



Enabling Water Use Efficiency

WATER RESILIENCE STRATEGIES FOR CALIFORNIA

Garry Brown, Executive Director
Orange County Coastkeeper



Coastkeeper Vision and Mission

All people have the inalienable right to clean water.

Coastkeeper promotes and restores water resources that are drinkable, fishable, swimmable and sustainable.





Humboldt BAYKEEPER
Klamath RIVERKEEPER
Russian RIVERKEEPER
San Francisco BAYKEEPER
Monterey COASTKEEPER
San Luis Obispo COASTKEEPER
Santa Barbara CHANNELKEEPER
Ventura COASTKEEPER
Los Angeles WATERKEEPER
Orange County COASTKEEPER
Inland Empire WATERKEEPER
San Diego COASTKEEPER



Resilience Plan for Urban Areas

- Promote development of Indirect Potable Reuse facilities and expedite the development of procedures to permit Direct Potable Reuse





Resilience Plan for Urban Areas

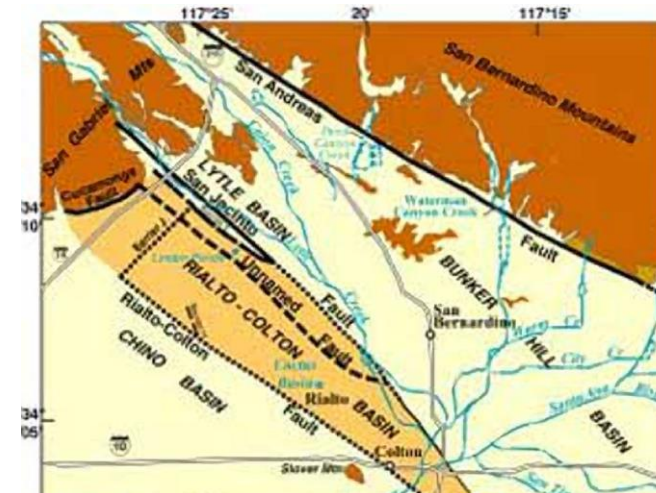
- ❑ Expand policies and regulations to ensure greater water use efficiency, especially in landscape irrigation





Resilience Plan for Urban Areas

- Raise the funding priority in restoring contaminated aquifers





Resilience Plan for Urban Areas

- ☐ Develop more efficiency in moving water within regions from where it is located to where it is most needed.



Urban Agency Recommendations

Consider hiring and place in each urban Regional Board a Water Use Efficiency Officer to:

- ☐ Enforce water efficiency regulations and coordinate with water agencies and municipalities to ensure potable water is not wasted and unreasonably used.
- ☐ Coordinate model landscape ordinances and work with municipalities to adopt them for new development, and retrofit landscapes, commercial properties, and large residential complexes with HOAs.
- ☐ Ensure municipalities have ordinances that are compatible and allow transitioning to drought-tolerant landscapes.



Urban Agency Recommendations

Consider hiring and placing in each urban Regional Board a Water Use Efficiency Officer to:

- ❑ Develop and promote training programs for the establishment of drought tolerant landscapes—it takes two years for a drought-tolerant landscape to become established. Rebate programs alone will be less successful.
- ❑ Coordinate and promote training programs for landscape contractor employees, municipal and commercial landscape maintenance personnel, and homeowners.



Additional Recommendations

1. Collaborate with local NGOs—such as the California Waterkeepers, HTB, Sierra Club—to provide public outreach and education regarding the State Board’s mandatory conservation measures.
2. Establish green infrastructure and water efficiency as higher priorities in the Clean Water and Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Funds.
3. Encourage water agencies to take advantage of the improved Prop. 218 “protest process” for the approval of water-related fees.
4. Ensure future stormwater permits maximize stormwater retention and integrated watershed management.
5. Apply the waste and unreasonable use doctrine and define minimum standards for acceptable water use by sector.



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