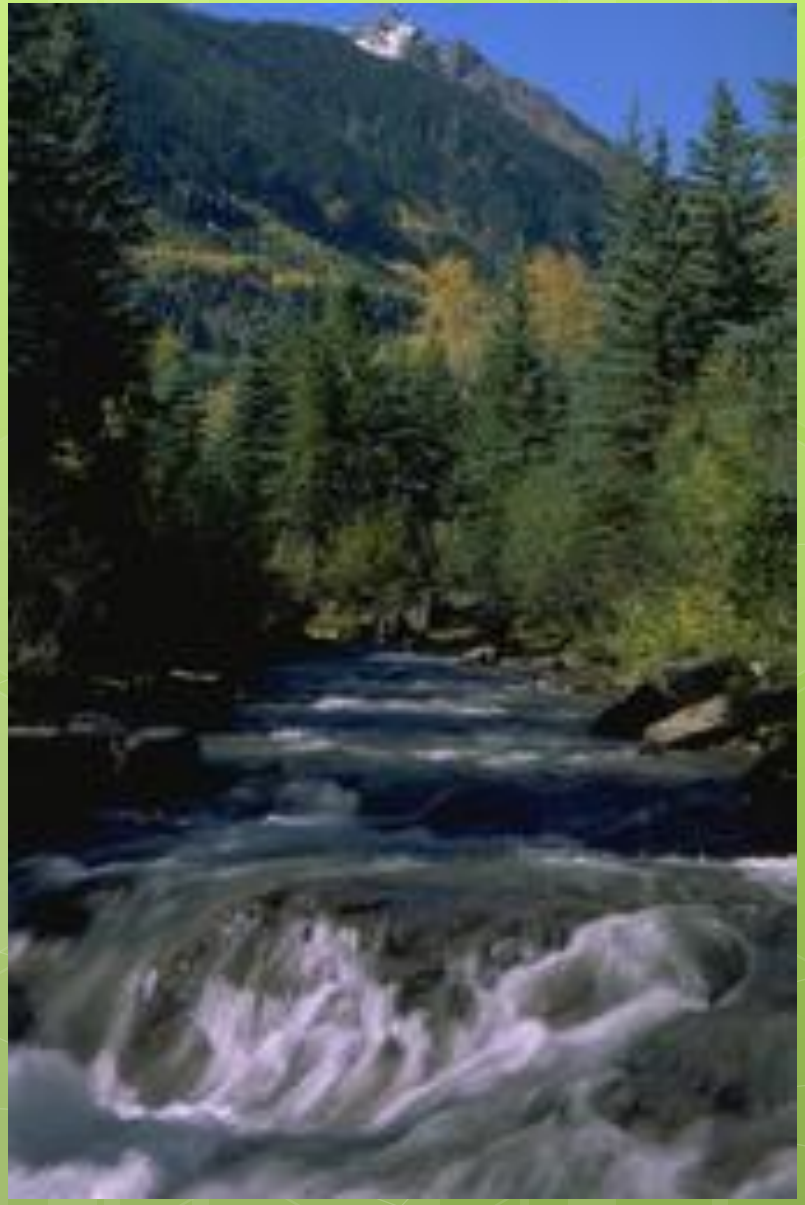
APPENDIX B

- **PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS BIP POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**
- **PUBLIC OUTREACH MEETINGS CWP POWERPOINT PRESENTATION**
- **PAGOSA SPRINGS PUBLIC MEETING NOTES**
- **BAYFIELD PUBLIC MEETING NOTES**
- **MANCOS PUBLIC MEETING NOTES**
- **PLACERVILLE PUBLIC MEETING NOTES**
- **SUB-BASIN MAP FOR OUTREACH AND ASSOCIATED SAMPLE OF BASIN IPPS BULLET LIST**
- **SUMMATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS**



DRAFT Southwest Basin Implementation Plan

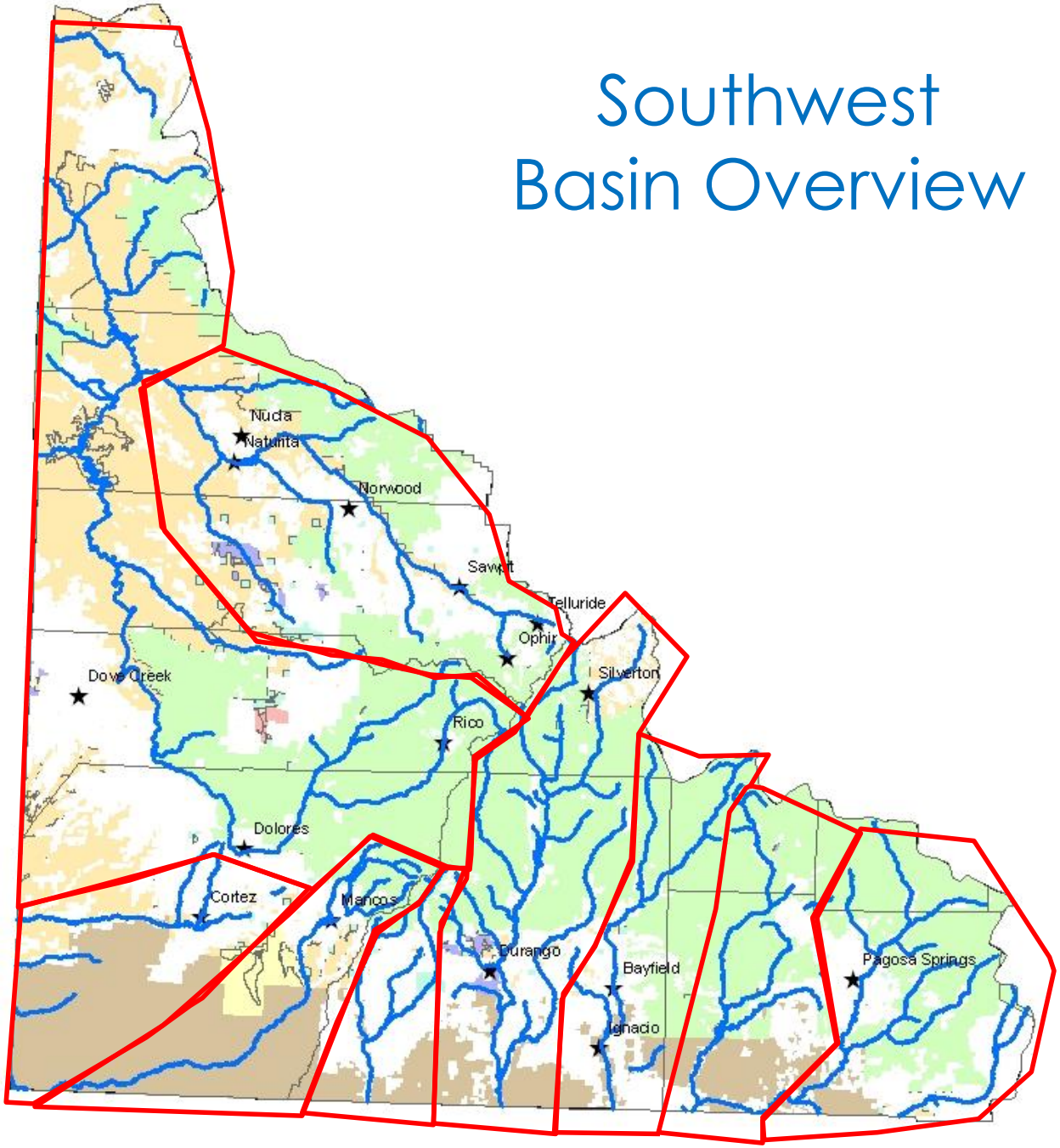
SOUTHWEST BASIN ROUNDTABLE

December 9, 2014

Southwest Basin Implementation Plan

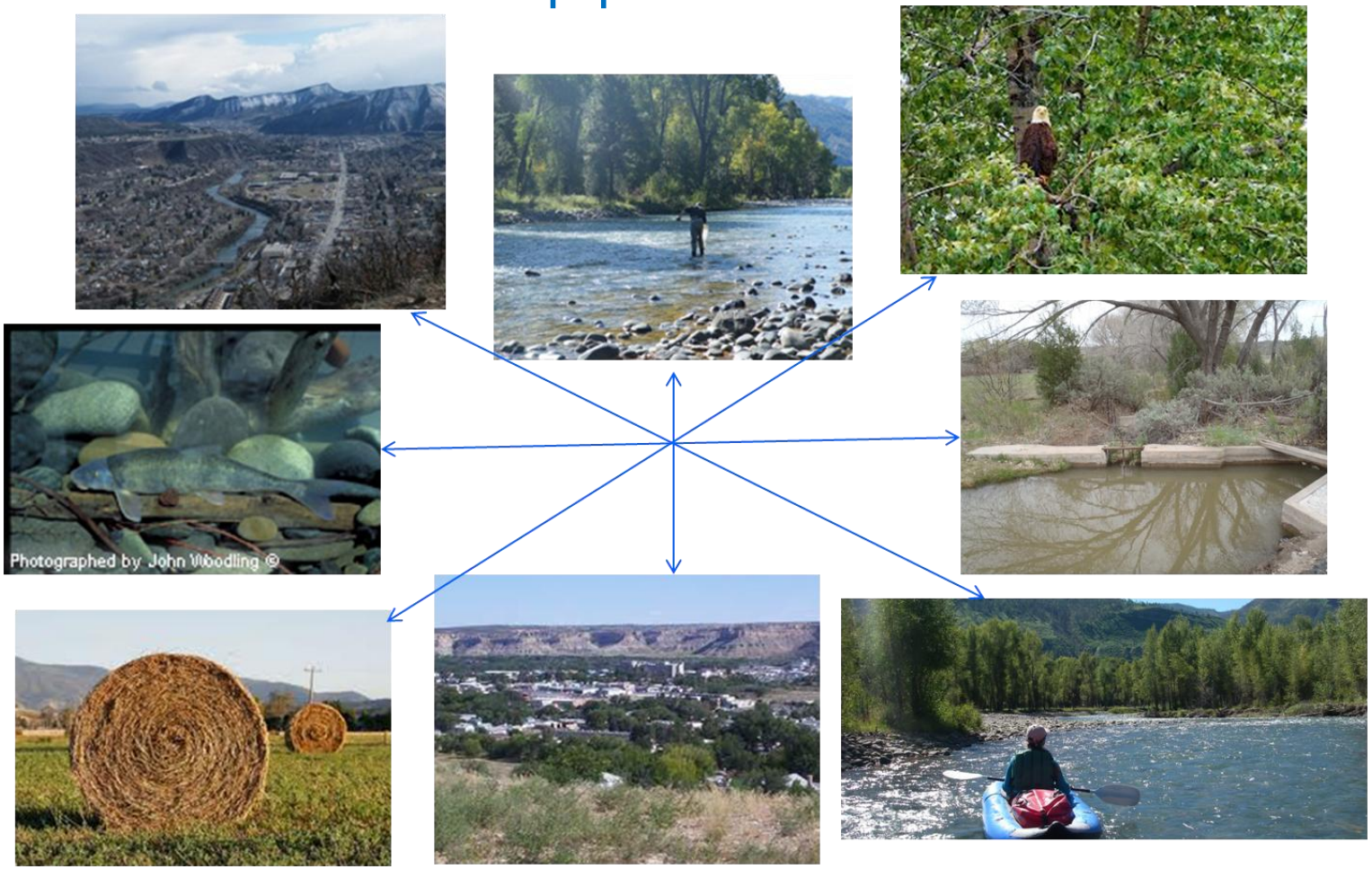
- Basin Overview
- Plan Development and Approach
- Highlights
  - Goals and Measureable Outcomes
  - Opportunities and Constraints
  - Identified Projects and Processes
  - Strategies

Southwest Basin Overview



Plan Development

Approach

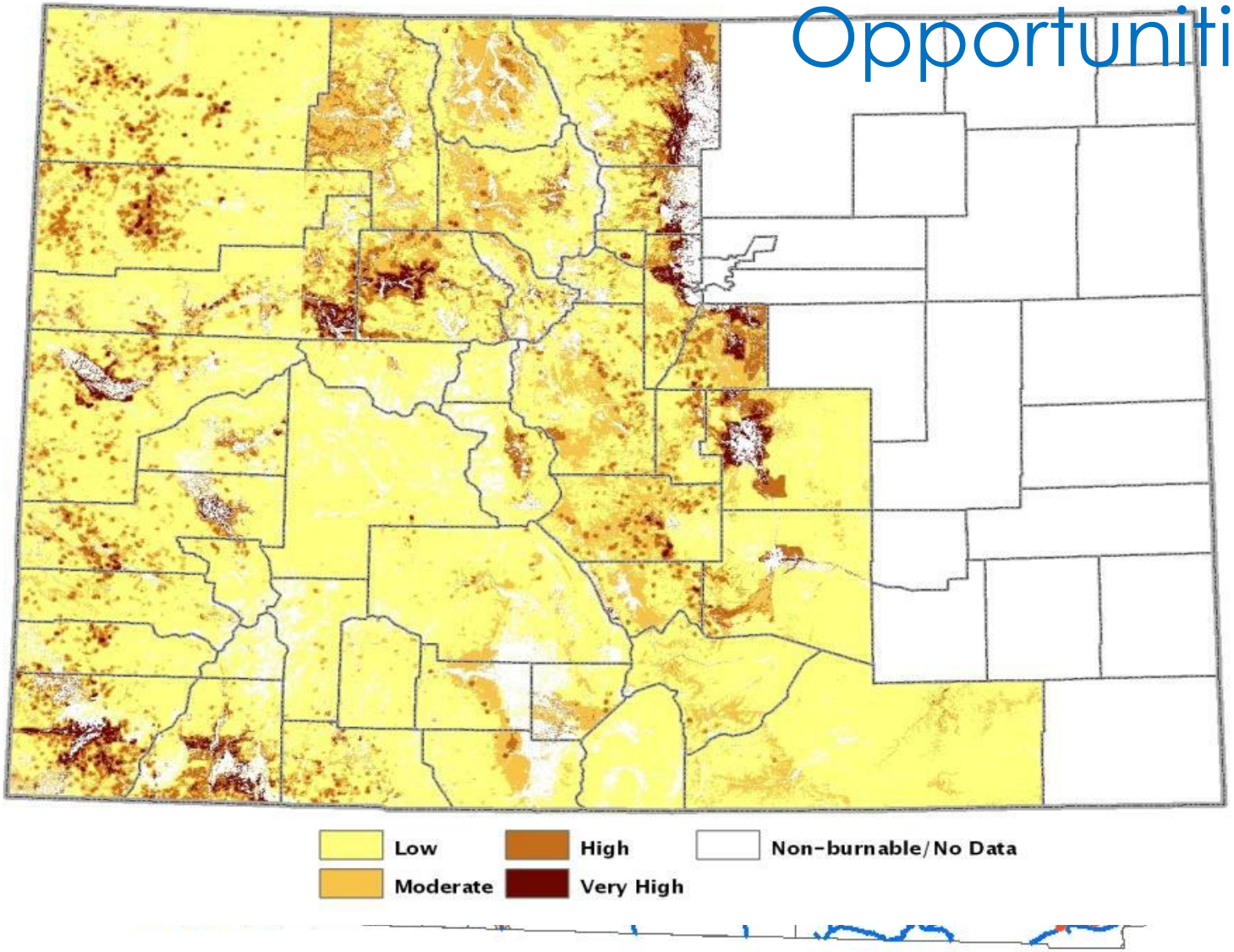


Goal Themes

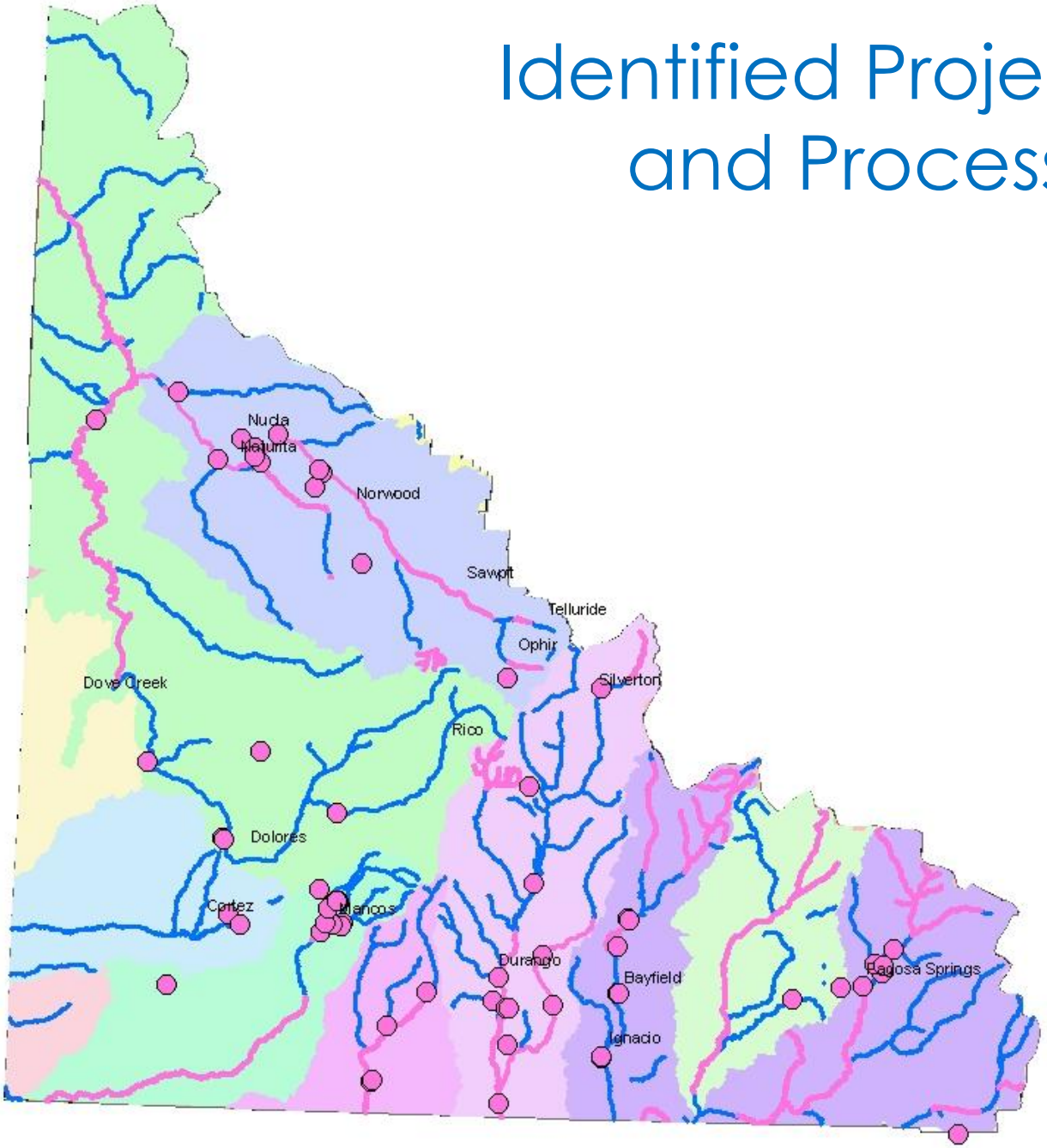
A. Balance All Needs and Reduce Conflict
B. Maintain Agricultural Water Needs
C. Meet Municipal and Industrial Water Needs
D. Meet Recreational Water Needs
E. Meet Environmental Water Needs
F. Preserve Water Quality
G. Comply with CO River Compact & Manage Risk

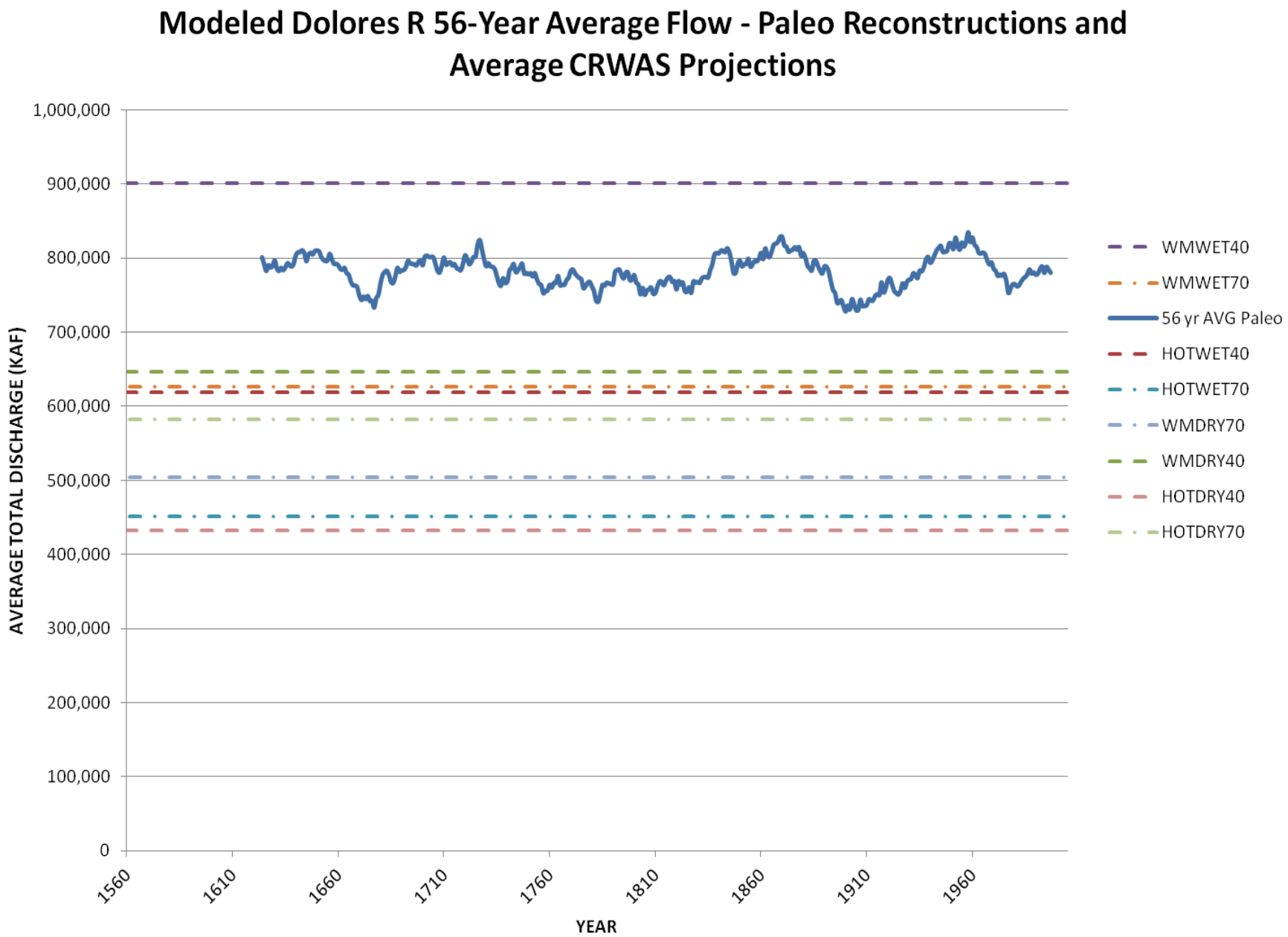
Measureable Outcomes

Constraints and Opportunities



Identified Projects and Processes




Modeled Dolores R 56-Year Average Flow - Paleo Reconstructions and Average CRWAS Projections
AVERAGE TOTAL DISCHARGE (KAF)
1,000,000
900,000
800,000
700,000
600,000
500,000
400,000
300,000
200,000
100,000
0
1560
1610
1660
1710
1760
1810
1860
1910
1960
YEAR
WMWET40
WMWET70
56 yr AVG Paleo
HOTWET40
HOTWET70
WMDRY70
WMDRY40
HOTDRY40
HOTDRY70

Some Local IPPs

San Miguel River Basin (29)

- San Miguel Watershed Coalition
- Town of Norwood Municipal Supply
- Montrose County Firming Project
- Instream Flows
- Enlargement of Gurley Reservoir
- Lone Cone Reservoir Enlargement
- CCC Ditch Fish Passage
- Woods Lake Colorado River Cutthroat Trout Refuge
- Carbenaro Mine Adit Reclamation
- Tri-State Power Facility Industrial Supply
- Aldarosa Ranch & Homeowners Company
- Potential RICD
- Town of Mountain Village Supply

Some Local IPPs

Dolores River Basin (22)

- Dolores River Dialogue
- Dolores River Restoration Partnership
- McPhee Reservoir Aquatic Nuisance Species Protection
- Augmentation upstream of McPhee Reservoir
- Upper Plateau Storage Reservoir
- Proposed Instream Flow on the Dolores River
- Paradox Valley Salinity Control
- TU& MLC Upper Dolores River Assessment
- Upper Dolores River Recreation Access
- Diversion Structure Renovation near Gateway

Strategies: Meeting Statewide Water Needs

- SWBRT identified 8 Factors to be met in order to consider a TMD

- SWBRT recommends that the State develop and evaluate at least one alternative to a TMD

Strategies: Partnerships

- Use cooperation and negotiation to limit conflicts between state, tribal and federal policies, laws and management.

