

WestFAST

Western States Federal Agency Support Team

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2015-2017 Work Plan (July 1, 2015-June 30, 2017)

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Western States Federal Agency Support Team (WestFAST)

FY 2015-17 Work Plan (7/1/2015-6/30/2017)

We hereby declare that we as WESTFAST partners will collaborate with the Western States Water Council to guide the development of an appropriate action plan for this partnership.

- An excerpt from *Declaration of Cooperation*

1.0 Introduction

The [Western States Federal Agency Support Team](#) (WestFAST) is a collaboration between 13 Federal agencies with water resource management responsibilities in the West.

WestFAST was formed in 2008 in response to [Western Governors' Association](#) (WGA) recommendations recorded in their report [Water Needs and Strategies for a Sustainable Future: Next Steps Report](#) (*Next Steps Report*), to support the [Western States Water Council](#) (WSWC) and the WGA through coordinating Federal efforts regarding water resources. Specifically, WestFAST's objective is to promote and facilitate coordination among federal agencies, and between states and federal agencies, to help the WSWC implement collaborative efforts outlined in its *Next Steps Report*. Some of the areas that the *Next Steps Report* identified for federal/state collaboration included: Water policy, Water to meet future demands, Water infrastructure, Indian water rights, Climate change, and endangered species. Subsequent WGA [Policy Resolutions \(2014-03 and 2014-4\)](#) have defined current western states water management priorities and goals including in the areas of innovative water management and reliable water data. WSWC's Executive, Legal, Water Resource, and Water Quality Committees have also established [work plans](#) defining critical areas of federal-state collaboration toward improving understanding and managing water resources in the west. This 2015-2017 work plan defines WestFAST priority goals and activities toward meeting the team's defined objectives. The work plan is presumed to be a living document that can be altered during the two-year plan period to reflect changes in western states and participation in WestFAST agency programs and needs.

Common to WGA and WSWC strategies and resolutions is the goal of encouraging and facilitating effective coordination and cooperation among local, state, and federal planners and managers:

"Developing optimal solutions to the challenges laid out in the 2006 WGA water report will require an integrated approach and greater partnerships among state, local and federal agencies. This approach should consider all needs together, develop effective solutions which are complementary rather than conflicting, and provide direction for selecting the most appropriate governmental entities or organizations for implementing solutions." (Next Steps Report)

“Western Governors recognize the important role of federal agencies in advancing sound water resource management in the Western states. Governors appreciate the efforts of federal agencies to coordinate water-related activities, particularly through the Western States Water Council, and support the continuation of these key state-federal partnerships.” (WGA Policy Resolution 2014-0, Water Resource Management in the West)

“... the Committee will work to ensure participating agencies realize the real and potential benefits of WestFAST, and work to build a sound foundation for continuing collaboration. The Council will also seek to build closer ties with WestFAST principals.” (WSWC Executive Committee 2014 Work Plan)

WestFAST will continue to promote the over-arching goal of improved collaboration among federal agencies, and between state, and federal agencies engaged in western water-resource issues. WestFAST will also continue work in the general themes of the six focus areas from the *Next Steps Report* and in support of collaborative efforts outlined in more recent WGA resolutions and WSWC committee work plans. Key tasks in the 2015-2017 WestFAST Work Plan include:

- Conducting case studies of most efficient and productive cooperation and collaboration practices between state and federal agencies.
- Reviewing assessments of Federal Agency drought information and services and identifying gaps and solutions.
- Better enabling the exchange of federal and state water data.
- Enhancing the visibility of WestFAST and the water-resource programs of its member agencies that support WSWC resource management goals.

In 2013-2014, WestFAST initiated a structure for improving collaboration between states and federal agencies and meeting our goals by organizing WestFAST into Workgroups to facilitate work with WSWC subcommittees on priority water resource issues. The WestFAST Drought Workgroup and Data Workgroup were stood up in 2013-14. An Infrastructure Workgroup will be created in 2015. These workgroups are comprised of current WestFAST members and other federal agency representatives with expertise and responsibility in workgroup focus areas and, we believe, will provide an effective framework for collaboration and alignment with WSWC subcommittee goals. WestFAST will also emphasis enlisting multiple representatives (primary and alternate) from participating agencies with preferred representation from both headquarters and field regional levels. We believe that this level of representation will provide better coverage and knowledge of national and regional programs and activities that effect western state water management.

