



**Status of Survey to Identify Near-Term Opportunities to Improve State and Regional  
Water Storage, Reliability, and Operational Efficiency**

**Background**

Earlier this year, the Water Commission partnered with the Association of California Water Agencies, the Delta Stewardship Council, and the Department of Water Resources to survey of local agencies regarding potential water projects and programs that could, within the next 5-10 years, add new or expand existing surface or groundwater storage capacity, improve water supply reliability and improve operational efficiency. The goal is to identify a comprehensive inventory of projects that can contribute to improved flood protection, water supply reliability, hydroelectric generation, ecosystem health, water quality and recreation.

The Commission, Delta Stewardship Council and many other agencies and organizations have identified an urgent need in nearly all parts of the state to improve water system reliability and provide adequate water for environmental purposes, especially in dry years. By surveying local public water agencies, the Commission and ACWA are collecting information to help ongoing planning efforts and support integrated water planning. Once a statewide survey of possible storage locations is complete, the Delta Plan calls on DWR and the Commission to evaluate and prioritize projects.

Randy Fiorini, Chairman of the Delta Stewardship Council will speak to the Commission about the project. Danielle Blacet, ACWA Special Projects Manager will discuss the results of the survey. Commission staff will be prepared to outline proposed next steps for the project.

***Delta Plan Recommendation WR R14:*** *The Department of Water Resources, in coordination with the California Water Commission, Bureau of Reclamation, State Water Resources Control Board, California Department of Public Health, the Delta Stewardship Council, and other agencies and stakeholders, should conduct a survey to identify projects throughout California that could be implemented within the next 5 to 10 years to expand existing surface and groundwater storage facilities, create new storage, improve operation of existing Delta conveyance facilities, and enhance opportunities for conjunctive use programs and water transfers in furtherance of the coequal goals. The California Water Commission should hold hearings and provide recommendations to DWR on priority projects and funding*

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