Shell produces energy scenarios with water as factor

Energy company Shell has created scenarios that look at plausible energy development through 2050, and water is one of the many drivers that influence actions and lead to outcomes that can affect the types of energy we use and how we use it. Water supply, water quality, even the perception of their condition can lead communities to change energy policy and investments. Concerns over water supply and quality also bring the broader issues of climate change to a local level. You can view an 8-minute video clip on Shell’s “Scramble” and “Blueprint” scenarios and download the companion report on the company’s Web site here.

Central Valley salinity is subject of hour-long documentary

The problem of salt buildup in the soil of California’s Central Valley and its consequences are featured in a new hour-long public television documentary, Salt of the Earth: Salinity in California’s Central Valley. "The Water Education Foundation program is very timely in that the Water Plan has just added a new Salt Management resource management strategy," said Kamyar Guivetchi, manager of DWR’s Division of Planning and Local Assistance. The program will air Aug. 19 on KVPT, Valley Public Television, in Fresno. Read more.

Web site launched to promote governor’s goal of 20% water savings

There is now a state Web site to support Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger’s call for a 20 percent reduction in per capita urban water use statewide by 2020. It was launched by a 20X2020 team as it works to come up with a plan by the end of the year to meet the 20 percent goal. The Web site, which can be found here, will include schedule of public workshops. Read more.

Florida report tackles climate change effects on its coast

Florida should take steps to deal with the anticipated effects of climate change on the state’s beaches and marine life, a group of environmental organizations urged in a recently released report. The report’s recommendations include steps to protect coastal ecosystems against stresses associated with higher temperatures, ocean acidification, rising sea levels and extreme weather. Read more.