



El Dorado County Board of Supervisors

August 12, 2014



Mountain Counties

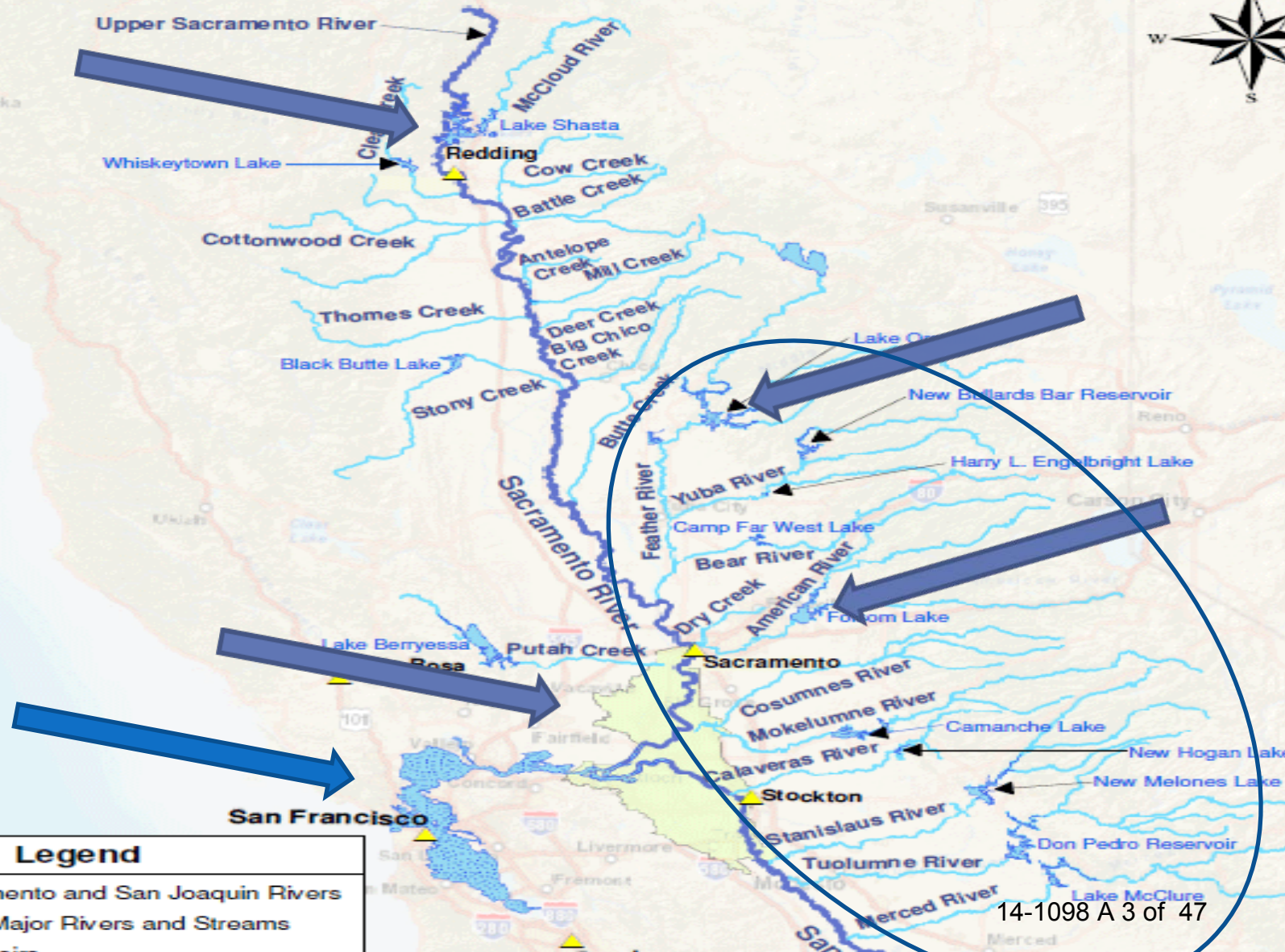
MOUNTAIN COUNTIES
AREA OF CALIFORNIA

- ❑ 40% of the state's developed water supply originates from Mountain Counties Areas
- ❑ 15,758 square miles or 9.9 percent of the State
- ❑ 383 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers under Federal and State Law
- ❑ Ten major watershed areas – 13,236 square miles
- ❑ 17 million acre-feet of natural runoff



