

MOUNTAIN COUNTIES WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION



Union Public Utility District

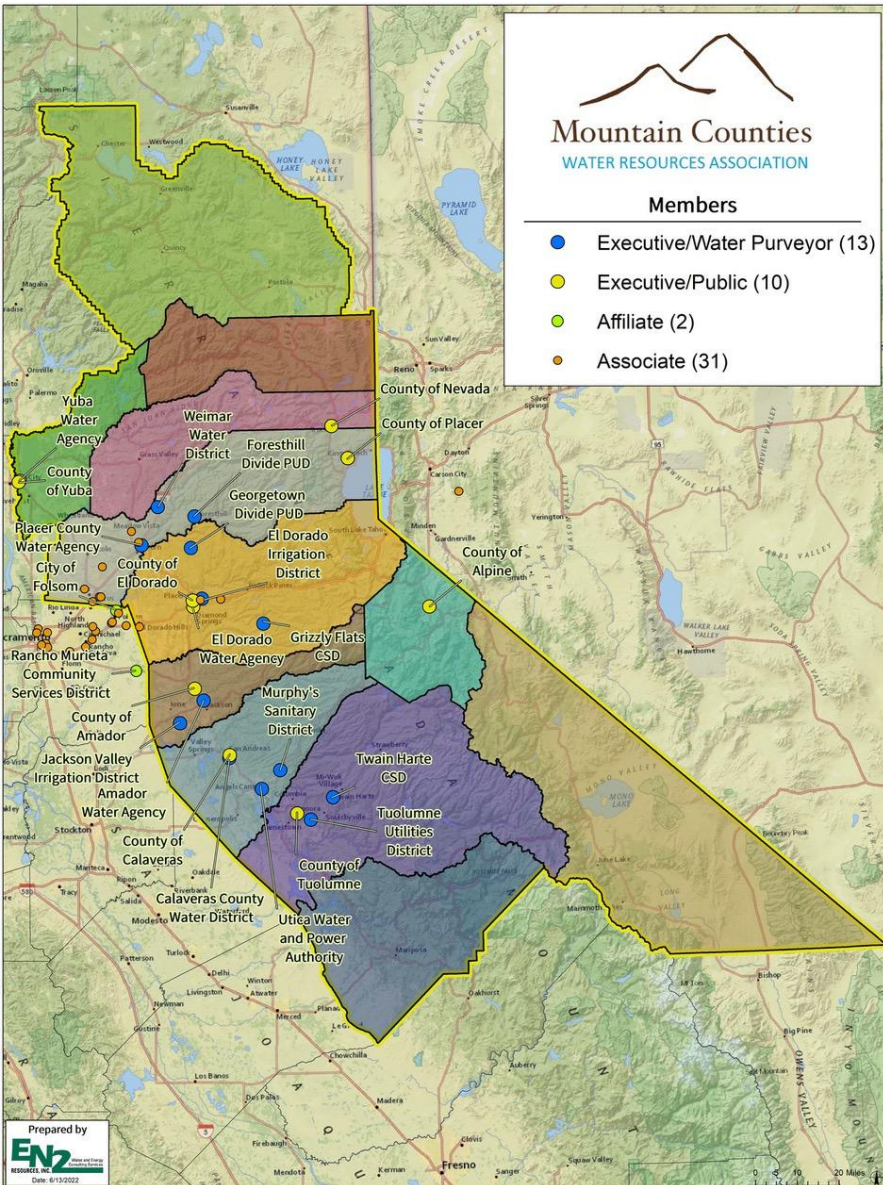
Promoting the Statewide Importance of Sierra Nevada Water Resources

