



SACOG Board of Directors

April 11, 2014

Regional Managers Water Update

Issue: The Regional Managers will present the revised North State Water Alliance (NSWA) Regional Advocacy Principles and an update on the draft Common Drought Stage Nomenclature.

Recommendation: The Regional Managers recommend that the Board adopt the resolution for the NSWA Regional Advocacy Principles and direct the Regional Managers to continue their work in identifying Common Drought Standard Nomenclature and conservation activities.

Committee Action/Discussion: [Since the original staff item was distributed to the SACOG Board on April 10, the NSWA met and made additional refinements. Attachment A includes a blackline comparison to changes from the version distributed on April 10.](#) On March 20, the SACOG Board and Regional Managers met in a Special Joint Meeting on Water. Participation included the SACOG Board, local elected officials, and city managers and county executives from the SACOG region. Board members and executives provided input on two documents prepared by the Regional Managers Drafting Group, which have been incorporated in the NSWA Regional Advocacy recommended for adoption (Attachment A), the summary list of issues (Attachment B) with the Draft Common Drought Standards Nomenclature, and the revised Common Drought Standards Nomenclature (Attachment C) from March 20 meeting. The Regional Managers will continue to discuss conservation activities to accompany the Common Drought Standards Nomenclature.

Regional Managers Chair John Shirey from the City of Sacramento will present a summary of the revisions and input from the city managers and county executives and will be available for Board questions. City managers and county executives are also invited to attend the April 17 Board meeting.

Approved by:

Mike McKeever
Chief Executive Officer

MM:RS:gg
Attachment

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REVISED**UPDATED PRINCIPLES OF THE NORTH STATE WATER ALLIANCE****DRAFT ~~3-31-14~~ 4-11-14****Preamble**

We, the undersigned, support the NSWA, a growing coalition of cities, counties, water providers, business, agriculture and community groups in Northern California, to promote responsible statewide water solutions that protect the economy, environment and quality of life for the north state and for all Californians; and

Whereas, the Sacramento Valley and adjacent Coast Ranges and Sierra Nevada (the North State) is a unique place linked by its water resources; and

Whereas, the North State is ~~on the leading edge of~~ committed to balancing economic, environmental and social sustainability for the entire State; and

Whereas, reliable and sufficient supplies of water are critical to a vibrant economy, a healthy environment, and the ~~region's~~ State's overall quality of life; and

Whereas, the North State ~~benefits from~~ understands and recognizes the importance of regional coordination and collaboration in developing implementable solutions to address existing and future water resources challenges and opportunities; and

Whereas, changing hydrology and sea level rise caused by climate change, coupled with population growth, forest management practices, and increasingly stringent and rigid regulatory requirements ~~constrain~~ impinge on current water supplies to meet California's needs; and

Whereas, the currently proposed solutions for the Delta pose serious risks for the water supply reliability of the North State; and

Whereas, the California drought of 2012-2014 underscores ~~the~~ water supply and water management challenges we face and the urgency for action to address these challenges; and

Whereas, in order to protect our region's interests, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), in partnership with ~~the North State Water Alliance~~ other key regional partners, seeks to promote regional cooperation on water issues, and to be part of a collaborative and comprehensive plan to meet all of California's water needs.

Now, therefore be it resolved, that in partnership with other key regional partners, SACOG supports actions based on the following principles of the NSWA:

Principles

Water rights ~~priorities~~ and area-of-origin protections must be recognized and ~~protected~~preserved through water supply assurances to ~~ensure~~guarantee reliable supplies for all beneficial water uses and environmental needs ~~in our region.~~

The North State will continue to aggressively pursue water conservation and efficiency measures that promote our regional self-reliance and water supply reliability.

We will continue to invest in water supply development, water recycling and reuse, increased water storage capacity, and other water management projects and programs that are cost effective and improve our regional self-sufficiency, ~~while also benefitting~~and that serve to benefit other regions of the State.

State and federal actions must ~~honor~~respect and not ~~reduce~~impinge on or preempt the authority and responsibilities of cities, counties, and other local agencies to take actions ~~that further~~in the interests of the jurisdiction and its citizens.

The North State will continue to ~~advocate for~~work with state and federal governments to develop a comprehensive operational plan for statewide water supply reliability, including investing in regional water supply reliability and self-reliance. This operational plan must also demonstrate how the state's water system will meet future water demand while adapting to the effects of climate change. This plan should address adaptive management changes in the current rigid regulatory requirements.

Stakeholders in the North State must be fully ~~involved~~in and ~~consulted on~~all aspects of the development of a Delta solution and other state and federal water policies and operations that affect the region.

