Watershed Information Center & Conservancy of Napa County

AGENDA

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

Thursday, April 24, 2008
4:00 p.m.

2nd Floor Conference Room, Hall of Justice Building,
1125 Third Street, Napa CA

1. **CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL** (Chair)

2. **APPROVAL OF ACTION MINUTES**
   Meeting of February 28, 2008 and March 27, 2008 (Chair)

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   In this time period, anyone may comment to the Board regarding any subject over which the Board has jurisdiction, or request consideration to place an item on a future Agenda. No comments will be allowed involving any subject matter that is scheduled for discussion as part of this Agenda. Individuals will be limited to a three-minute presentation. No action will be taken by the Board as a result of any item presented at this time. (Chairman)

4. **ANNOUNCEMENTS**:

   a. **May 2008 Watershed Awareness Month**, proclamation by Board of Supervisors May 6th (Staff)

   b. **Bay Delta Conservation Plan**, scoping meeting in Sacramento, April 28th (Staff)

   c. **California Watershed Plan**, workshop in Santa Rosa, April 28th (Staff)

   d. Others (Board/Staff/Public)

5. **UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

   a. Update and discussion on the State Water Resources Control Board's (SWRCB) **Instream Flow Policy** and Board of Supervisor's comment letter and other State Board and Regional Water Quality Control Board policy developments and basin planning activities (Staff)

   b. Update, discussion and possible action regarding the SWRCB's request for comments on the **Napa River Sediment Total Maximum Daily Load** (TMDL) (Staff)

6. **UPDATE, DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION:**

   Update, discussion and possible direction regarding **WICC support/funding towards the development of a locally based Integrated Water Management Plan for Napa County** with assistance from, the County's municipalities, districts, interested community groups and partners, particularly as it relates to upcoming Prop 84 funding and future water/watershed related project coordination and financial support (Rick Thomasser, Napa County Flood & Water Conservation District/Staff)

7. **UPDATES/REPORTS:**

   a. Update on the Napa County **General Plan Update** and public hearing schedule (Planning Staff)

   b. Report on WICC participation at **Earth Day Celebration** (Staff)

   c. **Napa County Watershed Symposium**, Thursday, May 22, 2008 (Resource Conservation Dist./Staff)

   d. Update on appointment of **WICC Board Public at Large Representative** (Staff)

   e. Others (Board/Staff)

8. **FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS** (Board/Staff)

9. **NEXT MEETING – ACTION TO CANCEL MAY 22, 2008 MEETING:**

   Due to the **Napa County Watershed Symposium on May 22, 2008**, the Board may take action to cancel their Regular Board Meeting of May 22, 2008 at 4:00 PM and reschedule any business to the Board's **next Regular Board Meeting of April 24, 2008 – 4:00 PM** in the Hall of Justice Building, 2nd floor Conference Room, 1125 Third Street, Napa (Staff)

10. **ADJOURNMENT** (Chairman)

Note: If requested, the agenda and documents in the agenda packet shall be made available in appropriate alternative formats to persons with a disability. Please contact Jeff Sharp at 707-259-5936, 1195 Third St., Suite 210, Napa CA 94559 to request alternative formats.

PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, Napa County has three major watersheds: the Napa River, Putah Creek, and Suisun Creek watersheds; and

WHEREAS, the watersheds of Napa County support forested mountain slopes, agriculture, urban areas, open pasture, grassland, industrial zones, and marshes; and

WHEREAS, Napa County's watersheds support a large diversity of wildlife and plant species; and

WHEREAS, the beauty of Napa County's watershed land enriches the quality of life shared and enjoyed by each and every resident and visitor of the County; and

WHEREAS, functioning watersheds are vital for a healthy environment, a safe and reliable source of drinking water, and a healthy economy; and

WHEREAS, landowners, local governments, conservation organizations, and individual citizens throughout the County of Napa are working together to find ways to maintain, enhance, and improve the health of Napa County's watersheds; and

WHEREAS, the residents of the County of Napa wish to celebrate local watershed efforts and raise awareness about the importance of local watersheds.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Brad Wagenknecht, on behalf of the Napa County Board of Supervisors do hereby proclaim the month of May 2008, as ***"Watershed Awareness Month"*** in Napa County and encourage all to celebrate and explore Napa County's watershed lands.

Brad Wagenknecht, Chair
Napa County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Gladys A. Coil
Clerk of the Board

May Watershed Awareness Month

Throughout the month of May, watershed partnerships, educators, and other community groups are encouraged to promote the importance of watersheds and stewardship at the grassroots and community levels by organizing and participating in watershed awareness activities. To celebrate Watershed Awareness Month, participants can take part in watershed walks, project field tours, water quality monitoring, streamside cleanups, and other activities already taking place in their watersheds – or they can organize an event of their own.

Start planning your events now and check back soon for the May 2007 Watershed Event Calendar for the State!

Please feel free to download a copy of the May Watershed Awareness Month logo to use own your event literature!

Encourage your county to declare May 2007 as Watershed Awareness Month. Here's a sample proclamation.

(At right) Children work on a restoration project at the UC Davis Putah Creek Ripa Reserve

History

CWN launched California's first annual Watershed Awareness Month in May 2005. This awareness campaign supported by Governor Schwarzenegger through a proclamation. Throughout the month of May, volunteer community organizations, educators, and other groups are encouraged to promote the importance of watersheds the grassroots and community levels by organizing and conducting watershed awareness activities. CWN devel a special calendar of events to promote all of the activities planned for May Watershed Awareness Month.

