



California DRIP Collaborative

2025 Workgroup: Reducing Ecosystem Impacts of Drought

Drought Resilience Interagency & Partners (DRIP) Collaborative

Tuesday, September 9, 2025
11:00AM-12:30PM PT
Remote Participation (via Zoom)

Facilitated by Workgroup Point of Contact: Zoe Kanavas (Zoe.Kanavas@water.ca.gov)

California Department of Water Resources - Water Justice Office

Meeting Information

1. This meeting is being recorded.
2. This meeting must adhere to the Bagley Keene Open Meeting Act rules. The workgroup quorum is required (3 out of the 6 on the workgroup). If we don't meet quorum, we will offer this time and this space for an informal discussion about ecosystem impacts of drought.
3. DRIP Collaborative workgroup members must keep their cameras on during the meeting. You must notify the group if you turn off your camera and state why.
4. Members of the public and other DRIP Collaborative members are welcome to listen. A public comment session is included later in the meeting.
5. Please practice electronics courtesy and mute when not speaking.

Meeting Purpose and Agenda

Objectives: Focus on shaping a best practices approach for landowner cooperative agreements to support instream flows. Discuss returning to streamlining grant and contract processes and long-term O&M considerations in future meetings.

Meeting Agenda

- 11:00am Welcome, Roll Call
- 11:05am Refresher & Proposed Pathways
- 11:25am Eco1. Instream Flows
- 12:25pm Public Comment
- 12:30pm Adjourn

Roll Call

WORKGROUP PARTICIPANTS

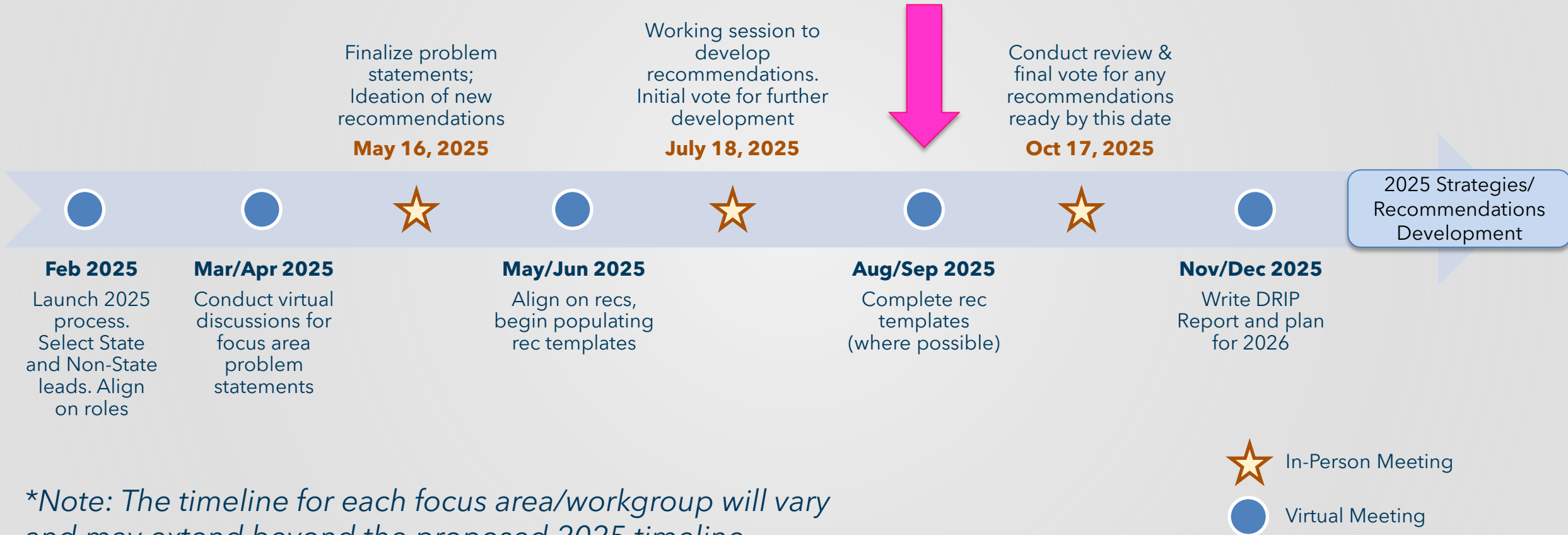
(Quorum = 4 DRIP members)

1. **Redgie Collins**, CalTrout – *Workgroup Lead*
2. **Anna Schiller**, Environmental Defense Fund
3. **Sierra Ryan**, Santa Cruz County
4. **Brent Hastey**, Plumas Self Storage (Public Member)
5. **Laura Ramos**, California Water Institute at Fresno State
6. **Alvar Escriva-Bou**, UC Davis

REFRESHER & PROPOSED NEW PATHWAYS

(20 MINUTES)

2025 Proposed DRIP Collaborative Timeline



**Note: The timeline for each focus area/workgroup will vary and may extend beyond the proposed 2025 timeline.*

Pathways: Level of Engagement

Inform: Learn about and raise awareness of existing efforts.

