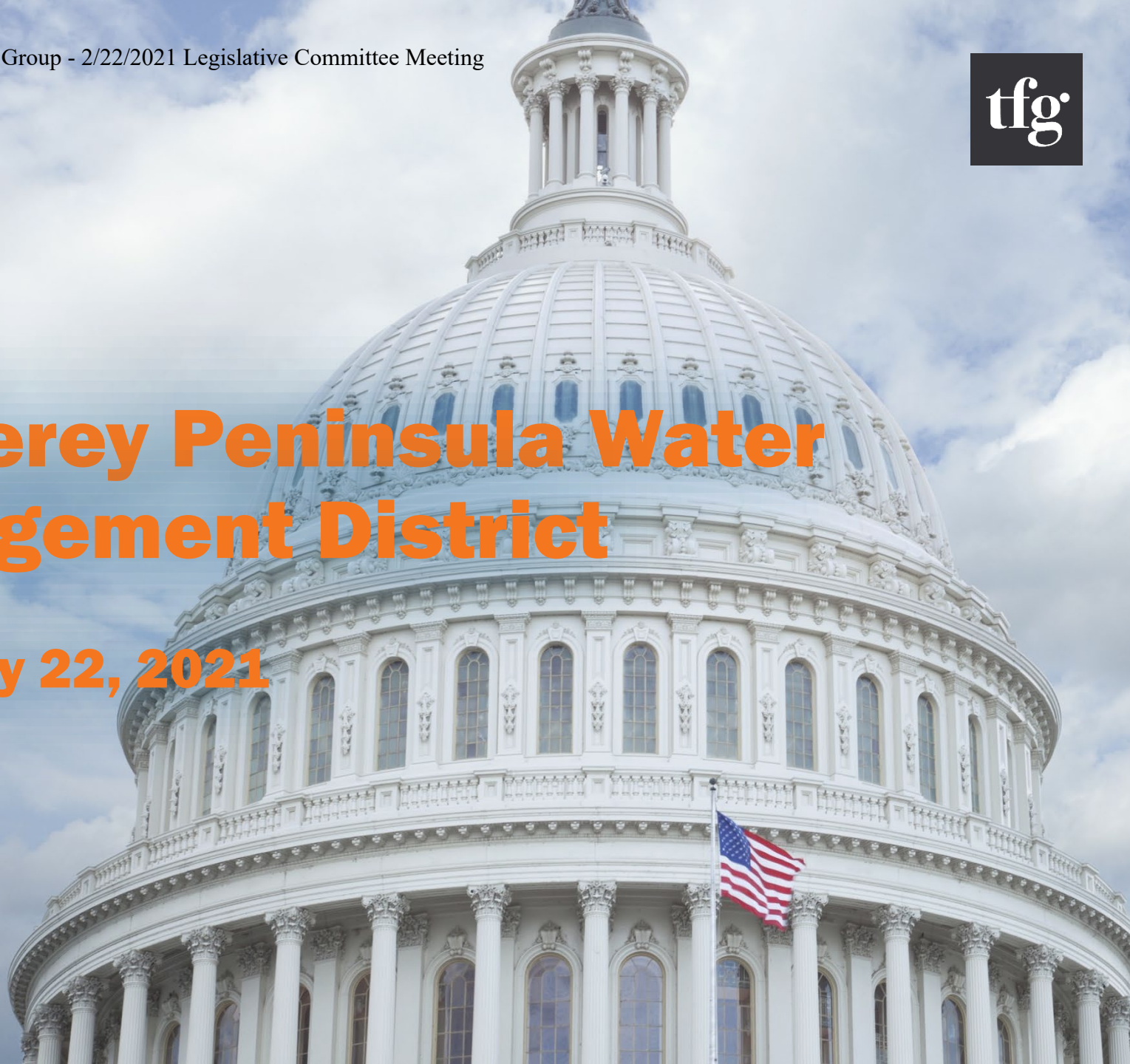


Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

February 22, 2021



- 2020 Election Outcomes
- FY2021/FY2022 Appropriations/Budget
- FY 2021 WaterSMART – WIIN Act Funding Update
- Water Infrastructure Bills – 116th Congress
- MPWMD Priorities 2021
- Biden Administration Update

- 117th Congress
 - House of Representatives
 - 221 Democrats
 - 211 Republicans
 - 3 vacancies
 - Just 6 votes can swing outcomes from D to R
 - Senate
 - 50 Republicans
 - 48 Democrats
 - 2 Independents (caucus with Democrats)
 - 50-50 with VP Kamala Harris the tie-breaker
 - Democratic control – power sharing agreement reached on February 3rd.



