

California Water Commission  
**Water Storage Investment Program**  
Stakeholder Advisory Committee  
Meeting

# Opening

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- Welcome
- Introductions
- Today's Agenda

# SAC Meeting Topics

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- Commission Meeting Update
- Update on SAC Member Comments and Letters
- Walkthrough of Updated Regulations
- Closing
- Public Comment Periods

# Commission Meeting Update Presentation

# Commission Meeting Update

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- Updated on technical work and regulation development
- Updated on C&E activities
- Reviewed conjunctive use and groundwater storage definitions
- Discussed without project conditions and consideration of mitigation and compliance obligations
- Reviewed project funding mechanisms
- Reviewed draft regulation text

# Discussion of SAC Member Comments

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- Comments received during Sept meeting, summarized in meeting notes and included in updated file
- Comments received via email, included in updated file
- Comments received via redline and comment letter, where included in Commission member packets:
  - California Farm Bureau Federation
  - Contra Costa Water District
  - Groundwater Resources Association
  - The Nature Conservancy
  - American Rivers

# Regulations Article 3 – Quantification and Management of Benefits, Section 6006 Priorities Focus on Ecosystem Priorities

# CDFW Priorities – Flow and Water Quality

- a) Provide cold water at times and locations to increase the survival of salmonid eggs and fry.
- b) Enhance flows to improve habitat conditions for in-river rearing and downstream migration of juvenile salmonids.
- c) Maintain flows and appropriate ramping rates at times and locations that will minimize dewatering of salmonid redds and prevent stranding of juvenile salmonids in side channel habitat.
- d) Increase flows to improve ecosystem water quality.
- e) Increase flows to support anadromous fish passage by providing adequate dissolved oxygen and lower water temperatures.

# CDFW Priorities – Flow and Water Quality (cont'd)

- f) Increase attraction flows during the upstream migration period to reduce straying of anadromous species into non-natal tributaries.
- g) Increase Delta outflow to provide low salinity habitat for Delta smelt, longfin smelt and other estuarine fishes in the Delta, Suisun Bay, and Suisun Marsh.
- h) Maintain groundwater and surface water interconnections to support instream benefits and groundwater dependent ecosystems.

# CDFW Priorities – Physical Processes and Habitat

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- a) Enhance flow regimes to improve the quantity and quality of riparian and floodplain habitats for aquatic and terrestrial species.
- b) Enhance floodplains by increasing the frequency, magnitude, and duration of floodplain inundation to enhance primary and secondary productivity and the growth and survival of fish.
- c) Enhance the temporal and spatial distribution and diversity of habitats to support all life stages of fish and wildlife species.
- d) Enhance access to fish spawning, rearing, and holding habitat by eliminating barriers to migration.
- e) Remediate unscreened or poorly screened diversions to reduce entrapment of fish.

# CDFW Priorities – Physical Processes and Habitat (cont'd)

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- f) Provide water to enhance seasonal wetlands, permanent wetlands, and riparian habitat for aquatic and terrestrial species on state and federal wildlife refuges and on other public and private lands managed for ecosystem values.
- g) Develop and implement non-native invasive species management plans utilizing proven methods to enhance habitat and increase the survival of native species.
- h) Enhance habitat for native species that have commercial, recreational, scientific, and educational value.

# Regulations Article 3 – Quantification and Management of Benefits, Section 6006 Priorities Focus on Water Quality Priorities

# State Water Board Priorities

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1. Improve water temperature conditions in water bodies on California's Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 303(d) list that are impaired for temperature.
2. Improve dissolved oxygen conditions in water bodies on California's CWA 303(d) list that are impaired for dissolved oxygen.
3. Improve nutrient conditions in water bodies on California's CWA 303(d) list that are impaired for nutrients.
4. Improve mercury conditions in water bodies on California's CWA 303(d) list that are impaired for mercury.
5. Improve salinity conditions in water bodies on California's CWA 303(d) list that are impaired for sodium, total dissolved solids, chloride, or specific conductance/electrical conductivity.

# State Water Board Priorities (cont'd)

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6. Protect, clean up, or restore groundwater resources in CASGEM high- and medium-priority basins.
7. Achieve Delta tributary stream flows that resemble natural hydrograph patterns or other flow regimes that have been demonstrated to improve conditions for aquatic life.
8. Reduce current or future water demand on the Delta watershed by developing local water supplies.
9. Provide water for basic human needs, such as drinking, cooking, and bathing, in disadvantaged or similarly situated communities, where those needs are not being met.

# Break

# Regulations Article 3 – Quantification and Management of Benefits, Section 6006 Relative Environmental Values

Focus on Ecosystem Improvements

# Relative Environmental Values (REV) – Ecosystem Improvements

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- a) Number of ecosystem priorities addressed by the project.
- b) Magnitude and certainty of ecosystem improvements.
- c) Spatial and temporal scale of ecosystem improvements.
- d) Inclusion of an adaptive management and monitoring program that includes measurable objectives, performance measures, thresholds and triggers for managing ecosystem benefits.
- e) Immediacy of ecosystem improvement actions and realization of benefits.
- f) Duration of ecosystem improvements.

# Relative Environmental Values (REV)– Ecosystem Improvements (cont'd)

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- g) Consistency with species recovery plans and strategies, initiatives, and conservation plans.
- h) Location of ecosystem improvements and connectivity to areas already being protected or managed for conservation values.
- i) Efficient use of water to achieve multiple ecosystem benefits.
- j) Resilience of ecosystem improvements to the effects of climate change.

# Regulations Article 3 – Quantification and Management of Benefits, Section 6006 Relative Environmental Values

Focus on Water Quality  
Improvements

# Relative Environmental Values (REV) – Water Quality Improvements

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- a) Number of water quality priorities addressed by the project.
- b) Magnitude and certainty of water quality improvements.
- c) Spatial and temporal scale of water quality improvements.
- d) Inclusion of an adaptive management and monitoring program that includes measurable objectives, performance measures, thresholds, and triggers for managing water quality benefits.
- e) Immediacy of water quality improvement actions and realization of benefits.
- f) Duration of water quality improvements.

# Relative Environmental Values (REV) – Water Quality Improvements (cont'd)

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- g) Consistency with water quality control plans, water quality control policies, and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (2014).
- h) Connectivity of water quality improvements to areas that support beneficial uses of water or are being managed for water quality.
- i) Resilience of water quality improvements to the effects of climate change.
- j) Extent to which water quality improvement provides water for basic human needs, such as drinking, cooking, and bathing, in disadvantaged or similarly situated communities, where those needs are not being met.

# Public Comment

# Lunch Break

# Regulations Article 1 – Definitions, Section 6000 Definitions Review and Comment

# Regulations Article 2 – Guidelines, Section 6001 General Provisions Review and Comment

# Regulations Article 2 – Guidelines, Section 6002 General Selection Process Review and Comment

# Regulations Article 2 – Guidelines, Section 6003 Funding Commitment Review and Comment

# Break

# Regulations Article 3 – Quantification and Management of Benefits, Section 6004 Quantification of Benefits Review and Comment

# Regulations Article 3 – Quantification and Management of Benefits, Section 6007 Managing Public Benefits Review and Comment

# Water Storage Investment Program SAC Closing Remarks

# Public Comment