2007 Governor's Proclamation

2006 Governor's Proclamation

2005 Governor's Proclamation

BDCP

BAY DELTA CONSERVATION PLAN

You are invited…

…to attend an EIR/EIS scoping and community information meeting about the Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Meeting purpose:

- To share the BDCP environmental review process and solicit comments about the scope of the Environmental Impact Report and Environmental Impact Statement
- To share information and answer questions about the BDCP and how to be involved

Meeting dates and locations (see "More information" below for details about addresses and maps):

- Monday, April 28 at 10:00 a.m. in Sacramento
- Tuesday, April 29 at 5:00 p.m. in Chico
- Wednesday, April 30 at 6:00 p.m. in Clarksburg
- Monday, May 5 at 6:00 p.m. in Stockton
- Tuesday, May 6 at 6:00 p.m. in San Jose
- Wednesday, May 7 at 6:00 p.m. in Los Banos
- Thursday, May 8 at 1:00 p.m. in Los Angeles
- Monday, May 12 at 6:00 p.m. in San Diego
- Tuesday, May 13 at 6:00 p.m. in Fresno
- Wednesday, May 14 at 6:00 p.m. in Bakersfield

Meeting format:

- 45 minute open house
- 15 minute presentation
- 60 minute public comment session (3 minute comment limit per person)

If you are unable to attend one of these meetings, please submit your comments about the scope of the BDCP EIR/EIS by May 30, 2008 to Delores Brown, Chief, Office of Environmental Compliance, Department of Water Resources, P.O. Box 942836, Sacramento, CA 94236 or by email to BDCPcomments@water.ca.gov.

More information:

- For more information about the BDCP, visit: www.resources.ca.gov/bdcp/
- For more information about the environmental review process, including maps to the meeting locations, visit: http://baydeltaoffice.water.ca.gov/sdb/bdcp/index_bdcp.cfm
- Meeting facilities are accessible to persons with disabilities or who need assistance to participate. For more information, or to request assistance or translation services, contact Darla Cofer at (916) 653-7129 or by email at dcofer@water.ca.gov.

BDCP

Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Schedule & Process Overview

	2008	2009	2010
Environmental Review	NOI/NOP; SCOPING; ASSESS EFFECTS ON HUMAN ENVIRONMENT	PUBLIC DRAFT EIS/EIR	PUBLIC REVIEW; FINAL EIS/EIR; PUBLIC REVIEW; NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
Plan Development	EXISTING CONDITIONS; GOALS & OBJECTIVES; DEVELOPMENT OF CONSERVATION MEASURES; DEVELOPMENT OF ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT PLAN; DRAFT CONSERVATION STRATEGY; COVERED ACTIVITIES; ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES; IMPACT ASSESSMENT; COST & FUNDING; IMPLEMENTATION PLAN; IMPLEMENTATION ORGANIZATION; 1st DRAFT BDCP	PUBLIC DRAFT BDCP	PUBLIC REVIEW; FINAL BDCP; PUBLIC REVIEW; SIGNED IMPLEMENTATION AGREEMENT; PERMIT DECISION
Outreach	PUBLIC SCOPING MEETINGS; INTRO TO BDCP; PUBLIC UPDATE MEETINGS	PUBLIC MEETINGS	PUBLIC COMMENT; PUBLIC HEARINGS; PUBLIC COMMENT

TOWN HALL MEETINGS, WEB SITE, SPEAKERS BUREAU, E-MAIL UPDATES, NEWS MEDIA UPDATES

STEERING COMMITTEE MEETINGS (every other Friday, toll-free conference call access) • STEERING COMMITTEE WORKSHOPS (as needed, open to public)

For More Information Visit http://www.resources.ca.gov/bdcp/

J&S 00090.08 - 03/14/08

DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES
1416 NINTH STREET, P.O. BOX 942836
SACRAMENTO, CA 94236-0001
(916) 653-5791

CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN UPDATE 2009
2008 NORTH COAST REGIONAL WORKSHOP ANNOUNCEMENT

The Department of Water Resources, in cooperation with other State agencies, invites you to participate in the North Coast Regional Workshop to gather and share information about the California Water Plan (CWP) Update 2009. The CWP is California's strategic plan for water and covers topics such as water uses, water supply, water quality, regional conditions, regional water planning and flood management, and options for improving water management.

The workshop takes place on April 28, 2008 from 10 A.M. to 3 P.M. **in Redwood Rooms B and C** at the Sonoma County Water Agency located at 404 Aviation Blvd in Santa Rosa. The agenda for the workshop is enclosed, and representatives of: water agencies and associations; local, state, Tribal (recognized and non-recognized) and federal government; watershed and community groups; conservancies; and the public are strongly encouraged to attend.

This workshop is specific to the North Coast Hydrologic Region. At the workshop, your input will be sought regarding local and regional activities and conditions for the initial draft Regional Report. Discussion will include CWP coordination with related integrated regional water management plans and integrated flood management. The workshop will also present draft outlines for the water resource management strategies.

To assure adequate seating, kindly RSVP to X. Tito Cervantes at (530) 529-7389 or cervante@water.ca.gov.

