



Update on the Quantification of Public Benefits project

Background

The Safe Clean and Reliable Drinking Water Supply Act of 2012 requires the California Water Commission to:

In consultation with the Department of Fish and Game, the State Water Resources Control Board, and the department, the commission shall develop and adopt, by regulation, methods for quantification and management of public benefits described in Section 79743 by December 15, 2012. (Water Code 79744)

NOTE: Although this section of the Water Code will not become operative until approved by voters in November 2012, DWR has begun research and analytical work in order to meet the deadline should the bond be approved. It is further intended that the work will provide useful information, policy guidance, and direction to support other possible State activities in the future related to identifying and quantifying public benefits for water storage projects, such as other state bonds or infrastructure investment programs.

A team, including staff from DWR, the Department of Fish and Game, and the State Water Resources Control Board, has been working on the development of these regulations. At its January 2012 meeting, the Commission received a briefing on a draft report on the "Description and Screening of Potential Tools and Methods to Quantify Public Benefits for Water Storage Projects." At this meeting, the Commission will hear an update on public comments on the report, the status of work on draft regulations and guidelines, and next steps in the process. The Commission will also hear from the State Water Board on the development of their priorities for the public benefits of water supply projects. Department of Fish and Game will not be able to attend this meeting, however they have provided a briefing document for the Commission.

Attachments

Draft State Water Resources Control Board Priorities for Public Benefits of Water Supply Projects
Department of Fish and Game's Briefing for the California Water Commission

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