

# Meeting Summary

## Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners (DRIP) Collaborative Informational Meeting: 2025 Engagement Plan

California Natural Resources Agency, Room 06-212

715 P Street, Sacramento

Remote Participation via Zoom

February 13, 2025 | 10:30AM-12:00PM

This teleconference meeting was recorded. The recording can be viewed at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=o6eJfZPFmbA>. Meeting materials are available on the DRIP Collaborative webpage at: <https://water.ca.gov/drip>.

Launching the third year of the DRIP Collaborative, the Development Team hosted an informational session meeting to update members and the public of the engagement plan for the year 2025. This year will largely follow the structure established in 2024, but with adjustments to accommodate suggestions from DRIP Collaborative members, as well as to improve efficiency, flexibility, and collaboration, see Table 1. These changes aim to sustain collaboration and impact, ensuring that the 2025 recommendations align with the needs and priorities of the DRIP Collaborative.

**Table 1.** Key changes to DRIP Collaborative Engagement Process for 2025.

| Process Updates   | Explanation   |
|---|---|
| <b>Workgroup Changes</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• DWR point-of-contact<sup>1</sup></li><li>• State and non-State co-leads</li><li>• Virtual meetings will be less formal</li></ul> | Workgroups will have a designated DWR point-of-contact to work with a State and a non-State lead; the three will work together to steer the workgroup direction, develop content, and facilitate meetings. The virtual meetings will be less frequent and formal and have less content development support. Additionally, workgroups will explore ways to engage member networks for broader input and expertise. |
| <b>In-Person Meetings</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Working sessions for recommendation development</li><li>• Less focus on upcoming year's focus areas</li></ul>                   | The three in-person meetings will remain. The meeting agenda will include working sessions for developing recommendations. Unlike in 2024, agenda time will not be dedicated to launching next-year focus areas. Instead, meetings will include 2024 recommendation tracking and member updates. AV support will be limited.  |
| <b>Recommendation Timing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Template simplification</li><li>• Aim for Oct final votes, but may roll to 2026</li></ul>                                    | The recommendation template will be simplified. The final vote is targeted for October, but, if needed, votes may roll into 2026. The number and timing of recommendations will depend on member interest to lead.  |

<sup>1</sup> DWR Point-of-Contacts for 2025 Workgroups

Anthony Navasero  
[anthony.navasero@water.ca.gov](mailto:anthony.navasero@water.ca.gov)

- Infrastructure & Planning
- Drought Communication

Zoe Kanavas  
[zoe.kanavas@water.ca.gov](mailto:zoe.kanavas@water.ca.gov)

- Reducing Ecosystem Impacts of Drought
- Cross-Cutting Themes

Julie Ekstrom  
[julia.ekstrom@water.ca.gov](mailto:julia.ekstrom@water.ca.gov)

- Land Use Planning for Drought Resiliency

Below is an overview of the roles and responsibilities associated with the workgroups and recommendation process.

### Workgroups

- Each workgroup will have **one State & one Non-State member as co-leads**, and a designated DWR point of contact. These co-leads will:
  - Lead workgroups in collaboration with DWR points-of-contact.
  - Finalize problem statements based on member input and feedback.
  - Ensure cohesion across recommendations within focus areas.

### Recommendation Process

- Recommendations will continue to be led by a DRIP Collaborative member
- Leads will refine recommendations with workgroup co-leads and DWR points-of-contact.
- Through that refinement, recommendations will incorporate workgroup and DRIP Collaborative feedback.

## Tracking 2024 Recommendations

The Development Team will track and communicate progress on the 2024 recommendations. Updates will be shared through **briefings** during the in-person DRIP Collaborative meetings, relying on a **pre-meeting survey** to DRIP Collaborative members. This process will connect members' work to the 2024 recommendations and create a **feedback loop**, ensuring outcomes inform the DRIP Collaborative's ongoing efforts. The point-of-contact for recommendation tracking is Julie Ekstrom.

**Question from DRIP Collaborative member:** Was I supposed to be working on implementing the approved recommendations?

**Answer:** DRIP Collaborative members are not expected to implement any of the recommendations approved last October. However, the Development Team recognizes that many members are engaged in implementation outside of their DRIP Collaborative responsibilities. The tracking of the 2024 recommendations is intended to keep DRIP Collaborative members aware of ongoing, relevant activities.

## Preparing for Next In-Person DRIP Collaborative Meeting

**From March to April**, virtual workgroup meetings will be held to refine problem statements and, if possible, begin early recommendation ideation. The DWR Point-of-Contact will schedule these meetings with the workgroup members. **In April**, refined content will be provided to the Development Team to shape breakout discussions for the May meeting. **On May 16**, the in-person DRIP Collaborative meeting will focus on finalizing problem statements and launching the recommendation ideation process.