



Western Principles for Water Use Efficiency

- Affirms 20 percent statewide goal. Approach seeks to implement the statewide 20 percent urban per capita water use reduction goal in a flexible, but highly effective and accountable manner to achieve long-term sustainability.
- Ensures that all water use efficiency efforts are recognized. For example, an agency that recycles its wastewater, captures stormwater and cooperates with other water agencies in its watershed to use potable water over and over is deemed highly water use efficient.
- Maximizes existing planning and implementation processes to meet goal. Maximize local responsibility and accountability using well-established Integrated Regional Water Management Planning processes (as updated by Assemblymember Huffman in 2008 via 2xx 1) for regional-level conservation planning and implementation and Urban Water Management planning processes for agency-specific work.
- Provides flexibility with accountability. Allow for implementation at single-agency or regional levels, but builds in audits and timelines to assure that the 20 percent by 2020 goal is on track and ultimately achieved.

...enhanced watershed sustainability.

- Includes mandatory BMP adoptions and tracks effectiveness of existing state mandates. Requires urban water agency adoption of CUWCC “foundational” best management practices and gauge effectiveness of implementation of already existing, recently established conservation statutes (AB 1420 of 2008 requirements for BMP implementation, AB 1881 model landscape ordinance legislation, utilization of allocation-based pricing options under AB 2882, effects of AB 1560 and AB 662 re: water efficient appliances and buildings and many others.)
- Supports standardized data collection to support analysis and tracking. Urban water agencies should use industry accepted (CUWCC or AWWA) methods in collecting data and evaluating and implementing water conservation measures. DWR should develop and implement a uniform and transparent database for the collection and distribution of data and methods.
- Focuses on CII separate from residential. Seeking to combine CII under individual agency’s “per capita” measures of water has no rational basis – and may detract from meaningful efforts to maximize CII conservation. Rather, a specific focus on improving CII conservation methods (perhaps a task force similar to model landscape ordinance task force) would be useful at statewide level. Regional and agency level efforts would set local CII goals needed to reach 20 percent.
- Promotes fair, appropriate use of GPCD for statewide measures and analysis. Given the multiple, unique factors that affect individual agency’s GPCD (housing density/lot sizes, ET zone(s), commercial, industrial, institutional uses, year-to-year weather changes, etc.), using GPCD to compare agencies against a regional GPCD or against other agencies is neither fair nor useful. However, GPCD data collected in a fair, standardized manner can serve as a useful resource for better understanding of conservation and can be used by an agency to track and report its own conservation progress.
- States water use efficiency maximization should enhance watershed sustainability – not serve as a step toward water rights reallocation (this note offered in response to concept reflected in LAO primer).



Securing Your Water Supply

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