

Next Steps for the Sacramento and San Joaquin Basins Study

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Next Steps – Drivers

Of all climate impacts identified in this Basins Study, two impacts have the greatest potential consequences for water management:

- **Earlier runoff.** Warming conditions cause earlier runoff in mountain regions surrounding the Central Valley forcing earlier discharge due to the flood rule curves in effect for each reservoir.
- **Sea Level Rise.** Sea level rise has been called a “slow emergency” and may significantly impact the Sacramento –San Joaquin Delta by increasing risks to water delivery, water quality and Delta ecosystems.

Current & Ongoing Activities

➤ WaterSMART

- Reclamation's WaterSMART program, grants to water districts have been made to increase water use efficiency and water recycling.

➤ Planning Studies

- Work with partners to share Basins Study result and tools to address climate impacts and develop adaptation strategies.

➤ California Landscape Conservation Cooperative

- Work with the USFWS and other Federal, State, and stakeholder partners to develop a comprehensive framework identifying knowledge gaps, research priorities and new information on climate changes impacts on ecological resources.

Next Steps – Improving Data & Information

- Refine and analyze the portfolio management actions to identify and resolve any uncertainties regarding effectiveness and efficiency.
- Explore and pursue opportunities to climate projections and enhance planning tools
- Further investigate costs, permitting issues, and energy needs relating to potential water management actions.
- Participate in a long-term cooperative framework with stakeholders, partners and other agencies that sustains a wide-range of activities that benefit water users by addressing climate changes.

Next Steps - Water Management Actions

- **Institutional Flexibility** - Work cooperatively with the Army Corps of Engineers to evaluate adaptive management of flood rule curves for reservoirs.
- **Water Demand** - Investigate continued improvements in water use efficiencies to support Reclamation programs such as WaterSMART Grants and Title XVI projects.
- **Water Quality** - Develop and refine of modeling tools to improve water management responses to meet State and Federal water quality criteria as climate changes.
- **Forest Health** - Work with Western Watershed Enhancement Partnership (WWEP) and the U.S. Forest Service to reduce wildfires, preserve forest health and assist in forest thinning to augment snowpack retention and runoff.
- **Groundwater & Conjunctive Use** - Improve analyses of current and future groundwater conditions, including recently initiated state groundwater regulations.
- **Water Deliveries** - Cooperate with the State of California in their investigation and planning for the California WaterFix.

Climate Change Adaptation Strategies and Insights

Sacramento-San Joaquin Basins Study

Discussion

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Study Information

- **Reclamation's Basin Study Program Website**
 - <http://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/bsp/>
 - **Sacramento-San Joaquin Basins Study**
 - Summary Report, Technical Report & Appendices
 - **Sacramento-San Joaquin Climate Impact Assessment**
- **Sacramento and San Joaquin Basins Study Website**
 - <http://www.usbr.gov/mp/SSJBasinStudy.html>
 - **Public information related to Study**
 - **Downloadable reports available**
 - **Public meetings are archived on the site**
- **Additional Information, Questions, and/or Comments**
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