



5.4 Duties and process. The interim and long-term National Drought Councils will be responsible for the tasks in the box on the next page.

5.5 Authorization and appropriations. We recommend that Congress provide federal departments and agencies with appropriate authority and funding needed to carry out the recommendations in this report. As noted at the beginning of this report, consideration should be given to the costs and benefits associated with drought preparedness, mitigation, and response measures.

The six-county, multi-municipal Metropolitan Water District of Southern California incorporates drought planning and preparedness in its comprehensive Integrated Resources Plan and Water Surplus and Demand Management Plan. This regional coordination of local agencies is succeeding. The region is using less water today than in 1975, even though the population increased by 5 million people from 1975 to 1999.

Table. Council membership and designation process

Federal entity	Council member designated by:	Nonfederal representation	Council member designated by:
Department of Agriculture	Department Secretary	East/West Governors	National Governors' Association
Department of the Interior	Department Secretary	County official	National Association of Counties
Department of Commerce	Department Secretary	City official	U.S. Conference of Mayors
Department of Energy	Department Secretary	Emergency management official	National Emergency Management Association
Department of the Army	Department Secretary	Business	U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Environmental Protection Agency	Agency head	Urban water* Rural water* Tribal* Environmental* Farm credit* Agricultural producers*	*Designated by the Secretary of Agriculture based on nominations from relevant broad-based groups
Small Business Administration	Agency head		
Federal Emergency Management Agency	Agency head		