysis, and reporting!
- 2025 Dry season Total Inorganic Nitrogen (TIN) loads were 5% lower than 2024 and lowest since monitoring began



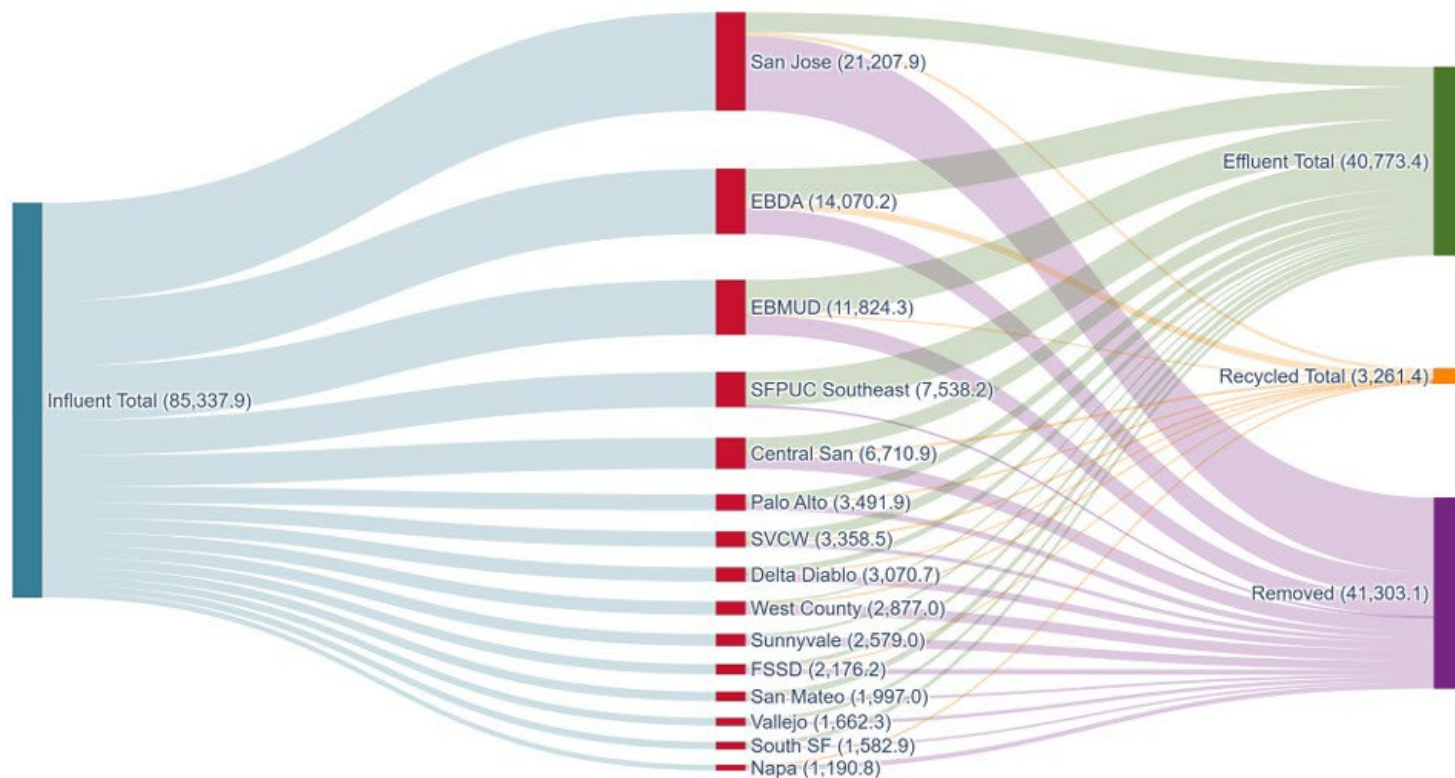


Figure 3-9. Dry Season Influent (TN), Effluent (TIN), and Recycled Water (TIN) Loads (kg N/d)

Note: limited to POTWs with ADWF permitted capacity of >10 mgd.

