

**Public Benefits of Water Storage Projects
Identified in Water Code §79743**

The proposed water bond would provide some level of funding for water storage projects based on the public benefits they would provide. The statute lists five types of public benefits:

- 1. Ecosystem improvements* include changing the timing of water diversions, improvement in flow conditions, temperature, or other benefits that contribute to restoration of aquatic ecosystems and native fish and wildlife, including those ecosystems and fish and wildlife in the Delta.
- 2. Water quality improvements* include improvements in the Delta, or in other river systems, that provide significant public trust resources, or that clean up and restore groundwater resources.
- 3. Flood control benefits* include, but are not limited to, increases in flood reservation space in existing reservoirs by exchange for existing or increased water storage capacity in response to the effects of changing hydrology and decreasing snow pack on California's water and flood management system.
- 4. Emergency response* includes, but is not limited to, securing emergency water supplies and flows for dilution and salinity repulsion following a natural disaster or act of terrorism.
- 5. Recreational purposes* include but are not limited to those recreational pursuits generally associated with the outdoors.