Appropriations FY2021/2022



- FY2021 Spending Bills Enacted End of December
 - Bureau of Reclamation funding increased by \$11M over FY2020 funding levels
- FY2022 Budget Request – Biden Administration
 - “Skinny” Budget to Congress in March
 - Full Budget not expected until May
 - Typical timing for incoming Administration

Appropriations FY2021/2022



- Additional FY2021 Funding – Reclamation – WaterSMART
 - Water and Energy Conservation Grants - \$55M 
 - Basin Studies - \$2.4M (+ \$7M from Spending Plan) 
 - Drought Response - \$4M (+\$10.5M from Spending Plan)
 - Title XVI - \$63.6M (WIIN Act \$20M)
 - WIIN Projects Named in FY2021 Appropriations Bill
 - The Pure Water Monterey Groundwater Replenishment Project - \$15,498,000 (FY19 - \$6,498,985 and FY20 - \$9,000,000)
- WIFIA - Corps WIFIA Program Launched

- H.R. 133 Consolidated Appropriations Act – FY 2021
 - Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2020
 - WaterSMART program reauthorization
 - Broadened participation/enhanced cost share on collaborative projects
 - Adding natural infrastructure projects
 - Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration program authorization - \$15 million annually

- Federal Infrastructure Package
 - Extend and Expand WIIN Act Authorization for Water Reuse/Title XVI Projects
 - Increase project funding cap to \$30 million from current cap of \$20 million
- Additional Funding for Water Infrastructure
 - Coastal/Climate Resiliency
- Additional Funding for Environmental Restoration, Habitat Improvements, Monitoring
- Regulatory Streamlining
 - FISH Act – Transfer regulatory control of anadromous fish from NOAA to DOI

- Earmarks – Congressionally Directed Spending – May Return in FY 2022
 - Additional Opportunities to Seek Federal Support for Water Infrastructure and Fishery Priorities
- 2021 Washington DC “Virtual” Outreach
 - New Congressional Staff; New Administration officials

- Cabinet Nominations
 - Rep. Deb Haaland (D-NM) for Secretary of the Interior
 - Tom Vilsack for Secretary of Agriculture
 - Michael Regan for EPA Administrator
- Department/Agency Appointments and Nominations
 - Liz Klein, Nominated for Deputy Secretary of the Interior
 - Tanya Trujillo, appointed Principal Deputy ASWS at Interior
 - Camille Touton, appointed Deputy Commissioner at Reclamation

Questions

Roger Gwinn, Stephanie Missert and Rebecca Bliss

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MPWMD Legislative Tracker

Last Updated: February 18, 2021

Overview

The following legislative tracker provides the status of legislation introduced in the 117th Congress pertaining to water issues. Each of the bill numbers is hyperlinked to the bill text, FiscalNote (FN) Outlook information and other related details.

The FN Outlook on the right side of each bill provides the legislation's pre-Floor (left) and Floor (right) likelihood of passing. The percentages shown are the status of the bill in the Chamber where it is currently under consideration (this is shown under 'Status'). The pre-Floor score is defined as the bill's likelihood of passing after it has been introduced but while it is being considered in that chamber's committees - before it has moved to the Floor for a vote.

