

# Another San Joaquin Valley water leader resigns

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[Kings River Conservation District](#) leader Dave Orth has resigned after 13 years as general manager, the organization announced Wednesday.

Orth, who is well-known in California water circles, will pursue other professional opportunities, according to KRCD board chairman David Cehrs.

The KRCD general manager is the third water leader to leave a high-profile post this year in the San Joaquin Valley. The other departing executives are Ron Jacobsma, general manager of Friant Water Authority, and Dan Nelson, executive director of the San Luis & Delta Mendota Water Authority.

Orth said: "My time at KRCD has been a remarkable experience. It's been a pleasure serving under the direction of KRCD's Board and working with KRCD's excellent staff."

Orth, 57, co-chaired Gov. Jerry Brown's Drinking Water Stakeholder Group, providing recommendations for solving drinking water problems among disadvantaged communities.

He also serves on the California Water Commission. The commission is setting priorities for spending nearly \$3 billion in bond money on water storage projects. Among the contenders is Temperance Flat Dam, which would expand water storage above Millerton Lake.

Orth worked on many projects in KRCD, a public agency formed in 1951 managing such resources as water, power and the environment for agriculture, businesses and residents in a 1.2 million acre swath of Fresno, Kings and Tulare counties.

The highlights of Orth's time include construction of the Malaga Peaking Plant and greater regional water management collaboration through the Kings Basin Water Authority.

The KRCD Board will now begin recruitment for a new general manager. Randy Shilling, deputy general manager of business operations, will serve as interim general manager.

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