Ten other regional workshops will be held across the State in early 2008. The workshop locations currently proposed are:

North Lahontan Region – Truckee on 4/9/08
San Francisco Bay Region – Oakland on 3/24/08
Delta Area of Interest – Courtland on 3/27/08
Mountain Counties Area of Interest – Sonora on 4/11/08
Sacramento Region – Yuba City on 4/2/08
San Joaquin/Tulare Regions – Table Mountain Rancheria (Friant) on 3/11/08
South Lahontan Region – Apple Valley (near Victorville) on 3/5/08
Central Coast Region – Salinas on 3/25/08
Colorado River Region – Desert Hot Springs on 3/4/08
South Coast Region – San Diego on 3/6/08

Announcements with the time, address, RSVP instructions, and agendas for specific workshops will be posted – at least two weeks before the workshop – online at http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/regional/workshops/index.cfm . Additional information about California Water Plan Update 2009 is available online at www.waterplan.water.ca.gov.

If additional information is needed, contact the following regional leads:
N.Coast, Sacramento: Tito Cervantes 530-539-7389 cervante@water.ca.gov
Bay Area, Delta, Mt.Counties, N.Lahontan: Pierre Stephens 916-651-0700 jrstephe@water.ca.gov
S.Joaquin, C.Coast: Ernie Taylor 559-230-3352 etaylor@water.ca.gov
S.Coast, S.Lahontan, Colorado River: Chang Lee 818-500-1645 clee@water.ca.gov

watershed information center & conservancy of napa county WICC

Watershed Information Center
& Conservancy of Napa County
1195 Third Street, Suite 210
Napa, California 94559

www.napawatersheds.org
(707) 253-4417
mailto: info@napawatersheds.org

March 27, 2008

Board of Supervisors,
Napa County
1195 Third St., Suite 310
Napa, CA 94559

RE: State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Rights
Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows In Northern CA Coastal Streams

To Chairman Wagenknecht and members of the Board:

The WICC Board serves as an advisory committee to Napa County Board of Supervisors. In that role, the WICC has been directed to assist the Board in their decision-making process and serve as a conduit for citizen input on matters related to the management of watershed resources, implementation of watershed restoration projects and resource protection activities, coordination of land acquisition, and the development of a long-term watershed resource management program that provides public outreach and education, monitoring coordination, resource inventory and assessment, and data management.

At their February 28, 2008 meeting, the WICC Board formed an ad-hoc sub-committee to review the State Water Resources Control Board's (State Board) Draft Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows in Northern California Coastal Streams. Public comments on the draft policy are due to the State Board on Thursday, May 1, 2008.

The sub-committee's review consisted of an overview of the draft policy documents and various summary and supporting materials. The subcommittee met on March 13, 2008 and was provided with a packet of materials relating to the draft policy, including copies of six peer review comment letters solicited by the State Board from a broad range of watershed resource professionals (civil, environmental and agricultural engineers, hydrologists, fisheries biologists and economists).

At their March 27, 2008 meeting the WICC Board was presented with the Sub-committee's draft comment recommendations. At that time, WICC Board considered, and discussed the subcommittee's recommendations and directed staff to submit the following set of comments to the Board of Supervisors for their consideration.

Policy Objective

The draft Policy addresses a very important matter, balancing the use and protection of ecosystem/watershed services, the maintenance of habitat for endangered species, and the provision of freshwater for domestic, agricultural, industrial and commercial uses. In general, the Policy attempts to determine and regulate diversion levels on regional streams to maintain needed habitat to support the freshwater life cycle of at-risk anadromous species. The goal of the Policy is to emulate natural hydrograph responses as closely as possible and to maintain natural stream processes that support salmon and steelhead, while simultaneously considering protective levels and rates of water diversions.

To accomplish its goal, the Policy proposes three regulatory actions:
1) Implementation of a seasonal limit on diversion;
2) Implementation of minimum bypass flow requirement; and
3) Implementation of limits on the maximum cumulative diversion rates within a watershed.

Other elements in the Policy included proposed rules for onsite dams, requirements for fish passage and screening at all diversion sites, and development of a detailed monitoring program to allow for potential rule adjustments in the future within an adaptive management framework.

Comment Recommendations

The WICC generally supports the proposed policy goals, however it is questionable whether the regulatory tools and requirements suggested, and the scientific basis upon which they are founded, are sufficient, or effective, for water diversion activities in Napa County.

The Water Board has received substantial peer review comments from a respected and diverse scientific community. All of the peer reviews received question the effectiveness of the proposed Policy due to the high level of uncertainty inherent in the assumptions drawn to develop the Policy's scientific underpinnings. As noted above, balancing the use and protection of Instream flow to maintain ecosystem services, habitat for endangered species, and the provision of freshwater for consumptive uses is a vital yet onerous task. It would be prudent for the State Board to carefully consider the peer review comments received and revisit both the scientific foundation for the Policy and the effectiveness of the regulatory tools and requirements proposed.

