MEETING SUMMARY

CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN UPDATE 2009
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
AUGUST 16, 12:30 - 5:00 P.M. | AUGUST 17, 8:30 A.M. – 4:00 P.M.
DOUBLE TREE HOTEL
2001 POINT WEST WAY
SACRAMENTO, CA

Meeting Purpose and Goals:

- Initiate discussion of key topics for Update 2009, including Tribal Outreach, the Assumptions & Estimates Report, and Future Scenarios.
- Introduce and seek feedback DWR’s draft report outline
- Initiate discussion on related planning processes including Integrated Flood Management and Integrated Regional Water Management

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Welcome and Opening Remarks

Opening Remarks:

Mark Cowin, Deputy Director, California Department of Water Resources (DWR)

Deputy Director Mark Cowin welcomed everyone to the second meeting of the Advisory Committee (AC) for the California Water Plan Update 2009 (Update 2009). New AC members and alternates made self-introductions:

- Chris Brown, California Urban Water Conservation Council
- Merita Callaway, California State Association of Counties
- Grace Chan, urban side of State Water Contractors
- Lenore Clark, Recreational Boaters of California
- Mark Franco, Intertribal Council of California Water Commission
- Lloyd Fryer, agricultural side of State Water Contractors
- Cliff Moriyama, California Building Industry Association
- Randy Yonemura, Intertribal Council of California Water Commission

Deputy Director Cowin mentioned three of DWR’s recent high-priority activities:

1. The State Agency Steering Committee is up and running as a forum for better coordination among state agencies who have authority over water. The Steering Committee had a productive meeting the previous week, with strong representation among agencies. A panel of federal agencies attended for a discussion on Tribal outreach. The SC also discussed integration of flood management and water management, as well as coordination of the State’s grant programs.

2. Since passage of Proposition 84 in November 2006, DWR has held internal discussions on how to align its organization to support Prop 84, integrated regional water management (IRWM), and the FloodSAFE Program.

3. The California Climate Action Team (CAT) has formed several workgroups, including a new energy-water workgroup. As part of that effort, Deputy Director Cowin hoped that the AC could serve as a public forum for the work of the energy-water workgroup.
Agenda Review

Lisa Beutler, Executive Facilitator from the Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP), reviewed the meeting agenda. The agenda and all other meeting materials are available on the website: http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/materials

Developing Update 2009’s Tribal Outreach Plan

Barbara Cross, DWR Tribal Liaison, gave an overview of the Water Plan Update 2009’s outreach plan. In the past, California Tribes have generally not actively participated in governmental processes involving water planning. There are barriers at the State level for participation by Tribal communities and governments, particularly with financing programs. DWR is embarking on a new policy to further involve tribes in the water planning process. This effort is guided by Recommendation #13 in the previous Water Plan, California Water Plan Update 2005 (Update 2005).

Recommendation #13 in Update 2005

DWR and other State agencies should invite, encourage, and assist tribal government representatives to participate in statewide, regional & local water planning processes, and to access State funding for water projects.

To address Recommendation #13, DWR intends to:

- Inform California tribes of Update 2009 launch & Invite tribes to participate
- Convene a Tribal Water Committee (TWC) to design & lead the tribal outreach process
- Implement the TWC’s Communication Plan to engage tribes in Water Plan activities and other State water planning & grant programs
- Organize a California Tribal Water Summit during Update 2009 & include its proceedings

DWR sent letters to tribes in July 2007 inviting them to form a Tribal Water Committee (TWC). The TWC would develop a communications plan for how tribes can interact with the Water Plan process. The TWC had not met yet, but tribes across the state have expressed interest. DWR also sent a letter to tribal organizations across all sectors of interest (including, gaming, tribal health, and the Intertribal Council of California) asking them to support the activity among their membership. DWR has also presented to the U.S. EPA Region 9 Regional Tribal Operations Committee (RTOC) Tribal Caucus.

James Crouch, AC member and executive director of the California Rural Indian Health Board, introduced himself and thanked DWR and the AC for making the effort to improve tribal relations.

