

# WRPI: DEVELOPING SOLUTIONS FOR CALIFORNIA'S WATER



The CSU's **Water Resources and Policy Initiatives** (WRPI) leverages the expertise of about 250 researchers from throughout the CSU to help solve the state's complex water issues. Due in part to this system-wide initiative, the CSU is now recognized as a critical resource working to solve the state's water challenges.

Since WRPI was created in 2008, the institute has spearheaded a number of grants and initiatives aimed at educating California's future water professionals, expanding industry/university partnerships, and advancing water technology.

## WRPI is:

### Creating California's Pipeline of Future Water Professionals:

- WRPI initiated internship programs with the Environmental Protection Agency and the USDA to offer hands-on learning experiences to hundreds of CSU students throughout the state.

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### Empowering Communities:

- WRPI is launching a Disadvantaged Communities Center in California's Central Valley that will provide technical, financial and organizational assistance to disadvantaged communities.
- The center will oversee a statewide training program that will help these communities learn how to manage water more efficiently.
- WRPI staff and faculty regularly hold workshops to teach California's urban, environmental and agricultural leaders best practices in water management.

## **Developing Innovative Solutions:**

- With the support of business, WRPI is commercializing new ideas in water industries, services, and professions in California.
  - Fresno State's Center for Irrigation Technology is developing innovations that are making irrigation more efficient.
  - WRPI is partnering with Fresno State's International Center for Water Technology to provide innovative technology that can be commercialized, creating sustainable water solutions.
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## **Creating Informed Water Policy:**

- WRPI partnerships with researchers, the water industry and government agencies are pursuing the development of "good science" from which to base decision-making and emerging water policy.
  - With the passing of Proposition 1, Governor Brown authorized \$7.545 billion in bonds to manage water supplies, protect and restore wetlands, improve water quality, and increase flood protection. WRPI has researched and summarized the bonds and has been disseminating the information via webinars and to policymakers..
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## **Addressing California's Unique Water Needs:**

- WRPI experts are at CSU campuses throughout every part of California—in rural, agricultural, urban, and desert communities. Their research is addressing the unique water needs of each. For example:
  - A Chico State study is estimating the impact of potential water management scenarios on regional groundwater levels.
  - At CSU San Bernardino, efforts are underway to raise funds for water infrastructure projects to benefit disadvantaged communities.
  - Fresno State is holding workshops for landscape irrigation managers on how to survive the drought.
  - A Cal State Fullerton project is focusing on how to reduce water use in citrus orchards.
  - Humboldt State is investigating the effects of drought on Northern California's iconic redwoods.