

Developing a Consistent Framework for Evaluating Multiple Benefits in Water Investments

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Funded by:



Surface Water Reservoirs



Reuse



Restoration



Desalination



Green Infrastructure



Land Management



Water Treatment



Water Transfers



Water Conservation and Efficiency



Project Goals

This project seeks to expand the usefulness, reach, and uptake of multiple benefit valuation by:

- (1) compiling social, economic, and environmental benefits of water management projects, and
- (2) developing a consistent framework and methodology to assess water management decisions.



Co-Benefits of Water Investments

Water

Water Quality (Enviro and Drinking)
Water Supply Reliability
Flood Control

Energy

Energy Savings
Energy Production Potential
Biproducts of Energy Production

People and Community

Community livability *
Equity and affordability
Human health *
Local economy

Risk and Reputation

Water supply reliability *
System Resilience
Regulatory compliance
Educational opportunity
Reputation

Land and the Environment

In-stream flows
Carbon sequestration
Mitigating extreme events *
Air quality benefits
Land and soil quality
Habitat and biodiversity *
Resource recovery

Less commonly cited

More commonly cited

* Cited but not commonly quantified



Project Goals and Outcomes

- State of Knowledge Report
- Framework and Methodology for Multi-Benefit Valuation
- Stakeholder Consensus Building
- Policy Mechanisms for Funding (and Co-Funding) Multi-Benefit Projects



Continuing Efforts and Outreach

Advisory Group: Continue engaging with our advisory group to identify applications and advance the work

State of Knowledge: Literature Review and Interviews

Stakeholder Convenings and Outreach: Integrating multi-benefit evaluation into decision making; build consensus; opportunities for overcoming barriers.

- Los Angeles, CA: June 19th
- Minneapolis, MN: July 12th (following US Water Alliance, One Water Conference)

Test Cases: Work closely with stakeholders to develop tools and resources for evaluating multiple benefits in water investments.