A more detailed analysis of local watershed-level flow records, channel conditions, sediment transport and biological habitat integrity is warranted to provide a more complete and effective basis for developing the Policy's proposed regulatory mechanisms. A watershed-level analysis of the Policy's impacts and benefits is necessary; evident not only by the peer review comments, but the overly conservative restrictions proposed region-wide as a means of dealing with the Policy's high degree of scientific and environmental uncertainty. If implemented as proposed, the by-pass requirements (or allowed rates of diversion) could significantly decrease the rate of downstream discharge (i.e., reduce "rising" and "peak" stream flows) per unit of drainage area. This type of hydrologic modification due to changes in water diversion patterns will impact the delivery and transport course and medium size sediments, cause unexpected sedimentation, and possibly degrade the important fishery habitat values the policy strives to protect. Many detailed watershed studies have been conducted in Napa County. The Water Board should consider these surveys/data and seek advice from locally knowledgeable watershed experts (hydrologists, biologists, restoration-ecologists, and others) as to the policy's "real-world" affect on local watershed systems.

Additionally, the Policy's narrow focus on the protection of endangered fish species ignores the habitat needs of native fishery species. The Napa River is home to one of most diverse native fisheries in Northern California, supporting well-over 20 native species. It is not clear if the protective measures proposed under the Policy will serve to safeguard habitat and flow requirements for native fisheries and other species.

If the objectives of the Policy are to be met, the Policy must recognize the interactions between surface and groundwater. This interaction is particularly important in alluvium dominated watersheds such as Napa River. Depending on the timing and duration of seasonal rains, surface flows in the upper watershed of the Napa River often percolate into streambed gravels/soils, leaving dry mid-slope channels, before re-surfacing again in downstream reaches. During the proposed seasonal diversion period, it is not uncommon for tributaries to the Napa River to exhibit discontinuous surface flows within the mid-reaches of the channel network. Downstream benefits to fishery resources at these times are in the form of groundwater interflow and not surface flow. The Policy will not be successful with a one-size-fits-all stream flow bypass requirement. Until the Policy addresses specific geology and site conditions present within the wide variety of watersheds located within the policy area, the assumed benefits to the fisheries resources will not be obtainable.

The Policy does not address foreseeable secondary impacts of increased groundwater pumping and likely changes in groundwater interflow to both "gaining" and "losing" stream reaches. The Policy does not consider locally increasing needs of surface and groundwater resources due to increasing populations and likely changes in long-term climatic conditions (i.e., sustained droughts and/or global warming). The Policy area covers a diverse landscape of rural and urban populations, high-value cropland and vast areas of open space. If the social and economic reliance on water is not fully considered in the Policy's regulatory mechanisms, indirect consequences will result in ways that may be detrimental to the watershed services and endangered species the Policy intends to protect.

The Policy appears focused on water rights applications submitted after January 1, 2008 and prior/pending applications that the Water Board determines are not consistent with 2002 National Marine Fisheries – Department of Fish & Game Guidelines. There is concern as to the Policy's affect on existing diversion facilities, particularly as it relates to their ongoing operation, maintenance and periodic relicensing/permitting. As mentioned above, the effectiveness of the Policy will depend upon how water diverters respond to the relatively restrictive regulations. The Water Board should not underestimate the diverter's economic interests and the ability of diverter to respond to the proposed regulations in a manner that will lessen the effectiveness of a policy.

It is likely that the proposed Policy implementation measures will impact currently funded stream and river flood and restoration projects. Many of the flood protection and riparian restoration projects in Napa County have been hydraulically designed based upon current flow conditions. Modifications to the timing and volume of current stream flows may influence the effectiveness and performance of these projects and could reduce value of pubic and private dollars invested in these projects.

The Water Board should strive to understand and manage surface water resources within the broader context of a watershed, by examining the relationships between people, land and water. Similar to the "watershed approach" suggested in the Policy, the Water Board should consider and companion alternative means of increasing and managing stream flow within a watershed, such as the development of alternative water sources by municipalities, agriculture and private land owners, alternatives in forest and upland land management practices, potential

decommissioning or modification of existing water resources infrastructure and direct support for community-based initiatives that reduce water demand and improve water use efficiencies.

It is not clear if the Policy's regulatory actions and rules are aligned with other policies/regulations that are currently approved or under development by the State and Regional Water Quality Control Boards in our area (i.e., Region 1, 2 and 5). Inconsistency among compliance, permitting, monitoring and reporting requirements of these interrelated regulatory programs will result in confusion, failure to attain policy goals and public/community discontent for the Water Board and Regional basin planning processes. As with any policy, enforcement and oversight is imperative. The Water Board must be willing to provide the necessary oversight and enforcement for this and the many other State policies under development.

The WICC is an advocate of long-term watershed monitoring and the prudent management of the County's watershed resources. The Policy advocates for an "adaptive management approach" as a means of updating the Policy's regulatory framework over time. This adaptive approach is warranted and necessitates the development of an integrated watershed framework by which to monitor and assess environmental, economic and social feedback. The detailed monitoring program envisioned is an imperative element of the Policy's success, and needs to provide meaningful feedback to inform future regulatory adjustments and assess whether the overall Policy goals are being accomplished. Over time, as site-specific studies and monitoring data become available (or are used to request variances from the Policy criteria), understanding of local watershed function and change will increase, and should substantially reduce the environmental uncertainties inherent in the Policy's science and proposed regulatory actions. This adaptive management approach and the Policy's ultimate success hinges upon the Water Board's commitment to staffing resources and sustained funding and towards this effort.

The proposed adaptive management approach relies upon considerable knowledge and understanding of local watershed geology and hydraulics. That level of detailed environmental information is not readily available for many of the watersheds in Napa County. The Policy's implementation should consider the necessary infrastructure (flow gages, monitoring sites, and trained personnel) needed to understand, measure and comply with the proposed regulatory actions. Additionally, the Water Board should identify who is responsible for funding, installing and maintaining such infrastructure.

