



# 2020 WATER RESILIENCE PORTFOLIO

In Response to the Executive Order N-10-19



# RESILIENCE E PORTFOLI O

Cindy Messer, Chief Deputy Director  
Department of Water Resource

Nancy Vogel, Director  
Governor's Water Portfolio Program

September 2020



# Governor's Executive Order N-10-19

“... shall together prepare a water resilience portfolio that meets the needs of California's communities, economy, and environment through the 21<sup>st</sup> century.”



EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Executive Order N-10-19

**WHEREAS**, water is a human right, and is central to California's strength and vitality; and

**WHEREAS**, we face a range of existing water challenges, including unsafe drinking water across the state, major flood risks that threaten public safety, severely depleted groundwater aquifers, agricultural communities coping with uncertain water supplies, and native fish populations threatened with extinction; and

**WHEREAS**, climate change is having a profound impact on water and other resources, making the climate warmer and more variable, which reduces mountain snowpack, intensifies drought and wildfires, and drives shorter, more intense wet seasons that worsen flooding; and

**WHEREAS**, California continues to grow, with our population projected to grow to 50 million over the next several decades and our economic activities expanding as the world's fifth largest economy; and

**WHEREAS**, the future prosperity of our communities and the health of our environment depend on tackling pressing current water challenges while positioning California to meet broad water needs through the 21st century; and

**WHEREAS**, many state programs, policies and investments are being implemented, such as the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and new urban water efficiency standards, that can be built upon to meet these evolving challenges; and

**WHEREAS**, providing clean, dependable water supplies to communities, agriculture, and industry while restoring and maintaining the health of our watersheds is both necessary and possible; and

**WHEREAS**, achieving this goal requires a broad portfolio of collaborative strategies between government, sovereign tribes, local communities, water agencies, irrigation districts, environmental conservationists, academia, business and labor leaders, and other stakeholders;

**NOW, THEREFORE, I, GAVIN NEWSOM**, Governor of the State of California, by virtue of the power and authority vested in me by the Constitution and the statutes of the State of California, do hereby issue this Order to become effectively immediately.

**IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT:**

1. The California Natural Resources Agency, the California Environmental Protection Agency, the California Department of Food and Agriculture, in consultation with the Department of Finance, shall together prepare a water resilience portfolio that meets the needs of California's communities, economy, and environment through the 21st century.

# The Governor Asked That The Portfolio Prioritize:



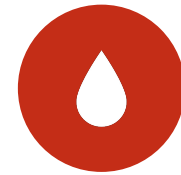
PROJECTS THAT  
OFFER MULTIPLE  
BENEFITS



USE OF NATURAL  
INFRASTRUCTURE  
SUCH AS FORESTS  
AND FLOODPLAINS



INNOVATION AND  
NEW TECHNOLOGIES



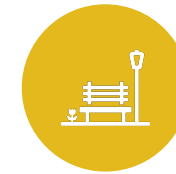
REGIONAL  
APPROACHES  
AMONG WATER  
USERS



EXAMINATION OF  
SUCCESSFUL MODELS  
FROM OUTSIDE  
CALIFORNIA



INTEGRATION OF  
INVESTMENTS,  
POLICIES, AND  
PROGRAMS ACROSS  
STATE GOVERNMENT



PARTNERSHIPS WITH LOCAL,  
FEDERAL AND TRIBAL  
GOVERNMENTS, WATER  
AGENCIES AND IRRIGATION  
DISTRICTS, AND OTHER  
STAKEHOLDERS





**GAVIN NEWSOM**  
GOVERNOR OF CALIFORNIA

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:  
Tuesday, July 28, 2020

Contact: Governor's Press Office  
(916) 445-4571

**Governor Newsom Releases Final Water Resilience Portfolio**

*Water policy blueprint will guide state actions, support regional efforts*

*Safe drinking water, groundwater recharge, healthy waterways, progress on Salton Sea among top priorities*

SACRAMENTO – Governor Gavin Newsom today released a final version of the [Water Resilience Portfolio](#), the Administration's blueprint for equipping California to cope with more extreme droughts and floods, rising temperatures, declining fish populations, over-reliance on groundwater and other challenges.

The portfolio outlines 142 state actions to help build a climate-resilient water system in the face of climate change. The actions tie directly to Administration efforts to carry out recent laws regarding safe and affordable drinking water, groundwater sustainability and water-use efficiency. They also elevate priorities to secure voluntary agreements in key watersheds to improve flows and conditions for fish, address air quality and habitat challenges around the Salton Sea and protect the long-term functionality of the State Water Project and other conveyance infrastructure.

