



Proposed Principles for Developing a Water Bond

July 2, 2013

- 1) Authorize bond funding for future state investment that accomplishes critical statewide water policy priorities, including:
 - a. Protect the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.
 - b. Increase regional self-reliance and diversification for water supply, and reduce reliance on water imported from other watersheds, using Integrated Regional Water Management as the instrument for achieving regional self-reliance.
 - c. Ensure that all Californians, especially disadvantaged communities, have access to clean and safe drinking water.
 - d. Restore the health of California's watersheds, to protect our important coastal and inland waterways, especially for salmon that depend on both.
 - e. Promote development of new water technology to support greater water conservation and water reuse.
 - f. Expand California water storage options, including surface storage, groundwater cleanup, and stormwater capture.
 - g. Strike a fair, intelligent balance between improvements and maintenance of existing infrastructure and construction of new infrastructure.
 - 2) Increase accountability for spending of State water bond funding, including:
 - a. Prohibit earmarks to specific water projects, and establish competitive processes for awarding water bond funding.
 - b. Make water investment decisions on a regional basis, through the Integrated Regional Water Management Program.
 - c. Set standards and performance indicators to demonstrate progress on water bond investments.
 - d. Leverage State bond funding with federal, regional and local funding sources.
 - e. Require beneficiaries to pay for their benefits, while the public pays for public benefits.
 - f. Repurpose currently authorized, but unspent water bond funding from past voter-approved water bond measures.
 - g. Acknowledge all California's needs for infrastructure bond funding, including funding needs for education and transportation, in developing a bond that authorizes a reasonable amount of funding for water needs.
 - 3) Respect existing California water rights, including area-of-origin protections.
 - 4) Retain policy prohibiting use of water bond funding for construction or mitigation of new water conveyance facilities in the Delta.
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