

Process Guide

California Water Plan Update 2009

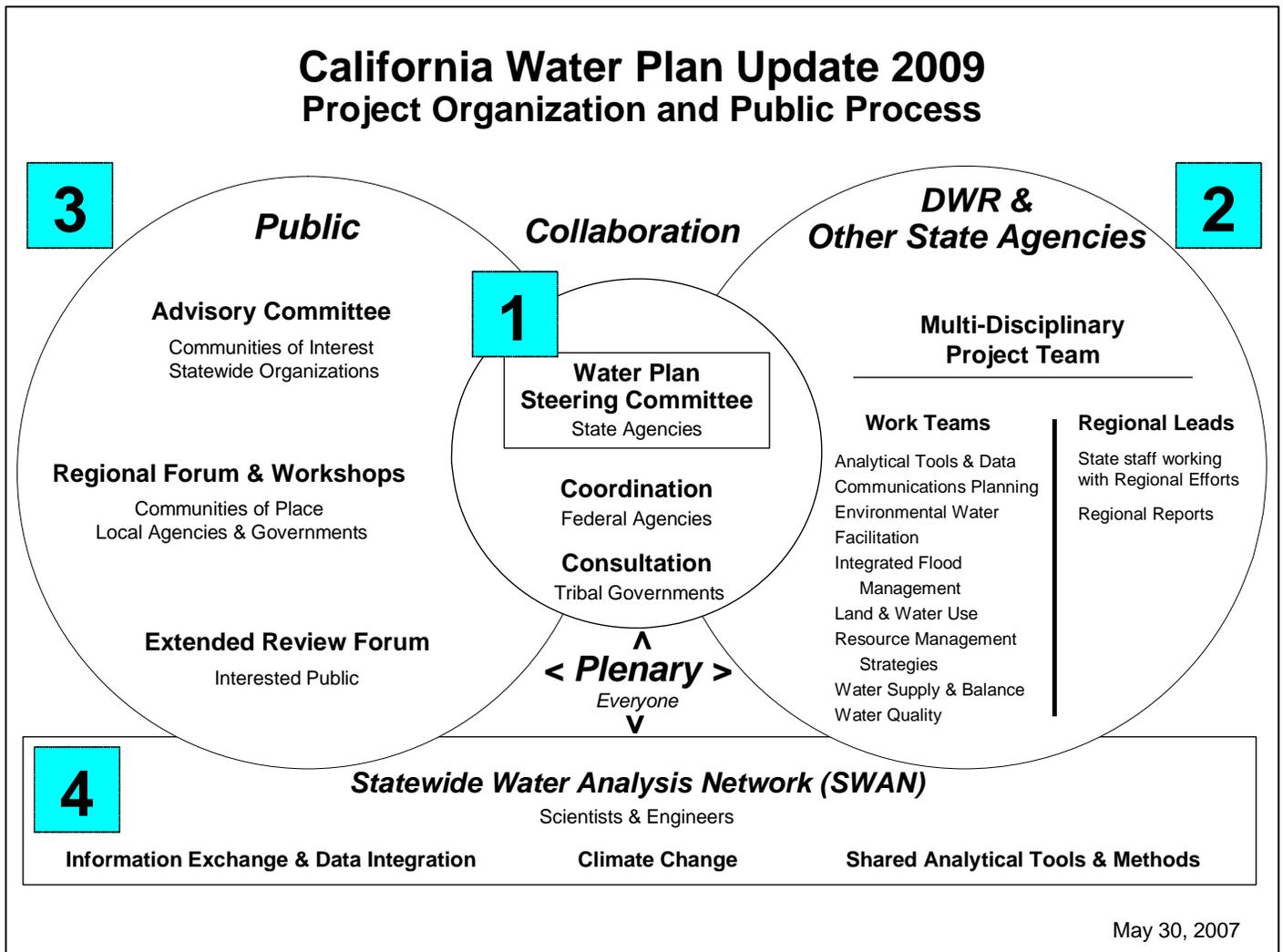
This guide explains the project organization and public process design for preparing the California Water Plan Update 2009. It builds on the planning framework, lessons, and accomplishments of *Water Plan Update 2005*. The diagram below illustrates four components of the process. Three overlapping circles depict the participants, relationships, and information exchange between and among the participants, namely government agencies, tribal governments, and statewide, regional and local stakeholders. The box beneath the circles represents the technical experts, information, and science supporting the update. Plenary meetings tie them together.

