

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 9512

To reauthorize the water storage program under Subtitle J of the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Nation Act, to authorize environmental restoration and recovery in the Sacramento River Basin, to authorize nonreimbursable Federal contribution to operation and maintenance for public benefits of State-led storage projects, to establish a Federal Leadership Committee for the Sacramento River Basin, to authorize the retention of revenue from eligible temporary water transfers for drought resilience, extraordinary maintenance, and dam safety investments, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 29, 2026

Mr. GALLAGHER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Natural Resources

A BILL

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1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Doug LaMalfa Sac-
5 ramento River Basin Water Security and Reliability Act
6 of 2026”.

7 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

8 In this Act:

9 (1) COMMISSIONER.—The term “Commis-
10 sioner” means the Commissioner of Reclamation.

11 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
12 the Secretary of the Interior.

13 (3) WIIN ACT.—The term “WIIN Act” means
14 the Water Infrastructure Improvements for the Na-
15 tion Act (Public Law 114–322; 130 Stat. 1628).

16 **SEC. 3. REAUTHORIZATION OF WATER STORAGE PROGRAM.**

17 (a) EXTENSION OF FEASIBILITY DEADLINE.—Sec-
18 tion 4007(i) of the WIIN Act (130 Stat. 1877) is amended
19 by striking “January 1, 2021” and inserting “January 1,
20 2041”.

21 (b) CONTINUED APPLICABILITY.—Notwithstanding
22 section 4013 of the WIIN Act (130 Stat. 1883), section
23 4007 of such Act, as amended by subsection (a), shall re-
24 main in effect.

1 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL CONTRIBUTION TO OPERATION AND**
2 **MAINTENANCE FOR PUBLIC BENEFITS OF**
3 **STATE-LED STORAGE PROJECTS.**

4 (a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—The Secretary, acting through
5 the Commissioner, is authorized to contribute to the oper-
6 ations, maintenance, and replacement costs associated
7 with public benefits provided by State-led water storage
8 projects that receive financial assistance under section
9 4007 of the WIIN Act (130 Stat. 1872).

10 (b) **ELIGIBLE COSTS.**—Federal funds provided under
11 this section may be used only to cover operations, mainte-
12 nance, and replacement costs directly associated with the
13 public benefits of eligible State-led storage projects.

14 (c) **COST-SHARE LIMITATION.**—The Federal con-
15 tribution toward operations, maintenance, and replace-
16 ment costs under this section shall not exceed 50 percent
17 of the total annual costs associated with the public bene-
18 fits of each eligible project.

19 (d) **DEFINITION OF PUBLIC BENEFITS.**—In this sec-
20 tion, the term “public benefits” means benefits that are
21 in excess of express mitigation and environmental compli-
22 ance obligations under applicable Federal and State law
23 (including regulations, permits, contracts, licenses, grants,
24 or orders or decisions from Federal and State courts), and
25 that include ecosystem improvements, fish and wildlife en-
26 hancements, water quality improvements, recreation, flood

1 control, and other similar benefits as determined by the
2 Secretary.

3 (e) NONREIMBURSABLE.—Any Federal funds pro-
4 vided under this section shall be nonreimbursable to the
5 United States.

6 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
7 authorized to be appropriated to the Secretary such sums
8 as may be necessary to carry out this section.

9 **SEC. 5. SACRAMENTO RIVER BASIN ENVIRONMENTAL RES-**
10 **TORATION AND RECOVERY.**

11 (a) AMENDMENT.—Section 4010(b) of the WIIN Act
12 (Public Law 114–322; 130 Stat. 1872) is amended by
13 striking paragraph (2) and inserting the following:

14 “(2) ACTIONS FOR BENEFIT OF ENDANGERED
15 SPECIES, IMPORTANT HABITAT, AND SACRAMENTO
16 RIVER BASIN RECOVERY.—

17 “(A) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to
18 be appropriated to the Secretary of the Interior
19 (acting through the Commissioner of Reclama-
20 tion) \$500,000,000 for the period of fiscal
21 years 2028 through 2037—

22 “(i) for—

23 “(I) gravel and rearing area ad-
24 ditions, fish passage improvements,
25 barrier removal, and habitat restora-

