

# California **Water Plan** Highlights

## California Water Plan Overview

### *Integration of Sustainability Indicators*

INTEGRATED WATER MANAGEMENT



Update 2009 • Department of Water Resources

Sustainability Indicators  
Workshop  
August 24, 2011

# Questions Relevant to the Water Plan

What is sustainability with respect to integrated water management?

What are California's integrated water management sustainability objectives?

What resource management strategies or policies should be implemented in pursuit of objectives?

How will we know if/when we are on track to meeting sustainability objectives?

# Water Plan Update 2009

*A Foundation for  
Developing Sustainability Indicators*

# Update 2009 – State's Blueprint Integrated Water Management & Sustainability

## VISION

- Public Health, Safety, Quality of Life
- Vitality, Productivity, Economic Growth
- Healthy Ecosystem, Cultural Heritage

### Foundational Actions for **SUSTAINABLE WATER USES**

- Use Water Efficiently
- Protect Water Quality
- Expand Environmental Stewardship

### Initiatives for **RELIABLE WATER SUPPLIES**

- Expand Integrated Regional Water Management
- Improve Statewide Water and Flood Management Systems

# Strategic Plan Elements

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➤ Desired future for CA water & Purpose of Water Plan

Vision & Mission

➤ Desired outcomes for the 2050 planning horizon

7 Goals

➤ Core values & philosophies

10 Guiding Principles

➤ Statements of intent / Focus on what & when

13 Objectives & 115+ Actions

➤ Removing impediments & leveraging opportunities

9 Recommendations

# Water Plan Update 2013

## *Integration of Sustainability Indicators*

# Water Plan Components

## *With Sustainability Indicator Nexus*

- Strategic Plan
- Regional Reports
- Future Scenarios
- Resource Management Strategies
- Companion State Plans
- Update 2013 Finance Plan
- CA Water Management Progress Report

# Strategic Plan

## Relevance to Sustainability Indicators

- Update 2009 Strategic Plan informed Update 2013 sustainability work plan and priorities
- Update 2009 includes 13 objectives; all of which are related to sustainably managing water-related resources
- High-level sustainability policy recommendations will be published in Update 2013 Strategic Plan

**California Vision 2050: The Desired Future for Water**

*California 2050 sets out a strategic path to managing our water resources in a way that provides reliable and clean water supplies for all beneficial uses today and for generations.*

**Desired future for California water**  
 California has healthy watersheds and integrated, reliable and secure water resources and management systems that:

- enhance public health, safety, and quality of life as all its communities;
- sustain economic growth, business vitality, and agricultural productivity; and
- protect and restore California's unique biological diversity, ecological values, and cultural heritage.

**Desired outcomes over the planning horizon 2050**

1. California has water supplies that are adequate, reliable, secure, affordable, sustainable, and of suitable quality for beneficial uses to protect, preserve, and enhance watersheds, ecosystems, and environmental and agricultural resources.
2. State government supports integrated water resources planning and management through leadership, oversight, and public financing.
3. Regional and interregional partnerships play a pivotal role as California water resources planning, water management for sustainable water use and resources, and increasing regional self-sufficiency.
4. State resource and local use planners make informed and collaborative decisions and implement integrated actions to increase water supply reliability, use water more efficiently, protect water quality, improve flood protection, promote environmental stewardship, and ensure environmental justice in light of drivers of change and emerging risks.
5. California is prepared for the climate necessary by developing adaptation strategies and providing a diverse set of actions that reduce the risk and consequences posed by climate change, that make the systems more resilient to change, and that increase the sustainability of water and flood management systems and the ecosystems they depend on.
6. Integrated flood management, as a part of integrated water management increases flood protection, improves riparianity and emergency response, enhances floodplain connectivity, and promotes sustainable flood management systems.
7. The benefits and consequences of water decisions and access to state government resources are equitable across all communities.

**Purpose of the Water Plan**  
 Updating the California Water Plan provides state, federal, Tribal, regional, and local governments and organizations a continuous strategic planning forum to collaboratively:

- Reassess strategic goals, objectives, and near-term and long-term actions that would conserve, manage, develop, and restore California's watersheds, water resources, and management systems.
- Prepare response plans for floods, droughts, and catastrophic events that would threaten water resources and management systems, the environment, property, and the health, welfare and livelihood of the people of California; and
- Evaluate current and future watershed and water conditions, challenges, and opportunities.

