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CALIFORNIA WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION

FEATHER RIVER PROJECT ASSOCIATION

ORGANIZED IN 1955 AS THE

A non-profit, non-partisan state-wide citizens association dedicated to cooperative development of water resources of California and the West as "Californians for Water Action."

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EXECUTIVE MANAGER HENRY D. GREENE

EDITOR JACK W. KEATING

VOL. XI, No. 3

May 5, 1967

Newsletter

EXPORT OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER TO COLORADO RIVER PROPOSAL STIRS DEBATE

The Eel River Association on April 4 asked the House Interior Committee to "consider California's North Coast as an initial source of water to be developed to offset prospective shortages in the lower Colorado River"--- touching off West-wide discussion among government and water leaders.

Filed in behalf of 11 Northern California counties, the proposal advised Chairman WAYNE ASPINALL that Northern California water could meet "shortages occasioned by the Mexican Water Treaty and the limitations of the Colorado Pact."

It asserted that "other sources would have to be developed later to
(Continued on Page 2)

CWRA SUPPORTS SB 1046 FOR \$8.26 MILLION ALLOCATIONS FOR WATER PROJECT NONREIMBURSABLE COSTS

Hewing to its long-standing policy that historic dedication of state tidelands oil and gas revenues to water development be honored, the CWRA Board on April 14 voted to support SB 1046 (Cologne) which allocates \$8.26 million in such funds for recreation, fish and wildlife costs, not reimbursable by water users, at Frenchman, Grizzly, Oroville, Thermolito, San Luis Dam and California Aqueduct.

In a telegram to Governor REAGAN, DWR Director GIANELLI and members of the Senate and Assembly Water Committees, CWRA President E. F. DIBBLE cited that a 1959 pledge of then Governor BROWN dedicated the \$172 million tidelands investment fund to water development, as well as "future fund accrual from these royalties."

The Board acted after hearing testimony April 13 from P. A. TOWNER, DWR Chief Counsel, strongly criticizing the stand of the Legislative Analyst on the availability of the \$5 million annual tidelands appropriation for recreation, fish and wildlife under AB 12, 1966 session. Towner called the position "short-sighted" and without "basis in law."

The Analyst contends that these monies are available only for reimbursement of Burns-Porter Act Bond funds and not for expenditures either from the California Water Fund or made prior to the Burns-Porter Act.

Under the Analyst's theory, only \$2,586,692 would be available, instead of the \$8.26 million asked by the DWR. Towner added if this position is allowed to stand, it would reduce the amount of construction money available to the Project during its initial phases when money is badly needed.

DWR Director William Gianelli suggested the possible need for additional project financing before the Water Service Contractors April 20. It has been reported the sum needed could exceed \$100 million.

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EXPORT OF NORTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER TO COLORADO RIVER (Cont'd from Page 1)

satisfy all of the anticipated water requirements of the Basin."

DWR Director William R. Gianelli told the Association April 14 that California needed to present a united front before Congress on Colorado River legislation and that "individual groups should not negotiate on their own." Gianelli said the DWR has never "objected to the inclusion of the North Coast as one of the areas to be studied as a potential source of supply of the Colorado River."

The California Advisory Committee on Western Water Planning called an emergency meeting of state-wide water leaders April 18 at which Gianelli reiterated this position. He added that "interstate misunderstandings already are developing" because of the Eel River proposal. He cited "expressions of great glee" from the Pacific Northwest, which is opposed to export of Columbia River water, and from Arizona, which is pushing Federal legislation for its Central Arizona Project.

JERALD R. BUTCHERT, Executive Secretary, Eel River Association, backed by Consulting Engineer HARVEY BANKS, argued their plan would simply advance by 10 or 15 years some North Coast multi-purpose projects provided in the California Water Plan. Butchert envisioned an enlarged Eastside Canal, an undersea aqueduct or other means of water transport to Southern California.

Gianelli cited statistics showing that by 1990-2020, California will need a large part of its surplus North Coast water to fulfill the California Water Plan, while Upper Colorado River Basin needs simultaneously will require substantial Colorado River augmentation.

Butchert argued that until surplus North Coast water was needed in California, "it could be used in the Colorado River, most likely by temporary exchange with those California entities now drawing water from the Colorado River."