2.0 Coordination and Collaboration

2.1 Interagency

The federal agencies that make up WestFAST all have unique roles within western water management. WestFAST provides a means for those agencies to collaborate in a way that they may not otherwise be able. WestFAST work will focus on three key areas of collaboration.

- Information sharing
- Participation in cross-agency groups, and
- Outreach

2.1.1 Information Sharing

All of the WestFAST agencies have a number of high-priority initiatives that can benefit from coordination with the other federal agencies. WestFAST provides a forum for these agencies to discuss these initiatives, and to allow for the agencies to better understand how they can better work together.

WestFAST members will continue to conference monthly. WestFAST workgroups will meet as needed to accomplish the activities of this plan. Beginning in 2015, WestFAST has recommended that its' agencies' principal leaders (WestFAST Principals) meet with WestFAST semiannually to review WestFAST accomplishments and discuss future coordination needs related to federal water resource programs and policies.

In 2015, WestFAST will begin developing and hosting regular “Informational Meetings,” held mainly via webinar, on topics of interest to WestFAST member agencies and other water-resource managers, scientists, and stakeholders. WestFAST has held several of these types of meetings in past years but beginning January 2015, these presentations and discussions will be held monthly. Topics will range from overviews of WestFAST-agency water-resource related programs and management models to “hot topics” on water-resource science and policy. Depending on the session topics, the webinar audience will range from internal-to-WestFAST to being open to all federal employees and interested state and local agencies.

2.1.2 Participation in Cross-Agency Groups

Another role of WestFAST is to participate in various cross-agency groups. WestFAST can provide a unique western perspective, and provide input based on interactions with the western states. WestFAST’s participation in these groups provides additional linkages to other federal agencies, other groups, and other committees that may not otherwise occur.

Some examples of activities that WestFAST plans on engaging in 2015-2017 include:

- **National Water Census:** The [National Water Census](#) is a USGS research program on national water availability and use that develops new water accounting tools and assesses water availability at the regional and national scales. Research is designed to build decision support capacity for water management agencies and other natural resource managers. The Water Census, and USGS programs feeding into the Water Census including the Groundwater Resources Program, should be linked with activities being undertaken as part of the WSWC [Water Data Exchange \(WaDE\)](#). WestFAST will continue to engage

in Water Census activities in order to ensure that information is being shared between these two efforts.

- **Western Regional Partnership:** The [Western Regional Partnership \(WRP\)](#) is a Department of Defense led collaboration between federal, state, and tribal interests. They are working on issues in the southwestern U.S. WestFAST will continue to interact with the WRP. The WRP has already identified WestFAST and the WSWC as the go-to groups for water issues.
- **The Open Water Data Initiative:** WestFAST will continue to engage with and provide linkage from western states to initiatives and working groups forwarding the coordination of spatial water data among all levels of government. For example, in 2014 an “[Open Water Data Initiative](#)” was proposed by a working group comprised of leadership from Secretary of Interiors office, the USGS, NOAA, and Universities. The group proposed a new initiative that will integrate currently fragmented water information into a connected, national water data framework – an objective of great interest to the WSWC. The Open Water Data Initiative will be collaborative, building on the work of [the Integrated Water Resources Science and Service \(IWRSS\)](#) consortium, and engaging the [Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data \(SSWD\)](#), which is a shared subcommittee of the [Federal Geographic Data Committee \(FGDC\)](#) and the [Advisory Committee on Water Information \(ACWI\)](#). WestFAST will directly engage in this initiative through participation in associated workgroups and subcommittees such as the SSWD. The WestFAST Federal Liaison will work directly on the SSWD and link other WestFAST members and our agencies’ personnel to tasks as appropriate. A more detailed description of WestFAST plans in this initiative is presented in the “Data” section of this work plan.

2.1.3 Outreach

Since its original formation in 2008, efforts have been made to improve WestFAST visibility. This is primarily done via the WestFAST web site (<http://www.westgov.org/wswc/WestFAST.htm>) as well as through a WestFAST newsletter. In addition to this, WestFAST is beginning to reach out to other organizations to inform them on this unique federal/state collaboration. To continue to improve WestFAST visibility, in 2015 WestFAST will undertake the following activities:

1. Maintain and enhance the WestFAST web site with current WestFAST activities and events and updates on WestFAST agency programs and collaborative efforts.
2. Broadly publish information about WestFAST ‘Informational Meetings’ to federal employees, and Western State water-resource agencies and the WSWC as appropriate.
3. Continue to publish the WestFAST Newsletter on a monthly basis.

