

Survey Results: Moving to Action Network

In support of the [Governor's Water Resilience Portfolio](#), California Department of Water Resources (DWR) hosted the [Planning for Change](#) event in September 2019, bringing together various stakeholders working in the water-climate nexus. While several [recommendations and action items](#) arose from the event, one prominent action was to explore the formation of a California-based network of climate scientists and water management practitioners.

In 2020, the DWR Climate Change Program interviewed network and climate experts to determine next steps related to the network action. As a result of this work, a 13-question survey was sent to Planning for Change participants to better understand needs and opportunities for the formation of a network.

Survey Results Summary

Request for survey results can be addressed to MovingtoAction@water.ca.gov. Open for three weeks; the survey received 59 responses from multiple stakeholders representing federal, State, local, non-governmental organization, Tribal, and academic entities. Percentages throughout document are rounded approximations for summary purposes. Highlights from the survey responses include:

- 2/3 of respondents represented **State** (27%), **Academic** (22%), and **Local** (17%) organizations,
- Majority of respondents felt “**Extremely**” or “**Very**” **familiar** on the topic of climate change and water resources,
- 2/3 of respondents were “**Extremely**” or “**Very**” **familiar** in describing their experience in working on collective tasks within a network, while 1/3 were “**Somewhat**” **familiar**,
- Of sixteen options describing what activities could be best supported by a California-based network of climate scientists and water management practitioners, the top three selected were:
 1. **Compiling** a list of early **actions** that can accelerate the inclusion of climate change analysis in decision-making (42 respondents of 59),
 2. **Collaborate** on pilot **projects** to inform and refine methods to incorporate climate change in decision-making (42 respondents of 59),
 3. **Partnering** with DWR to organize a **workshop** every two years, similar to the format of the “Planning for Change” event (36 respondents of 59)
- Local organizations were also interested in collectively engaging with State and federal agencies,
- 65% of respondents thought it “**Extremely**” or “**Very**” **beneficial** to join such a network,
 - 25% of respondents felt it to be “Somewhat” beneficial, with 9% “Unsure”
- 40% of respondents envision their **network involvement** as “Full participants” with an additional 40% identifying as “Contributors” to the network (multiple responses were allowed).
 - 12% envisioned their involvement as “Observer” and 15% as “Unsure/TBD”

Next Step:

DWR's Climate Change Program will convene one or more focus group discussions to scope future efforts based on survey results. The focus group will include similar existing networks and survey participants. If you are interested in joining a focus group discussion or have any questions regarding this next step, do not hesitate to contact us at MovingToAction@water.ca.gov.