



NAWI

National Alliance for Water Innovation



The National Alliance for Water Innovation's (NAWI) Regional Water Systems (RWS) Topic Area would like to initiate discussions with Western State water planners to better understand the technological innovation landscape and identify barriers that prevent regional investments in new water technologies. As we build our regional water systems program, we are seeking insight from Western State water planners and practitioners regarding:



State water planning processes and how those are utilized by regions within the states and interstate regions.



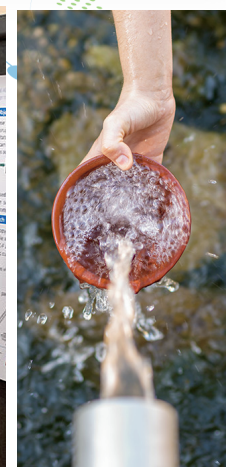
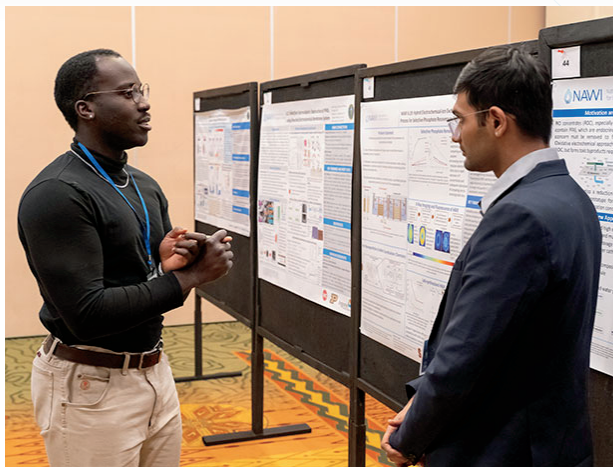
The tools that states, regional planners, and other stakeholders utilize for decision-making regarding future water demand, availability, and water infrastructure investments and operations, and the strengths and weaknesses of those tools.



How can NAWI work directly and effectively with Western States water practitioners as part of our larger "Community of Practice" effort to bring practitioners and researchers together?



How can NAWI help to solve regional energy and water challenges through projects ranging from providing improved planning tools to providing realistic cost and performance information on existing and new technologies?



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 <https://tinyurl.com/2ac75m2y>

NAWI is a research program and public-private partnership supported by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE). Initiated in 2019 and now in its second five-year phase, NAWI brings together industry, national laboratories, and academic partners to lower the cost and energy required for desalination and water reuse. We recognize that novel water technologies can create reliable, affordable, and efficient systems, but scaling these solutions requires understanding and addressing challenges in regional infrastructure, waste management, and the interconnected water-energy sector.

NAWI's RWS Topic Area is conducting studies to characterize risks to water systems, evaluate the contributions and tradeoffs of non-traditional waters, and identify water portfolios that meet affordability, reliability, and energy-efficiency objectives across a range of future uncertainties. The RWS Topic Area has three main objectives:

Deliver advanced modeling and analysis tools for robust water management portfolio planning.



Support research and development across the NAWI portfolio by identifying when, where, and how non-traditional water technologies can advance water reliability and affordability goals in a regional water systems context.



Cultivate a community of practice around shared tools, methods, and best practices for adaptive water management and planning.



NAWI's RWS topic area supports applied research to understand the gaps and improve planning, modeling, and novel treatment technologies to better align with practitioners' real-world requirements. Central to this effort is the co-production of knowledge between researchers and water practitioners, which is precisely why we would like to begin discussions with Western state water planners that would lead towards an effective and sustainable partnership.

Concurrently, the RWS team is wrapping up about 30 semi-structured interviews with a diverse group of stakeholders including water utilities, planners, regulators, engineering firms, non-profits, and academics. These interviews, along with responses to a publicly released request for information (RFI) in early July, and discussions with the Western States Water Council, all aim to co-produce knowledge and ensure that our research priorities align with practitioners' needs as we shape our research program.