Source: CA Water Plan Update, 2009

Major Tributaries of the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta



Legend	
	Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers
	Other Major Rivers and Streams
	Reservoirs

The Region is...

Home to 10 major
watersheds providing
**economic and
environmental
beneficial uses** for
all living things.

American
Bear
Cosumnes
Feather
Merced
Mokelumne
San Joaquin
Stanislaus
Tuolumne
Yuba

Board of Directors – 2014 / 2015



Left to Right

Norm Krizl – Georgetown Public Utility District

Delbert Rotelli, Tuolumne Utility District

Barbara Balen, Ex Officio (*Past Tuolumne Utility District Board Member*)

Bill George, El Dorado Irrigation District

Don Stump, Calaveras County Water District

Art Toy, Amador Water Agency

Lowell Jarvis, Ex Officio (*Past Placer County Water Agency Board Member*)

Mountain Counties Water Resources Association

“ Provide education and legislative advocacy to and on behalf of water agencies in the Sierra Nevada foothills upstream of the Sacramento and Joaquin Valleys to protect and enhance the water resources of the Mountain Counties of the State of California now and in the future ”

Outreach / Education

- ❑ County Farm Bureau Board Meetings
- ❑ Community Meetings/Programs
- ❑ Water Purveyor Board Meetings
- ❑ Board of Supervisor Meetings





Senator Tom Berryhill



Jeff Kightlinger, GM, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California



Senator Dave Cogdall



Jason Paltier, Asst GM Westlands Water District



Secretary John Laird



Phil Isenberg
Delta Stewardship Council



Secretary Karen Ross



Senator Dianne Feinstein



Public Forums

- ❑ Association of California Water Agencies
- ❑ California Water Plan Plenary
- ❑ Senator Nielsen Water Working Group
- ❑ Sierra Water Work Group Summit
- ❑ American Council of Engineering Companies
- ❑ Forest Service District Ranger Conference
- ❑ Delta Stewardship Council
- ❑ Urban Water Institute
- ❑ Delta Vision Foundation



