CALIFORNIA SUSTAINABLE WATER PLAN

Cost-effective regional projects can deliver water and permanent jobs in each region of the state.



PROMISING PROJECTS & PRACTICES

These projects are the building blocks of a sustainable water system in California. Local water sustainability lessens the need for massive public works projects to move water hundreds of miles across the state.

REUSE

Water Recycling

- · Treatment and reuse of wastewater. graywater, and stormwater, especially in coastal areas
- · Desalt brackish groundwater in basins that technologies like modern toilets, are overdrafted when safe
- · Recharge and recycle water for groundwater basins in urban areas
- Direct potable reuse
- Investment in water conservation

PROJECTS:

- · Orange County's Groundwater Replacement System Expansion
- · Hyperion Water Reclamation Plant
- · Pure Water San Diego
- · Padre Dam Water Recycling Facility
- · North Valley (Modesto/Turlock) Regional Recycled Water Program
- · Tracy Lake Groundwater Recharge Project Silicon Valley Advanced Water
- · Purification Center Salinas Valley Reclamation Proiect (SVRP)
- Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency
- · Groundwater and Recycled Water Program

CONSERVATION AND EFFICIENCY

- Ensure clean drinking water for rural communities
- Urban Water Conservation

Implement large-scale new water-saving landscapes/lawns, water meters, etc.

- Agricultural Water Conservation Install modern irrigation technologies and practices, such as drip irrigation and precise irrigation scheduling
- Floodland Restoration Implement floodland restoration along key parts of the San Joaquin River
- Toxic Farmland Retirement Retire 300.000 acres of toxic farmland in the Westlands Water District and the three Broadview, Panache, Pacheco adjacent

PROJECTS:

water districts.

- · Rancho Breisgau Habitat Restoration Project
- · Davis-Woodland Schools and Parks Water Conservation Plan
- · The Alfalfa Project

• INVEST IN REPAIRING 678 CALIFORNIA DAMS IN NEED OF SEISMIC UPGRADES

STORMWATER CAPTURE

Capture stormwater runoff in urban and suburban areas when it rains. Direct runoff to open spaces to recharge groundwater supplies or by harvesting the runoff, primarily from rooftops, in rain barrels and cisterns for direct use in nonpotable applications.

PROJECTS:

- Watts Green Streets
- · San Francisco Stormwater Management Requirements
- · Los Angeles Stormwater Capture Plan
- Tujunga Spreading Grounds
- · Los Amigos Park Stormwater Demonstration Project, Santa Monica
- · Orange County Groundwater Replenishment System

JOBS

Dr. Jeffrey Michael, Director of the Center for Business and Policy Research at the University of the Pacific has pointed out that the investments in water conservation create 15 to 20 jobs per million dollars of expenditure, as opposed to the five jobs per million dollars of investment that is touted for the Delta Tunnel proposal.

The Los Angeles-based nonprofit Economic Roundtable found that investments in water use efficiency reduce this region's water consumption and dependence on large, statewide water diversion projects and create jobs that pay sustaining wages and significantly expand local business activity.

CONCLUSION

Developing regional self-reliance is the best way to provide a sustainable water supply for California. This requires investment in water conservation, maximizing wastewater reuse and groundwater recharge, while capturing stormwater and rainwater, gray water, and fixing leaky local pipes. Projects that increase local water supply also provide excellent, permanent jobs.

ARTICLES AND REPORTS OF INTEREST

Benefit-Cost Analysis of The California WaterFix August 2016

Center for Business and Policy Research, University of the Pacific

The Untapped Potential of California's Water Supply: Efficiency, Reuse, and Stormwater

Pacific Institute

A Sustainable Water Future for California

Pacific Institute

Parched California Farmers Hope to Tap Wastewater From Cities

KQED

State Water Efficiency and Enhancement Program

California Department of Food and Agriculture

Santa Monica has Plans to be Independent of Imported Water

City of Santa Monica

Developing the Technologies, Policies and Strategies to Make L.A. County Sustainable by 2050

University of California, Los Angeles

Restore Tulare Lake for Water Storage

Revive the San Joaquin

Recycled Water

San Diego County Water Authority

Regional Groundwater Banking and Water Reuse Potential in the San Francisco Bay Area Water Supply System

Masters Thesis, Science - Michelle Anne Lent, University of California, Berkeley 2002

Water Conservation Portal

California Water Boards