4. Develop WestFAST accomplishments reports that chronicle the activities of WestFAST.
5. Update the Fact Sheet describing WestFAST and develop a “WestFAST Primer” that can be used to introduce WestFAST to other Federal Departments and Bureaus and State and local collaborators.

Outreach is also part of the individual action plans of our WestFAST workgroups as described in subsequent sections by Workgroup focus areas

2.2 Federal-State

WestFAST agencies agree with and support the WSWC goal of developing “*integrated approaches and greater partnerships among state, local and federal agencies*” to find “*optimal solutions*” to the increasing challenges associated with water management in the west (quotes from *Next Steps Report*). In 2015-2017, WestFAST will study cases of successful collaboration in the development of agreements, directives, rules on policy and assessment in western water issues to define best practices common to productive and efficient engagement. The result of these studies will be an improved understanding of best practices that federal agencies can extend to engaging with states in the future. The scope of the study will include compilation and review of information on any policy limitations on the types of outreach a federal agency can conduct with the states under activities such as rule making. Study results will provide a reference guide to federal officials seeking to implement a new policy, roll-out a new initiative, or seeking input on future planning efforts.

There are numerous federal activities that are underway that require input and participation from the states. Additionally, there are specific issues that the WSWC is interested in that require continued coordination with the WestFAST team. WestFAST will continue to play a significant role in coordinating with the WSWC by frequent communication to the WSWC on various issues of interest. WestFAST will continue to facilitate proactive communication on new initiatives, the products of key western water programs, and any changes in scope and objective of existing programs. WestFAST will also work to connect WSWC to the appropriate agency staff and leaders to answer questions as they arise or to provide briefings on any issues of interest to WSWC. These communications will not be limited to participation in WSWC semi-annual conference but will be arranged as needed and will use the most-timely approach to consultation. WestFAST will focus in this area on the following activities:

1. WestFAST will continue to support the WSWC in defining best practices for addressing nontribal federal reserved water rights. In 2014, WestFAST worked with the WSWC to develop a Nontribal Federal Reserved Water Rights Workshop in July 2014 and followed up the event with helping to establish and active workgroup to discuss challenges and solutions relating to general stream adjudications, accommodating federal water needs within the state legal and administrative frameworks, and water-related issues associated with permitted activities and uses on federal land. WestFAST will continue to participate in the workgroup activities including identified documents to include in a clearinghouse of relevant information. WestFAST also will support regular conferences or workshops

for education and relationship-building opportunities, and to hold conference calls on a quarterly basis to serve as a forum to discuss notable developments.

2. WestFAST will continue to coordinate with the WSWC on the policies surrounding liability from the clean-up of abandoned mines (Good Samaritan).
3. As the WestFAST agencies continue to discuss the Water/Energy nexus, WestFAST will coordinate with the WSWC.
4. WestFAST will continue to provide the WSWC with information on the use of LandSAT and other remote sensing capabilities.

3.0 Support WSWC in implementation of the *Next Steps Report* and WSWC work plans

WestFAST plans to initiate and continue a number of activities related to priority water-resource issues in the west and associated recommendations and goals defined in the *WGA Next Steps Report* and current WSWC work plans. As noted, WestFAST has formed two workgroups - Drought and Data - and will form an “Infrastructure” Work Group in 2015 to better focus on priority issues in these areas identified in WSWC work plans and in federal agency program objectives.

Below is a list of recommendations from the *WGA Next Steps Report*, subsequent WGA resolutions, and from WSWC work plans (organized by WestFAST Work Group focus areas) that WestFAST will focus on in 2015-2017, and specific WestFAST response activities.

3.1 Drought Workgroup (The Drought Workgroup action plan also includes activities related to water availability and quality including impacts of climate change)

3.1.1 Drought Information and Planning:

Western Governors encourage federal agencies to partner with states in the gathering, coordination and effective dissemination of drought-related data between the federal government and states. (WGA Policy Resolution 2014-03, Water Resource Management in the West)

Work in cooperation with states to help communities develop drought preparedness plans, drought contingency plans, establish or enhance federal reservoir drought contingency plans, and be visible and engaged in all drought-related forums: nationally, regionally and locally. (Next Steps Report)

Activities:

- WestFAST member agencies continually strive to improve services related to drought in the areas of monitoring and information dissemination, projection tools and decision support system development, and the development of resiliency and response plans among others. Recent and ongoing Inter-agency collaborations and western-state sponsored drought forums in the face of a prolonged western drought provide an opportunity to assess the utility and limitations of federal drought programs and better understand information, tool, and support gaps. Robust solutions to observed

deficiencies in services, whether they involve improved access to existing tools or the development of new ones, will require collaboration among key WestFAST agencies. WestFAST will undertake, as a facilitator to collaboration, the following actions in this area.

