

**DRIP Meeting #5**  
**July 12, 2024**



We received written worksheet comments from 10 of the DRIP members  
 41 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 Well Monitor	5 Roles	6 Definition	7 Communic	8 Studies
<u>(Alphabetical by first name)</u>								
1 Anonymous	x	x	x	x			x	
2 Brent Haste	x	x		x			x	
3 Carolina Hernandez			x	x				
4 Carolyn Cook	x	x	x	x		x	x	
5 Elea Becker Lowe			x			x	x	
6 Katie Ruby				x	x		x	x
7 Matessa Martin			x	x				
8 Nancy Vogel	x	x	x	x	x	x	x	x
9 Redgie Collins	x	x						
10 Tim Worley	x		x	x	x		x	

## Rec #1: Drought Indicators and Metrics

### Written Comments

#### Part I Comments

Believe the regionalization is critically important  
First interactive selection: "I am a ..." to determine the audience and what metrics are displayed  
Perhaps evolve an existing platform  
I would like to understand better who the audience is (public, media, local water managers?)  
How localized would the metrics/indicators be, in terms of scale?  
Expand to include ecosystems/aquatic resources

#### Part II Comments

*Steps and Measuring* Identify a limited number of audiences  
Determine the level/scale of the data  
Perhaps Alvar could use DRIP Collaborative as a sounding board in his research? Perhaps Alvar could brief DRIP on his research and final expected product  
Further refinement, or perhaps exploration, is needed on questions of scope & timeframe (at this moment, or near-term vulnerability)

*Potential Challenges* Long-term maintenance is expensive and if done poor could be harmful  
Frequency of updates, funding, resources needed to carry this out, potential redundancy with CA Water Watch

*Funding* Can an existing tool be fine-tuned or enhanced so that a new funding stream is not needed?  
I don't know of any available funding sources and it could be substantial

*Equity and Outreach* Potential utility. Help legislature direct funding to areas/sectors that are most vulnerable  
We need much more outreach to all potential interested parties including Tribes and disadvantaged communities and managers of small water systems

## Rec #2: Program and Info/Tools Evaluation

### Written Comments

#### Part I Comments

Other characteristics: ease of accessibility (by category), cost, resolution, latency, scale of availability

Will one of the tools be water transfers?

What are the size of the tools we are using?

I'd like to better understand who would be the audience. Individual well owners? Local water manager? State bureaucrats? Who would use these inventoried tools?

Focus on the ecosystem tools and resources is absent. Examples include rescue rearing facilities, voluntary flow programs, etc.

#### Part II Comments

##### *Steps and Measuring*

Scale of tools? Need to clarify

Also need to identify the scope of tools and who uses them

Someone needs to lead and that person or team needs funding

##### *Potential Challenges*

Need a communication campaign (linked to Rec #7 Communication Program)

Where would the inventory be maintained and how? We'd need to be careful that this inventory doesn't creep to cover all water tools

I'm concerned that this approach runs counter to the popular DRIP notion that we need to stop thinking about drought as an unusual event

##### *Funding*

There seems to be an opportunity to leverage the adaptation clearinghouse - if that has ongoing funding then I think that is the appropriate place  
I know of no available funding for this

##### *Equity and Outreach*

More outreach needed, of course

## Rec #3: SB 552 Language Update

### Written Comments

#### Part I Comments

This may not be a productive process and beyond DRIP authority  
I recommend that advocates pursue the legislative process  
Elements of this recommendation have merit, but suggest to move away from amending legislation directly  
Check-in with counties at bi-monthly meetings (talk to other groups)  
Reform recommendation to not suggest legislative update  
Possibly combine elements with Rec #5 Roles and Responsibilities  
I really like Sierra's idea to ask the counties in a different venue what they would "fix" about SB 552

#### Part II Comments

*Steps and Measuring* Need to solicit input from counties and water systems themselves about what the needs are to make the intent of the legislation feasible. Suggest changing to a report of some sort  
Specific items in the list of changes could be pulled apart and prioritized before deciding to move forward  
Reconsider this idea with the understanding that DRIP does not want to pursue legislative changes - or at least, is unlikely to reach consensus

*Potential Challenges* Legislation is not fully under our control. Unless the items that move forward have a very strong consensus this will not be a productive recommendation

*Funding* This is difficult for counties to know @ this time. Limited funding is available via county budgets  
Counties would need resources. Local water systems already need more resources to reduce their risk profile/vulnerability

*Equity and Outreach*

## Rec #4: Community Well Monitoring Plan

### Written Comments

#### Part I Comments

Concerned about data sharing, how will data be used  
Clarify scope of rec. I was not previously clear that this was a pilot and that participation would be voluntary  
A pilot study was mentioned, what would this involve?  
I'm concerned about adding duties to DWR or Water Commission without additional funding.  
I don't understand the overall aim of this proposal. Would counties be involved? Who acts on the monitoring data?

