

MEETING SUMMARY

**CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN UPDATE 2009
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 4, 6:00 - 9:30 P.M. | JUNE 5, 8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.
DOUBLE TREE HOTEL
2001 POINT WEST WAY
SACRAMENTO, CA**

Meeting Purpose and Goals:

- Convene Advisory Committee (AC)
- Confirm Project Charter, Roles and Responsibilities
- Initiate discussion of key topics associated with Update 2009

Next AC Meeting:

August 16-17, 2007
Double Tree Hotel
2001 Point West Way
Sacramento, CA 95815

Action Items

- Water Plan staff will reorganize and categorize “Update 2005 Parking Lot Issues” and “Steering Committee Agency Issues and Initiatives”
- Water Plan staff will produce a “press release” for the June 4-5 AC meeting, and share with the AC for approval
- The AC will revisit the Draft AC Charter for review and approval at the next AC meeting

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DAY 1

Welcome and Opening Remarks

Opening Remarks:

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

Deputy Director Mark Cowin welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the new Advisory Committee (AC) for the *California Water Plan Update 2009 (Update 2009)*. He expressed thanks for the AC organizations for sending their representatives to participate as AC members.

Deputy Director Cowin made two key points:

1. DWR takes the policy recommendations from *Update 2005* very seriously. DWR uses *Update 2005* as a strategic guide for DWR. Not coincidentally, DWR is undergoing an internal organizational restructuring process to realign its organization to better support integrated regional water management and the California Water Plan.
2. Water Plan Update 2009 will belong not only to DWR, but it will truly be the State of California's Water Plan. In the last 4 months, DWR has convened a new Water Plan Steering Committee. The Water Plan Steering Committee, comprised of representatives from State government agencies, will be a central feature of the next process to guide future Water Plan Updates, a role DWR had performed with little formal input from other State agencies in the past.

Kamyar Guivetchi, Manager of Statewide Water Planning, DWR

Kamyar Guivetchi, Program Manager for the California Water Plan, also thanked everyone for taking time to be part of the public process. He looks forward to working with the new AC over the next two-and-a-half years to make *Update 2009* a document that will make the State and its regions proud.

Keynote Address – California Plan in the 21st Century

Lester Snow, Director, DWR

Director Lester Snow emphasized the importance of integrated regional water management (IRWM) among DWR's priorities. DWR is reorganizing itself to strengthen its role in IRWM. In May 2007, Mark Cowin, who had been division chief of DWR's Division of Planning and Local

Assistance (DPLA), had been promoted to the new position of Deputy Director of Regional Water Planning & Management.

Director Snow warned that the future of California water management holds more risk and uncertainty, not less. He cited the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and climate change as two examples of increased uncertainty.

Director Snow encouraged regional investment in integrated regional strategies to better manage risk and uncertainty and to manage water resources for multiple benefits, including ecosystem, economy, flood management, and water supply. IRWM provides an exciting opportunity to integrate flood management into water planning.

Director Snow concluded his speech by affirming his confidence in Mark Cowin and Kamyar Guivetchi and in the collaborative process with the AC.

Q&A:

The AC had an opportunity to ask questions to Director Snow.

Question: Does DWR have a baseline year of recorded drought?

Response: We know that future flood peaks will be higher and future drought will be worse. The question we don't have answers to yet is how much higher and how much worse. The State is reaching out to the business community for methods for estimating risk and uncertainty.

Question: What will be the Water Plan look like at the end of a 2.5 year process?

Response: The California Water Plan changed significantly with *Update 2005*. DWR considers that a first step on a much longer road. *Update 2005* began to address contingency planning and scenario analysis; now it is up to *Update 2009* to take the next step to address future uncertainties as well as to integrate flood management and climate change into statewide water planning.

Agenda Review

(Workbook pp. 2-3)

Lisa Beutler, senior meeting facilitator from the Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP), presented the AC with the agenda and workbook. The workbook is available on the website:

<http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/materials>

History of the California Water Plan

(Workbook pp. 6-9)

California Water Plan: Old and New

Steve Macaulay, AC Member for *Update 2009* and an "alumnus" AC Member from *Update 2005*, gave an overview of historical context of the different Water Plans released since 1957. Prior to his current role as Executive Director of California Urban Water Agencies (CUWA), Mr. Macaulay

was Chief Deputy Director of DWR. He gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled “California Water Plan: Old and New”(available on the website).

Lessons Learned

Overview:

After reviewing the historical context from their workbooks and Steve Macaulay’s presentation, participants were asked to identify lessons that have been learned from the past. They looked at and discussed an illustrated timeline (see workbook, page with events and milestones in California water history, from pre-statehood to present-day. Specifically, participants were asked to select the top three critical lessons that the Water Plan should give attention to and take forward into the future.

