

# Promoting the Reliable Supply and Delivery of Water in the West: October 19th Presidential Memorandum



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The Trump Administration issued a document on October 19th titled:

*Presidential Memorandum on Promoting the Reliable Supply and Delivery of Water in the West*  
(“Memorandum”)

The *Memorandum* was issued to the:

- Secretary of the Interior
- Secretary of Commerce
- Secretary of Energy
- Secretary of the Army
- Chair of the Council on Environmental Quality

Goals of the *Memorandum* are stated to include:

- Reducing regulatory burdens that harm reliable water access in the West
- Increasing water reliability for families, farmers, and cities across the West
- Ensure a timely review process without compromising environmental protections under the Endangered Species Act

Each of these goals identify a number of actions that are required to be taken by a date certain. For example, the Secretary of Interior and Secretary of Commerce are required to identify, within 30 days of the date of the *Memorandum*, major water infrastructure projects in California for which they have joint responsibility and coordinate Endangered Species Act and National Environmental Policy Act compliance responsibilities.

Another example is a requirement that the Secretary of Interior and Secretary of Commerce facilitate greater use of forecast-based management provided by the Weather Research and Forecasting Innovation Act of 2017 by convening water experts and resource managers to develop an action plan to improve information/modeling capabilities related to water availability and water infrastructure projects.

A copy of the *Memorandum* can be found [here](#).