



Climate Change Adaptation: A Western States Perspective

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WAFWA Mid-Winter,
Tucson

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WAFWA States Generally Recognize CC Effects...

- **Change in species distribution in response to landscape and ambient conditions**
- **Elevational and latitudinal shifts**
- **Range increases and contractions**
- **Changes in community-level species composition**
- **Loss of landscape features and elements**
- **Increase in deleterious invasive species**
- **Considerable ecological effect uncertainty**

Western States Adaptation Principals...

- **Land-based conservation**
- **Connectivity and corridors to facilitate movement**
- **Conservation across borders**
- **Maintain ecological functions – ecosystem services**
- **Shift in management approaches and prescriptions**
- **Monitoring for change detection**
- **Policy and legal framework considerations**

Several Related Multi-State Efforts Underway...

- **Landscape Conservation Cooperatives (LCC) – opportunity in some regions**
- **Federal Climate Change Adaptation Strategy – WAFWA voice in the process**
- **Western Governor's Association climate change coordination efforts – policy alignment**
- **Western Governor's Wildlife Council multi-state corridors initiative – cooperative states effort**

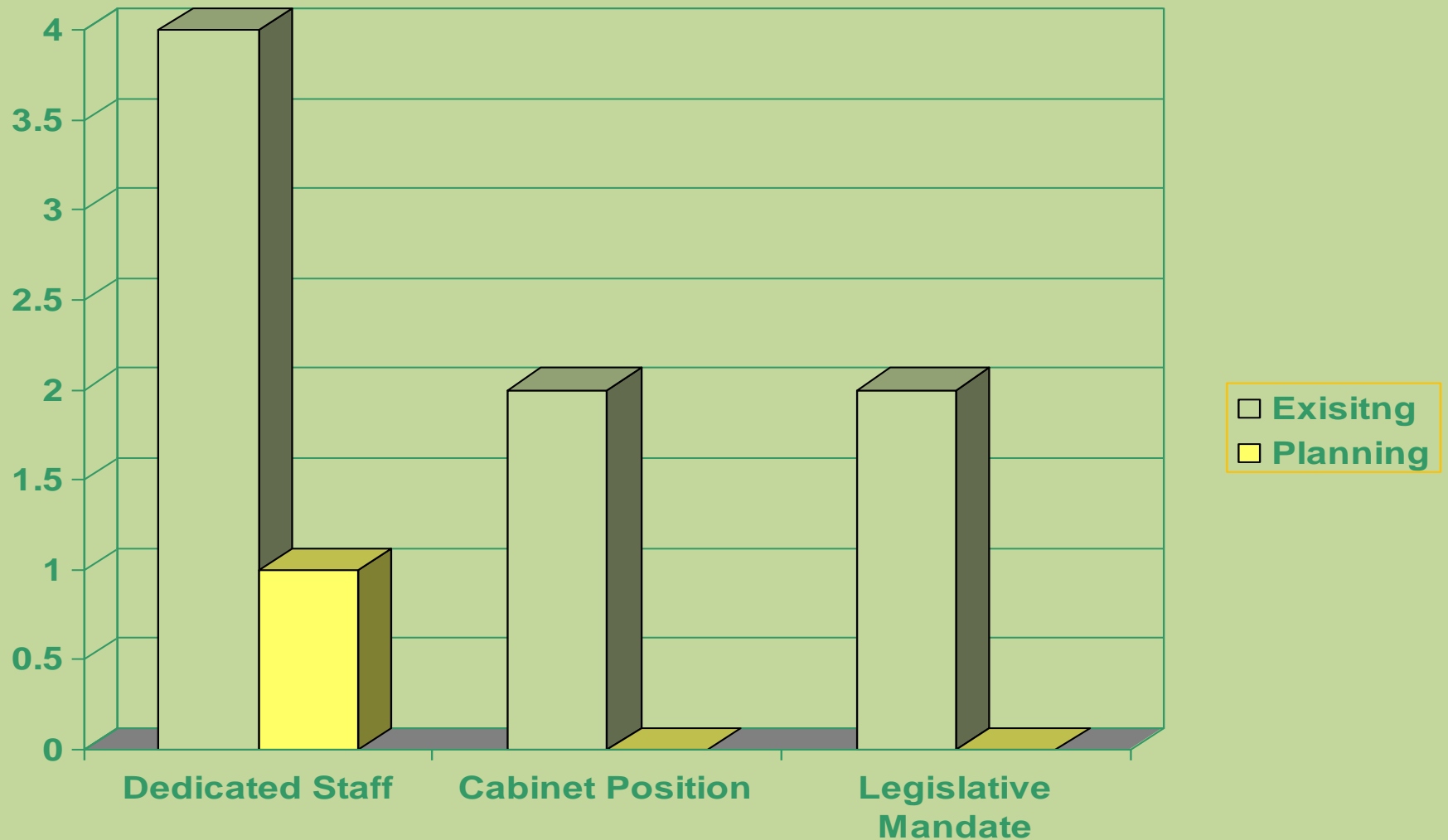
WAFWA's Role in Climate Change Adaptation Planning