- Continue collaboration on multi-purpose projects.

- Coordinate with Tribal partners to support implementation of the Tribal Settlement

Strategies: Education

- More information and dialogue:
  - water conservation and reuse
  - agricultural water sharing
  - recreational uses
  - water quality
  - watershed health

Strategies: Funding

- Great potential to leverage Water Supply Reserve Account funds with other sources (private, NRCS, etc)

- "Bundling" projects
- Recommendations:
  - WSRA should not be use it or lose it
  - Dedicated funding sources
    - grass buy back
    - agricultural efficiencies
    - local water quality monitoring efforts
    - recreational/ environmental data needs

Strategies: Address Data Needs

- Evaluate environmental and recreational gaps
- Evaluate needs of non-public water supply systems
- Evaluate Industrial water uses and needs
- Collaborate to develop innovative tools to address gaps
- Update SWSI 2010 data

Meeting our Goals

Goal Themes	Supporting IPPs
A. Balance all needs	29
B. Agricultural	10
C. M & I	42
D. Recreation	10
E. Environmental	41
F. Water Quality	6
G. Compact/Risks	7

Long Hollow Reservoir Construction
(La Plata River)

Recreational In-Channel Diversion Construction
(Animas River)

Federal-State-Tribal Language

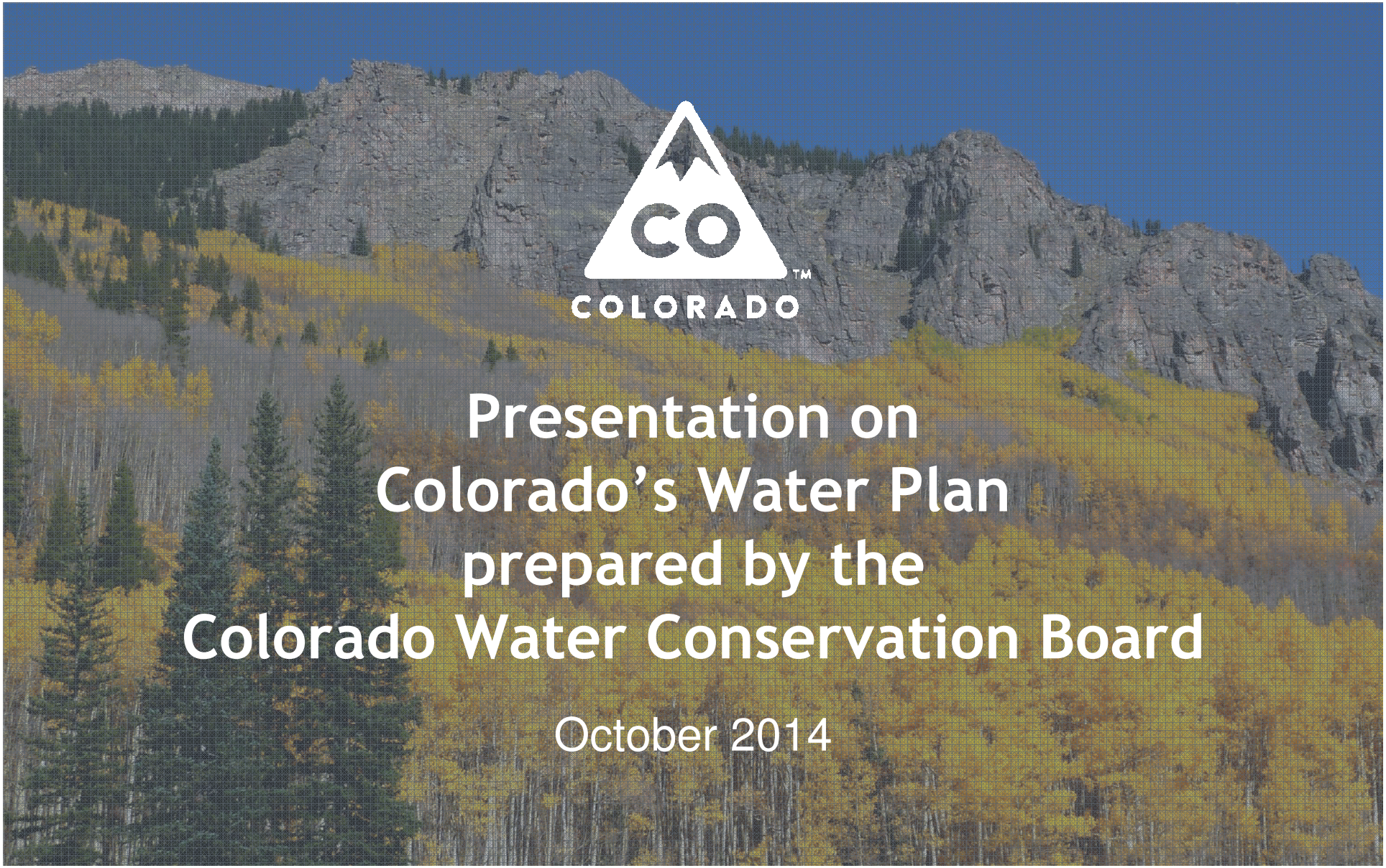
In Colorado, the authority to establish water policies of the state, determine the beneficial uses of the water resources, and the administration of water rights pursuant to the Doctrine of Prior Appropriation fall under the jurisdiction of state government. It is recognized that there is a significant amount of land administered by the federal government in Colorado, which creates the potential for conflicts between state and federal laws and policies. Congress and federal agencies have a long standing deference to state water allocation systems, and Colorado continues to promote state-federal cooperation to avoid contentious water rights issues. Federal policies and actions could affect existing and future water supplies and planning efforts in Southwestern Colorado.

Therefore, the Roundtable supports Colorado's system of water rights administration and allocation and the full recognition and use of tribal rights under the Colorado Ute Indian Water Rights Settlement. The Roundtable also encourages and supports creative solutions sought through collaborative efforts, negotiated settlements, and strengthening the use of State-Federal MOUs, to limit conflicts between state, tribal and federal policies, laws and land management plans. Maintaining opportunities that allow for management solutions that provide for multiple beneficial uses and are protective of environmental and recreational values are critical for the planning and strategic development of the water resources in the State of Colorado.

Identified Projects and Processes

- Water sources
- Hydropower on existing canals
- Geothermal use
- Habitat restoration
- In Stream Flow proposals
- Education
- Recreational Education and/or Access
- Storage
- Ag Diversions and Fish Passage
- Efficiencies for delivery systems

Southwest Basin



COLORADO

Presentation on Colorado's Water Plan prepared by the Colorado Water Conservation Board

October 2014

COLORADO
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Department of Natural Resources

COLORADO'S WATER PLAN

Water Supply Planning for the Future

1. Colorado's Water Plan
2. Basin Roundtables
3. Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI)
4. How the public can get involved

COLORADO

May 2013 Governor's Executive Order Directed CWCB to Develop a Plan That

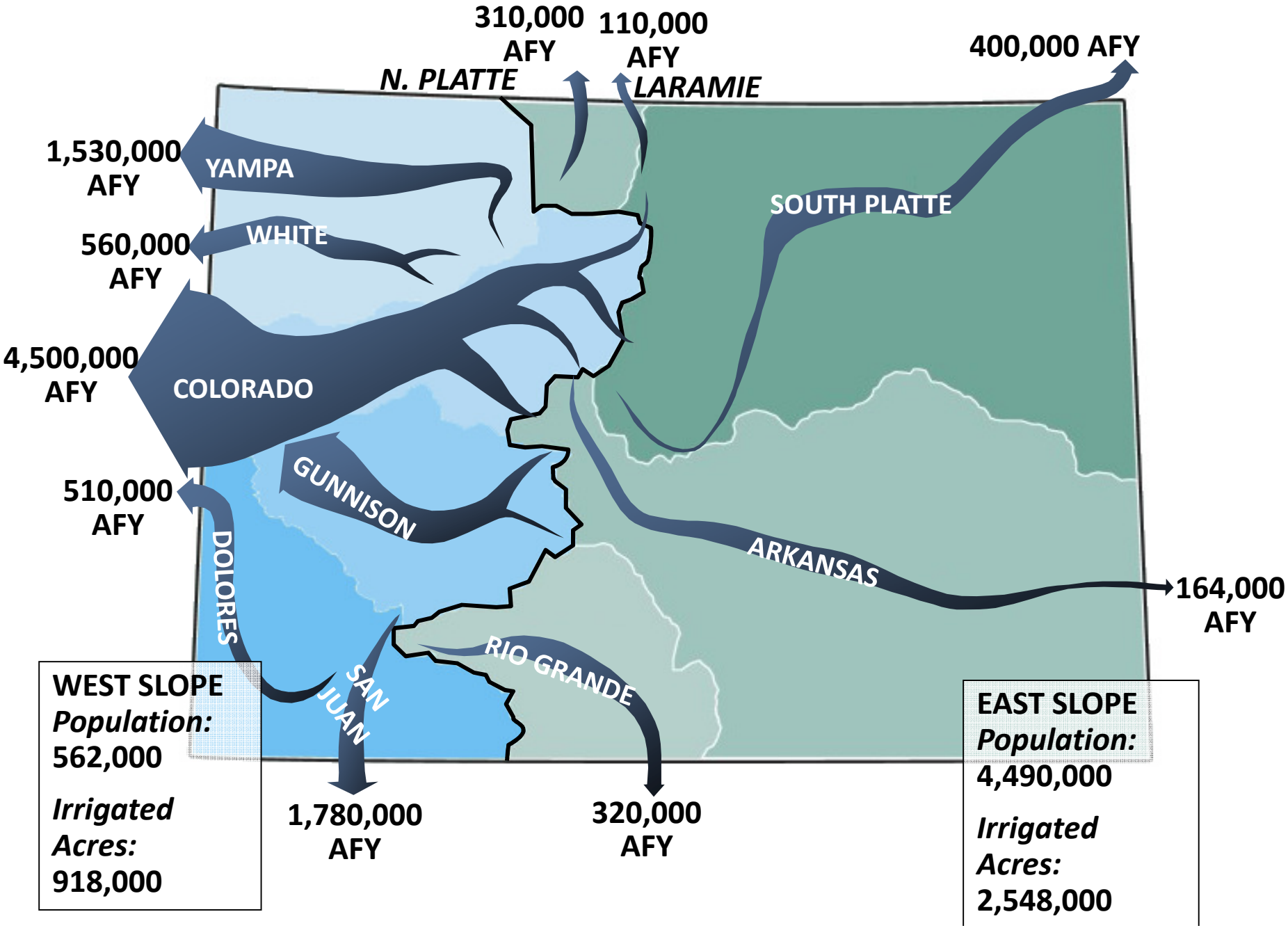
Reflects Colorado's values

Utilizes the work of the IBCC and Basin Roundtables

Aligns projects, studies, funding

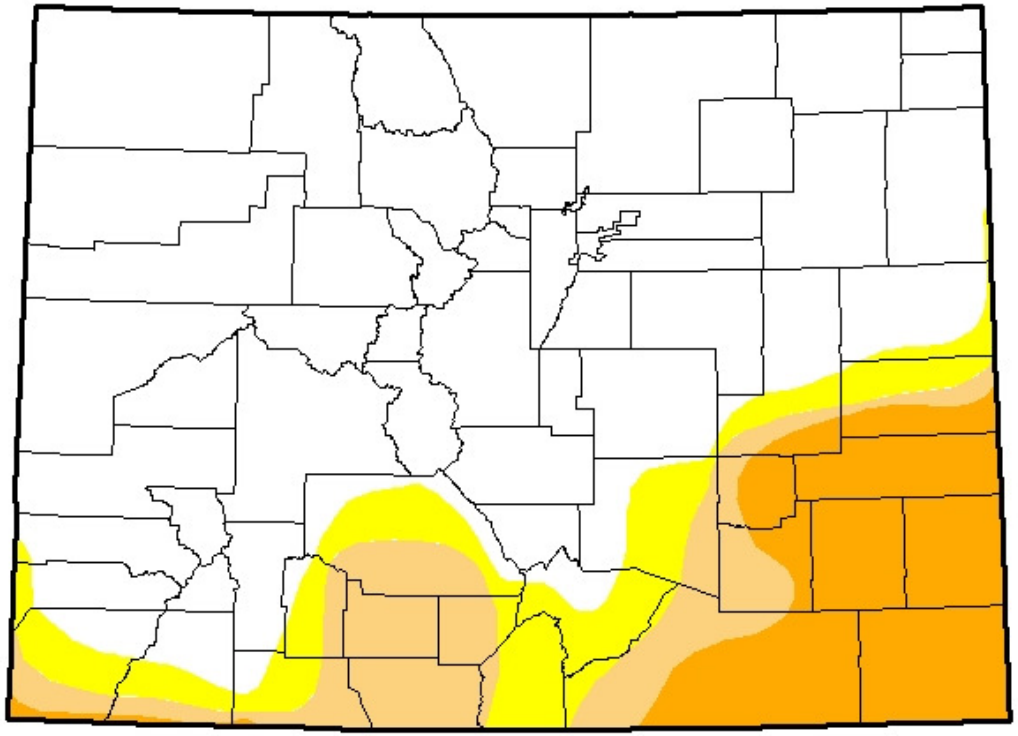
More efficient project permitting

Colorado Population, Irrigated Acres and River Flows



U.S. Drought Monitor

Colorado



November 11, 2014

(Released Thursday, Nov. 13, 2014)

Valid 7 a.m. EST

Drought Conditions (Percent Area)

	None	D0-D4	D1-D4	D2-D4	D3-D4	D4
Current	70.00	30.00	21.26	12.26	0.00	0.00
Last Week *11/4/2014*	69.92	30.08	21.28	12.26	0.00	0.00
3 Months Ago *8/12/2014*	59.90	40.10	26.95	15.58	2.67	0.00
Start of Calendar Year *12/31/2013*	32.04	67.96	22.33	13.56	4.01	1.47
Start of Water Year *9/30/2014*	68.96	31.04	22.94	13.82	2.31	0.00
One Year Ago *11/12/2013*	26.04	73.96	21.01	12.01	4.01	1.47

Intensity:

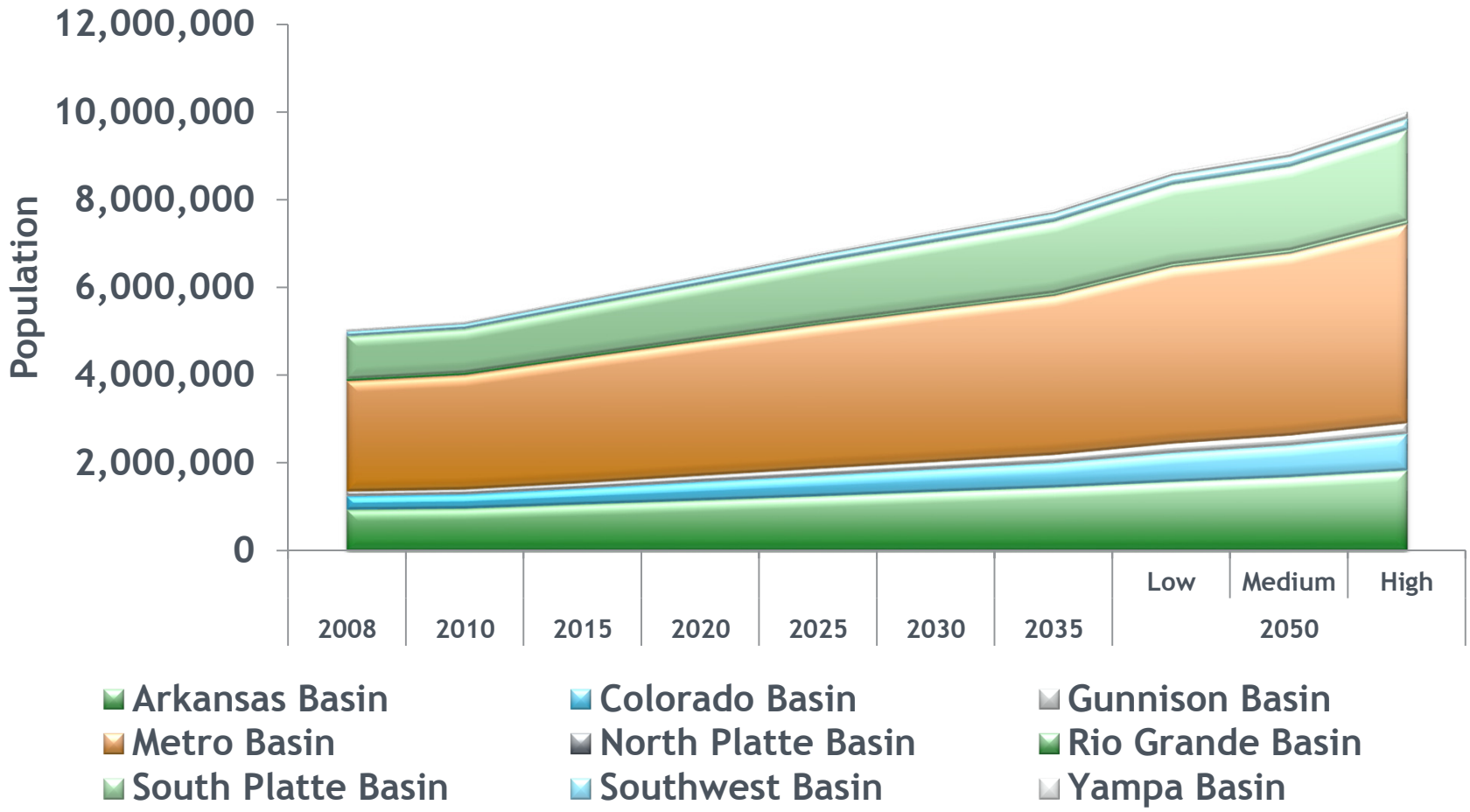
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. See accompanying text summary for forecast statements.

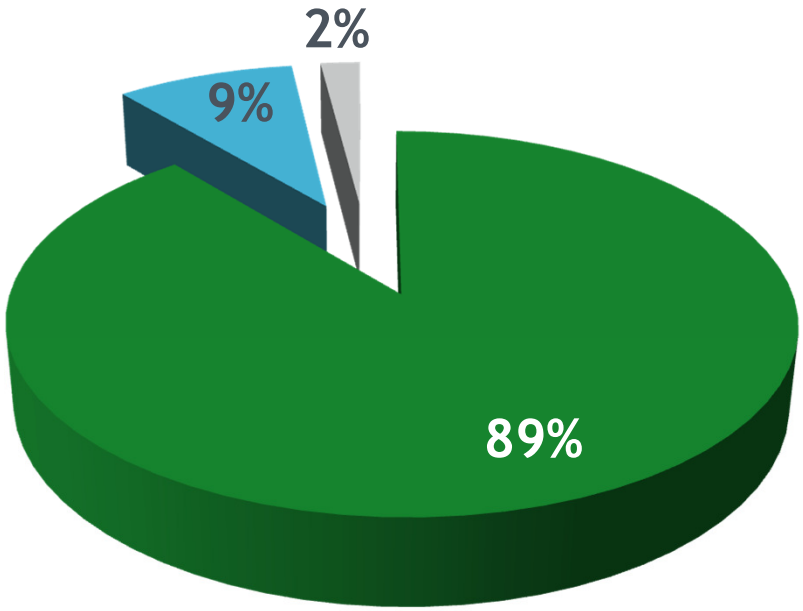
Author:
Matthew Rosencrans
CPC/NCEP/NWS/NOAA

http://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/

By 2050, Colorado's Population is Expected to Nearly Double



Colorado's Current Water Use by Sector



- Agricultural
- Municipal and Industrial
- Self-Supplied Industrial

Colorado's Water Plan: The path to a secure water future.

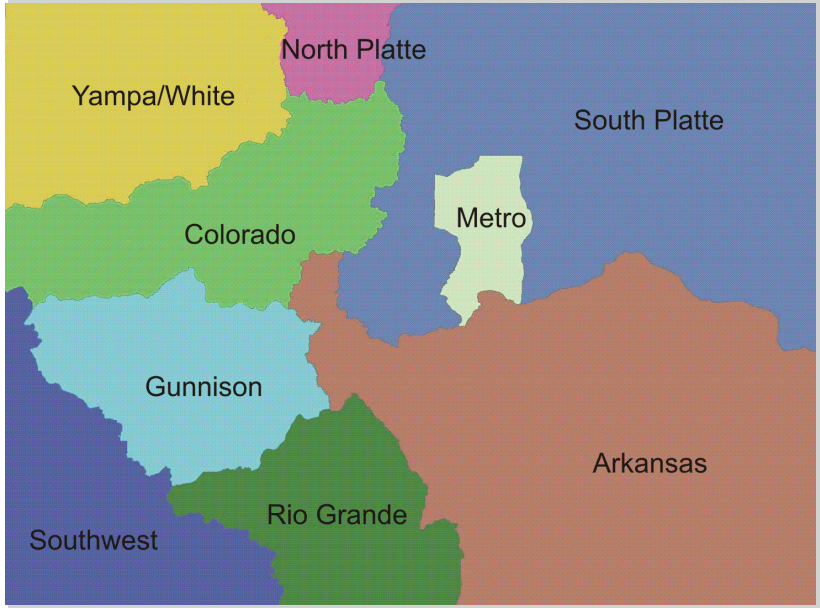
- Vibrant & sustainable cities
- Healthy watersheds & environment
- Robust recreation & tourism
- Viable & productive agriculture

COLORADO'S WATER PLAN

COLORADO

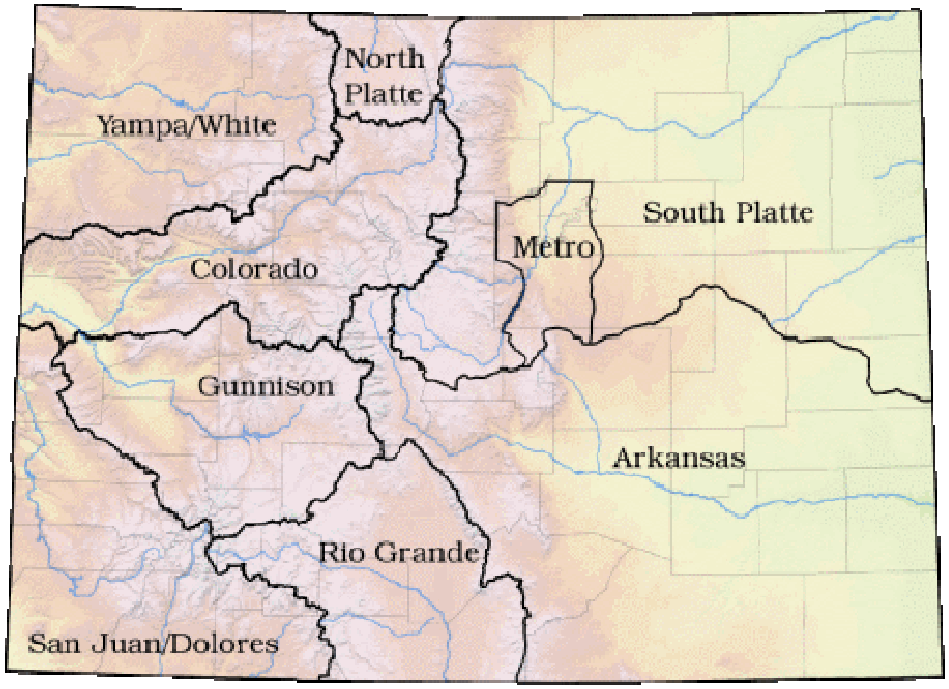
HB05-1177 Water for the 21st Century Act created nine Basin Roundtables

- The BRTs provide forums for locally driven, collaborative solutions
- Broad range of stakeholders—municipal providers, counties, industry and interest groups have a seat at each table



The Basin Roundtables and Colorado's Water Plan

- Each Basin Roundtable is currently drafting a Basin Implementation Plan to address the water supply gaps identified in SWSI 2010 on a local level.
- Development of the BIPs is occurring in coordination with the SWSI Update.
- The draft BIPs were delivered to the CWCB in July, 2014.
- Elements of the BIPs will comprise a significant portion of Colorado's Water Plan.