**Core values and philosophies / How to make decisions**

1. Use a broad, stakeholder-based, long-range perspective for water management.
2. Promote management for sustainable resources on a watershed basis.
3. Increase regional drought and flood preparedness.
4. Increase regional self-sufficiency.
5. Promote regional coordination and collaboration among local governments and agencies, public and private organizations, and Tribal governments and Tribal communities.
6. Determine values for economic, environmental, and social benefits, costs, and tradeoffs to base investment decisions on sustainability indicators.
7. Incorporate future flexibility, uncertainties, and risk in the decision-making process.
8. Apply California's water rights laws, including the longstanding constitutional principle of reasonable use and public trust, as the foundation for public policy, making, planning, and management decisions on California water resources.
9. Promote environmental justice - the fair treatment of people of all races, cultures, and incomes.
10. Use science, best data, and local and indigenous peoples' knowledge as a transparent and documented process.

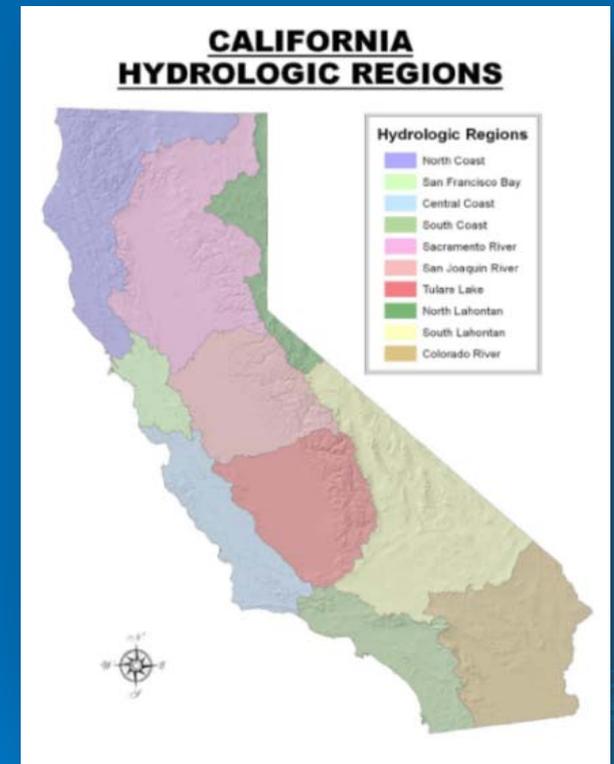
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# *Regional Reports*

## Relevance to Sustainability Indicators

- Articulation of information, data, challenges, opportunities and regional resource management objectives
- Resource management conditions, challenges, proposals and priorities will be described in regional reports
- Ensure regionally relevant solutions

