



Statewide Water Action Plan: A Sustainable Path Forward for California

Timothy Quinn
Executive Director

Joint Mountain Counties / Region 3 Program
Oct. 18, 2013



**Association
of California
Water Agencies**
Since 1910
Leadership • Advocacy
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The Delta: Heart of California's Water System

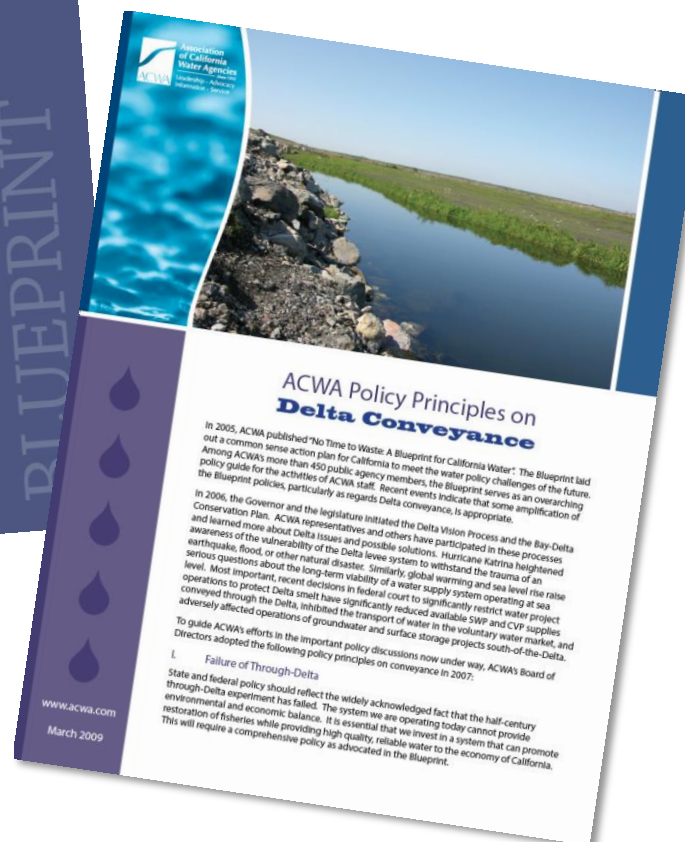


The Need for Statewide Solutions

- Delta conveyance problems can no longer be ignored
- Bay Delta Conservation Plan under way to address long-term Delta issues
- Delta solutions are more likely to succeed as part of a statewide comprehensive action plan



The Need for Statewide Solutions



War or Peace?



Or singing from the same song sheet?
Digging battle with each other?

