

Media Release

CLEAN WATER FUND RECEIVES \$3 BILLION IN FINANCING APPLICATIONS FOR VITAL WATER QUALITY PROJECTS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Sept. 14, 2016

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SACRAMENTO – The State Water Resources Control Board's commitment to funding large water infrastructure needs statewide has seen the <u>Clean Water State Revolving Fund</u> (CWSRF) reach more than \$3 billion in complete applications, and it has increased its financing commitments by more than \$300 million per year over the last three years.

This information and what projects are on tap for financing in the future are included in the 2016-17 Intended Use Plan update now available online.

The CWSRF, established in 1989, helps prevent pollution and protects precious water supplies and public health in communities throughout the Golden State. It does this by providing low-interest financing and loan forgiveness for the construction of wastewater treatment and water recycling facilities. The fund also finances watershed projects (non-point source), as well as storm drain pollution control solutions and estuary plans.

During the last three years, financing through the CWSRF has averaged \$800 million per year, up from \$500 million per year over the last decade. In the 2015-16 fiscal year, more than \$1 billion was financed for various water quality projects.

"Helping communities invest in updating their water infrastructure and making sure individual communities' water quality is protected is a high priority for the state," said Darrin Polhemus, deputy director of the State Water Board's Division of Financial Assistance. "Funding these projects allows communities to better care for their water resources and better protect public health and the environment."

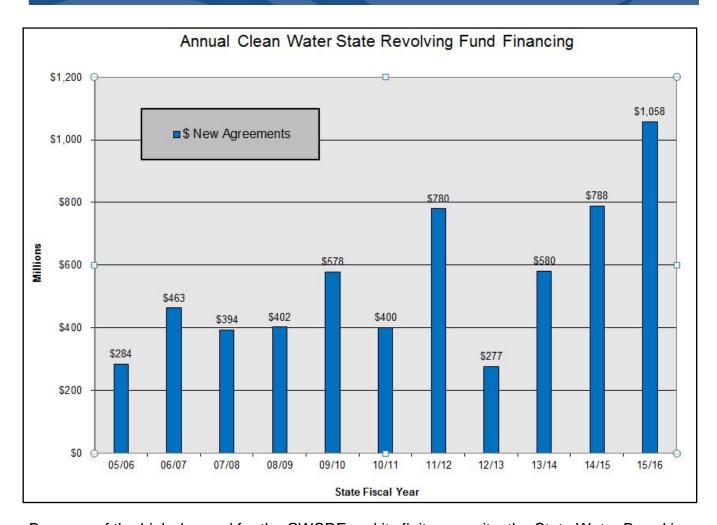
The Clean Water Fund's increases don't just come from a higher level of demand, but because of improvements to the fund. Such upgrades include increasing the financing terms from 20 years to 30 years, and improving the application process and providing better financing terms.











Because of the high demand for the CWSRF and its finite capacity, the State Water Board is focusing on getting safe, reliable water resources to those most in need. The CWSRF will focus on disadvantaged communities and will work to fund additional water recycling projects that help increase California's water resiliency. The fund will also help finance green projects to address water and energy efficiency, green infrastructure and environmental innovation. Unfortunately this means many projects will need to proceed with funding other than from the CWSRF.

The Intended Use Plan update includes the many projects that CWSRF is looking to finance. It includes large wastewater treatment projects, such as Phase 8 (\$484,585,422) of the Sacramento County Regional Sanitation District's Echo Water Project, to smaller projects like the Quail Valley Septics-to-Sewer Project (\$500,000).

For more information, see the Clean Water State Revolving Fund 2016-17 Intended Use Plan update.