Group Reports:

As groups reported back the key results of their discussions. Below are some general themes:

- Land use planning should be coordinated with water planning
- The Water Plan should address issues related to uncertainty, especially flood management and climate change impacts. There should be multiple “crisis scenarios.”
- Water quality should have more focused attention
- Politics matter (such as changes in executive administration)
- Financial incentives matter (such as Proposition 50 IRWM Grants).

The Water Plan Update Process

(Workbook pp. 10-11)

Kamyar Guivetchi gave a PowerPoint presentation overview of the Water Plan Update Process, explaining the significance of *Update 2005*, the new stakeholder approach for *Update 2009*, key activities and content, and the upcoming work products and meeting schedule. [For details, see pages 10-11 in the Workbook].

Products, Meetings, and Schedule

The following Water Plan reports are mandated by the Water Code:

- **December 2007** – Release Draft Assumptions & Estimates Report for public review
- **December 2008** – Release the Public Review Draft of Water Plan Update 2009 including Final Assumptions & Estimates Report
- **December 2009** – Release Final Water Plan Update 2009 after holding public comment workshops and incorporating changes

Group Discussion:

There were several comments expressing concern about the change in the process from *Update 2005* – specifically the restructuring of the AC into a smaller (albeit more diverse) group of

statewide-only interests. There was concern that the new AC format might not include certain regional interests, reduce some of the creativity relative to a larger group, and places greater individual responsibility on AC members. There were also comments in favor of the new AC format, saying that the previous AC was too large and unwieldy. There was also a suggestion that insurance industry be invited to participate since that have a stake in floodplain management.

Kamyar Guivetchi responded that DWR had put considerable thought into the process design and participation. DWR is looking for ways to expand membership to include all necessary interest groups, through either the AC or other venues. The intent is to find every opportunity to bring people together in ways that make the most of their contributions. Feedback from regional outreach workshops and technical workshops will be brought back to the statewide AC. In the last process, because there was no specific technical group such as the SWAN, technical issues all went to the AC. However, many AC members did not feel comfortable with technical information and asked for a technical advisory group to send their questions for analysis. Most of the analytical work in the last process was done in public workshops, where boundaries were flexible and anyone with an interest could participate. Because they worked so well, it is anticipated that *Update 2009* will continue the tradition of open technical workshops.

The Water Plan's Tribal outreach process was still under development. Barbara Cross, DWR Tribal Liaison reported that DWR was working closely with the California Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The NAHC had suggested talking to tribes by tribal regions on a parallel track to the regional outreach workshops. Kamyar Guivetchi invited and encouraged AC members to help work with the Steering Committee on effective ways to engage California tribes. It was important to engage tribes quickly because of the limited window of opportunity for tribes to participate in the IRWM planning process to become eligible for Proposition 50 and 84 IRWM grants.

Introduction to the AC Charter

The AC members were given copies of a draft Charter document that provided definition, protocol, and structure to their role as a consensus-seeking advisory body to DWR. The AC had a chance to review the Charter further the following day.

DAY 2

(Workbook pp. 12-13)

Mission, Vision, Goals, and Guiding Principles

As a starting point for the next Water Plan, Kamyar Guivetchi briefly presented the Mission, Vision, Goals, and Guiding Principles from *Update 2005* (included on pages 12-13 in the workbook). Beginning with *Update 2005*, the Water Plan was organized around a strategic planning framework consistent with the California Department of Finance's guidelines. The AC had small table group discussions to discuss the Mission, Vision, Goals, and Guiding Principles.

Group Reports

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

- Coordination, integration, and synthesis of the different planning efforts throughout the state, including flood management plans, IRWMPs, and watershed plans.
- Affordability of water for all Californians.
- Investigation, mitigation, and adaptation to climate change impacts.
- Enhancement of public health and safety, especially concerning flood management.
- Extension of future time horizon for planning projections beyond year 2030; they should also be tied to the Department of Finance's population projections.
- Avoidance of the term "flood control" because we cannot control flood events. Instead use the term "flood management" or "floodplain management"

There were a few specific suggestions:

- In Goal #3: include "suburban" development with urban development
- Rewrite the Goal #4: "Natural resource and land use planners make coordinated and informed decisions on flood control, water quality, water supply and water management."
- Add as a new goal: "Planning and decisions are made in the context of future uncertainty, including, population growth, climate change, emerging conditions, and emerging water quality concerns."
- Add or incorporate into the Guiding Principles: Increase climate change preparedness by quantifying a broad range of future scenarios.

A concern was raised about the short-term integration of the next California Flood Plan and *Update 2009* since they are on different time scales. There was general agreement that the Flood Plan and the Water Plan should be integrated over the long term.