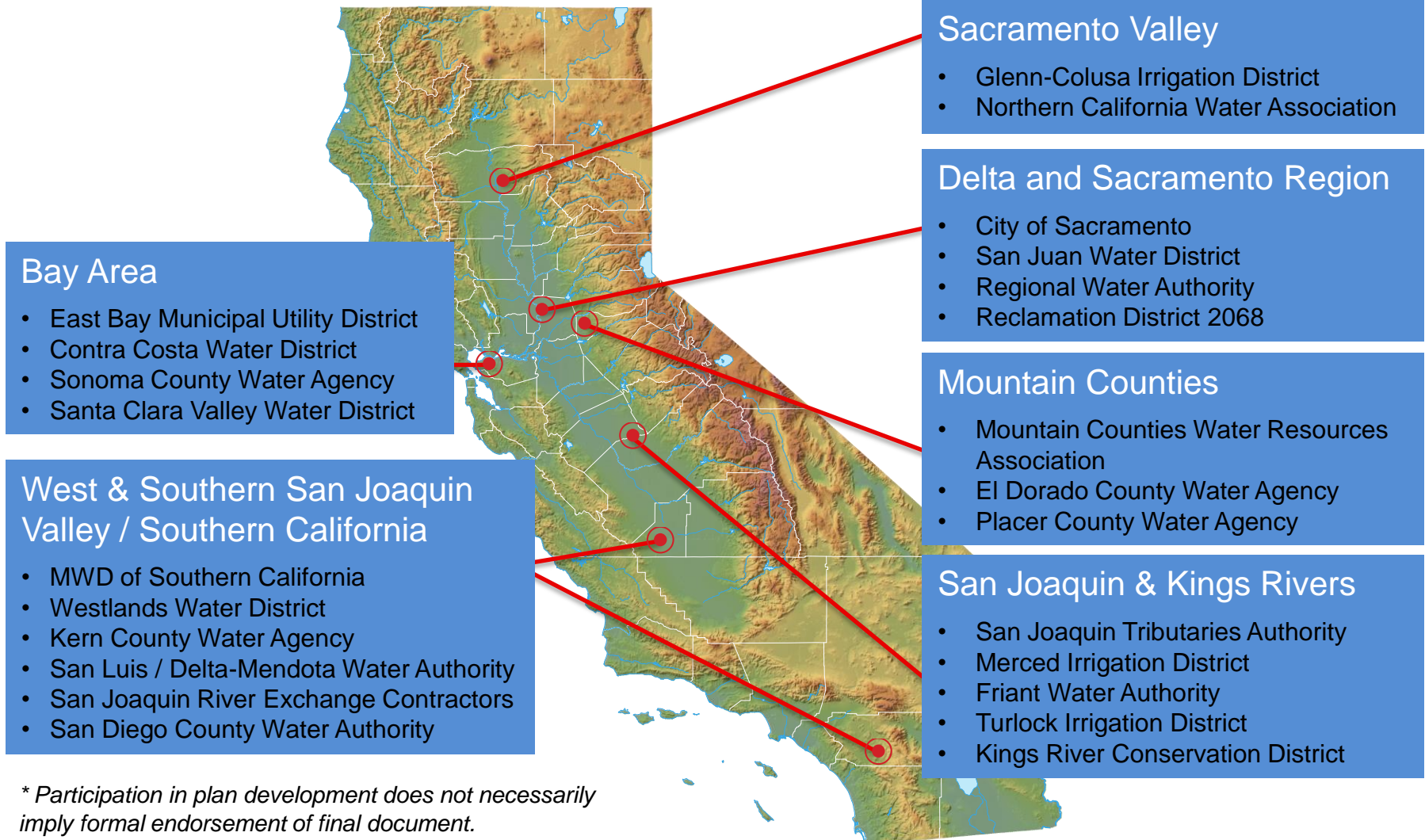
Statewide Water Action Plan

- ACWA-convened process to develop a statewide action plan
- Broad cross-section of water interests
- Goal: Recommend a specific plan to the Governor that can be broadly supported by water community and serve as sustainable path forward for California
- Input from DWR, other state agencies

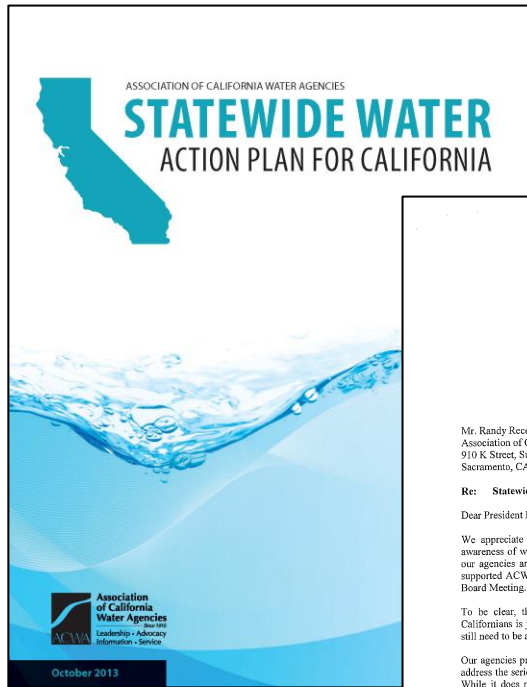


Statewide Water Action Plan

Broad Geographic Participation



Growing Support for the SWAP



REGIONAL WATER AUTHORITY
CITY OF SACRAMENTO
CITY OF ROSEVILLE
SAN JUAN WATER DISTRICT
PLACER COUNTY WATER AGENCY
SACRAMENTO SUBURBAN WATER DISTRICT
CARMICHAEL WATER DISTRICT
EL DORADO IRRIGATION DISTRICT

October 2, 2013

Mr. Randy Record, President
Association of California Water Agencies
910 K Street, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: Statewide Water Action Plan – Support of ACWA's SWA

Dear President Record:

We appreciate the Association of California Water Agencies' (ACWA) awareness of water supply and management issues that concern California's water users. We are members of ACWA, and our regional representatives supported ACWA's adoption of the Statewide Water Action Plan (SWAP) at the Board Meeting.

To be clear, the work to design a plan that improves the water supply for Californians is just beginning. There are a number of items of great importance that still need to be addressed by Governor Brown's Administration.

Our agencies provide this support for ACWA's process because it addresses the serious concerns that our region has regarding our on-going water supply. While it does not include all of the measures necessary to address reliability needs, it is a good starting point. We also understand that our concerns are limited because much of our water supply derives from the Central Valley Project's (CVP) Folsom Reservoir by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

We nonetheless appreciate the efforts of ACWA to include the following items of utmost importance to our region:

- A Bay-Delta Conservation Plan (BDGP) will not address the contractual rights of those in the Delta's watershed to upstream water users to supplement stream flows in a



October 14, 2013

The Honorable Jerry Brown
Governor, State of California
State Capitol, Suite 1173
Sacramento, CA 95814

Board of Directors
Don Stamp – President
Norm Kist – Vice President
Art Tey – Treasurer
Bill George – Director
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Barbara Bales – Ex-Officio
Lowell Jarvis – Ex-Officio
John Kingsbury – Executive Director

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Associated Water Agency
California County Water District
County of Colusa
County of Placer
El Dorado County Water Agency
El Dorado Irrigation District
Foothill Public Utility District
Gardner Public Community Services District
Georgetown Shasta Public Utility District
Nevada Irrigation District
Placer County Water Agency
South Tahoe Public Utility District
Tahoe Valley Utilities District
Twin Butte Community Services District
Utah Power Authority

Re: Statewide Water Action Plan – Our Associations' Support of ACWA's Proposal

Dear Governor Brown:

This letter is submitted to you in support of ACWA's recommended Statewide Water Action Plan (SWAP). We provide this support for ACWA's plan and commend ACWA's executive director Tim Quinn for his facilitation in this process because it is a good start to identifying a wide-ranging list of critical issues that the Administration must address if we are to succeed.

