



Update on Integrated Water Management Summit

Background

The California Water Commission has been invited to partner with the California Department of Water Resources and the Water Education Foundation to host the 2013 Integrated Water Management (IWM) Summit & Integrated Regional Water Management Conference, a three day event to be held in Sacramento on April 3-5, 2013. The exact role of the Commission and members will be further defined and presented in the coming weeks.

The event will consist of two parts: A half-day summit (April 3) which will gather leaders from water, government, agriculture, environment, academia and educational foundations, for robust discussions related to IWM topics including water supply, flood management, environmental protection, policy, business, technology and academia. The purpose is to highlight and build support for the need to improve public infrastructure, ecosystems, public safety, and water supply reliability in California using an integrated and sustainable approach, including public financing.

The summit will be followed by a larger two-day conference (April 4-5) where aspects of the IWM approach, including regionalized project prioritization and finance/cost share strategies, will be discussed in more detail with important staff-level partners.

Day one of the conference will explore how these groups plan to work together in the future to ensure the success of an IWM approach and allow for discussions of financing for IWM initiatives, as well as concepts for tracking and reporting of future progress. Day two will begin discussions to identify key strategies to continue implementing IWM successfully on a regional level and to share regional challenges, success stories, and lessons learned for the advancement of additional programs across the state. Conversations will focus on ways to address specific issues, such as navigating financial and limited staff resource hurdles, and contributing to the development of the *Strategic Plan for the Future of Integrated Regional Water Management in California*.

Agenda Item: 12

Meeting Date: January 16, 2013

Page 2

Both events underscore the state's commitment to a sustainable and more integrated approach to water management and will bring partners together to foster dialogue and increase understanding about how IWM applies to unique work objectives. The events also provide an opportunity to highlight the extensive work underway to improve water infrastructure, public safety, water supply reliability, and the state's ecosystem, and to position California as a national leader on water management issues.

Contact

Sue Sims

Executive Officer

California Water Commission

(916) 653-5544