



Business Services & External Affairs Update

Water Advisory Committee

August 3, 2026

Government Affairs:

Federal:

- **Water Resources Development Act funding:** House bill includes \$60M; Senate includes \$3M for Sonoma/Marin counties water/wastewater projects
- **Weather Act Reauthorization:** On February 25, 2026, S. 3923, the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Reauthorization Act of 2026, was introduced by Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee Chairman Ted Cruz (R-TX) and Ranking Member Maria Cantwell (D-WA). The measure was approved by the Committee on March 4, 2026. The Senate version of the measure authorizes \$40 million for each of fiscal years 2026 through 2030 to carry out similar S2S pilot projects. The legislation now awaits consideration by the full Senate. Congressional staff have indicated that a negotiated measure is in the works. However, timing for floor consideration remains unclear. Additionally, in May 2026, we drafted and sent a letter to lawmakers advocating for a \$15 million FY27 appropriation for S2S forecasting. The S2S precipitation forecasting coalition now includes over 50 advocates supporting this important funding.
- **Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund:** On May 13, 2026, H.R.8845, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2027 was approved by the House Appropriations Committee and now awaits consideration by the full House. The legislation includes \$65 million for the PCSRF.

State:

- Brad Sherwood to participate in DWR Water Plan Advisory Committee and ACWA vision meeting in August
- The Legislature returns from summer recess on August 3, and the session then concludes on August 31.

- Negotiations of Prop 4 Appropriations will take place in the final month of the session; Appropriations of interest include Integrated Regional Water Management (Governor proposed \$2M), groundwater (Governor proposed \$20M), and Regional Forest & Fire Capacity (Governor proposed \$51M). Implementation of 2025 Prop 4 appropriations has been slow and we continue to await DWR's guidelines on Small GSA funding and Groundwater projects generally as well as the final guidelines and solicitation package for the Dam Safety and Local Assistance Program.
- AB 1772 (Papan): legislation to create new policies focused on golden mussel decontamination and quarantine protocols. The bill would require DFW to license decontamination and/or quarantine stations that can be operated by private businesses or public agencies. The bill would also require non-motorized paddlecraft (kayaks, paddle boards, etc.) to acquire a mussel prevention sticker and pay a \$10 fee. This bill passed the Senate's policy committee hearing deadline and will be heard next in Senate Appropriations Committee.
- SB 1153 (Caballero): legislation sponsored by ACWA proposing to require, by January 1, 2028, all urban retail water suppliers serving a high or very high fire hazard severity zone to include incident-specific response procedures for wildfires in their disaster preparedness plans. This bill passed the Assembly's policy committee hearing deadline and will be heard next in Assembly Appropriations.

Human Resources:

- Full-time positions: 266
- Job openings:
 - o Water Agency Coordinator - Maintenance Mechanic Services (closes 08/03/2026)
 - o Sonoma Water Education Programs Specialist I (closes 08/04/2026)
 - o Water Agency Plant Operator (continuous)

Community Engagement:

- August 6-9: Redwood Empire Fair, Ukiah Mussels Prevention and Water Supply outreach
- August 11: Matanzas Creek Dam community meeting, Bennet Valley Golf Course 5:30-7pm
- September 13: 17th Annual Fiesta de Independencia held at Luther Burbank Center for the Arts on Sunday, September 13, 2026 from 1:00pm to 7:00pm.
- September 24: State of Latino Community, Time: 8:30 am – 2:30 pm, Location: Sonoma State University
- October 28th – ACWA Region 1 tour of Russian River water system

- November 7th: Water transmission system public tour (9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.)
- Every Monday – Lake Sonoma Visitors Center public tours
- ACWA Conference – December 1-3

Fiscal Services:

- Grant funding:
 - o \$400,000 grant received for Lake Mendocino mussel prevention program
- Water deliveries:
 - o Deliveries for FY26 were 0.3% above budget.
 - o Budgeted deliveries were 42,407 AF.
 - o Actual deliveries were 42,531 AF.
 - o Difference is 124 AF above budget.
- Water sales:
 - o Water sales revenue for FY26 were 0.1% under budget.
 - o Budgeted water sales revenue was \$60,962,924.
 - o Actual water sales revenue was \$60,926,440.
 - o Difference is \$36,484 below budget.