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Source List for *Priorities for California's Water: Advancing Research During Uncertain Times*

This document provides background references for the PPIC policy brief *Priorities for California's Water: Advancing Research During Uncertain Times* (November 2025). If you have any questions about the information in the report or these sources, contact us at water@ppic.org.

Letter from the Center Director

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- **Maelstrom of concern about... water management:** Bardeen, S. and G. Gartrell. 2025. “[Unpacking the Trump Administration's Proposal to Boost Water for Southern California.](#)” *PPIC Blog*. January 28.
- **We explored this partnership in a series of blog posts earlier this year:** Grenier, L., J. Mount, A. Blum, A., and S. Bardeen. 2025. “[State Federal Water Partnerships](#)” *blog series*. *PPIC Blog*.

Water Research Amid Changing State-Federal Partnerships

- **State's water face daunting challenges... rapidly changing climate:** Hanak, E., J. Lund, J. Mount., F.D. Wilkinson, A. Escriva-Bou, P. Ulrich, D. Cayan, D. Swain, B. Thompson, and J. Viers. 2018. *California's Water: Climate Change and Water*. Public Policy Institute of California.
- **State's water face daunting challenges... aging infrastructure:** Public Policy Institute of California. 2009. “[Press Release: California Needs New Fiscal Tools To Rebuild Aging Infrastructure.](#)”
- **Form the foundation for applied water research:** Cole, S. 2024. “[How Better Data is Helping to Improve Water Management in California.](#)” *California Water Blog*. September 22.
- **The federal government... has been downsizing:** Sullivan, E. 2025. “[Year will end with 300,000 fewer federal workers, Trump official says.](#)” *New York Times*. August 22.
- **Federal agencies most involved in California water have seen thousands of staff departures:** Partnership for Public Service. 2025. *Federal Harms Tracker: The Cost to Your Government*.
- **Relative to full-time 2024 staffing levels:** US Office of Personnel Management. 2025. *Datasets Available from OPM*.
- **This list below provides a snapshot... US Bureau of Reclamation:** Smith, H. 2025. “[State officials say federal cuts threaten California's environment.](#)” *Phys.org*. July 14.
- **This list provides a snapshot... NOAA:** La, V. and B. Moran. 2025. “[Local scientists, fisheries and weather forecasters feeling impact of NOAA cuts.](#)” *WBUR*. May 13.
- **National Science Foundation's basic research programs:** US National Science Foundation. n.d. *About NSF*.
- **US Department of Agriculture (USDA) research grant programs:** US Department of Agriculture. n.d. *About Grants*.
- **US Geological Survey (USGS) Ecosystems Mission Area:** US Geological Survey. n.d. *Ecosystems Mission Area*.
- **National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Oceanic and Atmospheric Research program:** National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. n.d. *About NOAA Research*.
- **The USGS streamgauge network:** US Geological Survey. n.d. *Water Resources Mission Areas*.

- **National Aeronautic and Space Administration’s (NASA) Earth Science Division:** National Aeronautic and Space Administration. n.d. [NASA Goddard Earth Sciences](#).
- **Operate federal dams and infrastructure projects... including the Central Valley Project:** Bureau of Reclamation. n.d. [Central Valley Project](#).
- **On the list slated for cuts is the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) Clean Water and Drinking Water State Revolving Funds:** Environmental Protection Agency. n.d. [Clean Water State Revolving Fund \(CWSRF\)](#).

Accounting for Water

- **Increasingly boom-bust hydrology:** Mount, J. and G. Sencan, G. 2023. [“The Weird Weather of 2023: Better Get Used to It.”](#) *PPIC Blog*. September 27.
- **More accurate and timely systems to track how rain and snowmelt moves:** Grenier, L. and R. Grimm. 2025. [“Better Accounting for California’s Water.”](#) *PPIC Blog*. March 17.
- **Californians are already beginning to see benefits from these technologies, such as satellite imagery:** Ake, H. and M. Myatt. 2022. [“Exciting new partnerships help Groundwater Accounting Platform expand to new regions.”](#) *CA Water Data*. December 20.
- **Making it difficult for water users to plan and respond effectively:** Walters, D. 2024. [“California officials plan for a dry 2025 with grim water supply guesswork.”](#) *CalMatters*. December 5.
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Paying for Water

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- **“Fiscal orphans” that lack reliable revenue sources:** Pottinger, L. 2018. [“Paying for Water’s ‘Fiscal Orphans.’”](#) *PPIC Blog*. July 9.

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- **The State Water Board’s SAFER program:** State Water Resources Control Board. n.d. *SAFER Drinking Water: Safe and Affordable Funding for Equity and Resilience.*
- **Consolidating small water systems offers a potential pathway to improving service and lowering long-term costs:** Bardeen, S. 2021. “[Consolidating Small Water Systems Is a Springboard to Water Justice.](#)” *PPIC Blog.* November 15.
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Building Climate Resilience

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