

Environmental Considerations Work Group Meeting Report Out

Meeting Number: 1

Date: August 29, 2019

Meeting Topics:

Agenda topics included: background on demand management and drought contingency planning; process and expectations of the work groups; initial issue identification; and public comment.

The group spent the majority of the meeting identifying important issues associated with environmental considerations for a potential demand management program.

Key Take Aways:

The group discussed many different aspects of potential environmental impacts and benefits, such as:

- Will projects with higher environmental benefits be prioritized?
- Can criteria be developed to quickly assess potential environmental benefits or impacts for specific projects?
- How can environmental benefits be measured or quantified to better demonstrate positive impacts?
- How can environmentally beneficial projects be incentivized?
- What are the environmental impacts and benefits associated with potential agricultural demand management activities?
- What type of flows will provide benefits and how will flows be impacted?
- What types of tools may be necessary or available?
- Are there any examples or case studies of demand management that include an assessment of environmental concerns?

Questions/Concerns to Raise:

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

- How to balance equitable distribution of a potential demand management program with desire to prioritize project selection based on environmental benefits.
- How to best learn from previous work and demonstration projects.

Additional technical, informational other needs:

The group discussed potentially having a contractor conduct a number of tasks in a phased approach to better understand the environmental impacts or benefits of a demand management program. This approach could include a literature review of

existing information to understand what is already known, assess information gaps, and prioritize potential benefits through criteria. Next steps could include identifying protection mechanisms and systematic project monitoring efforts.

Other:

The group identified two additional meeting dates and locations on October 30th in Salida and November 22nd in Frisco.