Topic-Based Caucuses and Regional Forums

January 6, 2011
Tribal Teleconference Briefing & Webinar

Caucus and Forum Approach

Prepared for:
California Water Plan Update 2013 Public Advisory Committee

Water Plan Interest Areas

January 6, 2011

Regional Forums and Topic-Based Caucuses

- Draft Charters describe key activities
- Venues for dialog on policy proposals and water-related programs
- Quarterly meetings
- Conference call/webinar format for remote participation
- Work groups for specific assignments including CWP Regional Reports and Resource Management Strategies

Caucus and Forum Approach - Roles

Caucus and Forum participants provide subject matter expertise to Update 2013.

Participants are asked to review meeting materials in advance, to support productive and timely input on draft documents.

Participants serve as liaisons to their respective organizations, providing briefings to leaders and constituents as appropriate, and bringing organizational comments and suggestions back into Update 2013 conversations.
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Caucus and Forum Approach - Content

Forums and Caucuses relate to all Update 2013 deliverables:
- Strategic Plan – objectives and supporting actions
- Policy Recommendations
- Water Balances and Portfolio
- Coordination with Other Companion Plans
- Future Scenarios
- Technical and Reference Guides

Regional Forums – Special focus on respective Regional Reports and regional application of Resource Management Strategies

Topic-Based Caucuses – Special focus on respective Resource Management Strategies and regional variability

Content deliverables developed through subcommittees, with drafts sent to entire Forum/Caucus for review and discussion before moving forward

Opportunities for joint subcommittees on topics associated with several Regional Forums and/or Topic-Based Caucuses

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Caucus and Forum Approach - Meetings

Forums and Caucuses will likely meet 4 times a year:
- 2 – 4 hour sessions
- Webinar and conference call options for remote participation
- Briefings, updates, and next steps regarding Update 2013 activities and Forum/Caucus-related developments, for example:
  - Update 2013 draft documents and proposals
  - New projects coming online in regions
  - New technology or approach regarding a particular strategy

- Briefings and updates on other related programs, policies and funding information
- An Annual Plenary session will convene all Update 2013 participants to discuss cross-cutting issues and ideas.

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Caucus and Forum Approach - Support

Forum and Caucus meetings are open to all.

Planning Team Members – Each Caucus/Forum will be supported by a dedicated Planning Team that informs the scope of work, key outreach, and future agenda concepts for each Caucus or Forum.

Public AC Liaison – A key member of each Caucus or Forum will be a member of the Public AC associated with the corresponding topic or regional interest. The Public AC Liaison relates recent Update 2013 activities and brings Caucus/Forum perspectives back into Public AC discussions.

Project Team – Technical support is provided by Work Team Lead members or Regional Office Coordinators, including coordination of work group activities with Update 2013 milestones and deliverables.

Facilitation and Logistics Support will generate meeting summaries and assist with meeting formats and agendas.

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Caucus and Forum Approach - Integration

MULTIPLE FEEDBACK PATHS:
- Public AC liaison brings information directly into Public AC meetings
- Project Team members share information with other Work Team Leads and Regional Coordinators
- Regional agency representatives report back to State Agency Steering Committee members or Federal Agency Network
- Caucus and Forum participants share information directly when involved in multiple groups.

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Caucus and Forum Approach - Timeline

Through December 2010: Initial Preparation
Planning Team members will work with Project Team and facilitate support to:
- Develop scope of work for each Caucus/Forum
- Create draft charter
- Begin outreach efforts

Early 2011: Meetings Begin
Convene first meetings/kick-off for Caucus and Forum groups
Phased approach - roll out of initial meetings will vary

Late 2011: Adaptive Management
Evaluate Caucus and Forum approach
Reline, modify, replace approach as needed
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Caucus and Forum Approach – Next Steps

TODAY – Initial brainstorming:

1. What topics, trends, or information need to be part of the conversation for a particular Caucus or Forum?
2. Which organizations or individuals need to be part of that conversation?

Send comments to: cwpcom@water.ca.gov

Next Steps:

- Convene Tribal Advisory Committee
- Initial Regional Forum Meetings at beginning of February 2011.
- First Meeting scheduled February 25, 2011.
- Engage Tribes in all aspects of Water Plan Update 2013 through Tribal Advisory Committee and other networks.