#### Part II Comments

##### *Steps and Measuring*

Be clear that this is a pilot study and that participation by individual well owners would be voluntary. Be clear about protections for vulnerable citizens  
Should be locally led to inform GSA actions. Voluntary involvement, robust privacy protections  
Need to identify a community for the pilot. Would this be the South American subbasin?  
I like the idea of a pilot to document lessons learned / level of funding support needed before rolling out more broadly  
I like the voluntary aspect of this, although a modest amount of funding, or likely technical assistance from DWR, would it more successful  
I'd like to know what the technical experts in DWR's SGMO think of this

##### *Potential Challenges*

Suggest that data should not necessarily be sent to state level, but be an important tool for GSAs and demonstrate the community engagement  
What happens if the pilot network is built and it shows water quality problems or overpumping? What does the monitoring trigger, if anything?

##### *Funding*

Details on funding mechanisms are needed. Costs can't be born by counties  
Cost should be modest to develop data templates and provide some technical assistance  
I don't know of a funding source for a pilot project

##### *Equity and Outreach*

This could be a helpful and important way for a GSA to demonstrate their community outreach and engagement.  
Critical to protect participants in some ways because rural domestic well users often are leasing their home, may be undocumented or non-english speakers  
Suggest highlighting the pilot as one of the Drought Case Studies. Highlighting the success/benefits might encourage other communities to opt-in to a monitoring program  
Equity issues brought out by experiences of Self Help Enterprises need to be addressed (per comments by Tami McVay)  
Would fish and wildlife needs be taken into account (thinking of groundwater dependent ecosystems)

## Rec #5: Roles and Responsibilities

### Written Comments

#### Part I Comments

Need to have the GSAs involved

I support the idea of clarifying/defining responsibilities but do not feel comfortable defining these without input/buy-in from the respective entities

I'd suggest removing the list of proposed roles from the recommendation itself (or maybe include as an attachment and reframing as a starting point

#### Part II Comments

*Steps and Measuring* Can any of the risk profile measures Julie developed be adapted for domestic wells?

Would be beneficial to identify the funding gap for each area of responsibility

#### *Potential Challenges*

#### *Funding*

I don't know of state funding available to do this

#### *Equity and Outreach*

## Rec #6: Drought Definition White Paper

### Written Comments

#### Part I Comments

If this is an easy lift for a non-state agency that could be useful to Rec #7 Communication Program  
Great recommendation. Move discussion needed to ID appropriate implementers and funding sources  
Interesting comment to rebrand away from "white paper". Needs more discussion  
This is of low priority to me

#### Part II Comments

*Steps and Measuring* Must be written factual, non-biased author. Should be pursued as complementary to Rec #7

*Potential Challenges* Capturing diverse perspectives; Maintaining current resources

*Funding* Who is responsible for implementing?

*Equity and Outreach*

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### Rec #7: Communication Program

#### Written Comments

#### Part I Comments

Possibly something like the ARC (atmospheric river) voting. Now it is part of the news  
I like it People need to be convinced why they should conserve and why it's a team effort  
So much blame about CA water shortage. People need to connect their actions to consequences  
Just telling people they have to conserve does not make them want to. Education campaign is very important  
Timing clarity, ensure alignment with existing and related platforms first  
Consider single messaging or combine with other recs, such as Rec #1 Indicators and Metrics  
I'm wondering if we should reframe this as a phase 2 of the Drought Indicators and Metrics. Once we have metrics defined, we will need to communicate  
Look for ways to combine this kind of communication and public education with the Case Studies recommendation  
This idea should follow work on Indicators and Metrics

#### Part II Comments

*Steps and Measuring* Symbolism should come from metrics and indicators work. Case Studies need a comms plan too  
Should have a rec that generally acknowledges the huge importance of storytelling  
Consider this as a general component for all recommendations, not a separate process

*Potential Challenges* Scope creep. So many platforms out there, how does this fill a gap?  
This idea shouldn't be considered until Metrics & Indicators have been created - if it is symbols-based communication it requires indicators

*Funding* I know of no funding for this

*Equity and Outreach*



**Rec #8: Case Studies**

Written Comments

**Part I Comments**

I like this idea because it can be scaled up or down based on the availability of resources. And the Case Studies have shelf life  
The case studies could augment the drought websites state agencies create every time drought intensifies  
Case studies can highlight the impact of drought on fish and wildlife, which is usually lost in the human focus

**Part II Comments**

*Steps and Measuring* It would be great for the Rapid Inventory to include a search for any lessons learned from past droughts that could be highlighted and built upon  
For example, PPIC report "Building Drought Resilience in California's Cities and Suburbs" (2017)

*Potential Challenges*

*Funding*

*Equity and Outreach*