Bills (7)

Bill Number HR 616	Last Action Referred To The Committee On Energy And Commerce And In Addition To The Committee On Education And Labor For A Period To Be Subsequently Determined By The Speaker In Each Case For Consideration Of Such Provisions As Fall Within The Jurisdiction Of The Committee Concerned 2021 01 28	Status In House	FN Outlook 9.2% 0.0%
Title To prohibit water shutoffs during the COVID-19 emergency period, provide drinking and waste water assistance to households, and for other purposes.	Bill Summary: This bill prohibits water shutoffs during the COVID-19 emergency period, and provides drinking and waste water assistance to households. Introduction Date: 2021-01-28		
Primary Sponsors Rashida Tlaib			

Bill Number HR 737	Last Action Referred To The House Committee On Natural Resources 2021 02 02	Status In House	FN Outlook 7.8% 48.5%
Title To extend the authorities under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016 providing operational flexibility, drought relief, and other benefits to the State of California.	Bill Summary: This bill extends the authorities under the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act of 2016 (WIIN Act) providing operational flexibility, drought relief, and other benefits to the State of California. Introduction Date: 2021-02-02		
Primary Sponsors David Valadao			

Bill Number

HR 866

Last Action

Introduced In House 2021 02 05

Status

In House

FN Outlook

10.9%

50.2%

Title

To amend the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to vest in the Secretary of the Interior functions under that Act with respect to species of fish that spawn in fresh or estuarine waters and migrate to ocean waters, and species of fish that spawn in ocean waters and migrate to fresh waters.

Primary Sponsors

Ken Calvert

Bill Summary: This bill amends the Endangered Species Act of 1973 to vest in the Secretary of the Interior functions under that Act with respect to species of fish that spawn in fresh or estuarine waters and migrate to ocean waters, and species of fish that spawn in ocean waters and migrate to fresh waters.

Introduction Date: 2021-02-05

Bill Number

HR 895

Last Action

Introduced In House 2021 02 05

Status

In House

FN Outlook

5.4%

54.9%

Title

To provide for assistance to rural water, wastewater, and waste disposal systems affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

Primary Sponsors

David Rouzer

Bill Summary: This bill provides for assistance to rural water, wastewater and waste disposal systems affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

Introduction Date: 2021-02-05

Bill Number

HR 1015

Last Action

Introduced In House 2021 02 11

Status

In House

FN Outlook

0.0%

0.0%

Title

To establish a grant program for the funding of water recycling and reuse projects, and for other purposes.

Primary Sponsors

Grace Napolitano

Bill Summary: This bill establishes a grant program for the funding of water recycling and reuse projects.

Introduction Date: 2021-02-11

Bill Number

S 29

Last Action

Read Twice And Referred To The Committee
On Environment And Public Works 2021 01 22

Status

In Senate

FN Outlook

13.0%

54.9%

Title

Local Water Protection Act

Primary Sponsors

Amy Klobuchar

Bill Summary: This bill amends the Federal Water Pollution Control Act to reauthorize certain programs relating to nonpoint source management, and for other purposes.

Introduction Date: 2021-01-22

Bill Number

S 209

Last Action

Read Twice And Referred To The Committee
On Agriculture Nutrition And Forestry 2021 02
03

Status

In Senate

FN Outlook

15.8%

54.0%

Title

A bill to provide for assistance to rural water, wastewater, and waste disposal systems affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

Bill Summary: This bill provides assistance for rural water, wastewater, and waste disposal systems affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, and for other purposes.

Introduction Date: 2021-02-03

Primary Sponsors


Jeanne Shaheen

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FiscalNote

Monterey Peninsula Water Management District

2020 Federal Advocacy Platform



The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's 2020 Federal Advocacy Platform outlines the District's goals and needs related to water supply, environmental stewardships, water conservation, and general federal advocacy activities.

January 2020

2020 FEDERAL ADVOCACY PLATFORM



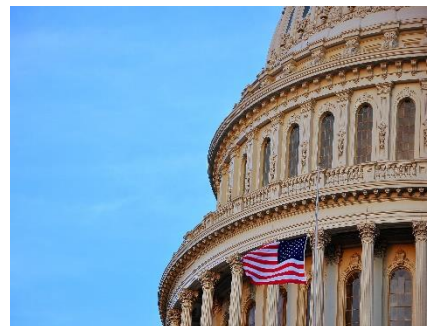
WATER SUPPLY

ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP



WATER CONSERVATION

RELATIONSHIPS & LEADERSHIP





WATER SUPPLY

The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District's mission is to promote and provide for long-term sustainable water supply, and to manage and protect water resources for the benefit of the community and the environment.

