Call Guinness!
We’re collaborating at a record pace

For last week’s Water Plan Advisory Committee meeting, David Sumi and Lew Moeller prepared a few slides summarizing our 2007 accomplishments on Update 2009. But we ran out of time and weren’t able to present them. The slides are now posted on the Water Plan Web site. Check out the collaboration “statistics” produced by Lew and David -- it seems we’re on our way to breaking all collaboration records. Call the Guinness folks!

State’s population nears 38 million

California’s population grew by 438,000 in the year that ended June 30 and now stands at nearly 38 million, according to a report released last week by the state Department of Finance. That growth was 1.17 percent, reflecting a steady erosion in the rate of California’s growth, although in constant numbers, it has remained fairly constant. And, as has been the pattern, immigration from other countries, plus a high birthrate, accounted for all the growth as state-to-state migration continued to be a slight negative. During the year, Californians had 565,169 babies and nearly 200,000 immigrants came to the state, while it lost a net of 88,761 in state-to-state movements. The bottom line was a gain of 438,455, bringing the state’s population to 37,771,431.

Tribal communication panel meetings now online

Meeting highlights from the Tribal Communication Committee’s first two meetings are available on the Water Plan Web site on the new Tribal Communications page.

Florida company banks on water out of thin air

A firm called Aqua Sciences in Miami is manufacturing mobile systems that can extract from 350 to 1,200 gallons of potable water a day out of thin air. The low-energy technology uses the same principle that causes the contents of a salt shaker to clump up on rainy days. It uses hygroscopic salts to attract water molecules from the air, and then extracts the water from the solution. CEO Abe Sher sees a time when every building will be able to produce its own water.