Mark Franco, new AC member and representative of the Water Commission of the Intertribal Council of California, said he looked forward to working with the AC to bridge the knowledge gap.
gap about the history of California Indians and bring understanding of the holistic, spiritual way in which tribes look at water.

**Group Discussion:**

The AC discussed barriers to access between Tribes and State grant funds. State voter-passed bond laws are often written in ways that exclude tribes from applying for bond fund programs. Most bond laws allow funding to other State agencies and political jurisdictions of the State, sometimes non-profit entities, but often not to tribal governments. Sovereignty of tribes is often an issue when contracting for state funds. It was pointed out that there are about 109 federally recognized tribes and about 50 other tribal groups in California. California has the second-highest census count of Indians in the nation (only Oklahoma has more).

**Integrated Flood Management in the Water Plan**

Chris McCready, DWR, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the FloodSAFE California initiative and how it relates to the California Water Plan program. FloodSAFE California is a strategic initiative under development by DWR to improve flood protection in California. FloodSAFE California will include 3 major planning efforts:

- **California Flood Plan**
  Strategic plan coordinated with the California Water Plan

- **Regional Flood Management Planning**
  Enhanced regional planning to meet future needs

- **State Plan of Flood Control for the Central Valley**
  Detailed plan to manage the State-federal Flood Control System in Sacramento and San Joaquin Watersheds (This plan is tactical in nature and will be developed outside of both the California Water Plan and the Regional Flood Management Planning processes.)
The California Water Plan and the California Flood Plan processes will coordinate to leverage resources for stakeholder participation, technical analyses, and policymaking.

The AC discussed the following questions:

- What advice would the AC offer as DWR integrates flood planning into the California Water Plan?
- What are the priorities from the AC’s perspective?

**Group Reports**

In general, the AC expressed support for increased integration between the Water Plan and the California Flood Plan. AC called for support of the following priorities:

- Identification of the linkages, gaps, and differences between the Water Plan and the Flood Plan
- Standardization of policy guidelines and data
- Greater integration of land use and local planning with water/flood management (i.e. general plans)
- Increased discussion of emergency response, particularly in the Delta
- Updated mapping of floodplains, groundwater recharge areas, and water flows
- Involvement of federal agencies with flood planning responsibility (e.g. FEMA, USBR, USACE) and with regional/local agencies that operate reservoirs
- Inclusion of discussion of stormwater management IRWMP BMPs
- Consideration of a broader range of flood management priorities that include watershed and environmental protection (traditional focus has been on human life and property)
- Consider reservoir sedimentation
- Increased public awareness about flood facilities, operations, and maintenances
- Explanation of flood management context in chapters/sections throughout the Water Plan

AC members also raised the following concerns:

- The Water Plan AC may not have the appropriate technical expertise on flood management to be to make recommendations to the FloodSAFE program.
- Flood management issues and solutions tend to cross political and administrative boundaries.
- Flood management efforts that involve increased access/easements to floodplains must also involve compensation to landowners.
- Who pays for flood management facilities?
- Tribal interests need to be consulted because of cultural significance of historical sites

**Water Plan Workshop at 2007 FMA Annual Conference, September 4**

Iovanka Todt, AC member representing the Floodplain Management Association (FMA), announced that DWR would hold a Water Plan workshop at the FMA Annual Conference in South Lake Tahoe on September 4. This workshop would be free of charge. A handout flyer for the Water Plan workshop was included in the AC meeting materials. September 4 workshop materials are posted here: [http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/materials/index.cfm?date=sep0407](http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/materials/index.cfm?date=sep0407)

As a starting point for the next Water Plan, Kamyar Guivetchi presented a 4-page document called “Draft Report Outline, Relation Activities & Lead Persons” and a 2-page document called “Key Water Plan Activities”. These documents showed the proposed organization and schedule of Water Plan volume chapters, meetings, and work products over the next 2 years. There were 3 take-home messages:

- Because Water Plan Update 2009 builds upon the existing framework of Update 2005, this time DWR has mapped out a more detailed work plan than was possible during the making of Update 2005.
- Each component of the Water Plan, such as the scenarios, will be discussed multiple times in multiple venues (i.e. AC meeting, plenary, and subject specific workshops)
- Work on crafting individual components/chapters are mostly in the first half of the process; after mid-2008 the AC will be mostly commenting on the draft Assumptions & Estimates Report and the Public Review Draft of Update 2009. The AC will be asked to review, comment, and provide feedback multiple times on reports.

