



## Final Seed Grant Report to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley San Joaquin Valley Regional Water Plans Integration and University Farm Recycled Water Usage

The collaborative San Joaquin Valley Integrated Regional Water Plan Framework Version 1.0 was completed and released for comment internally Oct. 1, 2008. First- and second-round comments were solicited and incorporated into the third and final version which was released Jan. 23, 2009. The third version will be presented to the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley Board for affirmation and approval at the March 13 meeting at Harris Ranch. An informational webinar for Partnership board members will be held on Friday, Feb. 27. Electronic copies of the final water plan may be accessed at the California Water Institute Web site: [www.californiawater.org](http://www.californiawater.org).

The value added from the Partnership's water policy work and the development of an eight-county vision is critically important as California moves well into the third year of a drought that may well be worse than anything seen in the last 50 years. Some local Central Valley water districts will receive **no** project water in 2009 while strict rationing is expected in Metropolitan Water District of Southern California and in many Bay Area water agencies. It behooves every Californian to become more actively involved in water conservation at all levels and to treat water as the limiting resource it is.

More information on drought-related actions may be obtained by linking to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) Drought Preparedness Web site at: [www.water.ca.gov](http://www.water.ca.gov)

California Water Institute staff has refined the San Joaquin Valley Integrated Regional Water Plan Framework by incorporating comments received from board members, agencies and the public. The final version was released on Jan. 23 to widespread distribution. The goal for the document is to be used as a living document by Central Valley agencies and governments to engage in the DWR-sponsored Integrated Regional Water Management IRWM initiative that will proceed forward during 2009 affording access to Proposition 84 and 1E planning and construction funding. More information may be obtained by accessing the DWR Integrated Regional Water Management Web site: [www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov](http://www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov)

Time, money and the political will continue to be the major issues facing development of viable state water policy. The current state budget imbroglio in Sacramento in the face of a severe drought bodes ill for the development of a comprehensive, visionary water policy strategy that meets the needs of all California. It is essential that the eight counties of the San Joaquin Valley develop their own vision for an equitable water policy. The San Joaquin Valley Water Plan Framework affords an opportunity for that vision.

The California Water Institute will continue its full engagement in the water policy arena with resources at-hand.