PRESENTED BY

SCOTT RATTERMAN - MCWRA PRESIDENT/CCWD Director

JUSTIN CAPORUSSO - MCWRA EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

AUGUST 16, 2023

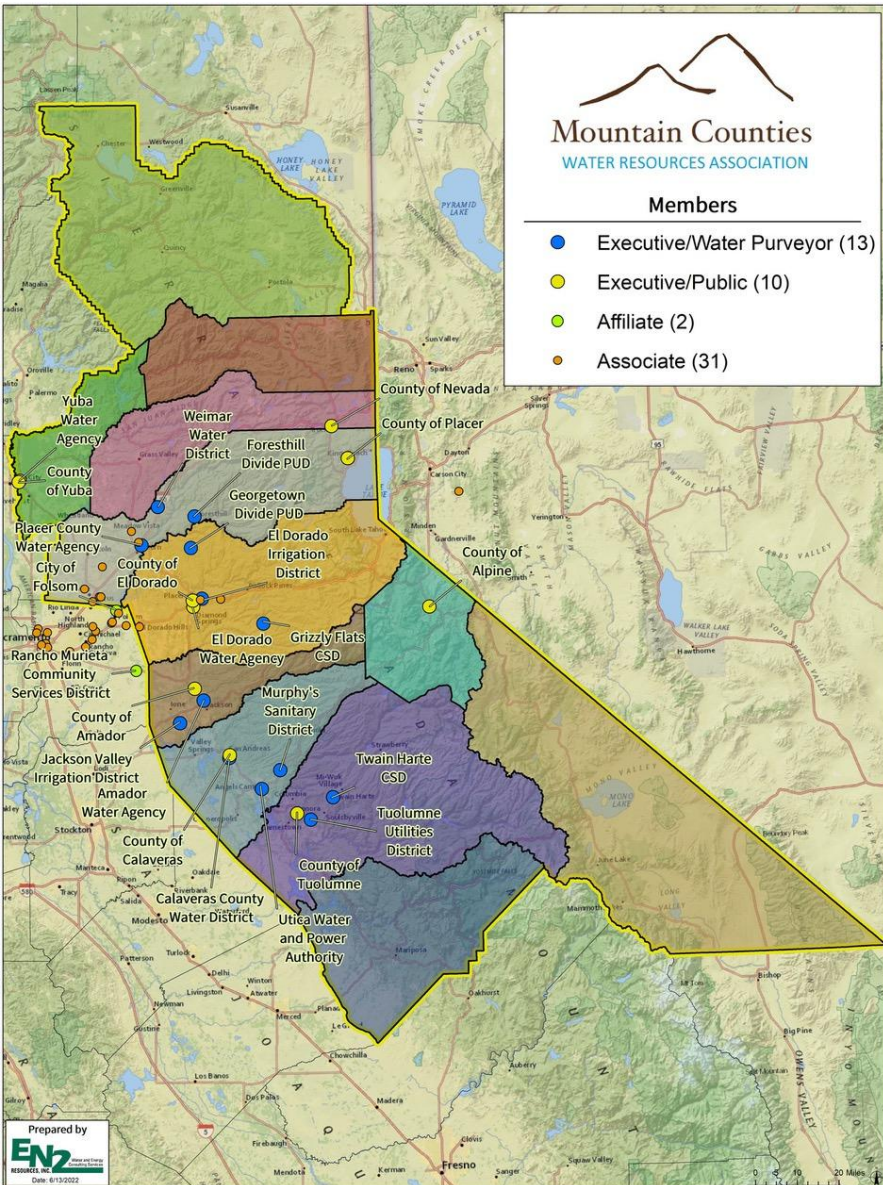


Executive Members

- Amador Water Agency
- Calaveras County Water District
- County of Alpine
- County of Amador
- County of Calaveras
- County of El Dorado
- County of Nevada
- County of Placer
- County of Tuolumne
- County of Yuba
- El Dorado County Water Agency
- El Dorado Irrigation District
- Foresthill Public Utility District
- Georgetown Divide Public Utility District
- Grizzly Flats Community Services District
- Jackson Valley Irrigation District
- Murphys Sanitary District
- Placer County Water Agency
- South Tahoe Public Utility District
- Tuolumne Utilities District
- Twain Harte Community Services District
- Yuba Water Agency
- Utica Water and Power Authority