On behalf of the WICC Board, I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide the Board of Supervisor with comments on the State Water Resources Control Board's Policy for Maintaining Instream Flows in Northern CA Coastal Streams. The WICC Board hopes that the comments and suggestions provided are both informative and constructive, and aid Napa County in developing suitable comments to the State Board that reflect the varied needs and values of current and future generations of our County's watershed lands.

Sincerely,

Don Gasser,
Chair

State Water Resources Control Board

Linda S. Adams
Secretary for
Environmental Protection

Tam M. Doduc, Board Chair
1001 I Street • Sacramento, California 95814 • (916) 341-5455
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100 • Sacramento, California • 95812-0100
Fax (916) 341-5621 • http://www.waterboards.ca.gov

Arnold Schwarzenegger
Governor

NOTICE OF OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED STATE WATER BOARD APPROVAL OF AN AMENDMENT TO THE WATER QUALITY CONTROL PLAN FOR THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY BASIN (BASIN PLAN) TO ESTABLISH A TOTAL MAXIMUM DAILY LOAD (TMDL) FOR SEDIMENT AND RELATED HABITAT ENHANCEMENT GOALS IN THE NAPA RIVER WATERSHED

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) will now accept comments on the proposed approval of an amendment to the Basin Plan that would establish a program to control excessive sediment and achieve related habitat enhancement goals in the Napa River Watershed. The amendment was adopted by the San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board on January 23, 2007. The State Water Board expects to consider the proposed approval of the amendment at a future meeting. Notice of that meeting will be published separately. The amendment, the State Water Board agenda language, and draft resolution are available on the State Water Board's Web site at http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/water_issues/programs/tmdl/tmdl.shtml#rb2 or can be received by mail by contacting Joanna Jensen at (916) 341-5557.

Comment letters to the State Water Board must be received by 12 p.m. on May 8, 2008. After this deadline, State Water Board staff will not accept additional written comments unless the State Water Board determines that such comments should be accepted. Please send your comments to: Jeanine Townsend, Clerk to the Board, State Water Resources Control Board, 1001 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, or by email to commentletters@waterboards.ca.gov, or by fax to (916) 341-5620. Please also indicate in the subject line, "Comment Letter – Napa River Sediment TMDL."

Please direct questions about this notice to Joanna Jensen, Division of Water Quality, at (916) 341-5557 (jjensen@waterboards.ca.gov) or Senior Staff Counsel Steven H. Blum at (916) 341-5177 (sblum@waterboards.ca.gov).

April 9, 2008
Date

Jeanine Townsend
Clerk to the Board

Summary of Water Management Elements in the "Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality & Supply, Flood Control, River & Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006"

Proposition 84

Water

August 2006

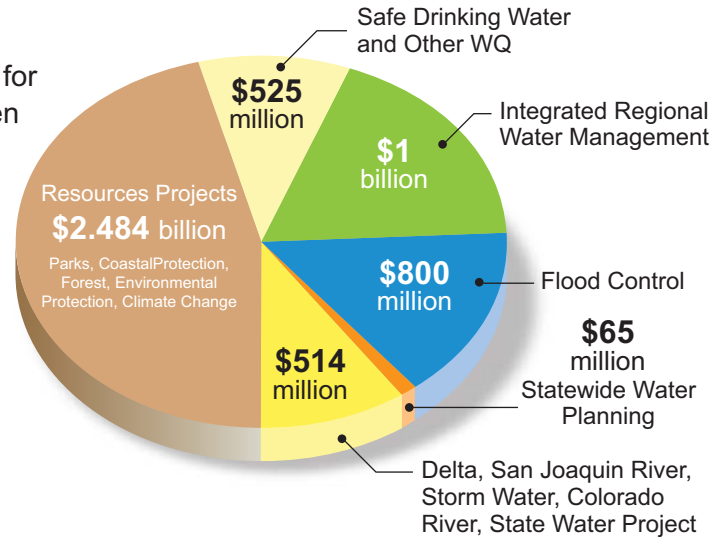
Prepared by Department of Water Resources

The California Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act (Proposition 84) makes new investments for flood protection and water management programs.

The Need:

- Over the next 25 years, demand for water statewide will grow between 2 and 6 million acre feet.

- Californians who don't have access to clean and safe drinking water are more vulnerable to disease. An estimated 80,000 households obtain water from shallow wells or other sources that are at greater risk of contamination.



- About 13 percent of the total miles of California's rivers and streams have impaired water quality, and samples taken from all of the state's regions show that 5 to 42 percent of public water supply wells exceed one or more drinking water standards.

- Delta levees protect water supplies for agriculture and two-thirds of Californians, but they are threatened by ongoing subsidence of Delta islands, the potential of a major earthquake, rising sea levels, and lack of adequate funding for maintenance work.

- The Central Valley flood system, which protects more than 500,000 people and structures worth at least $50 billion, is deteriorating and needs to be improved.

Key water management elements of the $5.4 billion bond measure are:

- *$1 billion* in funding for integrated regional water management. These funds will provide grants to increase water supply, reduce demand, and protect water quality. The result will be an additional 1 million acre feet of water per year for California.

- *$800 million* for flood management. These funds would be in addition to the $4.09 billion in funding for flood management proposed in a bond measure (Prop.1E) on the November ballot.