Urban Water Institute Conference

February 2014



**Martha Conklin, PhD, Roger Bales, PhD.
Jim Branham, Executive Director, Sierra
Nevada Conservancy**



MCWRA Hosts Local, State and Federal Officials American River Watershed Tour

May 21, 2012









Dr. Roger Bales
14-10984 75 of 47
UC Merced



Les Grober Felicia Marcus Barbara Evoy
State Water Resources Control Board



El Dorado County Agriculture Tour



Danny Merkley
California Farm Bureau



Craig Wilson
Delta Watermaster



Paul Helliker
Water Resources



Chris Knopp
Delta Stewardship Council



Barrie Gyant
US Forest Service



David Murillo
US Bureau of Reclamation



Assembly Member Frank Bigelow

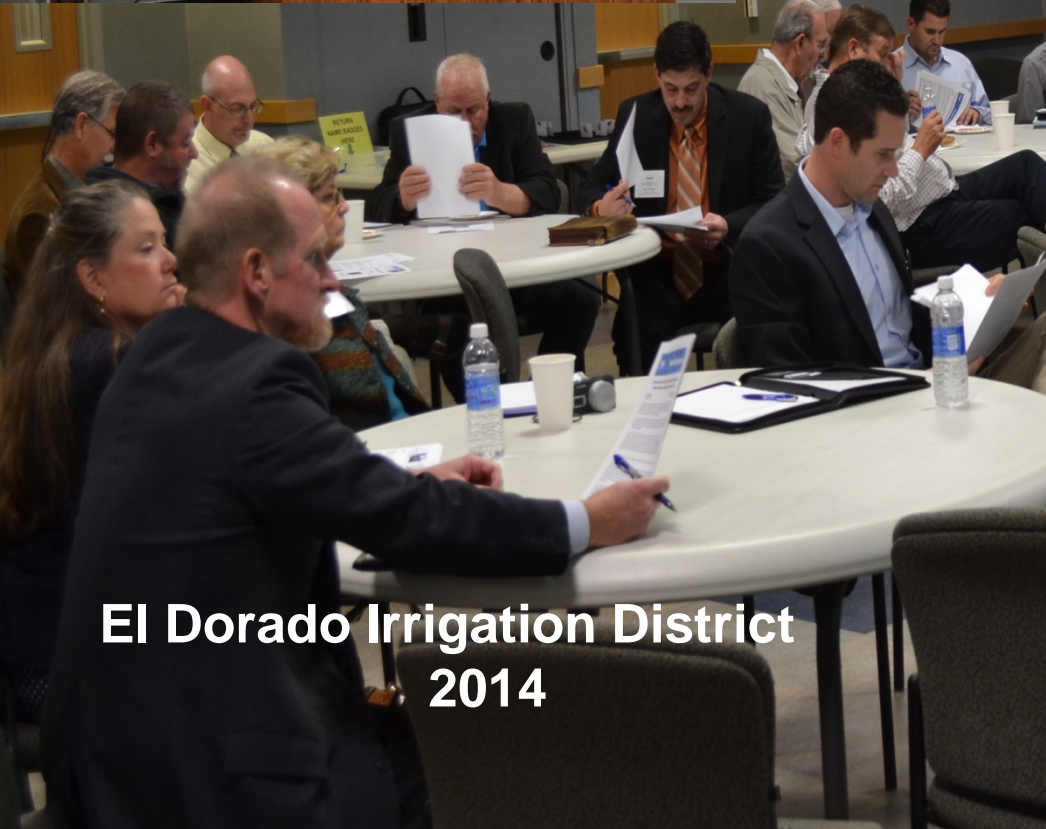


Special Executive Member

Briefing

John Laird, Secretary of Natural Resources

Steven Moore, Member, State Water Board



El Dorado Irrigation District
2014

California WATER COMMISSION



The Ridge Golf Course and Event Center May, 2014



Tom Cumpston, EID Dave Eggerton, EDCWA

The Sequoia House

June 6, 2014



Mark Cowin, Director, DWR

Felicia Marcus, Chair, SWRCB,

Randy Forini, Chair,

Delta Stewardship Council





To understand
water in
California, you
only need to
know a few
things...

