

NEWS NOTES ON SUSTAINABLE WATER RESOURCES

SECURE Water Act Report

<http://www.usbr.gov/climate/secure/>

The SECURE Water Report identifies climate change as a growing risk to Western water management and cites warmer temperatures, changes to precipitation, snowpack and the timing and quality of streamflow runoff across major river basins as threats to water sustainability. Water supply, quality and operations; hydropower; groundwater resources; flood control; recreation; and fish, wildlife and other ecological resources in the Western states remain at risk. The report, which responds to requirements under the SECURE Water Act of 2009, shows several increased risks to western United States water resources during the 21st century. This is the second report produced for Congress. The first report was [produced in 2011](#). Specific projections include:

- A temperature increase of 5-7 degrees Fahrenheit by the end of the century;
- A precipitation increase over the northwestern and north-central portions of the Western U.S. and a decrease over the southwestern and south-central areas;
- A decrease for almost all of the April 1st snowpack, a standard benchmark measurement used to project river basin runoff; and
- A 7 to 27 percent decrease in April to July stream flow in several river basins, including the Colorado, the Rio Grande, and the San Joaquin.

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- [Chapter 2: Hydrology and Climate Assessment](#)
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[West-Wide Climate Risk Assessments: Hydroclimate Projections](#) (PDF - 10.78 MB)

This study will also be placed on the 2016 Reports and Publications Page of the Sustainable Water Resources Site at <https://sites.google.com/site/sustainablewaterresources/>