



California Water Commission

Resilient Conveyance

December 16, 2020

Commission Responsibility

Water Resilience Portfolio: Lays out a set of actions to meet California water needs through the 21st century.

Portfolio Action 19.4: Assigns the Commission the task of assessing a state role in financing conveyance projects that could help meet needs in a changing climate.

Commission Work Product: White paper and recommendations for state policymakers.



Commission's Approach

Gather Public Input (Nov. 2020 – Mar. 2021)

- Regional workshops
 - Southeastern California – Tuesday, December 8, 2020
 - Southern California – Thursday, December 10, 2020
 - Northern California – Tuesday, January 12, 2021
 - Central California – Tuesday, January 26, 2021
- Expert panels

Draft Recommendations (anticipated Spring 2021)

Final Recommendations (anticipated mid-2021)

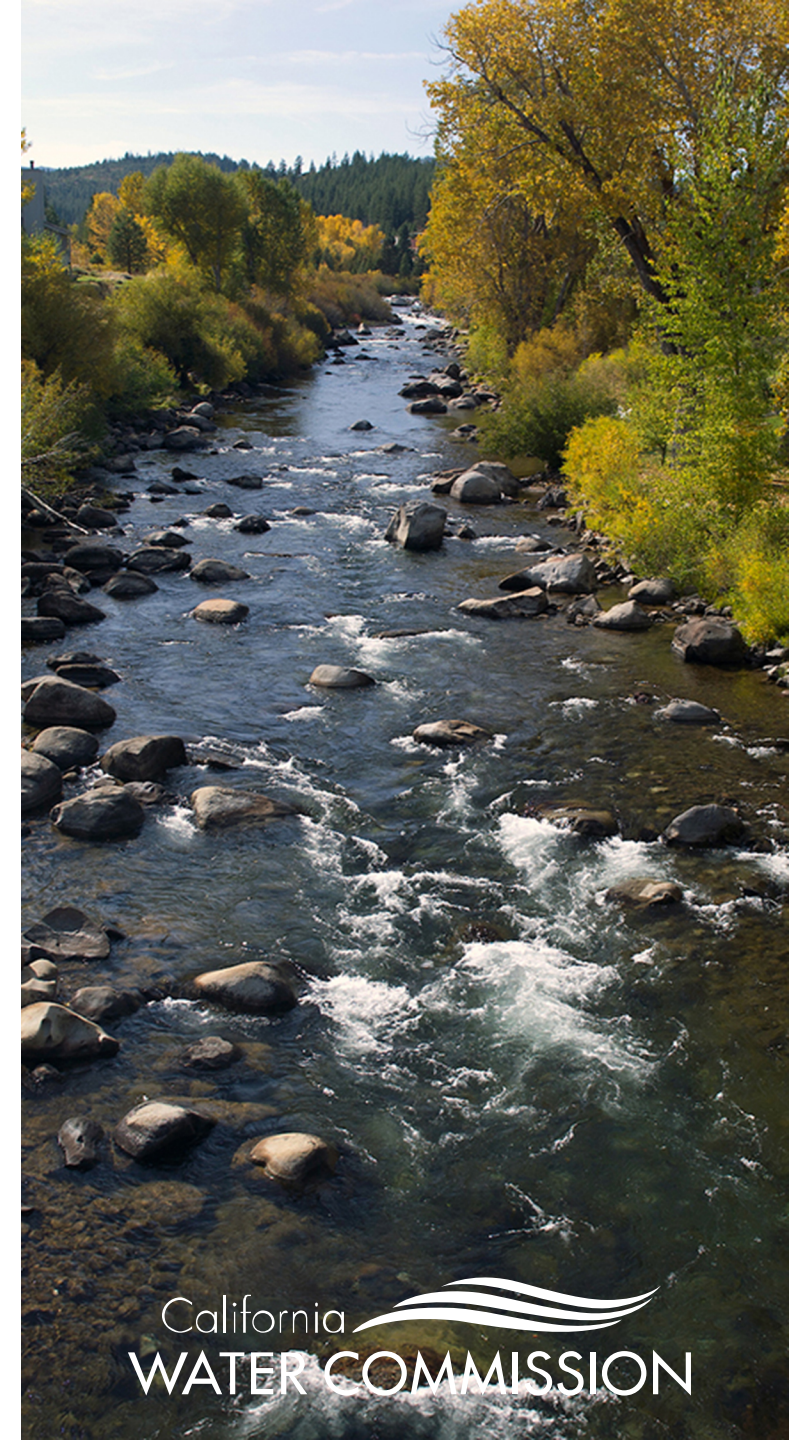


Resilience

The ability of a system to respond to and accommodate change, transforming to ensure its functionality and longevity for an extended time horizon.

A resilient water system is...

- Accountable for needs of environment, all humans
- Adaptive to all hydrologic conditions
- Reliable during crisis
- Flexible, redundant, interconnected
- Guided by science, long-term planning



Conveyance

- “Grey” Infrastructure: Pipes, canals, aqueducts
- “Green” Infrastructure: Streams and rivers
- Governance: Legal, regulatory, and policy frameworks
- Part of a water system, connecting a water source to water user based on water availability and water demand.



