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GENERAL MANAGER

web site: www.calleguas.com

2100 OLSEN ROAD • THOUSAND OAKS, CALIFORNIA 91360-6800 805/526-9323 • FAX: 805/522-5730

NEWS RELEASE

Contacts: Anthony Goff, General Manager, (805) 526-9323
Dan Drugan, Manager of Resources, (805) 579-7185

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State moves forward on new review for a single Delta water tunnel

Yesterday, the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) announced that it will move forward on a new environmental review for a Delta Conveyance project, an essential effort to modernize the state's water infrastructure.

The Delta Conveyance facility will be a new component of the state water system designed to transport water through an underground tunnel while providing adaptation to climate change, earthquake resiliency, and better protection of the environment. Currently, fresh water supplies that originate from Northern California watersheds must travel through a complex system of open channels and levees within Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta before arriving to pumps that deliver water to Southern California. The tunnel would provide operational flexibility to help minimize impacts to endangered fish and better adapt to changing climate patterns.

"Calleguas Municipal Water District was formed to bring imported water to parts of Ventura County that could not access a reliable source of quality water. With this action, our ratepayer's future water reliability is protected by an investment in modernizing how we move water through the Delta," stated Calleguas General Manager Anthony Goff. "We support the Newsom Administration in moving forward with a new approach to modernize the state water system."

The announcement by the DWR marks a significant next step in the progression of a Delta conveyance, formally known as the "California WaterFix". California WaterFix was a \$15 billion plan proposed by Governor Jerry Brown to build two large, four story tall tunnels to carry water underneath the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Shortly after taking office, Governor Newsom

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announced that the original California WaterFix proposal would be abandoned and directed his administration to pursue a new environmental review and planning process for a single tunnel.

“Calleguas commends the decision to clarify the direction for a new Delta conveyance,” said Thomas Slosson, President of the Calleguas Board of Directors. “Since the partial completion of the State Water Project in the early 1970s, Calleguas has been virtually 100 percent reliant on this water supply. As such, resolution of decades-long water resource issues in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta is of the highest priority for Calleguas and its 660,000 water users in Ventura County.”

For more information on the Delta Conveyance announcement, visit: <https://water.ca.gov/deltaconveyance>.

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Calleguas is one of twenty-six member agencies of the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California providing water service to three quarters of Ventura County's population. Through 20 retail water agencies, Calleguas provides water to the cities of Simi Valley, Thousand Oaks, Moorpark, Camarillo, Oxnard, Port Hueneme and surrounding unincorporated areas including Oak Park, Santa Rosa Valley, Las Posas Valley, Somis, and Naval Base Ventura County.