

**Work Group:** Water Quality, Supply, Reliability and Environmental Restoration  
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**Quarter:** 4<sup>th</sup> 2008  
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### **Description of Activity by Goal and Objective**

- Goal 1:** Develop and implement a comprehensive San Joaquin Valley Regional Water Plan.
- Goal 2:** Strengthen levees in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and San Joaquin Valley to safeguard regional water quality and quantity and provide flood control.
- Goal 3:** Augment surface, groundwater banking programs and recycled water projects in the San Joaquin Valley.
- Goal 4:** Develop and implement water quality and salinity management infrastructure.
- Goal 5:** Expand environmental restoration and habitat conservation strategies.
- Goal 6:** Expand agricultural and urban water-energy use efficiency programs.

### **Planned Activities by Goal and Objective (for next 3-6 months)**

**Goal 1:** Completed. The San Joaquin Valley Water Plan Framework final version (Version 3.0) is set to be affirmed by the Partnership Board at its first 2009 meeting on March 13 at Harris Ranch. Following the meeting, the report will be posted on the Water Work Group Web page of the Partnership Web site and on the California Water Institute Web site.

**Goal 2:** The Delta Vision Strategic Plan was released Nov. 3, 2008. Download the [Plan](http://www.deltavision.ca.gov) located at [www.deltavision.ca.gov](http://www.deltavision.ca.gov), the State of California Delta Vision Web site. The Delta Vision Committee Implementation Report was released Jan. 5, 2009. Download the [Report](http://www.deltavision.ca.gov) also located at [www.deltavision.ca.gov](http://www.deltavision.ca.gov). Both documents are under consideration by the state Legislature and will figure prominently in the formulation of a 2009 water bond.

The Partnership sent a letter of support to Delta Vision Chair Phil Isenberg in May 2008. Download the [letter of support](#) located on the Water Work Group Web page of the Partnership Web site.

**Goal 3:** Development of the San Joaquin Valley Water Plan Framework will incorporate augmenting surface, groundwater banking and recycled water projects in the region as initiatives in each of these areas favorably impact the overall macro-goals of the Partnership. Additionally, California Water Institute (CWI) staff will seek to use the recently released California State University, Fresno, Integrated Water Management Plan for water reuse at the Campus Pointe project as a Best Practices template for the central San Joaquin Valley and seek out other innovative projects in both the southern and northern Valley as well.

**Goal 4:** CWI staff is currently working proactively with the water community to develop a San Joaquin Valley Water Management Structure with salinity management as one of the major program areas.

**Goal 5:** CWI staff continues to be engaged with local, state and federal agencies for environmental restoration as a key strategy in integrated water planning. The partial restoration of the San Joaquin River flows is a component of the Omnibus Public Lands Management Bill S 22 passed Jan. 11, 2009, and awaiting President Obama's signature. Download the [bill](#) (1.56MB) located at [www.energy.senate.gov](http://www.energy.senate.gov), the Web site of the U.S. Senate Committee on Energy and Natural Resources.

**Goal 6:** The Center for Irrigation Technology (CIT) of California State University, Fresno, continues to be at the forefront of developing and implementing comprehensive water/energy conservation & management programs throughout California for the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC), PG&E and Southern California Edison (SCE). PG&E renewed CIT's Agricultural Pump Efficiency Program contract for the period 2009-2011 in early January 2009. The value of the contact is \$2.6 million.

### **Unplanned Activities in Support of California Partnership Goals**

The Partnership Water Policy Working Group continues to make significant progress in proactively engaging water leaders in the eight-county region and in Southern California areas to develop a unified water policy vision. A meeting in Fresno on Feb. 2, 2009, helped forge a greater understanding and identify common areas of interest between the parties and preliminarily suggest policy actions that may achieve widespread support.

The California Water Institute will continue to be in support of this effort until the Partnership contract ends June 30, 2009. For more information on the efforts of this group contact, Ray Watson, Gene Voiland or Jim Tischer, (559) 260-6148, e-mail: [jtischer@csufresno.edu](mailto:jtischer@csufresno.edu).

**Challenges/Problems/Bottlenecks/Feedback**

California is in its third drought year which may be the worst in a half century. The state water infrastructure is designed for a population of 20 million which has now reached 38 million. We are unable to collaboratively develop and fund a comprehensive water policy vision that equitably benefits all its citizens. The state Legislature is unable to agree on a state budget.

Nonetheless, the Partnership and its efforts to develop a unified vision for water policy in the San Joaquin Valley is at the lead of this effort and will continue to be for the foreseeable future.

**If you have coordinated any outreach, please describe briefly.**

Coordination is regularly effected with allied Partnership work groups, particularly Energy, Air, Blueprint (Land Use, Agriculture and Housing) as well as agencies and seed grantees. This coordination has proven to be of great value on numerous occasions.