1 tion to the Sacramento River, its trib-
2 utaries, or other rivers or river basins
3 affected by the operation of Bureau of
4 Reclamation facilities to benefit spe-
5 cies listed as threatened or endan-
6 gered under the Endangered Species
7 Act of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.),
8 including Chinook salmon and
9 steelhead trout;

10 “(II) scientifically improved and
11 increased real-time monitoring to in-
12 form real-time operations of Bureau
13 of Reclamation facilities, and alter-
14 native methods, models, and equip-
15 ment to improve temperature mod-
16 eling, science, and monitoring to sup-
17 port flow benefits for fish species, and
18 related forecasted information for pur-
19 poses of predicting impacts to salmon,
20 salmon habitat, species listed as
21 threatened or endangered under the
22 Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16
23 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), or other species
24 of concern as a result of water man-

1 agement at Bureau of Reclamation fa-
2 cilities;

3 “(III) aquatic habitat restoration
4 activities, including floodplain re-
5 connection and reactivation projects
6 (such as off-channel and managed
7 floodplain inundation projects that en-
8 hance biological productivity and food
9 web support for fish) that enhance the
10 ability of the Bureau of Reclamation
11 to meet contractual obligations for
12 water deliveries;

13 “(IV) fish hatchery moderniza-
14 tion and construction projects;

15 “(V) fish screen installations and
16 improvements;

17 “(VI) introduction or reintroduc-
18 tion of native anadromous fish into
19 streams tributary to the Sacramento
20 River; and

21 “(VII) structural or operational
22 improvements, including temperature
23 control and associated facilities, nec-
24 essary to implement activities de-

1 scribed in subclauses (I) through (VI);
2 and

3 “(ii) for planning, design, scientific
4 studies, resource and biological monitoring,
5 environmental reviews, permitting, con-
6 struction, implementation, and adaptive
7 management associated with any of the ac-
8 tivities described in clause (i).

9 “(B) NONREIMBURSABLE.—Any Federal
10 funds provided by the Secretary under this
11 paragraph shall be nonreimbursable to the
12 United States.

13 “(C) CONTRACT TREATMENT.—For pur-
14 poses of section 203 of the Reclamation Reform
15 Act of 1982 (43 U.S.C. 390cc) or section
16 3404(a) of the Reclamation Projects Authoriza-
17 tion and Adjustment Act of 1992 (Public Law
18 102–575; 106 Stat. 4708), a grant, cooperative
19 agreement, partnership agreement, or other fi-
20 nancial assistance instrument entered into pur-
21 suant to this paragraph shall not be treated as
22 a new or amended contract.”.

23 (b) EFFECT ON SUNSET.—Notwithstanding section
24 4013 of the WIIN Act (Public Law 114–322; 130 Stat.
25 1883), section 4010(b)(2) of such Act (as amended by

1 subsection (a)) shall take effect on the date of enactment
2 of this Act.

3 **SEC. 6. SACRAMENTO RIVER BASIN INTEGRATED WATER**
4 **MANAGEMENT FEDERAL LEADERSHIP COM-**
5 **MITTEE.**

6 (a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds that—

7 (1) on October 23, 2024, the United States Bu-
8 reau of Reclamation, the United States Fish and
9 Wildlife Service, the United States Army Corps of
10 Engineers, the Bureau of Land Management, the
11 Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Na-
12 tional Fish and Wildlife Foundation, the California
13 Natural Resources Agency, the California Depart-
14 ment of Fish and Wildlife, the California Depart-
15 ment of Food and Agriculture, and the California
16 Department of Water Resources entered into the
17 Memorandum of Understanding Advancing Flood-
18 plain Forward in the Sacramento River Basin (in
19 this section referred to as the “Sacramento Flood-
20 plain MOU”), to coordinate planning, design, imple-
21 mentation, monitoring, and information sharing of
22 conservation projects in the Sacramento River
23 Basin;

24 (2) the Sacramento Floodplain MOU con-
25 templates Federal-State coordination at a scale that

1 requires standing interagency leadership distinct
2 from project-by-project coordination; and

3 (3) a Federal leadership committee dedicated to
4 the Sacramento River Basin is necessary to give ef-
5 fect to the Sacramento Floodplain MOU and to ac-
6 celerate implementation of habitat restoration and
7 water-supply reliability projects in the Basin.

