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Governor's Executive Order N-10-19

“ . . . shall together prepare a water resilience portfolio that meets the needs of California’s communities, economy, and environment through the 21st century.”

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Executive Order N-10-19

WHEREAS, water is a human right, and is central to California's strength and vitality; and

WHEREAS, we face a range of existing water challenges, including unsafe drinking water across the state, major flood risks that threaten public safety, severely depleted groundwater aquifers, agricultural communities coping with uncertain water supplies, and native fish populations threatened with extinction; and

WHEREAS, climate change is having a profound impact on water and other resources, making the climate warmer and more variable, which reduces mountain snowpack, intensifies drought and wildfires, and drives shorter, more intense wet seasons that worsen flooding; and

WHEREAS, California continues to grow, with our population projected to grow to 50 million over the next several decades and our economic activities expanding as the world's 8th largest economy; and

WHEREAS, the future prosperity of our communities and the health of our environment depend on tackling pressing current water challenges while positioning California to meet future water needs through the 21st century; and

WHEREAS, many state programs, policies and investments are being implemented, such as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and new urban water efficiency standards, that can be built upon to meet these existing challenges; and

WHEREAS, providing clean, dependable water supplies to communities, agriculture, and industry while restoring and maintaining the health of our watersheds is both necessary and possible; and

WHEREAS, achieving this goal requires a broad portfolio of collaborative strategies between government, sovereign tribes, local communities, water agencies, irrigation districts, environmental conservationists, academia, business and labor leaders, and other stakeholders.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and the Statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this Order to become effectively immediately.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:

1. The California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Finance, shall together prepare a water resilience portfolio that meets the needs of California's communities, economy, and environment through the 21st century.

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The Governor Asked that the Portfolio Prioritize:

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PROJECTS THAT OFFER MULTIPLE BENEFITS
- 

USE OF NATURAL INFRASTRUCTURE SUCH AS FORESTS AND FLOODPLAINS
- 

INNOVATION AND NEW TECHNOLOGIES
- 




REGIONAL APPROACHES AMONG WATER USERS
- 

EXAMINATION OF SUCCESSFUL MODELS FROM OUTSIDE CALIFORNIA
- 

INTEGRATION OF INVESTMENTS, POLICIES, AND PROGRAMS ACROSS STATE GOVERNMENT
- 

PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL, FEDERAL AND TRIBAL GOVERNMENTS, WATER AGENCIES AND IRRIGATION DISTRICTS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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January 3, 2020

State Agencies Release Draft Water Resilience Portfolio
Public Invited to Submit Written Feedback by February 7

SACRAMENTO — State agencies today released a draft [water resilience portfolio](#) with a suite of recommended actions to help California cope with more extreme droughts and floods, rising temperatures, declining fish populations, aging infrastructure and other challenges.

The California Natural Resources Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency and Department of Food and Agriculture developed the draft to fulfill Governor Gavin Newsom's [April 29 executive order](#) calling for a portfolio of actions to ensure the state's long-term water resilience and ecosystem health.

