



**Mission:**

To serve and represent regional water supply interests and assist Regional Water Authority members with protecting and enhancing the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources.

**Member Agencies**

- California American Water
- Carmichael Water District
- Citrus Heights Water District
- Del Paso Manor Water District
- El Dorado Irrigation District
- Fair Oaks Water District
- Folsom, City of
- Fruitridge Vista Water Company
- Golden State Water Company
- Lincoln, City of
- Orange Vale Water Company
- Placer County Water Agency
- Rancho Murieta CSD
- Roseville, City of
- Rio Linda/Elverta CWD
- Sacramento, City of
- Sacramento Suburban Water District
- San Juan Water District
- West Sacramento, City of
- RWA Associates**
- El Dorado County Water Agency
- Sacramento Municipal Utility District
- Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District

## Agencies Unite on Regional Plan RWA, Freeport Authority Submit Bid for Prop. 50 Funds

RWA and the Freeport Regional Water Authority (FRWA) in June submitted a joint grant application for funding to help implement a plan that will take regional collaboration to unprecedented levels in the history of Sacramento area water management.

The application submitted to the California Department of Water Resources consolidates water supply planning efforts under way by RWA, FRWA, Sacramento County Water Agency (SCWA) and East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) into a single plan known as the American River Basin Integrated Regional Water Management Plan. Adopted by the RWA and FRWA governing boards in May 2006, the plan will enhance water supply reliability, improve water quality, increase flood control and help protect the lower American River.

The combined application seeks \$25 million in funding from Proposition 50 of 2002 to help implement the plan. It identifies a suite of 14 water projects, including groundwater wells, surface water pipelines, water treatment plants and water recycling facilities, that will result in significant water quality and environmental benefits for the region. In addition, the projects will generate statewide benefits by improving habitat and the quality of water reaching the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, an ecologically sensitive estuary that is also a critical link in the state's water delivery system.

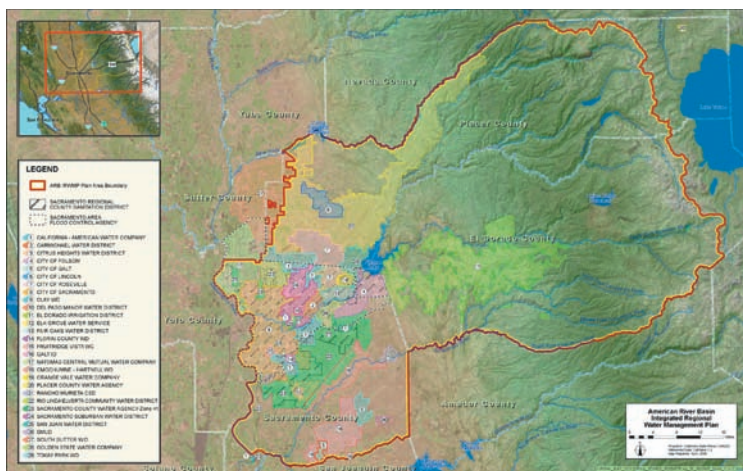
“Cooperative planning in this region began more than a decade ago with the Sacramento Water Forum process. By joining forces to develop the American River Basin

Integrated Regional Water Management Plan, we are taking collaborative planning to new heights,” RWA Executive Director Ed Winkler said.

“FRWA is proud to collaborate with RWA and SCWA on a solution to regional water management,” FRWA General Manager Eric Mische said. “The Freeport Regional Water Project will be the backbone of water management in the central and southern Sacramento region by delivering surface water from the Sacramento River to support groundwater recharge and banking, and implementing environmental enhancement programs that uphold the principles of the Water Forum Agreement.”

“This consolidated application positions our region well to compete for state grant funds that will produce local, regional and statewide benefits at a time when water quality and water supply are increasingly critical to all Californians,” SCWA Director of Water Resources Keith DeVore said.

The application is one of 16 proposed plans to advance to the second stage of the statewide grant process. A preliminary decision on which plans will receive grant funding is expected in November 2006.



The New American River Basin

### SGA Publishes Basin Management Report

Sacramento Groundwater Authority in June released a report highlighting management activities and hydrologic conditions in the groundwater basin underlying Sacramento County north of the American River.

The Basin Management Report documents hydrologic conditions in 2003 and 2004 – the most recent data available – and summarizes management activities undertaken by SGA members and others through 2005 to help ensure the long-term sustainability of the region's vital groundwater resources. It also documents the ongoing implementation of the SGA Groundwater Management Plan (GMP) and recommends future implementation activities. The report is available for download at [www.sgah20.org](http://www.sgah20.org).

### ARBCUP Grant Disbursements Top \$15 Million

With the most recent round of funding from the Department of Water Resources, grant disbursements to participating RWA members now total over \$15 million for the American River Basin Conjunctive Use Program (ARBCUP).

RWA members have completed six of 12 projects planned as part of the program, which includes pipelines, pumps and other facilities to help the region better manage surface water and groundwater supplies. The program is partially funded by a \$22 million grant under Proposition 13 of 2000.