REAUTHORIZE AND EXPAND TITLE XVI WATER RECLAMATION AND REUSE COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM

Background	The 2016 <i>Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act</i> (Title XVI-WIIN) created the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse competitive grant program, which enabled new projects to be eligible for federal assistance under Title XVI. There are currently 55 Title XVI-WIIN eligible projects awaiting assistance, with a total of more than \$550 million in eligible federal cost-share, this list will only grow as more projects become eligible. The need is clearly there as demonstrated by the range of communities who have applied for and are awaiting funding to drought-proof their future.
Request	<p>Support proposals like those included in the <i>Drought Resiliency and Water Supply Infrastructure Act (S 1932)</i>, the <i>FUTURE Drought Resiliency Act</i> (Representative Huffman's discussion draft) and similar measures that include a 5-year, \$100 million reauthorization of the Bureau of Reclamation's Title XVI Water Reclamation and Reuse competitive grant program, originally authorized in the 2016 Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation (WIIN) Act (Title XVI-WIIN).</p> <p>Support an increase in the maximum grant amount under Title XVI from \$20 million to \$30 million or 25 percent of total project costs, whichever is less.</p>

EXPAND FEDERAL COMPETITIVE GRANT AND LOAN SUPPORT FOR CRITICALLY NEEDED WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

Background	Although Congress has generously increased funding to support water supply, storage, and reuse infrastructure in recent years, funding for these critical water infrastructure needs continues to be insufficient in relation to the extraordinary demand that exists West-wide.
Request	<p>Support increased competitive grant funding for desalination (\$60 million in additional funds authorized under S. 1932 and the FUTURE Act).</p> <p>Support additional federal support for non-federal investments in surface and groundwater storage.</p> <p>Support the authorization of the <i>Reclamation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act</i> (RIFIA).</p>



ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

A key responsibility of MPWMD is to monitor the effects of water production on the environment and work to reduce the negative impacts. MPWMD's environmental stewardship efforts aim to sustain healthy riparian vegetation, promote a viable fishery, and maintain the bed and banks of the Carmel River.

ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR MONITORING ON THE CARMEL RIVER

Background A full Life Cycle Monitoring Station is needed on the Carmel River to properly inform recovery efforts for the South-Central California Coast Steelhead (SCCCS). The Carmel River has one of the oldest steelhead population data sets in the state, dating back seventy years. This data set has served as the primary source of justification for the federal listing of SCCC as 'threatened' under the *Endangered Species Act* (ESA). This data set is also the only long-term trend data set for the entire SCCC Distinct Population Segment (DPS). In order to continue providing essential monitoring data to support SCCC DPS recovery efforts, increased monitoring capabilities are needed on the Carmel River. Going forward, the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) will need additional data to develop the ESA-mandated Viable Salmonid Population Model required by federal law to track the status of a listed species and determine when it is viable for delisting.

Request Federal funding to support installation of a full Life Cycle Monitoring Station on the Carmel River through the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund.

ENHANCE FEDERAL ROLE IN MONITORING

Need: The Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund is the only program dedicated to funding and tracking monitoring activities associated with the recovery of salmon in the West. Currently, under the formula created by the NMFS, funding for criteria that includes monitoring is capped at 25 percent, while criteria for habitat construction for salmon is 65 percent. Given that recovery (removal from the Endangered Species list) is central to the purpose of the ESA, reform and expansion of the monitoring elements of the program are needed.

In addition, the allocation of the program funding within some states, such as California, appear to be regionally unbalanced. Therefore, evaluations should be done to ensure that funding allocated through the program is as balanced as possible with regard to where dollars are spent, particularly for monitoring activities.

Lastly, given the number of listed species in California and elsewhere, increased funding for monitoring is needed to better measure progress on achieving the purpose of the ESA: recovery.