This theory was attacked by NORTHCUTT ELY, Counsel, Colorado River Board of California, who argued that once Congress spent "2 or 3 billion dollars" to bring Northern California water southward, it would not likely permit area of origin guarantees for later withdrawal of this water. "I don't think the idea is politically viable," he added.

Ely cited that Sen. MOSS (Utah) already has introduced S-1409, which is similar to Sen. KUCHEL'S S-861, except that it would require a feasibility study of whether Northern California should furnish 2.5 million acre feet yearly to supplement the Colorado River in the first stages of river augmentation.

The California Advisory Committee, headed by Assemblyman CARLEY V. PORTER, adopted a recommendation to Governor Reagan that California insist before Congress that Colorado River legislation include provision for broad studies of "all alternative means" of augmentation each at the "same level of intensity" by a National Commission or otherwise, with protection of prior California uses to the extent of 4.4 million acre feet per year until augmentation.

The Senate Interior Committee began hearings on Colorado River bills May 2.

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CALIFORNIA WATER COMMISSION GETS NEW CHAIRMAN AND THREE NEW MEMBERS

IRA J. CHRISMAN, former Visalia Mayor and past President of the League of California Cities, was elected April 7 as Chairman of the newly constituted California Water Commission, to which Governor Reagan earlier appointed the following members: CLAIR A. HILL, Redding consulting engineer; SAMUEL B. NELSON, retired Gen. Manager-Chief Engineer, Los Angeles Department of Water and Power; and WILLIAM P. MOSES, San Pablo attorney. Chrisman, an eight-year member of the commission, succeeded former chairman RALPH M. BRODY, Fresno, who was not reappointed.

"I applaud the particularly effective work done in the water field by the CWRA," Chrisman wrote the CWRA April 12.

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CHRISMAN

CWRA OPPOSES MAKING FEATHER RIVER MIDDLE FORK A WILD RIVER

Opposition to SJR 16 (Teale) which memorializes Congress to designate part of the Middle Fork of the Feather River as a Federal wild river was voted by the CWRA Board on April 14.

A statement sent Governor Reagan, members of the Assembly and Senate Water Committees and Resources Administrator NORMAN LIVERMORE, pointed out that this river is involved in a proposed water development project by the Richvale and three other irrigation districts, approved by the State Water Rights Board.

The CWRA believes that this "portion of the state's scarce and valuable water supply" should not by the wild river action be removed from the scope of development by state and local agencies, the statement contended. Instead, water projects such as planned for the Middle Fork should be "encouraged" in the "best interest of the public and the California Water Plan," it stated.

SJR 16 was given a "do pass" by the Senate Water Committee April 25 with support of the State Administration.

ACREAGE LIMITATION STUDY TASK FORCE NAMED BY GOVERNOR

Appointment of a five-man task force, headed by BURNHAM ENERSON, San Francisco water attorney, to draft proposed legislation up-dating federal land limitation provisions of reclamation law was announced April 15 by Governor Reagan.

On January 24, 1967, the CWRA Board adopted a resolution requesting the Governor to appoint a committee for the purpose of reviewing the subject.

It was reported that if the recommendations of the new committee, to be completed in 90 days, are acceptable to the Governor, he may create another action task force to implement the committee suggestions.

The Governor said he hoped the task force would determine "alternatives" to the limitation---such as relieving excess landowners from application if they pay the government full costs of water received---as well as suggesting changes in "current interpretations of the existing law which are not in the public interest."

Other task force members are BRECKINRIDGE THOMAS of Fresno; CWRA members WILLIAM H. JENNINGS of San Diego; JAMES F. SORENSON of Visalia; and RICHARD D. ANDREWS of Fresno.

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WATER QUALITY BOARD DECISION POSES THREAT TO CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN --- GIANELLI

The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board on April 28 adopted a policy for Delta water quality objectives exceeding those provided in a 1965 memo agreement between the DWR, the Bureau of Reclamation, and interests representing 90% of Delta agricultural areas.

The objectives, to be reviewed in June by the State Water Quality Control Board, and later by the Federal Water Quality Control Administration, provide for a maximum chloride concentration at Jersey Point of 250 parts per million---in addition to protecting the City of Antioch intake for half a year and protecting Western Delta agricultural areas for at least 79% of the year.

