

# Open and Transparent Water Data Act (AB 1755)

California Water Quality Monitoring Council  
February 28, 2017

Christina McCready, Chief – Integrated Data and Analysis Branch  
California Department of Water Resources

# Open and Transparent Water Data Act

- California's water resource-related datasets are challenging to identify, access, and use
- More centralized data will allow for better water planning, management, and decision-making
- AB 1755 was signed into law on September 23, 2016

**Assembly Bill No. 1755**

CHAPTER 506

An act to add Part 4.9 (commencing with Section 12400) to Division 6 of the Water Code, relating to water data.

[Approved by Governor September 23, 2016. Filed with Secretary of State September 23, 2016.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1755, Dodd. The Open and Transparent Water Data Act. Existing law imposes on the Department of Water Resources various

# Open and Transparent Water Data Act

- DWR must create, operate, and maintain a statewide integrated water data platform
  - Integrate existing water and ecological data from multiple databases
  - Provide data on completed water transfers and exchanges
- DWR must work in consultation with:
  - California Water Quality Monitoring Council
  - State Water Resources Control Board
  - California Department of Fish and Wildlife

# Open and Transparent Water Data Act

- DWR is required to develop protocols for:
  - Data sharing
  - Documentation
  - Quality control
  - Public access
  - Promotion of open-source platforms
  - Decision support tools related to water data
- DWR must submit to the Legislature a report on these protocols

# Open and Transparent Water Data Act

- The platform will:
  - Integrate existing water/ecological data from multiple databases managed by federal, state, and local agencies and academia using consistent and standardized formats
  - Provide data on completed water transfers and exchanges including volume, price, delivery method, identity of buyers/sellers, and water right
  - Receive both spatial and time-series data from various sources

# Open and Transparent Water Data Act

- The platform will integrate available datasets, namely:
  - DWR State Water Project reservoir operations, groundwater levels, urban water use, and land use
  - SWRCB data on water rights, water diversion, and water quality (CEDEN)
  - CDFW information on fish abundance and distribution
  - USGS streamflow conditions (NWIS)
  - USBR Central Valley Project operations information
  - USFWS, USFS, and NOAA Fisheries fish abundance information

# Open and Transparent Water Data Act

- AB 1755 is an opportunity to integrate and increase access to water data collected by state agencies, which will:
  - Foster collaboration among state agencies
  - Create opportunities to share and integrate datasets
  - Minimize duplicate data gathering and reconciliation of diverse datasets
  - Improve state agency operations through data-driven decision-making
  - Improve transparency and accountability

