Hold the date for the next and last 2009 Update AC meeting

DWR to conduct workshops next week on groundwater, IRWM funding

California water law symposium to tackle key legal questions

Irrigation Institute plans Sacramento conference Feb. 1-2

The next Advisory Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, Jan. 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Double Tree hotel in Sacramento. This will be the final AC meeting of the 2009 Water Plan Update. Details of the meeting will be posted soon on the Water Plan website.

DWR will conduct two workshops to discuss recently released draft guidelines for the next round of local groundwater assistance grant and Prop 50 Supplemental IRWM funding. The first, which will also be webcast, will be held in Sacramento on Jan. 5, and the second will be held in Irvine on Jan. 7. You can find details here.

A day-long conference on California water law will be held on Saturday, Jan. 30, in San Francisco. Titled: Who Controls the Water? Reforming California Water Law Governance in an Age of Scarcity, the symposium will focus on new California water legislation and its effect on governance. Discussions will include, “Will the legislation’s new governance structures help resolve the Delta’s challenges?” and “What further reforms in California’s institutions are needed to meet the state’s future, competing, water needs?” DWR Chief Counsel David Sandino is the symposium’s opening speaker. You can find details here.

The 48th Annual California Irrigation Institute Conference will be held in Sacramento on Feb. 1 and 2. The conference title is "Running on Empty - Thinking Outside the Tank." Speakers will make presentations on such topics as agricultural and urban water supply, conservation, management, technologies. You can find details about the conference here.

DWR this week published California Drought - An Update: December 2009. Following a dry 2007 and 2008, California has been in its third year of drought. The purpose of this report is to assess 2009 drought conditions and status, in response to a commitment made to the governor as part of implementation of the Feb. 27, 2009, proclamation of a state of emergency for statewide water shortage. The focus of this report is on water supply for the year to date, together with review of drought effects. You can find the report here.