

Overview

- Decision support background
- Water sector specifics
- Promising opportunities

Decision Support Challenges in General

- Different "corporate cultures", values, language in the academic/research sector and in the practitioner sector
- Typically little interaction of scientists performing research with practitioners
- Loading dock method of information transfer

Communications 101

- Identify the target audience(s)
- Begin with the audience in mind
- Avoid jargon
- Have a plan



Speaking of Jargon.....

- Decision support
- Research to operations
- Climate services
- Capacity building
- Assessments, vulnerability analyses

Typically Cited Decision Support Needs

- Co-production of knowledge
- Capacity building, among both practitioners and researchers
- Long-term relationship building among practitioners and researchers
- Processes for disseminating relevant information

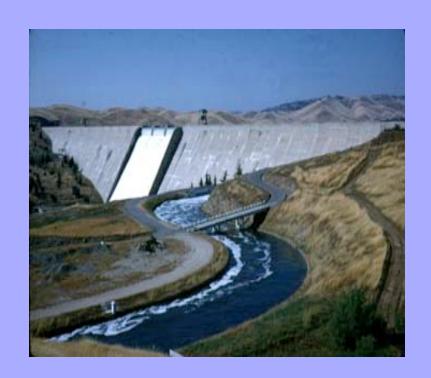
Typical Water Resources Perspectives

- Weather/climate applications not a core business function
- Typically no disciplinary background in weather/ climate
- Relevant only to specific subsectors
- Products & outreach need to be targeted (and no products without outreach)
- Large gap between existing products and "usefulness"



Water Sector Specifics

- Water sector is (highly) fragmented, not monolithic (e.g. Michael Hanemann)
- Size matters
- Historically limited usage of climate products
- Favors conservative approaches (public safety orientation)



Who is the "Water Sector" & Why Does it Make a Difference?

- Flood control and floodplain management agencies (ASFPM, NAFSMA, USACE)
- Dam safety management agencies (ASDSO)
- Hydropower utilities (APPA, EPRI)
- Largest water supply wholesalers (USBR, USACE, CDWR)
- Agricultural water supply agencies (NWRA)
- Urban water supply agencies wholesale and retail (AWWA, AMWA, ASDWA)
- Small public water systems (NRWA)
- End users (especially agricultural)
- Wastewater treatment agencies (ASIWPCA, NACWA)

Back to Communications.....

- Where is the plan?
- Who is the target audience?
- Who are the partners?



Promising Opportunities

- Federal guidance/leadership on hydromet standards of practice would be useful (e.g. flood frequencies, PMP)
- Monitoring & data collection partnerships?
- Pilot projects/test beds

