

Assembly Bill 1755

The Open and Transparent Water Data Act



Chaptered September 23, 2016
found in California Water Code
Sections 12400 to 12420



Tasks of AB 1755

1. Coordinate and integrate existing water data
 2. Develop protocols
 - 💧 Adhere to the protocols
 3. Create, operate & maintain a statewide integrated water data platform
- 💧 DWR responsible to perform tasks 2 & 3
 - 💧 With Monitoring Council, State Water Board and CDFW involvement

Coordinate & Integrate Existing Data

- 💧 Department of Water Resources (DWR), State Water Board, and Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) “shall coordinate and integrate existing water and ecological data from local, state, and federal agencies”
- 💧 Purposes (but are not limited to)
 - 💧 Providing adequate information to implement the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act
 - 💧 Improving the management of the state’s water resources
 - 💧 Bringing greater transparency to water transfers and the market

Develop Protocols

- 💧 DWR, in consultation with the Monitoring Council, the State Water Board, and CDFW, “shall develop protocols for data sharing, documentation, quality control, public access, and promotion of open-source platforms and decision support tools related to water data”
- 💧 DWR report to the Legislature by January 1, 2018
 - 💧 Developed in collaboration with the Monitoring Council, State Water Board, CDFW, “relevant federal agencies, and interested stakeholders, including, but not limited to, technology and open data experts and water data users”

Adhere to the Protocols

- 💧 “Recipients of state funds through grants or contracts for research or projects relating to the improvement of water or ecological data shall, as a condition of the receipt of a grant or contract, adhere to the protocols ... for data sharing, transparency, documentation, and quality control”
- 💧 “A grant or contract recipient that does not comply ... is not eligible for state funding...”

Water Data Platform

- DWR, in consultation with the Monitoring Council, the State Water Board, and CDFW, “shall create, operate, and maintain a statewide integrated water data platform”



Water Data Platform Schedule

- Strategic plan to guide implementation 1/1/2018
- Request for proposals 4/1/2018
- State agency water & ecological data 9/1/2019
 - Quarterly updates thereafter
- Federal agency water & ecological data related to CA water supply and mgmt. 8/1/2020
 - From USBR, USFWS, NOAA, USGS, USFS
 - Quarterly updates thereafter
- Integrate other existing water & ecological data from federal, state, & local agencies and academia 8/1/2020

Water Data Administration Fund

- 💧 All moneys in this new fund are available, upon appropriation, to DWR, the State Water Board, or the Department of Fish and Wildlife “for the collection, management, and improvement of water and ecological data for the purposes of this [Act]”
- 💧 “The Department of Finance shall develop a standardized agreement to allow for the voluntary donation to the fund by any person, educational institution, government entity, corporation or other business entity, or organization”