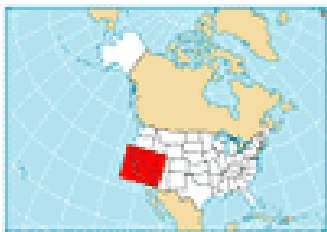




PRECIPITATION

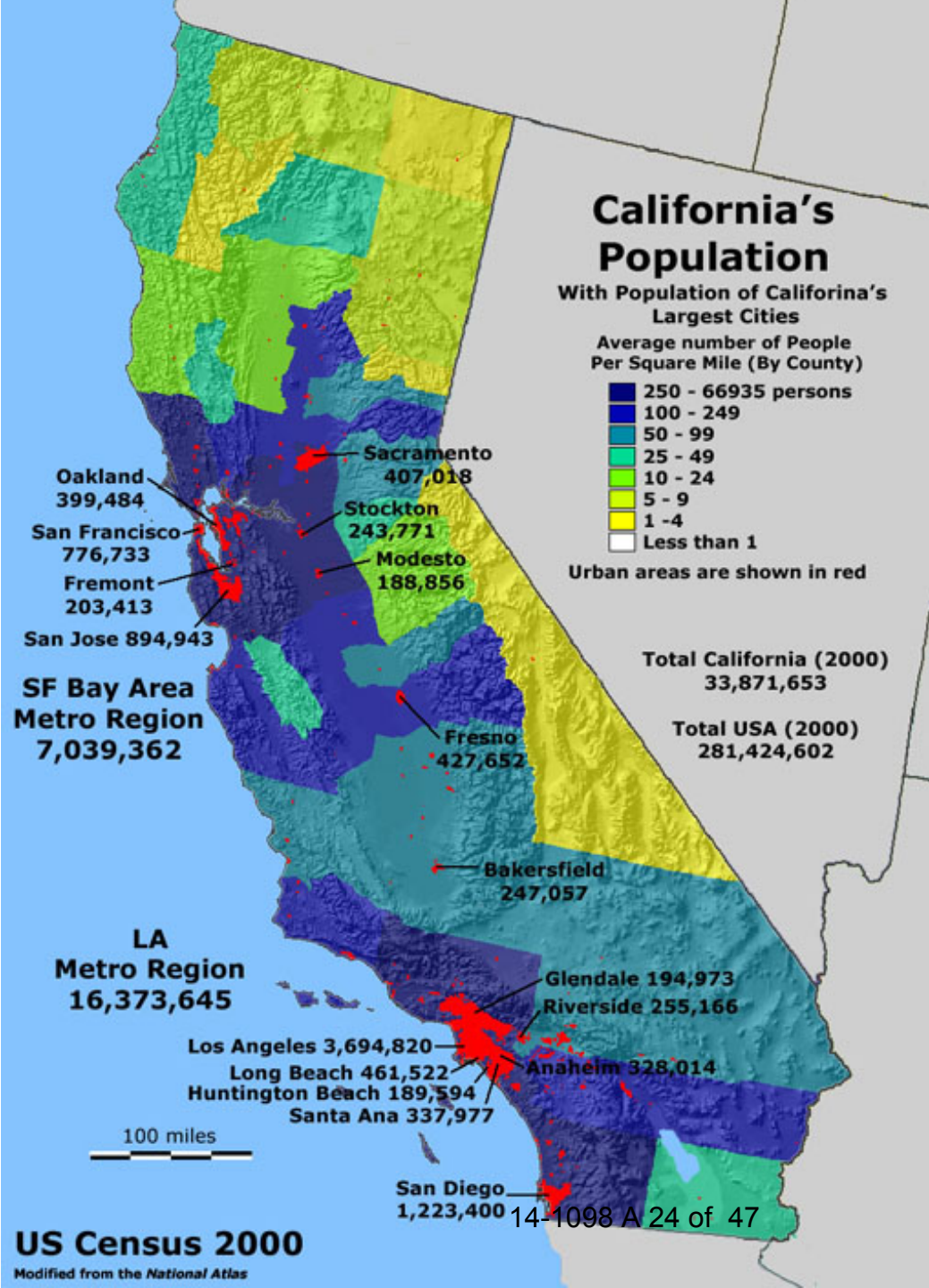
Precipitation varies widely across the United States, from a low of 2.3 inches per year in California's Death Valley to a high of 440 inches on Hawaii's Mount Waialeale. Nevada ranks as the driest state, with an average annual precipitation of 9.5 inches, and Hawaii is the wettest, at 70.3 inches. The average annual precipitation for California is 21.44 inches.

