February 28, 2008

Subject: Invitation to March 11 Pre-Workshop Gathering for Tribes

Dear Leaders, Members, and Staff of California Tribes:

By now you have received an invitation to the California Department of Water Resources' (DWR) 2008 Regional Workshops, to be held in March and April. The March 11 Regional Workshop covers the areas of the San Joaquin River and Tulare Lake Regions. You are receiving this letter because your Tribe is located within a county that is encompassed in whole or in part by these two regions.

Please join DWR for a pre-workshop "Tribes only" gathering at 9:00 a.m. on March 11 at Table Mountain Rancheria in the Casino Events Center. Table Mountain is hosting the Regional Workshop which starts at 10:00 a.m. DWR wishes to hear your concerns in advance of the Workshop, and to give you an idea of what to expect in the Workshop.

As stated in the general invitation letter, DWR wants Tribal water issues included in the California Water Plan Update 2009. Many tribes attended a Water Plan meeting at Big Valley Rancheria on January 28, 2008, and told DWR of some critical issues in their areas and throughout the state. The concerns and ideas from that Tribal meeting are being carried forward into regional workshops. Each workshop has a specific regional focus. Your invitation to these workshops included a schedule, map, and other materials for all workshops. These are also available at www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/regional/workshops/index.cfm. Announcements for each meeting are posted to this web site as they become available. For your convenience, I am enclosing the March 11 announcement.

To ensure sufficient seating and materials, please RSVP to DWR staff indicated on the enclosed announcement, or to DWR Tribal Liaison Barbara Cross, by March 7. If you have questions about the pre-workshop gathering please contact me at (916) 651-9291, (email jwoodlin@water.ca.gov). You or your staff may contact Barbara at (916) 653-5150 (email bcross@water.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

John K. Woodling, Acting Division Chief
Division of Planning and Local Assistance

Enclosure