

California Water Commission Strategic Plan 2012

Comments received during public comment period*

Letter #	Letter Date	Date Received	From	Response Sent
1	2-Jul-12	3-Jul-12	The Shibatani Group	7/10/2012
2	3-Jul-12	6-Jul-12	Bureau of Indian Affairs	7/10/2012
3	23-Jul-12	23-Jul-12	DWR - Division of Statewide Integrated Water Management	7/25/2012 (email)
4	26-Jul-12	26-Jul-12	"A bunch of guys..." Inyokern, CA	7/30/2012 (email)

*As of 7/31/12

Comments Incorporated into Draft Strategic Plan

Letter #	Comment #	Page/Paragraph	Summary of Comment	Staff Comments/ Response
1	A	Page 5, ¶ 1	Under Water Supply Reliability, mention other consumptive and non-consumptive uses including agriculture and irrigation	...local water needs including urban, agricultural, and environmental uses.
2	A	Page 19, ¶ C	Goal 3, Strategy C should be changed to read "...Improve coordination between federal, state, tribal, and local public agencies and stakeholder."	The CWC agrees that the inclusion of tribal governments is important. The CWC fully supports executive order B-10-11 and will make the suggested update.
4	A	Page 5, ¶ 1	We do suggest the end of the second sentence in water supply reliability be changed to ... "Significant investments are needed to expand and upgrade aging infrastructure, including the State Water Project, Delta conveyance, and regional projects to better address local water needs for all California regions. " ... in order to emphasize that the CWC is for all of California, not just select areas.	Agree. Suggest incorporating proposed changes.
4	C	Page 8, Figure	We would like to see "Stakeholders" replaced with the "California Residents" and another circle, showing "California Businesses" added.	Agree. Suggest incorporating proposed changes.
4	D	Page 10, Figure	Suggest changes corresponding to above comment.	Agree. Suggest incorporating proposed changes.

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4	L	Page 11/19	With regard SBX7-2, this is no longer the name of the bill, which has been retired for now... need to correct wording here to represent the upcoming 2014 pending bill. Perhaps simply delete "... and, if the Safe, Clean, and Reliable Drinking Water Act of 2012 (SBX7-2) is passed," and state, "When funded by the legislature, the Commission will select water management projects ... " (notice we increased the scope from water storage to water management projects).	We agree clarification is needed. We will make appropriate revisions based on the postponement of the bond. The Commission does not have the authority to increase the scope of funding from "water storage projects" to "water management projects."
4	M	Page 18	We would like assurance that this infrastructure improvement Goal (all of the strategies in Goal 3) will consider all of California, not just those areas fed by the SWP.	As it stands, Goal 3 is not an infrastructure improvement goal. This goal does apply statewide, and we can add some clarification to that effect. However, currently any funding associated with SBX7-2 is restricted in the bill to projects that "provide measureable improvements to the Delta ecosystem or to the tributaries of the Delta." Suggest adding "statewide" to end of Goal 3.

Comments not Incorporated into Draft Strategic Plan

Letter #	Comment #	Page/Paragraph	Summary of Comment	Staff Comments/ Response
1	B	Page 17, ¶ C	Mention relationship of Central Valley Project (CVP) operations to State Water Project (SWP).	While the Commission understands the important connection between SWP and CVP operations, the CVP is outside of the scope of the Commission's review.
1	C	Page 19	Acknowledgement of regional projects and local water needs is refreshing.	No response needed
1	D	Page 5, ¶ 2	Climate change will not inherently alter variability, rather shift the long-established hydrograph.	Comment provides more detail than we can include in this high-level document. Also, see new Climate Change Strategy.
1	E	Page 5, ¶ 2	The link of climate change to more intense storms is not incontestably established. Soften Statement.	Comment provides detail than we can include in this high-level document. Also, see new Climate Change Strategy.
1	F	Page 5	"Critical Issues" may be called too limiting; however, these are the salient issues in terms of water yield and availability.	No response needed
1	H	Page 14	Goal 1 could be enhanced, augmented or integrated with similar public forum activities (ACWA, AWWA, PPIC, WEF, CWP).	The Commission is hosting a public forum in conjunction with the State Water Contractors and ACWA this fall. We will look for additional opportunities to coordinate such outreach/public forum efforts.
1	I	Page 17, ¶ C	Goal 2 could be expanded. What specifically does the Commission have in mind regarding review of SWP operations? This goal should be measured.	The Commission is holding public workshop on the State of the SWP this fall, at least one member will tour SWP facilities each year, and the full Commission receives updates on SWP operations at meetings at least 2x/year. These specifics will be included in the Commission's workplan.
1	L	Page 15 ¶ B	Add public workshops as a means of promoting this strategy.	Strategy B does include "public meetings and workshops" as a means of implementation.

