California Water: Climate Change

Jane Wagner-Tyack - first speaker - gave an overview of California surface water using a map created by the Water Education Foundation. She described how water is transported around California from the north to the south, vice versa and included Colorado River water.

Felicia Marcus - second speaker - shared a lot of historical and current information about California water. She is a Landreth Visiting Fellow @ Water in the West

- Climate Change IS water change
- How do we rise to resilience? The velocity of water movement is intense and changing. We have focused on waste, recycling, and use but haven't done a full scale change in water. Water is the bleeding edge of climate change. We have heat issues too but water is critical because of the scope of it's effects.
- Water gets sucked up into the atmosphere during hot times and then gets dumped very quickly back to earth creating floods, hurricanes, blizzards, etc.
- The Delta is the central challenge and storage is key. The snow pack is disappearing because it's gets too hot to contain so we need other ways to store water. Several cities including Los Angeles and the State are creating ways to replenish the ground water.
- Community wells are polluted - big problem.
- Water efficiency has become a huge success story in California. Lawn reduction and removal in southern California has been substantial.
- LA County has made a commitment to reduce our imported water by 70% as of 2035.
- CA is ahead in regards to water conservation.