Report from the U.S. Water Energy Food Nexus Workshop
(June 23-24, 2014)

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The Nexus is Complex and Reaches Across Scales

U.S. Nexus Issues

- Aging infrastructure
- Water for agriculture
- Water for growing cities
- Pervasive drought
- Estuaries
- Nutrients
- Eco-flows
- Flood damages
Nexus Case Study

Traditional multiple use
- Environmental/recreational
- Hydropower
- Municipal
- Thermoelectric

Trades
- Appropriate water quality
- Avoided capital expense for both parties

Interruptible supplies
- Source of agriculture revenue
- Drought resilience
- Timing to minimize impact
A water supply separate from the drought-stricken Colorado River is necessary to meet Southern Nevada’s long term demands.

Addressing Southern Nevada’s unique challenges requires out-of-the-box solutions:

- Aggressive conservation
- Forging partnerships (Regulatory, public, private, NGO)
- Developing flexible water-use agreements
- Seeking alternate supplies
- Agreements with Irrigation Companies facilitating leases
- SNWA has purchased several ranches in eastern NV for groundwater
Master Plan extends water yield by 200+ million gal/day

- **Cooperation**

- **Conflict**
  - Growth and competing uses
  - SC v. NC Supreme Court Case Settlement Agreement (2010)

- **Climate**
  - Drought of Record (1998 - 2002)
  - New Drought of Record (2007 – 2009)

- **Shared Resource = Shared Responsibility**
  - Plan and manage like it’s “our water resource”
  - If one Large Water Intake Owner fails, we all fail
U.S. Lessons Learned

• Scale matters
• Get the science right
• An external catalyst or event is often needed to spur action
• Leadership is key
• Education is needed at all levels
• Disaster preparedness and rebuilding infrastructure
• Non-coercive incentives for participation