

# California Water Plan 2009



Wednesday's Update



Nov 19, 2008

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This weekly electronic newsletter is designed to keep you current on California Water Plan news. We welcome comments, suggestions and any news tips that may be of interest to water planners.

## Governor orders state agencies to gear up for sea level rise caused by climate change

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger on Friday told state agencies to plan for rising sea levels caused by climate change. The governor's office said in the announcement: "Given the serious threat of sea level rise to California's water supply and coastal resources and the impact it would have on our state's economy, population and natural resources, (the governor) issued an Executive Order (EO) S-13-08 to enhance the state's management of climate impacts from sea level rise, increased temperatures, shifting precipitation and extreme weather events." [Read the announcement and executive order.](#)



## Report calls on state leaders to resolve climate change threats

The Public Policy Institute has published *Adapting California's Water Management to Climate Change*, [and it is available online](#). Authors Ellen Hanak and Jay Lund report that two potential effects of climate change — accelerated sea level rise and a reduced Sierra snowpack — are the most certain. They write, "both (effects) will pose significant challenges for water supply and flood management. Water utilities have already begun to plan for these changes, but flood control agencies are lagging behind and face greater regulatory constraints. State leadership is needed to resolve some threats, including the risk of catastrophic failure in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta."

## DWR workshop on winter weather will be webcast

A Department of Water Resources weather-outlook workshop Friday in San Diego will be webcast. The session focuses on precipitation prospects for the rest of this water year. [You can find the webcast information here.](#) The workshop brings together scientists to provide state water managers with an accurate prediction for water year 2009, which runs from Oct. 1 through Sept. 30. The workshop will run from 10 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. [You can find workshop details here.](#)

## California lawns and their water demand is focus of PPIC paper

The Public Policy Institute of California looks at California lawns and water in the institute's Economic Policy series published this month. Authors Ellen Hanak and Matthew Davis in their *Lawns and Water Demand in California* examine the role of residential land use in the demand for water outdoors, with a focus on the water needs of cool-season turf grass lawns. They also explore the savings potential of some key water conservation tools. [The report can be found here.](#)

Click on links below for more information.

Upcoming Meetings

[www.waterplan.water.ca.gov](http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov)