**Evolution of State Water Board Drought Management**

The State Water Resources Control Board (State Board) role in drought management has evolved over the last 50 years, moving from support, to planning, then regulation, and ending in operational control. See the summary of different phases during the most critical drought periods below.

1977 – Phase of Support

* Emergency Drought Act grants and loans to facilitate acquisition
* State/federal water bank
* Governor’s Drought Emergency Task Force to address the following issues:
* Alleviate drought impacts
* Promote conservation
* Facilitate transfers and exchanges
* State Board Dry Year Program to forewarn water right holders of dry conditions

[See attached: 1976-1977 California Drought Review]

1987-92 – Phase of Plan Development

* State recognizes drought will be recurring and the need for planning
* Post-Drought analysis focuses on drought plan development based on:
* Various competing beneficial uses
* Various patterns of hydrology
* Rules of water rights

[See attached: LESSONS LEARNED FROM THE CALIFORNIA DROUGHT (1987-1992)]

2014 – Phase of Regulation

* State Board develops a methodology to determine when water supplies are no longer available for water right holders
* State Board issues curtailment notices based Water Code section 1052
* State Board issues administrative civil liability complaints based on alleged curtailment notice violations
* Litigation challenges administrative enforcement and curtailment actions

[See attached: 2014 State Board Curtailment Actions]

2021 – Phase of Operational Control

* State Board revises methodology to account for previous deficiencies
* State Board adopts curtailment regulation based on Water Code section 1058.5
* Pursuant to the regulation the State Board issues curtailments with weekly updates on operational constraints
* Litigation challenges the adoption of the regulation and subsequent curtailment

[See attached: 2021 State Board Curtailment Actions]