



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
Division of Water Quality: Ocean Standards Unit
2022 Sea Grant Fellow

HOST APPLICATION

1. Host Location and Contact Information:
State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality
California Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Building, 15th Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.waterboards.ca.gov
2. Fellowship Supervisor:
Katherine Walsh, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor
Ocean Standards Unit Chief
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(916) 445-2317
3. Point of Contact for California Sea Grant, Prospective Fellows, and Finalists:
Katherine Walsh
4. Position Description:
The State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) was created by the Legislature in 1967. Our mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Ocean Standards Unit is a part of the State Water Board's Division of Water Quality. The Ocean Standards Unit is responsible for developing and amending statewide water quality control plans, policies, and standards involving marine waters. This includes the [Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California](#) (Ocean Plan), the [Water Quality Control Plan for Control of Coastal and Interstate Waters and Enclosed Bays and Estuaries of California](#) (Thermal Plan), and the

[Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling](#) (Once-Through Cooling Policy). The Ocean Standards Unit also administers the Public Beach Safety Program to monitor pathogen contamination at ocean beaches, participates in marine invasive species issues from vessel ballast water discharges, and provides scientific support and inter-agency coordination regarding marine pollution and resource management issues.

Under the general direction of the Ocean Standards Unit supervisor, the Sea Grant Fellow (Fellow) will perform complex analyses involved in the development and implementation of statewide policies, plans, and standards to ensure the continued protection of ocean and estuarine water quality. The Fellow will use scientific principles and research to formulate recommendations to management and State Water Board Members on the development of beneficial uses of ocean waters, appropriately protective water quality objectives, and implementation programs.

The Fellow will have an opportunity to gain experience working on a variety of projects and ocean issues. The Fellow may be involved in developing amendments to the Ocean Plan identified in the [2019 Ocean Plan Review](#), including developing an amendment to address ocean acidification and hypoxia and developing an amendment to incorporate tribal beneficial uses of ocean waters (e.g., tribal cultural and subsistence uses). The Fellow may also assist with implementation of the Once-Through Cooling Policy, including developing [determinations to mitigate interim impacts to marine life](#) from facilities that continue to use ocean waters for power plant cooling.

In working on amendments to the Ocean Plan and other water quality plans and policies, the fellow's duties may involve all phases of the public planning process, including literature reviews of scientific studies, California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) scoping, discussion with interested parties to identify possible alternatives for action, preparation of environmental documentation, preparation for public meetings, response to public comments, preparation of recommendations to the Board, and preparation of the administrative record for any changes that the Board adopts.

The fellow will also perform other duties, as assigned, to support the Ocean Standards Unit and the Division of Water Quality, such as providing scientific guidance on issues related to ocean water quality, facilitating stakeholder engagement, and participating in inter-agency working groups, such as the Marine Protected Areas Statewide Leadership Team. In performing these duties, the Fellow will interact with interested agency staff, stakeholders and the general public in a courteous and helpful manner. The Fellow is responsible for the quantity, quality, and timeliness of work assigned.

Skills or attributes we seek include:

- Ability to perform complex scientific analysis and communicate findings to technical staff, managers, and the general public.

- Strong interest in policies, standards, and regulations.
- Strong interest in the intersections of water quality, environmental justice, and racial equity.
- Ability to lead groups of people, often with divergent views on how to move forward on a particular issue.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- A problem solver with strong personal initiative and the ability to work well under minimal supervision.



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
Division of Water Quality, Sustainable Water Plans and Policies

2022 Sea Grant Fellow

HOST APPLICATION

1. Host Location and Contact Information:
State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality, Sustainable Water Plans and Policies
California Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Building
1001 I Street, 15th Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.waterboards.ca.gov
2. Fellowship Supervisor:
Laura McLellan, Senior Environmental Scientist
Recycled Water and Desalination Unit Chief
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3. Point of Contact for California Sea Grant, Prospective Fellows, and Finalists:
Laura McLellan, Senior Environmental Scientist
Recycled Water and Desalination Unit Chief
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(916) 319-8288
and
Claire Waggoner, Environmental Program Manager
Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section Chief
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(916) 341-5882
4. Position Description:
The State Water Resources Control Board is a regulatory agency whose mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

In the Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section in the Division of Water Quality, the Sea Grant Fellow (Fellow) will use scientific principles to develop and implement impactful statewide water quality plans and policies, including plans and policies relating to seawater desalination, stormwater capture, recycled water, and constituents of emerging concern (i.e., new or unregulated potential contaminants such as those found in pharmaceuticals, personal care products, and microplastics). The Fellow will work in multidisciplinary teams on projects including:

