



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

2023 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 Senior
laura.mclellan@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 319-8288
3. Point of Contact for California Sea Grant, Prospective Fellows, and Finalists:
Laura McLellan, Senior Environmental Scientist
Recycled Water and Desalination Unit Senior
laura.mclellan@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 319-8288
and
Claire Waggoner, Environmental Program Manager
Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section Manager
claire.waggoner@waterboards.ca.gov
(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/or 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.