



Solano County Water Agency

SCWA 2016 – 2025 Strategic Plan



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December 2016

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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The Consultants would like to thank the dedicated members of the Solano County Water Agency Strategic Planning Stakeholder Group and SCWA staff for their time and thoughtful participation in this Strategic Plan. The consultants also appreciate the input from the Advisory Commission in developing the implementing strategies. This Plan is a true collaborative effort.

Cover Photos (Clockwise from top left):

Glory Hole spill (2006), Lake Berryessa (*photo credit: Thomas Pate*)

Inter-dam reach of Putah Creek (*photo credit: SCWA*)

Putah Diversion Dam and Putah South Canal headworks (*photo credit: SCWA*)

Putah South Canal, Fairfield (*photo credit: SCWA*)

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I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Strategic Plan defines a clear vision for the management of water resources within the Solano County Water Agency's (SCWA) scope of responsibility. The Plan highlights important goals and objectives needed to accomplish the mission and vision of SCWA through 2025.

Introduction

At the recommendation of the Advisory Commission, the SCWA Board of Directors established a Strategic Planning Stakeholder Group (SPSG) to develop a Strategic Plan for SCWA. The purpose of the 2016 Strategic Plan is to provide guidance to the Board and SCWA staff in directing SCWA policy and resources to address current and future issues within SCWA's purview. All aspects of SCWA's responsibilities and operations were examined. Specific topics addressed included:

- Water Supply Management
- Groundwater Management
- Watershed Management
- Flood Management
- Delta Management
- Policy Management
- Resource Management

Stakeholder Process

A total of twenty-one (21) individuals participated in the SPSG. A list of participants can be found in Appendix F. The SPSG met monthly from September 2015 through May 2016. To establish a starting point, the SPSG participated in a brainstorming exercise to identify issues, challenges, trends and opportunities that could positively or negatively affect SCWA in the foreseeable future. The SPSG then developed goals and objectives to address those issues and challenges. The Advisory Commission assisted with the development of implementing strategies to ensure they were practical and implementable. The resulting Strategic Plan is a true collaborative effort.

Strategic Plan content generally flows from the general to the specific. At the highest level are the Mission, Vision and Values statements, followed by the goals which represent specific targets that achieve the organization's vision. More specific objectives and implementing strategies are then developed to describe how the goals will be achieved. The Mission, Vision, Values and ten specific Goals that were developed by the SPSG are described below. In

addition, the ongoing objectives, as well as additional high priority objectives – both which represent the near-term action items - are listed after the Goals. A complete list of Goals, Objectives and Strategies can be found in Section V.

Mission Statement

Solano County Water Agency exists to ensure sustainable, reliable high-quality water resources and flood management for the benefit of the residents, businesses, industries and agricultural communities in Solano County.

Vision Statement

Solano County Water Agency is a widely respected, innovative leader in California water resource management.

Goals

- Goal #1: Water Supply Management:** Optimize the management of the County’s current and future water resources in a sustainable manner.
- Goal #2: Water Management Infrastructure:** Optimize the use of SCWA managed infrastructure.
- Goal #3: Flood Management:** Implement SCWA’s role in flood management.
- Goal #4: Water Resource Resiliency:** Protect access to reliable water supplies under current and future stressors.
- Goal #5: Education and Outreach:** Provide and maintain communication of SCWA activities and responsibilities.
- Goal #6: Data Management:** Maintain data that supports effective, efficient water supply and reliability.
- Goal #7: Natural Resources Stewardship:** Develop comprehensive approaches to the stewardship of natural resources.
- Goal #8: Groundwater Management:** Implement SCWA’s role in Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).
- Goal #9: Advocacy:** Expand proactive advocacy at regional, state and federal levels to achieve the objectives of SCWA.
- Goal #10: Funding and Staffing:** Provide the necessary resources to continue to achieve SCWA’s mission and values efficiently and effectively in a fiscally responsible manner.

Summary of Ongoing and High Priority Objectives

Section V provides the detailed description of the 36 objectives and 112 strategies that address the 10 goals described above. The first table below extracts those objectives that are standard, ongoing activities that are either already occurring and should continue, or new actions for incorporation to SCWA routine activities. The second table lists additional high priority objectives. These objectives should be the current focus of SCWA activities.

Ongoing Objectives

	Goals and Objectives	Priority	Timeframe
Goal #1: Water Supply Management: Optimize the management of the County’s current and future water resources in a sustainable manner.			
A	Identify current supply and demand requirements - and project future water resources needs.	High	Ongoing
C	Develop a SCWA Water Management Plan to ensure a sustainable water supply.	High	Ongoing
Goal #3: Flood Management: Implement SCWA’s role in flood management.			
C	Assist local interests (Participating Agencies and landowners) in developing flood management plans and improvements outside of SCWA direct responsibility.	Med	Ongoing
Goal #4: Water Resource Resiliency: Protect access to reliable water supplies under current and future stressors.			
B	Protect water rights and supplies.	High	Ongoing
C	Monitor emerging challenges to SCWA water supply reliability and promote advocacy of SCWA interests.	High	Ongoing
Goal #5: Education and Outreach: Provide and maintain communication of SCWA activities and responsibilities.			
A	Develop an ongoing program to keep Board Members informed of SCWA responsibilities as well as regional, state and federal issues impacting SCWA.	High	Ongoing