Circle (1) Collaboration

Circle (2) California Department of Water Resources and Other State Agencies

Circle (3) Public

Box (4) Statewide Water Analysis Network (SWAN)



May 30, 2007

Circle 1 –Collaboration

The **Collaboration Circle** shows that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) will partner with other State agencies, coordinate with federal agencies, and consult with tribal governments, to update the California Water Plan. A newly-formed State agency Steering Committee will guide the update process. Working closely with a public Advisory Committee, ongoing regional water planning collaboratives, and the Statewide Water Analysis Network, the Steering Committee will ensure that the Water Plan addresses State, federal, tribal, and regional issues and initiatives, and that it is based on sound science and information. Representatives of member groups will seek consensus through regular participation at meetings, continuous communication, and collaborative planning, facilitated by public policy mediators.

- The **Water Plan Steering Committee**, comprised of the following State agencies, departments, boards and commissions, will provide policy input, oversight, and program management. Committee members have sufficient authority to represent their agencies and allocate staff and resources to Water Plan activities as appropriate. As committee chair, DWR is responsible for providing administrative and logistical support and for completing Water Plan Updates as required by Water Code (§10004 -- §10013).

<i>Boating & Waterways</i>	<i>Forestry & Fire Protection</i>
<i>Business, Transportation & Housing</i>	<i>Health Services</i>
<i>Cal/Environmental Protection Agency</i>	<i>Native American Heritage Commission</i>
<i>CALFED Bay-Delta Program</i>	<i>Parks & Recreation</i>
<i>California Energy Commission</i>	<i>Office of Planning & Research</i>
<i>California Public Utilities Commission</i>	<i>Resources Agency</i>
<i>Conservation</i>	<i>State Lands Commission</i>
<i>Fish & Game</i>	<i>State Water Resources Control Board</i>
<i>Food & Agriculture</i>	<i>Water Resources</i>

- **Federal Coordination and Tribal Consultation** involves the Water Plan Steering Committee seeking policy input and information for the Water Plan Update from federal agencies and tribal governments and their representatives. The Steering Committee will convey their input to the Advisory Committee.

<i>California Rural Indian Health Board</i>	<i>US Environmental Protection Agency</i>
<i>Inter-Tribal Council of California</i>	<i>US Fish and Wildlife Service</i>
<i>US Bureau of Indian Affairs</i>	<i>US Forest Service</i>
<i>Regional Tribal Operations Committee</i>	<i>US Geological Survey</i>
<i>US Army Corps of Engineers</i>	<i>US National Marine Fisheries Service</i>
<i>US Bureau of Reclamation</i>	<i>US Natural Resource Conservation Service</i>
<i>US Department of Agriculture</i>	<i>Others (with role in California water)</i>

Circle 2 - DWR and Other State Agencies

The **DWR & Other State Agencies Circle** represents the core staff responsible for developing the Water Plan Update. The Project Team consists of inter-disciplinary staffs from DWR's Statewide Water Planning and four District offices, other DWR divisions, and staffs from State agencies and their regional offices as needed. The Project Team includes a Facilitation Team to manage the public process and help interaction among the different groups.

- The **Project Team** comprises DWR and other State agency staffs working on the Water Plan Update. It is an interdisciplinary team that draws upon the wide range of scientific, technical, and administrative skills within DWR and partnering State agencies.
- **Work Teams** consist of topic-specific subject matter experts from DWR and other State agencies, including their district/regional offices, as well as facilitators. Work Team Leads will convene as a group on a regular basis to plan and manage work assignments.

- **Regional Leads** are liaisons from district/regional offices of DWR and other State agencies with regional water planning efforts. The Regional Leads will compile information on regional water issues and planning needs for the Water Plan's Regional Reports.

Circle 3 - Public

The **Public Circle** acknowledges DWR's commitment to an open and transparent process that seeks participation and deliberative input from stakeholders and the general public. An evolution from Water Plan Update 2005, the Advisory Committee for the next update will focus on statewide policy issues and initiatives, while regional coordination and in-depth technical discussions are delegated to other work groups.

