

Collection Systems Committee

Report to BACWA Board

Committee meeting on 08/13/2026

Executive Board Meeting Date: 08/21/2026

Committee Chairs: Dana Lawson (Central San) and Tracy Heidersbach (EBMUD)

Committee Request for Board Action: None

57 attendees including BACWA staff, consultants, and representatives from 24 member agencies attended virtually.

Central San's Large Diameter Pipeline Inspection Program

[Link to slides](#)

Committee Co-Chair Dana Lawson provided an update on Central San's Large Diameter Pipeline Inspection Program. Central San is in Year 2 of a 5-year, \$11.5M comprehensive condition assessment of the District's large diameter pipes (pipes over 18 in in diameter), which total over 88 miles in length. The project is being conducted by National Plant Services and includes:

- Multi-sensor inspections (MSIs), including siphon cleaning and inspection,
- Permits, safety, flow bypasses, debris removal/testing/disposal, etc.
- Quality control
- Transmittal of all data to Central San (to load into ITPipes or store reports in Laserfiche)
- Annual reports and end-of-year workshop with Central San
 - Develop program recommendations including repairs, re-inspection schedules, etc.

The presentation described a variety of MSI tools: sonar, HD CCTV utilizing GoPro cameras, Lidar. It also detailed what seems to be most challenging type of infrastructure to inspect: siphons. Each takes 2-3 days to de-water, clean, then inspect and many larger ones were found with significant debris (likely because these pipes don't 'self-flush'). District is considering installing grit traps upstream for the most problematic locations. Condition of other large diameter pipes seemed relatively easier to inspect (contractor averaging 1,500 LF per day), except for some pipe segments with high H₂S where tools that require manned entry (like laser mounted on CCTV crawler) cannot be deployed. The presentation was very well received and was followed by a lively Q&A discussion.

BACWA Updates

- **Join BACWA's [Asset Management Committee](#):** AM Committee has been meeting regularly. We met in July and plan to meet again in September for an in-person discussion and lunch. Co-Chairs Mohammad Ghoury (West County) and Amanda Roa (Fairfield-Suisun) would welcome your participation. [Sign up](#) to join the email list.
- **SWRCB [Wastewater Needs Assessment](#)** Advisory Group met on [July 31](#). SWRCB notifications informing agencies of 'inadequate' status pushed to Fall. There are 13 collection systems on the list for Region 2. CASA is tracking this closely. Please contact alinac@lwa.com if you have questions / would like to participate in the Advisory Group.
- **PELs for Hydrogen Sulfide** CalOSHA appears to be in the early stages of a proposal to potentially reduce the permissible exposure limits (PELs) for H₂S. As part of this process, CalOSHA staff reached out to stakeholders, including collection systems agencies. Delta Diablo will meet with CalOSHA on this in the following week. The item is being discussed at the CWEA SFBS Safety Committee and will also be tracked by CASA.

Announcements / Events

- [Call for proposals](#) for CWEA 2027 Annual Conference (April 5-8, Palm Springs) is open through August 21.
- [CWEA Collection Systems Fundamentals](#) – August 25, EBMUD
- [CWEA Collection Systems Vendor Fair](#) – September 9, Antioch (free and CEUs are included)
- [CWEA Valves 101 Training](#) – September 15, Central San
- [CWEA Pump and Lift Station Maintenance Training](#) – September 22, Santa Clara
- CASA Collection Systems Workgroup meeting – September 16, virtually. Learn more [here](#).

Next Meeting: Thursday, November 5, Virtual