

DRIP Meeting #4
April 26, 2024



We received written worksheet comments from 13 of the DRIP members
 59 total comments, although some were brief

This is a breakdown of who submitted comments and for which recommendation.

	Recommendation #							
	1 Metrics	2 Evaluation	3 SB 552	4 WMP	5 Roles	6 Definition	7 Communic	8 Studies
<u>(Alphabetical by first name)</u>								
1 Alvar Escriva-Bou		x	x	x	x		x	x
2 Elea Becker-Lowe	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
3 Emily Rooney			x	x				
4 Jason Colombini	x			x				
5 Katie Ruby	x	x	x				x	x
6 Katy Landau	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
7 Laura Ramos				x				
8 Matessa Martin	x					x		x
9 Ramy Gindi	x							
10 Sierra Ryan	x	x	x	x		x	x	x
11 Suzanne Pecci	x	x	x	x	x	x		
12 Tim Worley	x	x	x			x		x
13 Justine Massey				x	x	x	x	x

Rec #1: Drought Indicators and Metrics

Written Comments

Elea Becker-Lowe	<p>Great need for more focused tools and resources, but I caution against duplicative efforts Many tools already exist, consider a clearer first step (merging with OPR's recommendation) to consider existing resources first, then consider gaps and actions Consider merging with other data/tools recommendation. Before actions, ensure existing resources are fully exhausted. If gaps exist after that analysis, define scope</p>
Jason Colombini	<p>The party that is disseminating the information is important too. For example, some farmers may trust their local Farm Bureau if that informing them on the drought early warning system and drought conditions themselves, versus say DWR or the SWRCB.</p>
Katie Ruby	<p>I agree the scope of this recommendation. I don't think we as the DRIP Collaborative should be defining thresholds. Start with metrics/indicators and then go from there Consider leveraging the information submitted in urban agencies AWSDA (annual water supply & demand assessment, due to DWR July 1). This is essentially an early warning system for each urban area. This recommendation definitely ties to the communication piece. We'll want to be clear on scope and coordinate these two recs so that their scopes are complementary.</p>
Katy Landau	<p>Focus is visualization, not ID/filling data gaps If move forward with rec, would recommend CA Water Data Consortium be the lead. Use as basis for the communication/messaging actions</p>
Matessa Martin	<p>Emphasize what was said in the Water Commission's drought white paper. Recommend some kind of interagency group Scope: In DRIP, I don't think this collaborative should undertake the "meat" of this work. Maybe pass off to State (DWR, collab with SWRCB) with requirement of public outreach and informed by counties, public, including tribes</p>
Ramy Gindi	<p>With early warning comes false warnings that can cause public fatigue of conservation messaging Allow local agencies to use as a tool. Allow water agencies to further prepare and message based on their outreach plans accordingly</p>
Sierra Ryan	<p>Make sure the end use is defined. Bad for mandating action at the local level, locals know better Good for triggers at the state to activate the technical assistance programs</p>
Suzanne Pecci	<p>Support the recommendation and suggest coordinating with recommendation 2 (evaluate programs, info, tools)</p>
Tim Worley	<p>Should DRIP define threshold levels of water availability? Who would do this? As a first step, state agencies need to make sure the data already requested/collected from local agencies is shared/used and not duplicated</p>

Rec #2: Program and Info/Tools Evaluation

Written Comments

Alvar Escriva-Bou	I think this would be complementary to rec #1. I see even that they could be combined, and this rec serves as a background to rec #1, we want to ensure the potential early warning system is taking into account all pre-existing information
Elea Becker-Lowe	Consider aligning with rec #1. Merge with other data/tools recommendation to ensure reducing duplicative efforts.
Katie Ruby	Suggest starting with landscape review to identify areas of overlap/redundancy and coordination needs. Identification of gaps can happen as part of this, but I would suggest stopping short of filling those gaps until we determine <u>which</u> gaps are highest priority/most meaningful
Katy Landau	Is this a DRIP led activity (bandwidth)? Like the idea but think this should happen after some of the other efforts. Could then meaningful incorporate those data gaps analysis/lit reviews
Sierra Ryan	Pulling together data resources is valuable. I'm a little unclear about this relates to recommendation #1. I would propose combining Combine with rec #1 and clearly define depth
Suzanne Pecci	I think this would be challenging to delegate to the DRIP taskforce, given we lack required expertise I think this rec links with rec #1
Tim Worley	Bring more info to DRIP about the CA Water Data Consortium's effort to coordinate data already existing and collected, as this is essential to ensure data is not duplicated and used efficiently

Rec #3: SB 552 Language Update

Written Comments

Alvar Escriva-Bou	Totally in support of this. Perhaps would be interesting to see how GSAs are integrated in this effort, as they are an important institution in charge of groundwater related efforts.
Elea Becker-Lowe	OPR can support conversation about general plan updates. e.g. How can existing mandated elements includes these issues first? Consider connections to OPR's General Plan guidelines - is there a way to improve/update existing sections that are already mandated?
Emily Rooney	Mandates & dates could be a challenge for all counties - "one size fits all" is a challenge on all topics How much would this cost? If general fund dollars (or federal dollars) are available, that would be the preference & likely bring broader support to the table
Katie Ruby	It would be helpful to understand <u>why</u> counties haven't yet submitted plans to make sure those underlying issues are addressed (e.g. resources, funding) I agree with adding more "teeth" to the law but want to avoid a situation where counties end up "checking the box" versus preparing an implementing meaningful plans
Katy Landau	At which agency (DWR)? Most standalone action item
Sierra Ryan	Funding. Clarity of role of taskforce Make sure its implementable, not just a plan on a shelf
Suzanne Pecci	Support oversight and needs reference to public being invited too
Tim Worley	Monterey County has excellent planning doc. Would be nice to see or have a presentation on