- **WAFWA has a legacy of representing the western states on critical wildlife and natural resource issues**
- **Cooperation on broad initiatives like climate change adaptation planning will produce more meaningful and durable results**
- **WAFWA has proven capability to come together to address complex and politically sensitive issues**
- **Many member states already involved in cross-jurisdictional climate change adaptation efforts**
- **WAFWA member states aware of feasibility and implementation potential for initiatives**

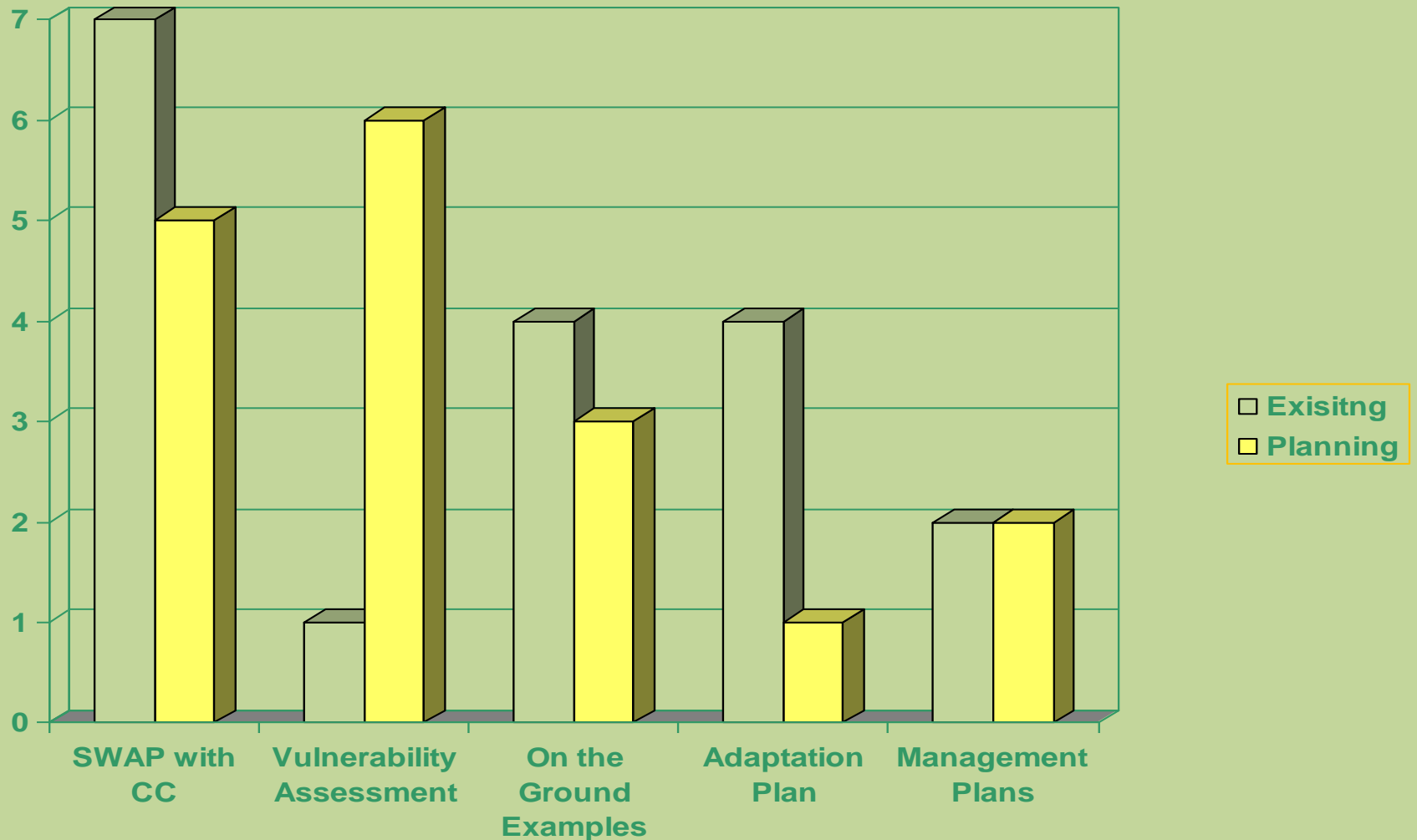
WAFWA Committee Well Positioned to Lead...

- **Stay engaged as member states in regional and multi-state efforts**
- **Leadership role in negotiating mutual goals and objectives among individual state, federal, and west-wide efforts**
- **Assess role of WAFWA in existing partnerships and identify paths to encourage cooperation and coordination**
- **Identify needs for cooperatively identifying research and science capacity needs and clearly articulate these to our partners**

The Survey - Western States Adaptation Actions...



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Key Issues and Ideas to Consider...

- **Leverage funding and state efforts to promote and maintain the WAFWA committee as a leader on this issue**
- **Engage at the national level to ensure the WAFWA Committee has a strong voice in the emerging national strategy**
- **Utilize the resources of AFWA to stay current on climate change legislation effecting the western states**
- **Coordinate multiple state planning and science efforts and identify common goals and objectives**
- **Focus on the science**