DWR has released a notice of preparation for an environmental impact report (EIR) on the Water Supply Contract Extension Project. The project includes amending certain provisions in the State Water Project (SWP) water supply contracts. The notice has details for two scoping meetings on Tuesday, Sept. 23, in Sacramento. The meetings will include a presentation on the project and time for public comments on the scope of the EIR.

With the theme, “2014 – The Year of Groundwater,” the Groundwater Resources Association of California (GRAC) will hold its annual conference next month in Sacramento. The sessions will cover current efforts, legislation, and perspectives surrounding groundwater issues. The two-day conference will run Oct. 15 and 16.

CalDesal will hold its annual desalination conference on Oct. 6 and 7, in Monterey. The sessions include a presentation on emerging technology and a look at the obstacles to implementing desalination projects. The agenda is available here.

Lessons that California water managers can learn from the Mekong River in Southeast Asia will be presented Friday, Sept. 26, in Sacramento. Greg Thomas of the National Heritage Institute will discuss efforts to harness the hydropower of the Mekong River while minimizing adverse environmental impacts. A webcast of the presentation and discussion will be available.

The advisory committee for the 2015 Urban Water Management Plan Guidebook will hold its first webinar meeting on Monday, Oct. 6. The committee will discuss some of the elements of the guidebook, including layout and draft chapters. Meeting materials will be posted by Monday, Sept. 29.

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