



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

## NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Zaffar Eusuff, Financial Assistance Branch, (916) 651-9266**

[meusuff@water.ca.gov](mailto:meusuff@water.ca.gov)

**Ted Thomas, Information Officer – (916) 653-9712**

[tthomas@water.ca.gov](mailto:tthomas@water.ca.gov)

### **DWR Announces \$152.9 Million in Grants to Stretch Water Supplies**

**SACRAMENTO** – As the state faces one of the driest years on record, the California Department of Water Resources announced today the award of nearly \$153 million to 138 separate integrated regional water management projects around the state, many of which will provide long-term drought relief by expanding water conservation and water recycling.

Approved by voters in 2006, Proposition 84 made \$1 billion in grants available for local and regional water projects. The awards announced today involve \$131.1 million in Proposition 84 funds that already have been appropriated. The department also tentatively awarded an additional \$21.8 million, subject to future appropriation by the Legislature.

The funding will support 20 water conservation projects (approximately \$21 million in grant funds) and 15 recycled water projects (approximately \$23 million in grant funds) that will improve the ability of local water agencies to cope with drought, although Proposition 84 funds were not specifically intended for the drought currently gripping California.

Examples of awards include:

- \$1 million to extend a pipeline to provide recycled water to customers in Alameda, Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, and Oakland;
- \$1.77 million to build a new 600,000-gallon water storage tank to help meet health and safety needs within the San Benito County Water District;
- \$680,000 to install for free in homes and businesses in the city of Tehachapi water-saving appliances and fixtures that exceed state efficiency requirements;
- And \$906,000 to develop a groundwater recharge basin on a 52-acre site using Kings River floodwater near Riverdale.

The projects have estimated total costs of roughly \$800 million, so the DWR grants will help leverage approximately \$647 million in local and federal support.

Funding for the projects is available through Proposition 84, the Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006, as amended 2010. Proposition 84 was passed by California voters in November 2006, and authorized the Legislature to appropriate \$1 billion for integrated regional water management (IRWM). IRWM is a framework for planning and implementation that melds the objectives of improving public safety, fostering environmental stewardship and supporting economic stability. Administered by DWR, Proposition 84 IRWM grants are awarded to local public agencies and non-profit organizations for projects and programs consistent with an adopted

IRWM Plan that help meet long term water needs of the State.

To view the funding awards, please visit the following Website:

<http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/grants/implementation.cfm>

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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.*