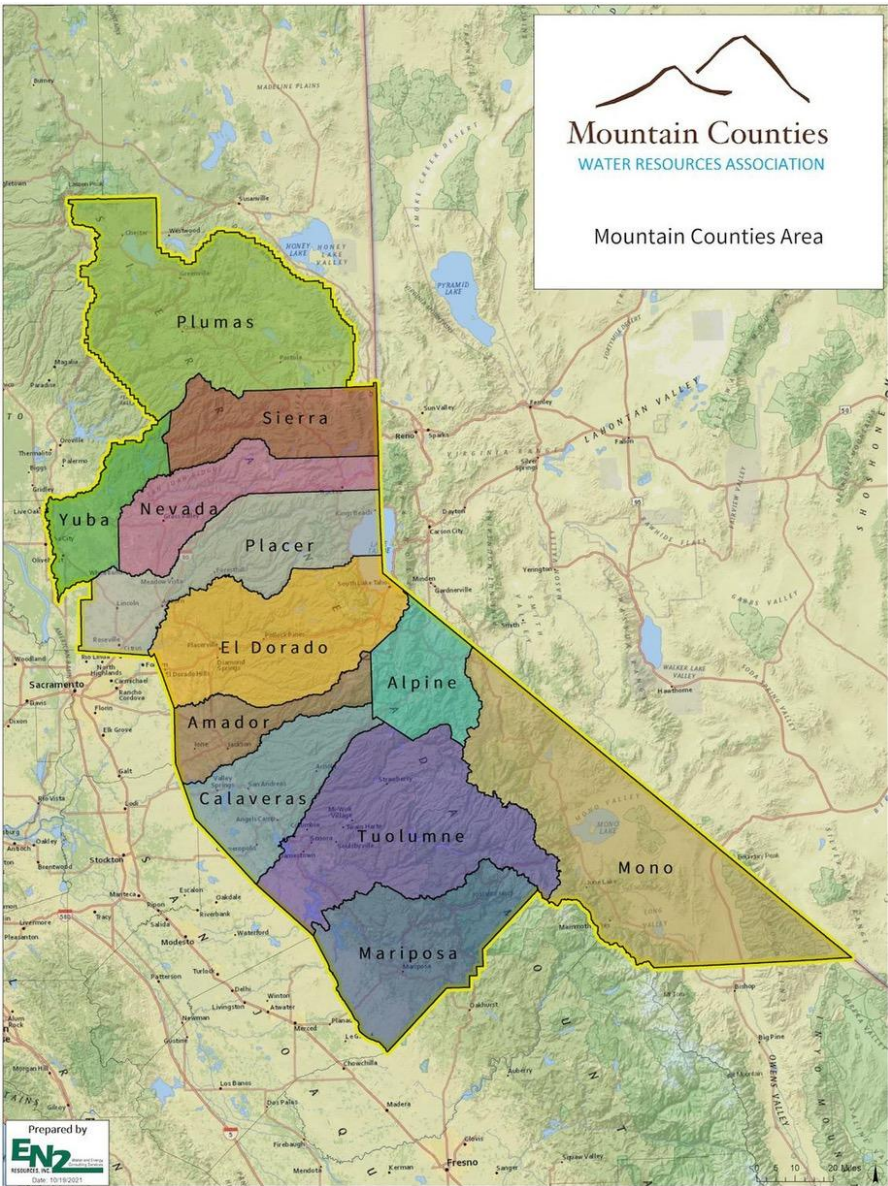
Affiliate Members

- City of Folsom
- Rancho Murieta Community Services District
- Santa Clara Valley Water District (Valley Water)