**Group Reports**

In general, the AC called for stronger support of the following concepts:

- Evaluation of Update 2005 implementation
- Evaluation of financial/economic implications
- Information on Tribal needs, issues, and history
- Quantification of groundwater
- Keep the same general framework from Update 2005

Specific suggestions by AC members:

- Add a new “Chapter 8” called “Implications – what does this mean to you?” for urban, agricultural, and environmental sectors
- Include implementation of strategies in Chapter 7 Implementation Plan.
- Add a section called “Progress since Update 2005”
- “Brochure” should be “booklet”
- Characterize the resource management strategies by 5 elements
  - Potential
  - Challenges
  - How to Overcome Challenges
  - Operational Characteristics
  - Relationship to water quality
- Consider renaming the “Recycled Municipal Water” strategy to “Recycled Water”
Update on Draft Assumptions and Estimates Report

Rich Juricich, DWR, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the status of the draft Assumptions and Estimates Report (A&E Report). The California Water Code requires DWR to publish a preliminary draft of the assumptions and other estimates a year before release of each Water Plan Update. For Update 2009, a Draft A&E Report will be due on December 31, 2007, and a Final A&E Report will be due on December 31, 2008. The AC will have several opportunities to review and comment upon the draft A&E report. DWR is working with its groundwater experts to improve its groundwater data.

AC members made several requests to DWR:
- Try to estimate statewide cost of water per acre-foot for each strategy by scenario
- Have to a more robust economic analysis, including costs of maintenance
- Consider subsidence when looking at change of storage
- Do an assessment in terms of land use densities

Status of AC Input from Last Meeting

Lew Moeller, DWR, gave a PowerPoint summarizing the status of the AC’s input from the previous AC Meeting in June 2007. DWR has recorded the AC’s comments on the mission, vision, goals, guiding principles, and other content from Update 2005. The AC will have many opportunities for further review and input in the Water Plan Update process.

As a related follow-up to an AC request from the previous AC meeting, Mr. Moeller also presented an 11-page handout called “Issues and Topics Categorized”. This handout accounted for the status of each unresolved “Parking Lot Issue” from the Update 2005 AC. It indicated which staff work team had responsibility for each item, and explanations for items that staff did not intend to address for the next Water Plan Update.

An AC member commented that some items that seemed important were not indicated as high priorities on the handout. Kamyar Guivetchi responded that the categorized handout was not intended to indicate priorities, as DWR has not formally attempted assign prioritizes yet. Although what can be accomplished will be limited by resources, DWR was actively partnering with other agencies to optimize existing resources.
Water Plan E-Newsletter

Gretchen Goettle, DWR, announced that a new California Water Plan E-Newsletter is planned for launch in September 2007. As envisioned, the newsletter would be a weekly, 1-page e-mail sent out to subscribers every Monday. The newsletter will provide links to Water Plan-related news articles that would be archived on the DWR website. DWR was still working out details and beta-testing the service.

DWR Newsletter staff:
- Marilee Talley – overseer
- James Joelson – graphic designer
- Mike Durant – copyeditor

Comments, feedback, or requests should go to the following e-mail address: wpenews@water.ca.gov

Regional Workshop Status Report

Paul Dabbs, DWR, and Judie Talbot, CCP, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the status of Water Plan regional workshops that took place in Summer 2007. Eight workshops had been conducted to date. There was a good turnout, with between 25-60 stakeholders and several State agencies attending at each workshop. DWR used the Regional Workshops to request input regarding content for Update 2009 and the Water Plan’s regional outreach approach.