We ~~will~~ support a Delta solution that is: part of a comprehensive statewide solution to address California's long-term water supply challenges; is based on sound science to ensure it is effective and implemented in an equitable manner; requires the beneficiaries of any actions associated with a Delta solution to fully fund the costs of such actions; avoids or fully mitigates negative economic, environmental, or societal impacts to areas in our region; and, provides a meaningful role in governance for representatives of the North State.

In summary, we support a statewide plan for water reliability that supports the economic, rural and environmental, and social needs of all of California. Such a plan must support the diverse urban, agricultural, environmental, recreational, power generation, and flood protection needs of the North State.

SACOG Water Emergency Nomenclature - Issue List

April 1, 2014

Issue	Resolution
Add a column that identifies warm and cool season measures	A Column has been added with proposed measures. The proposal needs to be approved by the drafting team.
Interest in a map of where recycled water is being used	Information has been received from the State Department of Water Resources in tabular form on where recycled water is being used within the SACOG area.
Request for development of a public communications piece on water emergency standards that uses common terminology such that a lay person can understand.	
An acknowledgement that government and the public share responsibility for conservation	The recommended measures are intended to be used by government and the public.
Interest in alignment between water emergency standards and conservation activities recognizing unique conditions in individual jurisdictions (one size does not fit all)	
Interest in assessment standard for water emergency conditions associated with each of the stages	This assessment should be performed by each individual agency on a case by case basis.
An acknowledgement of the value of conservation activity comparisons for comparable residential uses where meters are available. For example, a utility bill might report the amount of water a customer may have used compared to neighboring similar customers.	Cities and Counties that operate a water utility could implement programs for comparative water use. Many agencies are implementing this through programs such as WaterSmart software (see: http://www.watersmartsoftware.com/). This recommendation could be added as a Stage 1 recommendation.
Interest in developing higher conservation requirements for golf courses and other recreational uses	
Concern about buy-in from all water purveyors to adhere to common standards	
Concern that communities who have already taken significant conservation measures will have to meet across-the-board conservation reduction levels.	The recommended measures are intended to provide utility and/or water managers tools to reduce demands in the event of an emergency that makes delivering water difficult under typical conditions. For example, a contaminated water supply, drought, or widespread power failure may require water managers to request extraordinary conservation.
General support for bringing more specific issues and opportunities for project advocacy to the group	
Do residential customers and commercial customers need to conserve the same amount? (Policy direction question from the drafting team)	

Stage	Public Announcement Condition	Recommended Conservation (Water Use Reduction)	Recommended Water Conserving Measures	
			With the exception of landscapes irrigated with recycled water, nonresidential irrigation shall be reduced by 50 percent and actively programmed sports fields shall reduce irrigation to 75% of evapotranspiration.	With the exception of landscapes irrigated with recycled water, nonresidential irrigation shall be reduced by 75 percent and actively programmed sports fields shall reduce irrigation to 75% of evapotranspiration.
			Golf courses reduce water consumption by 30 percent (unless using recycled water.)	Golf courses reduce water consumption by 30 percent (unless using recycled water.)
4	Water Crisis	40%	A construction water use plan must be submitted to the water purveyor which mitigates the impact to existing water users.	
			Fix leaks or faulty sprinklers within one day.	
			Warm Season (March to October)	Cool Season (November to February)
			Residential turf shall not be irrigated unless utilizing recycled water. (Note: some cities may choose to identify this as a recommendation and not a requirement).	Residential turf shall not be irrigated unless utilizing recycled water. (Note: some cities may choose to identify this as a recommendation and not a requirement).
			Trees and shrubs may be watered only by drip irrigation or hand watering. (Note: some cities may choose to identify this as a recommendation and not a requirement).	Cities or Counties may require that landscaping shall not be watered except with recycled water or other sources of water that do not impact the municipal water system.
			Golf courses reduce water consumption by 40 percent unless using recycled water.	Golf courses reduce water consumption by 40 percent unless using recycled water.
			With the exception of landscapes irrigated with recycled water, nonresidential irrigation shall be reduced by 75 percent and actively programmed sports fields shall reduce irrigation to 75% of evapotranspiration.	With the exception of landscapes irrigated with recycled water, nonresidential irrigation shall not be irrigated and actively programmed sports fields shall reduce irrigation to 75% of evapotranspiration.
5	Water Emergency	50%	New landscaping prohibited unless irrigated through a connection to an active recycled water system.	
			Cities or Counties may require landscaping shall not be watered except with recycled water or other sources of water that do not impact the municipal water system.	
			Filling new or re-filling existing swimming pools with city water is prohibited.	
			Use of construction water is prohibited unless the water comes from a source that does not impact water delivery to existing customers.	