



For Immediate Release
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California Water Commission Decides How to Distribute Proposition 1 Water Bond's \$2.5 Billion Allocated for Storage

SACRAMENTO—The California Water Commission today completed a years-long process to determine how to spend \$2.5 billion from the Proposition 1 water bond for public benefits from water storage projects, with at least half of the funding directed towards ecosystems.

Overall, the Commission determined that eight projects were eligible for funds, including four surface storage projects, and four groundwater projects.

Proposition 1, passed by voters in 2014, created an innovative approach of investing the bond funds based on the public benefits achieved. The Commission's regulations—designed after public hearings and comment—requires that storage projects must demonstrate resiliency in the face of uncertain hydrology due to climate change.

Statement from Kyle Jones, Water Policy Advocate for Sierra Club California:

“The California Water Commission completed a huge milestone today. The Commission worked hard to ensure a fair process that promises the state's environment will benefit from this funding.

“The Commission defied political pressure to fully fund destructive dams that will yield little water.

“We are pleased that the Commission included groundwater projects in this process. Aquifers will be an essential storage resource to replace the Sierra snowpack as climate change impacts increase in the future.”

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Sierra Club California is the legislative and regulatory advocacy arm of Sierra Club's 13 local chapters in California, representing more than 400,000 members and supporters.