Strategies for the Future of Integrated Regional Water Management in California

May 27, 2015
10 ACTIONs of the California Water Action Plan

1. Make conservation a California way of life.
2. Increase regional self-reliance and integrated water management across all levels of government.
3. Achieve the coequal goals for the Delta.
4. Protect and restore important ecosystems.
5. Manage and prepare for dry periods.
6. Expand water storage capacity and improve groundwater management.
7. Provide safe water for all communities.
8. Increase flood protection.
9. Increase operational and regulatory efficiency.
10. Identify sustainable and integrated financing opportunities.
Integrated Regional Water Management

IRWM is rooted in the principle of local and regional control

Local water managers working together, are best suited and best positioned to manage water resources in their region.
The plan is based on stakeholder input

Scoping exercises
Two rounds of public workshops
Assessment of existing conditions
Conference discussions
Interviews
What we learned early in the process...

There is a strong sense that the practice of IRWM has begun to plateau

IRWM may be unsustainable over the long term in some areas
What Does This Plan Do?

**informs** the California Legislature about suggested statutory changes needed to help sustain IRWM and informs the general public about the importance of IRWM and what is needed to ensure its future.

**guides** DWR’s actions for improving its support of IRWM.

**recommends** alignment measures for government agencies at all levels to support IRWM.

**identifies** options for regional water management groups and local agencies to improve the practice of IRWM.
As the plan is currently conceived...

Embrace IRWM and Share its Values and Successes

Official Recognition — Information Sharing — Education

Align Government Programs and Regulatory Actions to Support IRWM

Alignment Planning and Support — Non-Regulatory Programs — Regulatory Programs

Strengthen Regional Governance, Capacity, and Practices

Regional Capacity Building Support — Regional Governance — Regional Practices

Enhance Regional Assistance

Customer Services Principles and Practices — IRWM Grant Program — Technical Support
Next…

✓ Release as a public draft

✓ Public comment sessions (official announcement soon)

✓ Final plan
Thank you!

For more information, please visit http://www.water.ca.gov/irwm/stratplan/