Regional workshop participants have given generally positive feedback, indicating that they like the overall approach, the workshop format, and the networking opportunities. On the other hand, they commented that DWR’s regional outreach approach will need to increase involvement of land use planners, environmental justice communities, and federal agencies.

Representatives from all regions with gather at the September 17-18 All-Regions Forum in Ontario and the October 22-23 Plenary in Sacramento.

The next round of regional workshops is scheduled for early 2008. AC members who are willing to host or sponsor a workshop in early 2008 are encouraged to contact Paul Dabbs (pdabbs@water.ca.gov).
Advisory Committee Meeting
August 16-17, 2007

2007 Regional Workshop Cities

- Fortuna: October 11
- Red Bluff: August 23
- El Dorado Hills: August 10
- Stockton: August 13
- Bakersfield: August 8
- Santa Barbara: July 23
- Coachella: July 26
- Los Angeles: July 25
- Palmdale: June 25
- Oakland: June 25

Developing Future Scenarios

Rich Juricich, DWR, gave a PowerPoint presentation titled “Using Scenarios in the California Water Plan” (available on the website). Mr. Juricich described the use of scenarios in Update 2005 and the next steps for scenarios and response packages for Update 2009. DWR will look for AC stakeholder input to develop scenario narratives and look to the Statewide Water Analysis Network (SWAN) to help identify options for quantifying scenarios. Scenario narratives and factors will be included in the A&E Report.

Group Discussion:

AC members raised several items for DWR to consider:
- Multi-cropping: why assume that future multi-cropped acreage is not currently being multi-cropped if it is possible?
- Catastrophic events: it is not realistic to assume everything happens as intended.
- Other studies: look at lessons from the RAND Corp. South Coast scenario study.
- Tribal: consider tribal water uses (i.e. casino resorts and development on tribal land; tribal uses should be analyzed separately because of sovereignty issues)
- Military: look at potential effects of base closures and new development opportunities from Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process decisions.
- System dynamics: consider that as agricultural uses change, so do environmental uses (because agricultural runoff is utilized by the environment).
- Endangered Species Act: consider trend of stricter regulations for environmental flows

AC members had table group discussions to respond to 3 questions:
1. Planning Horizon: What would you suggest regarding the planning horizon / time step for future scenarios in Update 2009?
2. Scenario Factors: What will need to be different in the Scenario Factors given the new requirements to consider climate change, drought conditions, and flood management?
3. Analytical Capacity: What do you view as the analytical priorities?
Group Report-Outs:

AC members gave the following feedback:

- There was no clear consensus as to a single best Planning Horizon, with table groups suggesting the year 2030 (for re-evaluation of Update 2005 scenarios), a 2040 year horizon for bond cycles, and a long-term scenario 2050-2100+ for climate change. It was brought up that a tribal perspective would look ahead 7 generations (conditions affecting grandchildren’s grandchildren).
- Look at trends of flows from agricultural to environmental (new regulations, precedents, ESA implementation)
- Show voluntary water conservation measures by water utilities that go above and beyond the existing BMPs and MOUs (like in Los Angeles)
- Look at Fire Maps, trends of increasing incidence of wildfires, and their relationship to climate change and water quality
- Look at emergency events that are NOT catastrophic (there are many, many more non-catastrophic fires than the few catastrophic ones, like the 2003-04 firestorms).
- Find out about the “Rate Structure” inputs – are they end-user rates or wholesaler rates?