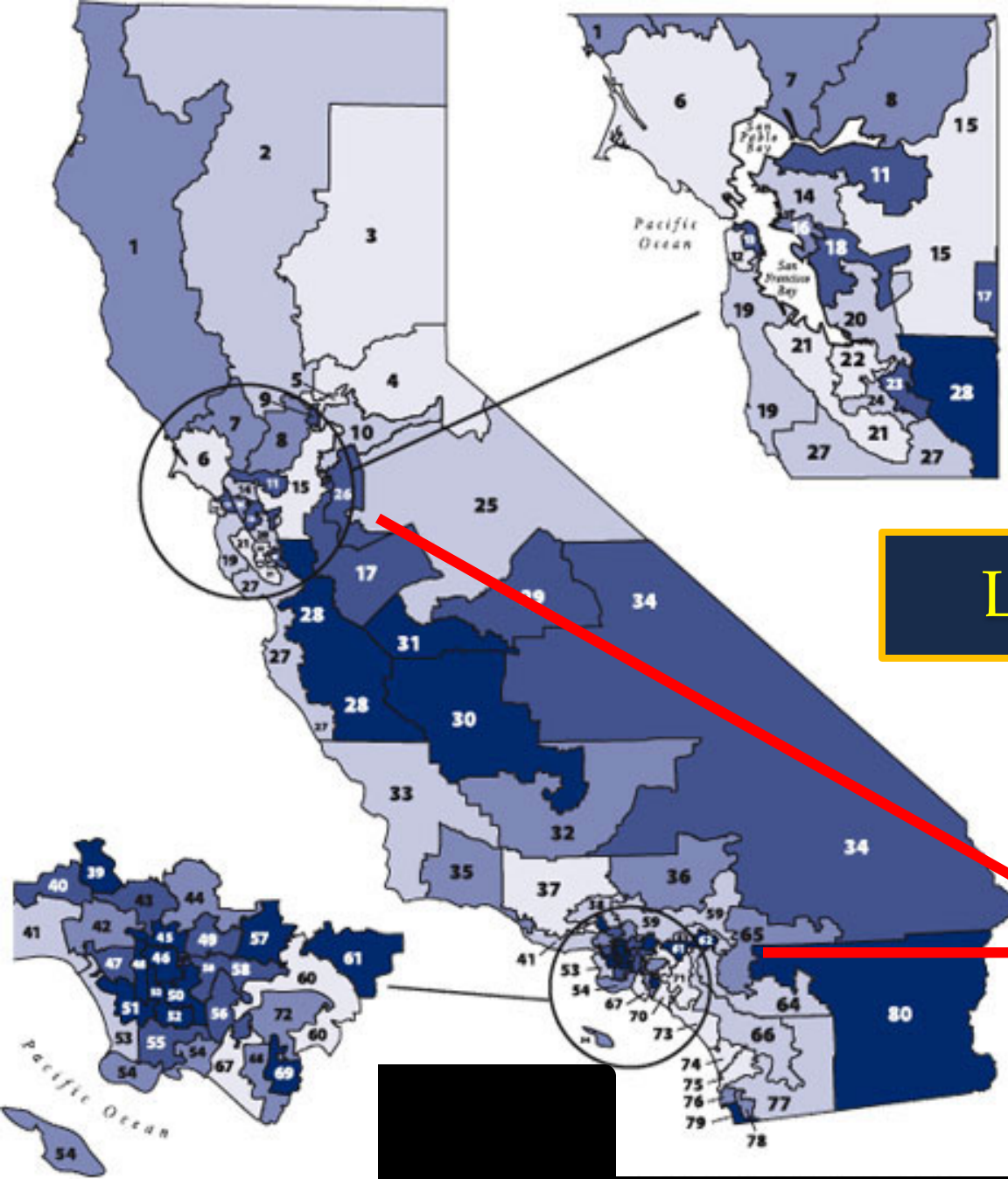
Average Annual Precipitation (in inches)
1961-1990



The Water is
in the North

The People are in the South





Legislative Districts

“Northern” half of Assembly Dis

“Southern” half of Assembly Districts



The Delta is the “Switchyard” for California water supply

Right now its all about The Delta



Bay Delta Conservation Plan

50-year permits under Endangered Species Act to cover pumping water out of Delta to serve Southern California and west side of San Joaquin Valley