Request: Either through authorization legislation and/or appropriations language, we ask that Congress direct the NMFS to increase the percentage of funds provided to monitoring from the current 25 percent to 50 percent, over several years, beginning with a 10 percent increase in FY 2021 and increase the overall funding for the Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery to ensure that monitoring is receiving the maximum funding available.

We also ask that Congress direct NMFS to report to Congress on an evaluation of criteria for Pacific Coast Salmon Recovery Fund applicability to states to ensure regional equity regarding project funding to the extent practical.

SUPPORT THE NATIONAL FISH HABITAT PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Need: There are 20 regional National Fish Habitation Partnership Program (NFHP) partnerships operating across the nation focused on conservation and restoration of various fish species. The California partnership was established in 2010. Known as the California Fish Passage Forum, its mission is to protect and restore listed anadromous salmonoid species, and other aquatic organisms, in California by promoting collaboration among public and private sectors for fish passage improvement projects and programs. Species of concern include, but are not limited to, Coho and chinook salmon; steelhead trout; and Pacific lamprey.

Legislation is currently moving through the House and Senate that would formally authorize the NFHP program. Among other elements, the legislation would authorize federal funding for the program annually; establish the partnership program selection criteria; establish a governing board; and formalize current partnerships. The legislation authorizing the program has been introduced in the previous Congresses and enjoys strong bipartisan support. The current bill passed the House overwhelmingly. In the Senate, the Environment and Public Works Committee recently passed the House version on a strong bipartisan vote. It is awaiting a Senate floor vote.

Request: Support final passage of NFHP authorizing legislation and engage in outreach to the regional and federal level officials participating in the current California partnerships to discuss potential expansion to include the Carmel River in the current partnership, and/or explore the possibility of establishing a sub or separate partnership.

MAKE BASIN STUDIES ELIGIBLE FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RESTORATION FUNDING

Background Proposals have been introduced in Congress to provide authorization and funding to the Department of the Interior to carry out environmental restoration activities benefitting species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act that are adversely affected by the operation of Bureau of Reclamation water projects. Monterey would like to further amend such proposals to also make environmental restoration funding available for recommended actions outlined in completed and approved Reclamation basin studies.

Request Support efforts to provide authorization and funding to the Department of the Interior to carry out environmental restoration activities benefitting species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act that would benefit from recommended actions within the boundaries of a completed and approved basin study.



WATER CONSERVATION

Even though the Monterey Peninsula is one of the lowest per-person, per-day water users in the state, the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District aims to achieve additional water conservation at every opportunity. The District wants to continue to support federal efforts that promote and support water conservation efforts carried out by water managers and users.

WATER EFFICIENCY REBATES

Description	The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District provides generous rebates for water saving fixtures and appliances for homes or businesses. California American Water, Seaside Municipal Water District, and other system customers within the District are eligible for a rebate when purchasing and installing water saving devices. Ensuring that users have incentive to install water saving devices is essential to the District overall water conservation efforts.
Request	Support the <i>Water Conservation Rebate Tax Parity Act</i> , a bill that would amend federal tax law to clarify that homeowners do not need to pay income tax on rebates received from water utilities for water conservation and water runoff management improvements they have made.



RELATIONSHIPS & LEADERSHIP

A key goal of the Monterey Peninsula Water Management District is to continue enhancing the District's relationships and presence in Washington. Maintaining strong relationships with Congress and federal agencies will support District efforts to influence legislation, regulations, and policy changes of interest to the District.

CONTINUING BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS WITH FEDERAL AGENCIES AND CONGRESS

Description	The Monterey Peninsula Water Management District maintains strong relationships with its elected officials in Congress, their staffs, and federal agencies. These relationships have been essential to many successes achieved by the District.
Goal	Continue to enhance the District's relationships with elected representatives in Congress and federal agencies to ensure that federal interests understand the District's role, needs, and expertise.

TRACK LEGISLATION AND REGULATIONS OF INTEREST

Description	An important aspect of maintaining relationships and visibility in Washington is to track legislation and legislation that may impact the District's interests so the District can provide guidance to federal representatives and agencies about the impacts and/or benefits of proposed or pending policy changes.
Goal	Continue to track bills and regulations that may impact the District's interests.