Recap of Update 2005 AC: The "AC View"

Larry Rohlfes, *Update 2005* AC alumnus and a current AC representative from the California Landscape Contractors Association, gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled, "The AC View" (available on the website). Mr. Rohlfes described lessons learned from his experiences as a

member of the *Update 2005 AC*. The *AC View* was a key document that the AC produced at the end of their process. The *AC View* which explained items the *Update 2005 AC* mostly agreed about, describes where they did not agree, and notes the places where the AC still had questions.

Key Activities and Content for Update 2009

(Workbook pp. 14)

Activities and Content

Kamyar Guivetchi gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Activities and Content.” (available on the website, download for details).

The Water Plan Steering Committee will build on the strategic planning framework and content from *Update 2005*, as informed by AC, Regional Workshops & Forums, Statewide Water Analysis Network, federal agencies, and tribal governments. *Update 2009* will draw from these main activities:

1. Evaluate progress on Update 2005 & Revise the Strategic Plan
2. Update the Future Scenarios & develop Response Packages
3. Quantify Climate Change impacts & recommend Adaptation Actions
4. Update & Expand 12 Regional Reports
5. Update 25 Resource Management Strategies
6. Add Water Portfolio data for 5 years: 1999, 2002 – 2005
7. Improve Analytical Tools, Data & Data Exchange

Climate Change and the California Water Plan

John Andrew, DWR, gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Climate Change and the California Water Plan Update 2009” (available on the website). Climate change in Policy Recommendation #10 of *Update 2009* and was the 2nd-most frequently cited issue of concern to the Water Plan Steering Committee agencies, after water quality. The Climate Change Technical Advisory Group (TAG) will provide climate change-related technical input to the Water Plan, including on scenario development.

Formed in January 2007, the Climate Change TAG is composed of technical experts from various institutions, many of whom have international reorganization. While the Climate Action Team (CAT) is the State’s main approach for climate change policy (particularly mitigation strategies), the Climate Change TAG will closely coordinate with them and focus on climate change adaptation policies for California water management.

Key Deliverables for Climate Change TAG:

- Coordinate with Governor’s Climate Action Team and next CAT report update
- Coordinate with DWR climate change matrix team
- Incorporate climate change into scenarios
- Recommend climate change adaptation strategies for California water management

Group Discussion:

The AC raised the following concerns:

- Uncertainty of rate of sea level rise
- Methane emissions from hydroelectric facilities
- Use of the term “climate change” instead of “global warming”
- Poor quality of data on regulated air pollution emissions prior to 1990

John Andrew responded that the Climate Change TAG was considering all these aspects of climate change on water. Mr. Andrew said that there was a scarcity of scientific literature on the greenhouse gas emissions from reservoirs and hydroelectric facilities. The CAT and Climate Change TAG are aware of the limitations of the air quality historical data.

Improving Analytical Capabilities of the California Water Plan

Rich Juricich, DWR, gave a PowerPoint presentation entitled “Improving Analytical Capabilities of the California Water Plan” (available on the website). Mr. Juricich described DWR’s new planning approach and quantitative deliverables for *Update 2009*. DWR has organized the Statewide Water Analysis Network (SWAN), a statewide network of people to improve California’s analytical capabilities in support of water management decisions and investments.

Group Discussion:

An AC member asked if there was a statewide effort to have regions report their data for the state Water Plan. Mr. Juricich responded that the Water Plan was moving in a direction to support integrated regional planning and to provide tools to be used by the regions to collect data that could be rolled up into statewide planning. Another question was asked about *Update 2009*’s time horizon for future scenarios; Mr. Juricich responded that the time horizon had yet to be determined. Interest was also expressed in the Urban Water Management Plan (UWMP) / California Water Plan Integration pilot study.

Update 2005 “Parking Lot” and Steering Committee Agency Issues and Initiatives

AC members reviewed two handouts, the “Parking Lot Topics from Update 2005” and the “Water Plan Steering Committee Issues and Initiatives.” The “Parking Lot” was a list of unresolved topics that had been identified by the *Update 2005* AC at the end of the last process. The “Steering Committee Issues and Initiatives” were a list of water-related items of particular interest to the 17 state agencies on the Water Plan Steering Committee. Rather than take up meeting time discussing the Parking Lot Topics and Steering Committee’s issues and initiatives, the group decided to have DWR staff to reorganize and “triage” the Parking Lot Topics list according to the following code:

1. Need for information
2. We are doing it
3. Considering doing it
4. Still in Parking Lot
5. Not doing it because...

DWR staff will report back at the next AC meeting.

Reviewing Update 2005's 14 Policy Recommendations

(Workbook pp. 15-16)

During a working lunch, the AC broke into a “marketplace” exercise session where they reviewed the 14 policy recommendations from *Update 2005* at different display booths. All 14 policy recommendations had been negotiated and unanimously approved by the *Update 2005* AC. The each booth had a DWR staff subject matter expert who they could discuss the recommendations and give feedback.

