



### Government Affairs Update – June 2023

Please contact Assistant General Manager Brad Sherwood with any questions at [brad.sherwood@scwa.ca.gov](mailto:brad.sherwood@scwa.ca.gov)

#### June 27 Denmark Water Workshop:

General Manager Grant Davis and Santa Rosa Director Jennifer Burke sent to each TAC member an invitation to attend a June 27 water innovation workshop hosted by the Denmark Trade Council. RSVP by going to this web page <https://thetradecouncil.dk/arrangementer/Workshop-Water-Distribution-santa-rosa>. Seating is limited.

#### State Update:

AB 1567 – Bond: Our efforts to increase the amount of IRWM funding in Garcia's bond - [AB 1567](#) - have paid off as the total amount has increased from \$200M to \$350M. Not quite the \$500M we had requested but still a significant increase. It's also \$50M more than what is in SB 867 for similar purposes. In addition, AB 1567 now includes \$900M for dam safety and improvements.

AB 30: Sonoma Water's co-sponsored bill AB 30 - Atmospheric Rivers: Research, Mitigation, and Climate Forecasting Program passed the assembly appropriations committee's suspense file hearing (15 Ayes 0 noes) and will now move through the Senate.

Several bills Sonoma Water has been monitoring were also heard in the suspense file hearing and the following outcomes are:

- AB 277 Extreme Weather Forecast and Threat Intelligence Integration Center - **Passed**
- All Climate Bonds – **Passed**
- Water rights bills – **Passed**
- AB 1572 forbidding potable water use on nonfunctional turf – **Passed**
- SB 23 Permit streamlining – **Failed**

#### **Gov. Executive Order N-8-23**

On Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup> Newsom signed an executive order that will convene an Infrastructure Strike Team (Strike Team) to work across State agencies to maximize federal and state funding opportunities for California innovation and infrastructure projects.

#### Federal Update

The Sonoma Water Community and Government Affairs Team has acquired and submitted letters of support from a variety of agencies and organizations to complete the next step of the appropriations

process. We submitted multiple letters for the Penngrove Sewer Force Main Upgrade Project that was included in Senator Padilla's appropriations project list. We also submitted several letters of support for the Mirabel 12KV Hazard Resiliency Project and Russian River County Sanitation District – Wet Weather Treatment Plant Capacity Upgrades that were included in Senator Feinstein's appropriations project list. Sonoma Water will continue to monitor updates from the Senator's staff for the next steps of this process.

#### LAKES Act

Sonoma Water recently submitted a Letter of Support for the LAKES Act which will reinvest recreation fees back into the maintenance and repair of recreation facilities and infrastructure and provide the Corps with an essential tool to facilitate public private partnerships in the management of recreation sites - delivering historic wins for public recreation access nation-wide.

Sonoma Water is the local sponsor of Lake Sonoma and Lake Mendocino, two Corps multi-functional reservoirs that support recreation, flood protection and water supply within the Russian River watershed. Recreational activities at both reservoirs include boating, camping, hunting, hiking, and swimming. The LAKES Act would support these and other recreational activities and facilities.

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