BACWA Updates – Nutrients Watershed Permit

Nutrient Removal Planning is summarized in Attachment 2 of [Group Annual Report](#) (see pg. 613)

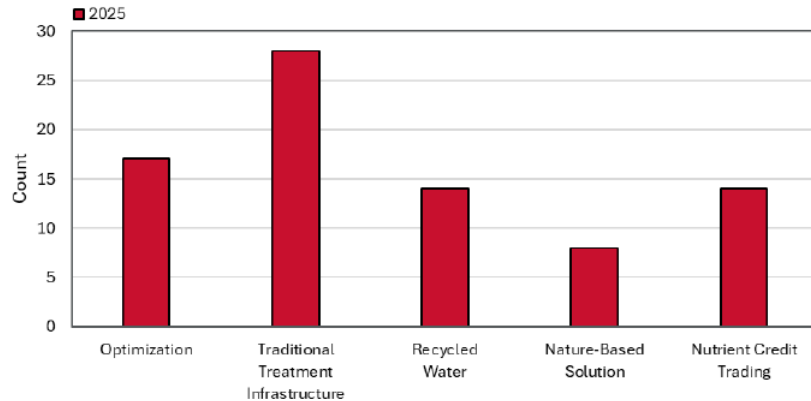


Figure 2. Distribution of Project Types

- See Table 1 of Attachment 2 (page 623) for agencies pursuing recycled water projects as all or part of their compliance strategy, including:
 - American Canyon*
 - Burlingame
 - Central San
 - DSRSD*
 - Hayward
 - Fairfield-Suisun
 - Livermore*
 - Millbrae
 - Novato*
 - SFO Airport
 - SFPUC Treasure Island*
 - Silicon Valley Clean Water
 - West County Wastewater District*

* Denotes agencies whose projects were planned before the Nutrients Watershed Permit went into effect.

BACWA Updates – Nutrients Watershed Permit

- **Trading between Agencies.** The Freshwater Trust (TFT) is helping BACWA develop a water quality trading framework. TFT gave a [presentation](#) on this topic at the BACWA Annual Meeting.
 - Webcast Series (Members Only – recordings will be made available)
 - SF Bay WQT Program Technical Update - June 24, 10am PT
 - Lessons on WQT from Successful Programs - July 13, 10am PT
 - Workshop Preparation - August 18, 2pm PT
 - Water Quality Trading Workshop
 - When: Monday, August 31st from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
 - Where: EBMUD, 375 11th St, Oakland, CA 94607
 - Who May Attend: BACWA members with nutrient limits.
 - RSVP: Please RSVP by August 3rd as space is limited.

BACWA Updates – Nutrients Watershed Permit

- **Extending the Timeline for Compliance.** Regional Water Board staff are working on a Basin Plan Amendment to allow **more than 10 years for compliance** for certain qualifying projects (including recycled water projects).

BACWA is providing financial support for preparation of CEQA Substitute Environmental Documentation.

RWQCB is holding a [CEQA Scoping meeting](#) on July 23, 3:30p-5p.

- **Funding.** BACWA led preparation of a “Clean Water Together” coalition grant application for funding offered by the [USEPA San Francisco Bay Program](#).

The proposal included:

- Pilot projects
- Multi-benefit projects (Nature-based and recycled water)
- Support for water quality trading framework

BACWA was awarded total \$19.6M grant with target contract date of Aug 1.

- Phase 1: \$7M available for FY26; Phase 2: \$12.6M for FY27.
- Decision expected by October 1 if a Continuing Resolution will fund Phase 2.

Legislation Update – AB 2777

- [AB-2777](#) is WaterReuse California and CASA-sponsored legislation
- Most of the bill is concerned with changes to the State Revolving Fund (SRF). The changes are intended to increase the funding capacity of the SRF program, thereby funding more wastewater & recycled water projects
- Separately, the bill also includes a definition of “incidental runoff” that is intended to help implement [SB 31](#) from the 2025 legislative cycle. SB31 was focused on streamlining nonpotable reuse regulations, but implementation from law (Water Code) into regulations (Title 22) may be delayed by the lack of a definition of “incidental” under State law. The definition amends the Water Code to read:
 - (c) Incidental ~~amounts of spray, mist, or~~ runoff shall be permitted to enter outdoor eating areas of parks and open spaces when irrigated with disinfected tertiary treated recycled water that complies with Section 493.4 of Title 23 of the California Code of Regulations.
 - (d) For purposes of subdivision (c), “incidental runoff” means unintended amounts (volume) of runoff, such as unintended, minimal overspray from sprinklers that escapes the area of intended use. Water leaving an intended use area is not considered incidental if it is part of the facility or system design, if it is due to excessive application, if it is due to intentional overflow or application, or if it is due to negligence

Regulatory Updates – Division of Drinking Water

Onsite Nonpotable Reuse regulations

- The State Water Board's regulations for Onsite Nonpotable Reuse were approved by the Office of Administrative Law in April 2026 and are now in effect. Local jurisdictions (Cities and Counties) can now establish local programs that reference the regulations. The regulations will next be adopted into the state's building code by the CA Dept. of Housing and Community Development. The State Water Board is also planning to revise the regulations soon to allow onsite reuse in cooling towers.