- *$100 million* to the Secretary for Resources to restore flows and salmon runs on the San Joaquin River. Funding to implement restoration would help resolve long-standing water management and environmental protection issues on the San Joaquin River.

- *$36 million* to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to reimburse local agencies to line remaining unlined portions of the All American and Coachella Canals to reduce seepage.

- *$90 million* for local projects to reduce stormwater contamination of rivers, lakes, and streams. The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) will award grants for these projects.

The following is a summary of projects and funding to support water management activities.

Safe Drinking Water and Water Quality Projects

The bond would provide $1 billion to local agencies and regional entities for integrated regional water management, through grant programs managed by DWR. Integrated regional water management includes actions to provide long-term reliable water supplies and other benefits. Based on past programs, $1 billion in state investment will leverage an estimated $3 billion in local investment and provide 1 million acre feet of new water supply or reduced demand each year.

Other provisions to improve water quality include $10 million to Department of Health Services for emergency actions, $180 million for small community drinking water grants, $50 million for the Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Fund, $80 million for the State Water Pollution Control Revolving Fund, $60 million for loans and grants for groundwater contamination, and $15 million to the SWRCB for grants to reduce agricultural pollution discharges.

The bond provides $130 million for grants to implement Delta water quality improvement projects to protect drinking water supplies.

Flood Control

The bond would provide $800 million to DWR for flood control projects. The funds are allocated to state and local flood control projects, floodplain mapping, and Delta projects.

Statewide Water Planning and Design

The bond provides $65 million to DWR for efforts to maintain water supply reliability and improve flood protection, including:

- Evaluating the impacts of climate change on water supplies and flood protection.
- Completing surface storage studies pursuant to the CALFED Bay-Delta Program.
- Coordinating groundwater storage and reservoir operation for flood control and water supply benefits.
- Other planning and feasibility studies to improve the integration of flood control and water supply systems.

Protection of Rivers, Lakes, and Streams

To protect and restore rivers, lakes and streams, their watersheds and associated land, water, and other natural resources, funds are directed to the following agencies:

Department of Fish and Game

Allocates $180 million for the development of a Natural Community Conservation Plan, coastal salmon and fishery restoration projects, the Lower Colorado River Multi-Species Habitat Conservation Plan and the Salton Sea Restoration Fund.

Department of Water Resources

Provides $36 million to local agencies to line the All American and Coachella Canals, $54 million for access to recreation and fish and wildlife resources associated with the State Water Project, and $18 million for the Urban Streams Restoration Program.

California Conservation Corps

$45 million for conservation and restoration projects and grants to local conservation corps.

Resources Agency

Allocates $100 million to implement a court settlement to restore flows and naturally reproducing and self sustaining populations of salmon to the San Joaquin River between the Friant Dam and the Merced River. The funds are designated for channel and structural improvements and related research pursuant to the court settlement.

The bond also provides funds to protect and restore rivers, streams, lakes, watersheds and other natural resources including $72 Million for the River Parkways Grant Program; $36 million to the San Joaquin River Conservancy for river parkway projects; $72 million for the Los Angeles and San Gabriel Rivers; $45 million for the Santa Ana River Parkway; $36 million to the California Tahoe Conservancy, and funding directly to regional conservancies.

What is a IRWMP?

Integrated Resource Planning

The Basis for Regional Water Management

(from Lake County website, 4/17/08)

Overview

Integrated resource planning is a comprehensive approach to resource management and planning that emerged in the late 1980s in the electric power industry. As applied to water management, integrated resource planning is a systems approach that explores the cause-and-effect relationships affecting water resources wherever the planning entity's operations affect water use, quality, and supply. The process analyzes all the interrelated water management components in a given region. The focus is on the interrelation of the different water management components with the understanding that changes in the management of one component will affect the others. Because these components are often not confined to the boundaries of a single water management agency, a consensus-based, cross-jurisdictional, regional approach may be required to formulate comprehensive, win-win solutions to identified problems.

The overriding goals of the process are to ensure reliable, affordable, good quality water from a diversity of sources; and design a comprehensive plan that achieves water supply reliability and quality objectives but allows planned programs to adapt to changes in environmental, institutional, and socioeconomic conditions. By its nature, integrated resource planning is technical and political because a plan for managing water resources in any basin affects ecosystems; socioeconomic systems; and water storage, treatment, and conveyance systems. Integrated resource planning identifies the appropriate mix of demand-side and supply-side management components (for example, urban water conservation, agricultural water conservation, water reuse and recycling, water transfers, conjunctive use, expanded conveyance flexibility, and new groundwater and surface water storage) that are expected to provide long term, reliable water service and maximize benefits at the lowest reasonable cost. The process is employed to:

· Evaluate the current state of water resources in a watershed or region;

· Determine the variety of current and future demands for water and how demand, quality, and supply patterns are affecting land use, fish and wildlife resources, and local and regional economies; and

· Balance demand management and supply enhancement options to produce a comprehensive, adaptive water management plan that specifies long-term goals, objectives, and programs to provide sustainable water uses in a basin.

When integrated resource planning is applied rigorously, it considers all competing needs and identifies the different resource management strategies that the planning entity can employ. Integrated resource planning evaluates various response packages, which are different mixes of resource management strategies used to manage water resources over a designated planning horizon, and indicates when and under what future conditions a management strategy would be added or changed. The costs (socioeconomic and environmental) of employing each response package are also derived during the planning process.

