



Meetings/Events attended

Regional Water Authority

RWA Executive Committee Meeting (Sacramento) - 8/22

Association of California Water Agencies

ACWA Headwaters Workgroup - 8/13

Interview with Antelope Valley- East Kern Water Agency (Public Information Committee)

9/6 - ACWA Vice-President Candidacy

ACWA Region 3

Webinar Planning Sessions - 8/28

Webinar (assist run/moderate): ACWA Region 3 Live Webinar - 9/7

Navigating WUE: Exploring the Challenges of Water Use Efficiency Regulations in California's Mountain Counties

Legislative Report

Legislative Meeting: District Director (9/6)

Update on Budget Jr Trailer Bill AB104

AB 755 (Papan D) Water: public entity: water usage demand analysis.

Introduced: 2/13/2023

Last Amended: 8/14/2023

Status: 9/11/2023-Read third time. Passed. Ordered to the Assembly. (Ayes 28. Noes 10.). In Assembly. Concurrence in Senate amendments pending. May be considered on or after September 13 pursuant to Assembly Rule 77.

Location: 9/11/2023-A. CONCURRENCE

Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Desk	Policy	Fiscal	Floor	Conf. Conc.	Enrolled	Vetoed	Chaptered
1st House				2nd House							

Summary:

Current law authorizes a public entity that supplies water at retail or wholesale within its service area to adopt, in accordance with specified procedures, and enforce a water conservation program. This bill would require a public entity, as defined, to conduct a water usage demand analysis, as defined, prior to completing, or as part of, a cost-of-service analysis conducted to set fees and charges for water service that are consistent with applicable law. The bill would require a public entity to identify, within the water usage demand analysis, the costs of water service for the highest users, as defined, incurred by the public entity, and the average annual volume of water delivered to high water users.

Federal:

Support to Rehydrate the Environment, Agriculture and Municipalities Act, or STREAM Act (S. 2162) by Senator Feinstein. See attached

Summary of STREAM Act
Senators Feinstein, Kelly and Sinema -- June 2023

- **Expedites non-federal storage projects with less than \$250 million in federal funding, water recycling, and desalination projects by allowing Interior to approve the projects.**
 - This provision is needed following the *Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act*'s expiration in December 2021. Absent this provision, Congress must individually authorize all water recycling, desalination and storage projects, with the exception of projects that receive construction funding under the bipartisan infrastructure legislation.
 - Allowing projects to proceed with Interior's approval avoids frequent and lengthy delays in the Congressional approval process.
- Authorizes \$750 million in funding for surface and groundwater storage and conveyance projects (including natural water retention and release projects).
- Authorizes \$300 million for water recycling projects, \$150 million for desalination projects, \$100 million for projects to provide drinking water for disadvantaged communities, and \$250 million for environmental restoration projects.
- **Requires Congressional approval of future federal storage projects** and non-federal storage projects with over \$250 million in federal funding. Congressional approval is appropriate for federal and the most expensive projects.
- **Shortens timeline for Congressional approval of Federal storage projects** through a "Reclamation WRDA" process where Reclamation notifies Congress of completed feasibility studies each year to set up an orderly process to authorize projects.
- **Grandfathers storage projects that receive construction funding from the \$1.15 billion provided for storage in the bipartisan infrastructure law** so they can receive storage funds authorized under this bill and they do not need further authorization to complete construction.
- **Federal non-reimbursable grants are available for non-Federal storage projects funded by the bill only if they have public benefits** that are provided either directly as part of the project or through federal spending on environmental benefits in the same watershed approved as part of a watershed plan adopted together with the project.
 - If a project does have public benefits, it can receive non-reimbursable grants for water supply benefits on a dollar-for-dollar basis for each dollar of public benefits the project provides, up to the 25% maximum federal cost-share (e.g. a project can receive \$5 million in non-reimbursable funding for water supply if it has \$5 million or more of public benefits). This incentivizes multi-benefit projects with water supply and environmental benefits.
 - Non-federal storage projects with water supply benefits only are eligible for reimbursable funding.
- **During droughts, Interior can implement emergency drought relief projects through building permanent facilities, if those facilities are supported by the State where the projects are located and require a federal investment of less than \$30 million.**
 - Current law allows funding only for temporary facilities, excepting groundwater wells.
 - Given the increased frequency of droughts, it is more efficient to install permanent facilities rather than frequently installing and removing temporary facilities.