Regulatory Updates – Division of Drinking Water

- At the March 3, 2026 State Water Board meeting, the Division of Drinking Water (DDW) outlined its Goals for 2026 (see [Resolution No. 2026-0008](#)). Several of the goals directly relate to recycled water.
 - Graphic below is from video of this meeting: <https://youtu.be/Zr7p-ffm-xg?t=7637>
- DDW's Goal 9 is to amend the [Onsite Nonpotable Reuse regulations](#) to:
 - Add **cooling towers and foundation drainage** as possible sources of water
 - Add **cooling towers** as a potential end use for onsite potable reuse.

To implement [SB 745](#), DDW is already amending the regulations that were just adopted in November 2025! DDW is conducting outreach before developing the regulations.

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Onsite Treated Nonpotable Water Systems Revisions

⌘ Background

- Water Code §§ 13558 and 13558.1 (2018)
 - Water quality monitoring and reporting requirements
 - Notification and public information requirements
 - Cross-connection controls
- For use by local agencies; not state enforced
- Board adoption – 18 November 2025
- Senate Bill 745 amendments to Water Code
 - Added definition for “water reuse system”
 - Mandated consultation with SWRCB on building standards to reduce potable water use in new, nonresidential buildings
 - Cooling water and foundation water
- Proposed rulemaking to add cooling towers and building foundation drainage water as sources and cooling towers as end use
- Risk assessment underway

⌘ Proposed Rulemaking Work

- Submit adopted regulations to OAL – spring 2026
- Revisions outreach



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Regulatory Updates – Division of Drinking Water

- DDW's Goal 10 is revising Title 22 regulations to incorporate [SB 31](#) from the 2025 legislative cycle. The work is not scheduled until 2027.
- Graphic below is from video of this meeting: <https://youtu.be/Zr7p-ffm-xg?t=7637>

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Summarize

Title 22 Recycled Water Updates

⌘ Background

- Senate Bill 31 amended Water Code
 - ◆ Allow public agencies to require recycled water for irrigation when available
 - ◆ Prohibit use of potable water for nonpotable uses when recycled water is available
 - ◆ Allow incidental overspray or runoff to enter outdoor eating areas when irrigated with disinfected tertiary treated water
 - ◆ Authorize adoption of necessary regulations
- Propose to adopt and amend recycled water regulations

⌘ Proposed Rulemaking Work

- *Research and Outreach – 2027+*



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Regulatory Updates – Division of Drinking Water

- DDW's Goal 5 is partly related to recycled water. Goal 5 involves changes to the Cross Connection Control Handbook
 - Graphic at right is from video of this meeting <https://youtu.be/Zr7p-ffm-xg?t=7319>
- Changes address backflow prevention for existing auxiliary water supplies and ANSI-equivalent certification.
- [Link](#) to Cross Connection Control Handbook proposed changes (April 2026)

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 Summarize

Cross-Connection Control Policy Handbook Revisions

⌘ Background

- Health and Safety Code § 116407 directed update of backflow protection and cross-connection control requirements via policy handbook
- Adopted 19 December 2023
- Effective 1 July 2024
- Revisions adopted 17 June 2025
- Changes proposed for
 - ANSI-equivalent accrediting organizations to accredit tester and specialist certification organizations
 - Backflow prevention at existing auxiliary water supplies
- Public comments due 19 February 2026

⌘ Proposed Policy Work

- Board adoption – spring 2026



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Upcoming Events

- [WateReuse](#) California Annual Conference - August 24-26, San Francisco
- Nutrient Trading Webinars / Workshop Prep on August 18 and Workshop on August 31
- Next Committee Meeting: Tuesday, October 19th, 10:30 AM (virtual)