

May 15, 2025

Contact: Paul Cambra
(916) 873-5774
paul.cambra@cwcc.ca.gov

Pulling off a pulse flow: Collaborative process explained at May meeting of the California Water Commission

Also on the agenda, two project proponents in the
Water Storage Investment Program to provide updates

At its May meeting, the California Water Commission will hear from staff at the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) about how Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) projects support the environment through carefully timed water releases called pulse flows.

Pulse flows are surges of water released at just the right time to help young Chinook salmon migrate downstream and survive. These flows come from Lake Oroville and improve conditions in the river for fish and other wildlife.

Three WSIP-funded projects — the [Chino Basin Program](#), [Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project](#), and [Willow Springs Water Bank Conjunctive Use Project](#) — will provide these pulse flows. Making this happen involves complex water trades and agreements between different groups, which state agencies will explain at the meeting.

WSIP was created using \$2.7 billion from Proposition 1, approved by voters in 2014. The California Water Commission manages the program, which funds water storage projects that deliver public benefits like improved conditions for fish and wildlife.

The meeting is open to the public and will also be streamed online.

California Water Commission meeting

When: 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, May 21

Where: California Natural Resources Building
715 P Street, Sacramento, 95814

Info: (916) 873-5774, www.cwcc.ca.gov

The meeting will be live streamed at www.water-ca.com

To comment remotely, [Zoom](#) login information can be found on the [public participation guide](#).

Also on the May meeting agenda, DWR will seek the Commission's approval to advance an eminent domain action in the Salton Sea Species Conservation Habitat Expansion Project. The Commission will

consider the public interest and greater good of the project before potentially voting on a Resolution of Necessity that would allow the action to commence.

In addition, representatives of the Inland Empire Utilities Agency, project proponent for the [Chino Basin Program](#), and Valley Water, project proponent for the [Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project](#), will update the Commission on the progress of their projects in the WSIP.

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The nine-member California Water Commission uses its public forum to explore water management issues from multiple perspectives and to formulate recommendations to advise the director of the California Department of Water Resources, and as appropriate, the California Natural Resources Agency, the Governor and the California State Legislature on ways to improve water planning and management in response to California's changing hydrology. For more information regarding the California Water Commission, visit cwc.ca.gov.