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WATER PLAN eNEWS

Wednesday Update

Oct. 1, 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.

Reclamation seeking ideas for water strategies in the Central Valley

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation is holding a public online meeting tomorrow, Oct. 2, to discuss the Sacramento and San Joaquin Basins Study. The study will assess potential climate change impacts on the water supplies and demands in the basins; an area that encompasses the entire Central Valley. The meeting will begin a 45-day period for members of the public, stakeholders, and agencies to nominate adaptation strategies for consideration.

Drought seminar offers look at legal and policy issues facing California

A drought seminar to explore the legal and policy issues facing the state's surface water, groundwater, and alternative water supplies will be held Thursday, Oct. 30, in Los Angeles. The Seminar Group is holding the event to discuss the impacts of drought on the competing needs of urban, agricultural, and environmental water users.

State, federal officials team up to announce draft desert conservation plan

Secretary of the California Natural Resources Agency John Laird and U.S. Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell have released a draft renewable energy and conservation plan covering more than 22 million acres in the California desert. The *Desert Renewable Energy Conservation Plan* is a milestone in the multi-agency effort to cut carbon pollution and protect resources. Public comments on the draft plan will be accepted until Friday, Jan. 9.

Forest fire dangers outlined in new Sierra Nevada report

A new report is providing a look at the potential consequences of large forest fires in the Sierra Nevada. *The State of the Sierra Nevada Forests Report* details an unprecedented fire danger due to air quality, water supply, and other factors. The report was released by the Sierra Nevada Conservancy.

Strategic Growth Council sets draft guidelines for sustainable communities program

The Strategic Growth Council (SGC) has posted preliminary draft guidelines for the Affordable Housing and Sustainable Communities Program. Four public workshops on the guidelines will be held later this month in Merced, Los Angeles, Oakland, and Sacramento. The next SGC meeting will be Monday, Oct. 6, in Sacramento. It will include a resolution to advance integrated regional planning.

Looking for a way to deal with climate change while protecting the economy

A roadmap for reducing the risks of climate change, while maintaining economic growth, is explained in *The New Climate Economy*. The report includes chapters on land use, energy, and financing a low-carbon future. There is also a 10-point global action plan.

Happy New Year

The 2014-15 Water Year begins today, Oct. 1.