- Assess the results of the reviews of drought activities and suggestions and recommendations defined in recent assessments such as in the Western Governors Association Drought Forum and the NOAA California Drought Services Assessment to determine opinions on priority drought information and services needs.
- Facilitate the communication of priority needs to ongoing inter-agency collaborations such as the National Drought Resiliency Partnership (NDRP). Review the progress and results of the NDRP and observed obstacles to optimal collaborative application of federal services in NDRP pilot studies. Summarize and review these needs with WestFAST drought agency leadership.
- Look for opportunities to utilize existing western states water resources forums to provide outreach and education on existing drought programs, tools, and data, including utility to and access by State drought programs that may fill identified gaps in drought information and services. Possible outreach opportunities might include: (1) WGA and WSWC annual meetings, (2) developing workshops that could be added onto scheduled conferences, and (3) use of the WestFAST Monthly Webinar Series or focused additional web conferences.
- WestFAST will continue to support the multiple phases of the WGA Drought Forum by (1) providing relevant WestFAST agency information and making available agency expertise over the scope of Forum topics and (2) reviewing WGA Drought Forum summaries of data and tool needs and compare needs to available agency products and define gaps and disconnects.

Governors support a comprehensive national policy that promotes a coordinated and integrated approach to future drought, including improved forecasting and monitoring, drought preparedness and planning, and efficient delivery of drought programs. (WGA Policy Resolution 2014-03, Water Resource Management in the West)

Activities:

- WestFAST will review progress on “Priority Actions” to improve the nation’s resilience to, and preparedness for, future droughts defined in multi-agency strategic planning efforts such as the 2012 National Drought Forum.

- WestFAST will identify next-step areas and develop plans to support progress in selected areas including the design, promotion, and implementation of specific inter-agency initiatives.

3.1.2 Water Availability

Basic information on the status, trends and projections of water-resource availability is essential to sound water management. (WGA Policy Resolution 2014-03, Water Resource Management in the West)

[Federal agencies should] Ensure there is an accurate assessment of the Nation's water availability and water demands, with the goal of integrating the information into state water resources planning, recognizing that a truly national assessment must begin at the state and local level with appropriate technical and financial support from the federal government. (Next Steps Report)

The Council will continue working with member states, USGS and various federal agencies to gather and disseminate water resources data using WaDE and other resources. The Council will continue to participate with USGS efforts to advance a National Water Assessment. (Draft Water Resources Committee Work Plan 2014-2015)

Activities: WestFAST will aid in coordination of National Water Census programs and actions with WSWC priorities and the WSWC M3 Initiative: Measuring, Monitoring, and Management. Specifically WestFAST will

- Provide updates on Water Census progress, products, and plans, and begin structured discussion and planning that improves data exchange (Fed-State) for Census components beyond WaDE.
- Facilitate the objectives (through outreach and coordination) of integrating Water Census data and products into state water resources planning.
- Brief WSWC on the results and data from completed Water Census Geographic Focus Area Studies.
- Engage WSWC and its Committees in planning and coordination of new Focus Area Studies in the west - the Rio Grande River Basin, and the Red River Basin.

Federal, state, and local agencies should further their efforts to investigate the availability and use of brackish waters to meet future water needs, particularly those of rural communities without other readily available sources of supply, and to identify ways to mitigate adverse impacts of brine disposal. (Next Steps Report, 13)

Activities:

- Investigation of the Nation’s brackish waters is ongoing in several areas. The USGS is currently working through the Department of the Interior’s WaterSMART initiative and the USGS Groundwater Resources Program to better understand location and character of brackish groundwater to expand development of the resource and provide a scientific basis for making policy decisions in a national assessment of brackish aquifers. The USBR’s Brackish Groundwater National Desalination Research Facility in Alamogordo, NM is a focal point for developing technologies for the desalination of brackish and impaired groundwater found in the inland western states. WestFAST will work to ensure inter-agency awareness of the directions of these programs and that they are coordinated across WestFAST. WestFAST will brief the WSWC on the status and progress of these assessments and programs.
- WestFAST will help ensure that the WSWC is well informed of assessments looking at the impacts of brine disposal include produced water from energy development activities. Specifically, WestFAST will keep the WSWC briefed on the results and future plans of investigation such as the [EPA’s Study of Hydraulic Fracturing for Oil and Gas and Its Potential Impact on Drinking Water Resources](#).

