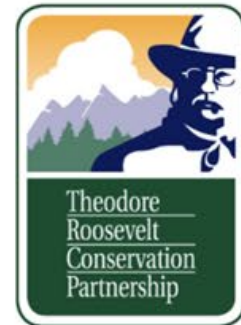


A stylized, flat-design illustration of a desert landscape. The background features a warm orange and yellow sky with several soft, white, rounded clouds. Below the sky, there are layers of mountains and hills in various shades of orange, red, and brown. In the foreground, a prominent mountain range is depicted in a darker blue-purple hue. The overall style is clean and modern, with a focus on bold colors and simple shapes.

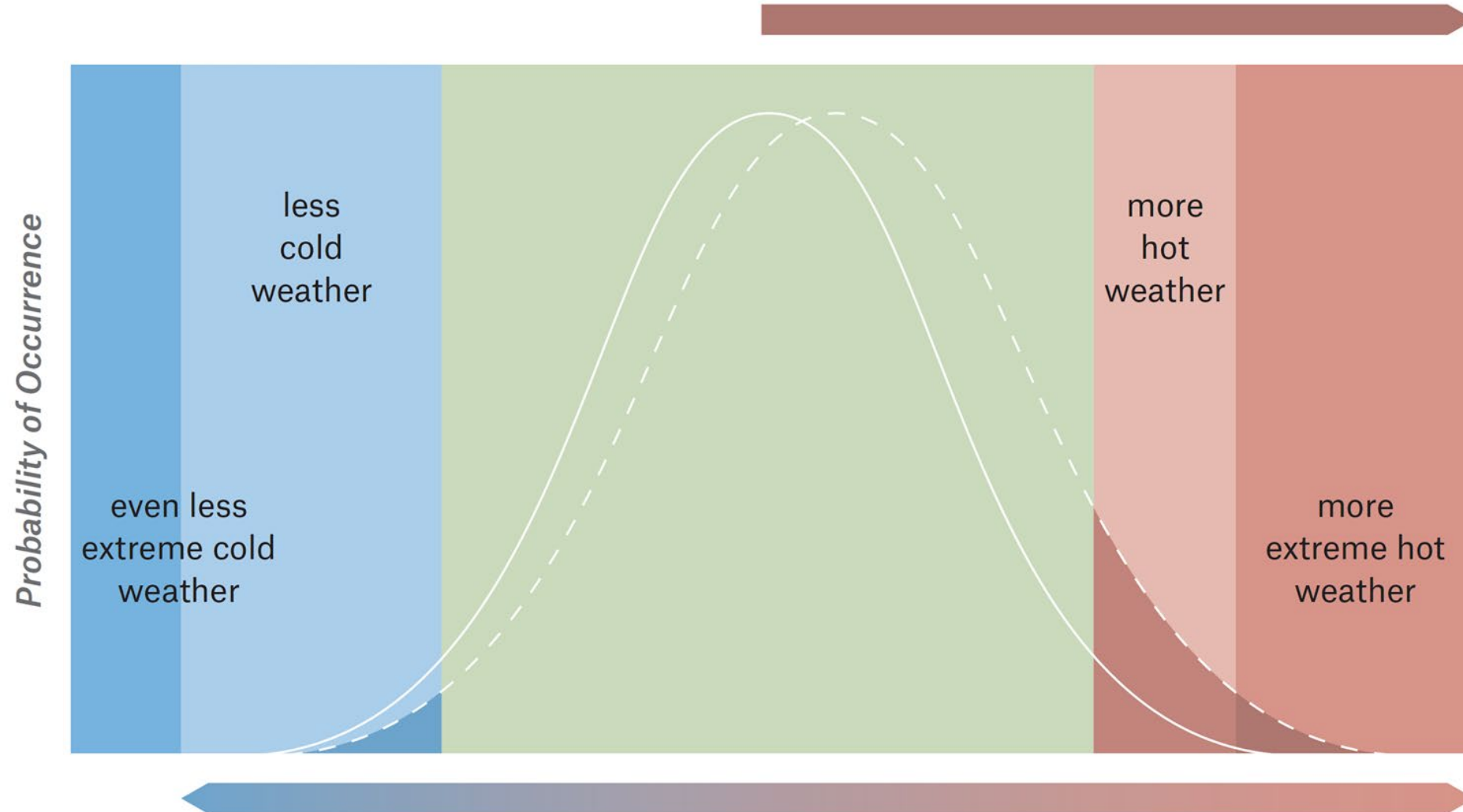
# **TEN STRATEGIES FOR CLIMATE RESILIENCE IN THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN**

