



State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF PUBLIC WEBINAR REGARDING THE UPDATING WATER RIGHTS DATA FOR CALIFORNIA (UPWARD) PROJECT

State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) staff will hold an informational public webinar to discuss the Updating Water Rights Data for California (UPWARD) project. Board staff will describe the motivations for UPWARD, details of the various components of the project, and anticipated timelines and opportunities for public feedback. Details of the public webinar are as follows:

Friday, May 19, 2023

10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. PST

Remote Participation Only

Register at bit.ly/UPWARD_May19

PARTICIPATION INFORMATION

To participate in the webinar, please register at bit.ly/UPWARD_May19. You will receive an email with instructions on how to join. Questions and comments will be accepted during the webinar. This webinar will be recorded, and the recording will be posted on the UPWARD [webpage](#).

If you have any questions regarding how to participate in the webinar, please email UPWARD@waterboards.ca.gov.

WEBINAR PURPOSE

The State Water Board's UPWARD project will modernize the Board's water rights data and information management. This is the Board's first public webinar to discuss UPWARD with the public. Board staff will describe the background and motivation for UPWARD, provide details about the components of UPWARD (e.g., the new information management system, digitization of legacy paper documents), and discuss the anticipated timeline and opportunities for public input.

BACKGROUND

California water right holders are required to report information to the Board about their

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water use and the methods they use to divert water from streams. This information provides the foundation for data-driven water management decisions, which are becoming increasingly important to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the people and natural resources of our state.

The state's current water rights data system lacks the basic functionality to collect high-quality water use data, streamline and guide reporters through the reporting process, and ensure open and transparent public access to water information. Furthermore, millions of water rights records (dating back to the late 1800s) are stuck in paper format and cannot be accessed online.

In 2021, the Board initiated the UPWARD project to remedy the impacts of this aging data system, improve data processes, and advance the state's ability to collect, manage, and provide water rights data to the public, as called for by the California Water Resilience Portfolio and the California Water Supply Strategy. UPWARD is creating a modern electronic content management system that streamlines water rights online reporting processes and guides users through the system, step-by-step. This GIS-driven data system will help water right holders, staff, and the public find and access water rights records, including providing access to digitized records currently stored on paper. The new system will also accept real-time telemetric water use data. Specific details about system capabilities will be available as development progresses.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Please visit the State Water Board's [UPWARD webpage](https://waterboards.ca.gov/upward/) (waterboards.ca.gov/upward/) for continued updates on UPWARD.

HOW TO RECEIVE UPDATES

If you would like to receive email updates, please [sign up](#) for the State Water Board's "UPWARD Information" email subscription list available at the bottom of the [webpage](#).

QUESTIONS

Please email questions regarding this notice and related efforts to UPWARD@waterboards.ca.gov.