- 35-mile-long tunnel under Delta to move Sac. River water to export pumps

- Twin 40-foot tunnels

- 145,000 Acres - Habitat restoration

- Financing \$\$\$





The Delta Heart of California's Water Conveyance System

- ❖ 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

A partial list of Delta Problems

- **Subsidence and Carbon off-gassing**
- **Pumping impacts on energy and fish**
- **Sea level rise**
- **Seismic risk**
- **Endangered species**
- **Non-native invasive species**
- **Water quality issues (salt, pesticides, nitrogen , etc., etc.)**
- **Inefficient for water conveyance**
- **It cannot be “restored”**

Centers around the amount of water exported from the delta

Political Debate Pits:

- Northern California against Southern California
- Fish against Farms
- Coastal Democrats against -

San Joaquin Valley Republicans

- Who Pays and Where Does the Water Come From

**“Governments
tend not to solve
problems, only to
rearrange them”**



What's at Stake - WATER -

- **Consumptive & M & I**
- **Hydro Power**
- **Agriculture**
- **Recreation**
- **Tourism**
- **Economy**
- **Environment**

What Needs to Happen

- Advance the stewardship of not only the Sierra Nevada Mountains, but across all the watersheds and headwaters in the State,
- Increase the water carrying capacity in the watersheds,
- Increase surface water supply and storage starting at the crest of the Sierra,
- Reduce demand by increased water efficiency practices,
- Optimize recycling opportunities, groundwater injection, and desalination.

We Must Have a Unified Voice

- Businesses
- Cities & Counties
- Water agencies
- Environmental organizations
- Regional organizations
- Labor organizations



UNIFIED FOR CALIFORNIA'S WATER FUTURE

Who is the North State Water Alliance?



Our common geography and interests have brought us together to work closely on water issues.

NSWA mission and purpose

Our mission is to:

- Promote responsible statewide water solutions that protect the economy, environment and quality of life for the north state and for all Californians.

Calling on state water officials ...

... to collaborate with NSWA to develop a comprehensive, statewide water plan. To that end, NSWA has:

- Hosted stakeholder Water Forums
- Convened elected official roundtable events
- Held a news conference on the water bond at the Capitol
- Provided detailed comments on the BDCP and its EIR documents



Calling on state water officials ...

NSWA has also worked to:

- Amplify North State water policy priorities
- Generate support for adoption of shared principles
- Organize lobbying activities at State Capitol and in Washington D.C.



Guiding Principles

NSWA adopted a set of principles and is asking jurisdictions and special districts to do the same.

- Increased investment in regional storage and **infrastructure**
- An **operational plan** for the state's water systems to fulfill obligations to the north state
- Unified **regulatory approaches** and water rights and supply assurances
- Water **conservation** as a way of life

Water Policy Priorities

- **Infrastructure Improvements**

Long-term water reliability and environmental sustainability in the Bay-Delta and elsewhere requires a commitment by the federal and state government, as well as local ratepayers, to invest in infrastructure improvements.

Water Policy Priorities

- **Operational Certainty**

Greater operational collaboration is needed between our region and the state, and we need to modify the operational approach to ensure a stable supply of water is maintained in the reservoirs.

Water Policy Priorities

- **Unified Regulatory Approaches**

We need policy makers commitment to adhere to a unified regulatory approach that pro-actively plans for climate change effects. To enhance regulatory and water system stability, we need policy makers to work within and not modify the current California water rights system.

What's at stake?

The health of the north state's watersheds is vital to **California's** long-term economic and environmental future.

Recommendation

City Councils, County Boards of Supervisors and stakeholder agencies throughout Northern California need to unite around our common interests and adopt these Guiding Principles:

- Increased infrastructure
- An operational plan
- Unified regulatory approaches
- Water conservation as a way of life

North State Water Alliance

NSWA is a growing coalition of cities, counties, water providers, business, agriculture and agencies throughout Northern California.

To view NSWA's supporters list, visit
www.northstatewater.org