# REPORT TEAM



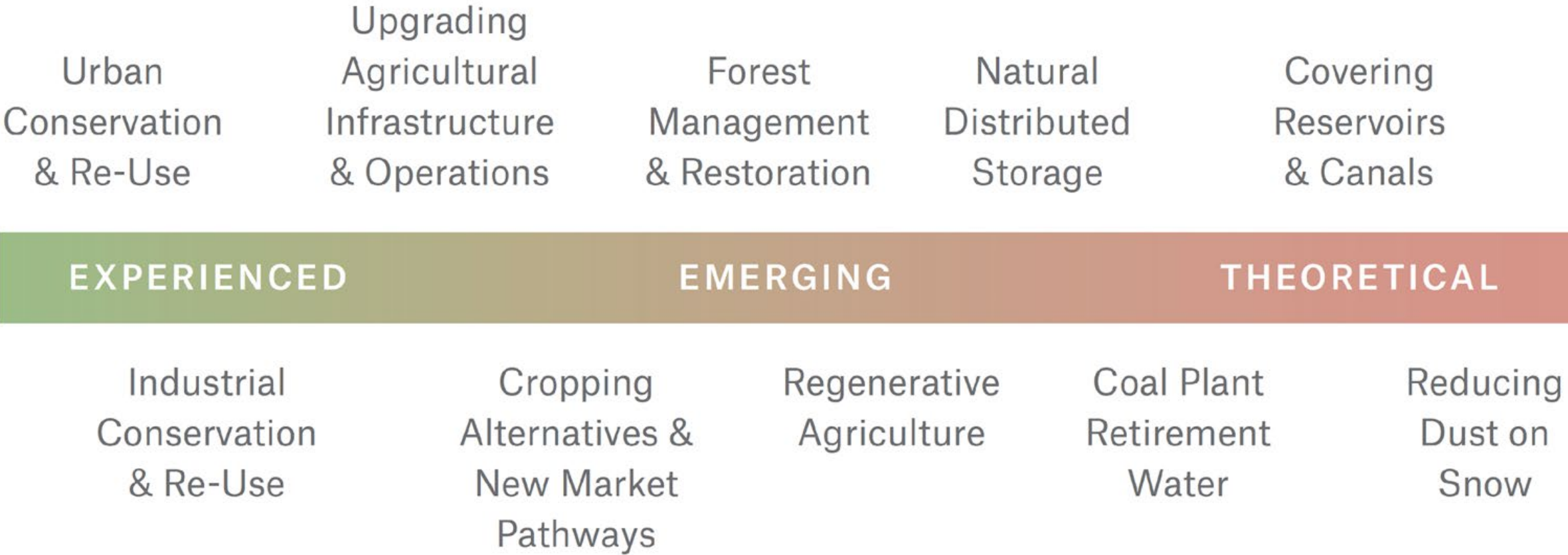
# Climate Change in the Colorado River Basin

*Progressive Climate Change Shifts the Mean Away from Historic and Expected Conditions*