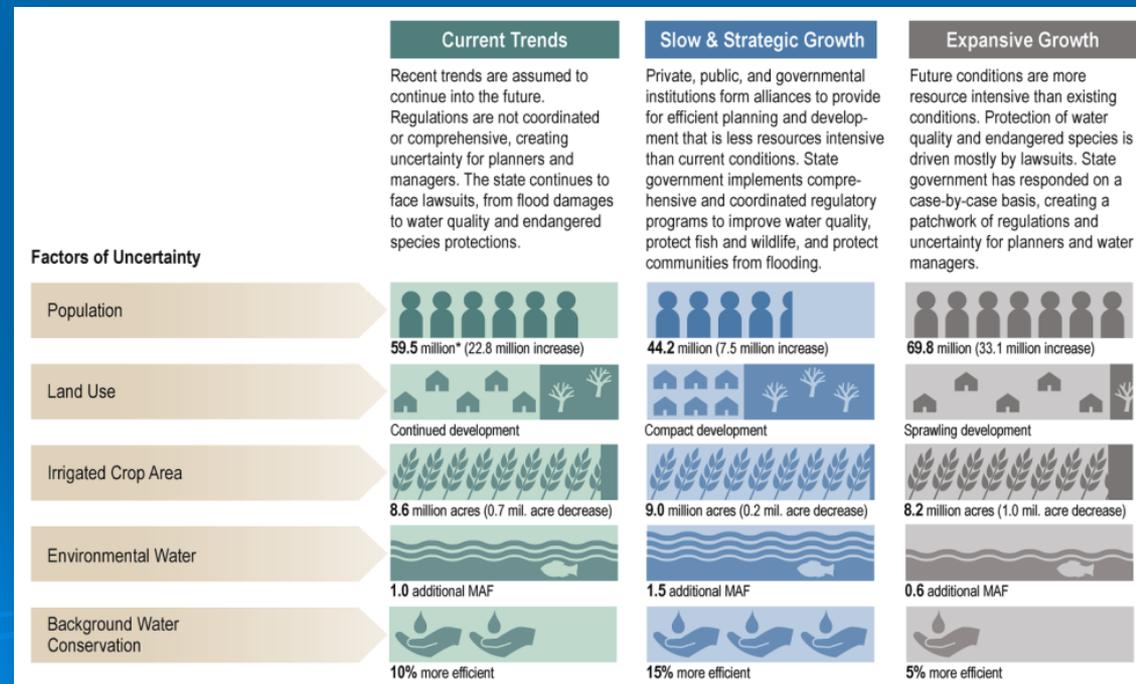


# Water Plan Update *Future Scenarios*

## Relevance to Sustainability Indicators

Multiple plausible sets of future conditions that can affect the necessity for (and performance of) management strategies

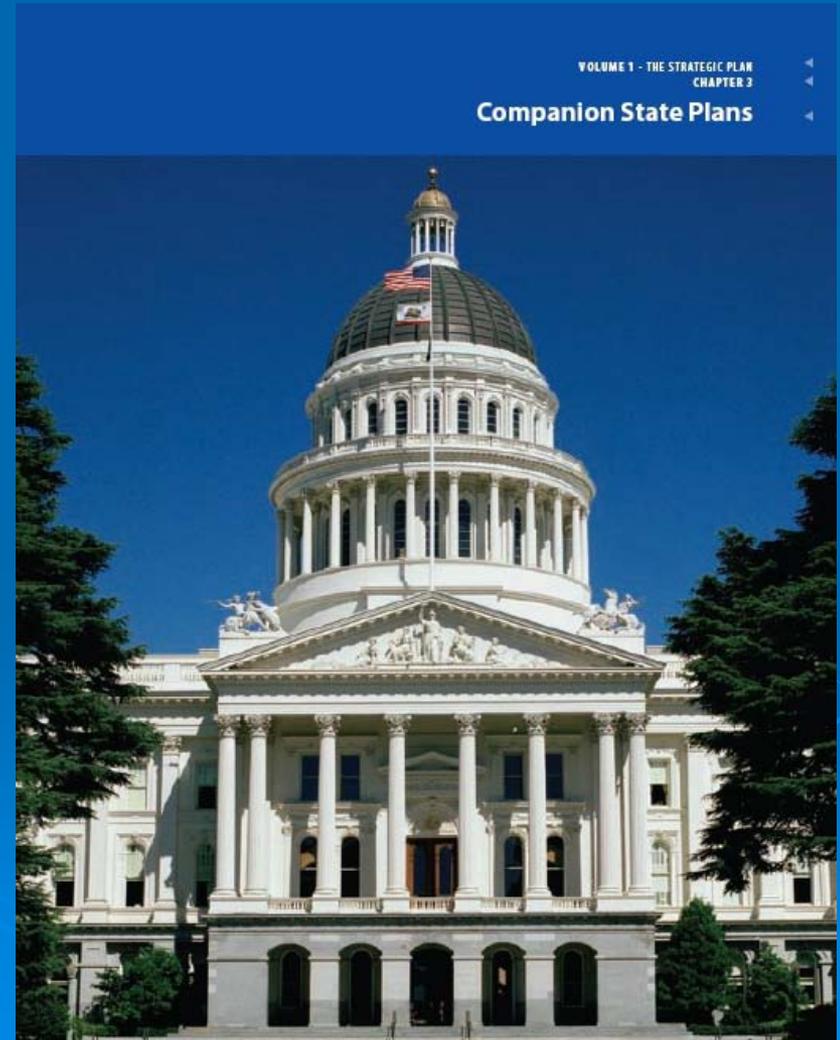
Used to assess trade-offs and resiliency of resource management strategy packages to guide action and policy recommendations





# *State and Federal Companion Plans* Relevance to Sustainability Indicators

- ❁ Coordination and consolidation of state actions and policies that relate to sustainability
- ❁ Aligning sustainability indicators can support common performance tracking method/language
- ❁ Water Plan process engages 30 State agencies



# *Finance Planning*

## Relevance to Sustainability Indicators

“Determine values for economic, environmental, and social benefits, costs, and tradeoffs to base investment decisions on sustainability indicators.”

