

Per California Code of Regulations, title 2, section 548.5, the following information will be posted to CalHR's Career Executive Assignment Action Proposals website for 30 calendar days when departments propose new CEA concepts or major revisions to existing CEA concepts. Presence of the department-submitted CEA Action Proposal information on CalHR's website does not indicate CalHR support for the proposal.

**A. GENERAL INFORMATION**

1. Date

2018-12-21

2. Department

Department of Water Resources

3. Organizational Placement (Division/Branch/Office Name)

Executive Division

4. CEA Position Title

State Water Project Chief Financial Manager

5. Summary of proposed position description and how it relates to the program's mission or purpose. (2-3 sentences)

The proposed State Water Project (SWP) Chief Financial Manager (CFM), will provide high level policy advice to DWR's Directorate and SWP senior management on matters affecting the investment of resources to maintain and improve SWP operations. Specifically, the CFM will develop proposed strategies for capital investments taking into account asset management including risk management to ensure the most efficient operation of the SWP and public safety.

6. Reports to: (Class Title/Level)

Deputy Director, State Water Project

7. Relationship with Department Director (Select one)

- Member of department's Executive Management Team, and has frequent contact with director on a wide range of department-wide issues.
- Not a member of department's Executive Management Team but has frequent contact with the Executive Management Team on policy issues.

(Explain): The Deputy Director, SWP is a member of the Executive Management Team whereas this position works directly with the Deputy Director and Directorate.

8. Organizational Level (Select one)

- 1st
- 2nd
- 3rd
- 4th
- 5th (mega departments only - 17,001+ allocated positions)

**B. SUMMARY OF REQUEST**

9. What are the duties and responsibilities of the CEA position? Be specific and provide examples.

The State Water Project (SWP) is a long-standing keystone of the Department of Water Resources' mission, from water supply to flood protection to recreation, and in more recent years, environmental stewardship. The proposed CEA position, or SWP Chief Financial Manager (CFM), will provide high level policy advice to DWR's Directorate and SWP senior management on matters affecting the investment of resources to maintain and improve SWP operations. Specifically, the SWP CFM will develop proposed strategies for capital investments taking into account asset management including risk management to ensure the most efficient operation of the SWP and public safety. The SWP CFM will oversee and implement processes used by SWP Divisions and Offices to compile complex data as required for inclusion in the Governor's budget as well as the annual Statement of Charges for the 29 State Water Contractor agencies. This includes the analysis of potential variances (billings vs. expenditures) and developing action plans to address these issues.

**B. SUMMARY OF REQUEST (continued)**

10. How critical is the program's mission or purpose to the department's mission as a whole? Include a description of the degree to which the program is critical to the department's mission.

- Program is directly related to department's primary mission and is critical to achieving the department's goals.
- Program is indirectly related to department's primary mission.
- Program plays a supporting role in achieving department's mission (i.e., budget, personnel, other admin functions).

Description: DWR's mission is to manage and protect the water resources of California in cooperation with other agencies, to benefit the state's people and to protect, restore, and enhance the natural and human environments. DWR manages California's water resources, systems, and infrastructure, including the State Water Project (SWP), in a responsible, sustainable way. Effective and accurate oversight of resources and capital investments related to the SWP is essential in making sound decisions in the maintenance of critical infrastructure to ensure the capacity to deliver water to over 25 million Californians and provide prime irrigation for 750,000 acres of agricultural land. Water reliability contributes to a significant percentage of the non-services related gross domestic product for the State.

**B. SUMMARY OF REQUEST (continued)**

11. Describe what has changed that makes this request necessary. Explain how the change justifies the current request. Be specific and provide examples.

The SWP is the largest State-owned and operated water storage and delivery system in the country. The facility consists of 29 power and pumping plants, 23 dams, 36 storage reservoirs, over 400 miles of large canals and 300 miles of large pipelines and is a critical part of the life-sustaining infrastructure of California. SWP deliveries provide water to 25 million Californians and 750,000 acres of irrigated farmland. DWR also operates the SWP to improve water quality in the Delta, control Feather River flood water, provide recreation, and enhance fish and wildlife habitat. Much of this system is approaching 50 years old and will require significant rehabilitation and refurbishment to sustain reliable operation. This will ultimately require the investment of billions of dollars by the 29 agencies that finance the SWP. To make these annual investments affordable for these agencies and their constituents, DWR must be able to develop strategies and carry out an effective plan for managing the assets of the SWP, which includes developing financial policies around capital investments and prioritization of infrastructure maintenance by instituting robust budgeting and program control processes. An important role of the SWP CFM is to ensure ongoing risk-informed decisions and mitigation in all strategic decisions involving the SWP.

### **C. ROLE IN POLICY INFLUENCE**

12. Provide 3-5 specific examples of policy areas over which the CEA position will be the principle policy maker. Each example should cite a policy that would have an identifiable impact. Include a description of the statewide impact of the assigned program.

Development and management of the Risk Management Policy for sustainability of the SWP. This policy will set guidelines for integrating risk-informed decision making and affordability to maintain an acceptable risk for infrastructure and public safety. This policy will directly affect decisions in project operations and capital investment.

Development and management of the Asset Management Capital Investment Policy. This policy will set parameters for planning and scheduling of asset management related major infrastructure projects as well as financing strategies associated with these projects.

Development and management of the Financial Management Processes Policy for the SWP. This policy will set the direction for assuring timely and accurate financial planning information is readily and constantly available and continuously evaluated for accuracy and affordability for the Public Water Agencies.

**C. ROLE IN POLICY INFLUENCE (continued)**

13. What is the CEA position's scope and nature of decision-making authority?

The SWP CFM will report directly to the SWP Deputy Director and will have broad decision making authority over all SWP-related asset management, risk management, and capital investment strategies. The level of this independent authority will be equivalent to that of the SWP Division Chiefs.

14. Will the CEA position be developing and implementing new policy, or interpreting and implementing existing policy? How?

The SWP CFM will develop and implement new policies for the comprehensive asset management and capital investment programs for the rehabilitation and refurbishment of the facilities of the SWP. This effort will be coordinated in collaboration with SWP senior managers within the Department of Water Resources and senior managers of the State Water Contractor agencies.