3.1.3 Water Quality

In conjunction with the Water Resources and Legal Committees, the Committee will hold an invitation only workshop to bring together state experts and other relevant stakeholders to discuss the interaction between water quality and quantity. (Water Quality Committee Work Plan)

Activities:

- WestFAST will work with the WSWC Water Quality Committee to develop the WSWC water-quality/water-quantity workshop and provide additional outreach from WestFAST agencies to improve understanding of the relationship of water quality to water quantity.
- The WestFAST Federal Liaison will work to coordinate Federal agency science programs within the Colorado River Basin Salinity Control Program toward informed development and operation of projects to reduce total dissolved solids in the Colorado River Basin surface water supplies.

3.2 Data Work Group

3.2.1 WSWC “M3 Initiative” – Measuring, Monitoring, and Management

Data collection, management, distribution and visualization are critical for sound decisionmaking... The Council, in an attempt to better communicate the critical need for water data, will develop a “M3 Initiative,” revising and renewing its message to better bring attention to water data needs and develop strategies to meet those needs... Part of this effort will be to highlight critical measuring and monitoring “tools,” for any water management “toolbox,” and communicating their value for enhancing our ability to wisely manage water resources. (Draft Water Resources Committee Work Plan 2014/2015)

The Council will consider development of an appropriate groundwater component for its M3 Initiative, as well as working collaboratively with other state and federal interests and non-governmental organizations. The Council will also promote the use of existing state information on groundwater resources. (Draft Water Resources Committee Work Plan 201-2015)

Activities:

- WestFAST will assist WSWC in their continued development of the M3 initiative including providing information water availability in federal data bases related to priority state information needs, ongoing programs that are collecting defined priority hydrologic data, and federal assessments of data gaps. WestFAST will consult with WSWC on the objectives and potential scope of a groundwater component to the WSWC M3 initiative.
- WestFAST will utilize WSWC meetings to regularly brief state managers on new and ongoing water data programs and collaboration opportunities including work WestFAST agencies are doing under the Open Water Date Initiative (described in subsequent sections of this report) and programs that will assist State Agencies in their efforts to quantify water supply and use.

3.2.2 Open Water Data and WaDE

State and federal water resource agencies should work together to provide universal access to the water-related data collected by all state, local, and federal agencies, as well as tools and models to better enable the synthesis, visualization, and evaluation of water-related data, including that to be shared with local governments (Next Steps 2008, page III, Objective 7).

Western Governors support federal efforts to coordinate water data gathering and information programs across multiple agencies. (WGA Policy Resolution Management in the West).

Activities:

- The Department of the Interior initiated through the Advisory Committee on Water Information (ACWI) and the Federal Geographic Data Committee (FGDC) the Open Water Data Initiative (OWDI). The initiative seeks to provide seamless access to water data using services-based approaches. As part of this work, ACWI has charged the Subcommittee on Spatial Water Data to scope and design a national Open Water Data Infrastructure. The effort will initially organize around use cases to define requirements for OWDI. Use cases have been defined that respond to societal needs and cover broad ranges of water resources sectors. The purpose of the use cases (defined below) is to identify critical data inputs, high-priority data sets, the current state of data availability and approaches to increasing data availability. Separate workgroups are addressing each use case in parallel.
 - National Flood Interoperability Experiment: This project will test new approaches to provide more accurate and more locally relevant flood predictions and warnings.
 - Drought - Water Availability and Water Supply: This project will identify a basin and seek to enable the exchange of critical information that is needed by water resource managers to make water supply decisions during drought. The WSWC is closely involved in this project since WaDE would be a key data source and since the states have the primary water resource management responsibilities and often make use of the federal data to make those decisions.
 - Spill Response: This project will evaluate approaches to share information to enable better notification to drinking water systems after a spill.

WestFAST will support the work of the “Use Case” work groups by (1) identifying staff with needed expertise for group membership, (2) supplying information on other ongoing work or resources that might be useful, and (3) through direct WestFAST member participation where beneficial.

The Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) is taking the lead in the OWDI Water Availability and Water Supply Use Case. Part of that activity will include assessing the interoperability of BOR data. WestFAST will assist BOR in engaging with WSWC to prioritize efforts to create interoperability in their data bases.

- In support of the OWDI and to continue to implement the principles of data sharing outlined in the WaDE project, U.S. EPA initiated a project to explore approaches to share continuous monitoring data. As part of

this project, EPA will develop a strategy for enabling a national network for sharing of sensor data using common formats. This strategy could be used for data collected by any sensor (both water quantity and water quality), and the strategy will address both state and federal data. WestFAST will work with EPA in implementation of the defined strategy for sharing sensor data among the WestFAST federal family and beyond.

- WestFAST will provide support to states and federal agencies in engaging in the National Groundwater Monitoring Network (NGWMN). The NGWMN Data Portal provides access to groundwater data from multiple, dispersed databases in a web-based mapping application. The portal contains current and historical data including water levels, water quality, lithology, and well construction. The NGWMN is transitioning from a pilot phase into full implementation. In the future, additional data providers to the network will be added. Limited funding to support state and local participation in implementation of the NGWMN may become available by the end of FY 2015. WestFAST will Support and facilitate the new implementation phase of the NGWMN by
 - Assisting with outreach and education components of implementation.
 - Assisting with the establishment of working and funding agreements between State Agencies and USGS.
 - Working with USGS program support staff to support technical assistance to states entering the program.
- WestFAST will work to optimize coordination of data collection, compilation, storage, and dissemination activities of the National Water Census with WSWC needs and programs such as WaDE. Data collection and compilation activities as part of Water Census programs include national estimates of water budget components for local watersheds, water use data for counties, tools to calculate statistics of daily streamflow records, modeled daily streamflow at ungaged stations, and access to records of aquatic biology. These Water Census Data are stored in the National Water Census Data Portal.

Specifically, for this work plan period, WestFAST will provide coordinating support to Water Census programs to improve data describing water use (e.g., water withdrawals and consumptive use). Proposed funding increases for WaterSMART will support financial resources, through grants to State water resource agencies, to improve the availability and quality of water-use data that States collect and the integration of that data with the USGS Water Census. WestFAST will provide support to the WaterSMART water-use program including

outreach and facilitating the implementation of state grants programs through working with WSWC

- WaDE
 - WestFAST will continue to support the WSWC on the implementation of the Water Data Exchange (WaDE) (see: <http://www.westgov.org/wswc/wade/>).
 - WestFAST will support the WSWC in the development of a common data standard for sharing water availability, use, allocation, and planning data.
 - WestFAST, in coordination with the WGA, DOE, WSWC, and the Sandia Labs will assist with the development of a metric that can be used to indicate relative water availability for energy production throughout the west in support of the Western Electricity Coordinating Council's (WECC) long-term planning process.
 - WestFAST will support the WSWC in designing web services that the states can deploy to share their water data.
 - WestFAST will identify ways that the WestFAST member agencies can better share data in a consistent format.
 - WestFAST will support the WSWC in the development of a 'Central Portal' to help synthesize and visualize the state and federal water data.
 - WestFAST will continue to engage and coordinate with the USGS Water Census to ensure that WaDE is complementary to that effort and to test and optimize data sharing between Water Census data bases and WaDE. WestFAST will consider opportunities to develop pilot assessments for the incorporation of federal agency data into WaDE and the extraction of water use data from WaDE as input to Water Census products.

3.3 Water Infrastructure

States, with assistance from relevant federal agencies, should provide institutional mechanisms and otherwise encourage regional water and wastewater projects to maximize economies of scale and minimize environmental impacts from smaller, piecemeal project development. (Next Steps Report)

Activities: WestFAST will work with WSWC in hosting an Infrastructure Workshop/Symposium in 2015-2016.

All levels of government, along with appropriate private sector involvement, should cooperate in the development and implementation of appropriate criteria for prioritizing

infrastructure needs, asset management strategies, policies, standards, techniques, and technologies. (Next Steps Report)

Activities: WestFAST will assist the Department of Interior and the Bureau of Reclamation in their efforts to better manage the BOR's infrastructure assets including a review of asset maintenance activities. WestFAST will work to facilitate BOR and state and local stakeholder cooperation in efforts to maintain reserved works at Reclamation facilities and assessing major repair and rehabilitation needs for reserved and transferred works.