Suggested Breakout Session Questions

The following questions are suggested for the afternoon breakout session. Although we would like to have your insights on all of the questions, it will not be possible to work through the entire list in the time allotted for the breakouts. Groups are encouraged to answer questions of particular interest to them. Participants are encouraged to provide individual responses to the questions after the meeting.

1. What spatial scales should be evaluated in planning exercises (i.e. should one consider only an individual river basin, the PNW, or the entire west coast?)? Should a "nested" approach be applied?

2. What specific elements need to be considered in incorporating climate uncertainty into planning? Examples include:
   a. Changes in streamflow timing
   b. Changes in groundwater levels
   c. Changes in water demand
   d. Changes in energy demand
   e. Changes in streamflow temperature
   f. Potential for drought (if so, how many years before it becomes acute?) and/or severe flooding
   g. Others?

3. What planning horizons should be considered in assessing climate change impacts?

4. What additional costs are incurred by incorporating climate uncertainty in water planning and what strategies for minimizing these costs are available? How do we combine forces effectively to get the job done at a reasonable cost?

5. What should be the primary objectives in incorporating climate uncertainty in planning studies in the short term? Are these objectives different in the long term?

(cont'd)
6. From the perspective of the planning community, what are the most important uncertainties associated with the current state of development of climate change scenarios?

7. What fundamental research or data needs are impeding the incorporation of climate uncertainty in planning?

8. What institutional or political considerations are impeding the incorporation of climate uncertainty in planning?

9. What monitoring efforts are needed to validate climate change scenarios as actual climate changes evolve? Are current monitoring networks adequate to this task? Who should do this monitoring? Who should pay for it?

10. How are the results from studies at different spatial and temporal scales to be combined to produce a coordinated policy response at the regional or national scale?

11. a) Should planning guidelines and/or standards for climate change assessments be developed? If so, by what water management institutions?
   b) Should state/provincial governments legislate that climate change be considered in long-range planning funded by the state? Is this type of directive necessary or desirable? (note: CA may have already done so)