

## Environmental Considerations Work Group Meeting Report Out

Meeting Number: 4

Date: May 7, 2020

Meeting Topics:

Agenda topics included: a review of the Demand Management workgroup processes and updates about the activities of other Demand Management workgroups, criteria discussion, scenario planning discussion, review of preliminary data and tools, and consultant needs and direction.

Key Takeaways:

The group discussed the following topics:

- Demand Management Review: The group revisited the purpose of a potential Demand Management program to ensure compact compliance. CWCB staff reviewed workgroup tasks such as the need to identify key policy issues and the potential to assess the potential pros and cons of different approaches. Staff also provided updates about other workgroup scenario planning efforts and listed examples of the type of products that other workgroups are generating.
- Criteria Discussion: The subgroup provided an overview of the draft document they produced related to potential environmental considerations for a Demand Management Project. The group agreed that the document describing environmental considerations, needed additional context, and decided to continue to refine the document before meeting again in June.
- Scenario Planning Discussion: The group discussed the efforts of other workgroups and considered a number of different uncertainties that could be used to formulate scenarios. The subgroup will refine hypothetical examples of types of potential Demand Management projects for discussion at the next meeting.
- Preliminary Data and Tools Review: An inventory of potential environmental resources and tools that may be helpful were presented and the group was asked to make suggestions if others should be included.
- Consultant Needs and Direction: Representatives from the Demand Management contractor were introduced. The workgroup asked a number of questions to clarify the purpose of the literature review and the extent of the investigation.

Questions/Concerns to Raise:

The group identified some questions and issues to consider going forward, including:

- Questions about the potential to conduct more technical analyses such as determining how often certain criteria are met in critical habitat or the amount of dry up needed to achieve different volumes of water.
- A general lack of riparian and wetland information was identified as a data gap.

#### **Additional Technical, Informational Other Needs:**

The group discussed the potential for the contractor to assist with development of initial criteria for assessing environmental impacts and benefits of potential demand management projects, based on existing literature.

#### **Public Comment**

- A suggestion was made for the Environmental Considerations workgroup to use hypothetical project examples rather than scenario planning.

#### **Other:**

The group discussed timelines for a subgroup to develop a draft document on hypothetical examples and for revisions to the Environmental Considerations document. The group plans to convene remotely on June 2nd.