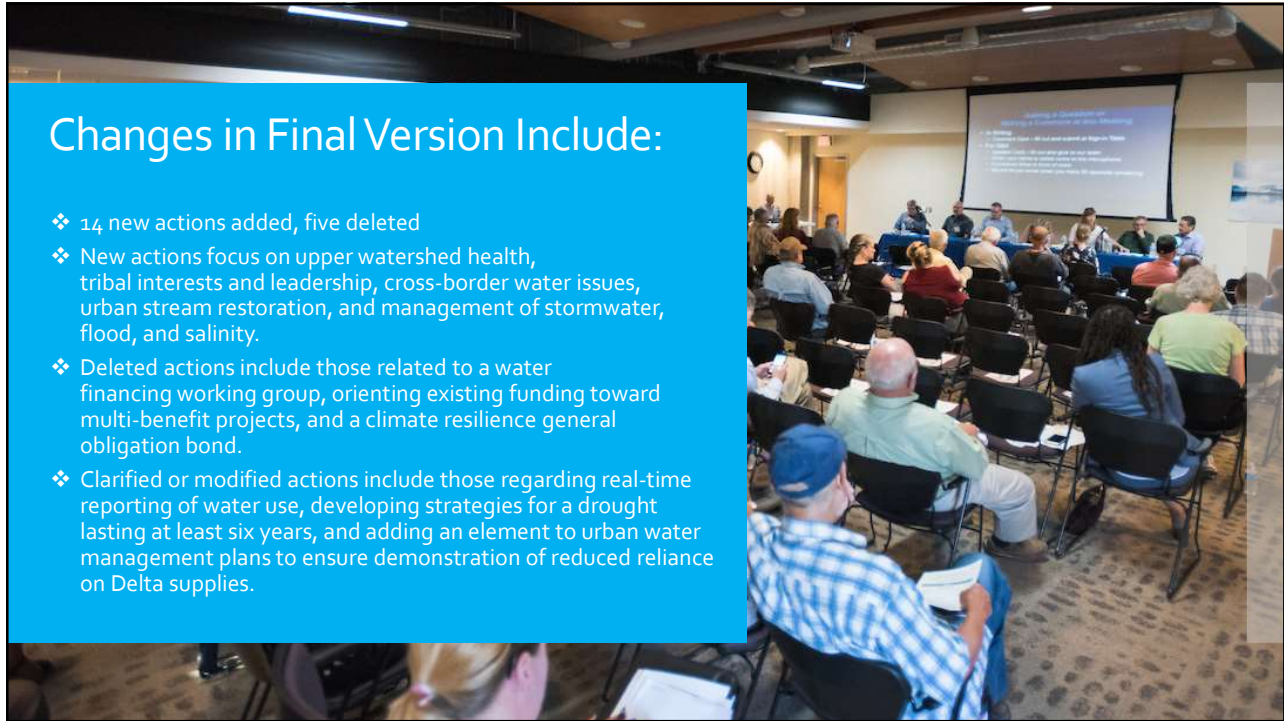
Shaped by months of public input, the draft portfolio outlines more than 100 integrated actionable recommendations in four broad areas to help regions build water resilience as resources become available, while at the same time providing state leadership to improve infrastructure and protect natural ecosystems. Those areas include:

- **Maintain and diversify water supplies:** State government will continue to help regions reduce reliance on any one water source and diversify supplies to enable flexibility amidst changing conditions. Diversification will look different in each region based on available water resources, but the combined effect will strengthen resilience and reduce pressure on river systems.
- **Protect and enhance natural ecosystems:** State leadership is essential to restore the environmental health of key river systems to sustain fish and wildlife. This requires effective standard-setting, continued investments, and more adaptive, holistic environmental management.
- **Build connections:** State actions and investment will improve physical infrastructure to store, move, and share water more flexibly and integrate water management through shared use of science, data, and technology.

Draft Water Resilience Portfolio

- ❖ Released in January 2020
- ❖ More than 200 letters of comment received by February 2020
- ❖ Comments included hundreds of specific edits and recommendations
- ❖ Common concerns focused on actions to demonstrate reduced reliance on the Delta and phase in real-time water diversion reporting requirements
- ❖ Actions related to desalination, Delta conveyance, voluntary agreements, groundwater trading, etc. triggered support and opposition among stakeholders

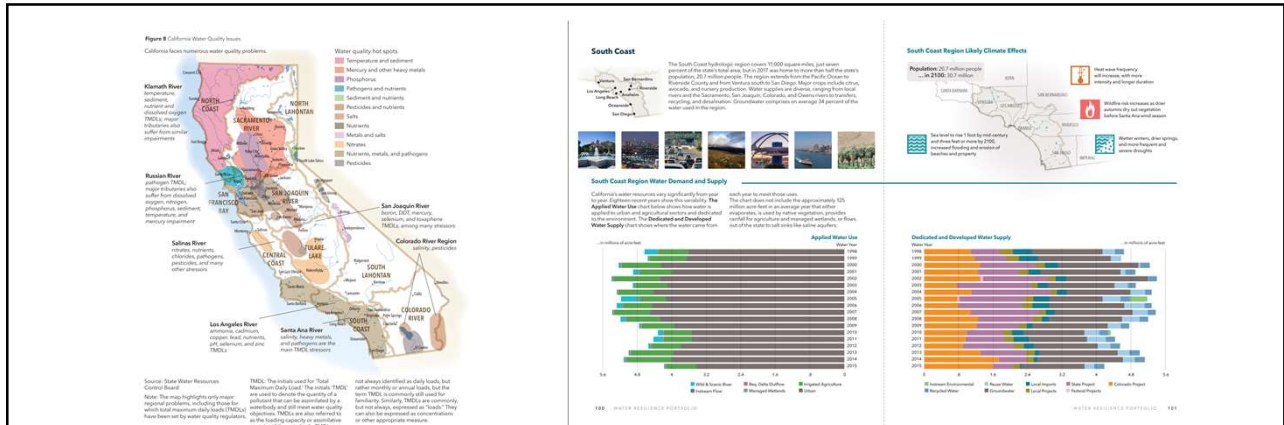
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Changes in Final Version Include:

- ❖ 14 new actions added, five deleted
- ❖ New actions focus on upper watershed health, tribal interests and leadership, cross-border water issues, urban stream restoration, and management of stormwater, flood, and salinity.
- ❖ Deleted actions include those related to a water financing working group, orienting existing funding toward multi-benefit projects, and a climate resilience general obligation bond.
- ❖ Clarified or modified actions include those regarding real-time reporting of water use, developing strategies for a drought lasting at least six years, and adding an element to urban water management plans to ensure demonstration of reduced reliance on Delta supplies.

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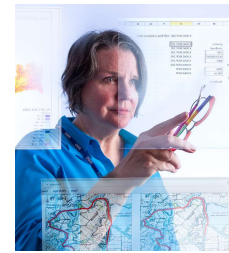


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Portfolio Includes an Inventory and Assessment of California Water and Regional Summaries

Portfolio Principles

- ❖ Regional networks, state support
- ❖ Connections build strength
- ❖ Preparation pays off



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Final Portfolio

- ❖ Includes 142 actions (up from 133 in draft)
- ❖ Each action is assigned to responsible state agencies and departments

Actions Fall Into Four Categories:

- ✓ Maintain and Diversify Water Supplies
- ✓ Protect and Enhance Natural Systems
- ✓ Build Connections
- ✓ Be Prepared

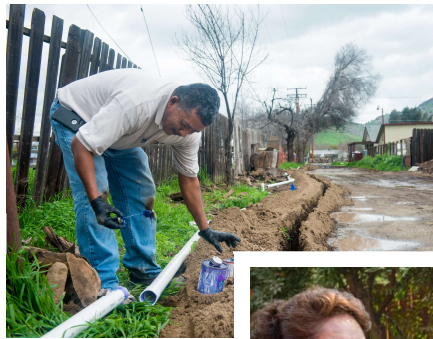
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Key Portfolio Priorities in Coming Years



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Implement the
Safe and
Affordable
Drinking Water
Act



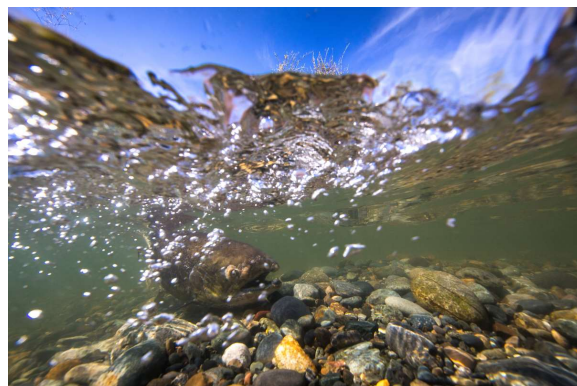
Bottom left photo is by Tomas Ovalle/LA Times

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Support Local Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act

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Achieve Voluntary Agreements

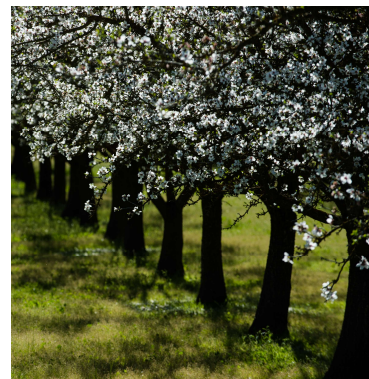
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Update Regulations to Expand Water Recycling



Photo credit: left to right – DailyBreeze.com, DWR, Water Board, Dublin San Ramon Water District.

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Promote Healthy Soils

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Restore
Multi-benefit
Floodplains



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Accelerate
Smart New
Water
Storage
Projects



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Modernize Delta Conveyance



17



Stabilize the Salton Sea

Photo credit: middle image by Zoë Meyers/The Desert Sun

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Remove Obsolete Klamath River Dams



Photo credit: left to right – CalTrout and the Yurok Tribe

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Better Coordinate and Leverage Data



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Questions?
WATERRESILIENCE.CA.GOV

CALIFORNIA natural resources AGENCY
CalEPA California Environmental Protection Agency
cdfa

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