- Implementing and developing science-based policy recommendations to amend the seawater desalination provisions of the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan) to minimize marine life impacts from proposed seawater desalination facilities;
- Developing statewide policy for the management of urban pesticides to minimize their impact on coastal and inland surface waters, and creating a nimble statewide monitoring program for urban pesticides in urban-adjacent waters that can react to changes in the pesticide;
- Developing a comprehensive, flexible statewide Constituents of Emerging Concern strategy to bring the state into a new paradigm of chemical management for addressing emerging contaminants, filling critical data gaps, and taking appropriate actions to protect water quality and the environment;
- Implementing the Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water, which promotes the use of recycled water as a sustainable water supply; and
- Developing and managing research grants to fill critical knowledge gaps to advance the production and use of recycled water in California.

The Fellow may also work on other projects in the Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section, including the State Water Board's Stormwater Strategy, and Per- and Polyfluoroalkyl Substances (PFAS) Strategy teams.

Throughout the fellowship, the Fellow will apply their scientific background and experience to develop and implement science-based water quality plans and policies, engage with stakeholders, respond to public comments, author technical reports, and engage in intra- and interagency collaboration (e.g., with regional water boards, Ocean Protection Council, Coastal Commission, State Lands Commission, Fish and Wildlife, Department of Water Resources, Department of Pesticide Regulation, etc.). Our goal is for the Fellow to experience as many facets of the State Water Board as possible while working on projects that will have lasting statewide impact to protect water quality and the environment. The fellowship is an excellent introduction to a career at the Water Boards, and many of our Fellows have gone on to full-time positions within the agency.

We are looking for a Fellow that has:

- Skill and experience working in a highly collaborative team setting.
- Ability to conduct scientific analysis to inform policy development.
- Strong written and verbal communication skills.
- Interest or experience in marine biology, oceanography, chemistry, toxicology, and environmental science.
- Ability to engage with diverse stakeholders who may not agree on scientific, technical, or policy recommendations.
- Self-starting initiative to identify project needs and work collaboratively with minimal supervision.



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
Office of Information Management and Analysis (OIMA)

2022 Sea Grant Fellow

HOST APPLICATION

1. Host Location and Contact Information:
State Water Resources Control Board, Office of Information Management and Analysis
California Environmental Protection Agency Headquarters Building, 19th Floor
1001 I Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.waterboards.ca.gov
2. Fellowship Supervisor:
Ali Dunn, Senior Environmental Scientist Supervisor
Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program Unit Chief
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3. Point of Contact for California Sea Grant, Prospective Fellows, and Finalists:
Ali Dunn
4. Position Description:
The State Water Resources Control Board is a regulatory agency whose mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources and drinking water for the protection of the environment, public health, and all beneficial uses, and to ensure proper water resource allocation and efficient use, for the benefit of present and future generations.

Under the general direction of the of the [Surface Water Ambient Monitoring Program \(SWAMP\)](#) Unit senior, the Sea Grant Fellow (Fellow) will apply data science practices to perform complex analysis, interpretation and visualization of environmental data collected by Water Board Programs, including SWAMP, and partner agencies to inform water quality managers and the public. The SWAMP Unit is part of the State Water Board's [Office of Information Management and Analysis](#), home of the [College of Water Informatics](#).

SWAMP's purpose is to inform management decisions and improve the efficiency and effectiveness of Water Board actions (permits, policies, resource management and other activities). Its monitoring programs collect hundreds of chemical, physical and biological samples each year in primarily freshwater and some marine environments. Duties may include coordinating with partner agencies and programs, data analysis and interpretation, data visualization and communication, field sampling and logistics, participating in monitoring study design, meeting facilitation, organization and notetaking, adding content to the [My Water Quality Portals](#), presentation of findings to both technical and lay audiences, and incorporating racial equity and environmental justice principles and practices into their work.

The Fellow will also perform other duties, as assigned, to support the SWAMP Unit and the Office of Information Management and Analysis, such as community engagement event planning and participation, trash and macroplastic monitoring in marine and freshwater environments, or assistance with [healthy watershed assessments](#). In performing these duties, the Fellow will interact with interested agency staff, stakeholders and the general public in a courteous and helpful manner. The Fellow is responsible for the quantity, quality, and timeliness of work assigned.

Skills or attributes we seek include:

- Ability to perform complex scientific analysis and communicate findings to technical staff, managers, and the general public.
- Strong interest in the mechanics of utilizing science to inform public policy.
- Strong interest in the intersections of water, data, environmental justice, and racial equity
- Ability to lead groups of people, often with divergent views on how to move forward on a particular issue.
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills.
- A problem solver with strong personal initiative and the ability to work well under minimal supervision.