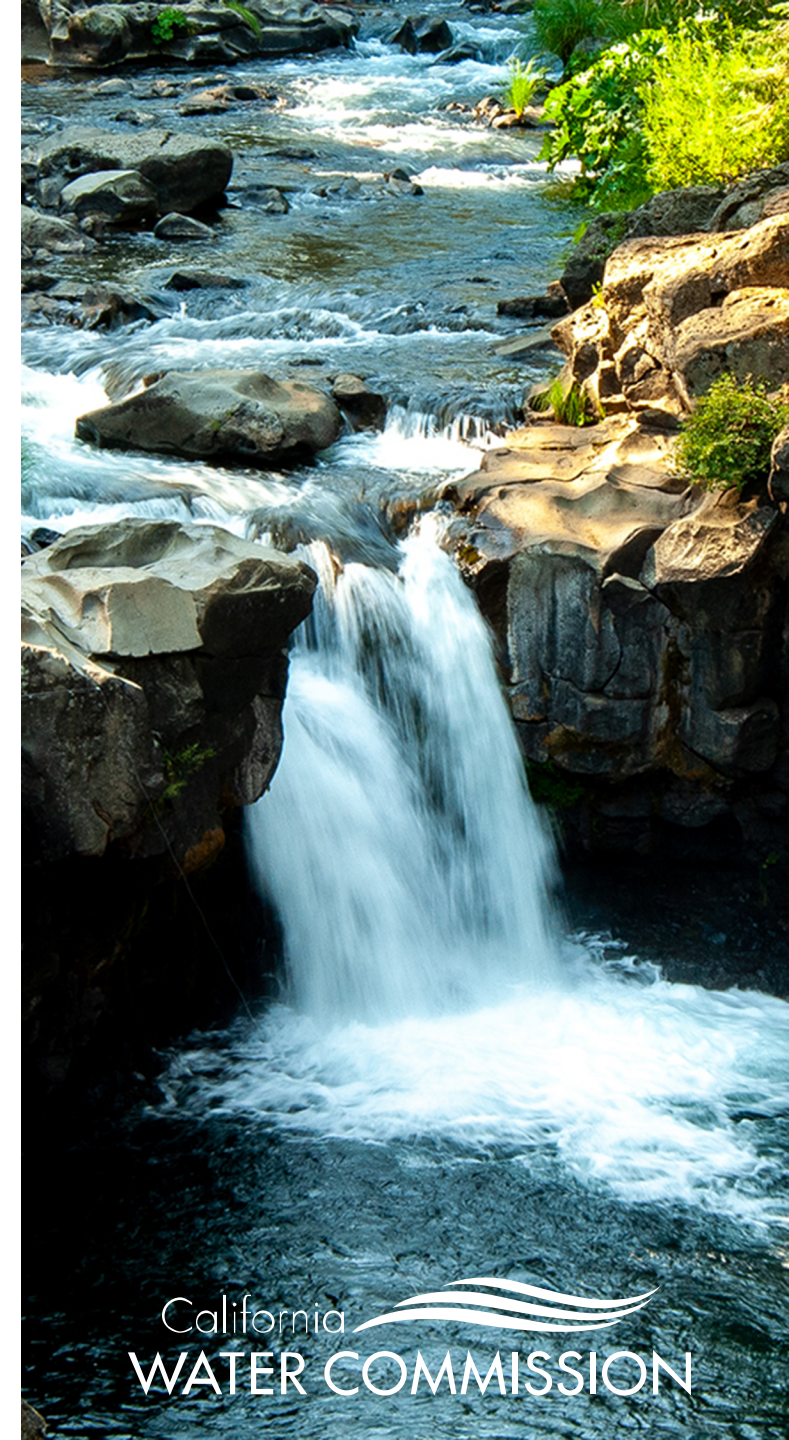
Climate-Resilient Conveyance

- The institutions supporting the project show evidence of taking climate change seriously.
- The project is designed to be robust and reliable to a range of climate conditions.
- Project provides multiple benefits and does not unduly impact the environment, communities.
- Project team has engaged partners and is collaborating with stakeholders, particularly those with a disproportionate need.
- The project advances watershed- or basin-scale solutions.



Public Benefits

- Priorities?
 - Poor rural communities
 - Flood protection
 - Ecosystems
 - Collaborative management
- What about...
 - GHG reductions
 - Water quality
 - Economic stimulus
 - Human health & welfare
 - Benefits to catalyze progress and systemic change (innovation, collaboration)



Public Benefits

Today's panel: Determining and Assessing the Public Benefits of Conveyance

Objective: Provide the Commission with information about how to identify public benefits based on policy priorities, examples of where this is being done already, and methods for valuing public benefits.

Outcome: A recommended list of public benefits that the state might fund and how the state could consider valuing those benefits.



Financing Mechanisms

- Existing Mechanisms
- Emerging Mechanisms
- Advantages/Disadvantages

