March 14, 2008

Subject: Invitation to March 25 Pre-Workshop Gathering for Tribes
        California Water Plan Update 2009

Dear Leaders, Members, and Staff of California Central Coast Tribes:

By now you have received our February 25, 2008, invitation to the California Department of Water Resources’ (DWR) 2008 Regional Workshops, to be held in March and April. The Workshop for the Central Coast will take place on March 25 in Salinas. The Central Coast Region includes the watersheds from Santa Barbara County north to Santa Cruz County. You are receiving this letter because your Tribe is located within a county that is encompassed in whole or in part by this region.

Please join DWR for a pre-workshop “Tribes only” gathering at 8:30 a.m. on March 25 at the UC Cooperative Extension office in Salinas (1432 Abbott Street). DWR wishes to hear your concerns about water issues in advance of the open Workshop, and to give you an idea of what to expect in the Workshop. This will be followed by an open Regional Workshop starting at 9:30 a.m. The open workshop announcement and agenda are attached.

As stated in our February 25 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.

If members and staff of your Tribe are planning to join us on March 25, for seating and lunch arrangements please RSVP by 2 p.m. on March 20 to: Fran Schulte, (559) 230-3440, or fschulte@water.ca.gov.

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 also contact DWR Tribal Liaison Barbara Cross at (916) 653-5150 (email bcross@water.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

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

Enclosure