Water Supply Infrastructure: Yesterday, Today and Tomorrow

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League of California Cities Annual Conference
Sept. 19, 2013

The Coequal Goals Require a Whole New Approach

We need to rethink how we manage water and the environment from one end of California to the other.

Today's Take-Away Message

California's water system needs a technology upgrade.

San Francisco Chronicle
We must invest in the right technology

- New technology in the Delta
- New storage to meet the coequal goals
- Investments must be made as part of comprehensive, statewide program
Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Plan Elements:

- Conveyance Infrastructure: $14 billion
- Aquatic Habitat Restoration: $3.9 billion
- Increased Commitment to Local Resource Development
- Address All Stressors

All of this must be done while protecting interests in the Delta.
The Technology of Storage

New Storage is Key to Meeting the Coequal Goals

- Yesterday, storage projects were a means to increase supply
- Today they are a means to build operational flexibility for 21st-century needs.

The Delta: March 2011

- There was no place to put the water
- 200,000 cfs

The Technology of Storage

- To meet the coequal goals, we need more places to “park” water -- both above and below the Delta -- for relatively short periods of time.
- Climate change makes it even more important that we develop this kind of flexibility.
Need for Statewide Solutions

- Delta conveyance problems can no longer be ignored
- But, Delta solutions can only be successful as part of a statewide comprehensive action plan
- Sometimes to solve a problem, you have to grow it.

Learning from History

- Bay Delta Accord
- CalFed ROD
- 2009 Comprehensive Package
- Delta Vision Task Force

Statewide Water Action Plan

- ACWA convening process to develop a statewide action plan.
- DWR in advisory role
- Broad cross-section of water interests at the table
- Targeted for completion in September
- Goal is to produce succinct plan with statewide actions that can be broadly supported by water community and serve as sustainable path forward for California
**Statewide Water Action Plan**

### Actions to Improve Statewide Water Supply
- Expand storage
- Invest in WUE/IRWMPs
- Facilitate water transfers
- Protect and improve water quality
- Pass a water bond

### Actions to Protect Water Rights
- Respect area of origin commitments
- Implement “common sense” solutions – Policies should not result in reservoirs going to dead pool

### Actions to Protect the Integrity of the System
- Complete the BDCP process, consistent with these principles
- Invest in levee improvements / maintenance
- Prepare for emergencies to protect public safety
- Improve and expand groundwater management
Statewide Water Action Plan

**Actions to Promote Better Stewardship**

- Integrate headwaters management to sustain the environment and improve statewide water quality and supply
- Coordinate state and federal regulatory actions
- Implement flow regulations through a collaborative, science-based process to promote the co-equal goals

**A Time of Opportunity**

- The water community has a history of rising to the challenge
- After decades of stalemate, this is a time of enormous opportunity
- The Brown Administration should move on a statewide water action plan, and we should all support it

**Questions / Contact**

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