



**Briefing on Biodiversity Council Proposal for Agency Alignment**

**Background**

The California Biodiversity Council's purpose is to improve cooperation between resource management and environmental protection organizations at federal, state, and local levels. The Council is co-chaired by Secretary for Natural Resources John Laird and Bureau of Land Management State Director Jim Kenna and consists of 42 members, including 20 state agencies, 12 federal agencies, and 10 local governments. The Biodiversity Council is interested in Water Commission's continued participation in its activities.

On February 6, 2013, Executive Officer Sue Sims attended the Council's meeting at UC Davis. The Council discussed methods for strengthening member agency programs, plans, policies and regulations, and adopted a Resolution for Strengthening Agency Alignment for Natural Resource Conservation.

The Biodiversity Council's resolution calls for the formation of an interagency committee to coordinate these alignment activities. The Committee may also choose to coordinate development of broad conservation goals for agencies such as priority areas for conservation, a comprehensive planning calendar, a library/inventory of agency documents, procedures for coordinating grant applications, and other issue-specific work.

Kamyar Guivetchi, who represents the Department of Water Resources on the Council, will make a presentation to the Commission.

**Contact**

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