DWR Director William R. Gianelli told the Water Service Contractors Council April 20 such standards failed to reflect "any recognition of the California Water Plan"; that sufficient data is not now available upon which to set salinity objectives; that records show such standards have not been met in many recent years and could not be met in all future years without release of stored water and that the DWR is negotiating with Delta interests to provide alternate water supplies to areas affected by Project operations. The Contra Costa County Water District and the DWR have reached such an agreement providing for payments to the county for loss of Delta pumping, says JOHN DE VITO, District Manager.

OLIVER T. SMITH, Assistant Engineer, Contra Costa County Water Agency, told the CWRA Board April 14 the 1965 agreement was "unacceptable" to his Agency and could be "extremely damaging" to the Western Delta. Criteria set by the Negotiating Committee for Contra Costa Water Requirements could be presently obtained with a minimum flow of 3300 second feet, he said. The DWR estimates that the Agency position could require about 2000 second feet of outflow in addition to the outflow to meet the 1965 agreement.

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LOS ANGELES DEPARTMENT OF WATER AND POWER GETS NEW CHIEF ENGINEER-GENERAL MANAGER

EDGAR L. KANOUSE, department veteran of 31 years who rose through the power division to Assistant General Manager-Chief Engineer, was appointed to succeed the retiring Samuel B. Nelson as top executive of the \$1.3 billion Los Angeles Department of Water and Power on March 30.

Nelson, CWRA Director and Assistant Treasurer, was honored by 600 civic leaders at a luncheon April 27. He announced his affiliation with the engineering firm of Daniel, Mann, Johnson and Mendenhall as vice president.

The Board of Water and Power Commissioners, which appointed Kanouse, issued a bulletin expressing confidence that Kanouse would "provide a quality of leadership for the Department in keeping with the high standards of administration it has received over the years..."



KANOUSE



NELSON

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PORTER AND COLOGNE TALK WITH CWRA BOARD

Assemblyman Carley V. Porter and Senator GORDON COLOGNE, Chairman, respectively, of the Assembly and Senate Water Committees, discussed water problems and legislation at the CWRA April Sacramento Board meeting. Neither expressed concern over the Eel River Association's proposal to export Northern California water to the Colorado River.

"The proposal has merit and deserves study---it is surprising that an area would want to give another area water," said Cologne. He said there was a strong reaction from the Northwest, which hoped this proposal might "take some of the pressure off" moves for interbasin transfers of Columbia River water.

"I don't have a single word of criticism," commented Porter. He said his first reaction as chairman of the California Advisory Committee on Western States Water Planning, was to congratulate the Eel River Association for taking a position which "they apparently hope will result in the integration of all phases of Western water systems at substantial savings."

Porter urged all California organizations to "trade information" on water planning, stressing that "it apparently never occurred to the Eel River Association to contact our Advisory Committee or other official California agencies before presenting its proposal to Congress."

Cologne, new California delegate to the Western States Water Council, saw great hope that the Council will foster "better understanding" between the Western States. Action of the Federal administration in sponsoring a stripped down 1967 Colorado River legislation showed the states cannot "rely entirely" on the Federal Government to solve their water problems, he observed.

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FROM THE TAP

The Colorado Water Conservation Board April 25 became another new major out-of-state CWRA member.....AB-2119, a bond guarantee act to assist local water distribution agencies in sale of bonds introduced by Assemblyman KENT STACEY April 10.....Western Contracting Corp. of Iowa submitted \$43.38 million low bid for construction of Castaic Dam and reservoir, comparing with DWR Engineers' estimate of \$65.5 million... H. C. MEDBERY, Asst. Gen. Mgr.-Chief Engr., San Francisco Water Dept. is president-elect of AWWA.....GEORGE B. MAUL, Placerville Attorney, appointed to State Water Rights Board.....CLYDE E. SHIELDS succeeds retiring CHARLES H. CARTER, as Chief Construction Branch, DWR..

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CALENDAR

Thurs.	May 11 --	2 p.m.	CWRA Committee Meetings, International Hotel, Los Angeles
Fri.	May 12 --	9 a.m.	CWRA ANNUAL BOARD MEETING, International Hotel, Los Angeles
Fri.	May 12 --	12 noon	Informal CWRA luncheon featuring a "Progress Report on Colorado River Basin Legislation" by MYRON B. HOLBURT, Principal Hydraulic Engineer, Colorado River Board of California; and ROBERT LEE, General Manager, Colorado River Association.

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(Newsletter may be quoted provided credit given CWRA)