



SWRCB issues a California WaterFix project pre-hearing conference ruling

The State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) conducted a pre-hearing conference January 28 for the California WaterFix project water-right change petition hearing. The petition requests changes in water rights of DWR and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (collectively petitioners) needed to add points of diversion of water on the Sacramento River for California WaterFix. The purpose of the pre-hearing conference was to organize the conduct of the hearing to ensure that the hearing proceeds in an orderly and expeditious manner. The SWRCB subsequently issued a [pre-hearing conference ruling](#).

Council meeting includes refinements to Delta Plan Performance Measures

The Delta Stewardship Council (Council) will meet February 25 in Sacramento. Agenda items include refinements to Delta Plan Performance Measures, 2016 priorities, and a review by the Delta Independent Science Board of *Improving Adaptive Management in the Delta*. Public meeting notice is [here](#).

CVFPB meeting features DWR program updates

The Central Valley Flood Protection Board (CVFPB) will meet February 25 in Sacramento. Agenda items include DWR updates on the Division of Flood Management reorganization, the Central Valley Flood Protection Plan, and information on the DWR Flood System Repair Program. Agenda and webcast information is [here](#).

Study finds that flood risk can be higher with levees than without them

A study, titled *Modeling Residual Flood Risk Behind Levees, Upper Mississippi River, USA*, led by University of California, Davis, was recently published in *Environmental Science & Policy*. The study found that those living behind levees on floodplains may not be as immune to flood damage as they think they are. The study estimated long-term flood risk, probabilities of levee failure, and resulting economic losses in the Sny Island Levee District along the Mississippi River in Illinois and Missouri.

PPIC publishes a flood fact sheet

The Public Policy Institute of California (PPIC) has published a fact sheet, titled *Floods in California*.

Biologists can now track winter-run salmon smolts

Biologists at the Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery will release this year's batch of winter-run Chinook salmon. Of the 400,000 4-inch-long salmon smolts released, 570 will be emitting a coded sound from a tiny electrical device implanted in their bellies. To reach the sea, the salmon smolts must pass through the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, where a series of gates and pumps moves water from Northern California to the more arid central and southern parts of the state. More information is [here](#).



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