8 (b) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) COMMITTEE.—The term “Committee”
10 means the Sacramento River Basin Integrated
11 Water Management Federal Leadership Committee
12 established under subsection (c).

13 (2) COVERED PROJECT.—The term “covered
14 project” means a habitat restoration, floodplain re-
15 activation, hatchery modernization, fish passage, fish
16 screening, water infrastructure, groundwater re-
17 charge, working-lands habitat partnership, or fishery
18 monitoring project located in the Sacramento River
19 Basin that supports the recovery of native anad-
20 romous fish, improves water-supply reliability, or en-
21 hances ecosystem resilience.

22 (3) SACRAMENTO FLOODPLAIN MOU.—The term
23 “Sacramento Floodplain MOU” means the Memo-
24 randum of Understanding Advancing Floodplain

1 Forward in the Sacramento River Basin, dated Oc-
2 tober 23, 2024, or any successor instrument.

3 (c) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 180 days after
4 the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall es-
5 tablish a committee, to be known as the Sacramento River
6 Basin Integrated Water Management Federal Leadership
7 Committee, to provide assistance to eligible entities and
8 Federal agencies in advancing covered projects.

9 (d) CHAIRPERSON.—The Assistant Secretary of the
10 Interior for Water and Science shall serve as the chair-
11 person of the Committee and shall coordinate the activities
12 of, and communication among, members of the Com-
13 mittee.

14 (e) MEMBERSHIP.—The Committee shall include rep-
15 resentatives of each of the Federal signatories to the Sac-
16 ramento Floodplain MOU, and such other Federal agency
17 representatives as the chairperson determines appropriate,
18 including representatives of—

- 19 (1) the Bureau of Reclamation;
- 20 (2) the United States Fish and Wildlife Service;
- 21 (3) the National Marine Fisheries Service;
- 22 (4) the Corps of Engineers;
- 23 (5) the Bureau of Land Management;
- 24 (6) the Natural Resources Conservation Service;
- 25 (7) the Environmental Protection Agency; and

1 (8) the United States Geological Survey.

2 (f) STATE AND TRIBAL PARTICIPATION.—The chair-
3 person may invite representatives of the State of Cali-
4 fornia, affected Indian Tribes, and other non-Federal enti-
5 ties to participate in the activities of the Committee as
6 the chairperson determines appropriate.

7 (g) DUTIES.—The Committee shall—

8 (1) facilitate interagency coordination with re-
9 spect to covered projects, including by identifying
10 and resolving regulatory, jurisdictional, and proce-
11 dural obstacles to project implementation;

12 (2) identify opportunities for Federal agencies
13 to align existing programs, authorities, and funding
14 streams in support of covered projects;

15 (3) support implementation of the Sacramento
16 Floodplain MOU and any successor instrument;

17 (4) coordinate Federal agency activities with
18 the NMFS Recovery Plan for Sacramento River
19 Winter-Run Chinook, the Winter-Run Chinook
20 Salmon Reintroduction Priority Action Plan, and
21 other applicable recovery and restoration plans for
22 native anadromous fish in the Sacramento River
23 Basin;

24 (5) recommend to Congress priorities for Fed-
25 eral investment in covered projects; and

1 (6) submit to the Committee on Natural Re-
 2 sources of the House of Representatives and the
 3 Committee on Energy and Natural Resources of the
 4 Senate an annual report describing the activities of
 5 the Committee and the status of covered projects.

6 (h) ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT.—The Secretary shall
 7 provide such staff, facilities, and other administrative sup-
 8 port as may be necessary to carry out the activities of the
 9 Committee.

10 (i) TERMINATION.—The Committee shall terminate
 11 on the date that is 15 years after the date of enactment
 12 of this Act, unless extended by an Act of Congress.