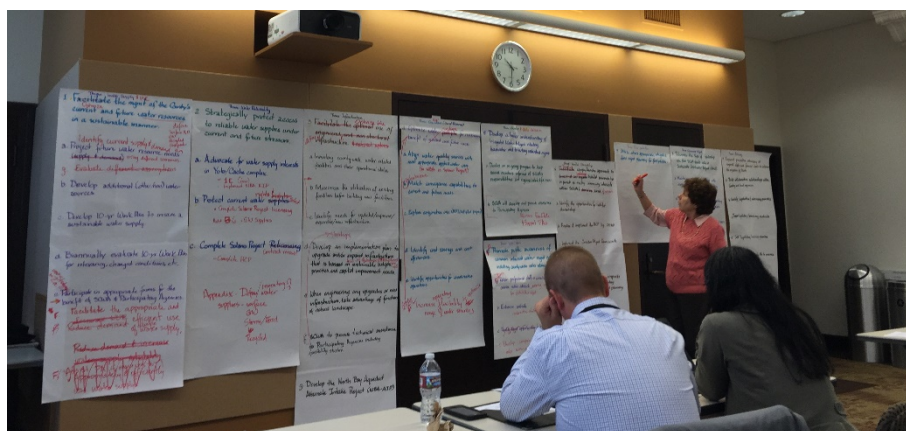
	Goals and Objectives	Priority	Timeframe
Goal #6: Data Management: Maintain data that supports effective, efficient water supply and reliability.			
A	Maintain an integrated water-related data management system.	Med	Ongoing
C	Continue to compile and report for CA Statewide Groundwater Elevation Monitoring (CASGEM).	Med	Ongoing
Goal #7: Natural Resources Stewardship: Develop comprehensive approaches to the stewardship of natural resources.			
A	Implement the Solano Multi-species Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP).	High	Ongoing
B	Support and promote Lower Putah Creek Coordinating Committee (LPCCC) programs and projects.	Med	Ongoing
C	Protect SCWA water supply sources.	Med	Ongoing
D	Identify other habitat and watershed stewardship opportunities and implement activities where feasible.	Med	Ongoing
E	Monitor and assess outside planning efforts for influences on SCWA’s habitat stewardship activities.	Med	Ongoing
Goal #9: Advocacy: Expand proactive advocacy at regional, state and federal levels to achieve the objectives of SCWA.			
C	Actively promote legislative / advocacy priorities.	High	Ongoing
Goal #10: Funding and Staffing: Provide the necessary resources to continue to achieve SCWA’s mission and values efficiently and effectively in a fiscally responsible manner.			
A	Prepare SCWA Fiscal Plan(s) that includes normal operational costs and anticipated costs to implement the strategic plan goals and objectives.	High	Ongoing

	Goals and Objectives	Priority	Timeframe
C	Provide necessary and sufficient staffing and resources to maintain program activities and to achieve the goals and objectives of strategic plan priorities.	High	Ongoing
D	Optimize opportunities for cost-savings strategies.	High	Ongoing

Additional High Priority Objectives

	Goals and Objectives	Priority	Timeframe
Goal #1: Water Supply Management: Optimize the management of the County’s current and future water resources in a sustainable manner.			
B	Match available water supplies to appropriate uses.	High	Short
Goal #2: Water Management Infrastructure: Optimize the use of SCWA managed infrastructure.			
A	Develop the North Bay Aqueduct Alternate Intake Project (NBA AIP) in coordination with Napa participants.	High	Long
Goal #4: Water Resource Resiliency: Protect access to reliable water supplies under current and future stressors.			
A	Promote regional water supply and flood management interests in Yolo Bypass/Cache Slough Complex.	High	Long
Goal #5: Education and Outreach: Provide and maintain communication of SCWA activities and responsibilities.			
B	Evaluate, and where appropriate, coordinate public awareness water-related programs throughout the County.	High	Short

	Goals and Objectives	Priority	Timeframe
	Goal #8: Groundwater Management: Implement SCWA’s role in Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA).		
A	Participate in ongoing development of Solano Sub-basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency (GSA).	High	Short
	Goal #9: Advocacy: Expand proactive advocacy at regional, state and federal levels to achieve the objectives of SCWA.		
A	Develop legislative / advocacy priorities.	High	Short
B	Prepare legislative / advocacy materials.	High	Short
D	Monitor CA Water Fix and EcoRestore processes to avoid or minimize the impacts to Solano water interests.	High	Long
E	Promote the Lower Sacramento-Delta North Region Corridor Management Framework (CMF).	High	Long
	Goal #10: Funding and Staffing: Provide the necessary resources to continue to achieve SCWA’s mission and values efficiently and effectively in a fiscally responsible manner.		
B	Evaluate Reserve Policy and amend as appropriate to be fiscally responsible and defensible.	High	Short



SPSG developing Goals and Objectives

photo credit: SCWA