

The North State Water Alliance Supports the California Water Bond – Proposition 1

September 2014

The North State Water Alliance (NSWA) supports Proposition 1, the water bond that will be on the ballot in November. This bond would provide considerable benefits to Northern California including substantial investments in the region's water infrastructure that will help us better prepare for the next drought.

Importantly, the water bond contains language reinforcing the state's water rights and contracts, which are the foundation for water operations in California and they provide the stability necessary for the state and federal administrations to address this drought and future crises.

The bond, if passed, would fund a number of essential water management activities including:

- The public benefits of water storage projects, including enhanced stream flows for fish, water quality improvements and water supplies for Wildlife Refuges and other terrestrial habitats.
- Multi-benefit ecosystem and watershed protection and restoration projects fundamental to sustain healthy watersheds, water supply and the complex and diverse biological species in the region.
- Groundwater quality improvements and enhanced groundwater management, which is especially important with the passage of the new groundwater management legislation and increased monitoring and management requirements that will need to be addressed in the region.
- Rural and urban efficient water management, which would assist the region in its efforts to more efficiently manage water resources while improving system flexibility.
- Water recycling opportunities essential to improved water reliability in the region.
- Aquatic and terrestrial habitat improvements which builds upon and augments the ongoing efforts in the region to enhance fish passage in its rivers and streams and improve terrestrial habitat for the Pacific Flyway and other species' needs.

The North State Water Alliance supports this water bond because it makes necessary and substantial investments in the water needs of both the North State and California as a whole. We are pleased that the voters will have the opportunity to approve this water bond, which would enhance water supplies, improve efficiency and system flexibility and enhance the environment.