**Regional Water Authority**  
BUILDING ALLIANCES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

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## Project Manager Workshop a Success; Forum Planned Oct. 3

El Dorado Irrigation District hosted a Project Manager Training Workshop on July 19 co-sponsored by RWA. The full-day session was geared toward new and experienced project managers and covered such topics as the role of project managers, the procurement process and change orders. Presenters included several key staff members from EID, and feedback from the session was extremely positive.

On October 3, RWA will sponsor a workshop called, "Future Water Resources Funding - How Can the Sacramento Region Integrate Future Opportunities?" The session will explore integrated resources management today, highlight case studies from recent regional efforts, and take a look at future opportunities. Further details will be available soon at [www.rwah2o.org](http://www.rwah2o.org).

## RWA Receives Award

RWA is the recipient of this year's Environmental Recognition Award from the Sacramento Environmental Commission. The sixth annual award, presented to RWA in April, recognized RWA for its leadership on protecting and enhancing the environment in the greater Sacramento region.

The award highlighted the accomplishments of the RWA Water Efficiency Program (WEP), as supported by the participation of 17 water utilities, which focuses on jointly promoting water conservation in the Sacramento region. The program's goal is to collaboratively promote water conservation through programs and services that educate customers and help them to effectively manage their water usage.

## Board Hears Update on Proposition 84

Regional water management efforts around the state would get a significant boost in funding if California voters approve a \$5.4 billion bond initiative this November, RWA members heard at the July 13 Board of Directors meeting.



**Steve Hall**, executive director of the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA), outlined the history and key provisions of Proposition 84, also known as the Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection Bond Act of 2006.

The measure, which qualified for the ballot through the initiative process, would provide \$1 billion to help implement integrated regional water management plans such as one adopted recently by RWA and Freepoint Regional Water Authority.

"The idea is to put money in the hands of local decision makers and let them decide how best to spend it according to their needs," Hall said.

Proposition 84 would also fund safe drinking water, flood control and coastal protection projects around the state. Though it would not provide money for construction of surface storage projects, Hall said the measure would fund storage feasibility studies now under way by the Department of Water Resources to identify which of several potential surface storage projects should move ahead. ACWA's Board of Directors voted to support Proposition 84 at its July 28 meeting. Background on the measure is available at [www.acwa.com](http://www.acwa.com).

## Lawmakers Call for Coordination on ASR

Local lawmakers are calling on several state agencies to develop workable policies to ensure that aquifer storage and recovery (ASR) wells can play a role in expanding groundwater storage efforts in the Central Valley.

In a July 7 letter to the directors of the Office of Environmental Health Hazard Assessment, the State Water Resources Control Board, the California Department of Health Services and the Department of Water Resources, the legislators said increased groundwater storage will be critical to meeting California's current and future needs for water. Use of injection wells, technically known as ASR wells, can be helpful in meeting that goal, the letter notes.

The City of Roseville has constructed a pilot ASR well and is currently operating the well under a second phase of testing pursuant to permit terms of the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board (CVRWQCB). The Roseville well is the first of its kind to be tested in the Central Valley.

RWA Chair Rob Roscoe, who has been actively briefing members of the Legislature on the issue, said more workable and consistent state policies are needed. "ASR is an effective, proven technology, and we believe it has great potential in this region. Unfortunately, the state has imposed substantial regulatory restrictions here locally that could greatly inhibit the ability to implement future ASR projects in the Central Valley."

The letter was signed by Assembly Member Lois Wolk, (D-Davis), who chairs the Assembly Water, Parks and Wildlife Committee, Assembly Members Tim Leslie (R-Tahoe City), Roger Niello (R-Fair Oaks), Dave Jones (D-Sacramento) and Alan Nakanishi (R-Lodi), as well as Senators Dave Cox (R-Fair Oaks) and Deborah Ortiz (D-Sacramento).

## WEP on the Ground with "Be Water Smart" Effort

RWA's Water Efficiency Program is making waves with its "Be Water Smart" public outreach effort, designed to promote water efficiency programs in the region. Billboards, public service announcements and other promotions already are under way.

The regional effort was highlighted July 21 on Capitol Public Radio's "Insight" program. The program, which focused on the effects of climate change on California, touched on several ongoing efforts to help homes and businesses use water efficiently. Among those interviewed was WEP Program Manager Lisa Maddaus, who noted that peak water use during hot weather drives energy demand, which in turn increases greenhouse gas emissions. She encouraged listeners to contact their local water suppliers to take advantage of water-saving programs and incentives. The program can be heard at [www.capradio.org/programs/insight/default.aspx?showid=2174&programid=10](http://www.capradio.org/programs/insight/default.aspx?showid=2174&programid=10).

The WEP sponsored a full-day training on residential outdoor and indoor water efficiency on July 14 at Sacramento Suburban Water District. The session featured presentations and hands-on demonstrations, as well as an overview of the Water Forum agreement and regional water efficiency efforts.