Combined forces of unchecked population growth, rising sea level, climate change, extended droughts, and the concern for endangered species, habitat and sustainable forests to ensure reliable water supply and water quality, combined with limited new water supplies have put California's citizens, its economy and its environmental resources all on the brink of disaster. We need your strong leadership to develop a Statewide Water Action Plan that holistically addresses the tough choices for environmental regulation, new and expanded infrastructure from the crest of the Sierra Nevada Mountains, and changes in the operation of the state's water systems that will protect all Californians and successfully adapt to future conditions.

Additional upstream storage to supplement Delta flow is a solution and a means of providing improved Delta health, protection of valuable agricultural land, and the possibility of increased delivery south of the Delta, in addition to increased reliability. Our fear is that the difficulty and challenge of finding this statewide comprehensive solution will lead to half measures and redirected negative consequences, like moving ahead with the tunnels without also resolving the tough in-Delta and upstream Delta headwater issues; the source of water for the Delta.

PO Box 251

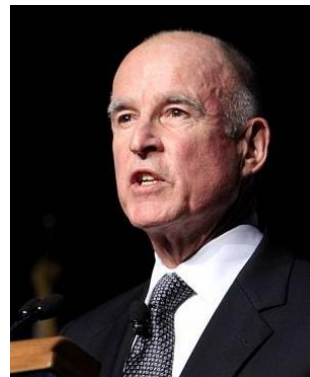
Placerville, CA 95667

530.957.7879



Statewide Water Action Plan

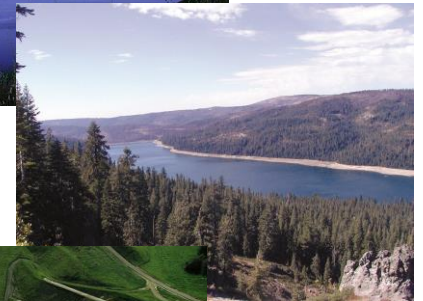
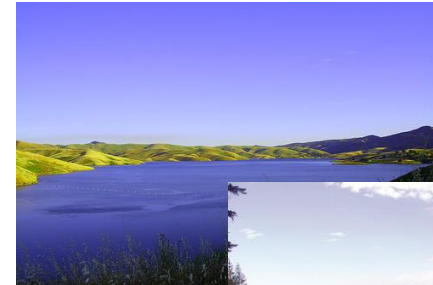
- Unanimous vote by ACWA Board of Directors
- SWAP creates possibility of statewide unity on key water issues
- Provides strong support base for statewide action by Governor Brown



Statewide Water Action Plan

15 Key Action Elements

- Actions to Improve Statewide Water Supply
- Actions to Protect Water Rights
- Actions to Protect the Integrity of the System
- Actions to Promote Better Stewardship



Statewide Water Action Plan

Actions to Improve Statewide Water Supply

- Expand storage
- Invest in WUE/ IRWMPs
- Facilitate water transfers
- Protect and improve water quality
- Pass a water bond



Statewide Water Action Plan

Actions to Protect Water Rights

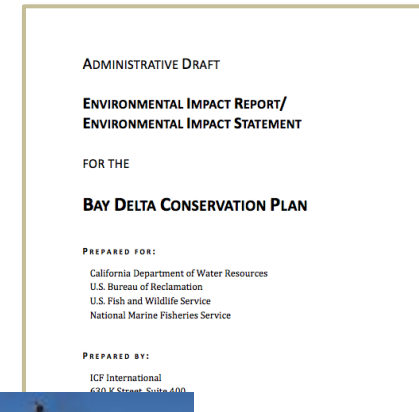
- Respect area of origin commitments
- Operational assurances: We should not plan on reservoirs going to dead pool



Statewide Water Action Plan

Actions to Protect the Integrity of the System

- Complete a BDCP, consistent with these principles
- Invest in levee improvements / maintenance
- Prepare for emergencies to protect public safety
- Improve and expand groundwater management



Statewide Water Action Plan

Actions to Promote Better Stewardship

- Integrate headwaters management to sustain the environment and improve statewide water quality and supply
- Coordinate state and federal regulatory actions
- Implement flow regulations through a collaborative, science-based process to promote the co-equal goals



Statewide Water Action Plan

We Need Your Support

- Learn more about the Statewide Water Action Plan at www.acwa.com/spotlight/SWAP
- Pass a resolution of support
- Educate your citizens, elected officials and other local leaders
- ACWA is going to fight for a statewide solution



Questions?

Tim Quinn

Executive Director

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timq@acwa.com

www.acwa.com