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Building a Water Resilient California

California Water Commission

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DWR's MISSION



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.





Building a Water Resilient California

“The state must protect the state’s largest supply of water as well as invest in local projects. Under Governor Newsom’s leadership, California has proposed a broad new portfolio approach that prioritizes conservation, recycling, groundwater management, and much more, which will build the resilience of local water systems across the state.”

— Governor Newsom’s Water Resilience Portfolio (July 2020)





3 of 5 Californians Depend on Water that Flows Through the Delta

The Delta is where rain and snowmelt from the Sierra Nevada mountains collect. It is where the state's main water distribution infrastructure — the State Water Project (SWP) — is located, distributing essential fresh water to homes, businesses and farmlands throughout California, allowing our state to become the 5th largest economy in the world.

State Water Project

2/3 of California's water originates in the Sierra Nevada mountains

50% of California's water supply flows through the Delta

29 State Water Contractors purchase and distribute water through the SWP

27m people receive clean, affordable water from the SWP

Millions of people in disadvantaged communities depend on the SWP as an affordable water supply

750k acres of farmland are irrigated with SWP water

\$5 trillion California's economy that is sustained by a reliable water supply





DWR's SWP Water Reaches Taps and Farms Throughout California

High-quality, affordable water supplied by the SWP through the Delta is a primary source of water security for regions throughout California.



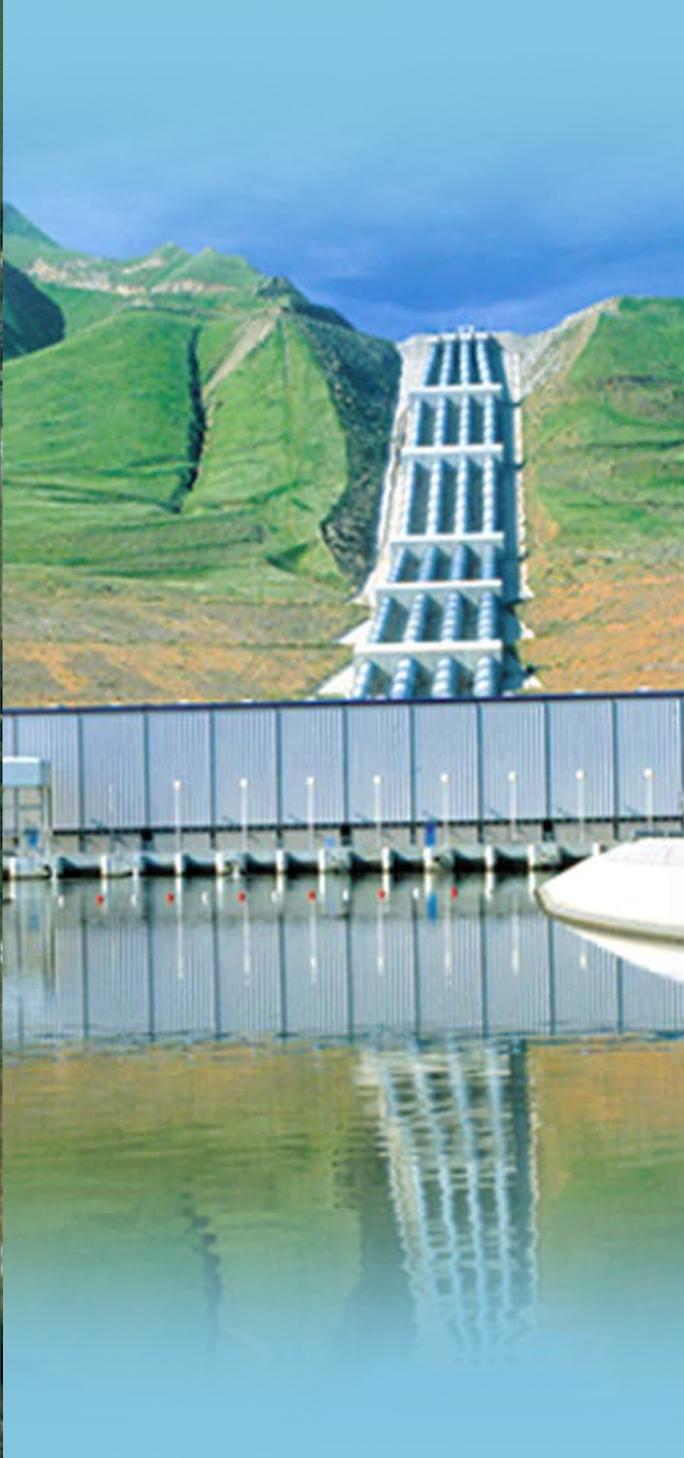
Percentage of Regional Water Supplies Dependent on Reliable Delta Infrastructure

11%	North Bay
33%	South Bay
25-33%	Central Valley
47%	Central Coast
28%	Inland Empire
30%	Southern California
30%	Desert Communities



Local Water Resiliency Depends on a Reliable SWP

- DWR's SWP is an important foundation for an entire suite of water supply and resiliency programs implemented by local water agencies, including:
 - Local storage
 - Recycling
 - Conservation
 - Groundwater recharge
 - Water quality management
 - Safety
- Continued stability of the SWP helps agencies develop and maintain these important programs and provides a high-quality source for blending with local sources.





Time to Modernize is Now – Risks are Mounting

The infrastructure that protects, collects and moves water throughout California to individual communities in many instances is outdated and at risk. A major disruption would result in a catastrophic public health crisis.

Primary risks to Delta conveyance infrastructure and State water delivery systems are:



Seismic activity and risk of major earthquake



Climate change and sea level rise



Subsidence of Delta islands and Central Valley



Future Reliability & Sustainability

Purpose

- Assess climate vulnerability and implement action plans for future planning
- Improve watershed management practices and use of Green Infrastructure
- Improve dependability through improved forecasting
- Modernize the aging SWP infrastructure including Delta conveyance

Today's Presentations

- ❖ Implementing DWR's Climate Action Adaptation Plan – *Peter Coombe, Jennifer Morales, Romain Maendly*
- ❖ Green Infrastructure/Upper Watershed Management – *Steve Rothert*
- ❖ Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations – *John Leahigh*
- ❖ Delta Conveyance – *Carrie Buckman*

Consistent with the State's Water Resilience Portfolio



A Water Resilient California

Thank you for the opportunity to present these four important initiatives to ensure a dependable, sustainable, and resilient water future for all Californians.