# AB 1755 Implementation

## Key Dates

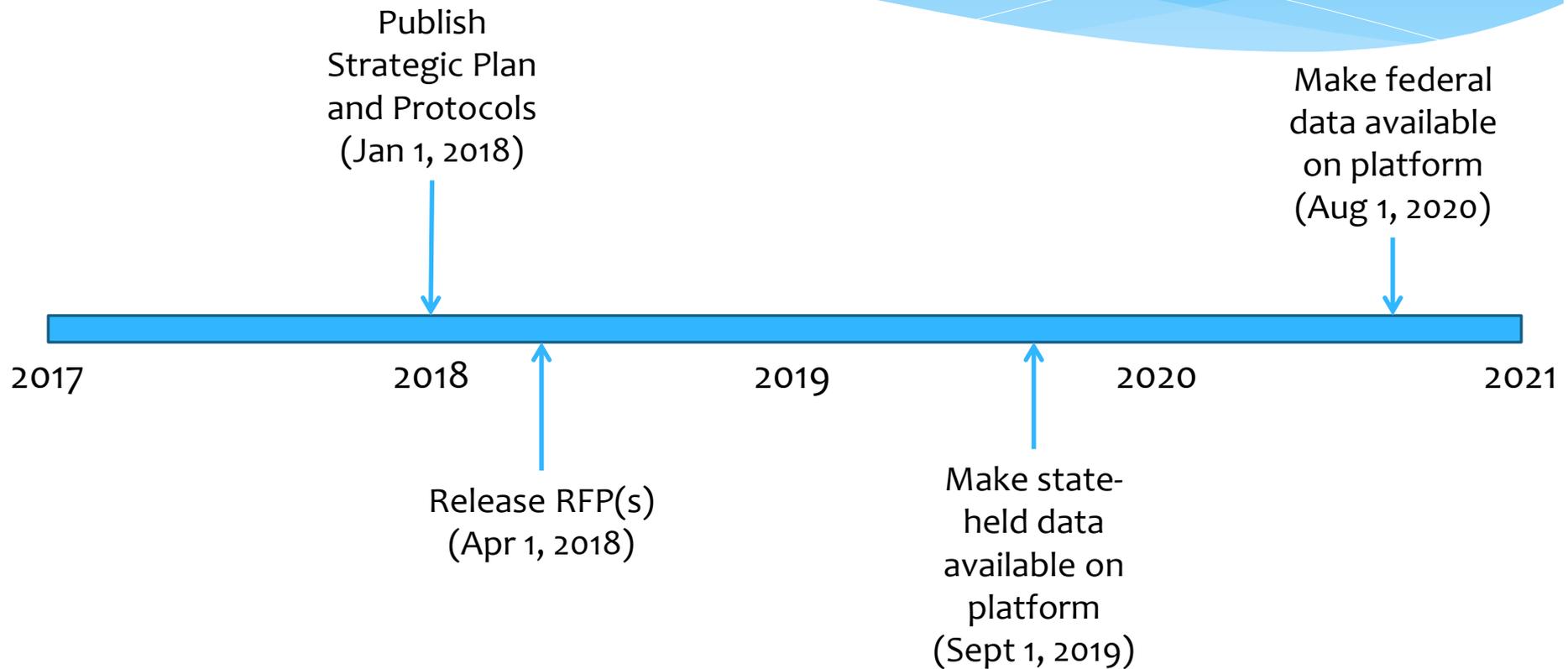
- By January 1, 2018: DWR will make public the protocols developed and publish a strategic plan for data management to guide implementation of the Act
- By April 1, 2018: DWR shall release any request for proposal(s) necessary for platform development
- By September 1, 2019: DWR shall make available on the platform existing water and ecological data held by state agencies (and quarterly add data as it becomes available)

