Santa Ana Watershed Project Authority

2018 Legislative Planning Session

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West Coast Advisors
WCA
Strategic Public Affairs
Overview

- Water supply situation
- Capitol Update
- Key issues for 2018
- Election Overview
Water Supply Situation

- Dry fall and winter, but recent storms help
  - As 2017 ended, about 74 percent of the state was experiencing no drought conditions.
    - Just 11.8 percent today.
  - Southern California has pockets of "severe drought"

- Major water supply reservoirs continue to sit above historic average levels

- Sierra snowpack is 34% of April 1 averages (35% of normal)

- SWP allocation currently at 20%
Reservoir Conditions
Drought Monitor

March 13, 2018
(Released Thursday, Mar. 15, 2018)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

| Note     | 0-5% | 6-15% | 16-30% | 31-50% | 51-70% | 71-95% | 95+%
|----------|------|-------|--------|--------|--------|--------|------
| Current  | 11.26| 89.52 | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00 |
| Last Week| 0.46 | 91.02 | 0.52   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00 |
| 3 Months Ago| 55.70| 44.30 | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00 |
| Start of Calendar Year| 53.73| 44.30 | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00 |
| Same Year| 77.83| 22.17 | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00 |
| One Year Ago| 76.54| 23.46 | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00   | 0.00 |

Intensity:
- D0: Abnormally Dry
- D1: Moderate Drought
- D2: Severe Drought
- D3: Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on drought scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for regional statements.

Author:
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http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/
Water Savings Update

• SWRCB Report Highlights Water Conservation Declines

➢ Statewide 2018 savings at less than one percent

➢ South Coast region increased 3.8% OVER 2013 baseline

➢ Statewide GPCD at 71.1 gallons with south coast at 75.4 gallons.
Capitol Update

- Legislature reconvened for second year of the 2017-2018 session
- 2,398 new bills introduced
- Policy committees starting to consider legislation ahead of April 27 policy committee deadline
- Sexual harassment scandal engulfs Capitol
  - Ongoing major distraction
  - Short-term policy implications
Harassment Scandals Engulf Capitol

- Allegations force three resignations
  - Assemblymember Raul Bocanegra (D)
  - Assemblymember Matt Dababneh (D)
  - Senator Tony Mendoza (D)

- Assemblymember Christina Garcia (D) on unpaid leave

- More accusations forthcoming
  - 14 active Rules Committee investigations
  - Allegations include rape and assault

- Democrats lose 2/3 majority

- Impacts debate/consideration of bills such as efforts to establish Clean Drinking Water Fund.
Key Issues for 2018

- Long-term conservation/efficiency
  - AB 1668 (Friedman) & SB 606 (Skinner/Hertzberg)

- Water infrastructure financing
  - Disadvantaged Community Drinking Water Charge
    - SB 623 (Monning) Safe & Affordable Drinking Water Fund
    - AB 2050 (Caballero) Small System Water Authority Act of 2018: Sponsored by Eastern MUD
  - AB 2692 (Arambula)- Spot bill to establish a permanent source of funding for water infrastructure
Key Issues for 2018, cont.

- SWRCB “Waste and Unreasonable Use” regulations
- SWRCB “Unimpaired Flows” Process
- California Water Fix
  - Phased approach for tunnels
  - Benefits for fisheries
- California Water Commission Water Storage Funding
2018 Water Bonds

- SB 5/Prop. 68 on June ballot: $4B ($1.4B for water)
  - $250 million for clean drinking water and drought preparedness
  - $80 million for groundwater cleanup
  - $290 million for regional water sustainability
  - $80 million for recycled water
  - **Polling:** Internal poll says 54% support, jumping to 66% after a “robust campaign”

- Meral Bond: (Nov Ballot): $8.8 billion
  - $3 billion for safe drinking water
  - $2.8 billion for watershed and fisheries
  - $940 million for habitat protection
  - $855 million for improved water conveyance
  - $685 million for groundwater sustainability and storage
Governor’s Race Continues to Tighten

- Gavin Newsom (D) & Antonio Villaraigosa (D) lead
  - Newsom – 23%
  - Villaraigosa – 21%
  - Chiang – 9%
  - Allen – 8%
  - Cox – 7%
- 24% of likely voters remain undecided
- Will a Republican be able to make the “top 2”
- June 5th Primary

*PPIC Poll conducted Jan 21-30. 4.3% margin of error
SAWPA Engagement In Sacramento

- Regularly coordinate legislative activities with the following:
  - Association of CA Water Agencies
  - CA Municipal Utilities Association
  - CA Special Districts Association
  - WateReuse
  - Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
  - State Water Contractors

- Weekly SAWPA Legislative Calls
Thank You!

Questions?

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