

## **ANNOUNCEMENT**

**The first DWR Mountain Counties Regional Forum on Water Management and Planning is scheduled for Monday, April 2, 2012 from 10:00 a.m. – 3:30 p.m. The primary meeting location will be in El Dorado Hills, with satellite location in Oakhurst. A webinar format is also available. See below for more details!**

The Department of Water Resources, in cooperation with local entities and organizations, is holding a Regional Forum to gather and share information relating to the California Water Plan and statewide and local Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM). The agenda includes collecting feedback on local conditions and priorities that will help inform statewide investments.

Representatives of water agencies and collaboratives; local, state, Tribal and federal government; watershed and community groups; conservancies; and the public are welcome and needed for successful dialog.

### **Information on Forum Details and RSVP**

Please go to [www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/materials/index.cfm?subject=apr0212](http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/materials/index.cfm?subject=apr0212) to download the agenda, webinar link and conference call number. Meeting materials will be posted as they are available. Satellite locations include the El Dorado Hill Fire Station, and Yosemite Gateway Association of Realtors office in Oakhurst. The webpage and agenda lists the address for each location.

The agenda items for this Forum will focus on DWR programs, with updates and discussion on the Water Plan Regional Reports and topic-based caucuses (including the groundwater, finance and sustainable indicators caucuses) and a status update regarding IRWM efforts.

\$10 will be collected for the working lunch.

PLEASE RSVP online at: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/P37FKGR>.

### **Background**

This Forum is part of a new regional approach for discussing water issues and management strategies. The concept evolved from the Regional Workshops that supported Update 2009 of the California Water Plan. Those workshops focused on developing the Water Plan Regional Reports, which described local conditions and activities related to water and flood planning and management.

During the Update 2009 workshops, stakeholders encouraged DWR to consolidate outreach efforts for their various programs and to coordinate outreach with other State agencies. As a result, DWR introduced a new approach for coordinated regional outreach last year.

Information on this new regional outreach approach was shared through the California Water Plan eNews, IRWM and FloodSAFE and regional email lists, inviting local stakeholders to become involved and help plan the Regional Forums for the various hydrologic regions throughout the State. As a result, representative stakeholders from the Mountain Counties are helping to plan the Mountain Counties Forums and are assisting with local outreach.

One or two Forums will likely be held each year, with agendas focused on specific water-related programs associated with DWR, other agencies and local priorities.