"Water is the lifeblood of our state, sustaining communities, wildlife and our economy," said Governor Newsom. "For more than a year, my Administration has worked to assemble a blueprint to secure this vital and limited resource into the future in a way that builds climate resilience for all communities and sustains native fish and the habitat they need to thrive."

The California Natural Resources Agency, California Environmental Protection Agency, and California Department of Food and Agriculture solicited extensive public input to prepare the portfolio in response to an April 2019 [Executive Order \(N-10-19\)](#).

# Final Water Resilience Portfolio

- ❖ Portfolio developed with more than 20 public listening sessions, dozens of one-on-one meetings, extensive written comments.
- ❖ Draft released in January 3, 2020 for public input.
- ❖ More than 200 letters of comment received.
- ❖ Comments included hundreds of specific edits and recommendations.
- ❖ Final released July 28, 2020

# Portfolio Principles

- ❖ Regional networks, state support
- ❖ Connections build strength
- ❖ Preparation pays off

## Actions Fall Into Four Categories:

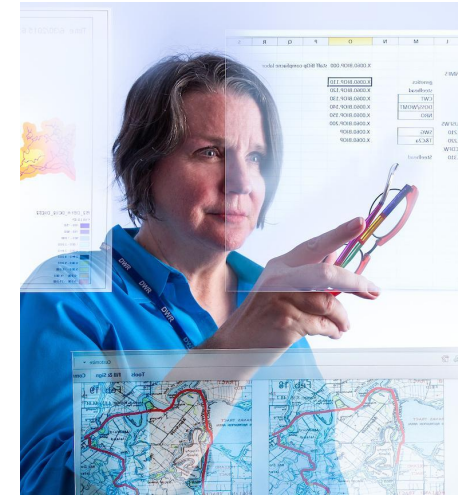
- ✓ Maintain and Diversify Water Supplies
- ✓ Protect and Enhance Natural Systems
- ✓ Build Connections
- ✓ Be Prepared





# Portfolio Implementation

- ❖ State agencies responsible for actions.
- ❖ Progress depends upon resources available.
- ❖ Implementation of many actions underway with existing resources.

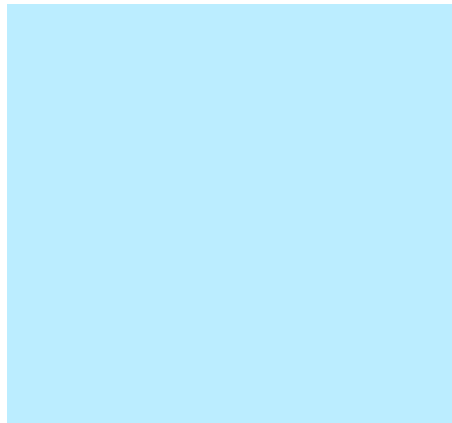
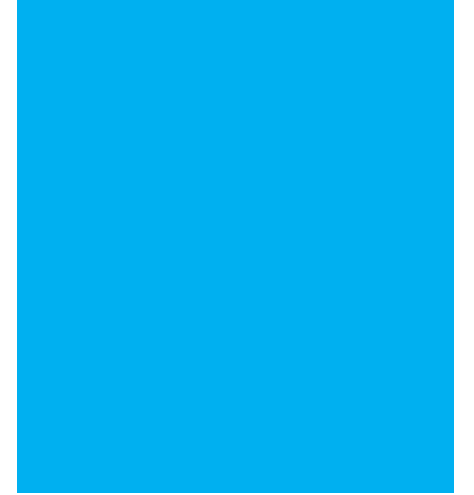


