

# Spend-Down Timeline

From 2007 to 2009, California experienced three consecutive dry years; In 2008, California faced new restrictions on the operation of the state's major water projects.

California passes a historic legislative package of bills to ensure a reliable and clean water supply and restore the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

Jerry Brown elected as Governor, Tom Torlakson elected as Superintendent of Public Instruction.

California adopts Common Core State Standards for Mathematics (CCSS-M).

70 of California state parks slated for closure due to budget cuts.

California increases funding to include \$1.25 B for districts to implement CCSS & NGSS.

Historic California Groundwater legislation passed; \$7.5 B Water Bond approved by voters.

California Department of Education forms state team to plan for social emotional learning.

California launches Smarter Balanced Assessments.

California revises Teaching Performance Expectations.

Parks Forward Commission recommendations released.

California adopts an accountability system that includes science, math, and English language arts.

California passes Open and Transparent Water Data Act and enabling legislation for Regional Conservation Investment Strategies.

California experiences record precipitation.

Great Recession

Drought. The four-year period between fall 2011 and fall 2015 is the driest in California since record keeping began in 1895.

▲ EXTERNAL

2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018-2020
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▼ INTERNAL

**Education** (Globe icon)  
**Environment** (Water drop icon)  
**Effectiveness** (Cyclical arrow icon)

Since 2009, more than \$40 M committed to **knowledge building**, evenly split between **research** and **evaluation**.

**2008**  
 ▲ The Migratory Bird Conservation Partnership launches; Foundation commits \$15 million over nine years.  
 ● \$2.5 M over five years to the UC Davis Center for Watershed Sciences to inform solutions in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

**2009**  
 Start of spend-down strategy work.  
 ● \$50 M over eight years for Summit Bechtel Reserve - Boy Scouts of America.  
 ● Support for water research and planning efforts led by the Public Policy Institute of California and the Resources Legacy Fund.  
 ● \$1.2 M over four years for the Land Trust Alliance's Western Land Conservation Initiative, including capacity-building and policy efforts.

**2010**  
 Spend-down decision communicated to all grantees.  
 ● \$2.7 M over five years to Stanford's Water in the West Program to address groundwater management and to define metrics for a sustainable California water system.

**2011**  
 Final private equity investment commitment made.  
 ● \$3.3 M to support math and science in two districts.  
 ● \$1 M to support the launch of TerraFirma Risk Retention Group, a nonprofit insurance service for land trusts.  
 ● \$25 M over eight years to create a pooled fund, the Water Foundation, in partnership with other philanthropic organizations.

**2012**  
 ● Grantee policy coalition forms to advocate for more science in the state's emerging accountability system.  
 ● Commissioned report finds low levels of philanthropic funding for freshwater efforts in California.  
 ● \$10 M for the Center for Watershed Sciences to inform California water management and policy.  
 ● Increased organizational capacity building support for conservation grantees.

**2013**  
 Strategy refresh.  
 ● \$55 M over five years for the Math in Common Initiative®, 10 school districts, 300 K students.  
 ● \$25 M over five years to Golden Gate National Parks Conservancy for Presidio Tunnel Tops Parks Project.  
 ● Foundation joins the California Teacher's Union and others, creating Instructional Leadership Corps.  
 ● Foundation joins others to support the Parks Forward Initiative.  
 ● Launch of two-year Sustainability Cohort for California land trusts.  
 ● Effectiveness Team established.

**2014**  
 ● \$16.4 M over four years to launch the NGSS K-8 Early Implementation Initiative, serving eight California districts and 200 K students.  
 ● \$21 M over six years to launch the New Generation of Educators Initiative, serving 11 CSU campuses.  
 ● \$126 M National Character Initiative launched, serving 24 M youth.  
 ● Program investments to incentivize farmers, ranchers to create temporary wildlife habitats on their land.

**2015**  
 Began de-risking investment portfolio.  
 ● Foundation partners with community foundations across California to build regional capacity to address water challenges.  
 ● \$9 M to the Public Policy Institute of California to launch the Water Policy Center.  
 ● Effectiveness Team releases suite of materials on Organizational Resiliency.

**2016**  
 ● Character Grantee Convening and two-day National Academy of Sciences workshop in Washington, DC.  
 ● \$1.3 M initial investment to support county offices of education to scale promising practices in math and science.  
 ● Launch of Project Water Data at White House Water Summit.  
 ● \$6 M over three years to pilot and advance Regional Conservation Investment Strategies.  
 ● Water Funder Initiative releases *Toward Water Sustainability: A Blueprint for the Future*.

