

Shared Vision Partnership Agreement for, the WESTERN STATES WATERSHED STUDY

Purpose:

To promote and facilitate a long term working and collaborative relationship between participants at the State, Federal, and local levels to develop the Western States Watershed Study.

Parties:

This is an understanding among the Western States Water Council (WSWC) and affiliated 17 Western States, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Northwestern Division, South Pacific Division, Southwestern Division). The above entities are collectively known as the Parties.

Goals:

We have established the following goals for our partnership:

- To work together to encourage and facilitate the creation of an informal Western States Federal Support Team.
- To learn and develop effective ways to work collaboratively as Federal and State organizations in support of local efforts to solve problems and maximize opportunities related to water resources.
- To develop a mutual understanding of western states water problems, opportunities, and values to focus on the development of mutually agreeable cost effective solutions and approaches.
- To work together to collaboratively develop Watershed Study activities that support selected priority recommendations identified in Water Needs and Strategies for a Sustainable Future released by the WGA and WSWC in June 2006.
- To work together to prepare a report in close coordination with state and local governments and other stakeholders.

Implementation:

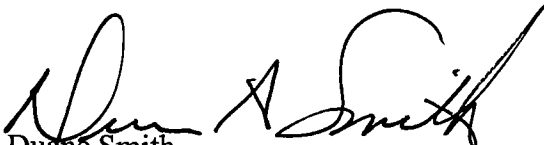
We, as representatives of our respective organizations do hereby declare our intent to work together in support of the Western States Watershed Study. We agree in principle that solutions to the complex water resources problems, issues and opportunities facing the Western States require the collaboration of local, State, Tribal, Federal, and other stakeholders. To insure effective implementation of this agreement, we commit to fostering a spirit of teamwork and cooperation between our organizations at all levels. We pledge to work together as a Watershed Study Team and meet in partnering sessions

as needed. We also commit to developing a subsequent collaborative action plan with specific initiatives and measurable milestones to be reviewed on an annual basis.

It is understood that this agreement supports the parties' cooperation for a comprehensive analysis examining multi-jurisdictional use and management of water resources on a watershed or regional scale. This is not a funding obligating or fiscal document. Any exchange of funds or other tangible resources in furthering the purposes of the partnering agreement will require execution of a separate written agreement in accordance with applicable law. Nothing in this agreement will be construed as affecting the authorities of the participants to act as provided by statute or regulation or as binding beyond their respective authorities or to require the participants to obligate or expend funds in excess of available appropriations.


Effective Date:

This agreement may be reviewed periodically to renew the Parties' commitment and to consider changes that might be needed. Amendments will be made in the spirit of cooperation and partnership by agreement of the signatories. It will remain effective until the Parties agree to terminate it by consensus.


Duane Smith
Chairman, Western States Water Council

Date 10/5/06




Don T. Riley
Major General, US Army
Director of Civil Works

Date 17 OCT 06