13 **SEC. 7. USE OF REVENUE FOR DROUGHT RESILIENCE IN-**
 14 **VESTMENTS, EXTRAORDINARY MAINTEN-**
 15 **NANCE ACTIVITIES, OR DAM SAFETY INVEST-**
 16 **MENTS.**

17 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

18 (1) DAM SAFETY INVESTMENT.—The term
 19 “dam safety investment” means a project under-
 20 taken to satisfy dam safety standards—

21 (A) under the Federal Guidelines for Dam
 22 Safety issued by the Federal Emergency Man-
 23 agement Agency or the Interagency Committee
 24 on Dam Safety;

1 (B) under the Bureau of Reclamation Dam
2 Safety Program established pursuant to the
3 Reclamation Safety of Dams Act of 1978 (43
4 U.S.C. 506 et seq.), including repayment of an
5 obligation for a corrective action taken pursu-
6 ant to that program; or

7 (C) required by the State for a non-Fed-
8 eral dam in which a Bureau of Reclamation
9 project or facility is located.

10 (2) DROUGHT RESILIENCE INVESTMENT.—The
11 term “drought resilience investment” means an im-
12 provement or addition to an eligible facility that
13 would increase drought resilience in a Reclamation
14 State (as such term is defined in section 4014 of the
15 WIIN Act (43 U.S.C. 390b note)).

16 (3) ELIGIBLE FACILITY.—The term “eligible fa-
17 cility” means—

18 (A) a project or facility owned by the Bu-
19 reau of Reclamation; and

20 (B) a non-Federal facility that stores,
21 transports, or delivers water to or from a
22 project or facility described in subparagraph
23 (A).

24 (4) ELIGIBLE TEMPORARY TRANSFER.—The
25 term “eligible temporary transfer” means the tem-

porary and voluntary selling, leasing, or exchanging of water or water rights among individuals or agencies that is allowable under the reclamation laws and the water law of the applicable State.

(5) EXTRAORDINARY MAINTENANCE ACTIVITY.—The term “extraordinary maintenance activity” means annual payments on repayment obligations incurred under section 9603 of the Omnibus Public Land Management Act of 2009 (43 U.S.C. 510b).

(6) RECLAMATION ACT.—The term “Reclamation Act” means the Act of June 17, 1902 (32 Stat. 388, chapter 1093).

(7) TRANSFEROR.—The term “transferor” means the holder of a water service, transferred works, water repayment, or other contract that entitles the holder to water from a Bureau of Reclamation project or facility that undertakes an eligible temporary transfer.

(b) RETENTION OF REVENUE.—A transferor may retain all amounts derived from an eligible temporary transfer that would otherwise be deposited in the reclamation fund established by the first section of the Reclamation Act (43 U.S.C. 391), in accordance with this section.

1 (c) USE OF FUNDS.—Any funds retained by a trans-
2 feror under subsection (b) may be used on completion of
3 the repayment of capital attributable to the original con-
4 struction of the project, if the funds are—

5 (1) used for a drought resilience investment, ex-
6 traordinary maintenance activity, or dam safety in-
7 vestment; or

8 (2) placed in the reserve account of the trans-
9 feror, to be used for drought resilience investments,
10 extraordinary maintenance activities, or dam safety
11 investments, subject to subsection (d).

12 (d) TRANSFER OF UNUSED FUNDS TO RECLAMATION
13 FUND.—Any funds placed in the reserve account of the
14 transferor pursuant to subsection (c)(2) that are not used
15 for drought resilience investments, extraordinary mainte-
16 nance activities, or dam safety investments by the date
17 that is 10 years after the date of the placement shall be
18 transferred to the reclamation fund established by the first
19 section of the Reclamation Act (43 U.S.C. 391) and shall
20 be applied to the transferor’s repayment obligations in the
21 same manner such funds would be applied outside of this
22 section.

23 (e) REPORTING.—The transferor shall report to the
24 Commissioner, from time to time as determined by the

1 Commissioner, on the uses of funds derived from an eligi-
2 ble temporary transfer.

3 (f) EFFECT.—

4 (1) IN GENERAL.—Nothing in this section—

5 (A) affects any other authority of the Sec-
6 retary to use amounts derived from revenues
7 from a Bureau of Reclamation project; or

8 (B) creates, impairs, alters, or supersedes
9 a State water right.

