

California Department of Water Resources



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MAY 22 AWARD CEREMONY FOR STATE WATER PROJECT MOVED TO SACRAMENTO CONVENTION CENTER

SACRAMENTO---The May 22 ceremony honoring California's State Water Project for engineering excellence has been moved to the Sacramento Convention Center to allow greater attendance.

The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) will honor the State Water Project as one of the greatest engineering achievements of the 20th century.

At a 10 a.m. ceremony, ASCE President Robert Bein will present a plaque to Thomas M. Hannigan, Director of the Department of Water Resources. DWR planned, built and operates the State Water Project, the largest State-run multipurpose water and power system in the nation.

Special invited guests include members of the DWR Alumni Club, many of them engineers who designed, planned and built the SWP, or operated it during its early years.

The award presentation event was moved from the State Capitol to a larger meeting facility, Exhibit Hall D in the Sacramento Convention Center, to accommodate attendance by all members of the DWR Alumni Club.

Following the award presentation, a cake and coffee reception for DWR Alumni Club members and other ceremony guests will be held from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the same room of the Convention Center.

Special invitees include leaders of the State Water Project Contractors, the public agencies with long-term contracts to buy SWP water, former DWR Directors and other leaders in California's water community.

The SWP today serves 23 million Californians and provides water to help irrigate 1 million acres of farmland. Since starting deliveries in 1962, the SWP has supplied more than 60 million acre-feet of water to areas of need.

Key features of the SWP include Oroville Dam, the 444-mile long California Aqueduct and San Luis Reservoir, the largest offstream storage reservoir in the U.S.

Only one other engineering project in California will be so honored---the Golden Gate Bridge. The bridge will be honored on May 30 at a ceremony near the span.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs.

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