



OUR MISSION

Advance collaborative, proactive, science-based water decision making that supports dynamic human and natural systems in the West.

Why is the Western Water Network Relevant and Needed?

Key Messages

- People and organizations working on water security in the West need to be better connected.
- With the coming challenges, such as a more severe drought and competing demands for water, there is an emerging need to better address problems/opportunities at a larger scale.
- Sustaining western agriculture and vibrant communities requires meaningful connections between water users, managers, researchers, and decision makers.
- *Solution Statement:* Establish the Western Water Network to promote integrated collaboration among water researchers, managers, educators, and stakeholders.

Talking Points

- Climate change and competing uses for water are altering patterns of water availability in the West.
- Success stories from water-smart communities stand out as role models for designing a better approach. A key success element they share is the presence of an effective network of people working together on their local issues.
- This project will create a network that connects the broad West-wide community of stakeholders, researchers, educators, Extension professionals, service providers, and policymakers tasked with confronting the West's most pressing water issues.
- We will begin with an inaugural Western Water Network conference to share information. We will quickly follow with collaborative fact-finding and creating cooperative solutions in future conferences and associated work efforts.
- The Western Water Network will support the next wave of needed innovations to:
 - Conduct assessments of the factors associated with successful water resiliency;
 - Explore the feasibility of innovative water management practices, policies, and institutions;
 - Characterize, in collaboration with the USDA climate hubs, the patterns of water availability expressed as water budgets in the West; and
 - Build teams of stakeholders and professionals to support decision-making and policy formulation for a secure water future in the West.