10 (2) APPLICABLE LAW.—Any eligible temporary
11 transfer shall comply with all applicable—

12 (A) State water laws;

13 (B) Federal laws and policies; and

14 (C) interstate water compacts.

15 (g) APPLICABILITY.—This section applies to the Rec-
16 lamation Act and Acts supplemental to and amendatory
17 of that Act (43 U.S.C. 371 et seq.).

18 **SEC. 8. SAVINGS CLAUSES; RULES OF CONSTRUCTION.**

19 (a) WIIN ACT SECTION 4012.—Nothing in this Act,
20 or any amendment made by this Act, modifies, supersedes,
21 or otherwise alters the protections and limitations set
22 forth in section 4012 of the WIIN Act (Public Law 114–
23 322; 130 Stat. 1882).

1 (b) CENTRAL VALLEY PROJECT IMPROVEMENT
2 ACT.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made by
3 this Act, modifies, supersedes, or otherwise alters—

4 (1) any obligation of the Secretary under the
5 Central Valley Project Improvement Act (title
6 XXXIV of Public Law 102–575; 106 Stat. 4706); or
7 (2) the obligation of the Secretary, acting
8 through the Commissioner, to make water available
9 to managed wetlands and wildlife refuges under sec-
10 tion 3406(d) of that Act (106 Stat. 4722).

11 (c) SETTLEMENT AND EXCHANGE CONTRACTOR
12 RIGHTS.—Nothing in this Act, or any amendment made
13 by this Act, modifies or amends—

14 (1) the rights and obligations of the United
15 States and the Sacramento River Settlement Con-
16 tractors under their settlement contracts with the
17 United States;

18 (2) the rights and obligations under the Pur-
19 chase Contract between Miller and Lux and the
20 United States and the Second Amended Exchange
21 Contract between the United States, Department of
22 the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation, and Central
23 California Irrigation District, San Luis Canal Com-
24 pany, Firebaugh Canal Water District, and Colum-
25 bia Canal Company; or

1 (3) the priority of the Friant Division of the
2 Central Valley Project over other Central Valley
3 Project divisions.

4 (d) STATE WATER LAW.—Nothing in this Act, or any
5 amendment made by this Act, preempts or modifies any
6 obligation of the United States or any other person to act
7 in conformance with applicable State law, including appli-
8 cable State water law.

9 (e) TRIBAL TRUST AND TREATY RIGHTS.—Nothing
10 in this Act, or any amendment made by this Act, modifies,
11 supersedes, or otherwise affects—

12 (1) the trust responsibility of the United States
13 to Indian Tribes;

14 (2) any treaty right of any Indian Tribe;

15 (3) any reserved water right of any Indian
16 Tribe; or

17 (4) any right or obligation under the Indian
18 Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act
19 (25 U.S.C. 5301 et seq.), including any right or obli-
20 gation under title V of that Act (25 U.S.C. 5381 et
21 seq.).

22 (f) ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT.—Nothing in this
23 Act, or any amendment made by this Act, modifies the
24 applicability of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (16
25 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) to any Federal action.

1 (g) BIOLOGICAL OPINIONS.—Nothing in this Act, or
2 any amendment made by this Act, modifies, supersedes,
3 or otherwise alters any requirement of any biological opin-
4 ion issued under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act
5 of 1973 (16 U.S.C. 1536) governing the coordinated long-
6 term operation of the Central Valley Project and the State
7 Water Project, or any successor biological opinion.

8 (h) RECLAMATION FUND REPAYMENT OBLIGA-
9 TIONS.—Nothing in section 7 of this Act, including the
10 authority to retain amounts derived from eligible tem-
11 porary transfers under that section, modifies, supersedes,
12 or otherwise alters the underlying repayment obligations
13 of any transferor under any contract with the United
14 States or under any other provision of law, except as ex-
15 pressly provided in section 7.

16 (i) SEVERABILITY.—If any provision of this Act, or
17 the application of any provision of this Act to any person
18 or circumstance, is held to be invalid, the application of
19 such provision to other persons or circumstances, and the
20 remainder of this Act, shall not be affected.

○