



Good afternoon, San Diego County leaders.

As we continue seeking ways to maximize our region's water resources, the San Diego County Water Authority is extending our partnership with the Scripps Institution of Oceanography at UC San Diego to better predict atmospheric rivers and improve water management before, during and after those seasonal storms.

The Water Authority has a long-running alliance with SIO, and we are among six founding water agencies statewide supporting Scripps' Center for Western Weather and Water Extremes (CW3E). We're part of the Water Affiliates Group, which brings together cutting-edge science and hands-on water industry experience to enhance reservoir operations in light of the changing climate.

CW3E and its partners will share and support best practices in Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations, increase research around atmospheric rivers and droughts, and develop strategies for mitigating flood risk and increasing water supply reliability.

This partnership underscores **our commitment to strategic, science-based decision-making and long-term planning.** By supporting advances in forecasting, we can more efficiently and effectively manage water resources both locally and statewide. This ultimately will benefit everyone in California by helping sustain our economy and quality of life.

In addition, this collaboration aligns closely with Governor Newsom's Water Resilience Portfolio, which prioritizes voluntary agreements, smart water storage strategies and coordination of data collection. It's a great example of how water agencies are stronger together by addressing major climate challenges that affect everyone across the arid West. By combining forces with some of the leading scientists in the world, we will enhance our planning capacity and be ready to adapt to whatever the future brings.

Atmospheric river storms cause 40% to 60% of annual precipitation and most of the flood damage on the West Coast. Managing reservoirs for both flood control and drinking water supply retention is challenging because 20th century practices and regulations are decreasingly relevant due to changing patterns for snowmelt and rainfall.

The Water Authority and its partners are working with CW3E to assess how better near-term and long-term precipitation forecasts can improve reservoir planning and operational management in the San Diego region by maximizing local water supplies and the reliability of water resources through a mix of planning and real-time decisions. Click here to learn more.

Thank you for your interest and your support.

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