



Briefing on California Water Plan Update 2013

Background

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is preparing to release the California Water Plan Update 2013. Prepared over the past five years with the involvement of hundreds of stakeholders, the documents are the state's strategic plan for managing and developing water resources statewide. The plan sets forth a series of actions to ensure sustainable water resources. It also serves as a compendium of facts about where California gets its water, how it is used, who pays for it, and the many risks to our complex, interconnected system of managing water.

Update 2013 advances the Governor's Water Action Plan to meet urgent needs and set the foundation for long term sustainable management of resources. The planning horizon of California Water Plan Update 2013 extends to 2050, but it reinforces the Governor's Water Action Plan through specific recommended actions that support, for example, the governor's call to make conservation a way of life, expand water storage capacity, and provide safe drinking water to all communities.

Three themes distinguish Update 2013 from earlier versions:

- Integrated water management to maximize the benefits – such as flood control, habitat restoration, and groundwater recharge – from water system investments.
- Better alignment of how governments manage data, plan, create policy, and regulate water systems.
- Stable, effective funding sources for water resource management. Update 2013 establishes a framework for finance planning and considers potential revenue sources.

Paul Massera, Program Manager for the California Water Plan Update, will brief the Commission on the plan.

Contact

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