Legend:		LEGISLATIVE REPORT		
held in committee (suspension)				Director Saunders - August 2023
held in committee				
No color - still active				
District Position				
AB 557	Hart	Would eliminate the sunset of AB 361 - State of Emergency Teleconferencing CSDA sponsored Bill	Support	Coalition: CSDA
SB 23	Caballero	Streamline the regulatory permitting process for water supply and flood risk reduction projects	Support	Coalition: ACWA
SB 638		Climate Resiliency and Flood Protection Bond Act of 2024	Support	Coalition: ACWA
SB 867	Allen	\$7.85 billion bond investment in water infrastructure that focuses on a number of critical water issues including, recycled water, groundwater recharge and storage, flood protection, dam safety, conveyance, storage, safe drinking water, regional watershed resilience, State Water Project improvements, and water conservation.	Support	Coalition: ACWA
AB 62	Mathis	Expansion of Statewide Water Storage Capacity (4mill acre feet - above and below ground)	Support	Coalition: RWA
AB 297	Fong	Extends the local assistance grant program for fire prevention and home hardening education activities in California from 2024 to 2034.	Support	
AB 1567	Garcia	Safe Drinking Water, Wildfire Prevention, Drought Preparation, Flood Protection, Extreme Heat Mitigation, and Workforce Development Bond Act of 2023. \$4B	Support	
SB 504		Wildfires: defensible space: grant programs: local governments. SB 504 would require CalFIRE, when reviewing applications for the local assistance grant program, to give priority to any local governmental entity that is qualified to perform defensible space assessments in very high and high fire hazard severity zones who reports that information using the common reporting platform.	Support	
SB 366 first hearing cancelled		The California Water Plan: long-term supply targets. DWR, in coordination with the California Water Commission (Commission), the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board), other state and federal agencies as appropriate, and the stakeholder advisor committee would be required to develop a comprehensive Plan for addressing the state's water needs and meeting the water supply targets. The Plan shall provide recommendations and strategies to ensure enough water supply for all beneficial uses. The bill would require the plan to include a water supply planning target of 15-million-acre feet of water by 2050 with an interim target of 10-million-acre feet of water by 2040.	Support	
Initiative #1935	California Business Roundtable	Limits Ability of Voters and State and Local Governments to Raise Revenues for Government Services. Ballot Measure will lead to California Constitutional Amendments.	Oppose	Coalition: CSDA
SB 389	Allen	This bill would authorize the State Water Resources Control Board to investigate the diversion and use of water from a stream system to determine whether the diversion and use are based upon appropriation, riparian right, or other basis of right, as specified.	Oppose	
AB 338	Aguiar-Curry	Expand the definition of "public works" to include fuel reduction work done under contract and paid for in whole or in part out of public funds performed as part of a fire mitigation project. The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state.	Oppose	
AB 1337 hearing cancelled		AB 1337 is just part of a wave of water rights legislation that has been introduced this year. Observers of this legislative session have probably noticed a coordinated effort among a certain group of stakeholders to fundamentally change the way California's water system is implemented and enforced. AB 1337 is arguably the most concerning of the bills that have been introduced this year, as it does not just provide the State Water Board the tools to enforce the water rights system—it gives the State Water Board the authority to significantly re-write the water rights system https://legiscan.com/CA/bill/AB1337/2023	Oppose	Update - was amended to include Pre 1914 water rights
AB 460		State Water Resources Control Board: interim relief. AB 460 is one of several water right bills that have been introduced this year. This bill focuses on interim relief has been part of those discussion. While the fact sheet for the bill states this bill is intended to respond to last year's incident on the Shasta River, the scope of the bill applies far beyond violations of curtailment orders during emergency drought conditions.	Oppose	
CARB Fleet Act		Advanced Clean Fleets (ACF) Regulation-State and Local Agency Fleet Requirements The proposed ACF regulation is part of a comprehensive strategy that would, consistent with public health needs, accelerate the widespread adoption of zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) in the medium- and heavy-duty truck sector and in light-duty package delivery vehicles. The proposed ACF regulation would require certain fleets to deploy ZEVs starting in 2024 and would establish a clear end date of new medium- and heavy-duty internal combustion engine (ICE) vehicle sales in 2040.	Oppose	GM Update
Bills Amended -				
AB 676	(Bennett D-Ventura)	Would define what is considered domestic use within existing law characterizing the highest uses of water. <i>Bill amended to have no regulatory impacts</i>	Can move to Neutral position	
AB 1572	(Friedman D-Burbank)	Would prohibit the use of potable water, as defined, for the irrigation of nonfunctional turf located on commercial, industrial, municipal, institutional, and multifamily residential properties. <i>Bill amended to remove Agency enforcement</i>	Neutral	
AB 754		This bill would put budgeting requirements, mandated reports, and budgeting on raw water/ agricultural water. It also puts cookie cutter shortage contingency plans for reservoirs based on level and no other metric. This is being opposed and worked on by ACWA and RWA	Oppose	