

Northern California Salinity Coalition



The Sacramento San Joaquin Delta is the source of drinking water for more than **22 million** Californians.

The *Northern California Salinity Coalition* members are actively involved in preserving the quality of Delta water as a drinking water source and seek to implement projects that control or prevent salinity from entering the regions water systems.

The Coalition also promotes the use of desalination and groundwater salinity management to improve water supply reliability for the region.

Background

The Northern California Salinity Coalition was formed in 2003 because of the critical need to address regional salinity issues for northern California. By forming this Coalition, the agencies committed to working together to define priorities and action plans, identify funding opportunities, and establish a framework for regional cooperation in addressing desalination and salinity issues.

The Coalition was also formed by its member agencies because they recognized that salinity in northern California water supplies will affect future uses and because of the challenges, issues, and stewardship responsibilities unique to the northern California region.



Above: Alameda County Water District's Brackish Water Desalination facility

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Mission Statement

To advance the interests of the member agencies in the development of local and regional projects and programs that will use desalination and salinity management technologies, practices, and approaches to improve water supply reliability for Coalition members and reduce salinity-related problems affecting the water supplies of members. Areas to be addressed include: seawater desalination, brackish groundwater desalination, salinity increases in groundwater basins and the impact on water supplies, seawater intrusion, control of salinity in wastewater to improve recycling options for irrigation or industrial use, and other related issues.

Coalition Member Agencies:

*Alameda County Water District, Paul Piraino,
Chair
Contra Costa Water District
East Bay Municipal Utility District
San Francisco Public Utilities Commission
Santa Clara Valley Water District
Solano County Water Agency
Sonoma County Water Agency
Zone 7 Water Agency*

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Strategic Objective No. 1—Regional Leadership*

Demonstrate regional leadership in the areas of salinity management and desalination by seeking to collaborate and coordinate research activities, cooperate on project development and sponsorship efforts, and partner on implementation and funding strategies when viable.

Strategic Objective No. 2-Funding Support*

Seek Federal, State, local and available funding for Coalition projects, programs, and activities.

Strategic Objective No. 3-Legislative Coordination*

Coordinate legislative efforts to protect and promote the best interests of the Coalition's constituency.

Strategic Object . No. 4-Coalition Membership*

Seek to increase Coalition policy and legislative effectiveness by increasing individual northern California agency membership in the Coalition.

Strategic Object. No. 5-Education & Outreach*

Educate and provide outreach to the public and policy makers about importance of the Coalition's leadership, programs, outcomes, and activities.

Strategic Object . No. 6-Regulations & Collaboration*

Communicate concerns regarding proposed regulatory matters related to Coalition interests, and work and respond collaboratively to the extent possible. * Preliminary

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Above: Desalination represents an opportunity for Bay Area Water Agencies to meet water supply, drought reliability and water quality needs of agencies on a regional basis. This map depicts feasible sites for desalination facilities in the Bay Area. CCWD, EBMUD, SCVWD and SFPUC are evaluating a regional desalination facility for their constituents.

Below: The Zone 7 Water Agency is considering using wells and reverse osmosis treatment facilities to draw water with high total dissolved solids from unused shallow aquifers to reduce net salt loading in its main groundwater basin depicted below. De-mineralized water would be used for potable municipal and industrial use.