Overview of SWSI Update

SWSI Update – 2010

- Demand
- Supply
- Gaps
- Solutions

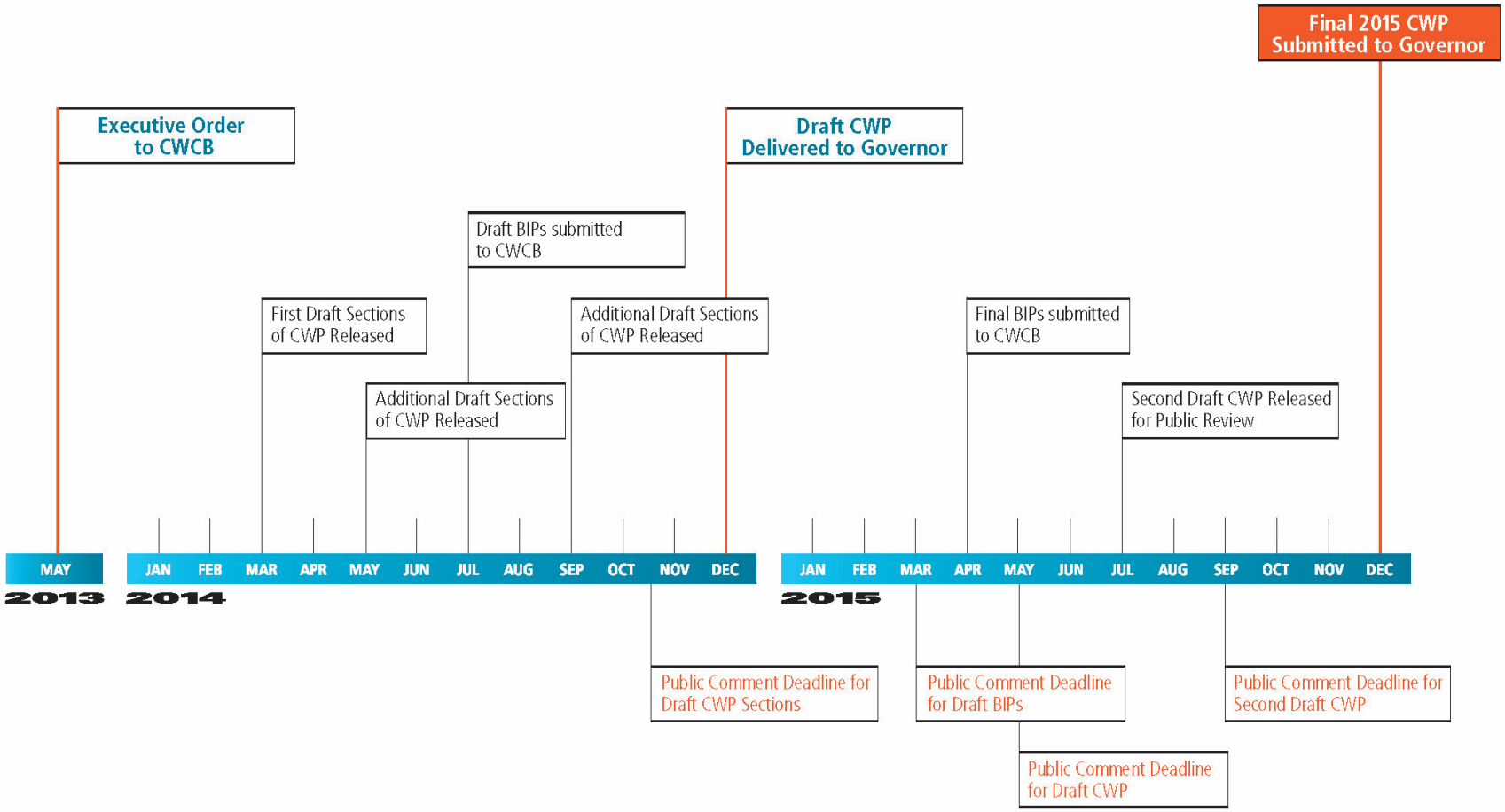
SWSI 2016 Update Additions

- Scenario Planning
- Climate Change
- Hydrologic Variability
- Agricultural Gap
- Nonconsumptive Gap
- Basin Implementation Plans
- Economics

DRAFT 05/20/14

COLORADO'S WATER PLAN TIMELINE

CWP = Colorado's Water Plan **CWCB** = Colorado Water Conservation Board **BIP** = Basin Implemention Plan **2015** = All 2015 events are recommendations



How can the public engage in this process?

- Public input on Colorado's Water Plan continues to increase, and input has been received from every basin across the state.
- Review public input and CWCB responses online.
- The public input process will continue through 2015 – through the Basin Roundtables and CWCB.
- Visit www.coloradowaterplan.com to learn more.

COLORADO
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Department of Natural Resources

COLORADO'S WATER PLAN

Southwest Basin Roundtable
Basin Implemenation Plan Outreach Meeting

Pagosa Springs, Colorado
November 17, 2014

	Name	Contact Information	Where did you travel from?
1	Carrie Weiss	CSWpagosa@yahoo.com	P.Spg.
2	Renita Freeman		
3	PRESTON BOETTICE	CTONER@FRONTIER.NET	P.SPS.
4	Bev Bearburton	bevbearburton@gmail.com	PS
5	John J. Taylor		PS
6	DAVE STERNER	davesterner@yahoo.com	PS
7	Moby Whiting	mwhiting@tu.org	PS.
8	Charles Formwalt		PS
9	Donna Formwalt		PS
10	Joe Lamb	Chester.Lamb@usda.gov	PS
11	VAL VALENTINE	pagosahva@gmail.com	MINERAL CO.
12	Jim VAN LIERE	JRVL_PE@MSN.COM	P.S.
13	RAY FINNEY	Rayfinney63@gmail.com	P.S.
14	DENISE RULE-PASTUL	WIP	P.S.
15	Bill Hudson	editor@pagosadailypost.com	PS
16	AARON K. JIMPLE	akimple@MOUNTAINSTUDIES.ORG	DGO
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11/17/14

Pagosa Springs BIP Outreach Meeting

RT members
11/17

Pete – Local Planning Commission
Denise
Preston
John Taylor + Gene
Ray Feeny – SJWCD
Carrie Wiess
Bill Hudson – Pagosa Paper
Charles + Donna Farmwall – rancher (FS takeover)
Dave – Archuleta waste
Jan Quinn
Rod!
Jim Valere – engr (worried about fishing)
Joe Crab
Renee – Pagosa Sun
Debra? – local
Mely + Michael Whiting
Val Valentine
Jack + Lee Costa
~~[illegible]~~ JR
Aaron Kimmple

1. FS take over of headwaters
2. worried about fishing
3. John T → EPA's water of US

* Bruce's IPPs

4. talk about keeping our water local (Dry Gulch Reservoir, captures it)

* Local funds spent from WSRA

5. Mely doesn't like the pie chart
sacrifice our uses for theirs

6. Tamarisk! invasive species; just as bad as grass

new slides
F/S/T statement
TMD criteria

(Ray)
Quote: Flush twice; Brighton needs the water (bar in Denver)

7. MW → economics: whats the highest and best use of that? (almond = 1.5 gal water)
~~Sand~~ Spend tax payer funds on water for storage; than tax payers have a say in how it is used
public money = public business

8. ~~What~~ Once the water is gone; what's it worth?

9. Local concerns: Dry Gulch + USFS (trade for land?)
shouldn't have to go through so many hoops
others think you should!

10. SJ Chama mentioned several times

11. Geothermal Greenhouse Project → $50K
Reporter:
~~Steven~~ concerned about funding a project
that has no buisness plan
Melly: we don't get into local politics and
obsition doesn't
How do we find out about local needs/wants?

Idea: if grants relate to certain area
we more KT meeting to their area

12. JR: TNC Study 20 to 26% more moisture will
go into the ground after
deforesting

communities look at how to get more
water access into their watersheds?

13. Aaron → SJ Headwaters being proactive

14. Add a list of completed LPPs!

BAYFIELD
~~Pagosa Springs~~, Colorado
November 19, 2014

Southwest Basin Roundtable
Basin Implemenation Plan Outreach Meeting

	Name	Contact Information	Where did you travel from?
41	Larry Hronich	563-4454	Ignacio
42	Ralph Klusman	563-4406	Ignacio
43	Mike Canterbury	884-2558	Vallecito
44	Carole McWilliams	884-2331	Bayfield
45	Phil Lane	883 2454	Ignacio
46	BUCK SKILLEN	759-2726	DGO
47	Ed Tolen	563-0320	Ignacio
48	Christy Duran	884-2558	Vallecito
49	Bruce Whitehead	247-1302	Durango
50	CHARLES MACKOWN	426-1692	IGNACIO
51	Chuck Wanner	259-0075	Durango Rd Tbl.
52	Monte Miller	884-4327	Bayfield
53	Ed Zeigler	749-4621	Durango
54	Judy Clarke	884-0568	Pine River Ranch
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Bayfield Public Meeting 11/19/14

1. Conservation
   incentive vs penalties/regulations

2. Colorado water entitlements; meet needs yet
   need to send some quantity downstream

★ 3. Make sure Thompson Epperson on IPPlist

4. Conservation on the East slope critical!
   (Buck) seems like west slope naturally does it

*change non-public to non-correct

5. CWCB tries to make one shoe fit everyone
   it doesn't! broad brush!!

6. PR improve efficiencies, want water
   to still stay here! (Pine River)
   bring in new production

*email west slope peeps for comparisions

7. Reuse factor, people rely on return flows,
   put most water on lands less
   down river, better to store + release

8. Federal regulation: reclassify current
   waters not currently under regulation
   (Public guy) to Chuck answers
   where do wetlands fit?
   Chuck described WCCC + quality of
   water
   Bruce + Chuck disagree, here
   wetlands only cause of irrigation
   Ed T explained why/how wetlands are delinated
   Homestead subdivision; big wetlands that have disappeared
   cause of improved irrigation factors

9. (guy next to Ed T) conflict, sortn of interests
   ag vs rec/enviro; TU did work and now
   they have to go back + fix it
   streambed improvement project by bridge
   and affected how they divert

Ed T
Bruce
Chuck
- Pine purpose lady
-
Mike @ PRID
- PRID
Buck
-
Ed T
-
-
-
- Public

Town Project? (reporter sorta knows)
Opportunity! for us to work together
future: RT try to ask questions about how
this affects users below/above project

10. WSRA → what do we fund?
keep using funds to keep water local

11. Conservation of household use water (now late lady)
alternatives to WWTP
disgusted w/ $51M TP
doesn't like toilets, WWTPs
composting toilets! use of grey water :)

12. (Pine Reporter) Rain Water? Have we discussed this?
Brue: rural + urban rain water law

13.

* call Craig! *
* Thompson
Epperson *

759-1390
call w/ Answer

where is
the PO?
may need
an extension
too?

PLEASE SIGN IN!

	NAME	CONTACT INFO	WHERE DID YOU TRAVEL FROM
1	BRIAN KIMMEL	swlsinc@frontier.net	Mancos
2	Bob Becker	becr@frontier.net	MANCOS
3	Lorraine Becker	" " "	"
4	Jim Mimiaga	jmimiaga@cortezjournal.com	
5	ERIC & BETH JANES	ejanes@frontier.net	MANCOS
6	Wally Patchett	wallacepatcheck@state.co.us	[illegible]
7	Gabe Deall	gdeall@gmail.com	mancos
8	Brandon Bell	mancosrwc@hotmail.com	Mancos
9	Phyllis Snyder	pksws@hotmail.com	Cortez
10	Marty Robbins	Marty.Robbins@state.co.us	Cortez
11	Allen Maez	21693 cty Rd 21 Lewis, CO	Lewis
12	Patricia Burk	p_a_burk@msn.com	Mancos
13	Jack Burk	38359 Rd H Mancos	Mancos
14	Ben Wolcott	bitsncams@yahoo.com	Mancos
15	RAYMOND KEITH		MANCOS
16	J Paul Brown	brownjpaul@yahoo.com	Ignacio
17	Steve Davis	stephenadavis1@msn.com	Mancos
18	Doug Pickering	doug.pickering@state.co.us	Cortez
19	Mark Lambert	mblambert@fs.fed.us	Durango
20	Dustin Stein	stubbinfarm@gmail.com	Mancos!
21	Josh Munson	joshuasmunson@gmail.com	Dolores
22	Sam Carter	sam@doloresriverboating.org	Dolores
23	MIKE PRESTON		CORTEZ
24	John Porter	Southwestern WCD	Cortez
25	[illegible]	[illegible]	Mancos

see next page

26	Kate Greenberg	kate@youngfarmers.org	612.669.6829	National Young Farmers Coalition	Durango
27	Kellie Pettyjohn	kelliepj@yahoo.com			mancos
28	Tom Schillaci	tom@videoresource.net			Silverton
29	Tom Hunter				

SOUTHWEST BASIN ROUNDTABLE
Basin Implementation Plan Outreach Meeting

Mancos Community Center

December 1, 2014

Meeting Agenda

1. Introductions (15 minutes, depending on attendance)
    a. Name
    b. Group survey: How many people have heard of the Roundtable? Colorado Water Plan? Basin Implementation Plan? Which river basin do you live in?
2. Colorado Water Plan: overview, update of status, and timeline (10 minutes)
3. Basin Implementation Plan: overview, update of status, and timeline (10 minutes)
4. Group Discussions and/or Breakout session (85 minutes)

Location: Mancos Community Center

130 W. Grand Avenue
Mancos Colorado

Time: 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.

Drafted 11/12/2014

*email MIKE P CWP PPT

MANCOS OUTREACH MEETING

12/1/14

1. Ask how the CO River compact is addressed in the Plan?
3. ANN wrote down!
2. How are they incorporating BIPs?
4. talk about conservation
   how would it be implemented?
5. TMD factors (8)
   example of a TMD out of the SW basin?
   explain how we are a part of a TMD
6. What is an IPP?
   types, examples
7. BK → are we able/possible to make room for double population?
8. Ratio % vs total use
   use more inside to use more outside
9. 5M more ppl, 4M on front range
   meeting
   huge deficits of water supply
   this is inevitable!
   address/action for potential long term risk
10. Consumers are also food consumers
    East
    We provide what they need!
    We use our water and they use our end product
11. Waterton Canyon → need education! in Denver, entitlement
    experience → not allowed to use a way, they then change

*Make Brian Kimmel a copy

Ask IPP list website Plan website

*email Lee Ann opts!

30 people

RT { Mike P, John P, Tim Hunter

Mancos Rural Water – ?

Mancos WCD
Gabe – local!
Dustin – local, farmer
Ben – local
Wally – DWR Marty, Doug
JPaul
Josh – Dolores
Lee Ann ↑ River Board
Sam
Mark – FS
Ray Keith
Tom – video!
Bob Becker MCD
Eric Jane + wife
Jim
Brian Kimmel

Al Maze-Lewis
Kelly – local
Trisha & Jack MCD

12. well written from FS guy
concerned: CWP (chapter 9) sets up an
adversarially relationship

13. Oil + gas impacts: using water + don't know what
they are doing wlit

14. CWP so far, nothing to address putting more
into agriculture

JPaul 15. S. Platte water going downstream that can be
legally supported; need to develop this
Narrow's Project, NISP too

Eric J 16. WW treatment work; manage of treated water
for reuse
8 or 9th criterion add: recycling basin for
a MD demonstrate a strategy for waste
reuse; 70/30 isn't enough
Stronger language in the area of water reuse

→ need data needs: reuse

2 alternatives to pumping than power plants water

17. Scenario planning: how much future climate
change? projections
bring any project to the table even if they aren't
long term reliable/climate change sustainable
John Pansmoved of "Risk Management" triggers
planning for unknown; projects that are only
short term; terms of a paradigme
* something to add to grant criteria (projects + planning process)

Lee Ann 18. Farmer's conservation IPPs?

19. Education! more education on snowpack ACROSS the state;
not just "my" area; they consume cause
there is an awful lot of snow in Vail

Education themed night

John Porter

20. Miss Becker pipedreams: bringing water from the Missouri

21. Eduction! TMD's are FULLY consumed transcontinental

22. Plan is lacking conservation! hugely lacking
strick uncomfortable language isn't in here
mandates! yes! we need to do some work too, not just one sides

BK

23. relate land use codes to water use

24. Keep Tahoe Blue → land use code management strict!

25. Water Festival → water storage = water bank
Store our water + then use it
We so close to the state line, our water levels so fast
FIRST eaten it then use

Tim

26. Great comments tonight!
get on the website! come to meetings!

PLACERVILLE, CO

PLEASE SIGN IN!

	NAME	CONTACT INFO	WHERE DID YOU TRAVEL FROM?
1	Kenny Heldman	KHeldman@NMTC wireless.com	Nucla
2	Mary Slosson	mary@telluridedailyplanet.com	Telluride
3	Earl & Ruth Reeves		Naturita
4	Leigh Robertson	LeighRobertson3@gmail.com	Ridgway
5	Hilary Cooper	hilary@sheepmountainalliance.org	Telluride
6	Erik Dalton	erikmdalton@gmail.com	Telluride
7	Laura Kudo	laura@telluridinstitute.org	(Fall Creek) Telluride
8	Sarah Bubbe	sarah@sanmiguelwatershed.org	Telluride
9	JOAN MAY	joanm@sanmiguelcounty.org	San Miguel Cty
10	Ashley Babcock	ashley@ecoactionpartners.org	Telluride
11	Steven Zwick	steve2@sanmiguelcounty.org	Delta
12	Lexi Tuddenham		Tride.
13	Terri Lamers	Lamers_T@yahoo.com	Nor
14	Linda Luther-Borodenca		Pville
15	JoAnne Snyder	Snyder56Jo@Yahoo.com	Hotwood

Placerville Public Outreach

12/9/14

April presented CWCB State Plan info

BIP is an appendix to CWP
as well as incorporated throughout

1. Regulating power of the plan?
recommendations to
lawmakers? power?

April → more road map on where
we should focus

2. 61% leave the state; how ~~is~~
are net years calculated?
If we don't use our water + it
goes down stream; well
we keep just send more + more?

3. Have we meet compact obligations?
Yes to date

4. Nervous about water law & Feds; possible change something
compacts on east slope too

5. Watershed Master Plan → what is this? funding for it?

6. Lake Mead @ historically low levels, does this concern us?

7. IPP List → wild + scenic of Natrita creek is no longer
a part of the list (Kenny I think)

8. Tab... Dam removal → needs to be updated; completed
(Hillary I think)

lots of ladies
Laura K → watershed pro.
Sara → SM watershed
Kenny → Nevada CCC, Gurl
→ Natrita
→ Dairy Plant
Linda → open space
Ashley → Eco action
Joan → SM CC
→ SM CC attorney
Hillary → sheriff all
Eric Dalton
Lee → SM gunnison
Ann
Carrie
April - chair CWCB

* Update IPPs that have been completed

9. Basin over allocated; would you reduce uses by a %?

* IPP list mine

10. Storage issue; one way to deal w/ over appropriated streams

11. Main solution: more water storage
especially on East Slope
funding + EA big hurdles

12. Evaporation; doesn't dissappear but lands
some place

13. water law worked for 100 yrs, shouldn't change

14. Data gaps → who does this?

15. (SM report) no info on ISF; only 2 monitoring spots
out of allot ISF in SM + Dolores
no real data/stream gages
1. gages to monitor
economic studies for rec needs, one of the
last free flowing rivers
more forms of natural storage
ag efficiences
traditional forms aren't very acceptable

curley guy

16. ISF could have filed on more what than is available
Uravan data; 50s data start; misleading, he thinks

(disagreement on ISFs....)

17. Concern: over keeping SM free flowing river!
river rafter/Kayak business; shortest period
huge economic driver! special place

18. Ag efficiencies → no water lost; runoff is re used

19. Surface water + ground water → how are they related?
water isn't lost when it returns to the ground

20. Explore snow making as a new storage solution
could store water w/o dams
recreate on it
actual river water to snow to runoff

21.

COLORADO'S SOUTHWEST BASIN

COLORADO RIVER
MOAB
GATEWAY
MESA
MONTROSE
NUCLA
SAN MIGUEL RIVER
SLICKROCK
NORWOOD
SANMIGUEL
DISSAPOINTMENT CREEK
TELLURIDE
RED MOUNTAIN
SILVERTON
SANJUAN
HINSDALE
MINERAL
MONTICELLO UT.
DOVE CREEK
DOLORES
GROUNDHOG RES.
WEST FORK
BLANDING UT.
McPHEE RES.
DOLORES RIVER
DURANGO MT. RESORT
VERMOSA CREEK
LAPLATA
MONTEZUMA
JACKSON RES.
LEMON RES.
WILLIAMS CRK. RES.
WOLF CREEK
DOLORES
CORTEZ
MANCOS
DURANGO
FLORIDA RIVER
PINE RIVER
VALLECITO RES.
PIEDRA RIVER
ARCHULETA
PAGOSA SPRINGS
DRY GULCH
McELMO CREEK
SLEEPING UTE MOUNTAIN
TOWAOC
MESA VERDE
LAKE NIGHTHORSE
BAYFIELD
LA PLATA RIVER
LONG HOLLOW RES.
UTE MOUNTAIN UTE RESERVATION
SOUTHERN UTE RESERVATION
IGNACIO
SILVER LAKE RES.
RIO BLANCO
MANCOS RIVER
SAN JUAN RIVER
NAVAJO RIVER
RIOCHAMA
ANIMAS RIVER
FOUR CORNERS
UTAH
ARIZONA
NEW MEXICO
FARMINGTON N.M.
AZTEC N.M.
SHIPROCK N.M.
SHIPROCK
BLOOMFIELD N.M.
ELVADO RES.

COLORADO
DENVER
COLORADO RIVER
WESTSLOPE
FRONT RANGE
UTAH
ARIZONA
NEW MEXICO
SAN MIGUEL
DOLORES
ANIMAS
LA PLATA
PINE
PIEDRA
MANCOS
SAN JUAN
NORTH

MAP KEY
- RIVERS
- HIGHWAYS
- COUNTY LINES
- RESERVOIRS

Southwest Basin Roundtable: Basin Implementation Plan
Map Key for IPPs (Identified Projects and Processes)
Highlights by Sub-Basin from East to West

San Juan River Sub-Basin

1. San Juan Chama Diversion – 89,832AF (Acre Feet) per year provided to New Mexico under Colorado River Compact. Extensive restoration – Blanco River
2. Dry Gulch Water Storage Project – 11,000AF of Off-stream storage for future M&I (Municipal & Industrial) needs and other recreational and environmental purposes
3. Geothermal Greenhouse Partnership – K-12 science education, test site for commercial organic crops: high altitude, geothermal, year round food production
4. San Juan Headwaters Forest Health Partnership – Collaborative approach to improving long term resilience of mixed conifer forests and nearby communities

Piedra River Sub-Basin

5. River Protection Workgroup(s) (RPWs) – Workgroups formed in 5 Sub-basins tributary to the San Juan River and 4 tributaries (San Juan, Piedra, Pine, Animas and Hermosa Creek) to involve public in protecting values while allowing future water development. Piedra values included: ranching, fishing hunting, hiking, boating.

Pine River Sub-Basin

6. La Plata Archuleta Water District – To meet residential and commercial water needs that have outstripped groundwater capacity and quality. Will build out to 200 miles of pipeline, multiple storage tanks, water loading stations and other infrastructure.
7. Vallecito Reservoir – Spillway repairs. Flow donation agreement for instream flow and other purposes. New water right would allow "exchange water" for users outside of PRID service area such as upstream of Vallecito Reservoir.

Animas River Basin

8. In-Channel Recreational Diversion – "Kayak Park" south of Durango opened for use in summer of 2014.
9. Animas River Stakeholders Group – Working to meet water quality standards to protect aquatic species and improve habitat from Maggie Gulch to Silverton and Silverton to Durango. Remediation of 33 mine waste sites (mostly complete) and 36 draining mines (5 have been addressed).
10. Lake Nighthorse Recreation – Open Lake Nighthorse for boating, fishing and swimming
11. Hermosa Watershed Protection Act of 2013 – Introduced in Senate by Senator Bennet, Co-Sponsor Senator Udall. Companion Legislation (H.R. 1319) introduced by Congressman Tipton. Bill a result of the Animas River Protection Workgroup process involving water users, ranchers, business leaders, mountain bicyclists, dirt bikers and community officials.
12. Hermosa Creek Cutthroat Trout Meta-population Project – Some native trout barriers installed. Next comes non-native removal and re-linkage with tributary mainstem.
13. Lemon Reservoir and Florida Mesa Ditch Companies – FWCD has acquired a 2,500AF water right for multiple purposes within the Florida Basin (M&I, wildlife, wetlands, exchange, augmentation, hydropower, and irrigation). Voluntary program for ditch companies to conserve water and firm up irrigation deliveries to provide for above uses through reduction in delivery system losses (3 miles of ditch lining to date).

La Plata River Sub-Basin

14. Long Hollow Reservoir – 5,400 AF reservoir near state line to meet New Mexico compact compliance, irrigation supply by exchange and potential exchange/ augmentation of domestic wells. Reservoir complete. Operational practices being evaluated.
15. La Plata West Water Authority – Provide western La Plata County with safe dependable water in the face of declining groundwater. Source: Lake Nighthorse.