Associate Members

- AECOM
- Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA)
- Bennett Engineering Services
- Black & Veatch
- Blackburn Consulting
- Brown and Caldwell
- Carollo Engineers
- Coleman Engineering
- Condor Earth Technologies, Inc.
- Domenichelli and Associates, Inc.
- Dudek
- ECORP Consulting, Inc.
- EN2 Resources, Inc.
- Environmental Science Associates (ESA)
- Fieldman, Rolapp & Associates, Inc.
- Gannett Fleming,
- HDR Engineering, Inc.
- HELIX Environmental Planning, Inc.
- Hilltop Securities, Inc.
- JJ&A (Jacobson James & Associates)
- McMillen Jacobs Associates
- Mesa Water District
- Northwest Hydraulic Consultants
- Peterson . Brustad . Inc.
- Provost & Pritchard Consulting Group
- Recology
- Sierra West Consultants, Inc.
- Stantec
- Urban Water Institute (UWI)
- WEST Consultants, Inc.
- West Yost Associates
- Western Hydrologics



Mountain Counties Region

Alpine
Amador
Calaveras
El Dorado
Mariposa
Mono
Nevada
Placer
Plumas
Sierra
Tuolumne
Yuba

Board of Directors



Scott Ratterman – President
2015-
Director, Calaveras County Water District

Lori Anzini- Treasurer
2022-
Director, El Dorado Irrigation District

Lori Parlin – Director
2022-
Supervisor, County of El Dorado

Board of Directors

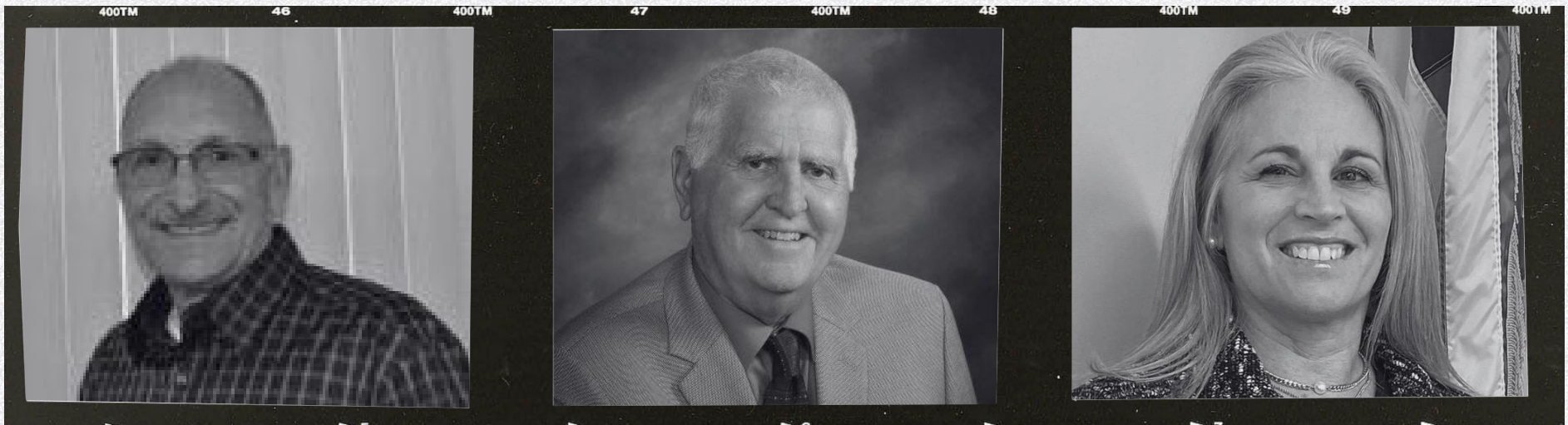


Barbara Balen – Vice President
2017-
Director, Tuolumne Utilities District

Sue Hoek – Director
2023-
Supervisor, County of Nevada

Jim Holmes – Secretary
2015-
Supervisor, County of Placer

Board of Directors



Mike Lee - Director
2017-
Director, Placer County Water Agency

Don Blaser- Director
2023-
Director, Yuba Water Agency

Susan Peters - Director
2023-
Director, Amador Water Agency

Executive Director



JUSTIN CAPORUSSO

- More than two decades of public affairs and issue advocacy experience
- Background in rural California
- Experience in natural resource issues
 - Chair, California Forest Watershed Alliance (CAFWA)
- Collaborative Approach to Advocacy and Issue Management





