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Water Commission to receive progress updates on two water storage projects at the April meeting

Briefings to cover Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project, Pacheco Reservoir Expansion

At the April 17 California Water Commission meeting, representatives from the [Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project](#) and the [Pacheco Reservoir Expansion Project](#) in the Proposition 1 Water Storage Investment Program — will brief the Commission on their respective projects' statuses and upcoming schedules. The meeting will take place on Wednesday, April 17 in Sacramento. The meeting is open to the public to attend in person or virtually and will also be live streamed online.

California Water Commission meeting

When: 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, April 17

Where: California Natural Resources Building 715 P Street, Sacramento, 95814

Info: (916) 873-5774, www.cw.com

The meeting will be live streamed at <https://www.water-ca.com/>

To comment remotely, [Zoom](#) login information can be found on the [public participation guide](#).

Proposition 1 (2014) dedicated \$2.7 billion for investments in water storage projects. The California Water Commission is administering the Water Storage Investment Program to fund the public benefits associated with these projects. Prop. 1 defines public benefits as ecosystem improvements, water quality improvements, emergency response, flood control, and recreational purposes.

The Groundwater Banking Joint Powers Authority is developing the Kern Fan Groundwater Storage Project, a regional water bank that will recharge and store up to 100,000 acre-feet of water. Public benefits the project will provide include temporary wetland habitat, pulse flows to aid spring- and winter-run Chinook salmon emigration, and supplemental water supply in the event of extreme drought, local supply outage, or in the case of a flood or seismic event that disables water infrastructure.

Valley Water plans to enlarge the existing Pacheco Reservoir, located in southeast Santa Clara County, from 6,000 to 141,600 acre-feet. Public benefits the project will provide include delivery of water to south-of-Delta wildlife refuges in Merced County, year-round reservoir releases to Pacheco Creek to enhance steelhead habitat, and water supply in response to a drought emergency, earthquake disruption, or Delta disruption.

Commission staff will also provide a status update on the remaining projects in the Program: Chino Basin Conjunctive Use Project, Harvest Water Program, Los Vaqueros Reservoir Expansion Project, the Sites Project, and the Willow Springs Water Bank Conjunctive Use Project. For more information on the Water

Storage Investment Program, visit cwc.ca.gov/Water-Storage. The complete agenda for the April 17, 2024, meeting can be found [here](#).

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The nine-member California Water Commission uses its public forum to explore water management issues from multiple perspectives and to formulate recommendations to advise the director of the California Department of Water Resources, and as appropriate, the California Natural Resources Agency, the Governor and the California State Legislature on ways to improve water planning and management in response to California's changing hydrology. As required by Water Code section 165, the Commission conducts an annual review of the construction and operation of the State Water Project. For more information regarding the California Water Commission, visit cwc.ca.gov.