- The **Advisory Committee** is comprised of a cross-section of diverse stakeholders. It is a consensus-seeking group of statewide organizations to represent communities of interest.
- The **Regional Forum and Workshops** will encourage regionally-based water collaboratives to work closely with the Steering Committee and Advisory Committee on Integrated Regional Water Management initiatives. DWR will conduct numerous regional workshops to inform the Water Plan Update about communities of place and their regional water issues and management strategies. Annually, regional collaboratives will be invited to a Regional Forum to discuss regional issues having statewide impacts, "place-based" water issues such as data availability, lessons learned, and best management practices.
- The **Extended Review Forum** provides the opportunity for people to follow the Water Plan process without direct involvement in work activities. Extended Review Forum members will receive regular information updates and public meeting notices from DWR.
- **Public Outreach** will be achieved by using a variety of communication means and involving all those participating in the Water Plan process. Within the multi-disciplinary Project Team, the Communications Planning Work Team will develop and implement a communications plan and outreach tools. Information will be available on the Water Plan Web Portal, at publicly noticed meetings and workshops, and through e-mail announcements.

Box 4 - Statewide Water Analysis Network (SWAN)

The **Statewide Water Analysis Network (SWAN)** box shows that the Water Plan will leverage the technical skills, professional interests, and scientific knowledge of various organizations and individuals. SWAN is a voluntary network of scientists and engineers from the public, private, and non-governmental sectors who collaborate to improve California's water analytical capabilities and to inform water management decisions and investments. Through SWAN, experts can volunteer to participate in issue-oriented meetings and workshops. Members from various interagency Work Teams will lead, manage, and participate in related SWAN activities.

Much of the technical work for the Water Plan will be conducted within the SWAN. Technical information and recommendations from SWAN will be presented to the Steering and Advisory committees. SWAN will review and recommend analytical tools, data, and information exchange methods needed for the next Water Plan Update to evaluate future scenarios, current agricultural and urban water uses and supplies, climate change impacts and responses, energy-water relationships, environmental water concepts and needs, future supplies and demands, and statewide water data needs and assumptions.

Plenary (All Participants)

About once a year, participants from all Water Plan activities will gather at a Plenary Meeting to exchange information on various Water Plan activities as they are being developed, and to coordinate future work.

Activities and Content

The Water Plan Steering Committee will build on the strategic planning framework, recommendations, and content developed for *Water Plan Update 2005*, as informed by the public Advisory Committee, Regional Workshops & Forums, Statewide Water Analysis Network, federal agencies, and tribal governments. This work includes tracking and reporting progress on action plan items associated with *Update 2005*'s 14 recommendations. The next Water Plan Update will derive from the following key activities:

1. Review and revise as needed the vision, mission, and goals of the Water Plan, and update its initiatives, recommendations, and actions. This includes addressing "AC Parking Lot" topics from *Update 2005*, updating the Water Plan stakeholder/customer survey, and incorporating issues and initiatives from Steering Committee members.
2. Develop multiple scenarios of future California water conditions, and use them to evaluate different combinations of resource management strategies for a range of water demand and supply assumptions.
3. Develop climate change scenarios to evaluate impacts on California's water resources and water systems, and to recommend statewide and regional adaptation strategies.
4. Update the Regional Reports for the 10 Hydrologic Regions, and for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Mountain Counties as areas of special concern. Use information gained through the regional outreach process to describe critical issues, initiatives, and the effectiveness of regional planning efforts.
5. Update the 25 Resource Management Strategies.
6. Estimate and present actual water uses, supplies, and quality (Water Portfolios) for water years 1998 through 2005. Improve methods for representing consumptive and non-consumptive environmental water uses, and where reuse of water is occurring.
7. Improve information exchange, conceptual models, and analytical tools.

Products and Schedule

The activities described above will result in a number of interim products that will be incorporated in the next California Water Plan Update, such as Water Portfolios, Future Scenarios, Regional Reports, Resource Management Strategies, and Implementation Plan.

The following Water Plan reports are mandated by the Water Code every five years:

- 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

The Water Code currently requires completing Final Water Plan Updates every five years in years ending in 3 and 8. However, because the last update was completed in 2005, the proposed completion dates are one year later than the Water Code due dates. Even so, the Public Review Draft (a substantial report including draft policy recommendations) will be available to the Legislature and public by the end of 2008 (the currently mandated due date); and the Final Water Plan Update will be released by the end of 2009, only four years after Update 2005. And by keeping the subsequent update cycle to four years, the ensuing Final Water Plan will be released in 2013 as required.