



VISION

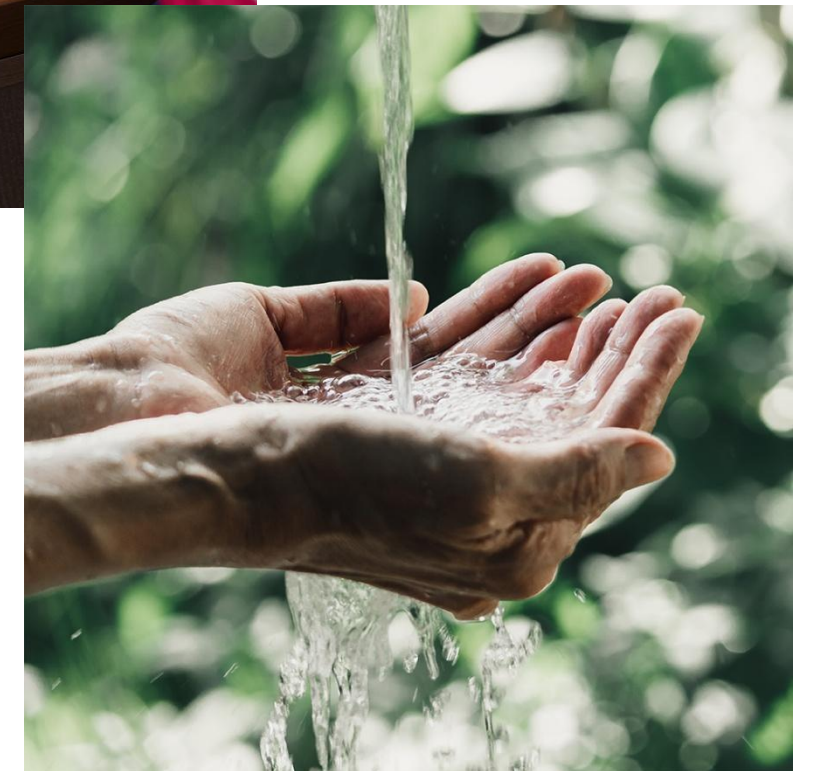
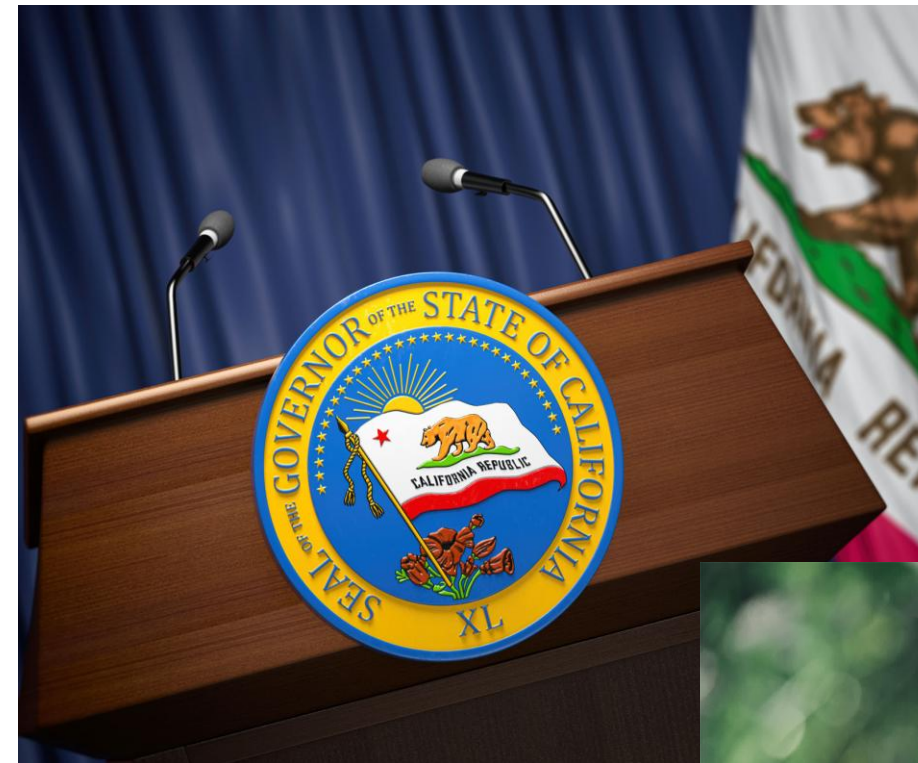
FOR OUR WATER FUTURE

Overview



Goals of the Vision

- 1) Elevate water as a statewide priority.
- 2) Incorporate water priorities into a unified, actionable agenda for the next Administration.



