The Colorado Water Conservation Board has issued the first draft of Colorado's Water Plan. It is the state's first comprehensive water plan of its kind. It comes at a time when Colorado is facing a looming gap between water supply and water demand. The final version is expected to be submitted by December 2015.

California water issues on tap for day-long event next month in Auburn

The Mountain Counties Water Resources Association is offering a day of presentations and discussions on a variety of California water topics. It will be held Friday, Feb. 6, in Auburn. The event will feature sessions on California Water Plan Update 2013 (including the Mountain Counties Regional Report), the governor’s California Water Action Plan, and the Proposition 1 water bond.

Cloud seeding research project suggests increase for mountain snowfall

A $13 million research project conducted by the state of Wyoming suggests cloud seeding can increase annual mountain snowfall by up to 15 percent while having negligible environmental impacts. The final research will be submitted to scientific journals for review. Details are available in this Associated Press report. Cloud seeding is discussed in California Water Plan Update 2013, Volume 3, Chapter 11, “Precipitation Enhancement.”

Colorado issues draft of first comprehensive state water plan

The Colorado Water Conservation Board has issued the first draft of Colorado’s Water Plan. It is the state’s first comprehensive water plan of its kind. It comes at a time when Colorado is facing a looming gap between water supply and water demand. The final version is expected to be submitted by December 2015.

Video details drought impacts throughout the Colorado River system

A new video is providing a snapshot of drought impacts on the Colorado River. Challenged But Unbroken: Sustaining the Colorado River illustrates actions for addressing shortages throughout the system. The video was shown during the annual conference of the Colorado River Water Users Association. Details on the conference are available in the December edition of the WestFAST newsletter.

The Splash is a feature of the California Water Plan eNews to spotlight topics from Update 2013 and its Highlights booklet.

Resource Management Strategies: California Water Plan Update 2013 presents a comprehensive and diverse set of 30 resource management strategies (RMSs) that can help meet the water-related needs of each region and the state. The RMSs described in Volume 3 should be considered by local agencies, governments and organizations as tools for preparing their integrated regional water management plans. The combination of strategies will vary from region to region, depending on climate, projected growth, existing water system, and other factors. Update 2013 includes three new RMS chapters — “Outreach and Engagement” (Chapter 29), “Sediment Management” (Chapter 26), and “Water and Culture” (Chapter 30) — that are listed with the other strategies in Table 1-1. The potential benefits and costs of the RMSs, are summarized in Table 1-2.