*Extreme Events Extend the Bounds of Possible Conditions*

# Ten Strategies for Climate Resilience



# Resilience Questions

Could the investment help the Basin  
**adapt to on -going  
climate shifts?**

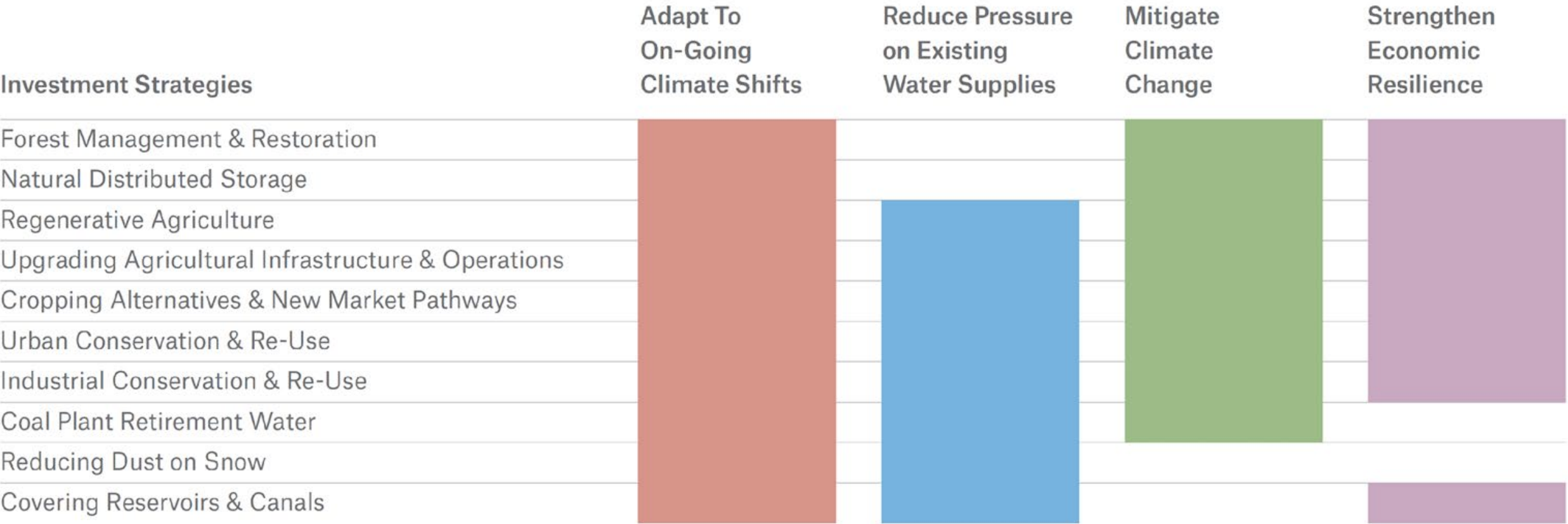
To what extent would the investment  
**reduce pressure on  
existing water supplies?**