Selecting the timing of adding or changing individual strategies to a region's management response requires completion of a risk analysis. The risk analysis takes into account the expected frequency and severity of not meeting current and future water demands; how additional water management strategies are likely to affect that frequency and severity; and how available contingency measures can reduce the impact of shortages when they occur.

Integrated resource planning includes many elements of traditional planning. It also includes thorough analyses of water use efficiency programs, levels of uncertainty acceptable to the planning entity, and coordinated efforts to involve the public in the planning process. Integrated resource planning is multi-objective planning that recognizes decisions must balance competing objectives in a sustainable way. Integrated resource planning often includes the following activities:

· Define planning objectives and associated evaluation criteria (see Chapter 4 for suggested criteria). The objectives must be specific and the criteria measurable, so they can be used to evaluate alternative response packages.

· Involve the appropriate constituencies. The level and breadth of involvement will vary depending on local area needs and the level of interest in the resource strategies being considered.

· Assess demand-reduction strategies such as agricultural and urban water conservation. These strategies must be identified and analyzed in the same multi-tiered way that supply-side strategies are analyzed.

· Assess operational efficiency and supply redistribution strategies such as conveyance, system operation, and water transfers.

· Assess supply augmentation strategies such as conjunctive management, water recycling, desalination, and storage.

· Assess water quality management strategies such as drinking water treatment, groundwater/aquifer remediation, pollution prevention, and runoff management.

· Assess resource stewardship strategies such as agricultural land stewardship, urban land use management, ecosystem restoration, floodplain management, and watershed management.

· Formulate and evaluate different response packages. The resource management strategies selected from the above activities are combined into alternative response packages. Each response package then goes through multilevel screening using approved evaluation criteria, until (one to three) responses emerge that best meet the planning objectives and evaluation criteria. Each response package (mix of strategies) must explicitly demonstrate the tradeoffs among the different evaluation criteria. Often, a decision analysis method must be approved before screening the individual resource management strategies and the response packages.

Guiding Principles

Use a broad, long-term perspective. Use a comprehensive stakeholder-based planning process to (1) promote multi-objective planning with a regional focus, (2) emphasize both local and regional initiatives, (3) recognize distinct regional problems and resources, and (4) emphasize long-term planning (30-50 year planning horizon).

Identify broad benefits, costs, and tradeoffs. Evaluate programs and projects recognizing economic growth, environmental quality, and social equity as co-equal objectives. Based on this comprehensive assessment, determine potential economic, environmental, and social benefits, beneficiaries, costs, and tradeoffs and include a plan to avoid, minimize, and mitigate for adverse impacts.

Promote sustainable resource management. Promote the wise use of all natural resources to ensure their availability for future generations. This can be done by

promoting activities with the greatest benefit for the entire region and activities that consider the interrelationship between regional water supplies, water quality, water infrastructure, flood protection, recreation, land use, economic prosperity, and the environment.

Increase regional self-sufficiency. Increase regional self-sufficiency by considering activities that reduce the need to import water from another hydrologic region, particularly during times of limited supply availability such as during a drought or after a catastrophic event like an earthquake.

Increase regional drought preparedness. Evaluate and implement strategies that among other benefits would reduce the impacts of drought in the region. In California, drought contingency planning is an important component of regional water planning. Examples of such strategies include water use efficiency and recycled municipal water, system reoperation, conjunctive management and groundwater storage, surface storage (CALFED and regional), and ocean and brackish water desalination.

Promote environmental justice. All projects sponsored by or partnered with the State, or using public funds must promote environmental justice, which is the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures,and incomes with respect to the development, funding and implementation of resource management projects.

Promote coordination and collaboration among local agencies and governments. Promote and improve coordination and collaboration among local agencies and governments within a region, particularly those that are involved in activities that might affect the long-term sustainability of water supply and water quality within the region. Regional planning should include a public review process with open and transparent decision-making, as well as education and outreach for public, stakeholders, and decision-makers.

Use sound science, best data, and local knowledge. Use the best available data and information and, when possible, use planning methods and analytical techniques that have undergone scientific review.

Elements of Integrated Regional Water Management

A water management plan created through integrated resource planning includes the following elements:

<u>Content and Principles</u>

· Short-term goals and objectives (prioritized to the extent possible)

· Long-term goals and objectives (prioritized to the extent possible)

· Description of current resource characteristics and conditions

· Description of resource management strategies to address cross-cutting water management issues such as flood control, water quality, environmental water management, land use planning, water allocation and appropriation

· Inclusion of information from a variety of interests through broad public participation–especially when developing goals, objectives, and evaluation criteria

· Information regarding management strategies, costs, risks and tradeoffs (more details offered under “Analysis” below)

· Transparency of evaluation methods, tools, assumptions, and data

Analysis

· Initial conditions for water management information such as water uses, supplies, quality, water infrastructure and operational criteria, and water-related resource management

· Employment of a systems approach to water management assessment

· Current water management objectives

· Current water management capabilities, such as ability to meet current water management objectives

· Employment of a least-cost planning framework[1] that identifies all economic costs and other implications of adding reliability, as well as all costs and implications of forgoing additional reliability

· Identification of risks and uncertainties associated with different resource management strategies

· Evaluation criteria for comparing alternative response packages (different mixes of management strategies)

· Identification of response packages that achieve an acceptable level of supply reliability and meet other water management objectives, while considering risks and tradeoffs.