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1	N	NA	Plan was well written, concise and effective.	No response needed
4	B	Page 5, ¶ 1	We would like the last sentence in this section to explain what is included in the phrase, "deteriorating levee system". For instance, would the LA Aqueduct be included and therefore eligible for state funding?	This section addresses water supply issues in a broad, general sense, and does not intend to make any implications about funding for specific regions or levee systems. A discussion of specific levee systems would not be appropriate in this context.
4	F	Page 15, ¶ 1 /3	Goal 1, Strategy A/C. Possibly, develop a web database presence, which allows capturing input on specific issues, germane to regions, etc. Could capture (1) concern, (2) recommendations, (3) CWC review considerations, (4) dispensation, (5) score as to whether this captured concern added significantly to improving the final management of the SWP or was simply improving understanding for the stakeholders (could even categorize which kind of stakeholder).	Currently information on various issues is available on our website. The "issues" page makes all key information on specific issues readily accessible. We also tag all documents on our website by issue in order to make information easy to find through a site search. We appreciate this suggestion and will look into creating a more formal "issue database" in the future.
4	H	Page 17, ¶ C	This strategy only captures engagement with SWP. What about other areas? What about water management decisions not within SWP reach (Tahoe to Imperial Valley, etc.)?	Goal 2, Strategy C refers specifically to the Commission's statutory duties related to review of SWP construction and operations (Water Code § 165).

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4	J	Page 18	Goal 3: All Strategies, and most poignantly Strategy A: "Policy Leader" ... it would seem that the CWC is only a source of influence if it has no arbitrating authority over other California Water agencies (DWR, local districts and boards).	

Comments for Commission Consideration at August 15, 2012 Meeting

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1	G	NA	The Plan appears to be Delta/Central Valley focused. Does the Commission's purview include other regions? Will the Commission engage in discussion regarding importing out-of-state water? Where will the Commission draw the line?	The Commission's responsibility is for the entire state, not only the Delta watershed. Commission may not have authority to discuss inter-state water issues. The Commission may wish to discuss this issue further.
1	J	Page 18	Goal 3 could be strengthened by referencing USFWS/NOAA in its strategies. The Commission should consider how or whether it will participate in ongoing discussions re: smelt and salmon BiOps and RPAs.	This may be covered by addition of Integrated Resource Management Strategy. The Commission may wish to discuss this issue further.
1	K	NA	How does the Commission view its role/partnership with DSC and BDCP?	Possible roles include member of Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee, decision maker for Eminent Domain related to BDCP, others? This can be addressed further in the Commission's Workplan.
1	M	NA	Does the Commission have a plan to develop implementation procedures or guidelines? This would be helpful in measuring guidelines.	Yes. An implementation plan or staff workplan will be the next step once the Strategic Plan is approved. Commission may wish to discuss this further.

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3	A	NA	I would ask that the Commissioners consider adding a strategy/recommendation in their strategic plan to advance Integrated Resource Management.	<p>Recommended Addition: Strategy X: Develop and support policies that advance Integrated Resource Management</p> <p>The California Water Commission recognizes that no single agency has sufficient responsibility, authority, expertise, or resources to ensure natural resources stewardship throughout California. Multi-agency collaboratives have structural and functional characteristics that make them more effective in furthering the mandates and missions of each participating agency and in employing Integrated Resource Management (IRM) to achieve more effective natural resource stewardship. The Commission will engage in multi-agency collaboratives, including but not limited to, the California Water Plan State Agency Steering Committee and the Delta Plan Interagency Implementation Committee, and support policies that encourage and advance IRM.</p>

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4	E	Page 15, ¶ A	Goal 1, Strategy A. Lacks metrics. How will Commission define/defend the value of this process?	Metrics may include number of public workshops/hearings held, white papers published, website metrics, response to public comments. This can be addressed further in the Commission's Workplan.
4	G	Page 15, ¶ A	Goal 1, Strategy A. This strategy only captures engagement with SWP. What about other areas?	<p>Engagement on SWP issues is intended to be one specific example of a broader strategy that does encompass statewide issues. SWP issues are called out specifically because the Commission does have certain codified responsibilities/authority for the SWP. (WC § 161.5, 165, 166) However, the Commission may wish to consider additional text regarding statewide engagement.</p> <p>Suggested Revision: The Commission will engage the public through the use of public hearings on various water issues and specifically to seek public input on all additional facilities proposed to be added to the State Water Project and when naming facilities of the SWP.</p>

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4	I	Page 18	<p>Goal 3: Is the purpose to support sustainable management of water or support management of water to achieve sustainable water? we suggest changing this goal to ... "develop and support water management policies that result in a sustainable and healthy water infrastructure and a healthy environment."</p>	<p>Possible revision: Develop and support water management policies that result in sustainable water resources and a healthy environment statewide.</p>
4	K	Page 19 ¶ B	<p>Goal 3: Strategy B: The Strategy to develop Strategies is redundant. Do you mean top level intentions on how to go about it? or deciding where to establish / build-up storage? What might be good to say here is ... "Commission will oversee and review systems analysis of water storage options, vet final results through public discussions, and advance good management of water storage investments."</p>	<p>The Commission may wish to consider incorporating the suggested text.</p>

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N/A	N/A	19	DWR Climate Change Staff suggest adding strategy for Climate Change	<p>Recommended Addition: Strategy X: Support actions and research to mitigate and adapt to climate change to facilitate more sustainable water management policies</p> <p>Climate change impacts, including changes to precipitation and runoff patterns, reduced snowpack, and sea level rise, will significantly affect public safety, water quality and public health, water supply reliability for farms, businesses, and residences, and ecosystem health. The Commission will actively support policies to help state and local water resources managers mitigate and adapt to climate change impacts. The Commission will specifically support the adaptation strategies for water management outlined in California’s Climate Adaptation Strategy 2009, including Integrated Regional Water Management, water use efficiency, improved monitoring, integrated flood management, ecosystem stewardship, operational flexibility, and water storage.</p>