# Key Portfolio Priorities in Coming Years





# Implement the Safe and Affordable Drinking Water Act



Bottom left photo is by Tomas Ovalle/LA Times



# Support Local Implementation of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act





Achieve Voluntary Agreements

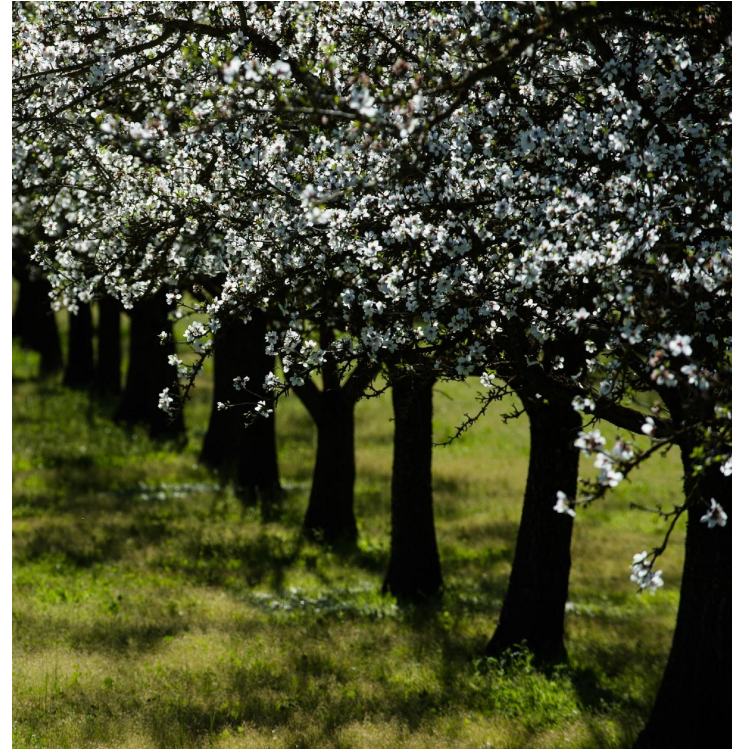


# Update Regulations to Expand Water Recycling



Photo credit: left to right – DailyBreeze.com, DWR, Water Board, Dublin San Ramon Water District.

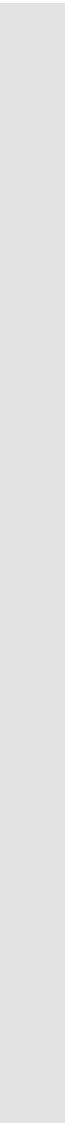
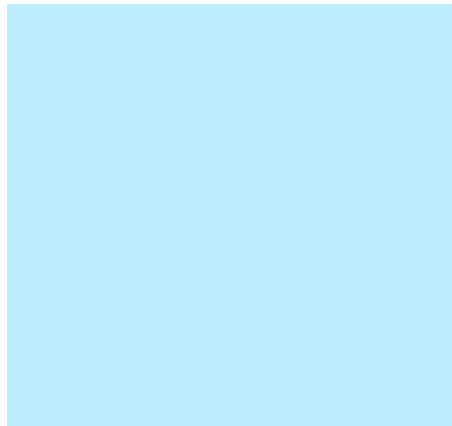
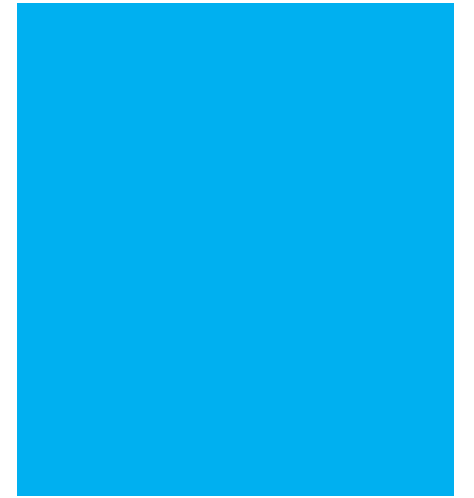




