The State Water Resources Control Board has posted a report on dealing with chemicals found in our water. *Monitoring Strategies for Chemicals of Emerging Concern (CECs) in California’s Aquatic Ecosystems* was put together by a panel of scientific experts. The report includes recommendations for developing a process to monitor CECs.

Information about grant programs and the *UrbanFootprint* modeling tool are on the agenda for the next meeting of the Strategic Growth Council. It will be Wednesday, Nov. 7, in Sacramento and will include the introduction of the council’s new executive team, Executive Director Mike McCoy and Deputy Director Allison Joe. A webcast will be available.

A recent workshop, co-sponsored by DWR, on the National Integrated Drought Information System (NI-DIS) led to several actions to address drought issues. Participants discussed the need for a national meeting on drought, development of a national policy, and information on the *U.S. Drought Portal*. Details are available in the latest edition of the *WestFAST News*.

DWR is looking for public input on a project to update California’s *Geothermal Heat Exchange Well (GHEW) Standards*. The standards help protect the state’s groundwater by guiding the construction, maintenance, abandonment and destruction of GHEWs. The project website has details, contact information and a form to subscribe to email updates.

The latest edition of *FloodSAFE Focus* provides a look at a set of tools to help flood managers study potential implementation projects under the *2012 Central Valley Flood Protection Plan*. The newsletter also has details on plans by the Urban Streams Restoration program to release a draft proposal solicitation package (PSP) for approximately $9 million in funding.

A webinar on robust decision making is being offered by *Carpe Diem West* on Wednesday, Nov. 14. The one-hour session will look at ways to develop management plans that can be adapted to various scenarios. *California Water Plan Update 2013* is using robust decision making for its future scenarios analysis.