

State Water Planning

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State Water Planning

Overview

- Reviewed 11 state water plans and 2 interstate water plans
- **6 out of 11** states incorporate climate into the state water plan
- **10 out of 11** states incorporate drought into the state water plan
- **3 out of 11** states have a standalone climate plan
- **11 out of 11** states have standalone drought plan

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Climate

- Variable emphasis between states
- Climate vs climate change
- Often event-focused

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Drought

- High awareness
- Variation in planning horizons
- Sometimes hard to distinguish from climate change

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STATE WATER PLAN REVIEW

April 2021



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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Overview

The 2021 State Water Plan Review provides an overview of 10 state water plans and 2 interstate water plans. The Review identifies the driving forces behind state water planning and the goals of engaging in the planning process.

We also focused on five specific questions to help characterize state water plans:

- Does the state have a standalone climate plan?
- Does the state incorporate climate into its water plan?
- Does the state have a standalone drought plan?
- Does the state incorporate drought into its water plan?
- Does the state have a permitting system?

Acknowledgements

We relied on publicly available state water plans to conduct our review. A link to each state's water plan is included in Appendix A.



Hoover Dam



Austin, TX

TEXAS

2017 STATE WATER PLAN

Drivers

The 2017 State Water Plan focuses on addressing the gap between existing water supply and future water demand in the context of the pressures of population growth.

Highlights

This is the first year that Texas has incorporated drought into their state water plan. Although the Plan only mentions "climate" three times, it discusses the variability and uncertainty of future water supply and demand.

Goals

The Plan is a guide to state water policy that includes legislative recommendations and proposed water management strategies. It provides an understanding of water availability and water supply within the state and incentivizes stakeholder participation.

The Plan also serves as a progress report and an update to previous plans.

Thank you!

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