Promote Healthy Soils



# Restore Multi-benefit Floodplains



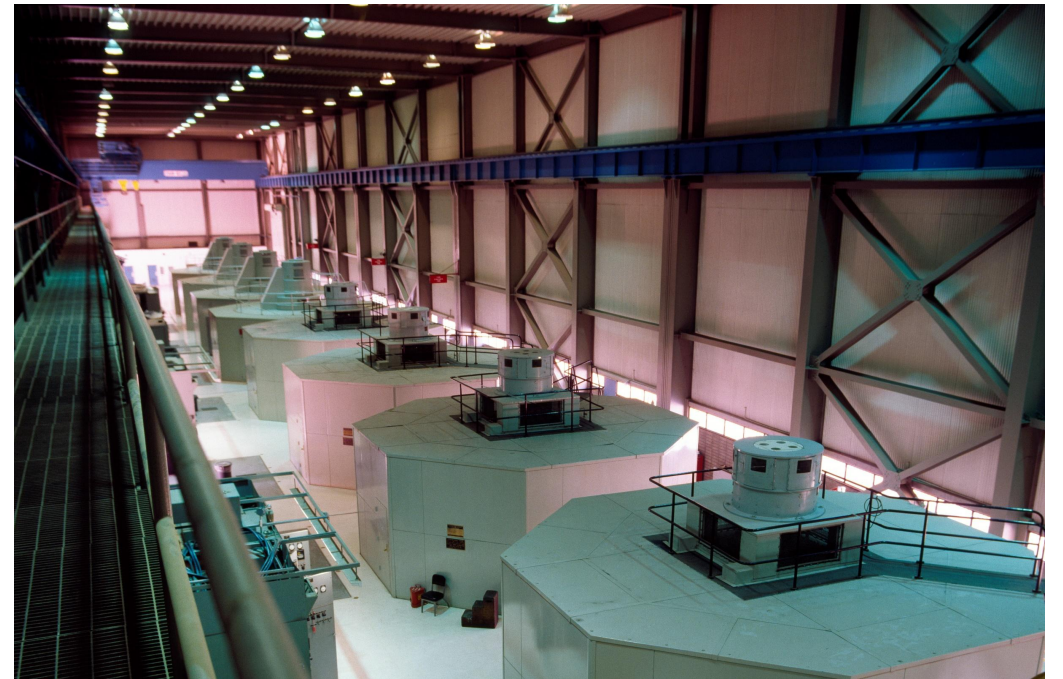


An aerial photograph of a large, dark-colored reservoir in a dry, hilly landscape. The surrounding terrain is brown and arid, with some sparse green vegetation. In the background, a smaller body of water is visible, surrounded by rolling hills. The overall scene suggests a water storage project in a semi-arid region.

