This Reviewer’s Guide is a companion to the California Department of Water Resource’s (DWR) Water Plan Update Public Review Draft. The document offers perspectives of the appointed Public Advisory Committee. It does not represent a policy of the DWR, the facilitators or any individual Public Advisory Committee member or member organization. The sole purpose of this guide is to share information that may aid other reviewers.
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Intended Outcomes of this California Water Plan Update

- Provide for human needs and support a healthy environment, economy and agricultural sector
- Recognize one size or approach does not fit all, outline multiple strategies
- Acknowledge the future may unfold in a variety of ways and plans must be adaptive

Goal of the Review Process Guide

The purpose of this guide is to improve the California Water Plan Update Review Process by:
1. Outlining important considerations evaluated by the Advisory Committee
2. Pre-stating the Advisory Committee’s perspectives of the strengths and weakness in the Public Review Draft
3. List important questions that other reviewers may wish to ask

Why This Review is Particularly Important

- This style and format for the plan represents a new approach.
- DWR received advice from a 65-member Public Advisory Committee that provided multiple perspectives.
- Next steps and solutions will require some form of ma

Why This Plan Is Different

- Is a Strategic Plan vs. a gap analysis
- Is prepared as a living document to permit adaptive management vs. static 5 year report
- Recommends multi-prong policy approach vs. defining a specific path
- Designed with a phased work plan instead of a 5 year benchmark

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Shift the Thinking –
Involve the
Stakeholders to Gain
Cooperation Instead of
Competition

The California Water Plan Update (Water Plan) Public Advisory Committee (AC) was created by California Water Code § 10004(b)(2) to help the DWR craft a State Water Plan that provides for

- People
- Agriculture
- Environment
- Commerce & Industry

After four years of work, the AC agreed on many things. The Water Plan Public Review Draft reflects this. This guide describes that. It also highlights the areas of the plan where there are different views and remaining concerns. Finally the guide offers some review questions.

How the Plan is Arranged

The AC wanted a user friendly and easy to read plan. The plan is organized into five Volumes. Different audiences will be interested in different Volumes of the plan. The goal is for information to be easier to access in this new format.

List of Volumes:
Volume 1: Strategic Plan
Volume 2: Resource Management Strategies
Volume 3: Regional Reports
Volume 4: Reference Guide
Volume 5: Technical Guide (online)

The plan is also available online on the World Wide Web. In this format the text can be searched by key words. Parts of the plan that reference other parts are hyperlinked and can be easily accessed.
Outline Questions Reviewers Should Consider in Assessing the Plan

Explain Where and Why Tension Exists in the Current Document
OUTLINE FEATURES YOU FIND PARTICULARLY GOOD

FOR FACILITATION TEAM TO COMPLETE
Describe how comments will be handled