



National Water Program: Climate Change Workgroup

**Presentation to: National Association of
Clean Water Agencies**

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The Office of Water Established a Climate Change Workgroup to:

- *Review climate change information*
- *Evaluate potential impacts on water programs*
- *Identify potential response actions*
- *Develop a climate change strategy for the
National Water Program*

*Memorandum signed by Assistant Administrator for Water:
March 1, 2007*



Climate Change Workgroup

Workgroup Structure:

- Office of Water Lead*
- Deputy Assistant Administrator Chair*
- Senior Water Program Managers*
- OAR and ORD Participation*
- Regional Water Programs Represented*



Climate Change Workgroup

- *Principles:*
 - *Organize around existing Agency climate change framework:*
 - *Mitigation*
 - *Adaptation*
 - *Research*
 - *Work with other EPA program offices*
 - *Identify specific response actions*
 - *Open communications with stakeholders*



Climate Change Workgroup

- ***Key Goal:***

Create capacity within National Water Program to develop and implement specific actions responding to climate change in coordination with Federal, State, Tribal and other partners

- ***Workgroup Product:***

- ***DRAFT National Water Program Strategy:
Response to Climate Change***



Climate Change Workgroup

Key Steps in Process....

- AA Memo Creating Workgroup - March 1*
- Stakeholder “Listening Sessions” – June/July*
- June 20-21 Agency Climate Meeting in Seattle*
- National “Fly-in” for Water Directors - July 20*
- Workgroup Draft Strategy – August*

Next Steps...

- Internal Review - September*
- Public Review - Fall*
- Final Strategy - Winter*



Water Program Climate Change Strategy

Overall Structure of Strategy...

Executive Summary

- I. Introduction**
- II. Background: Climate Change
Impacts on Water Resources**
- III. National Water Program: Climate
Change Actions**

Appendices



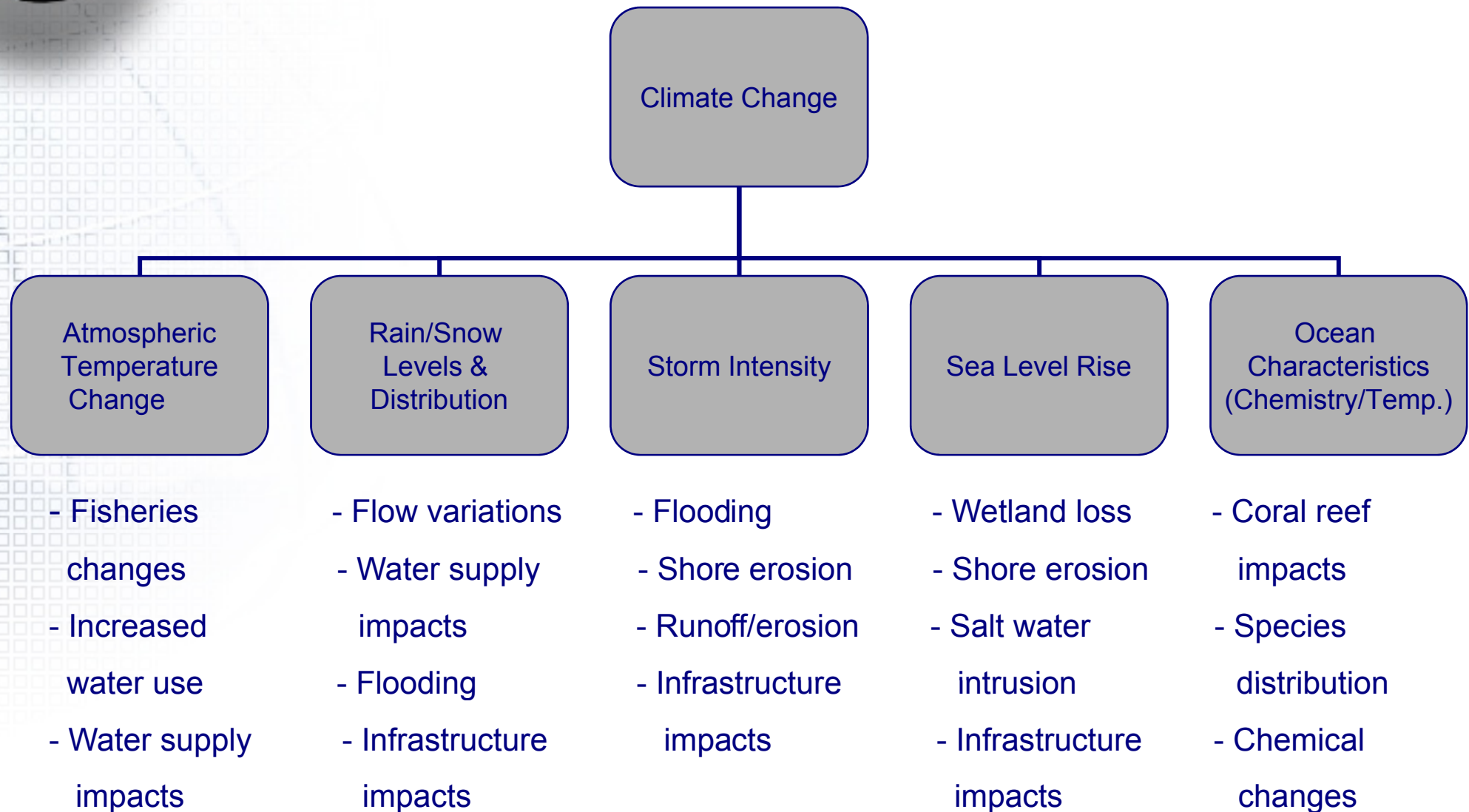
Water Program Climate Change Strategy

Background: Climate Change Impacts on Water Resources

- *Air/Water Temperature*
- *Rain/Snow Levels and Distribution*
- *Storm Intensity*
- *Coastal/Ocean Characteristics*
- *Sea Level Rise*



Adverse Water Impacts of Climate Change





Water Program Climate Change Strategy

Five Major Goals:

- **Goal 1:** *Water Program Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases*
- **Goal 2:** *Water Program Adaptation to Climate Change*
- **Goal 3:** *Climate Change Research related to Water*
- **Goal 4:** *Water Program Education on Climate Change*
- **Goal 5:** *Water Program Management of Climate Change*



Water Program Climate Change Strategy

1. Water Program Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases

- *Water Conservation*
- *Energy Conservation related to Water*
- *Green Buildings/Smart Growth*
- *Carbon Sequestration*
 - *Underground Injection*
 - *Biological Sequestration*



Water Program Climate Change Strategy

2. Adapting Water Programs to Climate Change

- Drinking Water, Water Quality and Effluent Standards*
- Watershed Protection*
- NPDES Permits*
- Water Infrastructure*
- Wetlands*



Water Program Climate Change Strategy

3. Water/Climate Research

- *US Interagency Research (CCSP)*
- *EPA Water Research related to Climate Change*
- *EPA Global Climate Change Research Program*
- *Potential Climate Change/Water Research Topics (Appendix)*



Water Program Climate Change Strategy

4. Education and Outreach

- *Education/Training of Water Staff in EPA*
- *Education of Water Professionals*
- *Water/Climate Change Information Services*
- *Outreach to Partners and Stakeholders*



Water Program Climate Change Strategy

5. Water Program Management of Climate Change

- Role of Workgroup*
- Role of HQ/Regions*
- Coordination with Agency Strategic Plan*
- Coordination with Other Federal Agencies*



Climate Change Workgroup

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