Mancos River Sub-Basin

16. Ute Mountain Tribe Water Conservation and Management Plan – Process to discuss UMUT water rights in the Mancos sub-basin including possible development with non-Tribal partners.
17. Jackson Gulch Reservoir Enlargement – 5 feet added to dam height would equate to 1,000AF of new storage to meet M&I growth without diminishing irrigation.
18. Mancos River Habitat Diversion Project, Phase II – Restore aquatic habitat and efficiency of 4 diversions downstream of the Town of Mancos to improve irrigation diversions while allowing fish and sediment passage and promoting channel stability
19. Weber Ditch Piping – Piping of ditch in areas compromised by the Weber fire regarding safety and seepage

Dolores River and McElmo Creek Sub-Basins

20. Dolores River Dialogue (DRD) – A collaborative process, ongoing since 2004 to protect water rights, Dolores Project allocations, community water supplies and the continued enjoyment of boating and fishing. The DRD appointed the Lower Dolores Working Group to find alternatives to Wild and Scenic Suitability. The Work Group appointed a Legislative Subcommittee which is developing NCA legislation to protect water rights and downstream values. The Legislative Subcommittee commissioned "A Way Forward" scientific evaluation of opportunities to improve the status of 3 sensitive native fish species (roundtail chub, flannelmouth sucker and bluehead sucker) guided by a Native Fish Implementation, Monitoring and Evaluation Plan, overseen by a broad based Implementation Team. All of these features are part of the proposed "Dolores River Canyon National Conservation Area" legislation, intended for Congressional introduction in 2015. The DRD Steering Committee completed a Watershed Plan with significant historic appendices in 2013.
21. Optimization Study – Given the multiplicity of stakeholders with water stored or passing through McPhee Reservoir, fully appropriated water rights, and extremely tight water supplies in the dry end of the hydrologic cycle, the Optimization Study is intended to evaluate the most effective use of existing facilities and potential delivery system improvements to optimize benefits and improve drought resilience within the framework of Colorado water rights and Dolores Project contracts.

San Miguel River Sub-Basin

22. San Miguel Watershed Coalition – Formed to involve the whole community to advance the ecological health and promote the economic vitality of the watershed by collaborative efforts. The coalition periodically compiles the San Miguel Watershed Report Card.
23. Town of Norwood – Holds water rights for future municipal needs by diverting San Miguel water rights into a small storage reservoir.
24. Montrose County Firming Project Phase 1 – To provide a water source for M&I demand 50 years into the future, including the growth of the Towns of Nucla and Naturita. Engineering feasibility studies are being undertaken on a variety of potential reservoir sites and a number of infrastructure expansion opportunities
25. Instream Flows – Have been decreed on the San Miguel River and are being evaluated on Naturita Creek which is considered spawning habitat for flannelmouth sucker, bluehead sucker and roundtail chub.

SUMMATION OF PUBLIC COMMENTS

coloradowaterplan.com

cowaterplan@state.co.us

Direct 303-866-3441

Cover Sheet for Input Document, Item #16

The document listed below was submitted as formal input for Colorado's Water Plan. A summary of the document, including a staff response and/or recommendation is included in the master spreadsheet included within this packet.

Date: March 19, 2014

Input provided by: Lee-Ann Hill, Dolores River Boat Advocates

Method of submission: Email to cowaterplan@state.co.us

Summary of Input: Comments from Dolores River Boating Advocates for the Colorado's Water Plan, most of which were also discussed in person with CWCB staff.

Documents Submitted for Review: Comments in attached letter

Staff Response: The CWCB appreciates the encouragement to continue to engage on solving the difficult issues on the Dolores River. CWCB and the Southwest Basin Roundtable have helped fund efforts, such as "A Way Forward," and will continue to support the Dolores River Dialogue process as appropriate. Staff will pass these comments onto the Southwest Basin Roundtable. CWCB has helped fund the operation of the Slick Rock Gage on an annual basis, and if there is considerable local support for funding the Slick Rock gage on a more permanent basis, will discuss with the CWCB Board how CWCB may be able to help fund it on a more permanent basis. Staff encourages Dolores River Boating Advocates to partner with other groups and ask the Basin Roundtable or the Watershed Protection Fund for assistance to develop a Watershed Plan for the Upper Dolores River. This could incorporate the optimization study, youth involvement, and watershed assessments. Because staff has supported many watershed efforts across the state, please contact Chris Sturm for some example grants and watershed plans that have been fruitful.

Dolores River Boating Advocates
Colorado Water Plan Recommendations
March 19, 2014

The following recommendations are submitted on behalf of Dolores River Boating Advocates (DRBA). DRBA is a grassroots non-profit organization in Southwest Colorado with over 250 supporters, and growing. DRBA seeks to optimize flows, restore the natural environment, and permanently protect the Dolores River for whitewater boating.

We appreciate the opportunity to offer input on the Governor's State Water Plan for Colorado on behalf of the Water for the 21st Century Act. We have categorized our input into gaps, processes, projects, and concepts per the framework of the Colorado Water Plan. Following are priorities for our organization that we would like to see included in the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan for the State Water Plan.

Gaps

- **Recreation Access on the Upper Dolores River**: The Upper Dolores River is a remarkable stretch of free-flowing river with wild and scenic suitability for recreation, yet it lacks safe and adequate access for recreational opportunities including boating and fishing. The San Juan Skyway runs along the Dolores River and offers highway accessibility, but an official access site has not been established which has resulted in user created access and riparian damage. An established site with day use accessibility would be ideal for enabling recreation in a manner that is safe for human use and the riparian environment. A makeshift boat put-in at the confluence of the West Fork of the Dolores River could be improved, or an access site could be established on public land upstream from the West Fork confluence. Alternatively, the purchase of property for a day use site by the state or county would enable day trips to Dolores for all levels of boaters, and would allow fishing access and day use enjoyment. A recreation plan would help identify a suitable location and help move an access project forward.
- **Habitat and boating flows on the Lower Dolores River**: Boating and habitat flows on the Lower Dolores River are currently secondary to irrigation needs in the Montezuma Valley, yet the ecological health of the Dolores River has been compromised to a point of significant concern, while boating on the Lower Dolores River has been reduced by about 35%. Flows annually that mimic the natural hydrograph would improve the natural environment and provide whitewater boating opportunities on the Lower Dolores River, as identified in the "A Way Forward Native Fish Study," and through the efforts of the Dolores River Dialogue and the Implementation Team. While the Implementation Team is looking at ways to implement flows, attaining those flows is where the gap lies. Filling this gap is a critical piece in enabling the *Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation Plan* to move forward to restore the ecological and recreational values of the Lower Dolores River.
- **Reliability of funding for the Slick Rock stream gage**: Each year, partners involved in the work of the Dolores River Dialogue struggle with funding for maintenance and operations of the Slick Rock stream gage. Certainty in funding is needed. The Slick Rock gage that plays a significant role in assessing adequate flows for native fish, sediment loads from upstream tributaries, and lends to a

comprehensive watershed flow assessment for the Dolores River. While the continuation of the Slick Rock stream gage is valuable for the *Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation Plan*, the funding is not secure or sustainable. Annual seed money would help ensure the continuation of this important stream gage, and would minimize budget uncertainty for the participating entities that could then assign a fixed amount in their annual budgets.

Processes

- **The Dolores River Dialogue**: Processes associated with the Dolores River Dialogue including the *Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation Plan* and the Legislative Subcommittee, are important efforts that need to continue moving forward where results can be achieved and measured, and the diligence and participation of stakeholders from throughout the Southwest and the State can come to fruition after many, many years of deliberation.
- **Upper Dolores River Recreation Plan**: As mentioned above in "Gaps," an Upper Dolores Recreation Plan would be valuable for assessing access and user needs and potential land use issues on the Upper Dolores River.

Projects

- **Dolores River Basin Optimization Study:** To help determine efficiencies and water availability, an Optimization Study is needed. This study would lend to the processes and projects already in play in the Dolores Basin, and the implementation of efficiencies could yield additional water for habitat and recreation flows on the Dolores River, per the *Implementation, Monitoring, and Evaluation Plan*.
- **Youth stewardship and outdoor education programs**: River stewardship programs and projects that focus on youth involvement, such as Colorado River Watch, are great opportunities to get the next generation of Coloradoans invested in our water and encourage wise water practices. Developing a deep understanding of water quality and quantity will help inform our future decision makers and citizens.

Concepts

- With the degree of historic mining activity in the upper Dolores watershed, a **319 Watershed Plan for the Upper Dolores River** would be valuable for assessing water quality in regards to the agricultural, fishery, riparian, recreational, and municipal needs and uses of the Upper Dolores River.
- **Watershed Assessments**: Basin-by-basin watershed assessments to determine water availability are critical before significant new projects are considered. These assessments must include non-consumptive needs for habitat and recreation.

The State Water Plan is our opportunity to be visionary about our State's needs with additional consideration of current and past water challenges. We ask that non-consumptive needs that sustain the ecological and recreational benefits of rivers be valued alongside consumptive needs and uses in the State Water Plan. Non-consumptive water is a tremendous economic driver in Colorado, and supports the quality of life that Colorado

residents enjoy. Growth beyond our state's water means is not part of a sustainable future for Colorado. Transbasin and transmountain diversions to accommodate out of basin growth are precarious and temporary "fixes" at best that would do immeasurable harm rather than good in the long run. Living within our water means and within the carrying capacity of our watersheds is essential as we move through the 21st Century. Further, "big straw" concepts do not adequately incorporate non-consumptive needs and values of a watershed, which are essential to our own survival. We are opposed to this type of reckless water misappropriation, and we trust that a more viable and sustainable solution will be pursued.

Thank you for your consideration of our comments and recommendations. We look forward to future participation as the State Water Plan develops.

Sincerely,

Lee-Ann Hill
Program Coordinator

And

Dolores River Boating Advocates Board of Directors: Julia Anderson, Sam Carter, Kevin Cook, Jane Dally, Wade Hanson, Tracie Hughes, Andy Hutchinson, Josh Munson

Zimbra **carrie@durangowater.com**

Re: Basin Implementation Plan Public Feedback in Durango

From : Ed Millard <ed.millard@gmail.com> Mon, Sep 29, 2014 12:31 PM
Subject : Re: Basin Implementation Plan Public Feedback in Durango
To : Carrie Lile <carrie@durangowater.com>
Cc : annsoliver@gmail.com, Michael Preston <mpreston@frontier.net>

Below are a few areas of concern based on one pass skimming the BIP and IPP's. Not sure at this point if I will develop more formal comments or not. It would take a lot of time to research and fully understand such a large document, especially with all the related material.

NCA

The proposed Lower Dolores National Conservation Area isn't mentioned anywhere in the BIP. The proposed CWCB Instream Flow on the Dolores is, as is Wild and Scenic Suitability. Since the NCA will have a wide ranging impact on the Dolores, and may remove WSR suitability, why isn't it mentioned?

MVI

Montezuma Valley Irrigation isn't mentioned anywhere in the BIP, other than on the list of organizations to which it was presented. Every other water user in the Dolores Project is discussed in the body of the document. MVI seems have been replaced with the code word McElmo Basin. Perhaps the MVI board preferred it this way?

Environmental and Recreational Gaps

A key area of concern I have is with the language in these two "multi basin" IPP's, which also appears in the Southwest Basin IPP executive summary, and in two other places in the BIP verbatim:

1. Evaluation of environmental and or recreation gaps is planned to be conducted for improvement of non-consumptive resources and/or in collaborative efforts with development of consumptive IPPs. The evaluations may be conducted by a subgroup of the Roundtable or by individuals, groups, or organizations with input from the Roundtable. The evaluation may utilize methodologies such as the southwest attribute map, flow evaluation tool, R2 Cross, and any other tools that may be available.

2. Where environmental and/or recreational gaps are identified, a collaborative effort will be initiated to develop innovative tools to protect water identified as necessary to address these gaps.

Its implied this this language and IPP's were developed by the Southwest Roundtable, but they are listed under "Multibasin IPP". Are these IPP's specific to the Southwest Basin but are striving to fulfill a statewide goal which is why they are listed as "Multibasin"? **Who exactly authored this language and inserted it in 4 different places including the Executive Summary?**

I find the wording very awkward and the meaning opaque. I think I know what its saying but for language and IPP's that seems to have seized control of and dominate the Southwest BIP, I'm wondering if somewhat greater effort should be spent to craft wording that is clearer and less subject to interpretation. Some rhetorical questions, exactly what kind of "innovative tools" are we talking about and how are they going to "protect" this mystery "water" they are planning to "identify".

Is there a document some place that describes these two IPP's in detail?

Is there a link between these two IPP's and the "Optimization study" proposed by DWCD for the Dolores and McElmo basins? Is there a document describing this proposed optimization study in more detail?

On Sep 29, 2014, at 10:49 AM, Carrie Lile <carrie@durangowater.com> wrote:

> I would assume that date is for comments made to the draft BIP for that area. Ann and I have not set an official deadline for comments on the Southwest BIP yet. We would appreciate comments sooner than later, as we would like to present them to our sub-committee for discussion and then the to Roundtable for recommendations for inclusions. So comments made before November 10 would helpful, but not necessary. We are hashing out the deadline details this week. From what I know, the draft CWP will go to the Govern on December 10th and then the final BIPs are due in April of 2015. The latest we could receive comments in March 1st to allow us time to incorporate them (if applicable). Then a final of the CWP would go to the Govern in December of 2015.
>
> Carrie
>
> ---
>
> **From:** "Ed Millard" <ed.millard@gmail.com>
> **To:** "Carrie Lile" <carrie@durangowater.com>
> **Cc:** annsoliver@gmail.com, "Michael Preston" <mpreston@frontier.net>
> **Sent:** Monday, September 29, 2014 10:38:33 AM
> **Subject:** Re: Basin Implementation Plan Public Feedback in Durango

Zimbra **carrie@durangowater.com**

state water plan

From : South West Land Services <swlsinc@frontier.net> Mon, Mar 16, 2015 01:44 PM
Subject : state water plan
To : carrie@durangowater.com

Please add to the comments:

I keep hearing that we must be ready to spread already ”thin” water resources to include potentially 500,000 more state residents.
And yet I see nothing in the plan that requires us to develop “carrying capacity” plans for drainages to determine just how much we have that is usable and how more we can practically develop.
This includes agriculture, residential, light industrial, etc.
The plan should contain language that required every county to account for the actual usable water in their drainages and figure out how that is developed with their current populations.
After which we might be able to see more/allow more immigration.
Real planning and development and zoning based on water capacities should be required.

Brian Kimmel

Colorado's Water Plan - Public Input Received
October 11, 2014 through January 4, 2015

Item Number	Date	Input Provided By	Method of Input Submission	Related Chapters/ Sections of CWP	Summary of Input	Documents Submitted for Review	Staff Responses and Recommendations
19	10/24/2014	Scott Kadera	Webform	2, 7.3, Southwest BIP	I live in La Plata County, not far from the airport. While we have been in a drought for a number of years, you would not know that by driving around that part of the county. During the summer, water flows freely and constantly through irrigation ditches and over fields. While many of these fields have a legitimate agricultural use, a number of land owners are just watering pasture land for a horse or two, or in some cases no animals at all. But, if they don't use the water they will lose their right to it. It isn't logical or fair to punish people that may want to conserve water or do not have a need for it at this time. The use it or lose it policy has to change. Also, I have some concerns about fracking and its effect on our ground water. I understand that the water and chemicals are being injected deep into to the earth but I don't think anyone knows what the long term effects are going to be. As we have seen with some of the capped mines in Silverton, CO, water finds a way to escape. When they cap one part of a mine the water will find its way out somewhere else. The same thing could happen to our ground water. Wells and springs could get contaminated and once that happens the water will be good for nothing. Another concern of mine is the first priority of the Southwest Basin Roundtable. It states, "Ensure endangered species' needs do not negatively impact future in-basin uses." I might be able to see why this would be a priority if we were being responsible with the water we have but we are not. As stated above, the use it or lose it policy results in a waste of thousands, if not, millions of gallons of water each year. To say that we would rather waste water rather than save endangered species is morally wrong. Finally, there seems to be a disconnect on the Front Range about their water usage and the compacts that we have with lower basin states. It is only logical that the biggest opportunity for water conservation would come from the biggest user, the Front Range. Why should the Western Slope have to pay the price for Denver residents to have green lawns? If we all practice responsible water management and conservation then there will be enough water for future building, agriculture, the environment and recreation.	N/A	Nine out of every ten years some portion of the state experiences some level of drought. Moreover drought can carry serious economic and environmental consequences. Therefore it is a natural hazard that the state takes seriously. Colorado is a national leader in drought mitigation and planning efforts, much of which is outlined in the State of Colorado Drought Mitigation and Response Plan. Pieces of that plan have been incorporated into Colorado's Water Plan where appropriate. Colorado's Water Plan seeks to uphold Colorado's current water law system. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. These principles are fundamental to Colorado water administration and law and Colorado's Water Plan requires them to succeed. Please review Chapter 2 of the 2014 draft Colorado's Water Plan, specifically section 2.1 (Colorado water law & administration) which addresses the usufructory nature of water rights within Colorado and the prior appropriation system. Fracking currently uses approximately 18,000 acre feet per year, which is a very small proportion of Colorado's overall water use. However, there may be some areas where there are greater regional effects. In addition, power plants that burn natural gas to make energy use less water than traditional power plants. Therefore, from an overall resource management perspective, fracking and the resulting energy production do not consume a significant amount of water compared to current levels. Colorado's Water Plan seeks to work collaboratively to uphold Colorado's water values and does not put a value judgment on any one beneficial use. The Water Quality Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) regulates water quality issues of this nature in the state. Water Quality has been recognized as critical for Colorado's water future. The CWCB is working closely with the Water Quality Control Division and the Basin Roundtables in order to address Colorado's Water Quality needs. This is further explored in Section 7.3. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. CWCB will pass these comments on to the Southwest Basin Roundtable.
20	10/28/2014	Joseph Grantham	Webform	Arkansas BIP	In reviewing Arkansas Draft BIP of July 31, 2014, mistake on bottom of page 29 re: small capacity wells. Says limit is 15 gpm and this is incorrect. See 37-90-105, C.R.S. Up to 50 gallons per minute. Local ground water management districts may adopt rules to reduce this amount or increase up to no more than 80 a.f. per year per 37-90-105(7)(a).	N/A	CWCB will pass these comments on to the Arkansas Basin Roundtable.
21	11/12/2014	Justin West, Hearing Officer, Colorado Ground Water Commission & DWR	Webform	6.3, 6.6	Our watershed is our life. Its our Heath and well being on all levels. It is Our heaven to escape to. Fly fishing and fish with many endangered native cutthroat, hunting, hiking biking a more all depend on our rivers. They depend on them because the seasonal flows supports the ecological web of our woods. As a Colorado native for three generationsI have noticed thru my elders how when one thing changes in nature, everything is impacted. It may take time to see but everything changes. Aside from the emotional and spiritual and physical well being our waters provides the residence of our watersheds, it is also our economic engine. I know all my friends depend on seasonal water for fishing guides, raft guides, and more. Then other friends of mine rely on those same tourist that came for the water to eat in their restaurants and buy their clothes in the store. Our seasonal flows bring in tourist and Durango is a tourist town, without them we would be in extreme economic despair. Last I want to say that to rob a watershed of its life, it's blood, is to irreversibly affect it forever and is morally wrong. Solutions to our water shortages should not be to rob and rape our Mother Earth for more than she can give, but to use our minds as human beings, stewards of our mothers lands, and find ways to reduce, reuse, and recycle out water usage. We as humans can live in union with nature and to put in more pipelines and reallocate water is to commit a serious crime against our children and grandchildren for they will not know the natural world for what it is.	N/A	Thank you for your comment. The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan are 1) vibrant and sustainable cities, 2) viable and productive agriculture, 3) a robust recreation and tourism industry, and 4) a thriving environment that includes healthy watersheds, rivers, streams, and wildlife. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables are working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.
22	11/13/2014	Peter Grosshuesch, Town of Breckenridge	Webform	6.3	Local governments should establish their own water conservation goals such as GPCD or overall production/consumption, and identify and implement measures to reach them.	N/A	Local water providers currently establish conservation goals through water conservation plans. Any goals within Colorado's Water Plan will allow for local flexibility in water conservation plans.
23	11/17/2014	Frank (Buck) Skillen, Trout Unlimited	Webform	6.6	In developing the State water plan, it is vital that the economic impact of fishing and hunting be considered. From a fishing standpoint many millions of dollars come into all of our communities from both residents and visitors. Further, Colorado fisheries are known for pristine cold, clear running water which is vital to a healthy tourism and recreation industry. Thank you for your careful consideration of these points. Respectfully submitted, Frank (Buck) Skillen.	N/A	Thank you for your comment. The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan are 1) vibrant and sustainable cities, 2) viable and productive agriculture, 3) a robust recreation and tourism industry, and 4) a thriving environment that includes healthy watersheds, rivers, streams, and wildlife. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables are working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.

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Senate Majority Caucus Whip

COMMITTEES
Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Energy
Chair
Local Government
Member
Capital Development Committee
Vice Chair

October 9, 2014

Re: Comments on the draft Colorado Water Plan

Dear Director Eklund:

This letter provides my comments on Colorado Water Plan (CWP). The comments reflect my insights on the SB14-115 process undertaken by the Water Resources Review Committee and should not be read as an opinion of the committee.

I gleaned from the citizens' input that Colorado needs a statewide Water Plan that addresses and balances the broad range of perspectives across the state. To simply roll-up the individual basin implementation plans (BIPs) into a document will not "add up" to a unified recommendation for the future of Colorado's water. The CWCB should prioritize developing a plan with a statewide perspective.

At virtually every hearing I attended (I attended all scheduled hearings except the Arkansas Basin hearing), Colorado citizens expressed their support for a strong commitment by municipal water utilities to indoor and outdoor water conservation. My recommendations on conservation goals are as follows:

- The Plan should guide all BIPs toward meeting, at a minimum, the No/Low Regrets goals on conservation as spelled out by the IBCC.
- Current Front Range BIPs' commitment to conservation is not sufficiently rigorous to achieve the level of conservation necessary to avoid future diversions from the West Slope.
- We need to blaze a new trail. The Plan should generate recommendations for legislation to increase conservation for residential and commercial performance and reduce outdoor lawn irrigation in cities across the state.

Repeatedly, Colorado citizens that attended our meetings placed a high priority on protecting riparian areas and habitat with healthy rivers. It is to be specified within the Water Plan to meet Environment and Recreation (E&R) needs. My thoughts on addressing this priority are as follows:

- It's incumbent upon the state's water leaders to embrace solid goals for identifying and protecting stream values. This is especially critical for future water projects that seek to develop additional water. For example, the Yampa basin will evaluate how M&I and ag projects could impact necessary E&R protections, with consideration of how climate change will impact these future needs.

- Specific goals should include ecosystem resiliency and protecting recreation economies, regardless of what new M&I or agriculture projects get built.
- Most identified IPPs have specified costs, while E&R needs rarely do. They both must receive equal consideration and similarly E&R projects should have estimates of expenditures and timelines for completion.
- It is often difficult to fund E&R projects in various basins. Therefore, the Plan should commit a meaningful share of all future funding to meet E&R needs.
- An important step is to develop stream management plans statewide as defined by a West Slope expert as "An evaluation of flow and water quality needs to support environmental and recreational uses within a specific basin together coupled with identification of challenges and opportunities to restore or improve conditions for those uses."

For developing the $18 Billion new projects (we know Colorado may never have available) the Plan should both require prioritization and establish criteria to determine whether projects deserve state support and funding. Group discussions regarding streamlining of permits felt new projects should not come at the expense of Clean Water Act protections and water quality. I tend to agree that this is an important balance that must be maintained.

As I have repeatedly stated, the only thing new in "new supply" is that it is new to the new user. I support the IBCC conceptual agreement that "preserves the option" for a new supply without the plan committing to state support for such a project. It is prudent for the plan to adopt this position in light of the great uncertainty about long-term water availability in the Colorado River Basin. We repeatedly heard from citizens that basins must live within their means and not rely upon future diversions to support growth.

Citizens consistently expressed that they supported legislation for more tools and flexibility for addressing efficiency in agriculture and the preservation of a sustainable agricultural economy. Alternative transfer mechanisms (ATMs) are key for meeting future needs, and should be fleshed-out in the Plan.

We certainly learned that citizens care about water and want to weigh in on the plan for the future of water in Colorado. I observed that the SB 14-115 hearings brought together a lot of folks who might have found the CWCB/BIP processes intimidating or were not previously engaged in water conversations. Going forward, it's important to listen to all perspectives and continue forums such as these to seek input.

