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**Wednesday Update****Feb. 12, 2014**

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.

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### **Two Water Plan committees to hold joint session next month in Sacramento**

A joint session of the Public Advisory Committee and the Tribal Advisory Committee for *California Water Plan Update 2013* has been set for Wednesday, March 26, in Sacramento. The agenda and other details are being developed. They will be posted on the Water Plan's [calendar page](#) as they become available.

### **California's environmental goals to be discussed at workshops across the state**

A series of workshops will be held across California to discuss the current draft of the [Governor's Environmental Goals and Policy Report](#). The report identifies five primary goals and the actions for achieving them. The Office of Planning and Research will conduct the workshops beginning on Wednesday, Feb. 19, in San Bernardino. The rest of the schedule is available [here](#).



### **Listening sessions focus on beneficial water uses for Native Americans**

The State Water Resources Control Board will be involved in two listening sessions this month on beneficial uses of water as they apply to Native American tribes. The board is working on adopting definitions for subsistence fishing and Native American cultural uses. The first session will be [Friday, Feb. 21](#), in San Diego County. The second is [Friday, Feb. 28](#), in Upper Lake.

### **Draft scoping plan looks at ways for California to reduce greenhouse gases**

The Air Resources Board has released a [draft scoping plan](#) that describes the approach California will take to reduce greenhouse gases. The goal is to reduce emissions to 1990 levels by 2020. The draft focuses on several key areas, including water and agriculture. Details are available in this [news release](#).

### **UC Riverside professor looks at effect of block rates on water uses efficiency**

A study by a UC Riverside professor found that a tiered pricing structure may be the way to encourage water use efficiency while keeping overall prices low. Ken Baerenklau looked at the way block rate water budgets were implemented in the Eastern Municipal Water District. He found [water demand dropped about 15 percent](#), while prices went up four percent.

### **Funding requests for drinking water projects begin with new pre-application**

A new, [universal pre-application](#) is available to request funding for drinking water projects. The California Department of Health uses the information to determine placement on a project priority list. The pre-application can also be used for emergency project requests.

### **Water commission sets agenda for next week's meeting in Sacramento**

The [next meeting](#) of the California Water Commission will include a briefing on DWR's Water Transfers Program, and an update on public comments regarding the public benefits of water storage projects. The meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 19, in Sacramento.