

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 17, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 2480

Introduced by Assembly Member Bloom

February 19, 2016

An act to add Section 108.5 to, and to add Chapter 3.3 (commencing with Section 12835) to Part 6 of Division 6 of, the Water Code, relating to water.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 2480, as amended, Bloom. Source watersheds: ~~maintenance and repair.~~ *financing.*

Existing law declares that it is state policy to consider all water uses, including area-of-origin needs, in connection with the development and completion of any general or coordinated plan prepared and published by the Department of Water Resources. Existing law requires the Legislature to establish various state water policies, including the policy that the Legislature consider other works as may be necessary to develop water to satisfy the requirements of the watershed in which water originates, as specified, *originates* whenever the Legislature authorizes the construction or acquisition of a project that will develop water for use outside that watershed. *watershed, as specified.*

This bill would declare it to be state policy that source watersheds are recognized and defined as integral components of California's water system. The bill would also declare that their maintenance and repair are eligible for financing on an equivalent basis with other water collection and treatment infrastructure.

Under existing law, the United States Bureau of Reclamation operates the federal Central Valley Project and the Department of Water

Resources operates the State Water Resources Development System, known as the State Water Project, to supply water to persons and entities in the state.

This bill would require the State Water Resources Control Board, in consultation with the department, to develop investment plans that prioritize actions for restoration and conservation to improve watershed function in the watersheds that flow into the Shasta Reservoir and the Oroville Reservoir.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: ~~no~~-yes. State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. Section 108.5 is added to the Water Code, to
2 read:

3 108.5. It is hereby declared to be the established policy of the
4 state that source watersheds are recognized and defined as integral
5 components of California’s water system. The maintenance and
6 repair of source watersheds are eligible for financing on an
7 equivalent basis with other water collection and treatment
8 infrastructure.

9 SEC. 2. Chapter 3.3 (commencing with Section 12835) is added
10 to Part 6 of Division 6 of the Water Code, to read:

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12 CHAPTER 3.3. WATERSHED INVESTMENT PLANS

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14 12835. On or before December 31, 2017, the board, in
15 consultation with the department, shall develop investment plans
16 that prioritize actions for restoration and conservation to improve
17 watershed function in the watersheds that flow into the Shasta
18 Reservoir and the Oroville Reservoir.