After meeting with stakeholders at several workshops last year, DWR has developed a list of emerging investment strategies for the future of integrated regional water management (IRWM) in California. This is part of the development of an IRWM strategic plan for the state. A draft version of the plan is expected to be released this summer.

The annual report from FloodSAFE California highlights dozens of accomplishments in 2013. The list includes projects and programs related to flood risk reduction, flood emergency response and floodplain risk management. The report also provides details on FloodSAFE’s investment of public funds.

The draft 2014 IRWM Grant Program Guidelines and Proposal Solicitation Package (PSP) has been released by DWR. The department has been directed to expedite $200 million in grants to cover drought preparedness, water supply reliability, water quality and conservation programs. Details on submitting public comments, and information on three public comments meetings, are available on the IRWM Grants Web site. The comment period ends May 15.

The California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) has been allotted $10 million for agricultural water conservation practices in the state. Details are available here. There will be two public meetings on the funding. They will be Friday, April 11, in Sacramento, and Friday, April 18, in Modesto.

Next week’s meeting of the California Water Commission will include a presentation on some of the water issues facing disadvantaged communities. A portion of that presentation will focus on the draft report, Californians Without Safe Water and Sanitation. The report was prepared as part of California Water Plan Update 2013. The meeting will be Wednesday, April 16, in Sacramento.

The Mountain Counties Water Resources Association has adopted a set of guidelines called the Sierra Nevada Headwaters Policy Principles. The document features a list of 16 principles and 14 action items. They are meant to serve a resource to help water and land managers maintain and enhance water resources.