# AB 1755 Implementation

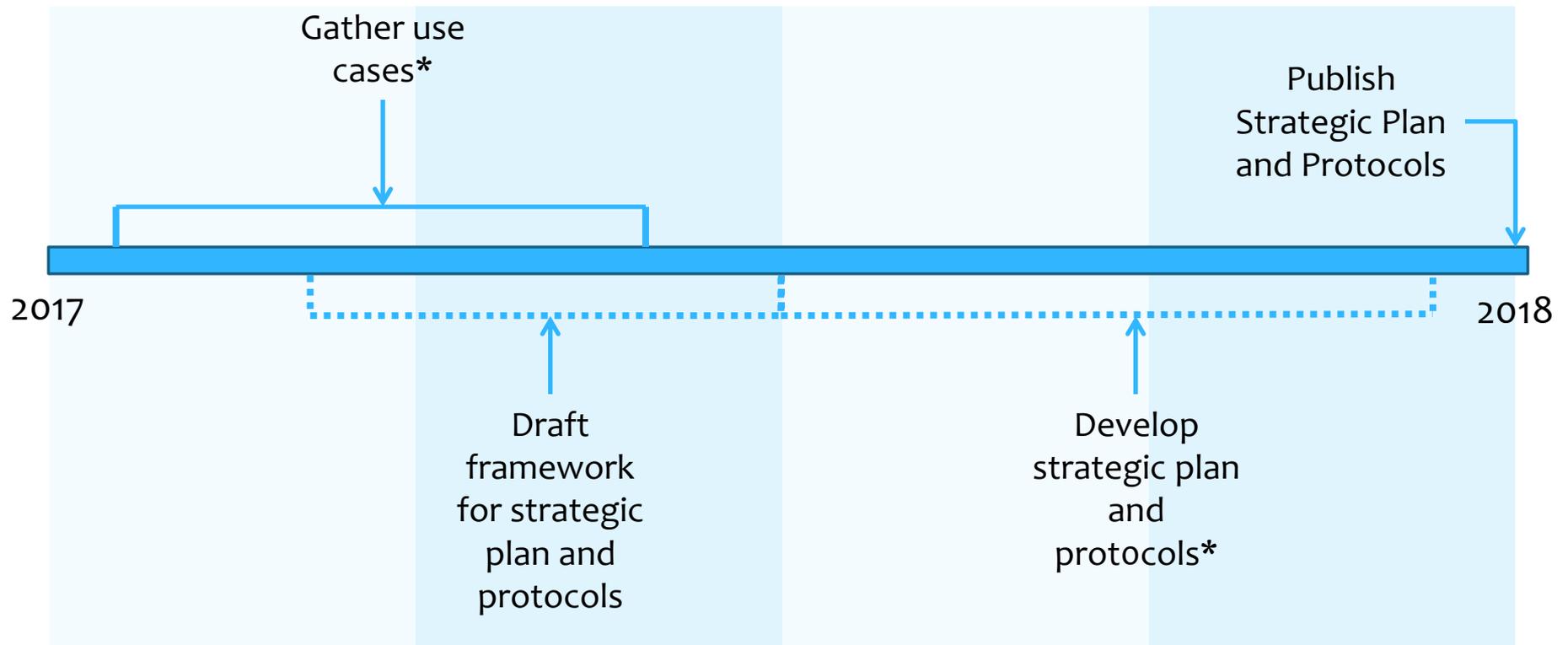
## Key Dates (cont'd)

- By August 1, 2020: DWR shall make available on the platform data related to California water supply and management held by:
  - U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
  - U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
  - U.S. Geological Survey
  - U.S. Forest Service

# AB 1755 Implementation



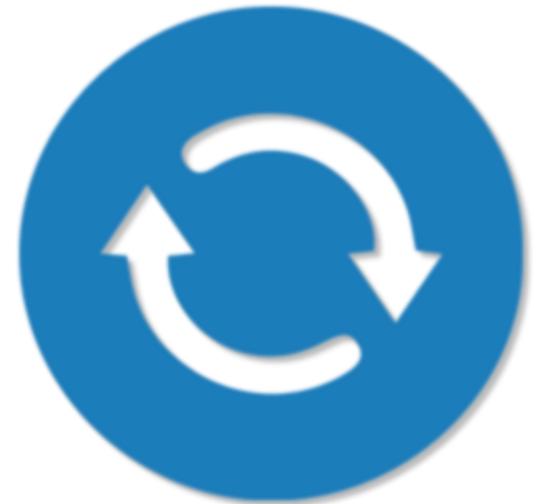
# AB 1755 Implementation – 2017





# AB 1755 Implementation

- Develop draft products
  - use cases → functional requirements
  - use cases → data-sharing protocols
  - strategic plan framework/strategic plan
  - protocols framework/protocols
- Solicit feedback on draft products
  - partner agencies
  - stakeholders
  - advisory panel
- Consider and incorporate feedback
- Release final products



# Data Workshops – Use Cases

- February 9, co-hosted by DWR, CCST, UC Water
- Data-driven decisions? Consider decision-driven data!
  - WHO needs
  - WHAT data
  - In WHAT form
  - For WHAT decision(s)
- May 8, follow-on workshop



# Questions?

Christina McCreedy  
(916) 651-9298  
[christina.mccreedy@water.ca.gov](mailto:christina.mccreedy@water.ca.gov)