Group Discussion:

Following the marketplace exercise, AC members raised several comments and concerns regarding the 14 policy recommendations:

- Uncertainty about CALFED's current and future status and role, especially with the Delta Vision Blue Ribbon task Force process taking place.
- Status of the “Delta Smelt Action Plan” (actions continue to evolve)
- Need to build capacity for regional watershed governance structures
- Need for State leadership and guidance for the IRWMP regions

Regional Outreach: Goals, Ideas, Content Ideas

(Workbook
pp. 17-18)

Paul Dabbs, DWR, and Judie Talbot, CCP, presented the Water Plan's regional outreach strategy (see workbook pages 17-18 for details). Water Plan staff will hold its first series of 9 regional workshops in the June, July, and August of 2007. Each workshop would be targeted to the specific regions. An inter-regional forum will tentatively take place in Ontario in September or October 2007 where people from all regions would gather to discuss their issues. DWR's District Offices are taking the lead on organizing the workshops. Two more series of regional workshops will take place in Winter 2008 and Spring 2009. The AC was encouraged to assist with promoting and hosting the workshops.

The AC expressed general support for the regional outreach strategy, but they did raise concerns about how much could be accomplished in the 3.5 hour workshop format. The AC was also concerned about how environmental justice concerns would be addressed. There was also a comment that the Water Plan, besides collecting input from regions, should also tell regions what it needs from them.

Charter Follow-Up

The group agreed to review the draft AC Charter and revisit it for approval at the next AC meeting.

Press Release

The AC agreed to have a “press releases,” or a brief summary of what happened at the AC meeting. Steve Macaulay, AC member from CUWA, offered to draft a 1-page summary and share it with DWR staff.

Closing Thoughts

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

Next AC Meeting: August 16-17, 2007

Attendance:

Advisory Committee Members and Alternates (34):

Ted Allured, California County Planning Commissioners Association
Patrick Stoner, Local Government Commission
David Bolland, Association of California Water Agencies
Diana Brooks, Division of Ratepayer Advocates, California PUC
James Crouch, California Rural Indian Health Board
Terry Erlewine, State Water Contractors
Justin Fredrickson, California Farm Bureau Federation
Jack Hawks, California Water Association
Michael Jackson, California Sportsfishing Alliance
Paul Klein, WateReuse Association
Steve LaMar, California Building Industry Association
Mary Lee Knecht, California Watershed Network
Bob Lucas, California Council for Environmental & Economic Balance
Steve Macaulay, California Urban Water Agencies
Kathy Mannion, Regional Council of Rural Counties
Jim Metropulos, Sierra Club California
Jonas Minton, Planning and Conservation League
Gary Mulcahy, Environmental Justice Coalition for Water
Larry Rohlfs, California Landscape Contractors Association
Betsy Reifsneider, Friends of the River
Kyra Ross, League of California Cities
Terry Schmidtbauer, California Council of Environmental Health Directors
Rusty Selix, California Council of Governments
Katie Shulte Jounq, California Urban Water Conservation Council

Jack Sullivan, League of Women Voters
Patrick Stoner, Local Government Commission
Susan Tatayon, The Nature Conservancy
Ed Thompson, American Farmland Trust
Iovanka Todt, Floodplain Management Association
Patrick Truman, California Association of Resource Conservation District
Chris Unkel, Ducks Unlimited
Michael Wade, California Farm Water Coalition
Bill Wagoner, WateReuse Association
Dawn White, California Water Association

Others (31):

Lisa Beutler, California State University, Sacramento, Center for Collaborative Policy (CCP)
Jeannie Blakeslee, California Department of Conservation
Jim Cornwell, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
Mark Cowin, DWR
Barbara Cross, DWR
Fred Curry, CPUC
Paul Dabbs, DWR
Gretchen Goettl, DWR
Kamyar Guivetchi, DWR
Elizabeth Haven, State Water Resources Control Board
Valerie Holcomb, DWR
Rich Juricich, DWR
Uzunma Kas-Osoka, Stoel Rives
Chris Keithley,
Jennifer Kofoid, DWR
Seth Litchney, Governor's Office of Planning and Research
Jennifer Makk, URS Corporation
Liz Mansfield, EID
Scott Matyac, DWR
John S. Mills, Plumas County
Lewis Moeller, DWR
Elizabeth Patterson, DWR
Michael Perrone, DWR
Cathy Pieroni, City of San Diego
Maury Roos, DWR
KT Shum, EBMUD
David Sumi, CCP
Judie Talbot, CCP
Ken Trott, CDFG
Tomi Van de Brooke, California Alliance for Jobs
Gary Yamamoto, California Department of Health Services