

## Updating California Water Laws—Summary

### 1. Implementing the Human Right to Water

- Explore Funding Sources for NGO and Tribal participation in State Board and Regional Board Proceedings modeled after California PUC.
- Require at least one member of the State Board and the Regional Boards to be qualified in the field of water supply or water quality related to environmental justice.
- Implementing the Human Right to Water (Water Code § 106.3 adopted 2012) by imposing a duty upon Groundwater Sustainability Agencies to mitigate for adverse effects due to groundwater extraction on domestic wells.

### 2. Updating Water Rights Administration to Address Drought and Climate Change

- Revisions to the Statutory Adjudication Proceedings—Granting the State Board the authority to initiate and inclusion of interrelated groundwater
- Improving Surface Water Rights Verification—Board-initiated verification proceeding, burden of proof of claim on claimant, and forfeiture reform
- Interim Relief Authority—SB 681 (2009-Pavley)
- Real Time Monitoring of Diversions and Use—Pilot Projects and Report
- Require State Board adoption of regulations to set up practices and methods for water availability analyses in water rights proceedings that address the effects of climate change on anticipated watershed hydrology

### **3. Addressing the Extinction Crisis facing California's Native Fisheries**

- **December 2023 deadlines for completion of Sacramento River/Delta Plan Update and the Implementation of the San Joaquin River/Southern Delta Plan Update**
- **Amendment to Section 5937 of the Fish and Game Code to require consideration of water temperature as well as flow**