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2014 Water Bond

North Bay Watershed Association

April 11, 2014 • John Coleman, ACWA President

Investing in Our Water Future

- + Virtually every aspect of California's economy depends on water.
- + Investments in our statewide water system have not kept pace with a growing population and changing needs.
- + Large-scale investments are needed
 - + Water storage capacity
 - + Conservation / recycling
 - + Safe drinking water
 - + Levee improvements
 - + Ecosystem restoration



Investing in Our Future

Drought makes it clear: Californians must invest in a comprehensive program to achieve the coequal goals and prepare for future droughts.



2014 Water Bond

- + High level of interest now due to drought
- + ACWA supports current bond set for November 2014 ballot, but changes are needed to assure success
- + Passing a water bond in 2014 is critical for watersheds and water supply reliability



ACWA Criteria for the “Right Bond”

- + Significant funding for water storage projects and Delta ecosystem restoration
- + Critical funding for
 - + Safe drinking water for disadvantaged communities
 - + Local water recycling, conservation projects
 - + Groundwater cleanup
 - + Key watersheds
- + Keep total below \$10 billion
- + Avoid earmarks



Key Water Bond Vehicles

SB 848 (Wolk)

- + \$6.475 billion total
- + Some positive components, but falls short on storage, Delta sustainability funding
- + Policy problems for ACWA

AB 1331 (Rendon)

- + \$8 billion total
- + Improved by recent amendments, but still falls short on storage
- + Policy problems remain

AB 2686 (Perea)

- + Over \$9 billion total
- + Full funding for storage, Delta sustainability
- + Substantial funding for other categories
- + Supported by ACWA



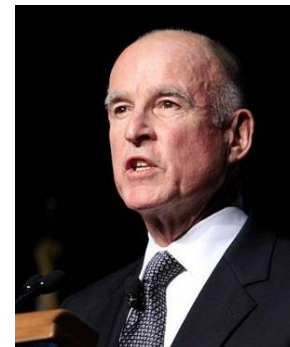
Legislative Action

- + Leadership in both houses will be involved in determining vehicle
- + 2/3 vote required in both houses to modify or remove existing bond
- + ACWA is working with broad coalition on a bipartisan basis to craft a successful bond this year
- + All interested parties should weigh in with legislators on importance of action



2014 Water Bond

- + The need for investments is huge
- + Heightened public awareness due to drought is a game changer
- + This is the year to put a responsible water before California voters



Contact & More Information

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