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Wednesday Update*March 2, 2016*

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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Cal OES provides details on availability of federal disaster mitigation funding

The [Governor's Office of Emergency Services](#) (Cal OES) has been informed that two federal programs are making funding available for local projects. The 2016 Pre-Disaster Mitigation, and the Flood Mitigation Assistance grant programs are providing \$289 million in funding nationwide. The announcement, fact sheet, and funding instructions are available on the [Cal OES website](#).

The combination of SGMA and climate change to be discussed at Davis conference

Two topics relating to water availability in California will be discussed at a [UC Davis conference](#). The influences of climate change and the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) will be examined on April 4 and 5 at the campus conference center. Topics will include the future of irrigated agriculture.

Lessons California can learn from the way Australia handled a long drought

A new report on the decade-long drought in Australia says the lessons learned could help California with its water issues. [Managing Drought: Learning From Australia](#) from the [Alliance for Water Efficiency](#) looks at some of the key actions taken in Australia's largest cities. It found the best way to manage demand during a drought was to invest in water conservation options.



Showcase will feature water conservation experts and topics

The U.S. Green Building Council's 13th annual [Water Conservation Showcase](#) will be Tuesday, March 22, in San Francisco. It will feature experts on a variety of water conservation topics including policies, treatment innovations, and stormwater management.

State transportation plan includes goal for environmental stewardship

The long-range [California Transportation Plan 2040](#) is available for public comment. Goal 6 of the report calls for practicing environmental stewardship, which includes landscape and watershed-level resource planning. Comments are due by Tuesday, March 29. The forms for submitting them are available on the [plan's website](#).



Transportation and water projects will be the focus of the infrastructure symposium

This year's [California Infrastructure Symposium](#) will focus on two types of major projects: water and transportation. Keynote speakers include DWR Director Mark Cowin and California Transportation Commission Director William Kempton. The symposium will be Friday, March 18, in Sacramento.



2016 funding fair schedule kicks off this April in Sacramento

The [California Financing Coordinating Committee](#) has released its schedule for [this year's funding fairs](#). Each fair provides information on available grant, loan, and bond financing for infrastructure projects. The six fairs will be held monthly beginning Wednesday, April 13, in Sacramento.