

## Healthy river, healthy water supply

If you listen to the babble of the Mokelumne River, you'll hear the songs of life. Birds, trees, wildlife, and fish sing in harmony with the ripples and wakes of fresh water. This river is the source of the East Bay's drinking water and EBMUD is on a daily mission to keep its vibrant song alive and healthy.

### A healthy river ecosystem means high-quality water

EBMUD works to protect the ecosystem of the Mokelumne River watershed in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. By working with public and private landowners, the U.S. Forest Service, and fellow water agencies through the Upper Mokelumne River Watershed Authority, EBMUD helps to restore forests and meadows, ensure a balanced water supply and limit activities that can hurt the land, water or wildlife.

When the disastrous Butte Fire destroyed nearly all vegetation on a portion of the river watershed in 2015, we organized staff and volunteer efforts to re-seed and protect the raw ground. These efforts helped control erosion on public and private land that drains into the river. Soon, we'll support the CalFauna Foundation to plant native sugar pines, ponderosa pines and sequoia seedlings in the area as well. We work arm-in-arm with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Marine Fisheries Service, and others to guide reservoir and river operations to support a very successful salmon fishery in the lower Mokelumne River.

### Success shows

Our collective success at implementing a whole suite of watershed management practices shows. Water quality up and down the river is good for humans, fish and wildlife. With CDFW, we operate a fish hatchery to enhance the natural production of Chinook salmon and steelhead trout. Populations of California tiger salamander, an endangered species, are expanding due to habitat enhancement and improvement projects on EBMUD watershed lands along the Mokelumne River.

This year, EBMUD and our river partners celebrated a great milestone—a record Chinook salmon return of 20,000 fish on the Mokelumne River—the highest return since record-keeping began in 1940. Thank you for supporting EBMUD partnerships in our mission to protect the land and water that give us life.



See these partnerships in action. Visit the Mokelumne River Day Use Area or take a tour of the Mokelumne River Fish Hatchery, managed by EBMUD and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife. For more info visit [ebmud.com/fishhatcherytour](http://ebmud.com/fishhatcherytour)

# I ♥ My Garden

Do you HEART your WaterSmart garden? If you're an EBMUD customer who has traded a thirsty lawn for a low-water landscape, it's time to flaunt your flora.

To enter the "I ♥ My Garden" photo challenge, upload before and after images of your landscape and tell us what makes it so special. Then get ready to vote for:

- Most Inspiring DIY design
- Most Colorful
- Most Bountiful Edible Landscape
- Most Dramatic Change
- Most in Harmony with Nature
- People's Choice Award

Learn more about contest rules at [ebmud.com/heartmygarden](http://ebmud.com/heartmygarden)

## National Fix a Leak Week

Don't have a garden at home? Celebrate with us throughout March. Look for EBMUD displays at local hardware stores to learn how you can find and fix common leaks inside your home. Some repairs can be completed within a few minutes and can save you tremendous amounts of water (and money).

## WaterSmart Business Certification

If you're a business owner, show your brilliance with a WaterSmart Business Certificate. For more information, visit [ebmud.com/watersmartbusiness](http://ebmud.com/watersmartbusiness)



# Always prepared

There's no mistaking that rumble in the earth. Earthquakes snap us out of the calm we mostly take for granted and shake us into a new reality: response mode.

The good news is EBMUD is prepared. For decades, we've been strengthening our vital water and wastewater systems to better withstand earthquakes. We seismically upgrade pipelines and facilities; conduct emergency exercises and trainings; participate in scientific research studies and build partnerships that improve both our infrastructure and our staff response.

We don't just put pipes in the ground; we study them first, enlisting academic researchers and materials experts to pilot new seismic-resistant pipes. We are focused on replacing cast-iron and asbestos cement pipes, which are more likely to break. And we're moving large transmission pipelines—like the 24-inch Dingee and Summit Pressure Zone Pipelines—out of the Hayward Fault Zone.

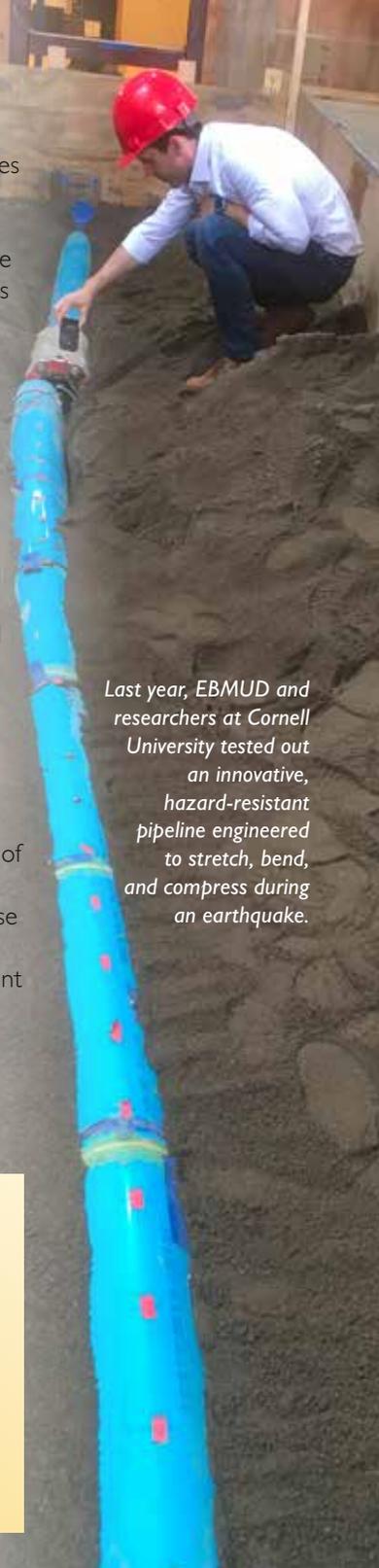
We don't just upgrade critical infrastructure to endure heavy shaking; we inspect it routinely and monitor it closely. Our dams now have automated GPS-based monitoring systems for improved accuracy.

We don't just say we'll come to work in the aftermath of a quake; we practice it. Hands-on exercises build muscle memory as we go through the motions to set up response teams and mobilize mutual aid.

Even with all this preparation, we know we can't prevent all damage. That's why we work with cities and counties, fire and police departments, other utilities, and state and federal agencies to plan and think through response together. So if and when The Big One hits, you can trust that EBMUD and our partners are prepared.

On January 4th, just before 3 a.m., a 4.4 magnitude earthquake centered in Berkeley rocked the Bay Area. By sunrise, EBMUD employees had already inspected our dams and other critical infrastructure to confirm they were unaffected by the quake. You too can be prepared for emergencies. Learn more at [ebmud.com/customers/emergency-preparedness](http://ebmud.com/customers/emergency-preparedness) Sign up for public safety alerts in Alameda County at [acgov.org/emergencysite](http://acgov.org/emergencysite) or Contra Costa County at [www.cwsalerts.com](http://www.cwsalerts.com)

*Last year, EBMUD and researchers at Cornell University tested out an innovative, hazard-resistant pipeline engineered to stretch, bend, and compress during an earthquake.*



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## EBMUD Mission Statement

To manage the natural resources with which the District is entrusted; to provide reliable, high-quality water and wastewater services at fair and reasonable rates for the people of the East Bay; and to preserve and protect the environment for future generations.

Follow us