Statewide Benefits of Healthy Headwaters

California's headwaters account for the majority of the state's overall water supply, yet the region cannot solely fund proper forest management. Through education and advocacy, MCWRA will continue to promote policies and funding of programs and projects that protect Sierra Nevada's forested watersheds, and support the following:

- **IMPROVED WATER QUALITY AND QUANTITY**
- **ENHANCED HABITATS, ECOSYSTEMS, RECREATION, AND WATERSHEDS**
- **LOWER RISKS TO RURAL COMMUNITIES, PUBLIC SAFETY, AND INFRASTRUCTURE**
- **REDUCED IMPACTS OF WILDFIRE AND CLIMATE CHANGE**
- **CREATION OF RESILIENT FORESTS AND COMMUNITIES**
- **INCREASED CARBON SEQUESTRATION**



Mission

Promote the statewide importance of Sierra Nevada water resources through advocacy and collaboration.



Vision

To be the premiere advocate to influence water policy and protection of the Sierra Nevada watershed.



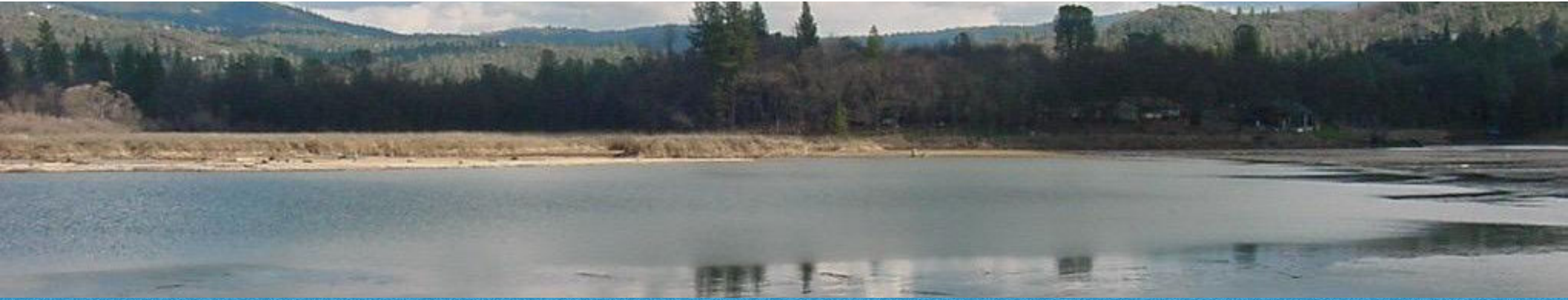
Values

- Leadership
- Advocacy
- Collaboration
- Education



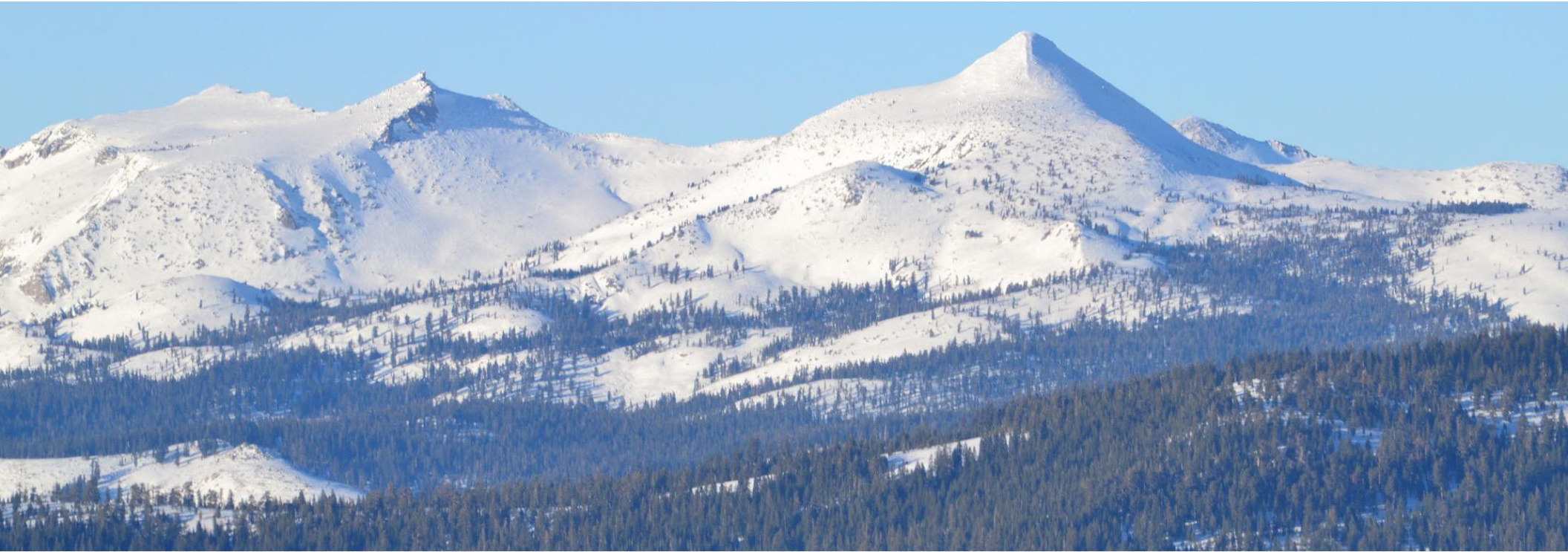
Strategic Priorities

- California's Watershed
- Water Rights
- Water Supply
- Forest Management
- Statewide Collaboration



Key Priorities

- PROTECTION OF WATER RIGHTS AND PRESERVATION OF REGIONAL WATER SUPPLIES
- INCREASED INVESTMENT IN CALIFORNIA'S HEADWATERS
- SCIENCE-BASED FOREST MANAGEMENT PLANS AND ACTIONS
- INCREASED STATEWIDE COLLABORATION REGARDING WATER RESOURCES
- ADDITIONAL WATER STORAGE CAPACITY
- EDUCATING TARGET AUDIENCES ON STATEWIDE NEED OF PROTECTING CALIFORNIA'S HEADWATERS



WATER POLICY PRINCIPLES

MOUNTAIN COUNTY WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

13

MCWRA Supports...



1. Protection of members' existing water rights, water-rights priority, area-of-origin rights, and local agencies' ability to use water resources for their present and future economic, social, and environmental well-being.
2. Proactive, science-based forest management practices, and robust State and federal investment in the watershed and headwaters of the Sierra Nevada.
3. Policies that acknowledge MCWRA members' unique position to develop and implement significant regional and statewide solutions.

MCWRA Supports...



4. New Water Storage
5. Water-use Efficiency
6. California Water Plan and Water Resilience Portfolio.
7. Regional and statewide climate resilience initiatives and renewable energy expansion.
8. Integrated approach to water management that addresses costs and benefits, and uses the best available science to prioritize and balance water supply and demand for people, agriculture, and the environment.

MCWRA Supports...



9.

