CALIFORNIA'S STATE WATER PROJECT

A Robust Water Grid Driving California's Economic Growth and Quality of Life



California wouldn't be the same without the State Water Project (SWP), a foundational network woven into the fabric of our communities from the Bay Area to San Diego.

THE SWP PROVIDES WATER THAT CALIFORNIA CAN COUNT ON





ACRES OF FARMLAND

IN THE SAN JOAQUIN

AGRICULTURAL

PRODUCTION.

VALLEY—PROVIDING 12%

OF CALIFORNIA'S TOTAL



The SWP is California's most critical infrastructure and must be maintained for future generations.
But, despite the system's significance, it has become easy to take for granted the momentous work being done behind the scenes every day to keep California's taps on.
Just as we should not take for granted our interstate highway, railway, or telecommunication systems, we must not underestimate the important management and operation efforts in place to make the SWP possible for California.

AN IRREPLACEABLE SOURCE OF HIGH-QUALITY WATER

Without the SWP, California would need to replace 4.2 million acre-feet of high-quality water annually to meet state demand. That is enough water to fill Lake Arrowhead 87 times over.



THE SWP SYSTEM

Backbone of California's Economy & Ecosystem

Since its construction in the 1960s, the SWP has remained an iconic engineering feat that enabled the substantial economic growth and innovation that has become the hallmark of California's success. The SWP provides California with recreational, environmental, power supply and water quality benefits. Today, the system remains a valuable investment in one of California's most important assets: the largest state-built water and power generator and delivery infrastructure in the nation.

A Critical Source of Supplies for the State

Climate change is creating a new normal in California—prolonged periods of drought, reduced snowpack, flashier and more unpredictable rainfall and sea level rise—but the SWP was built to last. Two-thirds of California's water is delivered through the SWP. While some may rely on it more heavily than others, all depend on the SWP as the foundation for developing alternative water supplies. Without the consistent water supplies delivered through the SWP, it would be more difficult for our public water agencies to invest in additional and more local sources of water supplies for when we need it most.

SWP: THERE WHEN WE NEED IT MOST

The SWP provides the original source of water public water agencies need to invest in more local and regional water supply projects. Thanks to the SWP, the 27 State Water Contractors are able to deploy a host of innovative water management techniques that increase our ability to move and store water throughout the state, helping us manage water supply more efficiently, especially in times of drought.



WATER BANKING



RECYCLED WATER



GROUNDWATER STORAGE AND RECHARGE



LOCAL SURFACE WATER
STORAGE



State Water Contractors

