

# **State Proposed Framework: “Making Water Conservation a California Way of Life”**

## **Implementing Executive Order B-37-16**

**San Diego IRWM  
Regional Advisory Committee  
February 1, 2017**

Presentation by:

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## **State Water Resources Control Board Drought Emergency Regulation *Basic Elements***

1. Conservation Standards for urban water suppliers (statewide reduction mandates)
2. Prohibitions on wasteful water practices
3. Monthly water use reporting



## State Actions on Drought Emergency Regulation

Date	Action
Jan 17, 2014	Governor declared a drought state of emergency due to severe drought conditions
May 5, 2015	SWRCB adopted emergency regulation containing statewide mandatory reduction (ignored supply availability)
May 9, 2016	Governor issued Executive Order B-37-16 directing SWRCB to adjust emergency regulation in recognition of differing supply conditions
May 18, 2016	SWRCB enacted revised version of emergency regulation allowing for self-certification of supply reliability (expires February 28, 2017)
Feb 8, 2017	SWRCB consider readopting drought emergency regulation

## Defining Drought

### United States Geological Survey:

*"The word "drought" has various meanings, depending on a person's perspective... To a water manager, a drought is a deficiency in water supply that affects water availability and water quality"*

USGS (<https://water.usgs.gov/edu/qadroughts.html>)

### California Department of Water Resources:

*"Defining when drought occurs is a function of drought impacts to water users. Drought can best be thought of as a condition of water shortage for a particular user in a particular location"*

DWR (<http://www.water.ca.gov/waterconditions/background.cfm>)

## Jan 26, 2017 Water Authority Board Action

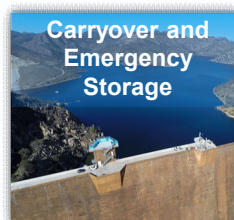
- Declare that the San Diego region is not experiencing drought conditions
- Call on SWRCB to rescind statewide emergency regulation for areas not in drought
- Maintains credibility with residents and businesses
  - Ensure effectiveness of communication during actual water supply emergencies
  - Continue to attract, retain and expand businesses
- Focus on long-term permanent water use efficiency



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## San Diego Region Is Not Experiencing Drought Conditions

- Greatly improved statewide supply situation
- Investments in drought resilient supplies have increased reliability
- Adequate supplies to meet demands (no shortages)



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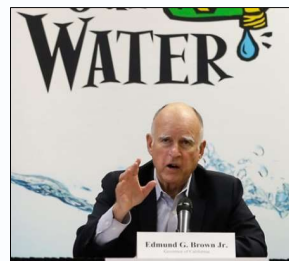
## San Diego Region's Customers Continue to Use Water Efficiently

- Residents and businesses have done an excellent job using water wisely
- Even without state reduction mandates, regional potable water use from June 2016 - Dec 2016 is 17 percent below 2013 levels
- Even before emergency regulation, per capita water use in San Diego region decreased nearly 40 percent between 1990 and 2015



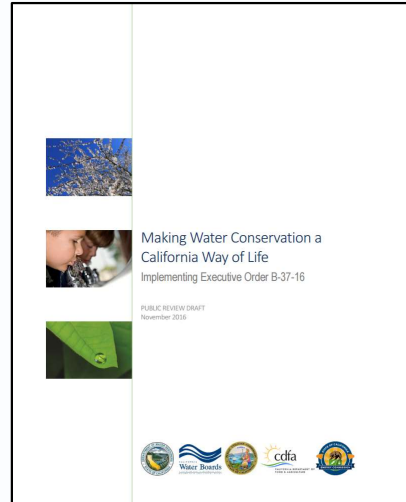
## Governor's May 2016 Executive Order B-37-16 Overview of Directives

- Use water more wisely
- Eliminate water waste
- Strengthen local drought resilience
- Improve agricultural water use efficiency and drought planning
- Reporting, compliance & enforcement



## Making Conservation A Way of Life Draft Framework Proposal

- Response to Executive Order B-37-16
- Draft released Nov 30, 2016
- Comments were due by Dec 19, 2016
- Governor to release final Feb 2017
- Legislation/rulemaking process



## Draft Framework Proposal *New Water Use Target*

- Current 2020 water use targets established in 2009 under SB X7-7
  - Four options to calculate target (e.g., 20% reduction by 2020)
- Proposed new water use target is single agency-wide GPCD target based on efficiency standards for:
  - Indoor residential
    - Initially set at 55 GPCD
  - Outdoor Irrigation
    - Set at current Model Water Efficiency Landscape Ordinance requirements
  - System water lost through leaks



## **Draft Framework Proposal**

### ***Proposed Commercial, Industrial and Institutional Performance Measures***

- No volumetric standard, but requires water suppliers to implement three performance measures:
  1. Install separate irrigation meters for CII landscapes over a specified size
  2. Classify all CII accounts and where feasible, develop benchmarks in order to identify water use efficiency improvements
  3. Conduct audits or require water management plans for CII accounts over a specified size, volume, or percentage threshold



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## **New Water Use Targets**

### **Primary Issues and Concerns**

- Support appropriate long-term water use targets
- Setting water use standards must take into account drought resilient supplies
- Recycled water use is an efficient use of water and should not be further restricted (already regulated under existing permits)
- Consider unintended consequences when establishing water use standards
- CII performance measures cannot negatively impact economy



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# To be an influential leader, just add water.



Fall 2014 Citizens Water Academy participants on top of Olivenhain Dam

- ▶ Open to future and emerging leaders
- ▶ Spring 2017 class begins **March 2**
- ▶ Nominate someone or apply:  
**[www.sdcwa.org/citizens-water-academy](http://www.sdcwa.org/citizens-water-academy)**



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