



WRP Vision and Mission

**(FIRST ADOPTED AUGUST 2010; MODIFIED IN JUNE
2014 AND AUGUST 2015; AFFIRMED IN 2016; DRAFT
FOR CONSIDERATION FOR 2017 WRP PRINCIPALS'
MEETING)**

1. VISION

WRP will be a significant resource to proactively identify and address common goals and emerging issues and to develop solutions that support WRP Partners.

2. MISSION

WRP provides a proactive and collaborative framework for senior-policy level Federal, State and Tribal leadership to identify common goals and emerging issues in the states of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah and to develop solutions that support WRP Partners and protect natural resources, while promoting sustainability, homeland security and military readiness.

3. WRP BACKGROUND AND STATEMENT OF NEED

The Department of Defense initiated the Western Regional Partnership (the Department's second regional partnering effort) to establish a forum to address issues of mutual concern with states and federal agencies. Specifically, the Department's interest was to better protect and enhance access to and the quality of military test and training ranges. In the West, there are significant military assets and the West's population growth exceeds that of all other regions. This increasing population puts more pressure on infrastructure systems such as energy, transportation and wildlife ecosystems. Long range, sustainable planning is essential to accommodate growth, sustain the economic and environmental health of the region and protect public health and safety while at the same time securing the viability of the WRP's Partners' missions.

4. WRP PARTICIPATION

WRP Principals include representatives of Federal agencies and State and Tribal leadership in the States of Arizona, California, Colorado, Nevada, New Mexico and Utah. Additionally non-governmental organizations are encouraged to participate at the WRP Committee level. WRP strives to operate at the regional level, but invites local governments to participate at the project level.

5. WRP COMMITTEES

Issues of common concern are addressed through Committees. WRP Committees work to improve regional and interagency cooperation among Federal agencies, Tribal leadership, States, and non-governmental organizations on critical Western regional issues. WRP Committees provide a forum for information exchange, issue identification, problem solving and recommendations across the WRP region. Committees are continually reviewed to maintain a resilient and dynamic organization. The focus of committee actions will be to move from knowledge gathering to collaborative action.

6. WRP DECISION MAKING

WRP will strive for all decisions to be made by consensus.

7. WGA ENGAGEMENT

The Western Governors' Association (WGA) is an independent, nonpartisan organization of Governors representing 19 Western states and three U.S.-flag Pacific islands. In the formative

stages of the WRP, efforts were coordinated with WGA. Given the WGA's effective infrastructure, this collaboration has assisted in many ways. WRP plans to continue this engagement with WGA.

8. BENEFIT OF JOINING WRP

WRP has built a cross-state relationship among a variety of entities. Benefits of becoming a WRP Partner include:

- **Solving Problems/Creating Solutions**
 - An abundance of issues must be solved in an ever-changing environment.
 - Leveraging of resources and linking of efforts is required to better support key projects with other stakeholders.
 - Support for Partners' critical issues to ensure future viability.
 - Bringing Partners together to better preserve key landscapes.
 - Helps avoid duplication of efforts and encourages sharing of best practices.
- **Timely Communication/Sharing of Information**
 - The open forum of communication will help foster better relationships, encourage better understanding of missions and operations and ultimately develop consensus on issues of regional significance.
 - Better information sharing will foster awareness of the interdependencies between Partners and provide for a more symbiotic relationship.
 - Sharing information on emerging issues and policies will support the planning needs of Partners.
- **One military voice**
 - Ability to work with the military across the WRP Region and obtain information from one source. In the past, a stakeholder might need to communicate with several installations and eventually several Major Commands. The WRP forum provides one-stop communication for WRP Partners.
- **Increased Collaboration**
 - There is a scarcity of resources and working together improves chances of long term success.
- **Sum is larger than the parts**
 - Pooling expertise and leveraging resources can result in greater accomplishments.
 - The WRP can help to anticipate and/or respond to emerging issues and policies.
- **Enhanced Time Management Opportunities**
 - The WRP Forum will provide multi-tasking opportunities. The mission of the WRP is to bring together Partners in a region to combine resources to accomplish mutual goals.
- **Access to Tools and WRP Deliverables**
 - Airspace Sustainability Guide, WRP State Support for Military Testing and Training, WRP Mojave Project, WRP Southeastern Arizona New Mexico Project, etc.