Would the investment help  
**mitigate climate  
change?**

Could the investments  
**strengthen economic  
resilience in  
communities?**



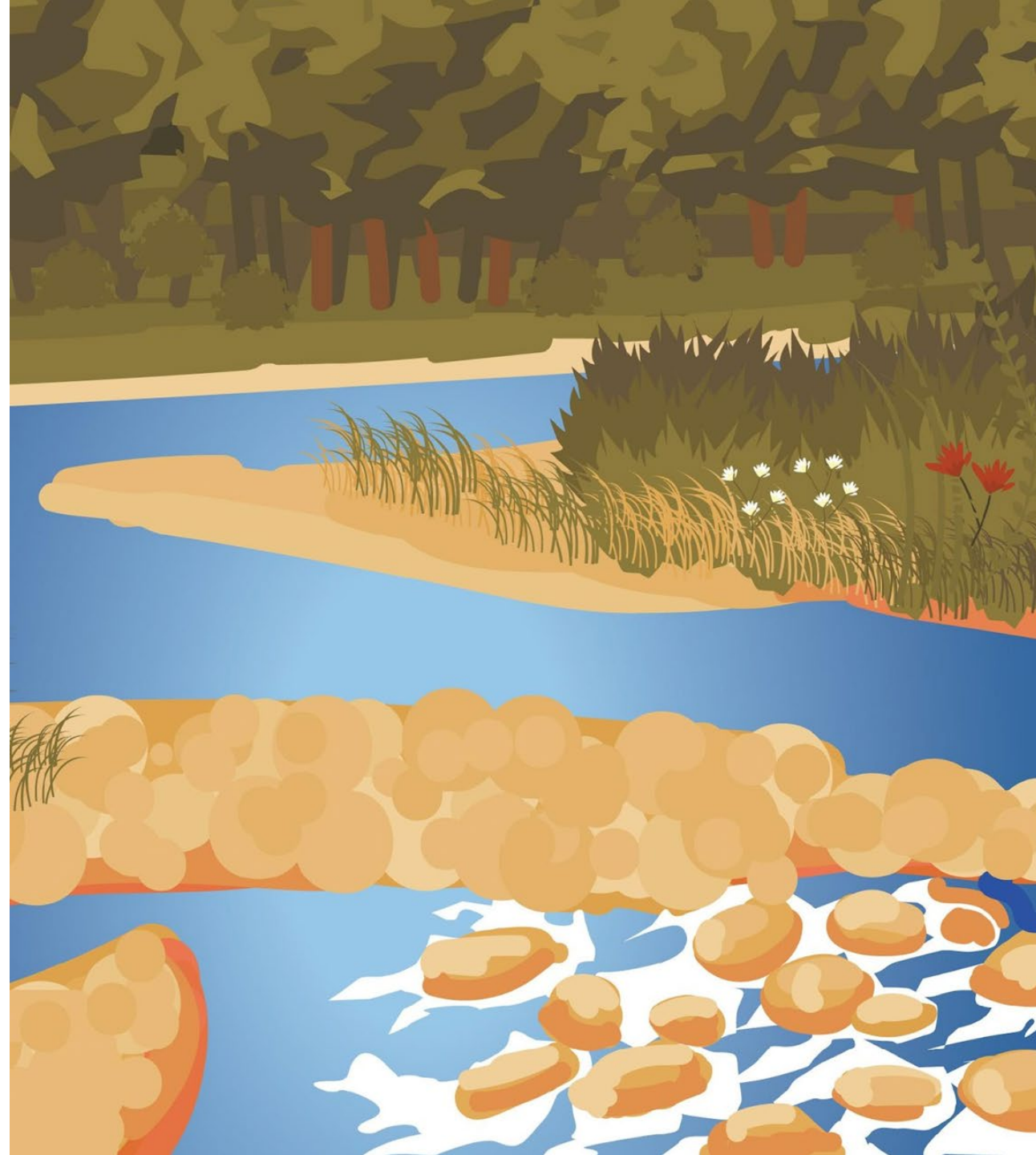
# Ten Strategies: Climate Resilience Benefits



adapt  
mitigate  
strengthen

# Natural Distributed Storage

Restoring highly degraded natural meadow systems to improve local aquifer recharge, water retention, reconnect historic floodplains, and support productive meadows and riparian ecosystems



adapt  
reduce  
mitigate  
strengthen

# Urban Conservation & Re-Use

Incentivizing conservation technologies, indoor and outdoor conservation programs, and direct and indirect potable reuse without negatively impacting downstream fish, wildlife, or ecosystem functions





# Next Steps

## **Demonstration Projects & Investments**

Identifying and implementing demonstration projects and shovel-ready investments that generate place-based and regional benefits and build knowledge on the applicability, scalability and co-benefits of each investment.

**Financing.** Designing a financing strategy for a diversified and coordinated project portfolio to support the implementation and monitoring of on-the-ground projects within each of the strategies.

**Research.** Developing an action-oriented research scope that monitors and tracks pilot projects to explore outcomes for the ten strategies including water supply gains, adaptation benefits, and climate mitigation potential.



**Web Portal:** [www.tenstrategies.net](http://www.tenstrategies.net)

Expanding platform for resources and content surrounding the report.

## Report Materials

Full report, bite-sized versions, deep technical appendix & press release.

## Infographics

Modern design-focused communications materials that merge data and information.

