

## **Benefits of water bond for agriculture**

**Safe Drinking Water and wastewater treatment. \$750 million.** Agricultural industries are under pressure to help pay for water system replacements in the Central Valley and elsewhere due to groundwater impairment by some farming practices. This allocation will reduce the costs which might otherwise be imposed on the industry and its suppliers.

**Wastewater recycling. \$400 million.** Properly treated wastewater can be used to grow crops.

**Desalting of groundwater. \$400 million.** These funds could be used in areas with drainage water that needs to be desalted, or where agricultural lands are underlain with salty groundwater.

**Agricultural water conservation, with high priority for tributaries to the Delta. \$50 million.** There is a proven need for increased efficiency in some of the irrigation district distribution systems of the San Joaquin River tributaries. This program will allow these districts to market conserved water, or better utilize the water within the districts.

**Central Valley Flood Plan implementation. \$150 million.** Many levees along the San Joaquin River provide inadequate flood protection. Some of these funds could go to strengthening those levees.

**Fisheries restoration. \$700 million.** The single greatest obstacle to Delta water exports are Delta outflow requirements for endangered fish species. These funds will restore fish habitat in the Delta and its tributaries. If fish populations are restored, export restrictions should be relieved.

In addition, these funds will demonstrate to the State Water Resources Control Board that they do not need to rely solely on flows to restore fish populations. This should ease pressure on water rights holders on the San Joaquin River and its tributaries with respect to new demands by the Board for increase tributary flows.

**Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) implementation. \$640 million.** Groundwater overdraft in many parts of the California will have to be reduced due to SGMA implementation. These funds will make new groundwater recharge projects possible, as well as selectively reducing groundwater pumping.

**Friant-Kern Canal restoration and related projects. \$750 million.** The Friant-Kern Canal capacity has been significantly reduced in some reaches due to subsidence caused by groundwater overdraft. These funds will allow full restoration of canal flow, as well as implementation of groundwater recharge programs. Remaining funds may be used to help pay for a new canal or pipeline connecting the California Aqueduct and Friant Kern Canal, to better utilize excess flood flows in the Delta and San Joaquin River. Greater ability to convey water will increase the Valley's ability to capitalize on water supply when natural surpluses are available.

**San Joaquin River Settlement agreement. \$100 million.** These funds will help implement the agreement, which aims to restore fisheries in the San Joaquin River.

**Salton Sea restoration. \$200 million.** The quantification settlement agreement, of great importance to the Imperial Valley and Southern California water supplies, relies on avoiding damage to the Salton Sea. These funds will help prevent that damage.

**Oroville Dam repair. \$200 million.** State Water Project agencies might be required to help pay for Oroville Dam flood control facility repairs unless the state and federal government pay for them. These funds will reduce financial pressure on the Kern County Water Agency and other SWP contractors.

The water yield of this bond act is at least 1.5 million acre feet per year, including both urban and rural investments.