

Enhance Water Flows in Stream Systems Statewide Budget Change Proposal



**State Water Resources Control Board
Division of Water Rights Fee Stakeholder Meeting
February 6, 2015**

Presentation Outline

- Background
 - California Water Action Plan
- Overview of Enhance Water Flows in Stream Systems Statewide Budget Change Proposal (BCP)
 - Purpose
 - Resources

California Water Action Plan

- Developed at direction of Governor Brown by:
 - California Department of Food and Agriculture
 - California Environmental Protection Agency
 - California Natural Resources Agency
- Plan will guide state efforts to:
 - Enhance water supply reliability
 - Restore damaged and destroyed ecosystems
 - Improve resilience of California's infrastructure
- Outlines California's near- and long-term water priorities, including drought

California Water Action Plan (cont.)

- Action 4 – Protect and Restore Important Ecosystems
 - Sub-action: Enhance Water Flows in Stream Systems Statewide
 - State Water Board and Department of Fish and Wildlife (DFW) to implement suite of efforts to enhance flows statewide in at least five stream systems to support critical habitat for anadromous fish
 - Includes development of defensible, cost-effective, and time-sensitive approaches to establish instream flows using sound science and transparent public process
 - State Water Board and DFW directed to consider public trust responsibility and existing statutory authorities

Enhanced Flows Purpose

- Contribute to implementation of Action 4 of California Water Action Plan
- Collaborative effort between State Water Board and DFW
- Target five stream systems to enhance flows that balance the needs of people and environment

Enhanced Flows

State Water Board's Work

- Instream flow development and implementation
- Enforcement
- Permitting

With support from the Office of Chief Counsel

Enhanced Flow Resources

- Resources included in Governor's proposed budget for State Water Board and DFW
- \$2.4 million for State Water Board
 - 75 percent Water Right Fund
 - 25 percent General Fund
- 10 positions
 - 1 Supervisory Technical Senior
 - 1 Nonsupervisory Technical Senior
 - 6.5 Technical Staff
 - 1.5 Staff Counsel
- \$1.15 million in contracts



Questions?