

Section 6

Recommendations and Plan Completion

This section presents a summary of the Drought Plan's major policy recommendations and discusses the process for completion and approval of the Drought Plan.

6.1 Policy Recommendations

The Drought Plan presents an approach, consisting of monitoring, assessment, response, and mitigation components, to address future drought effects. The Drought Plan recommends the formation of three committees to carry out implementation:

- A Drought Task Force responsible for continuous monitoring and reporting of hydrologic conditions throughout the water year with increased monitoring during drought.
- A drought monitoring method based upon the Standard Precipitation Index and the Sacramento River 40-40-30 Water Supply Index.
- An Interagency Coordination Group (ICG) to be activated in Phase 2 of a drought event. The ICG will assess drought impacts, initiate general actions to respond to impacts, activate specialized working groups as necessary, and serve as the primary liaison with appropriate local, State and federal agencies.
- Specialized working groups activated by the ICG as needed to coordinate the assessment of drought impacts, as well as appropriate response and mitigation actions.

6.2 Public Review and Completion

Public review copies of the Drought Plan are available at Butte County libraries in Biggs, Chico, Durham, Gridley, Oroville, Paradise, and in the Meriam Library Special Collections Section on the campus of California State University-Chico. Copies of these plans are also available at the DW&RC's library, at www.buttecounty.net/waterandresource, or at Butte Environmental Council's office at 116 West 2nd Street, Suite 3 in Chico.

DW&RC staff plans to conduct public outreach meetings throughout the community during the summer of 2004 beginning in July. After the DW&RC receives public comments, they will incorporate the comments into the Draft Drought Plan and present the plan to the Butte County Water Commission, then to the Board of Supervisors for future consideration and policy direction.