## Funding Resources Web App

First embedded web application focused on the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act





Filters

Eligible Party

State Parties

Local Governments

NGOs

Tribal Governments

Detailed Spending Plan Timeline

60 Days

90 Days

New Program Rule Making Required

Unknown

Non-Federal Cost Share

No or Minimal non-federal cost share or match

Non-Federal cost share or Match

Ten Strategies Nexus

Forest Management & Restoration

Natural Distributed Storage

Regenerative Agriculture

Upgrading Agricultural Infrastructure & Operations

Cropping Alternatives & New Market Pathways

Urban Conservation & Reuse

Industrial Conservation & Reuse

Coal Plant Retirement Water

Reducing Dust on Snow

Covering Reservoirs & Canals

Show 10

Funding

Show 5

Program

WRDA

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Energy

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Studies

Showing

WaterSMART Grants (Drought Resilience, Water Efficiency and Energy Projects, Water Marketing Strategy, Basin Studies and Assessments)

Implementing Agency

Bureau of Reclamation

IIJA Section

Division

Division D-Energy

Title

Title IX-Western Water Infrastructure

Subtitle

NA

Section

40901(7)

[IIJA Section Link](#)%3B)

Budget Authority

\$400 million for the period of fiscal years 2022 through 2026, of which \$100 million will be used for projects that would improve the condition of a natural feature or nature-based feature (\$80 million annually through FY 2026)

Full Description

Natural infrastructure will be directed to projects implementing natural feature/nature-based features as defined in the 2021 Omnibus; natural feature means a feature that is created through the action of physical, geological, biological, and chemical processes - nature-based means a feature created by human design, engineering, and construction to provide a means to reduce water supply and demand imbalances or drought or flood risk by acting in concert with natural processes

Eligibility

Eligibility requirements vary by WaterSMART program. In general, States, Indian Tribes, municipalities, irrigation districts, water districts, or other organization with water or power delivery authority. Nonprofits may be eligible, depending on the program, but must typically partner with a government entity.

Rulemaking or Spend Plan Development Timeline

NA

Ten Strategies Nexus

Forest Management & Restoration, Natural Distributed Storage, Regenerative Agriculture, Upgrading Agricultural Infrastructure & Operations, Cropping Alternatives & New Market Pathways, Urban Conservation & Reuse, Industrial Conservation & Reuse, Coal Plant Retirement Water, Reducing Dust on Snow, Covering Reservoirs & Canals

Relevant Statutory Provisions

NA

Agency Web Pages

<https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/>

This document was generated on 01/21/2022 from the IIJA funding database at [www.tenstrategies.net](http://www.tenstrategies.net).

Search:

Short Description

Funding to carry out major aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects that improve the quality of the environment, are in the public interest and are cost-effective.

Funding to restore fish and wildlife passage by removing instream barriers and provide technical assistance to non-federal entities carrying out such activities.

Funding for the design, study and construction of aquatic ecosystem restoration and protection projects, with certain priorities for regional benefits, including affecting water resources in two or more river basins and other factors.

Funds a new competitive grant program for planning, design and construction of large-scale water recycling and reuse projeccts, with priority for multi-benefit projects that advance multi-state water management plans.

Increased funding for a variety of WaterSMART programs including natural infrastructure, water and energy efficiency, water marketing and drought response.

1

2

3

4

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8

Next





# COLORADO RIVER IN CRISIS

The Colorado River is a lifeline for the West. From its headwaters in the Rocky Mountains to its natural terminus in the Gulf of California, the river is a recreation playground; a resource for drinking water, food, and energy production; an engine for local economies; and an irreplaceable habitat for native birds, fish, and wildlife. The Colorado River is also an essential part of the cultural fabric for 30 recognized Tribal Nations and the nearly 40 million people that call the Basin home.

But the Colorado River is in crisis. Chronic overuse exacerbated by climate change has led the Colorado River to the brink of collapse. To prevent the system from crashing, we must begin to implement durable solutions and increase investment in water-related climate resilience to protect all who depend on the Colorado River.