



650 Capitol Mall, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
916.445.5511 FAX 916.445.7297  
<http://calwater.ca.gov>

**Agenda Item: Item 9-4**  
**Meeting Date: December 8 and 9, 2004**

**ANNUAL JOINT MEETING WITH BAY-DELTA PUBLIC ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**INFORMATIONAL REPORT ON CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN UPDATE**

---

**Summary:** Staff from the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) will provide a progress report on the *California Water Plan Update 2004*. DWR has completed the Administrative Draft of Update 2004 following four years of collaboration with the Water Plan Advisory Committee, Extended Review Forum and the public; and in close coordination with the CALFED Program and its member agencies. After completing its internal review, DWR will release the Public Review Draft for public review and comment early next year.

**Recommended Action:** This is an informational report only. No action will be taken.

---

**Background**

In January 2001, DWR significantly expanded the public forum for preparing this edition of California Water Plan Update, including a 65-person Advisory Committee, 350-person Extended Review Forum, and other interested members of the public. DWR also worked closely with the CALFED Program and its member agencies on the content and organization of the Water Plan. Based on this input, DWR developed a new planning framework for preparing this and future Water Plan Updates, which now includes detailed Water Portfolios; Regional Reports; multiple Future Scenarios; and 25 Resource Management Strategies.

*California Water Plan Update 2004* is a strategic plan for meeting statewide and regional water challenges through 2030. It provides decision-makers, resource managers, water suppliers, and all water-users recommendations for the next 25 years and, for the first time, an implementation plan with priorities and an Action Plan that lists specific near-term actions and comprehensive long-term actions.

*California Water Plan Update 2004* contains recently compiled water data, information, and studies used to develop the strategic plan. In preparing this update, DWR sought the participation of California's water communities, responded to new State laws,

coordinated work with CALFED and other State and Federal agencies, and developed a new approach to planning California's water future. *Update 2004* outlines current water challenges and evolving water management responses; details 25 resource management strategies; discusses regional water conditions and activities; considers future uncertainties, scenarios, and water demands; and describes an approach for improving data and analytical tools needed to make better water management and planning decisions. *Update 2004* is presented in five volumes: Strategic Plan, Resource Management Strategies, Regional Reports, Reference Guide and Technical Guide.

CALFED and other State and Federal agencies contributed to the content of the Water Plan. Several Advisory Committee members represent State and Federal agencies. CALFED's regional coordinators helped prepare six of the twelve regional reports (or profiles) covering the CALFED solution area. Authority staff and CALFED subject matter experts reviewed and provided input on a number of the 25 resource management strategies. Staff from the State Water Resources Control Board and its regional boards assisted DWR with the water quality sections of the regional reports and management strategies for improving water quality.

DWR plans to distribute the Public Review Draft in December 2004, hold public hearings to receive comments early in 2005, and publish the final *California Water Plan Update* in mid-2005. There will be a more in-depth presentation to the Authority in early 2005 on the content of the Water Plan.

### **Fiscal Information**

Not applicable.

### **List of Attachments**

Attachment 1 – Abstract, California Water Plan Update

### **Contact**

Kamyar Guivetchi, Manager  
Statewide Water Planning  
California Department of Water Resources

Phone: (916) 653-3937  
Email: [kamyarg@water.ca.gov](mailto:kamyarg@water.ca.gov)

## Abstract

# California Water Plan Update

### November 2004

To continue playing an important role in California water policy, the Department of Water Resources (DWR) has changed the process for updating the *California Water Plan* and the type of information it contains. The Water Plan is becoming a strategic planning document that better reflects the role of State Government and the growing role of regionally based integrated resource planning in California water management.

In January 2001, DWR significantly expanded the public forum for preparing the California Water Plan update, including a 65-person Advisory Committee, 350-person Extended Review Forum, and 2000 other interested members of the public. DWR and the Advisory Committee have developed a new planning framework for preparing this and future Water Plan Updates, which now includes detailed Water Portfolios, Regional Reports, multiple Future Scenarios, and 25 Resource Management Strategies.

