

**Factoring Climate Change into  
the Phase III WIP:  
*CBP Programmatic Update***

Climate Resiliency Workgroup

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# Climate Change Decision-Making Timeline

Three Key Sets of Partnership Decisions:

- **December 2016:** Agreement on 1) climate change assessment procedures, 2) guiding principles, and 3) a range of options for how and when to factor climate change considerations into the jurisdictions' Phase III WIPs
- **June 2017:** PSC to decide how and when to incorporate climate change considerations into the Phase III WIPs as the partners work on the draft Phase III WIP planning targets
- **December 2017:** Final Phase III WIP planning targets fully reflecting partnership decisions regarding how and when to incorporate climate change considerations

# Principals' Staff Committee Decisions

- Approval of Guiding Principles
- Approval of Climate Assessment Procedures as recommended by the WQGIT and Management Board
- Narrowed down the current range of 7 options for factoring climate change into the Phase III WIPs

# Guiding Principles

## **WIP Development:**

- Capitalize on “Co-Benefits”
- Account for and integrate planning and consideration of existing stressors
- Align with existing climate resiliency plans and strategies
- Manage for risk and plan for uncertainty
- Engage local agencies and leaders

## **WIP Implementation:**

- Reduce vulnerability
- Build in flexibility and adaptability
- Adaptively manage

## *Option 2: Factor Climate Change into Phase III WIP' Base Conditions*

Use either the 2025 or 2050 climate projection scenarios as base conditions (informed by CBWM climate modeling results) in the establishment of the jurisdictions' Phase III WIPs. The climate change projection would be an added load that the jurisdictions would need to address in addition to their Phase III WIP planning targets, thereby increasing the level of effort.

# Options 5,6 & 7: Proposed Language (CRWG)

<p><i>#5: Factor Climate Change into Phase III WIP BMP Optimization.</i></p>	<p>During the development of Phase III WIPs, jurisdictions' would prioritize the selection of BMPs that will better mitigate the anticipated increased nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment loads due to the projected effects of climate change through 2025 or 2050.</p>
<p><i>#6: Adaptively Manage Phase III WIP BMP Implementation (Post Phase III WIP development).</i></p>	<p>During each two-year milestone development period, jurisdictions would consider new information on the performance of existing BMPs, including the contribution of seasonal, inter-annual climate variability and weather extremes on BMP performance. When there is a detectable impact on the effectiveness of a BMP performance, jurisdictions would use this information to re-prioritize the selection of BMPs to implement in the Phase III WIPs that will better mitigate the anticipated increased in nitrogen, phosphorus and sediment loads.</p>
<p><i>#7: Factor Climate Change into Programmatic Commitments with Set Expectations.</i></p>	<p>The projected impacts of climate change in 2025 and 2050 will be assessed and relayed to the jurisdictions. Jurisdictions would provide a narrative that describes their programmatic commitments to address climate change in their Phase III WIPs. Jurisdictions are expected to consult the Guiding Principles when developing their narratives. Narratives may vary among jurisdictions, but would include a description of their method(s) for gathering and assessing scientific data and information, their conclusions based on that information, and how those conclusions guide their programmatic commitments.</p>

# Options 5,6 & 7: Revised Language (CBC)

- During each two-year milestone development period, jurisdictions would consider new information on the performance of BMPs and the programs that support them, including the contribution of seasonal, inter-annual climate variability and weather extremes on BMP performance.
- When there is a detectable impact on the effectiveness of a BMP or programmatic performance, jurisdictions would use this information to re-prioritize their actions to implement in the Phase III WIPs that will better mitigate the anticipated increased in nitrogen, phosphorus or sediment.