Sincerely,

Senator Gail Schwartz
Senate Agriculture, Natural Resources and Energy, Chair
Water Resources Review Committee, Vice Chair

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Public Comments Provided Outside of Committee Meetings and Not Using Questionnaire			
Senator Larry Crowder E-mail to committee staff (excerpts provided in the following column).	• The Colorado W ater Plan (CW P) should include reports from all municipal water providers concerning water losses related to leaking pipes and aging infrastructure. • It should also include a goal of limiting such losses to one percent of the water delive red by a water provider.	6.5	Thank you for your comment. CWCB's information indicates that 6-7% of water loss is sufficient for meeting high conservation strategies. This would also be a helpful process to propose at the roundtable level. Infrastructural and maintenance costs are also emphasized in Section 6.5.5.
Kay L. Linder E-mail to committee (excerpts provided in the following column).	• Expressed concerned about the possible future issues with the Poudre River and felt very strongly that (the committee) could make irreparable damage to it if (the committee) was not careful in (its) decisions. • Objected to a reservoir that would impede the flow of water through the city of Fort Collins or harm the Poudre River.	6.5	Thank you for your comment. Colorado's Water Plan and the South Platte BIP emphasize the importance of environmental resiliency in development.
Public Comments from June 18, 2014 Gunnison Basin Hearing			
Steve Glazer	• The Joint Review Process (Article 10 of Title 34, repealed in 2003) s hould be reinstated so that all permits from all state offices may be dealt with at one time. The state should initiate a Colorado Env ironmental Quality Act to help avoid future litigation.	9.4, 10	Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015.
Marlene Zanetell	• Public education materials for the basin roundtables should not identify the purchase of water rights that are senior to the Colorado River Compact as a possible solution to enable c ontinued Front Range diversions during droughts. • The state should encourage greater water conservation and reuse to reduce the pressure on W est Slope water resources. • The CWP should also explain that Blue Mesa Reservoir and other elements of the Colorado River Storage Project do not directly benefit Gunnison and Montrose Counties but provide benefits to the state as a whole.	6.2, 6.5	Thank you for your comment. Compact concerns are addressed in west slope BIPs as well as within Colorado's Water Plan. The Gunnison BIP does a great job of articulating the role of the CRSP reservoirs within the Gunnison Basin and within the greater Colorado River basin. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.
Marc Catlin	• There is not more water in the Gunnison basin than what is needed by the basin. • All tributaries should be treated equally in the CW P. • Water efficiency does not necessarily mean lower consumption. • Water use and reuse is important. • Tamarisk and Russian-Olive trees are using huge amounts of water. Grant programs to remove phreatophytes quickly are crucial to prevent land fallowing. • Water banking is not the whole solution and needs to be examined closely. • The law should be amended to prohibit the us e of water obtained from new transmountain diversions (TMDs) for outdoor water consumption, such as lawn watering.	6, 8,10	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. In Section 6.3.4, Colorado's Water Plan addressed the need for reducing nonnative phreatophytes in order to gain salvagled water.
Jennifer Bock, environmental representative on the Gunnison Basin Roundtable, and W ater Program Director for High Country Conservation Advocates Also submitted a letter to the c ommittee	• The CWP should promote funding for environmental needs assessments and increased instream flows, such as funding to increase efficiency and purchasing or leasing of water rights for instream flows. • The plan should also include criteria for new diversions including a requirement that conservation and reuse be maximized prior to allowing new diversions.	10, 6.3	Thank you for your comment. The role of funding for environmental and recreational projects and methods, and the historical disparity between those projects and M&I or agricultural needs is discussed in 9.1 - Economics and Funding. Chapter 8 also discusses the issues at hand when proposing new conservation strategies or new supply. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3.
Cassidy Tawse-Garcia, High Country Conservation Advocates	• Protect the Gunnison watershed.	8	With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Garin Vorthman, Colorado Farm Bureau	• The word "viable" should not be attached to "agriculture" in the CW P. Instead it should be "robust" and "strong." "Viable" implies there is a value judgement. • The CWP should respect the doctrine of prior appropriation.	6.4	6.4 - The word viable has been replaced in several locations as suggested.
Donna Brosemer, Greeley Water Utilities	• The CWP should not prioritize water projects proposed by municipalities and other water users. The state should treat water users equally and not withhold state funding or permits for projects based on their priority in the CWP. • The CWP should respect property rights and local control. • Local land use planners and water providers should also work more closely together.	2.3 ,6.3.3	Thank you for your comments. Staff has addressed your land use and local comments in the latest version of the chapter 6.3.3 draft. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments.
J. Paul Brown, Colorado W ool Growers Association	• The CWP should respect property rights and encourage additional s torage on the Front Range to ens ure that Colorado is able to use its full entitlements under the South Platte River and Arkansas River compacts. • The state should also coordinate federal perm its for water projects.	9.1, 9.4	Thank you for your comments. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. See compacts information in 2.2 and 9.1. Look to section 9.4 for permitting efficiency goals.
Chris Treese, Colorado River Water Conservation District Submitted written comments using the original questionnaire	• The CWP statewide goals and objectives should also include "minimize impacts; adequate compensation and mitigation for inherent/inev itable conflicts/tradeoffs; affirmation of prior appropriation; do not ov erdevelop the Colorado River Basin." • Priorities for addressing possible Gunnison-basin-specific issues should include "basin directed actions; first, do no harm, protect existing uses; broaden education/participation in water matters." • Basin-specific priorities that should also be included: "coordinated management and development of Gunnison basin with other 3 basins of the Colorado River."	1, 3, BIP	Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Additionally, the updated Chapter 3 will have a more detailed look at the themes, goals, and policy statements identified by the basin roundtables in their respective BIPs. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Gunnison Basin.
Roger Espinoza Submitted written comments using the original questionnaire	• Does this plan help to mediate some of the tensions between recreactionalists and private land owners? • Seeing the differences in absoluteness between water and land rights would make this task difficult. • Lastly, would this be a money issue or a value issue?"	5	Colorado's Water Plan does not currently address policies related to recreational activity on waterways.
Table 1 Small Group Discussion Report	• The CWP's goals should explicitly acknowledge the need to protec t and preserve existing water rights and the environment, and to encourage conservation. • Measures to address the gap between supply and demand should not hurt agriculture. • Water storage should be listed as a goal or as a strategy of the CW P. • The plan should acknowledge the effect of the Endangered Spec ies Act on Colorado's ability to complete projects as they were originally intended. • A goal of CW P should be to protect watershed health. • Additional storage in the upper Gunnis on basin should be emphasized. • The plan should also explain how conservation is beneficial to the environment.	1, 6.3	Thank you for your comments. The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan are 1) vibrant and sustainable cities, 2) viable and productive agriculture, 3) a robust recreation and tourism industry, and 4) a thriving environment that includes healthy watersheds, rivers, streams, and wildlife. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Staff has addressed your "how conservation benefits to environment" comments in the latest version of the chapter 6.3.1 draft. The response is taken from the CWCB's Water Efficiency Minicipal Planning Guidance Document.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 2 Small Group Discussion Report	• The goals identified in chapter 1 of the draft CW P are inherently in conflict. • The doctrine of prior appropriation is important. • Current uses of water both statewide and in the Gunnis on basin should be retained. • Do not over-develop statewide nor in the Gunnison Basin. • The values identified in chapter 1 of the draft CW P concerning a productive economy that supports "viable and productive agriculture" should instead be "robust and productive agriculture." • Front Range water usage must be conserved to limit the need for additional trans basin diversions. • Compact compliance is also a concern	1, 6.3, 8, 9.1	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.
Table 3 Small Group Discussion Report	• The CWP is brilliant idea that needs to be done and organized well. • Concerned about outcomes and how to meet supply and demand issues, including transbasin diversions, watershed protection, the importance of water quality. • Public education about water is critical. The public is uninformed about water. They have little to no understanding of our relations hip to other states including CO's fixed amount of water. • Agriculture must not be harmed. • Enlarging existing storage facilities should be considered, rather than building new storage facilities. • Recreational and economic impacts of water and evaporation from storage projects are real impacts. • Water is key to the quality of life on the W estern Slope. • Forests are our largest reservoir. Forest health is key to healthy water.	9.5,6.5,7, 8	Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Refer to Chapter 8 for more discussion about TMDs, and Chapter 9 for looking at public education and outreach. Chapter 4 also looks at the potential in existing storage facilities. The Water Quality Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) regulates water quality issues of this nature in the state. Water Quality has been recognized as critical for Colorado's water future. The CWCB is working closely with the Water Quality Control Division and the Basin Roundtables in order to address Colorado's Water Quality needs. This is further explored in Section 7.3. Forest health addressed in Chapter 7. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation.
Table 4 Small Group Discussion Report	• There may not be enough water for both agriculture needs and municipal needs. • Agriculture is key because it sustains the environment, recreation, and groundwater recharge. Incentives should be provided to encourage agricultural water efficiency. • The Front Range should conserve their water better. The ration of indoor to outdoor w ater use by Front Range residences should not be 50/50 as it is currently, and instead be closer to 70/30. • The goals of the CW P must be more specific, especially related to conservation measures. • The pre-1922 W estern Slope diversions should be prioritized.	6.3, 1	Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Staff has taken a best practice approach to setting goals in the latest version of the chapter 6.3.1 draft. Additionally, staff has included the IBCC's no and low regrets conservation stategies which are the minimum level of water conservation that should be undertaken and equates to around 170,000 acre feet of active savings by 2050.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 5 Small Group Discussion Report	• The values identified in chapter 1 of the draft CW P are too broad and do not all apply to the Gunnison Basin. • The value of "sustainable cities" should be further defined. • Water quality should be preserved even during "boom" and "bust" cycles. • The plan should protect existing uses. • The meaning of "forest health" is different to people living in different areas of the state. • There are concerns about funding for water projects to promote conservation. It is unclear where the money for such projects will come from. • There are concerns about the effect of compacts on the basin. • The plan should support an equitable dis tribution of water, rather than distributed according to population or the demographics of the legislature. • The CWP drafting process should be nonpartisan and encompassing of people from all areas of the state--not urban vs. rural.	1, 6.5, 7, 9.2, 9.5	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. Each Basin Roundtable is made up of a diverse set of stakeholders and the inclusion of both an environmental and recreational representative is required by the Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act. In addition, representatives from each county, municipalities within each county, industry, agriculture, and domestic water suppliers are required. Lastly, a representative from each water conservation and conservancy district are also mandated. There are also several other at large seats, and many of these are held by environmental interests, and many of the local government representatives are also focused on environmental and recreational issues since their citizens care about these topics and the area may be dependent on tourism. Watershed Health is discussed chapter 7.1. Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed.
Table 6 Small Group Discussion Report	• The Western Slope is concerned about being "bullied" into trans mountain diversions. • Conflicts exist and will continue to exist and there must be continuous cooperation to work through these conflicts. • It is unclear how much water is actually available. Efforts should be made to clarify water availability through improved data collection. • There must be an acceptance of a certain amount of uncertainty. • Conservation is important. The connection between land use and water connection should be examined.	6.3, 4, 8	Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The CWCB does take water conservation seriously and considers it an integral part of managing water statewide.6.3.3 addresses you comments on land use and water connection. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Refer to Chapter 8 for more on transmountain diversions and cross-basin concepts. CH 4 comments have been taken under consideration. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP.
Table 7 Small Group Discussion Report	• There are concerns about the state government playing too large of a role in s tatewide water planning that loc al communities are better suited to planning for their needs . • Different basins in Colorado have very different needs and a "one size fits all" CW P may not fit all basins. • There are concerns that the doctrine of prior appropriation is not mentioned in the CW P goals. • One property right should not be prioritized over another. • The CWP should not prioritize water supply projects and should not be used prevent individual water projects from moving forward. • Education about water in Colorado schools should be a priority of the CW P.	9.5, 2.3	Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. The development of Colorado's Water Plan has helped to raise the level of importance placed on education and outreach statewide related to water supply planning. The CWCB is working together with the Basin Roundtables (BRTS) to expand education and outreach activities related to raising awareness regarding the issues presented in the webform comments submitted and Section 9.5 Outreach, Education, and Public Engagement will include recommendations on continuing education on these topics long-term.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 8 Small Group Discussion Report	• Conservation in the CW P and in the water process must be made a priority. • Transmountain diversions from the W estern slope are a large concern. New diversions should also address the economic loss in the basin of origin. • Lake Powell should not be used as a water bank to enable the East Slope to make diversions from the Colorado River Basin. Once the water reaches Lake Powell it is no longer Colorado's water because there is no way to return it to the state.	6, 2.2, 8	Thank you for your comments. The CWCB does take water conservation seriously and considers it an integral part of managing water statewide. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.
Public Comments from August 21, 2014 Colorado Basin Hearing			
Robert Ittner, Jr. Chair, Pitkin County Board of County Commissioners Letter to Committee (excerpts provided in the following column).	• Transbasin diversions (TBDs) and other projects of statewide interest which are implicated or propounded by the CWP must be subject to robust 1041 review by local governments. • CWP should recognize and account for the disproportionate impact that TBDs have on the state's ability to meet its compact delivery obligations compared to in-basin diversions. • Recreational in-channel diversion (RICDs) and W ild and Scenic designations support western slope recreation and economies, and are tools for compact compliance.	6.5, 9.1, 8	Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Transmountain diversions are addressed in Chapter 8. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. Local control issues are explored in Chapter 2, as well as 9.1. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Rachel Richards, Pitkin County Commissioner Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• TBDs and other projects of statewide interest which are implicated or propounded by the CWP must be subject to robust 1041 review by local governments. • RICDs and W ild and Scenic designations support western slope recreation and economies. CWP should recognize the benefits of healthy rivers and recreation to the economy. • It should also consider how to protect agriculture without new TBDs. • Municipal outdoor water consumption should be limited to reduce the pressure on agriculture and the waters of the Colorado Basin. • New residential growth should pay for new water projects, transportation, and related infras tructure needs.	6.3, 6.5	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The CWP does have actions related to reducing outdoor water consumption. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Refer to Chapter 8 for more discussion of transmountain diversions. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments.Chapters 2 and 9 more discussion of local control and it's role in Colorado water.
Steve Child, Pitkin County Commissioner, representing himself	• CWP should take a longer range view beyond 2050 to avoid upcoming problems. • A reservoir on the lower South Platte should be considered to provide water for upstream municipal and industrial users, help meet interstate water delivery obligations in the South Platte and Republic an River Basins, and to recharge the Ogalala aquifer. • Triggers should be developed based on levels in Lake Mead and Lake Powell that determine when TMDs are allowed. • Alternatives should be developed to replace bluegrass lawns with landscapes that use less water. • A pump back project on the Gunnison River would help provide water for endangered fis h on the Colorado River. • Land use policies should be adopted that enc ourage conservation.	6.5, 6.3, 6.6, BIP	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The CPW does have actions related to reducing outdoor water consumption.Land use policies are featured in the the actions section of 6.3.3 These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in Ch 6.5 of the November draft of CWP. The triggers conversation is addressed within the conceptual agreement, discussed in Chapter 8. Nos. 1 and 9 of 6.6.7 identify actions to address the needs of threatened and endangered fish species. The proposed pumpback project on the Gunnison River is an appropriate subject for basin roundtable discussion. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Gunnison Basin.
Laura Makar, Pitkin County, Pitkin County Healthy Rivers and Streams Advisory Board	• County 1041 review powers should be maintained for new transbasin diversions and for statewide projects. • The CWP should recognize and account for the disproportionate impact that transbasin diversions have on the state's ability to meet its compact delivery obligations compared to in-basin diversions. Unlike in-basin diversions, transbasin diversions (TBDs) provide no return flows to the basin of origin. • The CWP should support stream health and recognize the benefits of RICDs and instream flows in helping Colorado meet its compact obligations.	8, 6.6, 9.1	Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Local control issues and their importance to Colorado's water landscape are found in chapters 2 and 9. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Transmountain diversions are discussed in Chapter 8. Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed Ch 6.6 addresses streams health and instream flow.

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Andre W illie, Chairman, Pitkin County Healthy Rivers and Streams Board Letter to committee (excerpts provided in the following column).	• County 1041 review powers should be maintained for new TBDs and for statewide projects. • The CWP should recognize and account for the disproportionate impact that TBDs have on the state's ability to meet its compact delivery obligations compared to in-basin diversions. • CWP should also support stream health and recognize the benefits of RICDs and W ild and Scenic designations, and instream flows in helping Colorado m eet its compact obligations.	6.5, 7, 9.1	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. Chapters 2 and 9 discuss the role of local control issues to Colorado's water landscape. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Chapter 8 discusses the interbasin concepts related to transmountain diversions. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because Chapter 7.1 addresses stream health and instream flow.
Torie Jarvis, Northwest Council of Governments Water Quality and Quantity Committee Public testimony and written comments.	• New TMDs should only be allowed if they are able to address local concerns and if approved by affected local governments and water providers. • TMDs must provide multiple benefits and make streams and rivers healthier to the maximum extent possible. • Legislation should be approved to reestablish the Colorado Joint Review Process that was repealed in 2003. • The state should not sponsor a water project until the state regulatory process has been completed and the project has been agreed to by the impacted counties, conservancy districts, and conservation districts in the area from which the water would be diverted.	2.3, 6.5, 8, 10	Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Refer to Chapter 8 for a more thorough discussion on the statewide viewpoints on TMDs. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. You legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Ken Nuebecker, American Rivers (Also completed a questionnaire)	• The CWP should recognize the challenge and importance of quantifying water needs for the environment and recreation. • The Colorado Basin Roundtable developed the W atershed Flow Evaluation Tool to identify the basin's nonconsumptive water needs. This tool may also help other basins identify environmental and recreational water needs as well as provide a standard and widely agreed upon method for assessing these needs.	6.6	Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar content have been considered and will be reflected in section 6.6 of the November draft of CWP.
Mark Fuller, Executive Director, Ruedi Water and Power Authority	• The CWP should identify realistic and broadly applicable metrics to measure adequate streamflows and include implementation measures to guarantee those flows. • It should identify short-term leases of agricultural water rights for instream flows as a reasonable means for meeting instream flow needs while complying with Colorado water law. • Unappropriated water in the Colorado River Basin should not be used to satisfy water needs in other parts of the state. Instead, this water should be used to ensure that Colorado meets its compact delivery obligations. • The value of the CW P lies in the boldness and innovations that it brings in helping to solve water issues. A plan that is a catalog of unresolved issues, undeveloped projects, and unchallenged policies will not make progress.	6.3.4, 9.1	9.1- The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4

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Steve Acquafresca, Mesa County Board of County Commissioners Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• The value of the CW P depends on it being developed by the grassroots and it should be flexible enough to be adjusted over the years. • The legislature should not recommend changes to the CWP that overturn grassroots recommendations.	10	Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Ken Ransford, Recreational Representative of Colorado Basin Roundtable Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• All basins should adopt the high c onservation target in the BIPs. • Colorado water law should be amended to remove disincentives to efficient irrigation practices, such as use it or lose it. • The law should allow certain changes of water rights outside of water court to reduce the cost of water transfers and to encourage more flexible water use.	6.3, 10	Thank you for your comments. As this is a grass roots effort, staff is incorporating the draft BIPs as they are with a view that final BIPs are not due until Spring 2015. There are actions in both the water conservation and reuse sections that address sharing and marketing of conserved water. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Kristin Green, Conservation Colorado	• The CWP should prioritize conservation and reuse and such measures should be maximized prior to authorizing new water diversions. • The CWP should also include a high-level water conservation goal and should promote funding for environmental needs assessments.	6	Thank you for your coments. CWCB staff does treat water conservation seriously but also sees it as one strategy among others that will help with our future water management decisions. In the current drafts, a goal of 170,000 acre feet of active savings was adopted as the no/low regret action or minimum that should be carried out. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Section 6.6.7 addresses the need for additional environmental needs assessments and funding.
Annie Henderson, Upper Colorado River Private Boaters Association Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• Water based recreation economy benefits the environment. • Conservation is the only way to avoid the impending water crisis. • New water diversions should be opposed. • Water conservation should be maximized prior to considering new TMDs. • Water for the environment and other nonconsumptive uses should be recognized as beneficial uses. • The law should be re-evaluated to ensure that it can address climate change and population growth.	6.3, 6.6, 8, 10	With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. 6.6.4 describes how Colorado law recognizes instream flow and recreational in-channel diversion water rights as beneficial uses. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Marc Catlin, Montrose County Also testified at June 18 Gunnison Basin meeting	• The CWP should encourage permanent phreatophyte removal to make additional water available at the state line and to reduce the need for agricultural water transfers. • Water banks that store agricultural water for other purposes will impact agricultural communities. • Communities that receive water from fallowed agricultural lands should be required to offs et the economic impacts to the affected agricultural communities.	6.4	ATM programs are estabished to curb permanent buy and dry so that farmers and agriculturally based communities can maintain viable economic patterns. We recognize the importance of local and regional ag economies, which are discussed in the background portion of this section.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Roger Wilson	• CWP should identify water needs for endangered species and to ensure that sufficient water is provided to allow the removal of these species from the Endangered Species List. • The legislature should adopt legislation or a resolution that identifies guiding principles for the IBCC that are derived from regional sensitivities and statewide economic interests (tourism, recreation, agriculture, and municipal needs) with a focus on preserving the current balance of water use. • The price of population growth must be borne by those seeking that growth and not by current water users.	6.6,10	6.6 - Thank you for your comments. 6.6.2 and 6.6.7 address how Colorado is working and will continue to work on endangered species issues. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Richard Van Gytenbeek, Trout Unlimited	• Explained that agricultural water efficiency can benefit stream flows. • Greater cooperation between the agricultural community and the recreation, tourism, and sportsmen's communities should be encouraged. • New TMDs should be opposed because other water supply options are available.	6.3.4, 8	Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4 With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.
Bill Hoblitzell, Eagle Watershed Council	• Expressed concern about provisions of the State Water Supply Initiative (SWSI) that identify the Colorado Basin as a possible solution to the water supply needs of other basins. • SWSI should be updated to include information about the impacts of climate change, provide a greater emphasis on conservation, and to identify new water conservation technologies. • Colorado instream flow law should also be updated to reflect new scientific information, such as the benefits of flushing flows, and the CWP should consider the benefits of stream management planning such as developed by Grand County. • The legislature should consider new policies to allow water-sharing agreements and flexible water use, and to provide sufficient time for local communities to identify solutions to their water supply needs.	6.2, 4, 6.3, 10	6.3-Thank you for your comments. SWSI will identify the latest water conservation initiatives and technologies and their impacts on future demands. Ch 4- SWSI will include climate change analysis. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Rick Lofaro, Executive Director, Roaring Fork Conservancy Letter to the committee (excerpts provided in the following column).	• Nonconsumptive use of water on the western slope is essential to the ecological health and economic vitality of the state. • New TMDs could cause significant declines in river health. • The legislature should promote agricultural efficiencies. • Water conservation should be increased statewide.	6.6, 10, 6.3, 8	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The water conservation chapter does lay out specific actions that will assist in increasing water conservation statewide. 6.6 - Thank you for your comments. 6.6.1 recognizes the ecological and economic benefits of healthy stream flows. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.

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Kendall Bakich, Wildlife Biologist, Colorado Parks and W ildlife Letter to the committee (excerpts provided in the following column).	• The CWP should identify priority stream reaches and characteristics to protect in the Colorado River. • It should specify support and funding to addres s data gaps for nonconsumptive needs within critical reaches of the Upper Colorado watershed to support aquatic ecosystem health and recovery of endangered fish species. • It should provide project funding to address non-consumptive needs identified in the Upper Colorado Riv er Basin. • It should encourage innovative partnerships and legal mechanisms that help augment stream flows in cooperation with in-basin water users. • It should emphasize water conservation, reuse, and efficiency before seeking to increase water diversion, particularly out-of-basin diversions, and promote mitigation and monitoring against such impacts.	6.6, 6.3, 9.2, BIP	6.3- Thank you for your comments. The latest draft of the CWP does emphasize water conservation, reuse and land use as very important and effective strategies for managing our water resources statewide. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.6 - Thank you for your comments, which have been considered and will be reflected in section 6.6 of the November draft of CWP. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan, and is explored in Section 6.6. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Colorado Basin. Funding opportunities are discussed in Chapter 9.2.
Table 1 Small Group Discussion Report	• Concerned about how basin implementation plans (BIPs) will be incorporated into the Colorado W ater Plan (CWP) and whether the basins will have an equal voice in the development of the CW P. • Concerned that the draft CW P is too project focused instead of policy focused. • The legislature should also listen to a broad range of opinions when it reviews the CWP, instead of just special interests and to help ensure that land use is more closely connected to water and that there will be sufficient water available for recreation. • The CWP should also encourage the state to live within its water means such as some of neighboring states.	9.5, 6.3.3, 6.6	Additional BIP content was included in the November draft of Colorado's Water Plan. CWCB will continue to work with the BRTs throughout 2015 as they finalize their BIPs. Chapter 6.3.3- There is a section dedicated to water use and urban land use planning where actions are described that will get at this connection. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan, and is explored in Section 6.6.
Table 2 Small Group Discussion Report	• Shoshone Hydropower plant water right should be owned by the Colorado Basin because it is critical to the basin. • No new transmountain diversions should be allowed for municipal outdoor purposes. Approving authorities, such as zoning boards, should not approve open space planted with non-native vegetation in new subdivisions. • The term "new supply" is a fictitious term because its only a new supply for the persons that receive the water and that such water is being taken from someone. • The state should control how water is used instead of the federal government.	6.5/BIP, 8, 10	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Shoshone concerns have been addressed by the Colorado roundtable in their BIP. "New Supply" use is no longer used in IBCC planning work, refer to Chapter 8 and the conceptual agreement. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Colorado Basin.
Table 3 Small Group Discussion Report	• Colorado needs to quantify the amount of water that the state is entitled to that is currently going downstream, to quantify how much water is adjudicated, and to identify how any shortfall will be covered. • Delta and Mesa counties need more storage on the Grand Mesa and the State of Colorado s hould advocate for this storage in the federal perm it review process. • Colorado should also sustain agriculture and ensure local control, and the priority system must stay in place. • Water use should not predicate land use.	9.1, 6.5, 2.3	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Compact concerns are reflected in current CWP drafts, and information about permitting and potential efficiencies will be addressed in Chapter 9. The importance of the priority system and local control are addressed in Chapter 2.3. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation.

