

Your source for legislative and regulatory news impacting California's rural counties.

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### RCRC Installs 2016 Officers



**SACRAMENTO, CA – January 22, 2016** – The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) installed its 2016 Officers at its Annual Installation and Reception in Sacramento earlier this week. Glenn County Supervisor John Viegas was installed as Chair, Tehama County Supervisor Bob Williams was installed as First Vice Chair, and Humboldt County Supervisor Rex Bohn was installed as Second Vice Chair, while Sierra

County Supervisor Lee Adams became Immediate Past Chair. The newly elected Officers will lead the organization in championing policies on behalf of California's rural counties.

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### **RCRC Presents Legislator of the Year Awards to Senator Mike McGuire and Assembly Member Brian Dahle**

**SACRAMENTO, CA – January 21, 2016** – The Rural County Representatives of California (RCRC) announced that it has awarded Senator Mike McGuire (D-Healdsburg) and Assembly Member Brian Dahle (R-Bieber) with the annual "Patti Mattingly Awards" for 2015. The Patti Mattingly Award is given to a policymaker who has demonstrated leadership on rural issues and exhibited an understanding of the unique challenges that rural communities face.

[Senator McGuire Press Release](#)

[Assembly Member Dahle Press Release](#)





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## The Water Rundown

### 2016 Draft Emergency Water Conservation Regulations

On January 15th the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) released a revised draft of emergency water conservation regulations that would extend the

requirements of the existing regulation through October 2016.

[Read More](#)

### **Groundwater Replenishment Report**

The Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) legislative package requires the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to prepare and publish a report by December 31, 2016, that presents the DWR's best estimate of water available for replenishment of groundwater in the state.

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### **Proposition 1 Sustainable Groundwater Planning (SGWP) Grant Program**

Proposition 1 (2014 Water Bond) authorized the Legislature to appropriate funds to the Department of Water Resources (DWR) to establish the Sustainable Groundwater Planning (SGWP) Grant Program. The first round of the SGWP grant funding made available \$10 million to counties with stressed basins.

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### **Water Diverter Measurement and Reporting Regulations Adopted**

This week the State Water Resources Control Board adopted regulations requiring all surface water right holders and claimants to report their diversions. Those who divert more than 10 acre-feet of water per year must also measure their diversions.

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### **California WaterFix Design and Construction**

On January 15th a tentative agreement between the Department of Water Resources (DWR) and a yet to be created Joint Powers Authority (JPA) composed of public water agencies that would pay for the estimated \$15 billion WaterFix project was released.

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### **California WaterFix Biological Assessment Released**

On January 15th the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Bureau) and the Department of Water Resources (DWR) released a working draft of the biological assessment (BA) for the California WaterFix, also known as the Twin Tunnels.

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## **Federal California Emergency Drought Relief Act Discussion Document Released**

This week, Senator Feinstein released a discussion draft of the California Long-Term Provisions for Water Supply and Short-Term Provisions of Emergency Drought Relief Act. The draft legislation includes a wide range of provisions to address both long-term water supply needs as well as short-term, temporary solutions to make the water delivery system more efficient during the existing drought.

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## **Twenty-One Critically Overdrafted Basins Identified**

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) has identified 21 groundwater basins and subbasins in which excessive groundwater pumping has resulted in significant overdraft. As a result, those basins and subbasins fall under the earliest deadlines required by the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).

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## **State Update**

### **Governor Brown Delivers State of the State Address**

The full text of Governor Brown's 2016 State of the State address can be accessed [here](#).

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## **Regulatory Update**

**RCRC members are encouraged to submit comments on regulatory matters to state and federal regulatory bodies, and to provide a copy to RCRC's Government Affairs staff. Click "Read More" to access information related to the current status of regulations impacting California's rural counties.**

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## **Media**

### **RCRC Press Releases and Related News Clips**

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Sacramento, CA 95814

P: [\(916\) 447 4806](tel:(916)4474806)

E: [info@rcrcnet.org](mailto:info@rcrcnet.org)

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