



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
2020 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
katherine.walsh@waterboards.ca.gov
(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 was created by the Legislature in 1967. Our mission is to preserve, enhance, and restore the quality of California's water resources, and ensure their proper allocation and efficient use for the benefit of present and future generations.

The Sea Grant Fellow will primarily work on projects in the Ocean Standards Unit, which is one of several units under the Surface Water Quality Standards and Assessment Section. The unit is responsible for developing and updating 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 implementation of the *Water Quality Control Policy on the Use of Coastal and Estuarine Waters for Power Plant Cooling* (Once-Through Cooling Policy). The unit also manages the 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 supervisor of the Ocean Standards Unit, the Sea Grant Fellow will perform complex analyses involved in the development and implementation of state policies and plans for the protection of ocean, estuarine, and inland surface waters. In performing these duties, the fellow shall 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.

The Ocean Standards Unit is dynamic with several priority projects currently under development. The fellow may be involved in developing amendments to the Ocean Plan identified in the 2019 Ocean Plan Review, developing protections for areas of special biological significance, amending and implementing the Once-Through Cooling Water Policy, and coordinating beach bacteria water quality assessment.

In working on Ocean Plan amendments 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. The working environment is primarily an office environment with limited opportunities for field visits.



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
2020 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 (Supervisor)
Recycled Water, Desalination, and Constituents of Emerging Concern Unit Chief
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 Supervisor
Recycled Water, Desalination, and Constituents of Emerging Concern Unit Chief
laura.mclellan@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 319-8288
and
Claire Waggoner, Environmental Program Manager
Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section Chief
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.

The Sea Grant Fellow will have the opportunity to work on a broad suite of water quality issues, including recycled water, seawater desalination, and contaminants of emerging concern in the Recycled Water, Desalination, and Constituents of Emerging Concern Unit under the Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section in the Division of Water Quality. The Sea Grant Fellow would work in multidisciplinary teams on projects including: implementing the Water Quality Control Policy for Recycled Water that promotes the safe reliable use of potable and non-potable recycled water as a sustainable water supply; developing and managing recycled water research grants to fill critical research gaps to support the increase and production and use of recycled water in California; implementing and potentially amending the seawater desalination provisions of the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan) that promote desalination as a water supply option while protecting of all forms of marine life; and developing and implementing the Constituents of Emerging Concern Initiative to develop a statewide strategy to address emerging contaminants. The Sea Grant Fellow may also work on other projects in the Sustainable Water Plans and Policies Section, including the State Water Board's Stormwater Strategy or per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) team.

Throughout the State Water Board Sustainable Water Plans and Policies fellowship, the Sea Grant Fellow would apply their scientific background and experience to develop and implement scientifically-sound water quality plans and policies, engage with stakeholders, respond to public comments, and develop technical reports. This includes opportunities for the Sea Grant Fellow to develop professional skills and experience in: a variety of technical subject matters, policy-making, stakeholder outreach, and intra- and interagency collaboration (e.g., with regional water boards, Coastal Commission, State Lands Commission, Fish and Wildlife, Department of Water Resources, Department of Pesticide Regulation, etc.). Our goal is to expose the Sea Grant Fellow to as many facets of the State Water Board as possible while also ensuring that over the one-year fellowship, the Sea Grant Fellow works on a project that will have a statewide impact to protect water quality and beneficial uses.



STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
2020 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
ali.dunn@waterboards.ca.gov
(916) 319 - 8458
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 [Water Board Data Center](#).

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 both freshwater and marine environments. The Fellow will be the SWAMP Unit's main point of contact for marine studies and will be involved in multiple phases of the SWAMP [Coastal Fish Survey](#), the [National Coastal Condition Assessment \(NCCA\)](#) and other coastal monitoring programs (including monitoring required by Water Board permits and other regulatory actions). Duties will include participating in monitoring study design, field sampling and logistics, meeting organization and notetaking, coordinating with partner programs, data analysis and interpretation, data visualization and communication, adding content to the [My Water Quality Portals](#), and presentation of findings to both technical and lay audiences.

The Fellow will also perform other duties, as assigned, to support the SWAMP Unit and the Office of Information Management and Analysis, such as rapid trash assessment method development 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.
- 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.