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Table 4 Small Group Discussion Report	• It is unclear whether new TMDs are needed when existing TMDs have unused capacity. • Users of any TMDs must bear the risk during droughts and compact calls. • The burden of proof should be on those seeking new diversions to demonstrate the need for the water and prove that existing users and streams will not be impacted. • The CWP should be the basis for unified state action and not a collection of competing interests. • The plan should also address the needs of Lake Powell and Lake Mead, and the downstream states. • A reservoir in the lower South Platte Reservoir should be considered because it would enable flexible water transfers and help meet compact delivery obligations. • There should be a permanent and reliable s ource of funding to implement the plan. • There should be a stronger connection between land use and water use in the plan. • CWP should encourage additional res earch on low-water consuming crops.	6.5, 9.1, 10, 6.3.4	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of Colorado's Water Plan. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Refer to Chapter 8 for comments on TMDs, and Chapter 2 for the importance of compacts in state water planning. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Funding addressed in Chapter 9. Chapter 6.3.3- There is a section dedicated to water use and urban land use planning where actions are described that will get at this connection. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4
Table 5 Small Group Discussion Report	• Water for agriculture and water-based recreation are important but may be in conflict at times. • Residents should reduce outdoor water consumption by limiting the size of lawns to help ensure that other important needs are met and to delay the need for new projects. • Local communities should resolve conflicts between competing recreational water needs, such as water for golf courses, ski areas, and fishing, through voluntary agreements. • CWP should also address legal barriers to conservation, such as "use it or lose it" and should enable the tracking, protecting, and directing of saved water. • The Shoshone hydro power call should be protected.	6.3, 10	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The CWP highlights actions that will recude outdoor consumption such as adoption of WaterSense technologies statewide, incentives for outdoor efficiencies, and support for local ordinances that address outdoor consumption. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Table 6 Small Group Discussion Report	• The CWP should recognized that no water is available for new TMDs. • Disagree with the Interbasin Compact Committee's (IBCC) principles for new TMDs; i.e., that new TMDs only divert during surplus or wet periods when the additional div ersions would not increase the risk to existing uses and that the diverter take hydrologic responsibility for risk associated with new TMDs. • High water flows are needed for in-basin for recreational and environmental purposes, and to help meet compact delivery obligations. • Front Range growth should be considered. Front Range water users should know where they get their water. • It is unclear whether new storage to capture water in unusually wet years is practical. • Water on the W est Slope for recreation and environment benefit all residents of Colorado. The Front Range and West Slope need each other. • The legislature should also consider making adjustments to the doctrine of prior appropriation to addres s evolving water needs and to avoid crises.	ch 8, 10, 6.5	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Refer to Chapter 8 for an updated discussion on statewide viewpoints regarding TMDs. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Table 7 Small Group Discussion Report	• No change should be made to the doctrine of prior appropriation and the CW P should consider adjusting compact delivery obligations to lower basin states to account for evaporative losses in Lake Mead and delivery obligations to Mexico. • CWP should promote block water rates, ensure that water users know how much water they are using, and provide financial incentives to use less water. • Payments for land fallowing should be based on loss of total income, not just net income to protect agricultural communities. • There are concerns about a water bank that uses West Slope agricultural water rights to help meet a compact call. • Water banks should not harm the West Slope, should be voluntary, and should not be used for new supplies. • Fairways and parks in Denver should deficit irrigate and the Front Range m unicipal and industrial users should not be expected to bear a disproportionate burden of m eeting Colorado's compact delivery obligations. • The water budget of the Sterling Ranc h residential development in Douglas County should be used as a model for new subdivisions.	9.1, 6.3.1, 6.4, 6.3.3	6.3.1- thank you for your comments. 6.3.1 promotes block water rates, ensuring that water users know how much water they are using, and providing financial incentives to use less water in the current draft. Sterling Ranch is highlighted as a model development. 6.4 Lease-fallowing negotiations occur between the farmers and interested municipalities. Recommend that CWP not dictate how those transactions take place, and what costs should be included in the agreements. For 6.4 - specific payments for total loss of income were not discussed in this version of the document, but could be more thoroughly vetted and added during 2015 as appropriate. 9.1- The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 8 Small Group Discussion Report	• Splitting comments on the draft CW P into constituent groups is not useful because persons may be multiple types of water users. • Land use and water use should be linked and water conservation should be maximized. • County 1041 powers should be maintained to enable bas ins of origin to protect themselves. • The burden of a compact call should not fall disproportionately on the W est Slope. • TMDs limit the ability of Colorado to meet a compact call. • The CWP should go beyond 2050 especially when considering the needs of agriculture and the impacts of climate change. • State law should also be amended to encourage conservation. • The public must be educated about the cost of their water use. • Baselines for instream flow needs should be quantified and funding s hould be made available to help quantify these needs, especially for head water streams.	9.1, 6.3, 6.6, 6.3.3, 2.3, 10	Chapter 6.3.3- Thank you for your comments. 6.3- The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Land use and water use are linked and are tied to water conservation with actions that are designed to assist the integration of these disciplines. 6.6 - Thank you for your comments. Section 6.6 recognizes the need for more quantification of environmental needs and recommends strengthening funding for environmental projects. 9.1 - The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. 2.3- Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Table 9 Small Group Discussion Report	• Additional residential outdoor water conservation should be supported. • Water should not be taken from agriculture to supply residential growth. • New residential developments should be required to have an adequate water supply.	6.3.3, 6.3	Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Outdoor water consumption is supported through various actions outlined in chapters 6.3.1 and 6.3.3.
Public Comments from August 27, 2014 Southwest Basin Hearing			
Brad Blake, a member of the Florida Cooperative Ditch Board, representing himself	• The CWP should preserve and protect water rights and there should be more discussion about the plan. • The plan should identify who is responsible for implementing, managing, and enforcing the law. • Expressed concern that the voices of people from the Florida River area are not being heard and that the federal government wants to control every drop of water.	2	The Prior Appropriation Doctrine and the status of water as a private property right is fundamental to Colorado water administration and law and Colorado's Water Plan requires these principles to succeed.
Patti Buck	• Urged the public to submit comments on the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) draft regulations (defining the scope of waters protected under the Clean W ater Act). • Explained her family chose to buy a ranch with water rights to protect its value and ensure that water would be available for cattle.	5	Thank you for your comments. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine and the status of water as a private property right is fundamental to Colorado water administration and law and Colorado's Water Plan requires these principles to succeed.
Wayne Buck	• Expressed concern about the EPA's draft regulations (defining the scope of waters protected under the Clean Water Act) and how they may extend to all water in the state including rain captured in buckets. • Spoke in support of additional s torage to retain Colorado's compact entitlement.	9.1, 6.5	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Refer to Chapter 2 for a discussion of compacts.
Don Schwindt	• Expressed support for legislative involvement with the CW P but cautioned the committee about unintended consequences. • Stressed the importance of meshing the CW P with the prior appropriation doc trine.	2	Thank you for your comments. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine and the status of water as a private property right is fundamental to Colorado water administration and law and Colorado's Water Plan requires these principles to succeed.
J. Paul Brown (also testified at the June 18 meeting)	• Explained that the purpos e and content of the CW P is unclear. • Recommended that it protect the doctrine of prior appropriation and c onsider the need for additional w ater storage. • The CWP should address the problem of obtaining federal perm its for water project. • It should also recognize the importance of return flows to downstream water users.	2, 9.4	Thank you for your comments. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine and the status of water as a private property right is fundamental to Colorado water administration and law and Colorado's Water Plan requires these principles to succeed. Permitting issues are discussed in Section 9.4.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Mark Catlin, Montrose County Also testified at the June 18 and August 21 meetings.	• Expressed concern about requiring agric ulture to change consumptive uses to address municipal water needs. • Recommended that phreatophytes be eradicated prior to requiring agric ulture to reduce its consumption through land fallowing or other means.	6.3.4, 6.3	Agriculture uses the majority of water in Colorado and is an important economic driver in the state. The Basin Roundtables and the Colorado Water Conservation Board have engaged a number of agricultural representatives, pursuant to the Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act. For further information, please read Chapter 6. In Section 6.3.4, Colorado's Water Plan addressed the need for reducing nonnative phreatophytes in order to gain salvagled water.
Rod Proffit, President of the San Juan Water Conservancy District, and a member of the Southwest Basin Roundtable	• Said that the CW P should be considered a necessary first step for legislation to implement processes and projects for the state to move forward.	10	Legislative recommendations will be included in Chapter 10.
Margaret Cozine, retired librarian Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• Expressed concern about water used in the basin for lawn watering and recommended that the laws be amended to allow greater use of rainwater harvesting and the reuse of grey water.	10, 6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments.The actions outlined in the chapter are meant to increase conservation statewide. Both outdoor water consumption and rainwater harvesting are discussed in the chapter. Rainwater harvesting does have some limitations within current Colorado water law. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine, which is in Colorado's Constitution, typically dictates that rainwater is used by a downstream user. However, the CWCB maintains a rainwater harvesting pilot program to explore how rainwater harvesting can be used. This is further discussed in Subsection 5.6.1. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Table 1 Small Group Discussion Report	• The group did not reac h a consensus on all issues. • Number one component of the CW P should be conservation and how to support agriculture. • Need a higher standard for conservation if an entity is buying and drying. • Disappointed with the Governor's veto of the water efficiency bill and questioned the need to tak e care of the Front Range without "buy and dry" of agriculture. • Expressed concern about the disproportionate impact of a compact call on certain basins. • Although the San Juan-Chama Project takes 90,000 acre feet per year from the San Juan basin over to the Rio Grande basin, the San Juan basin was never compensated with any West Slope storage. The Dry Gulch storage project could help address that oversight. • Consider eliminating the "use it or lose it" from Colorado W ater Law to eliminate the concern about abandonment. The Southwest Basin Roundtable recognizes that all uses are valid and consumptive versus non-consumptive use is not the issue. • Consider a sunset on conditional water rights but noted that some projects take decades to move forward, so there is a need for a long period of tim e. • The plan should acknowledge that agricultural conservation may affect return flows that also benefit the environment. • It would be helpful to have water judges who are very familiar with water law.	6.3, 6.5, 10, 9.1	Staff is working with the CWCB Board on a potential solution to the Dry Gulch project by restructuring PAWSD debt and allowing the project time to evolve. 6.3-Thank you for your comments. The current draft does have a no/low regrets goal of 170,000 acre feet of savings by 2050 which is the minimum that should be accomplished. The actions outlined in the chapter are meant to increase conservation statewide. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. The prior appropriation doctrine is discussed in Chapters 2 and 9, and agricultural conservation is discussed in section 6.3.4. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Table 2 Small Group Discussion Report	• A compact call threatens all water users and water for municipalities should not receive greater priority over types of water use. • Expressed support of greater water conservation. However, agriculture has no incentive to save water due to "use it or lose it" Partnering with people who are conserving will help protect stream flows. • Land planners seem disconnected from water planners but should be coordinating their efforts . • Expressed concern about the disproportionate impact of transmountain diversions on the basin of origin because of the loss of return flows. • The East Slope needs to increase conservation. • Ski areas should not have to give up their water rights to renew their federal leases. • The potential impact of climate change should be studied and adequate funding s hould be provided for such studies.	9.1, 6.3, 6.1	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The actions outlined in the chapter are meant to increase conservation statewide. 6.3.3 addresses the connection between land use and water use with actions designed to integrate the disciplines. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, which is why Colorado's Water Plan is engaged in scenario planning. Climate change issues are addressed in various sections throughout Colorado's Water Plan. However, while temperature's impact on demands are understood, hydrolocial impacts are not. Since Colorado's water planners cannot necessarily impact the global climate change situation, Colorado's Water Plan is not directly focused on mitigating climate change. Other agencies within Colorado's state government consider climate mitigation strategies.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 3 Small Group Discussion Report	• Every drop of water in Colorado starts on federal land but does n't belong to the federal gov ernment. Instead, water belongs to water users in the state of Colorado. • Goals in the water plan need should be given equal weight. • The state needs to learn to live within its means in our current time. • Conservation is very important for the CW P but if we conserve water in the Southwest Basin, the down-basin states will want to use the water saved in Colorado. • Important to protect agriculture which is being lost at a record rate. • Watersheds and forest management should be very important because of fires. • Need to keep the water in the mountains longer. • Need to protect the quantity of water in order to keep pollutants in check. • Loss of livestock allotments is a problem that is reflected in the health of the s tate forests and range.	9.1, 7.3, 6.3,	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. The Water Quality Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) regulates water quality issues of this nature in the state. Water Quality has been recognized as critical for Colorado's water future. The CWCB is working closely with the Water Quality Control Division and the Basin Roundtables in order to address Colorado's Water Quality needs. This is further explored in Section 7.3.
Table 4 Small Group Discussion Report	• The lawn bill sponsored by Senator Roberts (SB 14-17) was a good idea and a good s tart but not a solution for everything. • Water harvesting should be expanded but this is difficult under the prior appropriation s ystem. • People want to harvest precipitation because they care about conservation and local food. • Municipal waste of water needs to be addressed at the local level. • More storage should be considered. • Water quality and citizens being able to access water even for indoor use, and for a call on Colorado's water, are concerning. • Federal actions that have impact on local entities, such as the definition of waters that are subject to the Clean Water Act, is concerning. • West Slope water should be kept on the W est Slope.	10, 6.3, 8	6.3.1- Thank you for your comments. The CWCB water harvesting pilot program is highlighted through the example of Sterling Ranch and there are actions related to supporting local water provider's manage their water better through more advanced water conservation. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Table 5 Small Group Discussion Report	• Western slope should have support of the rest of the state in terms of water distribution. • Deficit irrigation should be used more in urban situations rather than for agriculture. • Priority of water rights should not be changed. • The Eastern Slope needs storage. • Needs to be better representation of agricultural users throughout the process. • Need to consider the economic impact of water use and stop federal double dipping. • Make better use of landscape plants and getting rid of Tamarisk and Russian Olive. • Water should be used many times before it goes back into the stream, such as applying grey water to golf courses.	6.3	6.3.1-Thank you for your comments. Outdoor water consumption is addressed through incnetives and support of local ordinances as well as in the reuse section discussion of gray water and general reuse. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. In Section 6.3.4, Colorado's Water Plan addressed the need for reducing nonnative phreatophytes in order to gain salvagled water.
Table 6 Small Group Discussion Report	• The EPA is trying to change the Clean W ater Act to put all Colorado water under federal juris diction to take control of state's water and land. • A lot of water leaves the state because of lack of storage but the Endangered Spec ies Act and other federal regulations hinder the building of s torage. • Important to eliminate the "buy and dry" of agricultural water in order to keep agriculture going. • First in time, first in right, priority system must be adhered to in the CW P. • Forests need to be better managed to have more water. • Agricultural lands should not be fallowed to meet a compact call. • Hydropower should be considered an eligible renewable energy resource. • Water conservation bill related to lawn water might have unintended consequences related to property rights.	7, 9.1	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Refer to chapters 2 and 9 for discussion of prior appropriation, chapter 7 for forest health, and chapter 6 for conservation measures. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Energy is discussed in Section 6.3.5.
Table 7 Small Group Discussion Report	• Skeptical of the statewide water plan and its effect on their water rights. • Prior appropriation doc trine must be protected. • Because only five percent of the state directly own water rights, it will be difficult to persuade them that their rights will be protected under the CW P. • The CWP is being rushed. More time needs to be allocated to for public comment. It has also been too top down and the public has not had a sufficient opportunity to develop the CW P. • CWP must be based on opposition to federal government actions that will harm private water rights obtained on federal land. • Storage should be central to any water plan.	2, 9.5, 6.5	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Look to Chapter 1 for s discussion of what the water plan will do, and won't do with regards to prior appropriation. Chapter 9 discusses the foundation of stakeholder input that has led to the Plan, including the near-decade of the Water for the 21st Century Act, in addition to over 13,000 comments incorporated into the first draft of the water plan. Public engagement will continue throughout 2015.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 8 Small Group Discussion Report	• Support the protection of agriculture, prior appropriations in state water law, and private property rights. • Support the full multiple use of public lands and using water multiple times before it leaves the state. • Would like to see less state regulation and les s expensive permitting for water storage and conservation projects. • Southwest Basin has lots of smaller municipalities that need more common sense regulations for water treatment so they can plan for the future without building plants that become obsolete in five years.	9.1, 2.3, 6	Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015.
Table 9 Small Group Discussion Report	• Having a plan for storage is critical and that sufficient water flow is important for the health of env ironment. • Forest health also needs to be considered. • Needs and concerns of the southwestern part of the state should be given the same value as the rest of the state. • The southwest should not bear a dis proportionate burden of helping the s tate comply with compact requirements. • Quality and quantity should be balanced in the CW P. • Property rights should be protected.	2.3, 7, 9.1	Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. The Water Quality Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) regulates water quality issues of this nature in the state. Water Quality has been recognized as critical for Colorado's water future. The CWCB is working closely with the Water Quality Control Division and the Basin Roundtables in order to address Colorado's Water Quality needs. This is further explored in Section 7.3. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. 7 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. An additional section on forest health has been added to chapter 7.
Public Comments from August 28, 2014 Rio Grande Basin Hearing			
Ron Brink, member of the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• The CWP should maintain the doctrine of prior appropriation and reflec t each basin's unique water needs and characteristics.	2.3	Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments.
Rio de la Vista, member of the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable	• The CWP should recognize the importance of forest, rangeland, and soil health in ensuring an adequate water supply and a healthy watershed. • It should recognize that measures to improve soil health can also help store carbon and help offset impact from climate change. • The state should also provide adequate funding for the bas in roundtable process and for water projects identified by the basin roundtables.	7, 10	The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. Section 7.1 -of the plan addresses carbon sequestration and we are incorporating your comments into the relevant sections/chapters (7.1.1). Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Chuck Reel Also submitted comments in a questionnaire	• Opposed restrictions on in-house-only well permits that prevent him from using his well water to grow a small garden for personal consumption without an augmentation plans. • Opposed the law that prevents him from using rainwater that he collects from his property to irrigate his garden. • Opposed the use of water for "fracking" in energy development.	6.3, 5.6	Rainwater harvesting does have some limitations within current Colorado water law. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine, which is in Colorado's Constitution, typically dictates that rainwater is used by a downstream user. However, the CWCB maintains a rainwater harvesting pilot program to explore how rainwater harvesting can be used. This is further discussed in Subsection 5.6.1. Fracking currently uses approximately 18,000 acre feet per year, which is a very small proportion of Colorado's overall water use. However, there may be some areas where there are greater regional effects. In addition, power plants that burn natural gas to make energy use less water than traditional power plants. Therefore, from an overall resource management perspective, fracking and the resulting energy production do not consume a significant amount of water compared to current levels. Colorado's Water Plan seeks to work collaboratively to uphold Colorado's water values and does not put a value judgement on any one beneficial use.
Dale Pizel, Colorado Parks and W ildlife Commissioner	• The CWP should be based on collaboration of water users. • It should be of sufficient value that water planners and providers will want to use it. • The CWP should be periodically updated to reflect new information about what works in water planning.	11	Thank you for your comments. Chapter 9 discusses the foundation of stakeholder input that has led to the Plan, including the near-decade of the Water for the 21st Century Act, in addition to over 13,000 comments incorporated into the first draft of the water plan. Public engagement will continue throughout 2015. Updating Colorado's Water Plan will be explored in Chapter 11.
Mike Gibson, Manager, San Luis Valley Water Conservancy District, Rio Grande Basin Roundtable Chair	• The legislature should recognize significant assistance provided by volunteers for the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable activities and in the development of the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan. • It should also provide sufficient time for the basin roundtables and the Colorado W ater Conservation Board to develop the CW P. • State and federal regulations should be reviewed to identify measures to streamline the permitting process for water projects.	9.4	Thank you for your comments regarding the legislature. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015.
Susan Wolfrey	• Spoke in support of being conscious of the needs of the Earth and urged people to w ork cooperatively for the benefit of humanity.	7	The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.
Steve Navratil	• The CWP should reflect the connection between energy use and water availability and consider climate impacts caused by the burning and produc tion of fossil fuels. • It should also encourage greater use of renewable energy, including solar energy. • The state should provide incentives to use land from farms that are participating in a land fallowing program in the Rio Grande Basin for renewable energy generation.	6.5, 6.3.5	Thank you for your comments. Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, consequently, Colorado's Water Plan factors in an altered climate in 3 of the 5 scenarios examined in the planning process. Additionally, Climate change is addressed throughout Colorado's Water Plan, as it is likely to effect a multitude of sectors. In addition, agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4. Energy is discussed in Section 6.3.5.
Table 1 Small Group Discussion Report	• The 3rd goal of the Rio Grande Bas in BIP should be to "restore" the aquifers in the Rio Grande Basin rather than to "sustain the confined and unconfined aquifers. . ." as it currently reads • Goal 5 of the BIP is to "manage water use to sustain optimal agricultural economy throughout the basin's communities." "Optimal" should be changed to "diversified" to reflect the broad range of agric ultural activities in the basin including ranching and farming. • Goal 6 is to "support the development of projects and methods that have multiple benefits for agricultural, municipal and industrial, and environmental and recreational water needs." After "water needs" recommend adding "according to the doctrine of prior appropriation" and that s uch projects be collaborative. • Concerned about additional trans basin diversions that export water from the basin.	BIP	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Refer to Chapter 8 for more discussion on interbasin discussion on transmountain diversions. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Rio Grande Basin.
Table 2 Small Group Discussion Report	• Recommended collaboration between water users in the valley to help the basin address its water supply challenges. • CWP and CW CB should assist small communities in addressing their water infrastructure needs. • Supports the Rio Grande Basin BIP and agreed that bas in roundtables should evaluate water projects based on their consistency with BIP goals. • The legislature should allow sufficient time for basin roundtables to develop the CW P and not interfere with its development.	6.5, BIP	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Funding for water needs is discussed in Chapter 9. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Rio Grande Basin. Chapter 9 discusses the foundation of stakeholder input that has led to the Plan, including the near-decade of the Water for the 21st Century Act, in addition to over 13,000 comments incorporated into the first draft of the water plan. Public engagement will continue throughout 2015.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 3 Small Group Discussion Report	• Rio Grande Decision Support System identifies depletions caused by phreatophytes in the basin. The BIP should also identify the need to replace these depletions and encourage the restoration of native vegetation in the basin • The legislature should consider measures to streamline the permitting process for water projects that meet BIP goals and have broad support from the basin. • Unlike other basins in the state, the RGB is under regular compact calls. Adequate funding should be provided for SNOTEL and other water monitoring systems in the basin to help ensure that it is able to comply with the compact. • Rules and regulations concerning ground water pumping in the basin should be provided sufficient time to work. • Exports from the basin will be strongly opposed by the basin. • The Rio Grande Compact protects the basin and should not be amended.	10, 9.1, 8, BIP	CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Rio Grande Basin. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water projects, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.Funding for water needs is discussed in Chapter 9. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015.
Table 4 Small Group Discussion Report	• The process to develop the CW P has helped unify the basin. • Supports multi-use and collaborative projects to address the basin's and the state's water supply needs. • Need to keep senior water rights use near the river to protect return flows to the river and the need to use water efficiently. • Concerned about population grow th and the possibility that other basins would look to obtain water from the Rio Grande Basin to help meet that growth. • Urban areas must use water efficiently prior to looking for new supplies and urban users should be made aware of the source of their water supply. • Maintain the prior appropriation doc trine while allowing flexible water use.	6.5, 6.2, 8, 6.3	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Projects and methods identified by the BIPs are addressed in 6.5, including the multipurpose approach and the benefits of that approach. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Transmountain diversions and the interbasin discussion on this matter are covered in Chapter 8, including the Rio Grande basin's position on these matters.
Table 5 Small Group Discussion Report	• Sustainable water use should be encouraged and that ways to decrease water use be considered. • Innovative solutions should be used to satisfy new water demands including the use of water cleaning technologies, and that greater biodiversity in agricultural lands be encouraged. • Supports provisions of the RGB BIP concerning soil health. • The status quo should be maintained in terms of transbasin diversions into and out of the bas in. • Water users should collaborate to identify win-win solutions. • Land use planning for outdoor water consumption should be included in CW P.	6.2, 6.3, 8	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The CWP highlights actions that will recude outdoor consumption such as adoption of WaterSense technologies statewide, incentives for outdoor efficiencies, and support for local ordinances that address outdoor consumption. 6.3.3 addresses the connection between land use and water use with actions designed to integrate the disciplines. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 6 Small Group Discussion Report	• CWP should support both large-scale commercial agriculture and small-scale residential agriculture and it should encourage the development of hydrologic modeling to improve water management decisions and guide project funding decisions by the CWCB. • It is important to comply with the Rio Grande Compact and the need for new water storage in the basin to create more consistent stream flows in the basin and in downstream states. • CWP should recognize that climate change is occurring and should identify measures to offset its effects including cloud seeding. • Public should also be educated about the the W ater Supply Reserve Account and other sources of funding that are available for water projects. • The CWP should have broad public "buy in." • Forest health is important to watershed protection.	6.5, 9.1, 6.2, 9.5	Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Compact concerns are addressed in 2 and 9.1, climate change concerns are addressed throughout the entire Plan. A forest health section has been added to 7.1, and more funding is addressed in Chapter 9. Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, consequently, Colorado's Water Plan factors in a altered climate in 3 of the 5 scenarios examined in the planning process. Additionally, Climate change is addressed throughout Colorado's Water Plan, as it is likely to effect a multitude of sectors. However, the exact impacts of climate change remain uncertain; and while it is clear temperature's are, and will continue, rising, there is less consensus surrounding precipitation. Scenario planning enables the state to prepare for a wide range of possible futures to capture, and prepare for, such uncertainty. Specific climate change adaptation and mitigation recommendations are not addressed in Colorado's Water Plan but are being addressed through other statewide efforts.
Table 7 Small Group Discussion Report	• Rio Grande Basin is unique from other basin. The CWP needs to recognize the unique aspects of each basin. CWP should recognize property rights of water rights owners and provide alternatives to buy and dry of agricultural water rights. • CWP should address impacts from land fallowing in the basin to sustain the aquifers. • Success of the CW P will depend on the development of new storage. • State should streamline its regulations for new reservoirs and improvements to existing reservoirs. • Process to develop the CW P has been positive because it encouraged the basin to focus on its water needs.	6.3.4, 9.4	CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation.
Public Comments from August 21, 2014 Arkansas Basin Hearing			
Gary Bostrom, Chief W ater Services Officer for Colorado Springs Utilities (CSU)	• The CWP should recognize that each community is unique in terms of its customers, hydrology, climate, and water rights portfolio and that will determine how these communities will meet future water supply needs in the most cost-effective manner. • High level water conservation savings will not solve the water supply gaps. Low to medium conservation measures are more reasonable and achievable. SW SI overestimates the potential for water conservation and does not adequately recognize conservation measures already undertaken by some communities. Proposals that mandate indoor to outdoor water use ratios have unforseen consequences and only comprise 3.5 percent of water usage in the state. • Water providers are implementing a number of measures to stretch their supplies through conservation and reuse. • Adequate amounts of storage must be located in the right loc ation and built within reasonable time. • 60 to 70 percent of CSU water comes from the Colorado River, so CSU is concerned about a compact call on that river. • There needs to be a balance between the need to develop the state's compact entitlement with the risk of over-development. • Colorado will need to develop additional supplies in the Colorado River Basin if the state is to meet its future water supply needs. • The CWCB should encourage the development of in-basin and TBDs projects that are developed in a responsible manner and provide joint benefits, such as the Eagle River MOU Project. • CSU supports leasing, fallowing, deficit irrigation, and interruptible s upply agreements. Alternative transfer methods (ATMs) are important to closing gaps in water needs, and the CW P needs to discuss barriers to ATMs. • CSU understands the need to mitigate problems in water supply projects that hinder the success of the projects. • The CWP should include specific recommendations about the regulations that should be streamlined to facilitate water development.	6.3, 8 ,6.3.4 9.4	Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. The CWP focuses on support and incentives for local water providers to attain the appropriate level of conservation. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. SWSI estimates were based in industry best practices and estimates of passive savings and range from low to high. These will be updated in SWSI 2016. In the current draft, a now/low regrets approach to water conservation addresses the minimum amount of savings at 170,000 acre feet by 2050. 6.4 barriers to ATM success are already added in the recent update.Staff agrees that ATMs are an important part of helping to close the gap. Barriers to ATMs have been added as a new sub-section as suggested. More permitting information will be in chapter 9, and more about intrabasin projects in Chapter 8. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Sean Chambers, President Pikes Peak Regional W ater Authority, Cherokee Metro District GM Also submitted a letter to the c ommittee (excerpts provided in the following column).	• Some communities in El Paso County need to reduce their reliance on nonrenewable ground water supplies and develop renewable water supplies. • The permitting process should be streamlined to encourage water development. • State and local entities should rely on a single set of reports and analysis to avoid duplication of time and expense. • Overlapping state regulatory requirements should be eliminated. • The state fish and wildlife mitigation plan and the water court's terms and conditions to prevent injury to water rights should guide other state and local regulatory agencies. • A permanent state clearinghouse should be established to assume oversight for all state permitting requirements and to interact with federal permitting agencies. • Large-scale ground water storage projects should be considered and obstacles to such projects should be removed.	9.3, 10	Thank you for your comments. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Basin Roundtable. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015.
Bob Leach, developer	• There should not be one-size-fits all state legislation for landscaping. Instead, such land use decisions should be made at the local level.	6.3.3, 2.3	Thank you for you comments. Land use and water use are addressed and there are clear statements indicating that these are local decisions. The actions aim to support integrating land use and water use planning. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments.
Marge Vorndam, Trout Unlimited Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• Protecting water for agricultural use also supports upstream recreational users. • The CWP needs to address limiting growth and there needs to be an analysis of how much population can be sustained with the state's water supply. • Non-consumptive goals need to address wildlife needs. • Channelization related to moving water rights can harm the enviornment. • There is a need to support tributaries and to preserve creeks for wildlife.	6.6	6.6 - Thank you for your comments. Section 6.6 recognizes the importance of Colorado's wildlife and identifies actions to meet environmental needs on streams. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan, and is explored in Section 6.6. Colorado's Water Plan and the technical work that supports it includes three growth scenarios: low-growth, mid-growth, high-growth. As water planners, Colorado must prepare for any of these future possibilities as we do not have control over the state's economy and how many people are born or choose to move here. While some communities choose to limit growth, doing so on a broad statewide scale is untenable and unconstitutional. The CWCB is working with each basin on their Basin Implementation Plan and will continue to encourage all interested parties to do the same.
Benjamin Wurster, President Chapter 509 Trout Unlimited and outfitter	• A formal emergency action plan should be included in the CW P and the BIP to address times when the water is shut off to a stream. He would like to have a phone number and action plan when an emergency is identified by a recreational or agricultural user such as high temperature water, to increase the water temporarily to reduce the water temperature and protect fisheries.	7	7.1- Thank you for your comments. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Basin Roundtables. CWCB will consider these comments in the 2015 draft of Colorado's Water Plan.
Kiera Hatton, Pueblo Planning Commissioner, representing herself	• Empty gravel pits should be used store water. • There needs to be an interconnection between land use and water use. • She wants a grey water system in her home but the city doesn't know how to authorize it. Local planning departments should be educated about the benefits of grey water use. • Residents should be able to collect and use rainwater. Such collection would also address storm runoff problems.	6.3	6.3.3-Thank you for your comments. Chapter 6.3.3 addresses the conncetion between land use and water use. Gray water is discussed in 6.3.2 and it will be up to local jurisdictions on how they allow and manage for it. Rainwater harvesting is discussed in 6.3.1 through the first pilot program at Sterling Ranch. The pilot program is being conducted to invetigate the impacts of harvesting. Rainwater harvesting does have some limitations within current Colorado water law. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine, which is in Colorado's Constitution, typically dictates that rainwater is used by a downstream user. However, the CWCB maintains a rainwater harvesting pilot program to explore how rainwater harvesting can be used. This is further discussed in Subsection 5.6.1.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 1 Small Group Discussion Report	• Important to protect current water rights and prevent injury to junior water rights in the CW P. • Finalize the Arkansas River Decision Support System to better manage ground water. • Need additional storage basin wide and an information center where someone could get information on available state and federal funding. • Concern over how the water plan will be implemented and reconciled with local control. • Need for public outreach, watershed health coordination, and rainwater harvesting in the CW P.	6.1, 9.5, 2.3	6.3.1-Thank you for your comments. Rainwater harvesting does have some limitations within current Colorado water law. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine, which is in Colorado's Constitution, typically dictates that rainwater is used by a downstream user. However, the CWCB maintains a rainwater harvesting pilot program to explore how rainwater harvesting can be used. This is further discussed in Subsection 5.6.1. The CWCB and Colorado's Water Plan support water supply management strategies that will allow the state to better conjunctively utilize groundwater within currently existing legal constraints. SWSI 2010 found that unappropriated water in the South Platte, Arkansas, and Rio Grande Basins is extremely limited, and reliance on nonrenewable, nontributary groundwater as a permanent water supply creates reliability and sustainability concerns, particularly along the Front Range. In anticipation of HB 1278 recommendations related to groundwater monitoring and modeling, the CWCB is requesting $500,000 under the 2014 Projects Bill that would allow the CWCB to further evaluate the causes of high groundwater levels within the South Platte River Basin. The CWCB and DWR also maintain Decision Support Systems (DSS) tools that could serve as useful resources to be used in groundwater modeling in the future. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments.
Table 2 Small Group Discussion Report	• CWP should not be a one s ize fits all plan or create economic burdens. • Too much regulation makes it harder to get projec ts online and storage is very important. • Concerned about legislation to limit lawn size in residential developments. • Needs to be an incentive to increase conservation instead of "use it or lose it." • Need to be incentives to control invasive species. • Future diversions should be kept away from the federal government. • Water sharing should be encouraged.	10	Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments.The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. In Section 6.3.4, Colorado's Water Plan addressed the need for reducing nonnative phreatophytes in order to gain salvagled water.
Table 3 Small Group Discussion Report	• Don't rush the plan's development or legislation to implement the plan. • Flexibility in water use should be extended to all user types. • Concern over how BIPs are going to be integrated es pecially for organizations located in multiple basins. • CWP should address keeping water in agriculture rather than taking it out of agriculture.	3, 6.4	Chapter 9 discusses the foundation of stakeholder input that has led to the Plan, including the near-decade of the Water for the 21st Century Act, in addition to over 13,000 comments incorporated into the first draft of the water plan. Public engagement will continue throughout 2015. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Basin Roundtables. Agricultural water and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 4 Small Group Discussion Report	• Concern with aquifer depletion in the low er Arkansas Basin. • All storage is good. • Need more flexibility in the CW P and continuous improvement. • Invasive species are water wasters and a major problem. • Concern that there is no incentive to conserve water. • Precipitation harvesting and grey water use should be encouraged. • Stream health is very important. There needs to be a water emergency plan during droughts to provide emergency flows to protect stream biota. • The CWP should avoid unintended consequences. • Water planning needs to be integrated among all responsible agencies.	4, 6.6 ,6.3	6.3.3-Thank you for your comments. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Basin Roundtable. Chapter 6.3.1 discusses incentives for conservation and rainwater harvesting is discussed through the first pilot program at Sterling Ranch. The pilot program is being conducted to invetigate the impacts of harvesting. Gray water is discussed in 6.3.2 and it will be up to local jurisdictions on how they allow and manage for it. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. In Section 6.3.4, Colorado's Water Plan addressed the need for reducing nonnative phreatophytes in order to gain salvagled water.
Table 5 Small Group Discussion Report	• More storage is needed. • Need streamlined permits in water court, and for the EPA and other federal perm itting agencies to get out of the way. • The CWP should address phreatophytes and public education.	6.5, 9.4	Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Information about watershed health (and phreatophytes) will be in chapter 7, with more about permitting in chapter 9. The development of Colorado's Water Plan has helped to raise the level of importance placed on education and outreach statewide related to water supply planning. The CWCB is working together with the Basin Roundtables (BRTS) to expand education and outreach activities related to raising awareness regarding the issues presented in the webform comments submitted and Section 9.5 Outreach, Education, and Public Engagement will include recommendations on continuing education on these topics long-term. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015. In Section 6.3.4, Colorado's Water Plan addressed the need for reducing nonnative phreatophytes in order to gain salvagled water.
Public Comments from September 16, 2014 Yampa-White Basin Hearing			
Jackie Brown, Routt County Conservation District and Yampa-White Basin Roundtable (BRT) member	• Everyone should understand that the basin roundtable and BIP repres ents years of roundtable members learning and developing trust in one another. • She believes that the BRT did a good job and hopes that its efforts can be translated into the CW P in a way that interprets how their community values water.	3	Thank you for your comments. Staff is looking forward to working closely with the BRTs on future drafts of CWP.
Carolina Manriquez, Forester, Colorado State Forest Service	• Explained that there is a continued need for fores t management in the district.	7	7 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Look to chapter 7 for more on forest health and cooperation between federal and state agencies
Ken Brenner, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District, Friends of the Yampa, Yampa River Legacy Project, Colorado Mountain College trustee, representing himself Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• Expressed concern about the possible role of the state in funding new water supply projects and requested assurance that project sponsors will be responsible for funding such projects. • The Front Range has the ability to continue to improve conservation efforts, reuse water, refine water sharing between agriculture and municipalities. This could be simplified with legislation. • Front Range local governments must not approve water consumptive land uses prior to proving that there is a sustainable water supply for such development. • The highest and best use of the Yampa River is as a consistent and reliable source of water to meet the Colorado River Compact obligation. • Objects to federal intervention or extensive fallowing like what is occurring in California. • A negotiated equitable apportionm ent strategy needs to be identified before any projects move forward. • The Yampa River is the cornerstone of the basin's economy, and transmountain diversion (TMDs) would damage that economy. • Several portions of the Yampa River are suitable for wild and scenic designations from the BLM and several endangered species depend on these waters.	6.5, 6.3.3, 9.1, 6.2, 6.5, 6.6, 8	6.3-Thank you for your comments. 6.3.1- The actions outlined in the chapter are meant to increase conservation statewide. 6.3.3 addresses the connection between land use and water use with actions designed to integrate the disciplines and highlights the legislation that required the proof of adequate water supply for new developments. 6.6 - Thank you for your comments. Section 6.6.7 identifies actions to address endangered species issues. 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Compact issues are identified and addressed in chapters 2 and 9. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. 8- With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Anthony D'Aquila Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• Supports the BIP but thinks its too supply centered and needs to look more at demand management. • Colorado needs to lead in water conservation to protect our quality of life. He would like to see reuse, reduction, reclaimation, and efficiency in all sectors, not just the municipal sector. • Planners who developed the Yampa-White BIP should reconsider the water use numbers that are the basis for projecting shortages in the basin. He explained that these numbers are too high and recommended that these assumptions be reduced to reflect higher conservation levels. • Concern for water quality should be incorporated in the process.	6.3, 3, BIP	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. As this is a grass roots effort, staff is incorporating the draft BIPs as they are with a view that final BIPs are not due until Spring 2015. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Yampa White Basin.
Jon Hill, Rio Blanco County Commissioner and Yampa-White Basin Roundtable member	• Considers agriculture to be most important aspect of his county and discussed the contribution to stream flows from agricultural return flows. • The Front Range needs to think about storage projects there in addition to inc reased conservation. • The western slope has a high percentage of public land, and it's necessary to bring those agencies on board with the CW P.	6.5, 9	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Look to chapter 8 for more on intrabasin collaboration, and efforts to engage the federal agencies are ongoing, as documented in chapters 2 and 9.
Kelly Heaney, Water Resources Manager for the City of Steamboat Springs, Yampa-White Basin Roundtable member, Colorado Watershed Assembly, and Community Agriculture Alliance	• Testified that the City of Steamboat Springs will continue to engage and m onitor the process for the development of CW P.	9.4	Thank you for your comments and your engagement in the CWP process.
Kevin McBride, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District	• Explained that there is not enough water to supply all demands for water in the Colorado River Basin and that the various demands for water need to be balanc ed. • Noted that society deals with things after they occur and that its important to look at climate variability to better prepare for the future. There will be wet and dry times in the future so we must make smart decisions and the CWP needs to work for all the possible conditions.	6.1	The current course Colorado is heading down leads to several of the results that the commenter mentions. For instance, without action, up to 35% of Colorado's farms in the South Platte could be dried up. This is one impetus for why Colorado is pursuing the development of a water plan. Colorado's Water Plan will yield better results through support of conservation, reuse, sharing agreements between farmers and municipalities, incentive-based of water-smart land use, and the development of multi-purpose projects and methods. Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, which is why Colorado's Water Plan is engaged in scenario planning. Climate change issues are addressed in various sections throughout Colorado's Water Plan. However, while temperature's impact on demands are understood, hydrolocial impacts are not. Since Colorado's water planners cannot necessarily impact the global climate change situation, Colorado's Water Plan is not directly focused on mitigating climate change. Other agencies within Colorado's state government consider climate mitigation strategies.
Cody Perry, college outdoor educ ation teacher, Friends of the Yampa, Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• Explained that a diverse range of biomes depend on the Yampa River and that it is important to educate students about the value of the river. • Spoke in support of a sustainable future and expressed concern about water development that reduce flows in the river and can cause irreparable impacts downstream. • He explained that water is the key to everything in the west and said that the CW P should be considered on moral grounds and it should address the kind of world we want to leave for others.	7	7.1- Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Soren Jespersen, President, Friends of the Yampa	• Noted that the tools, assessments, and models have value but they hide the value of the Yampa River. The Yampa River is one of the longest free flowing river in Colorado. There have been attempts to put dams in the river but those were rejected. The people in the valley protect the river. • Noted that it's important to live with resources we have and explained the river is important for hunters, anglers, wildlife, and the bas in's economy. He also expressed concern about water projects that may impact the basin.	7, 6.6, BIP	6.6 - Thank you for your comments. 6.6.7 contemplates CWCB and basin roundtables working in partnership on assessing where protection is needed to enable moving forward on environmental and recreational projects. 7.1- Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Yamp/White Basin.
Charlie Preston-Townsend Vice President, Friends of the Yampa Steamboat Springs, Colorado E-mail to the committee (excerpts provided in the following column).	• The state of Colorado must view the Yampa River as a significant and reliable source of water to meet Colorado River Compact obligations. • Colorado must hold non-consumptive needs as a priority and consider the significant conservation work that has been accomplished in the Yampa River Valley as an example for future water planning. • The Yampa Valley and Western Slope water users must be assured that, in the event of a compact call, negotiated equitable apportionment principles will be utilized to protect our many important junior water rights. • Maximum efficiencies through reduction and reuse programs shall be fully implemented before any further trans-basin projects are undertaken in the Yampa River basin and across Colorado.	9.1, 6.6, 8, 6.3	The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.
Table 1 Small Group Discussion Report	• The Yampa-White Basin's projects and methods study examines potential scenarios with emphasis on high demand and low hydrology, specifically looking at IPPs and how they affect the hydrology. Projects that allow flexibility and the ability to turn the projects on and off depending on the hy drology should be preferred and no IPP scenarios should be excluded. • Growth and development should adapt to what storage a basin already has. • Basins should develop their own source of supply rather than taking water from agriculture. Buy and dry should not occur. • Additional storage is needed for the W hite River for energy development and other purposes. The lack of water supply will not stop energy development. If the water isn't available energy companies will go after water from agriculture. • The United States Geological Survey and the CW CB need to add measuring devices in all the basins to understand how water use is impacting flows in the rivers and to help identify ways to better use water. • The Colorado River compact is a concern for the entire W est Slope. Over development elsewhere will put Yampa-White Basin's use at risk. Additional TMDs could create conflicts with Colorado River compact. Climate change creates additional challenges. • Watershed management is not well addressed in the BIP, but environmental and recreational needs are well addressed. Fires in the Rio Grande, Arkansas, Cache-La Poudre watersheds demonstrate the importance of forest health.	6.1, 6.3.5, 6.1, 9.1, 8, BIP	8 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, which is why Colorado's Water Plan is engaged in scenario planning. Climate change issues are addressed in various sections throughout Colorado's Water Plan. However, while temperature's impact on demands are understood, hydrolocial impacts are not. Since Colorado's water planners cannot necessarily impact the global climate change situation, Colorado's Water Plan is not directly focused on mitigating climate change. Other agencies within Colorado's state government consider climate mitigation strategies. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Chapter 8 addresses many of these concerns, and Chapter 3 will reflect the position of basins on TMD development. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Yampa/white Basin.
Table 2 Small Group Discussion Report	• Explained that the Yampa-White Basin has junior water rights relative to other basins and expressed concern about unfair administration under the compact call scenario. There needs to be a better understanding of basin's role in helping Colorado c omply with the Colorado River Compact. • Need additional storage and the tools to enable the basin to meet the goals of its BIP. • Questioned whether large conditional water rights need to be extended. • Need flexibility in water administration. • The basin needs to come up with its own solutions to its own problems, rather than one-size-fits-all solution.	9.1	The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 3 Small Group Discussion Report	• Disruption of river flow disrupts the quality of life. • Basin's current method of agricultural irrigation is working but is inefficient and reduces flow to the river. Switching to sprinkler systems would not benefit wetlands to the same extent as flood irrigation. • Change the term "agricultural water use" to "agricultural water priority." • Want the release of water from storage timed so as not to diminish quality of life downstream. • Support sharing water through the fallowing process to provide water for instream flows. • Concerned about how the Colorado River Compact and endangered species affect downstream water rights. • There needs to be better land use on the Front Range before there is more development (TMDs, for example). The state need to learn to liv e within its means.	6.3.4, 6.3.3, 9.1	6.3.3-Thank you for your comments. The current draft highlights ongoing projects that deal with water use and land use while the actions in the chapter aim to integrate water and land use planning and support land use that takes water use into consideration. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.
Table 4 Small Group Discussion Report	• The Yampa-White Basin does not have extra water when accounting for future growth in the basin and the state's need to comply with the Colorado River Compact. • Growth in the state should only occur where water is available. • Feeding the state and country will be hard with the loss of agricultural water. Alternatives should be developed to help farmers pay for their retirement with having to sell their water rights. • Difficult to maintain the values that bring people to Colorado w hile doubling the population. • Water quality and ecological systems need to be considered when planning for future growth. • Technology and science should be developed to better understand this interaction between surface and groundwater in the basin. • Recreation is very important to the economy and livelihood of the basin.	9.1, 6.4, 6.1	6.4 Philosophical on-going debate that is imbedded in the ATM concept. Recommend no specific changes as a result of this comment. Colorado's Water Plan and the technical work that supports it includes three growth scenarios: low-growth, mid-growth, high-growth. As water planners, Colorado must prepare for any of these future possibilities as we do not have control over the state's economy and how many people are born or choose to move here. While some communities choose to limit growth, doing so on a broad statewide scale is untenable and unconstitutional. The CWCB is working with each basin on their Basin Implementation Plan and will continue to encourage all interested parties to do the same. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.
Table 5 Small Group Discussion Report	• Want better public access to the data and assumptions underlying the tables in the Yamp-White BIP. • Generally supportive of the BIP and tenet of equitable apportionm ent. • The plan should focus less on the supply side and more attention should be given to the demand side. • The BIP's goal of preserving historic use should be reconsidered because some current uses maybe inefficient and could be improved upon. • Concerned that the BIP focuses too much on nonconsumptive needs for endangered species and not enough on nonconsumptive needs for watershed health. • Concerned about maintaining the culture of the basin and preserving the manner in which the basin has operated.	BIP	CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Yampa/White Basin.
Public Comments from September 17, 2014 South Platte Basin Hearing			
Glen Colton	• It is impossible to double the population of the s tate between now and 2050, and there is not enough water to support such a large number of people.	6.1	Colorado's Water Plan and the technical work that supports it includes three growth scenarios: low-growth, mid-growth, high-growth. As water planners, Colorado must prepare for any of these future possibilities as we do not have control over the state's economy and how many people are born or choose to move here. While some communities choose to limit growth, doing so on a broad statewide scale is untenable and unconstitutional. The CWCB is working with each basin on their Basin Implementation Plan and will continue to encourage all interested parties to do the same.
Diane Marschke, Also completed questionnaire	• Residential conservation efforts will not proceed until water is more expensive. • The Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) threatens the Poudre River.	6.3	6.3.1-Thank you for your comments. The current draft chapter highlights support for conservation oriented rate structures such as water budgets that send an appropriate price signal to residential water users.
Kevin McCarty, Little Thompson Watershed Restoration Coalition Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• Explained that municipal conversions have not happened because available water supply is insufficient. He reported that, in Pinewood Springs, there are places where the river is running dry. The gap is not in 2050, but right now. • Noted that the Little Thompson is not currently mentioned in the South Platte BIP.	4, BIP	noted. The current course Colorado is heading down leads to several of the results that the commenter mentions. For instance, without action, up to 35% of Colorado's farms in the South Platte could be dried up. This is one impetus for why Colorado is pursuing the development of a water plan. Colorado's Water Plan will yield better results through support of conservation, reuse, sharing agreements between farmers and municipalities, incentive-based of water-smart land use, and the development of multi-purpose projects and methods. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the South Platte Basin.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Richard Kommrusch, Fort Collins Community Action Network	• The baseline projections used to prepare the CW P overestimate the amount of water that will be available in the future due to climate change.	6.1	Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, which is why Colorado's Water Plan is engaged in scenario planning. Climate change issues are addressed in various sections throughout Colorado's Water Plan. However, while temperature's impact on demands are understood, hydrolocial impacts are not. Since Colorado's water planners cannot necessarily impact the global climate change situation, Colorado's Water Plan is not directly focused on mitigating climate change. Other agencies within Colorado's state government consider climate mitigation strategies.
Carole Hossan, artist	• While there is emphasis placed on efficiency and production in the CW P, less emphasis has been placed on the beauty and tranquility of the river. More consideration should be given to nature rather than to ec onomic growth.	6.6	6.6 - Thank you for your comment. Section 6.6 recognizes the importance of the environment and outlines a path to meeting environmental needs. Section 7.1 addresses watershed health. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.
Theresa Conley, Conservation Colorado Also testified at the October 1, 2014 Metro Basin hearing and submitted a letter with comments on the CW P (excerpts provided under the October 1 summary).	• There is room for innovation in the CW P, and it should focus on demand management. • There needs to be a closer connection between land use and water use. • There should more flexibility for water sharing. • There is a need for additional data on nonc onsumptive needs, and funding to collect this data.	6.2, 6.3, 6.6	6.3-Thank you for your comments. 6.3.1 contains a wide variety of demand management best practices and actions that will increase conservation statewide. 6.3.3 focuses on the closer connection between land use and water use that must occur in the future. 6.6 - Thank you for your comment. Section 6.6.3 recognizes the need for more data and information on environmental and recreational needs, and 6.6.7 lists CWCB and the roundtables working in partnership to develop that information as a necessary action.
Dick Jefferies, Rocky Mountain Flycasters	• The CWP needs to protect and restore healthy streams, improve streamflows, include environmental and recreational needs in the structure of water planning, and identify ways to address the disconnect that exists between the development community and local government, and overuse of water for development purposes. • SB 14-023 and HB 14-1026 repres ent progress. • There should be no new large trans-basin diversions from the Colorado Basin.	6.6, 8	Thank you for your comment. Section 6.6 recognizes the importance of the environment and recreation, and outlines a path to meeting environmental and recreational needs. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.
Dale Karlin, Larimer County Farmers' Union	• Agricultural producers should work with Colorado State University to develop farming techniques that conserve water. They should also consider use of drip irrigation. • Municipalities should focus on conservation, grey water usage, and new technologies that allow for wastewater reclamation. • The industrial sector, including oil and gas producers, should mitigate the effects of their industry on the water supply.	6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.3.2 highlight current and future techniques and technologies that could be implemented in Colorado to increase reuse of water. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4
Kevin Jones, Fort Collins Area Chamber of Commerce	• Current shortfalls are due to past failures to plan for drought and water shortages, and the water supply in Northern Colorado should be increased by the expansion of Halligan Reservoir and NISP. • Reasonable demand management through conservation, water reuse, and prevention of waste should also be pursued. • The public should be educated about demand management.	6.5, 6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 highlight actions and best practices to increase water conservation and resue of water statewide 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. The development of Colorado's Water Plan has helped to raise the level of importance placed on education and outreach statewide related to water supply planning. The CWCB is working together with the Basin Roundtables (BRTS) to expand education and outreach activities related to raising awareness regarding the issues presented in the webform comments submitted and Section 9.5 Outreach, Education, and Public Engagement will include recommendations on continuing education on these topics long-term.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
David Smeltzer	• Population limits should be discussed in the CW P, because growth in population will eventually outstrip available supply. • Healthy rivers and streams are important. The Upper Colorado River is an example of an over-appropriated river that has lost insects and aquatic habitats as a result. • Data about minimum stream flows necessary for stream health should used for water supply planning.	6.6, 6.1	6.6 - Thank you for your comment. Colorado's Water Plan and the technical work that supports it includes three growth scenarios: low-growth, mid-growth, high-growth. As water planners, Colorado must prepare for any of these future possibilities as we do not have control over the state's economy and how many people are born or choose to move here. While some communities choose to limit growth, doing so on a broad statewide scale is untenable and unconstitutional. The CWCB is working with each basin on their Basin Implementation Plan and will continue to encourage all interested parties to do the same. Section 6.6.3 recognizes the need for more data and information on environmental and recreational needs. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan, and is explored in Section 6.6.
Gary Wockner, Save the Poudre	• A coalition of environmental organizations believe the information presented in the South Platte BIP is controversial. • The CWP should not endorse any water supply projects. • Dams and reservoirs destroy rivers. • Restoring rivers should take precedence. • The state should not fund water projects or streamline the permitting process for projects. • No additional water should diverted from the Poudre River.	6.6, BIP	7.1- Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan, and is explored in Section 6.6. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the South Platte Basin.
Robert Longenbaugh Also testified at the October 1, 2014, Metro Basin hearing and submitted a letter with comments on the CW P (excerpts provided under the October 1 summary).	• The South Platte BIP should not claim that there is no unappropriated water in the South Platte. Too much water is being sent to Nebraska. The loss of this water is a waste and could be used to help address the supply gap. • Phreatophytes should be controlled to make additional water available to address the supply gap. • The beneficial use of surface water and groundwater should be maximized and these waters should conjunctively used.	9.1, 6.2, BIP	Thank you for your comment. In Section 6.3.4, Colorado's Water Plan addressed the need for reducing nonnative phreatophytes in order to gain salvagled water. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the South Platte Basin.
Joseph Piesman	• The goal of the CW P should be to balance the needs of agricultural, municipal, and recreational users. • Minimum stream flows should be maintained for the benefit of anglers , birders, and anyone who walks along the river and enjoys it.	6.6	6.6 - Thank you for your comment. Section 6.6 recognizes the importance of the environment and recreation and the challenges of attempting to meet all of our state's water needs. This section outlines a path to meeting environmental and recreational needs, with one suggested approach being multi-purpose projects that leverage resources to enable multiple types of water uses. CWCB maintains and operates In Stream Flow and Natural Lake Level programs, both of which are highly regarded as some of the most successful programs of their kind in the Western US. Nonconsumptive needs are critically important aspects of the Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan. Although not fully tested, instream flows can be designed to directly benefit riparian areas, and the CWCB Stream and Lake Protection Section has been working with the BLM to design an approach to in-stream flows by providing a flood flow component in the spring.
Jim Eartman	• Population growth is exponential, and that the lim its on the environment's carrying capacity are significant. • The human spirit needs natural places unaffected by humans. • Some homeowners are over-watering their lawns and cutting them too short.	6.3, ,6.1	7.1 Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Colorado's Water Plan and the technical work that supports it includes three growth scenarios: low-growth, mid-growth, high-growth. As water planners, Colorado must prepare for any of these future possibilities as we do not have control over the state's economy and how many people are born or choose to move here. While some communities choose to limit growth, doing so on a broad statewide scale is untenable and unconstitutional. The CWCB is working with each basin on their Basin Implementation Plan and will continue to encourage all interested parties to do the same.
Sue Reed	• Conservation alone is unable to address water shortages. Technology and storage should also be considered.	6.5, 6.3	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Look to the BIP project and method summaries in 6.5 and 6.6.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Gina Janett	• The South Platte Roundtable did not inc lude enough environmental participants, and it was dominated by water user constituencies. • NISP should be removed from the CWP because it would severely damage the Poudre River. • Demand management should be maximized prior to developing new water sources.	6.5	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. More info about demand management is included in the chapter 8 discussion. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Each Basin Roundtable is made up of a diverse set of stakeholders and the inclusion of both an environmental and recreational representative is required by the Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act. In addition, representatives from each county, municipalities within each county, industry, agriculture, and domestic water suppliers are required. Lastly, a representative from each water conservation and conservancy district are also mandated. There are also several other at large seats, and many of these are held by environmental interests, and many of the local government representatives are also focused on environmental and recreational issues since their citizens care about these topics and the area may be dependent on tourism.
Joe Duda, Colorado State Fores t Service	• The management of healthy forests is important to ensure a healthy river system.	7	7.1- Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.
Chris Kraft Also submitted comments in a questionnaire (included in Table 1).	• NISP has no intention of hurting the Poudre Riv er. Instead, it will enhance the river rather than damage it. The Fort Morgan community would also benefit from this project. • Agricultural use is also a city use, in that farmers produce food consumed in cities along the Front Range.	6.5	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Discussion of the interwoven relationship of various uses is addressed throughout the document.
Peter Bridgman	• More water storage and more conservation is imperative. • The oil and gas industry should be required to rec ycle the water it uses to the quality at which they bought it.	6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. 6.3.1 discusses actions and best practices to increase water conservation statewide. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The Water Quality Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) regulates water quality issues of this nature in the state. Water Quality has been recognized as critical for Colorado's water future. The CWCB is working closely with the Water Quality Control Division and the Basin Roundtables in order to address Colorado's Water Quality needs. This is further explored in Section 7.3.
Terry Farrill, Fort Collins-Loveland Water District	• The state needs to be a strong advocate for permits for water projects at the federal level. • NISP will enhance the flow of the river during months when it is currently low. • Conservation can only go so far.	9.4, 6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. 6.3.1 highlights actions and best practices to increase water conservation statewide. This is presented as one among several strategies to manage our future water supplies. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation.
Nancy York	• NISP will not benefit the Poudre Riv er. • The challenge posed by a growing population must be met through conservation. • Rainwater harvesting, as practiced in Arizona, could be a useful approach. • The state should not build massive storage, but conserve water and electricity.	6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. 6.3.1 highlights actions and best practices to increase water conservation statewide. This is presented as one among several strategies to manage our future water supplies. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Rainwater harvesting does have some limitations within current Colorado water law. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine, which is in Colorado's Constitution, typically dictates that rainwater is used by a downstream user. However, the CWCB maintains a rainwater harvesting pilot program to explore how rainwater harvesting can be used. This is further discussed in Subsection 5.6.1. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Roni Sylvester	• The CWP's first priority should be to fortify existing water rights according to prior appropriation. W ater in the South Platte Basin is someone's property, and it has been bought and sold.	9.1	Thank you for your comments. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine and the status of water as a private property right is fundamental to Colorado water administration and law and Colorado's Water Plan requires these principles to succeed.
Roger Hoffman Letter to the committee (excerpts provided in the following column).	• There has not been enough repres entation of the broad public interests particularly with respect to maintenance of adequate river flows. • While the need for conservation is acknowledged, too little is being done in this regard and too much emphasis is given to additional water storage. • Much greater emphasis should be placed on water conservation, and better statewide support for water sharing. • Due to Colorado's water law and use it or lose it, agricultural users have little incentive to implement conservation technologies, and to this day continue to rely on dated, inefficient technologies simply because there remain disincentives – along with lack of any contrary incentives, for conserving water. • The state can do much more in terms of enabling water sharing that benefits both urban and rural us ers. • The state has already taken some modest steps in terms of enabling "reuse" of water; more should be done. • It's also quite clear, from the disparity in per-capita consumption between various communities that far more can be done to directly encourage conservation among the urban users. Providers should, for example, be required to offer tiered water rates that reward those who use water frugally and which disincentivize wasteful practices. • Annexation and development practices should be updated to reflec t the reality of limited supplies. • The changing climate is a game-changer. The state must be much smarter in adapting to the em erging realities.	6.3,10, 6.3.3, 6.1	6.3-Thank you for your comments. 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 highlight actions and best practices to increase water conservation and resue of water statewide.The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Conservation oriented rate structures are discussed as a foundational practice that every water provider should be doing. With regard to indoor water conservation and tiered rate structures, the vast majority of water providers currently operate with tiered water rates. 6.3.3 includes discussion of integrating land use and water use more closely and the actions to accomplish this. Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, which is why Colorado's Water Plan is engaged in scenario planning. Climate change issues are addressed in various sections throughout Colorado's Water Plan. However, while temperature's impact on demands are understood, hydrolocial impacts are not. Since Colorado's water planners cannot necessarily impact the global climate change situation, Colorado's Water Plan is not directly focused on mitigating climate change. Other agencies within Colorado's state government consider climate mitigation strategies. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Andy Jones, Steve Malers, and George Wallace, Poudre Basin Water Sharing Working Group Letter to the committee (excerpts provided in the following column). Mr. Malers also submitted comments in a questionnaire	• The CWP should not try to be a "one size fits all" plan. The Water Resources Review Committee should encourage the kind of flexibility that will be required in order m eet watershed and area-specific needs and produce the innovation necessary for meeting competing interests in water - especially between agriculture, urban water providers, open space programs, and others. • Though a number of water projects are being planned and dis cussed, the group requested multiple-purpose storage that will serve agriculture (which has a water gap too), urban utilities , and the environment. • There is also opportunity for new projects but also shared storage in existing reservoirs, gravel pits, and aquifers that is not being realized. • The legislature should continue to provide incentives, funding, and legislative support for ATM development, pilot projects, and evaluation. • The CWP should encourage new partnerships that provide an ATM element, such as the "buy and supply" concept of purchasing farms or ranches with water, conserving those farms and then leasing or selling those farms to producers with ATM conditions included for drought firming, emergencies, or base supply.	6.2, 10, 6.4	6.4 Staff appreciates the constructive comments. We have added language to discuss flexibility and furthering the goals of ATM development. Regarding the "buy and supply" concept - we recommend that this could be vetted and then added between draft and final versions. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Legislative recommendations will be handled in Chapter 10.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 1 Small Group Discussion Report	• An information campaign is needed to educate the public about the value of water. • Must continue to allow historical flexibility in the use of water at the local level. • The CWP ought to promote and finance innovative and efficient uses of water, particularly by ending agricultural "buy and dry." Viable alternatives include increased efficiency of agricultural water use, and financing alternative transfer mechanisms (ATMs). • The permitting process is being impacted by issues that are outside of the process and has become a catch all for other issues. • The CWCB should continue to include a discussion of water quality concerns with respect to environmental and recreational water uses.	6.3, 6.6, 7.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. 6.3.1 highlights actions and best practices to increase water conservation statewide. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4 The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The development of Colorado's Water Plan has helped to raise the level of importance placed on education and outreach statewide related to water supply planning. The CWCB is working together with the Basin Roundtables (BRTS) to expand education and outreach activities related to raising awareness regarding the issues presented in the webform comments submitted and Section 9.5 Outreach, Education, and Public Engagement will include recommendations on continuing education on these topics long-term. The Water Quality Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) regulates water quality issues of this nature in the state. Water Quality has been recognized as critical for Colorado's water future. The CWCB is working closely with the Water Quality Control Division and the Basin Roundtables in order to address Colorado's Water Quality needs. This is further explored in Section 7.3.
Table 2 Small Group Discussion Report	• Opposed to transmountain diversions. • Focus should be placed on demand management, water sharing, and water reuse strategies. • Environmental interests are under represented on the South Platte Bas in Roundtable and ought to rec eive additional attention. • Agricultural water users risk losing a portion of their water right if they implement certain water savings measures. • Opposed to the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) because of its effects on the Poudre River.	6.2, 6.3, 8, 9.5	6.3-Thank you for your comments. 6.3.1 highlights actions and best practices to increase water conservation statewide. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Each Basin Roundtable is made up of a diverse set of stakeholders and the inclusion of both an environmental and recreational representative is required by the Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act. In addition, representatives from each county, municipalities within each county, industry, agriculture, and domestic water suppliers are required. Lastly, a representative from each water conservation and conservancy district are also mandated. There are also several other at large seats, and many of these are held by environmental interests, and many of the local government representatives are also focused on environmental and recreational issues since their citizens care about these topics and the area may be dependent on tourism. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation.