# Accelerate Smart New Water Storage Projects



# Modernize Delta Conveyance







# Stabilize the Salton Sea



# Remove Obsolete Klamath River Dams

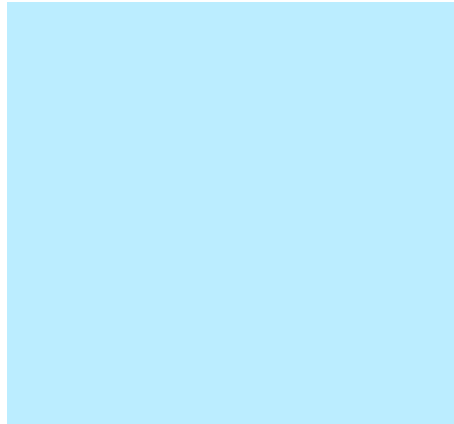
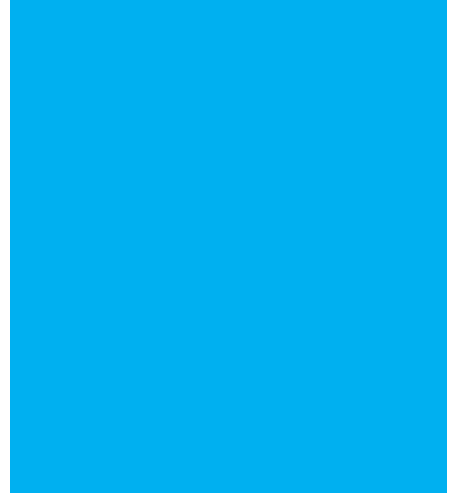
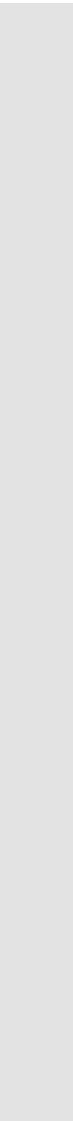
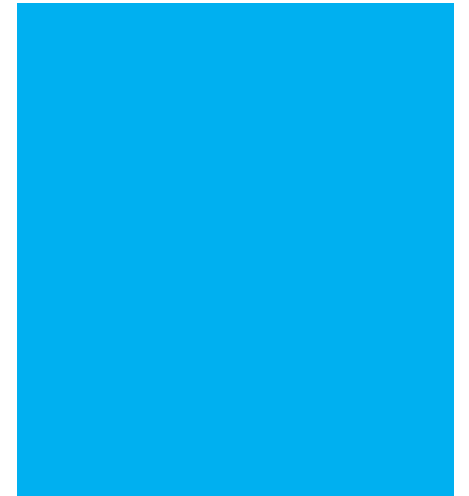
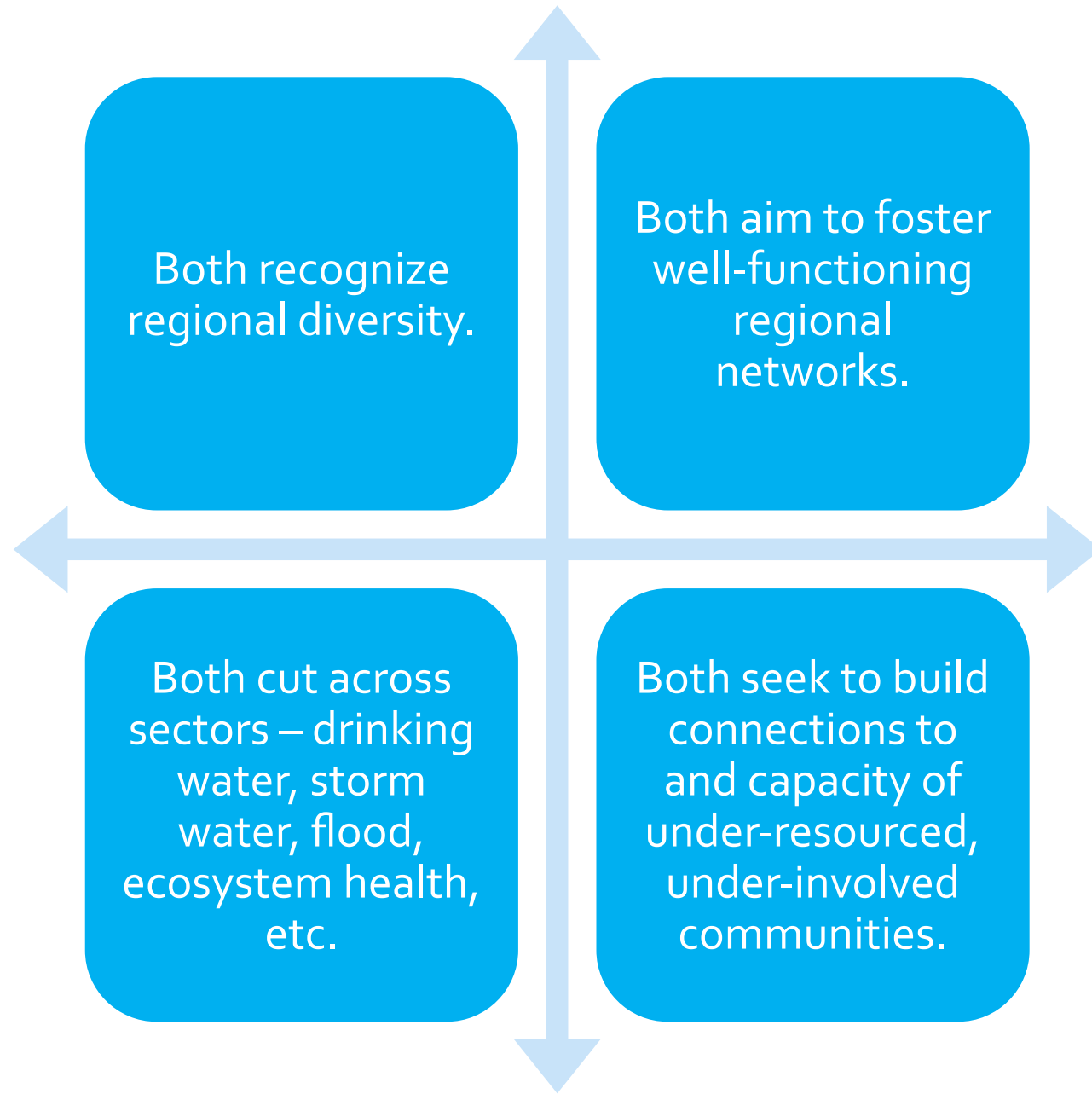


Photo credit: left to right – CalTrout and the Yurok Tribe



# Better Coordinate and Leverage Data





# The Portfolio and IRWM



relationships with under-represented or Tribal groups?

What specific actions have been most helpful?

How can we expand the relationships formed through IRWM into other state and regional programs?

How can we form relationships that last beyond limited state funding?

Your Questions?

