

Climate Change and California's Water – What Challenges Can We Anticipate?

Summary: Dr. Dan Cayan, a researcher at Scripps Institution of Oceanography and the Water Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey, will provide an overview of climate variability in California and the current state of knowledge related to climate impacts on water, wildlife, health, and agriculture in California.

Background

Dr. Cayan will provide context for the panel discussion on the 2013/14 Water Year and will brief the Council on the extreme variability in California's climate and any new insights into the kinds of changes in precipitation (droughts and floods), temperature and sea level rise that might be expected under climate change. Key questions that are on the minds of many Californians include:

- Is our current extended drought merely a preview of things to come?
- What scenarios are we likely to encounter?
- How have climate change models improved our ability to take more targeted adaptation steps?

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