- *One of the Guiding Principles of Water Plan Update 2009-*

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# *Finance Planning*

## Relevance to Sustainability Indicators

- Update 2013 will include a new financial planning feature that will report on the costs and finance recommendations for achieving sustainability objectives

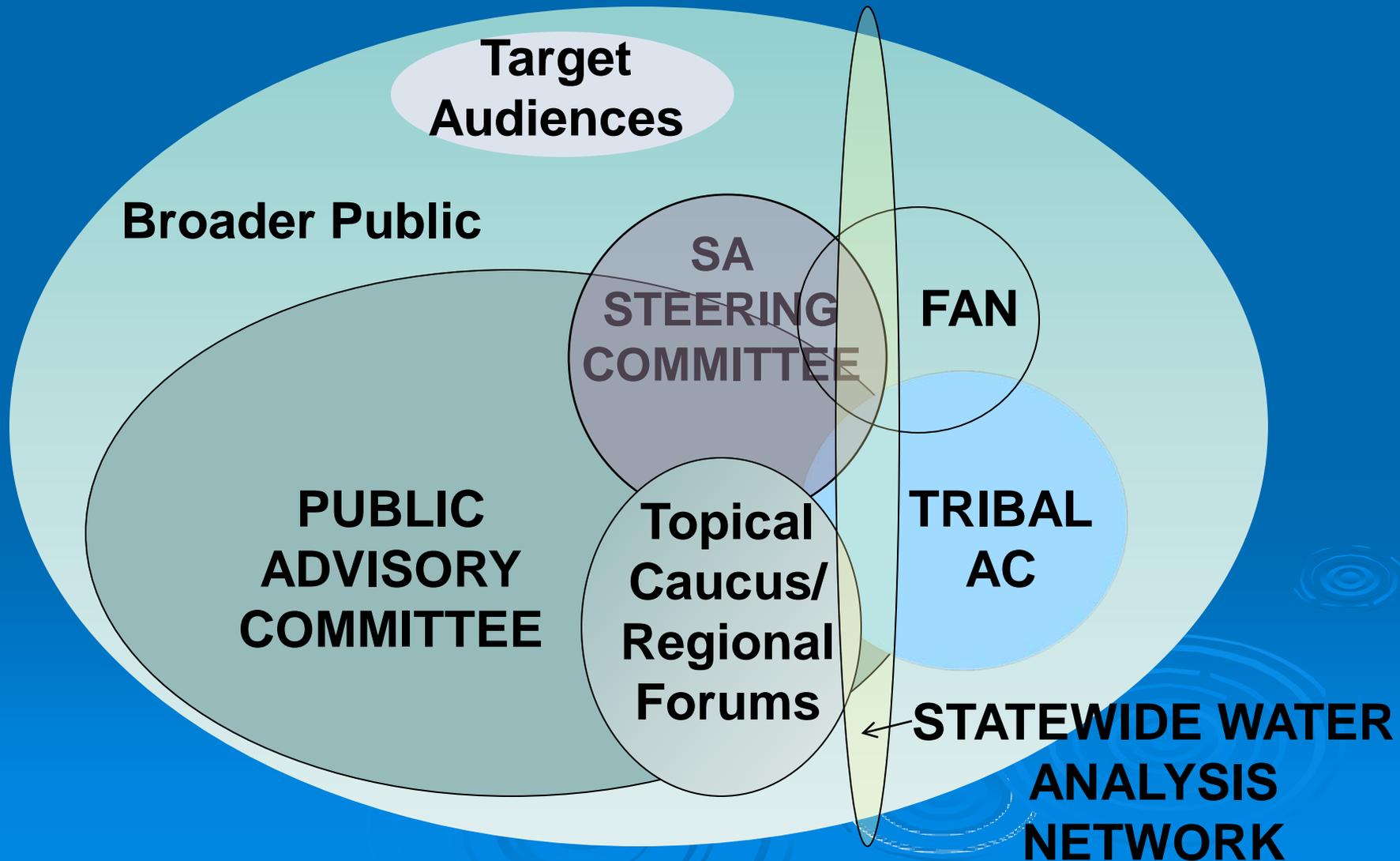


# Water Management Progress Report Relevance to Sustainability Indicators

- Update 2013 will report on whether , and to what extent, Update 2009 recommendations are being implemented
- Update 2018 and beyond; will seek to integrate measureable indicators to track whether targeted benefits are actually occurring



# Update 2013 Collaboration Venues



# Ways to Access Water Plan Information

- Visit the *Water Plan Web Portal* [www.waterplan.water.ca.gov](http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov)



- Subscribe to *Water Plan eNews* a weekly electronic newsletter [www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/enews](http://www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/enews)