Rewarding water suppliers who demonstrate:

- Reduce reliance on water supplies conveyed through the Delta
- Investment in local and regional water supplies
- Improved regional self-reliance for water supplies
- Investment in water use efficiency and reuse
- Investment in advanced water technologies



TOURS & EDUCATION

MOUNTAIN COUNTIES WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

Advocacy

In an effort to streamline our advocacy efforts, and maintain a high-level of legislative engagement on behalf of our members, the MCWRA Legislative Committee prioritized 2023 legislative proposals into the following three categories:

1. Engage

2. Watch

3. Monitor

Principles and Strategic Priorities fall into a Priority 1 status. These proposals will require various levels of MCWRA legislative engagement. Legislative proposals that indirectly align or are adjacent to our Water Policy Principles and/or Strategic Priorities fall into a Priority 2 status. Priority 3 includes all other water related or forest management related legislative proposals worth monitoring.

Priority 1

At the recommendation of the MCWRA Legislative Committee, the MCWRA Board of Directors adopted the following positions on Priority 1 legislative proposals:

SUPPORT

- Assembly Bill 1152 (Patterson, Joe)
- Assembly Bill 1554 (Patterson, Joe)
- Senate Bill 470 (Alvarado-Gil)

OPPOSE

- Assembly Bill 338 (Aguiar-Curry)
- Assembly Bill 460 (Bauer-Kahan)
- Assembly Bill 1337 (Wicks)
- Senate Bill 389 (Allen) – Moved to Neutral 08/04

SUPPORT IF AMENDED

- ACA 2 (Alanis) – Include language specific to fire suppression infrastructure

California's Headwaters

OBJECTIVE	ACTION ITEM	TIME FRAME
Support Increased Investment in healthy watersheds	Promote statewide and local policies that protect current investments	Ongoing
	Encourage local agency partners to advocate by creating a unified approach	Ongoing
Promote policies, projects and funding to protect the Sierra Nevada's watershed	Develop an advocacy platform to be used by MCWRA members to share with partner agencies	2024/Annual
Increase awareness of the importance of the Sierra Nevada watershed	Develop an education initiative spearheaded by partner agencies	2024/Annual

Water Rights

MCWRA STRATEGIC PLAN

OBJECTIVE	ACTION ITEM	TIME FRAME
Develop and execute a Water Rights educational campaign	Work with partners and stakeholders to draft content and collateral materials defining Water Rights, and highlighting the need for preservation and protection	2023
	Host materials on digital platform	
	Host an annual Water Rights webinar for MCWRA members	Annual
Preserve and protect priority principle Water Rights	Work with Legislative Committee and Legislative Advocacy team to track and engage in Water Rights legislative and regulatory activities	Ongoing
Defend area of origin Water Rights		

Forest Management

OBJECTIVE	ACTION ITEM	TIME FRAME
Encourage science-based plans and actions	Convene appropriate parties for an initial panel discussion for MCWRA members on current science-based approaches used and possible future alternatives	2023/Ongoing
	Develop forest management principles for MCWRA as part of an annual advocacy platform/document	Annual
Collaborate with partner organizations and associations on forest management advocacy	Identify and convene partner organizations and associations for an annual forest management workshop/study session	Annual/Ongoing
	Align MCWRA with existing coalitions focused on forest management advocacy	

Statewide Collaboration

OBJECTIVE	ACTION ITEM	TIME FRAME
Water Resources Advocacy	Develop a comprehensive Sierra Nevada region advocacy plan	Annual
Enhance relationships with organizations and key individuals in Southern California and the Bay Area	Sustain relationship with California-United Water	Annual/Ongoing
	Co-host annual California-United Water educational events and opportunities	
	Maintain leadership role and participation in Urban Water Institute	

Water Supply

OBJECTIVE	ACTION ITEM	TIME FRAME
Achieve additional water storage capacity for California	Provide initial report on current water storage projects to MCWRA Board of Directors	2023/Annual
	Work with individual water storage projects to host introductory project briefings and annual updates	
Achieve additional water supply capacity for California	Advocate for current water storage projects while developing a long-term strategy for advocacy of future water storage projects	
Collaborate with strategically identified partners	Utilize Southern California and other strategic partnerships to enhance and amplify organized advocacy for water storage and water supply projects	Ongoing

QUESTIONS?