California Climate Adaptation Strategy

California Water Plan Public Advisory Committee Meeting

Background: California’s Response to Climate Impacts

Governor’s Executive Order, November 2008:

- NRC Sea Level Rise Assessment Report
- Transportation systems vulnerability assessment
- State Climate Adaptation Strategy (CAS)

The California Climate Adaptation Strategy:

- First released December 2009
- Overall goals: begin discussion, assess climate risks, coordinate state policies

Climate Adaptation Strategy - Additional Goals:

- Initiate action and dialogue
- Assess climate vulnerability and risks by sector
- Coordinate state policies
- Coordinate with climate mitigation efforts

Adaptation Progress

- Coordinating climate adaptation with mitigation
- Making research findings useful
- Cal-Adapt Tool
- Policy Guide
- Vulnerability Study
- Involvement with regional efforts
- First-year progress report

Climate Adaptation Strategy for 2012:

- Public health and safety
- Protecting California’s economy
- Protecting California’s unique natural environment
- Better integrate state agency climate efforts

2012 CAS: Goals

- Assess progress
- Prioritize and re-focus efforts
- Update – impacts and vulnerabilities
- Integration (strategies and sectors)
- New sections (emergency response/most vulnerable populations/local government)

2012 CAS Sectors:

- Public Health
- Biodiversity
- Water Resources
- Ocean/Coastal Resources
- Agriculture
- Forestry
- Energy Infrastructure
- Transportation Infrastructure
- Emergency Planning

Sector Topics:

- Vulnerabilities
- Progress to date
- Key strategies going forward
- Cross-sector strategies
- Adaptation in planning, investment and regulatory processes
- Challenges
- Research needs
Coordination

California Climate Adaptation Strategy
California Water Plan
AB 32 Scoping Plan
Strategic Growth Council Strategic Plan
California Environmental Goals and Policy Report
California General Plan Update
State Hazard Mitigation Plan
Fire and Resource Assessment Program
California Wildlife Action Plan
California Transportation Plan Update

Barriers to Adaptation:

- Lack of understanding of how climate change impacts day-to-day life
- Limited guidance
- Lack of funding (research, planning, staff)
- Institutional barriers
- Limited communication
- Climate skepticism

Climate Adaptation:

- Easy access to information
- Streamline Federal/State/Local planning
- Use existing planning procedures where applicable
- Funding – research and planning
- Legislation?

Thank you

www.climatechange.ca.gov/adaptation/index.html