



GRWG

Groundwater Recharge Working Group Kick-Off Meeting | Open Session Agenda

Date and Time: October 1, 2026 | 9:00 a.m.–10:50 a.m.

Location: Registration is required for the Open Session's virtual kick-off meeting; [please register on Zoom](#). Participants will receive more Zoom meeting information once they have registered.

Meeting Details: This Open Session serves as the kick-off for the Groundwater Recharge Working Group (GRWG) and is open to members of California Water Plan (CWP) committees and groups, and the public. The Open Session will introduce the GRWG effort, provide an overview of the Senate Bill (SB) 659 Groundwater Recharge Work Plan, and solicit initial input on groundwater recharge priorities and potential recommendations.
For more information, contact: cwpcwm@water.ca.gov.

Background: The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is convening the GRWG to support development of CWP 2028 and implementation of SB 659. The GRWG will provide a focused forum for practitioners and partners with groundwater recharge expertise to help inform the development of actionable recommendations and an associated body of knowledge to advance groundwater recharge throughout California.

This meeting will launch the GRWG's process and provide an opportunity to gather input from the broader CWP community. Following the kick-off meeting, DWR will solicit recommendations for consideration and discussion during subsequent GRWG meetings.

There are four meetings planned for the GRWG. Portions of Meetings 1 and 4 will be open to members of CWP committees and groups, and the public. Meetings 2 and 3 will only include GRWG members.



Agenda

Meeting Objectives:

- Understand the purpose of SB 659 and how it and other groundwater information fits within the CWP.
- Understand the GRWG's role in guiding SB 659 implementation.
- Seek input on opportunities to advance recharge.
- Identify studies, data, and resources to inform development of groundwater recharge recommendations.

9:00 a.m. **Welcome and Agenda Overview**

Speakers: Mark Nordberg, Senior Engineering Geologist, DWR; Vanessa Nishikawa, Lead Facilitator, Stantec

9:05 a.m. **Opening Remarks**

Speakers: Joel Metzger, Deputy Director, DWR; Paul Gosselin, Deputy Director, DWR; Mark Nordberg, Senior Engineering Geologist, DWR

9:20 a.m. **Connection between California Water Plan and Sustainable Groundwater Management and Recharge**

Speakers: Eric Tsai, Principal Engineer, DWR; Steven Springhorn, Supervising Engineering Geologist, DWR

9:50 a.m. **DWR's Approach to Implementing SB 659**

Speaker: Jose Alarcon, Supervising Engineer, DWR

10:00 a.m. **SB 659 Report: Opportunities, Roadblocks, and Recommendations**

Speakers: Mark Nordberg, Senior Engineering Geologist, DWR; Steven Springhorn, Supervising Engineering Geologist, DWR; Holly Stanitsas, Assistant Facilitator, Stantec

10:30 a.m. **Wrap-Up and Next Steps**

Speakers: Vanessa Nishikawa, Lead Facilitator, Stantec; Holly Stanitsas, Assistant Facilitator, Stantec; Mark Nordberg, Senior Engineering Geologist, DWR

10:50 a.m. **Adjourn**



For questions or more information
about the event, please email
cwpcom@water.ca.gov



For more information on
California Water Plan 2028, please visit:
<https://www.californiawaterplan.com/>