



Building Strong Collaborative Relationships for a Sustainable Water Resources Future

*Presentation to
Oklahoma Governors' Water Conference*

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A Snapshot of Past and Present



The World Has Changed...

Population Migration

Global Warming

Water Conflicts Between States

Growing Backlog CG, O&M

Climate Change

Aging Infrastructure



Droughts

Growing State Water Resources Capabilities

Sedimentation a Bigger Issue

Declining Discretionary Funding



Disappearing Wetlands & Coasts



US Army Corps of Engineers

New Thinking

Focus	From	To
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SUCCESS = • CRITERIA • WORK • KNOWLEDGE • STYLE • MONEY • LIFE CYCLE 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects • NED benefits 1st • Stay in your functional lane • Knowledge is power • Follow SOPs as recipes • Save Federal \$ • Plan and build 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comprehensive Plans • More balanced NED, RED, EQ, OSE benefits • Seek horizontal integration • Share knowledge • Think creatively, consider risks, think & work systems • Leverage resources • Plan, fund, monitor for full project life cycle

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Our Future Planning Direction

Principles and Guidelines (P&G)

- *Sec 2031 of WRDA 2007 directed revisions*
- *An Administration and OMB proposal*
 - A two-phase product approach
 - **Basic Principles of Water Resources Planning**
 - **Implementation Guidance**
- **Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM)**
- **Public comments recommend a comprehensive watershed/systems approach planning and management (IWRM)**

PRINCIPLES & GUIDELINES

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The States Favor ...



- Integrated approach and greater collaboration, partnerships among state, local and federal agencies
- Collective determination of needs and challenges for effective and complementary solutions
- Anticipation and prioritization of future water resources infrastructure needs
- Federal agencies' use of state water plans to align federal agency support to states
- Federal financial and technical assistance to support the states
- Reliable water supply for growth and development
- Federal leadership in collaborative watershed/systems planning
- Unified aims and actions for "Integrated Water Resources Planning and Assistance" to recommend to Congress as a priority Federal mission



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The States Do Not Favor...



- Federal government interfering with the states' leadership role in planning
- Criticism of how state water plans are being implemented
- Development of a national water plan as a compilation of single projects
- Taking a single-project focus instead of a basin-wide or regional scale approach or IWRM
- Non-collaborative multi-agency efforts that only meet the needs of the Corps and not the other federal agencies
- Proposed cost B/C ratio criteria for primary purpose projects
- A P&G that does not meet acceptable thresholds for national public safety
- Further lengthening formulation of projects
- A plan formulation approach that does not embrace state/local needs/concerns and is not parallel to an IWRM Vision
- Non-sustainable, non-comprehensive and non-collaborative planning

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Working Collaboratively Towards a Shared Vision ~ Scope



- Conduct a contractor-supported study to get smart about what states say are their important water needs
- Collect and summarize the data to reveal state and regional needs, challenges, regional trends, gaps, and priorities
- Produce 3 regional reports reflecting regional needs and priorities; discuss the results collaboratively
- Conduct 3 regional conferences – Central, West and East Regions - and a national conference to discuss the reports collaboratively
- Produce a national report synthesizing regional and national trends and priorities; discuss the results collaboratively
- Collect and summarize data on ongoing federal initiatives
- Recommend strategies for addressing high-priority state and regional needs in the context of a national water dialogue

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Desired Outcomes



- Summarize and understand 50 state water visions
- Achieve collaborative participation in assessment and findings
- Identify and report unmet state and regional water needs
- Identify areas for more integrated and comprehensive planning and management within and across states
- Build stronger partnerships among states, regional groups, federal agencies, and NGOs for comprehensive and integrated planning
- Identify needs, challenges and opportunities for joint federal collaboration in support of state and regional water needs
- Identify ways to reduce duplication of efforts by federal agencies for better use of federal funds
- Educate and communicate the importance of a national strategy and funding to address key water needs

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Key Events and Milestones



States and Regional

- **Eastern Region**
 - *Summary reports and follow-up interviews – Dec 08*
 - *Regional trend analysis report – Jan 09*
 - *Regional conference – Feb 09 (FL or GA)*
- **Western Region**
 - *Summary reports and follow-up interviews – Jan 09*
 - *Regional trend analysis report – Mar 09*
 - *Regional conference – Apr 09*
- **Central Region**
 - *Summary reports and follow-up interviews – Feb 09*
 - *Regional trend analysis report – Apr 09*
 - *Regional conference – Jun 09*



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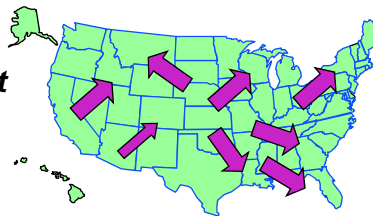


