Investing in Improved Regional Water Reliability

Water providers in the Sacramento region have been investing in water reliability for over two decades. In 2016, these water providers began a Regional Water Reliability Plan to evaluate water supply vulnerabilities, assess conjunctive use potential, and identify opportunities to improve long-term reliability. Conjunctive use is a coordinated water management practice with the preferential use of surface water during wet years and groundwater during dry years. Completed in 2019, the plan recognized that a water bank would be a key strategy for increasing reliability and adapting to climate change. The Sacramento Regional Water Bank (Water Bank) could be operational with existing facilities as early as 2022. During a wet year, local water providers could store up to 60,000 acre-feet of water in the Water Bank using existing facilities. During a dry year, much of that stored groundwater could be recovered.

Local water providers also have identified infrastructure improvements that, if implemented, would extend the Water Bank well beyond its initial capacity. Shown in the table below, **investing an estimated $288 million in facility improvements over the next 10 years could increase both storage and recovery opportunities by more than 50 percent.**

Structural Actions	Contribution to Sacramento Regional Water Bank	Total Capital Cost *(Estimated)*
System Interties	Installing interties between water systems could facilitate sharing of supplies among water providers in the Sacramento region. This would help distribute more surface water into the region in wet periods and allow the use of more groundwater throughout the region during dry periods.	$50 M
Groundwater Well Rehabilitation	Rehabilitating up to 16 existing groundwater wells could increase the volume of water that could be recovered from the Water Bank during dry years. Recovery operations would be carried out consistent with local Groundwater Sustainability Plans.	$16 M
New Groundwater Well Installation	Installing up to 37 new groundwater wells could increase the volume of water recovered from the Water Bank during dry years. Recovery operations would be carried out consistent with local Groundwater Sustainability Plans.	$124 M
Groundwater Injection and Recovery Well	Installing or retrofitting up to 18 wells with both injection and recovery capability could store – or "deposit" – more water in the Water Bank during wet years for use during dry periods. These are commonly known as Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) wells.	$57 M
Booster Pump/ Pressure Reduction	Installing booster pumps and pressure reduction equipment could address pressure differences between water systems, improving the ability of water providers to share supplies with neighboring communities in the Sacramento region.	$41 M
	TOTAL NEAR-TERM INFRASTRUCTURE IMPROVEMENTS	**$288 M**

Regional Water Authority
BUILDING ALLIANCES IN NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

5620 Birdcage St., Suite 180 | Citrus Heights, CA 95610 | (916) 967-7692

For more information on the Sacramento Regional Water Bank visit: ***rwah2o.org***