





# DWR Investments in Sub-Seasonal to Seasonal Forecasting – A Portfolio Approach





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## **Summary Thoughts**

- Atmospheric Rivers are a key component to California's water supply and flood risk. The character, size, number, and timing of atmospheric rivers play a key role in seasonal hydrologic outcomes for California.
- Improved observations and forecasting are key elements to improved decision support enabling more options for integrated water management in California as the world warms.
- S2S Forecasting has billion dollar potential in water and related resources management.

## **Topography is Central to Western Water Outcomes**



## A Symphony of Scales In Space and Time

Single Event – Hours to Days

Timing of Events and Inter-Event Times

Seasonal Accumulation & Variability

Annual Accumulation & Interannual

Variability

**Decadal Scale Variability** 

Climate Change over a Century

## Federal State and Local Alignment

- DWR plays a key role in facilitating the transition of new science in observations from research to operations for water management.
- Relationships with federal partners have been built over the past decade with the availability of resources on a project-by-project basis.
- Continued engagement with the science community is key to adapting to a warming world. Collaboration with local partners key to delivering best science available to water management in CA.

#### Timeline of Intel and Needs



Legal Mandates

End-of-Year Storage

Precipitation Millions \$ Peak AR Activity

Peak Precipitation Snowpack Shutdown

Summer Heat

Oct Nov Dec Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep

Water-Year Outlook

Onset

Mid-Winter Update

Snowmelt Runoff

Spring GW **Highpoint** 

Snowmelt Runoff Prediction

Fall GW Lowpoint

### S2S Intel on:

- Wet or Dry Year
- In-season Transition
- Extremes Potential
- Rain or Snow
- Warming World Influence

California Climate

Divisions





## **Investments in S2S**

- Collaborations with Science Agencies and Research Community
- Targeted Projects with Identified Expertise
- Opportunistic Engagements Building into a Bigger Program Picture

Increased Resiliency
And Opportunity in
Integrated Water
Management

Decision Support

Observations Forecasts

#### **Strategy**

- Near Term Returns: Projects whose outcomes can make immediate contributions
- Mid-Term Returns: Projects that take multiple years to yield return on investment
- Long-Term Returns: Foundational development to build upon or that will lead to larger gains later