



**2022 Annual Review of the State Water Project (Action Item)**

**Introduction**

Water Code section 165 requires the California Water Commission to conduct an annual review of the construction and operation of the State Water Project and to report its findings and recommendations to the Director of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and the State Legislature (Legislature). In 2022, DWR made 10 presentations to the Commission centered around the theme of preparing for climate extremes – ensuring a reliable State Water Project to meet the challenges of drought, flood, and wildfire. These presentations utilized the Commission’s public forum to help the public stay informed of DWR’s efforts. They also provided the basis of the recommendations contained in the Commission’s 2022 Annual Review of the State Water Project regarding its operation. The 2022 Annual Review of the State Water Project highlights drought response and planning, climate change and wildfire response planning, improvements in forecasting, updates to the Delivery Capability Report, the annual budget, multi-year planning and asset management, and major construction projects underway.

At this meeting, Commission staff will present the 2022 Annual Review of the State Water Project for Commission consideration and approval. If approved, staff will distribute the review to DWR and the Legislature to fulfill its statutory obligation under Water Code section 165.

**Background**

The California State Water Project consists of 36 water storage facilities and 700 miles of rivers, pipelines and canals. It also supplies water to 27 million people and irrigates 750,000 acres of farmland. The system includes 21 pumping plants, powered by a system of power-generation and power-recovery plants. DWR also operates the world’s tallest water lift – the Edmonston Pumping Plant – which pumps water more than 1,900 feet up and over the Tehachapi Mountains into Southern California.

Goal Two of the Commission’s Strategic Plan directs the Commission to remain apprised of the operations and construction activities of the State Water Project, focusing on how it adapts and responds to hydrological extremes expected with climate change, restores critical ecosystems, and addresses aging infrastructure. The 2022 Annual Review of the State Water Project implements this goal.

**Meeting Overview**

Paul Cambra, the Commission’s Public Information Officer, will present the 2022 Annual Review of the State Water Project, focusing on the Commission’s findings and recommendations. The Commission may approve the report as written, approve with direction for minor edits, or delay

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approval until staff makes additional edits. Once approved, staff will distribute the document to DWR and the Legislature.

This is an action item.

**Contact**

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