Rec #4: Community Well Monitoring Plan

Written Comments

Alvar Escriva-Bou	I like this idea a lot, as it could increase community organization and support for well dependent resilience. The only thing I would add is that maybe this is not enough to get "sufficient" well data (if for instance in some places these are not communities organizing themselves")
Elea Becker-Lowe	Chance to uplift community and existing conditions. Existing trust and relationships are invaluable State-developed kits? Guidelines? No one-size fits all. Need \$/TA Management informed by data? Privacy issues Are there existing state grant programs that could be leveraged to support this? Focus first as pilot program that could later be scaled?
Emily Rooney	I like Sierra's thoughts on this idea - dealing with the next steps - and does that mean getting kits for folks to do this on their own? Good thoughts
Jason Colombini	Perhaps partnering or adding to the law already requiring nitrate testing of wells. If that is an annual requirement already teaching domestic well owners how to measure their well water depth and requiring that as part of the reporting could give the data we're looking for
Katy Landau	To keep at the local level, run via GSA's - maybe able to leverage their data QA/QC & management systems to house data If the State is providing the TA and funding, would require a legislative proposal GSAs would have more flexibility to provide support assuming relationships exist
Laura Ramos	Empowers well owners to be proactive in knowing the groundwater level in their well DWR mentioned having kits at county libraries that they can check out
Sierra Ryan	Love this idea, need to clarify how this could be rolled out and what DRIP could do Offer kits and training and a portal Clarify how data is shared and used
Suzanne Pecci	Support as a model for study
Justine Massey	How would the developed policies and actions developed or implemented by this group interact with GSAs? This could support GSA regulations and add rich data collection, ultimately to influence management decisions

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Rec #5: Roles and Responsibilities

Written Comments

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| Alvar Escriva-Bou | I support the idea.
I don't know if this is going too much into the weeks, but potentially having "emergency funding" from the State that could be quicker to release and that the responsible agency could "reimburse" later |
| Elea Becker-Lowe | Consider the General Plan connections --> OPR |
| Katy Landau | ID gaps in authority, data & funding
SAFER Advisory Committee should be involved |
| Suzanne Pecci | Support as a priority focus area |
| Justine Massey | Need to identify funding, look into CSAC "at home" funding recommendations
Address climate change before drought solution step out of our hands due to scale of problem |

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Rec #6: Drought Definition White Paper

Written Comments

Elea Becker-Lowe	State Agency should take this on? Connection to data/tools recommendation #2 on tools/resources/analysts. Consider existing information first
Katy Landau	Others have already done a lit review of existing definitions Drought --> water availability Focus on communicating the drought triggers for action. How to avoid 'drought fatigue' particularly in wet years Connect with CA Water Commission and their drought white paper Save our water campaign
Matessa Martin	Build off of work of CA Water Commission's drought strategies
Sierra Ryan	Find other definitions/terms for situations like water quality challenges; groundwater decline Can be used in literature and contracts
Suzanne Pecci	Support
Tim Worley	Finding more useful terms, such as "water availability" would be a very good outcome
Justine Massey	Which literature will be included in the literature review? Should address verbage and math (averages); want to avoid giving a false sense of security.

Rec #7: Communication Program

Written Comments

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|-------------------|---|
| Alvar Escriva-Bou | I would like to be involved in this recommendation, as this is quite related to rec #1 |
| Elea Becker-Lowe | Connects to data/narratives, etc.
Save our Waters Campaign
Caution against duplication; Considering capacities, does this need to be something new? Or leveraging and streamlining existing? |
| Katie Ruby | Check out the Bay Area Water Demand Reduction and Supply Monitor for inspiration
https://bayareareliability.com/supply_conditions
Consider feasible timestep for updating status. How granular can we get? (Many agencies plan on a monthly timestep) |
| Katy Landau | Wouldn't want to focus on drought, just water status, to institutionalize consistent messaging
Could have statewide standards, but messaging will be at the local level and will be varied
https://saveourwater.com/
https://sgma.water.ca.gov/CalGWLlive/ |
| Sierra Ryan | Locally adaptable social media materials
Work with media groups to share for one or more outlets
Make ubiquitous, not only during drought |
| Justine Massey | Very related to component of Drought Indicators and Metrics recommendation
Should pull in data from California Groundwater Live. This is an exciting time to be in water resources management, there are many data sources to link together. |

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Rec #8: Case Studies

Written Comments

Alvar Escriva-Bou	It could be potentially integrated with rec #6
Elea Becker Lowe	"Scary stories" ("this could be you") Combine with #6? Video?
Katie Ruby	Potential partnership with Save Our Water campaign? (If we want videos, etc. they may have the resources to do this)
Katy Landau	Rather than drought centric focus on how communities are managing water supplies under extreme water conditions Include tribal perspectives Build off of CWC white paper; Connect to drought definition rec #6 and metrics rec #1 Clarify the intended audience
Matessa Martin	Link rec #6 with rec #8?
Sierra Ryan	What is the audience? Successes and failures? Could be great positive 5 minute videos to share Could also be opportunity to highlight failures and identify gaps that led to them
Tim Worley	Scary stories / success stories - both good Video clips in ~3 minutes Maybe a college/university film class could make videos to illustrate the stories
Justine Massey	Should combine this recommendation with the Drought Definition White Paper recommendation Should use the case studies to unit around new or preferred terminology (i.e. water scarcity versus availability)