*California Water Plan Update 2004* is a strategic plan for meeting statewide and regional water challenges through 2030. It provides decision-makers, resource managers, water suppliers, and all water-users recommendations for the next 25 years and, for the first time, an implementation plan with priorities and an Action Plan that lists specific near-term actions and comprehensive long-term actions.

Bolstering the strategic plan is a Framework for Action. Drawing from fundamental lessons learned in recent decades and its own 50 years of leadership and experience in California water, DWR has developed this framework to stimulate progress toward meeting California's water challenges. The Framework for Action is intended to focus and prioritize State government's water planning and oversight and to integrate its technical and financial assistance in support of regional integrated resource planning. The intended outcome is the sustainable use of California's watersheds, water resources, and environment.

The Framework for Action sets the following four priorities and emphasizes specific near-term, high-priority actions that should be completed before the next update in 2008 through the cooperation of State, federal, regional, and local agencies and governments.

- **Promote regional integrated resource planning** for sustainable water resource use, environmental stewardship, efficient urban development, and a stronger economy and agricultural industry.
- **Strengthen and make better use of water infrastructure** as the backbone of water management in California.
- **Adapt State government and funding methods** to better meet the needs of Californians and support local agencies and governments in sustainable water management.
- **Capitalize on promising water and information technologies**, increase scientific understanding, and improve data management and analysis to support better business and policy decisions related to water resources

The recommendations and implementation plan of *California Water Plan Update 2004* are organized around these priorities, as are the near-term high priority actions that make up.

the Framework for Action. This water plan update includes the actions in the CALFED Bay-Delta Program Record of Decision and it is consistent with the recommendations from recent State-sponsored water initiatives.<sup>1</sup>

*California Water Plan Update 2004* contains recently compiled water data, information, and studies used to develop the strategic plan. In preparing this update, DWR sought the participation of California's water communities, responded to new State laws, and developed a new approach to planning California's water future. *Update 2004* outlines current water challenges and evolving water management responses; details 25 resource management strategies; discusses regional water conditions and activities; considers future uncertainties, scenarios, and water demands; and describes an approach for improving data and analytical tools needed to make better water management and planning decisions. *Update 2004* is presented in five volumes: Strategic Plan, Resource Management Strategies, Regional Reports, Reference Guide and Technical Guide.

With the realization of this strategic plan, California's water resource management can preserve and enhance public health and the standard of living for all Californians, strengthen economic growth, business vitality, and the agricultural industry; and restore and protect California's unique environmental diversity.

DWR plans to distribute the Public Review Draft in December 2004, hold public hearings to receive comments early in 2005, and publish the final *California Water Plan Update* in April 2005. More information on the Water Plan is available online at

[www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/b160/indexb160.htm](http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/b160/indexb160.htm)

### ***Vision***

*California's water resource management preserves and enhances public health and the standard of living for Californians; strengthens economic growth, business vitality, and the agricultural industry; and restores and protects California's unique environmental diversity.*

### ***Mission***

*To develop a strategic plan that guides State, local, and regional entities in planning, developing, and managing adequate, reliable, secure, affordable, and sustainable water of suitable quality for all beneficial uses.*

### ***Goals***

- *State government supports good water planning and management through leadership, oversight, and public funding.*
- *Regional efforts play a central role in California water planning and management.*
- *Water planning and urban development protect, preserve, and enhance environmental and agricultural resources.*
- *Natural resource and land use planners make informed water management decisions.*
- *Water decisions are equitable across all communities.*

---

<sup>1</sup> The Water Desalination Task Force, the State Recycling Task Force, the Stormwater Quality Task Force, the Floodplain Management Task Force, the Governor's Advisory Drought Planning Panel, and California's Groundwater (DWR Bulletin 118-03).