



**Action Memo #3:
Assistance Needed from the Climate Readiness Institute**

***Input from Participants @ Bay Area Water in a Changing Climate
(June 2015)***

Research on physical science—precipitation, temperature, hydrological processes, evaporation, etc.

- Provide better projections for future shifts in precipitation and temperature that planners can use for urban development and water planning.
- Provide technical assistance, including science information, to water stakeholders.

Research on impacts of drought and water changes

- Study the socio-economic and health impacts of drought (short-term and long-term)
- Study how drought intersects with other climate changes—increasing temperatures, wildfires, etc.—to better understand multiple impacts on health.
- Monitor and help protect disadvantaged communities from various adverse impacts to drinking water quality, supply, affordability, etc.
- Study the future of urban greening and urban agriculture in drought years.
- Conduct research studies and planning efforts that include community-based participatory research and planning.

Evaluation of water strategies—co-benefits, regulatory options, GHG implications, health and equity outcomes, ecological impacts, etc.

- Inventory and map regional sites for wells and groundwater recharge and develop policies to protect these sites for future use and eventual integration into distribution systems. Articulate the value of such sites for

disaster response. Identify policies and financing initiatives to develop these sites.

- Analyze and report on strengths and weaknesses of various local drought plans in the region.
- Support research into the comprehensive benefits of Advanced Metering Infrastructure, e.g., leak detection, facility planning, etc.
- Develop viable options for water rights reform that are incremental, pragmatic, and evolutionary.
- Quantify and compare water use of various Bay Area energy sources—nuclear, natural gas, large hydro, small hydro, solar, wind, geothermal, etc.
- Analyze of pros and cons of “alternative” water sources such as grey water and groundwater.
- Identify policy changes needed for diversifying water supplies—e.g., groundwater, stormwater and desalination.
- Evaluate potential for expanded use of groundwater in specific sub-regions.
- Assist local governments in creating water action plans.
- Identify and analyze potential new financing mechanisms and water pricing policies.

Evaluation of existing and future legal and governance frameworks

- Assist with identifying governance issues for Bay Area water planning and overall planning and developing options for improved governance.
- Facilitate coordination of legal/regulatory changes by providing technical and economic modeling.
- Help the region focus on two big water issues—governance and regional collaboration.

Development of monitoring systems, metrics and data for tracking progress and planning

- Advocate for and assist local governments in getting better water data for planning.

- Facilitate data collection for local governments and others.

Convener/Facilitator

- Be a facilitator to produce more regional collaboration on water.
- Collect and share best practices among cities, counties, water districts and others.
- Conduct more regional convenings of water stakeholders for problem-solving on specific issues.
- Convene stakeholders and broker/facilitate working relationships among them.
- Help to integrate water planning and sea level rise planning in the region, particularly around governance issues.
- Bring thinkers and players together to promote enhanced political, municipal, and individual collaboration around drought management.
- Help with collaboration across “silos” — water districts, natural resource managers, vulnerable communities, and other stakeholders.
- Conduct a regional water summit.