Implementation

· Finance plan based on prioritized objectives and preferred response packages

· Implementation plan that includes roles, tasks, and challenges, such as regulatory compliance, lead agencies, timelines, legal issues, etc.

· Performance measures to track plan implementation (for example, how well the preferred response packages meet goals and objectives)

· Data collection and management needed to evaluate performance of regional programs and projects

[1] Least-cost planning is a cornerstone on integrated resource planning. It assists a comprehensive e examination of all water management alternatives including the option of forgoing additional reliability measures if the cost (economic or other) of implementation exceeds the cost of coping with current reliability levels.

Thursday May 22, 2008 Copia, Napa, Ca

To raise awareness of issues facing Napa County's watersheds & explore solutions for improving the health of the watersheds.

Registration fee is $20, payable by cash or check
Registration form and more information at www.napawatersheds.org
Contact Frances Knapczyk (Ph: 707 252-4188 x120)

Napa County Watershed Symposium

AGENDA:

8:30 Registration begins. Exhibit Session.

9:00 Symposium convenes - Master of Ceremonies, Kate Dargan, State Fire Marshall,
Welcoming remarks - Honorable Jill Techel, Mayor, City of Napa
Welcoming remarks - Honorable Brad Wagenknecht, Chairman, Napa County Board of Supervisors

9:30 Session 1: Lessons From the Past
Historical Ecology of Napa Valley - Robin Grossinger, Ecologist, San Francisco Estuary Institute
Native American Resource Use in the Putah Creek Watershed - Eric Wohlgemuth, Archaeologist, Far Western Anthropological Research Group
The Putah Creek Watershed & Lake Berryessa - Dean Enderlin, Geologist
The Napa River Flood Protection Project - Rick Thomasser, Operations Manager, Napa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District

11:30 Session 2: What is Happening Now?
A whirlwind tour of our watersheds, featuring non-profit groups, government agencies, & others

12:30 Lunch will be provided

1:30 Session 3: A Future Vision for Napa County's Watersheds:
A Panel Discussion
William Bennett, Professional Engineer
Fred Euphrat, Natural Resources Aid, Office of Senator Patricia Wiggins
David Graves, co-founder of Saintsbury Winery
Felix Riesenberg, Principle Water Resources Engineer, Napa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District
John Woodbury, Director, Napa County Regional Parks & Open Space District

3:00 Symposium adjourns:
Field trip to South Wetlands Opportunity Area
Napa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District Open House
(more information to come!)

SPONSORS: Watershed Information Center & Conservancy, Napa County Resource Conservation District, Napa County Flood Control & Water Conservation District, Sustainable Napa County, City of Napa, California Coastal Conservancy, Napa County Regional Parks and Open Space District, San Francisco Estuary Institute, COPIA, Silverado Resort

DIRECTIONS: COPIA is located at 500 First Street. From Hwy 29, take Lincoln St exit. Go east on Lincoln St for 1 mile. Turn right on Soscol Ave, continue for 0.7 miles. Turn left on First St. COPIA is on the north side of First St.

REGISTRATION FORM

2008 Napa County Watershed Symposium

Register by **May 14, 2008** to guarantee a seat and a lunch.
Same-day registration is contingent upon space.

Contact Information

Name:_____

Title:_____

Affiliation:_____

Address:_____

Phone:_____FAX:_____

Email: _____

_____Mark if you do NOT want your contact information included in Symposium materials

Lunch

Selection: _____vegetarian
_____vegan
_____meat

Fieldtrip

_____Mark if you would like to receive more information via e-mail

Payment

We accept cash or checks; please make checks payable to Napa Co Resource Conservation District

$20 registration fee is _____ enclosed
_____will be paid at Watershed Symposium

Send Registration Form:

Mail: NC Watershed Symposium, 1303 Jefferson Street, Suite 500B, Napa, CA 94559
FAX: 707 252-4219
Email: frances@naparcd.org

CITY OF NAPA CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA REPORT

APPT. CALENDAR
Agenda Item No. 9A
Date: April 15, 2008

To: Members of City Council

From: Mayor Jill Techel

Prepared by: Sara Cox, City Clerk

Subject: Watershed Information Center and Conservancy Board Representative

ISSUE STATEMENT:

Potential appointment of a city representative to the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy Board.

DISCUSSION:

Due to scheduling conflicts Councilmember Mott is no longer able to attend regular meetings of the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy Board. The Council is being asked to discuss appointing a replacement representative on the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy Board and whether the representative should be a Councilmember or a city resident with in-depth experience relating to watershed issues.

FINANCIAL IMPACTS:

None.

CEQA:

The City Clerk has determined that the recommended action described in this agenda report is not subject to CEQA, pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Section 15060(c).

DOCUMENTS ATTACHED:

1. Attachment 1: WICC Mission Statement
2. Attachment 2: WICC Enabling Legislation/Resolution
3. Attachment 3: WICC Bylaws
4. Attachment 4: WICC Membership Roster

RECOMMENDED ACTION:
City staff recommends that the City Council move, second and approve each of the actions set forth below, in the form of the following motion stated as:

Move to:

Direct staff to do a recruitment and set up candidate interviews for Council to appoint an experienced and knowledgeable city representative on the Watershed Information Center and Conservancy Board.

CITY MANAGER