

# **California Water Action Plan and the Cal. WaterFix**

## ***August 2015***

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[http://resources.ca.gov/docs/california\\_water\\_action\\_plan/Final\\_California\\_Water\\_Action\\_Plan.pdf](http://resources.ca.gov/docs/california_water_action_plan/Final_California_Water_Action_Plan.pdf)

### **Agencies Involved**

- California Natural Resources Agency
  - ❖ **Department of Water Resources**
  - ❖ **Department of Fish and Wildlife**
  - ❖ Delta Stewardship Council
- California Environmental Protection Agency
  - ❖ State Water Resources Control Board
- California Department of Food and Agriculture

### **Proposed Actions**

1. Make Conservation a California Way of Life
2. Increase Regional Self-Reliance and Integrated Water Management Across All Levels of Government
- 3. Achieve the Co-Equal Goals for the Delta**
- 4. Protect and Restore Important Ecosystems**
5. Manage and Prepare for Dry Periods
- 6. Expand Water Storage Capacity and Improve Groundwater Management**
7. Provide Safe Water for All Communities
8. Increase Flood Protection
9. Increase Operational and Regulatory Efficiency
10. Identify Sustainable and Integrated Financing Opportunities

## Water Action Plan Conclusions

- All Californians have a stake in our water future
- This is a path toward reliability, restoration, and resilience in California water.
- Must adapt to this “new normal” and recapture California’s resource management leadership and our economic and environmental resilience and reliability.
- No silver bullets or single projects that will “fix the problem.”
- **Must have a portfolio of actions** to comprehensively address the challenges this state faces.
- Some actions must be taken immediately to address current risks:
  - ❖ looming drought
  - ❖ inadequate safe drinking water
- Over the next five years, must address fundamental changes in our approach to water resource management and be prepared for the changes the future holds.

## Cal. WaterFix Disconnect From Water Action Plan

- WaterFix **lead agency DWR** prepared this January 2014 Water Action Plan with help from DFW
- BDCP and WaterFix **have yet to respond to numerous requests** from Delta Interests, members of Congress and environmental groups to study a portfolio of actions including additional storage, water conservation, reuse and demand reduction
- DWR’s Cal. WaterFix alternatives do not include these crucial Water Action Plan actions
- Water Action Plan calls for **restoration of important ecosystems** – WaterFix would restore minimal Delta habitat as mitigation for its adverse impacts on species – Cal. EcoRestore only restores 30,000 acres of habitat, most of which is already required to mitigate past and present impacts and is long overdue
- Delta interests have a key stake in California’s water future but have not been included in development of BDCP or Cal. WaterFix, or in BDCP governance proposals