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**CLEAN WATER, PARKS & COASTAL PROTECTION BOND  
QUALIFIES FOR NOVEMBER STATEWIDE BALLOT**

*Measure Protects Drinking Water, Improves Water Supply & Protects Natural Resources*

**(Los Angeles, CA)** — The California Secretary of State's office announced today that the California Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Bond Act has qualified for placement on the November 7, 2006 General Election statewide ballot. Supporters submitted more than 600,000 signatures in April, *nearly double the amount* required for certification.

The \$5.4 billion bond measure would provide critically needed funds to ensure the availability of safe drinking water, improve local water supply reliability, strengthen flood protection, and preserve California's natural landscapes, including parks, lakes, rivers, beaches, bays, ocean and coastline.

California is facing enormous population growth in the coming years, with 25 million new residents expected by 2040. But our state's investment in infrastructure has not kept pace with our population growth. Current funding for water quality, water supply reliability, natural resources and environmental protection programs is critically low, with past bond funds running out as early as this year. The lack of funding will cause significant and widespread problems for all Californians, ranging from the safety of our drinking water supply, and vulnerability to destructive flooding, to the most basic conditions of our parks, bays and coastline. The proposed \$5.4 billion Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection Bond will invest in California's natural infrastructure to ensure that all Californians will have access to safe drinking water, be better protected from floods, and continue to have opportunities to enjoy parks, rivers, lakes, beaches, bays and coastline.

The Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection Bond is supported by a broad coalition of interests – water districts, conservation and environmental groups, local government entities, museum and park interests, elected officials, and civic organizations. Supporters include:

- California Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez
- California Senate President pro Tem Don Perata
- California State Parks Foundation
- Contra Costa Water District
- Sonoma County Water Agency
- The Nature Conservancy

- more -

- Audubon California
- Monterey Bay Aquarium
- Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County
- The Ocean Conservancy

To view a complete list of supporters, please visit [www.cleanwater2006.com](http://www.cleanwater2006.com).

In addition to this measure, a \$37 billion Infrastructure Bond Package will also appear on the November statewide ballot, containing funding for transportation, affordable housing, education/school construction, and levees. The Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection Bond will complement this package, providing funding for water quality, water supply and natural resource protection, including much needed additional flood protection investments.

“This initiative makes a critical investment in improving California’s water quality and water supply reliability,” said Walter J. Bishop, General Manager, Contra Costa Water District. “This is a well-balanced bond measure that for the first time in many years, would focus on Delta water quality improvements for drinking water quality. It is a proactive and important undertaking to help each region of the state preserve the health, safety and quality of life for future generations of Californians.”

“Clean water, parks and natural areas are critical to our quality of life, but funding to protect these precious resources hasn’t kept pace with California’s rapid growth,” said Mark Burget, Executive Director, The Nature Conservancy’s California Program. “Without raising taxes, this initiative will provide the funding California needs to keep our drinking water safe and protect our rivers, lakes, forests and other wildlife habitat before it is too late.”

“This measure helps protect and clean up California’s magnificent coastline, and funds projects to protect San Francisco, Monterey, Santa Monica and San Diego bays and their watersheds,” said Tim Eichenberg, Director of the Pacific Regional Office, The Ocean Conservancy. “This initiative will help keep our beaches clean, prevent contamination of our bays and estuaries, and protect the public health and safety.”

A non-partisan coalition of broad interests, Californians for Clean Water, Parks and Coastal Protection, has been created and mobilized to support the bond measure. To obtain more information or join as a supporter, please visit [www.cleanwater2006.com](http://www.cleanwater2006.com).

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**Californians for Clean Water, Parks, and Coastal Protection**  
**A Coalition of Conservation Groups**  
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