Factors

- Catastrophic events with long-term consequences
- Regulatory actions such as new/stricter water quality standards (agricultural & urban)
- Long multi-decade drought
- Future volcanic events
  - Lassen/Shasta/Mammoth
  - Mud flow destruction of river systems
- Economic impacts from new laws that limit/reduce greenhouse gases (e.g. potential increases in energy costs)
- Impact of a major economic recession/depression (including secondary impacts on public finances)
- Impacts of non-linear, sudden changes in future climate or regional conditions
- Effect of urban expansion, creates more heat which alters local climate (tornados in Sacramento Valley)
- Climate:
  - Snowpack
  - Temperature
  - Precipitation
  - Energy prices
  - Sierra Vegetation Mix
  - Reservoir operations
  - Energy (including future regulations)
  - Treatment (including desalination)
  - Technology advancements
  - Stormwater runoff
- Flood:
  - Stock pond water rights
  - Re-operation of flood facilities
  - State required housing quotas
  - Areas of future growth
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- Expansion of bypasses (capacity)
- Regulatory operations
- Drought:
  - Different severity, geographic scale, and length
  - Great basin / Colorado
  - Crop acreages
  - Cropping patterns (more permanent crops)
  - Reservoir operations
  - Technological advancements (desalination)
  - Water transfers
  - Recycled water use
- Health of the Delta (agriculture, recreation, boating, Southern California water supply)
- Four possible themes for Update 2009 scenarios:
  - Current trends
  - Lower resource conflicts
  - Higher resource conflicts
  - More aggressive conservation (or higher of water efficiency)

Integrated Regional Water Management (IRWM) Grant Program & the Water Plan

Activities and Content

John Woodling, DWR, gave a presentation on “Implementing Integrated Regional Water Management” (available on the website). He described the Proposition 50 and 84 IRWM grant programs, schedules, status, and objectives. The IWRM Grant Program is part of a “3 legged-stool” that includes the strategic-level California Water Plan Update and the regional planning groups that implement the IRWMPs.
Prop 50 Round 1 has allocated $307 million for 16 proposals, with $1.7 billion in local cost share, for 500,000 acre-feet of new water supply. Unlike Prop 50 IRWM grants, Prop 84’s $1 billion in IRWM grant funds will be allocated by geographic areas (not a statewide) except for $100 million that will be “interregional.” Prop 84 funds by region would be weighted by population, with a minimum of $25 million per region.

DWR will conduct focused IRWM Program scoping meetings in September 2007 and release draft Program Guidelines in December 2007. DWR was interested in greater coordination, more rigorous planning process standards, more broadly scoped regional plans, better performance measures, equitable distribution of funds, and more regional control over projects. Although bond law defines eligible applicants as local public agencies and nonprofit organizations, tribes and investor owned utilities could participate within a larger grant proposal by eligible applicants.

**Group Discussion:**

Individual AC members offered the following comments:

- Concern that Prop 84 funding may not be appropriated in FY-07-08 State budget.
- IRWM Program Guidelines should explicitly address Tribal interests and environmental justice impacts.
- Regional autonomy: DWR should not implement a top-down command and control model; rather regions should be allowed autonomy and report to the State.
- Semantics: the words “region” and “regional” were being used for both IRWM “funding areas” and DWR’s hydrologic regions. This is confusing because they don’t match.
- Concern that ad-hoc IRWMP “regions” will make it harder for DWR to evaluate objectives, especially with future grant cycles; rather, have pro-active planning with consistent watershed-based hydrologic regions which can also be linked with flood management planning.
  - The Sacramento valley is an example of a single geographic area with multiple IRWMP “regions” with overlapping boundaries.

**Overall Integration**

The AC was asked to discuss best ways to integrate the separate activities of flood planning, IRWM, climate change, and grants in the California Water Plan Update process.

**Group Report-Outs:**

AC members gave the following feedback:

- Integrate land use with water use (i.e. floodplains)
- Add emergency response considerations
- Use scare tactics (urgency to act)
- Salt management will be essential for sustainability
- Ecosystem restoration should be better integrated into the Water Plan.
Disagree with the statement that “water is water” – don’t oversimplify the issues and defer the tough questions
  - There are many “kinds” of water – urban drinking water, agricultural irrigation water, recycled municipal water, etc.
  - Due to discharge regulations, recycle water is regulated as waste, which is an impediment to its use
- Maintenance of infrastructure (O&M) as opposed to the initial funding
- Focus on multiple benefits, not just supply
- Bring case studies, examples of what worked and didn’t work
- Show more specific examples on agricultural and urban water conservation measures – people need education, most people don’t realize how far away their water comes from.

