Discussion and Consideration of Decision-making Process for Management Strategy Selection

Guiding Principle #4: River Basin Plans should utilize effective supply and demand strategies

- River Basin Plans should utilize **sound science** and recommend suitable but **cost-effective management strategies** which embrace new, proven technologies, procedures, and practices to enable more efficient use of water and to maximize water availability.
- Management strategies should be **flexible**; should be responsive to trial, monitoring, and feedback; and should change in response to new scientific information and technical knowledge.
- Water planning should include both surface and groundwater resource management.
- River Basin Plans should consider the **conjunctive use** of surface and groundwater as a potential water management strategy.
- River Basin Plans should support a **water-conservation** and **water-efficiency ethic**.

Guiding Principle #4: River Basin Plans should utilize effective supply and demand strategies

- **Water conservation** should become an integral component of water resources management and be one of the first approaches for extending or augmenting available supplies.
- River Basin Plans should consider both **water-demand management strategies** and **water-supply strategies**, such as: water conservation, improved efficiency, pricing structures, reclaimed/recycled water, new wells, new reservoirs, expansion of reservoirs, lowering of intakes in reservoirs or rivers, aquifer storage and recovery, reverse osmosis/desalination, interbasin transfers, and conjunctive use of surface and groundwater.
- River Basin Plans should **promote the efficient use of existing water supplies** and consider opportunities for and the benefits of developing **regional water-supply facilities** or providing regional management of water facilities.

Criteria to Evaluate Water Management Strategies

- Effectiveness

Step 1

- Cost/benefit incl. capital and annual costs ($/MGD)
- Reliability (especially during drought)
- Permitting/regulatory including interbasin impacts
- Environmental impacts
- Socioeconomic impacts
- Water quality impacts and considerations
- Constructability

Step 2

Decision-Making Process for Selecting Water Management Strategies