

DRIP Collaborative
Water Infrastructure and Planning Workgroup Meeting #3

Thursday, August 28, 2025, at 1:30-3:00PM

California Natural Resources Agency, 715 P St, Sacramento, CA 95814. Room 06-212

Zoom: <https://ca-water-gov.zoom.us/j/915814212>

Objectives:

- Continue vetting and developing three ideas proposed at the July 18, 2025 DRIP Collaborative meeting related to Water Infrastructure and Planning
- Learn from subject matter experts, about their experiences and knowledge including past and current efforts and lessons learned, to inform the workgroup discussion.

Meeting Agenda

1:30pm Welcome, Roll Call

1:35pm Review of DRIP Collaborative July In-person Meeting Feedback

During the DRIP Collaborative In-person meeting on July 18, members received a brief update on the Water Infrastructure and Planning workgroup activities which focused on three ideas for potential recommendations. Members weighed in on the ideas and provided guidance on pathways forward. Most members agreed that receiving additional information would be valuable context to inform whether to develop the proposed ideas into recommendations.

Idea Infra1: Enhance Support and Collaboration for Vulnerable and Small Water Systems Infrastructure Needs (Co-leads: Carolina Hernandez and Tim Worley)

Idea Infra2: Improve System and Regulatory Flexibility for Water Infrastructure Resilience (Co-leads: Laura Ramos and Katie Ruby)

Idea Infra3: Establish Groundwater Recharge Infrastructure Program for Local Drought Resilience (Co-leads: Emily Rooney)

1:45 pm Subject Matter Expert Presentations to Inform Proposed Ideas Development

Presentations by subject matter experts are offered to increase common knowledge while exploring ways to advance the three proposed ideas into potential draft recommendations. As time permits, a question-and-answer and discussion session will follow each presentation. The order of presentations will be determined closer to the day of the meeting to accommodate presenters' schedules. Planned presentations are the following:

- Idea Infra1: Lance Eckhart, General Manager/Chief Hydrogeologist for San Geronimo Pass Water Agency and formerly of the Mojave Water Agency – presentation on current and former agencies' regional and local leadership to be a catalyst in improving small water systems within common watersheds.

- Idea Infra2: Andrew Schwarz, SWP Climate Action Manager, State Water Project Adaptation Strategy – presentation will cover the recently released report detailing climate adaptation strategies for the SWP and how those strategies can provide resilience for state water supplies.
- Idea Infra3: Department staff in the Sustainable Groundwater Management Office – presentation will focus on opportunities that the Department has developed and highlighted to support regional groundwater recharge as well as share Department knowledge of regional and local efforts and hurdles.

2:50pm Next Steps for DRIP Collaborative Meeting in October

The workgroup members will discuss how the information shared during the meeting continues to shape the proposed ideas and seek consensus for which ideas warrant the development of draft recommendations prior to the in-person meeting on October 17, 2025.

2:55pm Public Comment

3:00pm Adjourn