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Table 3 Small Group Discussion Report	• Support the creation of additional s torage capacity in multipurpose reservoirs in the South Platte Basin. • Municipal and industrial conservation should be prioritized and should include graywater and rainwater harvesting. • Water and land use planning ought to tak e place in conjunction with one another. • Agricultural users are also expected to conserve water, including by implementing improved irrigation systems. • Communities should be educated about the relations hip between agricultural and municipal water use. • Total water management should address both surface and groundwater supplies.	6.3, 6.3.4, 6.4	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.3.1 highlights actions and best practices to increase water conservation statewide.Rainwater harvesting does have some limitations within current Colorado water law. The Prior Appropriation Doctrine, which is in Colorado's Constitution, typically dictates that rainwater is used by a downstream user. However, the CWCB maintains a rainwater harvesting pilot program to explore how rainwater harvesting can be used. This is further discussed in Subsection 5.6.1. Graywater use and rainwater harvesting are both discussed in the chapter. 6.3.3 discusses the connection between land use and water use and advocates for better integration of the disciplines. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4
Table 4 Small Group Discussion Report	• The state should take a more active role in the federal proc ess for water projects. • The South Platte Basin's aquifer requires better management. The state should allow pumping from the aquifer to maximize beneficial use of the water we already have. • Regulators must consider the impacts of large engineering projec ts on the environment.	6.3, 9.1	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Refer to chapter 9 for more about potential for improvements to permitting. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.
Table 5 Small Group Discussion Report	• Communities and individuals should play a larger role in the planning proc ess. • Healthy forests are important for a clean water supply.	7	7 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. An additional section on forest health has been added to chapter 7. Each Basin Roundtable is made up of a diverse set of stakeholders and the inclusion of both an environmental and recreational representative is required by the Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act. In addition, representatives from each county, municipalities within each county, industry, agriculture, and domestic water suppliers are required. Lastly, a representative from each water conservation and conservancy district are also mandated. There are also several other at large seats, and many of these are held by environmental interests, and many of the local government representatives are also focused on environmental and recreational issues since their citizens care about these topics and the area may be dependent on tourism.