The Vision

*The Vision For
Our Water
Future is a
framework to
advance unified
priorities*





1. Lead on Water



- Set a Bold Water Agenda (First 100 Days)
- Appoint Leaders to Deliver Results
- Unify State Agencies



2. Protect Affordability



- Secure Sustainable Water Funding
- Accelerate Funding
- Integrate Investments Across Sectors



3. Deliver Critical Infrastructure



- Strengthen the State's Water Backbone
 - Modernize and protect infrastructure
 - Improve coordinated operations
- Safeguard Colorado River Water Supplies
- Empower Regional Water Solutions



4. Modernize Water Management



- Improve Permitting Performance
 - Integrate permit requirements
 - Enhance regulatory certainty
 - Streamline pathways
- Modernize Water Operations
- Strengthen Water Data & Science



Vision Timeline



Deliverable 1: Policy Framework

Audience: Gubernatorial candidates

Purpose: Elevate water as a priority

Deliverable 2: Detailed Recommendations

Audience: Newly elected Governor

Purpose: Develop pathways to implement priority actions

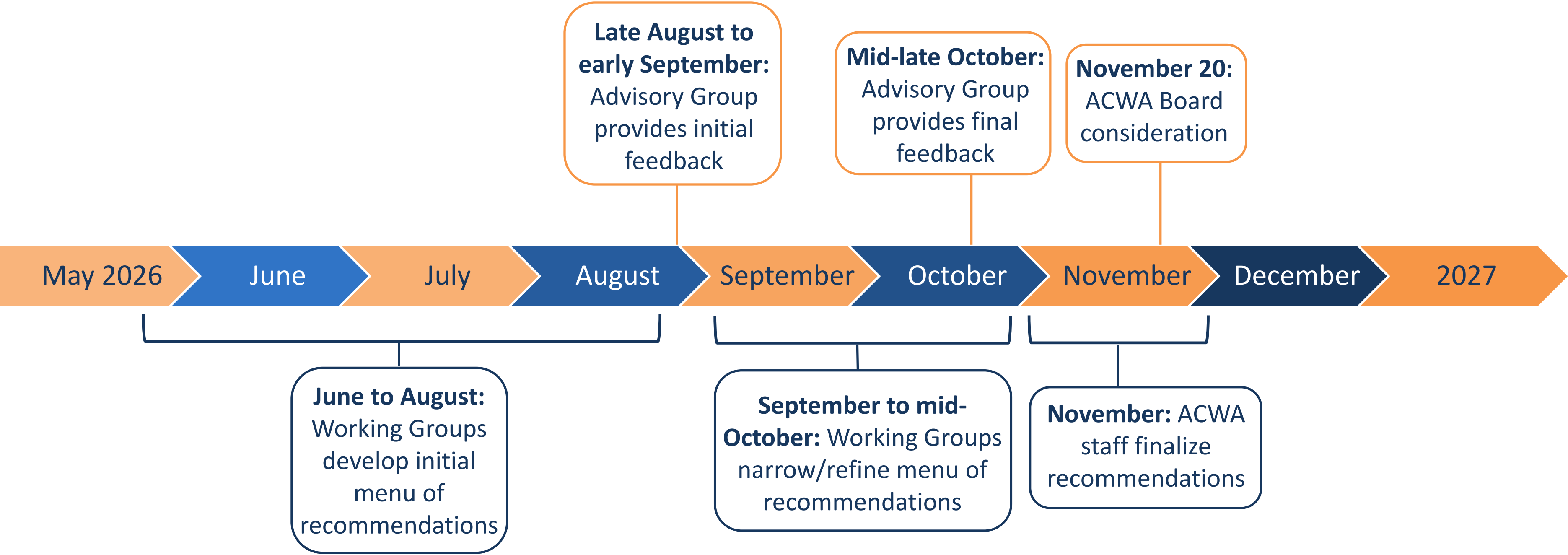


Deliverable 2 - Recommendations





Deliverable 2 Timeline





Recommendations



- Not introducing concepts outside of the Priority Action (i.e., Deliver Critical Infrastructure)
- Provide actionable direction but not overly prescriptive
- 2-4 recommendations per focus area (i.e., each bullet)

Recommendation Scope



MODERNIZE WATER MANAGEMENT

Improve California's regulatory and operational systems so water projects can move forward reliably and efficiently, infrastructure can be operated more flexibly, and agencies can respond more rapidly to changing conditions. California's regulatory framework should deliver clear, coordinated decisions grounded in the best available science, while maintaining environmental protections, public transparency, and California's existing water rights priority system.

➤ **Improve Permitting Performance:** Enhance the clarity, coordination, and efficiency of state permitting processes to accelerate infrastructure and operational improvements; eliminate avoidable costs; and ensure state and local agencies deliver timely, accountable results.

- ◆ **Integrate Permit Requirements:** Integrate requirements and processes across regulatory agencies to eliminate redundancy and inconsistency.
- ◆ **Enhance Regulatory Certainty:** Establish transparent procedures, clear criteria for permit approval, and accountable timelines for agency decisions — developed in direct partnership with water suppliers.

◆ **Streamline Pathways:** Create efficient pathways to advance multi-benefit, climate-resilient water supply projects.

➤ **Modernize Water Operations:** Advance operational approaches that reflect changing climate realities to improve water supply reliability across environmental, agricultural, and urban sectors. This may include coordinated reservoir management, flexible diversion rules tied to real-time hydrology, accelerated groundwater recharge and conjunctive use, expanded water transfers, and other adaptive strategies.

➤ **Strengthen Water Data and Science:** Invest in integrated, science-based statewide data systems and technology that improve transparency, inform real-time decisions, and strengthen regulatory and operational performance to increase efficiency and better manage water resources.