Changes to the *Update 2009* Process Guide and Other Documents

Kamyar Guivetchi, DWR, reviewed recent updates to the Process Guide and AC Charter:
- Updated State Agency Steering Committee list
  - Governor’s Office of Emergency Services
  - Department of Public Health (formerly Department of Health Services)
- Added 8th Activity (page 4)
  - Incorporate findings & recommendations from companion State strategic plans into *Update 2009*
- Updated Advisory Committee members
  - Added Inter-Tribal Council of California
  - Various member substitutions

The AC made no objection or comment with these changes.

Public Comments

**Barbara Hennigan**, from Butte-Sutter Basin Area Groundwater Users, commented that she would like to hear more discussion about the value of maintaining healthy aquifers. She expressed concern about the current condition of groundwater overdraft in Butte-Sutter Groundwater Basin aquifers as well as the absence of a groundwater adjudication process. She was concerned with potentially adverse affects of conjunctive use and groundwater overdraft on terrestrial and aquatic vegetation, which in turn may impact water quality.

Closing Thoughts

Deputy Director Mark Cowin, DWR, closed the meeting with a word of thanks to everyone in attendance.
Attendance:

Advisory Committee Members and Alternates (31):

Ted Allured, California County Planning Commissioners Association
Clark Anderson, Local Government Commission
David Bolland, Association of California Water Agencies
Diana Brooks, Division of Ratepayer Advocates, California PUC
Chris Brown, California Urban Water Conservation Council
Merita Callaway, California State Association of Counties
Grace Chan, State Water Contractors
Lenora Clark, Recreational Boaters of California
James Crouch, California Rural Indian Health Board
Justin Fredickson, California Farm Bureau Federation
Lloyd Fryer, State Water Contractors
Mark Franco, Intertribal Council of California Water Commission
Jack Hawks, California Water Association
Mike Jackson, California Sportfishing Protection Alliance
Paul Kein, WateReuse Association
Steve Macaulay, California Urban Water Agencies
Kathy Mannion, Regional Council of Rural Counties
Jonas Minton, Planning & Conservation League
Cliff Moriyama, California Building Industry Association
Valerie Nera, California Chamber of Commerce
Betsy Reifsneider, Friends of the River
Larry Rohfles, California Landscape Contractors Association
Kyra Ross, League of California Cities
Katie Shulte-Joung, California Urban Water Conservation Council
Jack Sullivan, League of Women Voters
Susan Tatayon, The Nature Conservancy
Iovanka Todt, Floodplain Management Association
Tacy Currey, California Association of Resource Conservation District
Bill Van Wagoner, WateReuse Association
Michael Wade, California Farm Water Coalition
Randy Yonemura, Intertribal Council of California Water Commission

Others (35):

Newsha Ajami, BWC/Berkeley Water Center
Chris Adams, DWR
Lisa Beutler, Center for Collaborative Policy, CSU Sacramento (CCP)
Rick Bottis, Sacramento Reg. Water Forum, League of Women Voters Sac. County
Xavier Tito Cervantes, DWR
Jim Chatigny, Mountain Counties Water Resources Association
Steve Cowdin, DWR
Mark Cowin, DWR
Barbara Cross, DWR
Paul Dabbs, DWR
Sina Darabzand, DWR
Baryohay Davidoff, DWR
Glenn Farrel, Friant Water
Gretchen Goettl, DWR
Kamyar Guivetchi, DWR
Marla Hambright, DWR
Elizabeth Haven, State Water Resources Control Board
Barbara Hennigan, Butte-Sutter Basin Area Groundwater Users
Rich Juricich, DWR
Liz Mansfield, El Dorado Irrigation District
Chris McCready, DWR
Mark Meeks, DWR
Lew Moeller, DWR
Allen Oto, DWR
Elizabeth Patterson, DWR
Michael Perrone, DWR
Carolyn R., UC Berkeley
Virginia Sajac, DWR
Elizabeth Scott, DWR Public Affairs
David Sumi, CCP
Judie Talbot, CCP
Evelyn Tipton, DWR
John Woodling, DWR
Charlie Wynne, California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services (OES)
Gary Yamamoto, California Department of Public Health (CDPH)