INFORM EXAMPLE: Educate about an agency drought outreach campaign.

Complement: Enhance coordination by contributing to ongoing efforts and addressing specific gaps where DRIP can add value.

COMPLEMENT EXAMPLE: Review campaign and provide feedback to strengthen messaging and expand reach.

Lead: Take initiative (coordinate new efforts, drive solutions, etc.) on issues lacking adequate attention.

LEAD EXAMPLE: Develop a statewide drought outreach initiative tailored to underserved regions.

Consider:

How could the ideas change if DRIP were to Inform, Compliment, or Lead?



Refresher & Pathways

July 17th DRIP Collaborative Meeting – Status

Eco2. Streamline Grant & Contract Processes

(Redgie Collins and Samantha Arthur)

- Expand *Cutting the Green Tape* and other efficiency practices across agencies
- Members supportive, but want the value-add clarified

Eco3. O&M for Habitat Restoration Projects

- Expand long-term stewardship, legal frameworks, and sustainable funding
- Distinct from streamlining; O&M terms often set in grants

Proposed Pathways:

Inform or Complement:

SME presentation on *Cutting the Green Tape* + drought-specific case studies

Inform:

Revisit in future meeting, informed by California Water Commission drought white paper



Refresher & Pathways

July 17th DRIP Collaborative Meeting – Status

Eco1. Instream Flows (Redgie Collins)

- Originally framed as piloting landowner agreements in small coastal streams
- July SME presentations:
 - TNC: flow protections for drought resilience
 - SWB: Scott/Shasta curtailments & Local Cooperative Solutions
- Interest in adaptive water rights tools (forbearance agreements, instream leases, storage flexibility)
- Preference to document & promote best practices rather than launch new pilot

Proposed Pathways:



Lead:

- Explore idea of best practices document on cooperative approaches
- Outline sections and content
- Identify potential drafters and consider state review role
- Highlight key tools and case studies



Discussion Questions:

- What existing resources could this build off of?
- What could the document include?
- Who could lead drafting, and who could review?
- Which water rights tools and case studies could be highlighted?

ECO1. INSTREAM FLOWS: BEST PRACTICES FOR LANDOWNER COOPERATIVE SOLUTIONS

(60 MINUTES)



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Eco1. Instream Flows: Best Practices for LCS

Recommendation Lead: Redgie Collins

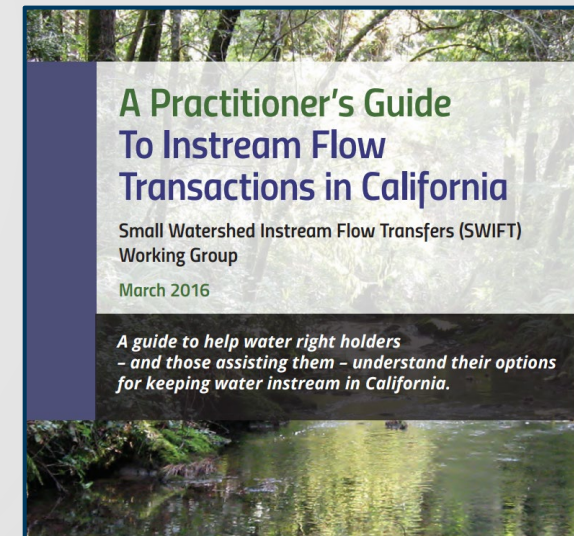


- **Building off of:** *A Practitioner's Guide to Instream Flow Transactions in California* (2016)

Discussion Questions:

- What other resources could be drawn from?

2016 Guide



https://cawaterlibrary.net/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/A-Practitioners-Guide-to-Instream-Flow-in-CA_March2016.pdf



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
WATER RESOURCES

Eco1. Instream Flows: Best Practices for LCS

Recommendation Lead: Redgie Collins



- **Introduction:** role of flows in drought resilience
- **Water Rights Tools:** instream leases, forbearance, storage flexibility
- **Case Studies:** Scott/Shasta
- **Practical Requirements:** funding, monitoring, Tribal engagement, technical support
- **Lessons Learned:** success, challenges, replicability

Discussion Questions:

- What could the document include?

Scott River Canyon



https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drought/scott_shasta_rivers/



Eco1. Instream Flows: Best Practices for LCS

Recommendation Lead: Redgie Collins



- **Drafting:** NGO, university/academics, state agencies?
- **Review:** State agencies including State Water Board, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

Discussion Questions:

- Who could lead drafting?
- Who could review?
- What does the review process look like?



PUBLIC COMMENT

(5 MINUTES)

What's Next

September: Virtual workgroup meetings to learn more and continue advancing ideas.

- **Other DRIP Collaborative Workgroups:**

- **September 9th** – Communications Program Workgroup Meeting
- **September 12th** – Land Use Planning Workgroup Meeting
- Other DRIP Collaborative members, as well as members of the public, may join these workgroup meetings

October 17: DRIP Collaborative meeting (in-person)



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Adjourn

Recording will be posted to <https://water.ca.gov/DRIP>

Thank you!