Key Events and Milestones



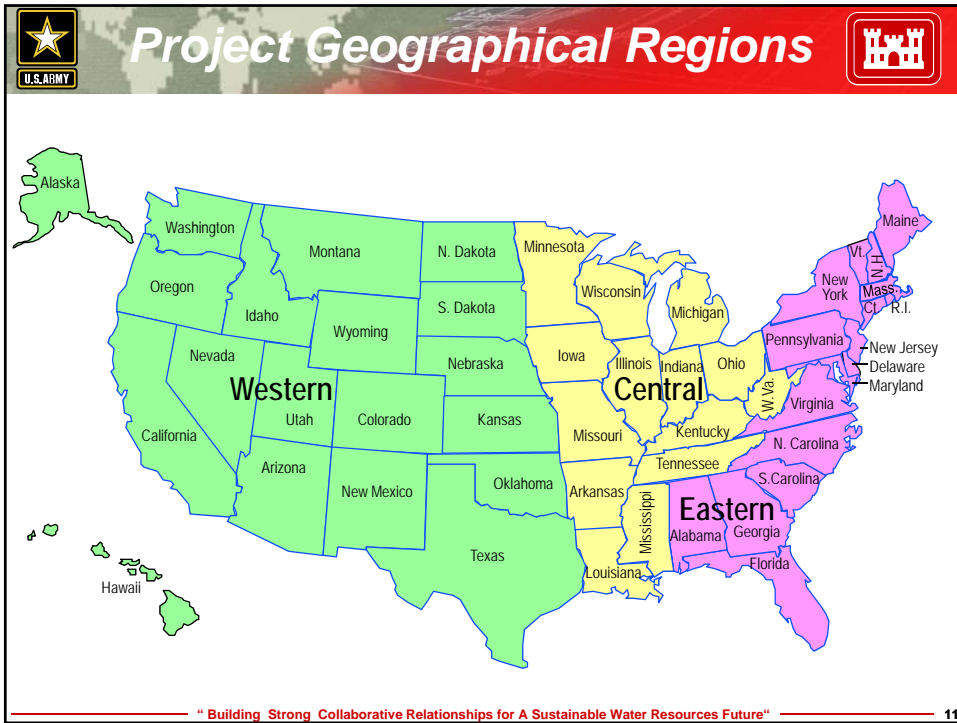
Federal

- **Federal Agencies Assessment (FEMA, BuRec, USGS, NOAA, EPA, FWL, NRCS, USDA, BLM, TNC, etc.)**
 - *Draft Summary report – Feb 09*
 - *Interviews – Jan/Feb 09*
 - *Final Summary report – Feb 09*
- **National Conference (DC area)**
 - *National Conference – Aug 09*
 - *Draft comprehensive report - Sep 09*
 - *Final report Nov 09*
- **Speak at conferences**



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**One End Result:
A Federal Family Toolbox**

U.S. ARMY

- Leverage existing toolbox of current resources across federal agencies
- Enhance the federal family toolbox with resources from regional, interstate organizations, NGOs and other Federal agencies
- Leverage use of the federal toolbox of support to states and regions
- Develop the nation's "will" to offer the states more robust assistance through collaborative alliances and relationships
- Work with states for more integrated and balanced water plans
- Unify the next Administration's and Congress' vision for water resources planning and infrastructure

Water

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Watershed Investment Decision Tool - in a Nutshell



Easily accessible framework for comparison and analysis of information relevant to watershed-scale investment decisions

- Display complex information to a wide range of users

- Accommodate numerous decision criteria

- Leverage existing data sets, models and tools



- Account for different types or levels of decisions

- Support tradeoff analysis across competing investments

- Promote public/private sector integration and synchronization

- Visualize impacts of budget authorization and appropriation decisions

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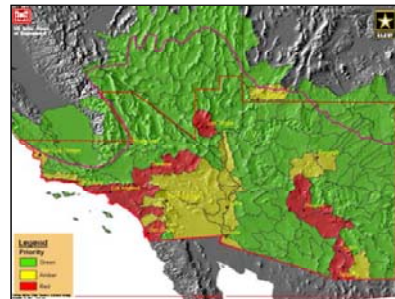
An Example of One Tool



Watershed Investment Management Decision Tool Concept:

- Make use of existing information
- Allow systems view across a portfolio of activities
- Red, Amber, Green designations to screen by watershed for:

- Flood risk
- Earthquake or fire hazard
- Population centers
- Critical habitat
- Water supply zones
- Air and water quality
- Navigation
- Hydropower
- Congressional Districts



- Support *risk assessment*
- Collaborate with partners and stakeholders on format and criteria for more universal use

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A Matter of Character



"In a connected world, countries, governments and companies also have character, and their character — how they do what they do, how they keep promises, how they make decisions, how things really happen inside, how they connect and collaborate, how they engender trust, how they relate to their customers, to the environment and to the communities in which they operate — is now their fate."

Tom Freidman

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An Interconnected Future



- Stronger partnerships for collaborative water resources planning and problem solving
- Smarter regional planning
- Comprehensive strategy to inform and educate about water needs
- Advocacy for critical national water needs
- Shared water visions and goals
- Life-cycle water infrastructure approach
- Risk-based management
- Resilient water infrastructure



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Questions?

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Thank You For Listening!