



NEWS ALERT

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2006 Water Bond Needs Community-Based Watershed Management!

Issue ~

Governor Schwarzenegger's Water Bond Proposal (SB1166 and AB1839) is lacking needed "green infrastructure" to balance the massive hardscape proposals. In an effort to rectify this and other omissions, the Legislature is investigating the Governor's proposal and preparing recommendations for rewriting it. It is likely that additions will be made to provide for parks and habitat conservation including language from SB153 (Chesbro), and it is not clear that provisions will be included to continue the good work of the many watershed partnerships around the State. It is wrongly assumed by many legislators and staff that community-based watershed management is included in the "Integrated Regional Water Management Plans."

What Can You Do?

Contact your local Senator and Assembly member; then Senator Perata (President ProTem); Assembly Speaker Nunez; Senator Kuehl (Chair of Senate Natural Resources Committee); and Assembly Member Wolk (Chair of Assembly Water, Parks & Wildlife Committee). It is best to contact legislators with a written letter, either mailed or faxed. Since time is short, a phone call is 2nd best. Find your legislator and get copies of bills at www.leginfo.ca.gov.

Let them know that the ...

- Governor's Water Bond needs a component for community-based watershed management; neither SB1166, AB1839, or SB153 includes one presently;
- Integrated Regional Water Management is NOT community-based watershed management;
- Urge legislators to include a separate component for community-based watershed management in any water infrastructure bond or funding measure they vote for;
- Community-based watershed management is the foundation to achieving the State's goals for flood protection and a clean, safe, reliable water supply;
- Many of the volunteer workers protected in 2004 by AB 2690 are community-based watershed volunteers.

For more information on watersheds, visit our website at: <http://www.watershednetwork.org/>

Mission Statement

To help people protect and restore the natural environments of California watersheds while ensuring healthy and sustainable communities.