



<b>Water Storage Investment Program: Harvest Water Program Bus Tour</b>
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### **Agenda Item at a Glance**

- The [Water Storage Investment Program](#), called “WSIP,” funds the public benefits of water storage projects funded by Proposition 1, passed by voters in 2014, and Proposition 4, passed by voters in 2024. “Public benefits” are the ways in which water storage projects provide benefits to Californians broadly, such as cleaner water, new recreational opportunities, and improvements to the land and water fish and wildlife need to survive. For WSIP, public benefits are defined by Proposition 1. Water storage projects include dams and underground water storage.
- As part of the June meeting of the California Water Commission, Commissioners and staff will take a bus tour of the WSIP-funded Harvest Water Program.
- This is an informational agenda item, important to anyone interested in water recycling projects in the Sacramento region.
- The bus tour is open to the public. Members of the public are encouraged to register for the tour [here](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/california-water-commission-harvest-water-program-bus-tour-tickets-1388444016429?aff=oddtcreator) ([www.eventbrite.com/e/california-water-commission-harvest-water-program-bus-tour-tickets-1388444016429?aff=oddtcreator](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/california-water-commission-harvest-water-program-bus-tour-tickets-1388444016429?aff=oddtcreator)).

### **Introduction**

The California Water Commission (Commission) administers the Water Storage Investment Program (WSIP) to fund the public benefits associated with water storage projects. One project, the Harvest Water Program, has received final funding and is currently under construction.

The Harvest Water Program is a conjunctive use project to store and manage groundwater while improving stream flow, enhancing groundwater-dependent ecosystems, sustaining agricultural lands, and improving regional water supply reliability. This project, once constructed, will provide reliable, high quality recycled water to agricultural lands and existing habitats in southern Sacramento County.

In June 2023, the Commission awarded \$291.8 million in WSIP funds to the Sacramento Regional County Sanitation District (SacSewer) for the Harvest Water Program. In March 2025, to account for inflation, the Commission increased SacSewer’s final funding award by \$73 million for the Harvest Water Program, for a total award of \$364.8 million.

The California Water Commission will be taking a bus tour of several SacSewer and WSIP-funded Harvest Water Program sites, including the EchoWater Resource Recovery Facility (EchoWater Facility), Harvest Water Pump Station, Bufferlands, and active pipeline construction areas. SacSewer staff and partners will lead the tour:

- John Nurmi, SacSewer Senior Civil Engineer, will lead the tour of EchoWater Facility and the Harvest Water Pump Station.
- Bryan Young, SacSewer Environmental Program Manager, will lead the Bufferlands segment of the tour and discuss environmental compliance related to the Harvest Water Program construction.
- Scott Parker, Senior Vice President with Carollo Engineers, will lead the pipeline construction portion of the tour and highlight construction methods and recycled water customer connections.
- Erik Ringelberg, Regional Vice President, California of The Freshwater Trust, will present on ecological highlights of the Harvest Water EcoPlan including crane habitat, vernal pools, and riparian and wetland areas.

### **Background**

The Harvest Water Program is the largest agricultural water recycling project in California. When complete, the program will supply billions of gallons of recycled water each year and bring the following benefits to the Sacramento region:

- Recycled water used in lieu of groundwater pumping for irrigation, expanding groundwater storage by 370,000 acre-feet.
- 50,000 acre-feet per year of reliable recycled water used to irrigate more than 16,000 acres of agricultural lands.
- Groundwater conditions improved to provide a healthy water supply to more than 5,000 acres of riparian and wetland habitats.

After breaking ground in 2024, SacSewer continues construction on the Harvest Water Program's pumping station, and installation of nearly 42 miles of new pipeline and service connections that will deliver recycled water from the EchoWater Facility near Elk Grove to agricultural lands and existing habitats in southern Sacramento County.

This agenda item relates to Goal One of the Commission's Strategic Plan, which calls on the Commission to implement the WSIP to achieve public benefits. Information provided on the bus tour will assist the Commission's understanding of the first WSIP-funded project's progress in achieving public benefits.

### **Meeting Overview**

The tour is part of the California Water Commission's monthly public meeting and will be formally agendized and subject to Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act rules. The bus tour will

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begin no earlier than 1 p.m. at the Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge (1624 Hood-Franklin Road, Elk Grove, CA 95757). Start time is subject to change. The bus tour is anticipated to last approximately 2.5 hours. There will not be a remote option for this bus tour, and it will not be recorded. Members of the public are responsible for their own transportation to and from Stone Lakes National Wildlife Refuge. Attendees are encouraged to register [here](#).

**Contact**

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