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Contact: Laura McMillan, 540-292-8429

CT's First State Water Plan Approved by Water Planning Council

Plan now heads to legislature

NEW HAVEN, CONN. – On Tuesday, the Water Planning Council approved the draft of Connecticut's first State Water Plan, which will now head to the state legislature for final adoption.

Spurred by a directive set in 2014 by the legislature and governor, the draft State Water Plan defines how water management works now and sets goals for the future. It also tackles recurring conflicts such as intermittent serious droughts, conflicting policies for water conservation, legal challenges over rivers and aquifers drying up, and weak protections for those with private wells.

"Connecticut already has a high standard for drinking water, and with the new State Water Plan we will have stronger policies and rules to guide our way in the protection and preservation of drinking water and drinking water lands in Connecticut," said Karen Burnaska, water policy advocate for Connecticut Fund for the Environment/Save the Sound. "We applaud the vision and hard work that have gone into developing Connecticut's first state water plan. This is a major step forward for safeguarding a resource we all depend on daily. We will work with legislators, advocates and stakeholders to strengthen the language that water is a public trust, with the government having the responsibility to protect the waters of Connecticut, such as rivers, lakes, and tidal regions, for every citizen, today and for future generations."

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