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MEDIA STATEMENT

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Beyond a Bay Delta Conservation Plan

Water Providers Urge Administration to Develop Statewide Plan for California's Water System

The Regional Water Authority has issued the following statement in response to the release of the [Bay Delta Conservation Plan \(BDCP\) public review draft and environmental documents](#).

"We will be reviewing the BDCP public review draft and environmental documents in detail and are hopeful they address our region's concerns. Namely, that the BDCP clearly demonstrates that it will cause no harm to the Sacramento region now and in the future. In particular, that the BDCP includes:

- **Clear water supply assurances** and enforceable legal provisions that demonstrate how plans to fix the Delta also protect the Sacramento region's water supplies and existing water rights.
- **A detailed operational plan** for the BDCP that details how much water would be diverted during dry, wet and normal periods, as well as the

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amount of water needed to improve the Delta environment.

- **A meaningful role for Northern California in the BDCP's governance.**
- **Guarantees that BDCP beneficiaries truly pay for the project's costs.**

"Ultimately, however, a Bay Delta Conservation Plan is just one element of a comprehensive plan that addresses water supply reliability for the entire state. Other elements of a statewide plan could benefit greatly from the same focus and urgency that has been given to the BDCP.

"We urge the administration to develop a plan for operating California's water system that goes beyond a BDCP. A robust statewide operational plan would provide more certainty for regional water supplies in light of potential changes in Delta water quality standards, climate change, an evolving Delta ecosystem and the BDCP's potential implementation. Such a plan would also help to identify the most promising opportunities for additional surface and groundwater storage.

"Water providers in the Sacramento region are committed to finding thoughtful and fair solutions for the Delta and the state's water challenges. We look forward to submitting our formal comments by the April 14, 2014 deadline and to working with the governor, our regional partners and statewide water interests on these critical issues."

About the Regional Water Authority: *RWA is a joint powers authority representing two dozen water providers and affiliates in the greater Sacramento area. Its primary mission is to help its members protect and enhance the reliability, availability, affordability and quality of water resources.*

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