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Table 6 Small Group Discussion Report	• Identified Projects and Processes (IPPs), conservation, new supplies, and ATMs all merit inclusion in the CW P. • Education and transparency should also be prioritized. • The CWP needs to account for the impacts of climate change, including effects on water supplies and forest health. • There ought to be a dis cussion of water use by energy providers, including oil and natural gas extractors.	7, 6.3.5	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Look to chapters 6.5 and 6.6 for discussion of basin projects and methods, including IPPs. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4 Energy needs are also discussed in chapter 5. 7 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. An additional section on forest health has been added to chapter 7. Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, which is why Colorado's Water Plan is engaged in scenario planning. Climate change issues are addressed in various sections throughout Colorado's Water Plan. However, while temperature's impact on demands are understood, hydrolocial impacts are not. Since Colorado's water planners cannot necessarily impact the global climate change situation, Colorado's Water Plan is not directly focused on mitigating climate change. Other agencies within Colorado's state government consider climate mitigation strategies. Fracking currently uses approximately 18,000 acre feet per year, which is a very small proportion of Colorado's overall water use. However, there may be some areas where there are greater regional effects. In addition, power plants that burn natural gas to make energy use less water than traditional power plants. Therefore, from an overall resource management perspective, fracking and the resulting energy production do not consume a significant amount of water compared to current levels. Colorado's Water Plan seeks to work collaboratively to uphold Colorado's water values and does not put a value judgement on any one beneficial use. The development of Colorado's Water Plan has helped to raise the level of importance placed on education and outreach statewide related to water supply planning. The CWCB is working together with the Basin Roundtables (BRTS) to expand education and outreach activities related to raising awareness regarding the issues presented in the webform comments submitted and Section 9.5 Outreach, Education, and Public Engagement will include recommendations on continuing education on these topics long-term.
Table 7 Small Group Discussion Report	• Minimum stream flows must be determined and guaranteed as a part of the CW P and the South Platte BIP. • Uncertain as to how compact obligations affect planning for the South Platte Bas in BIP. • Conservation should be incentivized. This requires a revision of the current "use-it-or-lose-it" provision in Colorado water law.	6.3, 6.6, 10	6.3-Thank you for your comments. The actions of 6.3.1 highlight a number of incentive based efforts for increased conservation. 6.6 - Thank you for your comments. 6.6.7 contemplates CWCB and basin roundtables working in partnership on assessing environmental needs. Colorado's Instream Flow Program is a tool available to the basin roundtables. CWCB maintains and operates In Stream Flow and Natural Lake Level programs, both of which are highly regarded as some of the most successful programs of their kind in the Western US. Nonconsumptive needs are critically important aspects of the Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan. Although not fully tested, instream flows can be designed to directly benefit riparian areas, and the CWCB Stream and Lake Protection Section has been working with the BLM to design an approach to in-stream flows by providing a flood flow component in the spring. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Legislative recommendations will be handled in Chapter 10.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 8 Small Group Discussion Report	• Colorado water users should fully utilize all water available under inters tate compact requirements. • Reuse and conservation is important and ought to inc lude graywater use. • Modifications to water law must be careful to account for effects on other water laws. • Land use and zoning requirements should be considered to limit urban and suburban lawn sizes. • Instream flow language should be included, with recognition that instream flows benefit from multipurpose infrastructure.	9.1, 10, 6.6. 6.3	6.3- Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.3.1 and 6.3.2 fully discuss water conservation best practices and reuse including gray water use. 6.3.3 discusses land use and water use integration through incentives and education. Outdoor water use is addressed in both 6.3.1 and 6.3.3. 6.6 - Thank you for your comments. Section 6.6.1 discusses the relationship between instream flows and other water uses and infrastructure. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.
Table 9 Small Group Discussion Report	• Senate Bill 14-115 meetings are difficult for the public to attend, as they require physical attendance during normal business hours. In the future, public meetings should accommodate testimony via videoconferencing and take place during the evening. • Demand should be studied at the level of individual homes and businesses. • Minimizing outdoor municipal water use is more important than minimizing indoor use. • The inefficiency of flood irrigation is often outweighed by the benefits provided by autumn recharge flows. • Industrial water contamination deserves attention.	6.3, 7.3	6.3- Thank you for your comments. As part of SWSI 2016, customer category demand projections (homes, businesses, etc) will be generated to develop statewide demand projections.The current conservation chapter in the CWP does focus on outdoor water in a number of defined actions. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3.
Table 10 Small Group Discussion Report	• Table was unable to reach a consensus on several issues, including the utility of additional storage. • Fragmentation among local decision making bodies requires the intervention of the state, even though local control is generally preferable. • Innovative water storage could utilize subsurface aquifers to minimize water loss. • Lawn sizes are indicative of a need for outdoor m unicipal water conservation. • Population growth should be slowed, as should issuances of building permits. • Local food production and farming is important.	6.5, 6.3	6.3- Thank you for your comments. The current conservation chapter in the CWP does focus on outdoor water use in a number of defined actions. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. Local control and land use are discussed in Chapter 2, and projects and methods identified by basin roundtables (including storage concepts) are explored in 6.5 and 6.6. Colorado's Water Plan and the technical work that supports it includes three growth scenarios: low-growth, mid-growth, high-growth. As water planners, Colorado must prepare for any of these future possibilities as we do not have control over the state's economy and how many people are born or choose to move here. While some communities choose to limit growth, doing so on a broad statewide scale is untenable and unconstitutional. The CWCB is working with each basin on their Basin Implementation Plan and will continue to encourage all interested parties to do the same.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 11 Small Group Discussion Report	• The value of a tiered water system ought to be studied. • Development of CW P requires leadership from the state government. • Land use planning should emphasize water security for both the Eastern and W estern Slopes. • Agricultural users should adopt pivot irrigation to support conservation endeavors. • Support a more robust and accessible instream flow program.	6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. 6.3.1 highlights actions and best practices to increase water conservation statewide. Conservation oriented rate structures are discussed as a foundational practice that every water provider should be doing. With regard to indoor water conservation and tiered rate structures, the vast majority of water providers currently operate with tiered water rates. 6.3.3 includes discussion of integrating land use and water use more closely and the actions to accomplish this. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4. CWCB maintains and operates In Stream Flow and Natural Lake Level programs, both of which are highly regarded as some of the most successful programs of their kind in the Western US. Nonconsumptive needs are critically important aspects of the Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan. Although not fully tested, instream flows can be designed to directly benefit riparian areas, and the CWCB Stream and Lake Protection Section has been working with the BLM to design an approach to in-stream flows by providing a flood flow component in the spring.
Table 12 Small Group Discussion Report	• Agricultural and municipal users must cooperate to address water quality concerns. • ATMs should be evaluated with attention to their s ustainability. • Agricultural uses must be protected in order to avoid economic losses to rural community. • Storage will help address the coming water gap, but strategies must be multipurpose. • Water and land use planning must be integrated.	6.3, 6.5	6.3- Thank you for your comments. 6.3.3 includes discussion of integrating land use and water use more closely and the actions to accomplish this. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. The importance of multipurpose projects and methods is discussed in the BIPs and reflected in sections 6.5. and 6.6.
Public Comments from October 1, 2014 Metro Basin Hearing			
Jennifer Barrow, Also submitten a questionnaire	• The BIP should include a high conservation strategy. • New supplies will not be able to addres s new demands alone. Climate change may further reduce the available supply. • New development should include water-wise landscaping.	4, 6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. As the BIP process is a grass roots effort, staff is incorporating the draft BIPs as they are with a view that final BIPs are not due until Spring 2015. Your comments will help shape how the final BIPs turn out. 6.3.1 highlights actions and best practices to increase water conservation statewide. 6.3.3 includes discussion of integrating land use and water use more closely and the actions to accomplish this. Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, which is why Colorado's Water Plan is engaged in scenario planning. Climate change issues are addressed in various sections throughout Colorado's Water Plan. However, while temperature's impact on demands are understood, hydrolocial impacts are not. Since Colorado's water planners cannot necessarily impact the global climate change situation, Colorado's Water Plan is not directly focused on mitigating climate change. Other agencies within Colorado's state government consider climate mitigation strategies. Ch 4 - additional climate change information has been incorporated

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Robert Stocker Also submitted written testimony	• The BIP should recognize our generation's moral responsibility to future citizens and to the future of life its elf. The CWP should be sustainable and environmentally responsible. • Strategies to protect the environment should include: 1) establishing science-based standards for flow characteristics required to maintain plants, fish, and wildlife dependent on our s treams and rivers for propagation and survival; 2) modifying water policies to assure that environmental standards are met before water is extracted for other uses; 3) appreciating the prairie as an ecosystem worthy of protection; 4) requiring minimal standards for returning industrial water to the environment, including water use for fracking; 5) and recognizing stream health as a beneficial use and allowing non-governmental water rights to be established for maintaining stream health. • Conservation is by far the most cost-effective way to deal with water shortages. • Recommended legislation to: 1) encourage water-responsible landscaping and outlaw covenants that require maintaining water-hungry bluegrass lawns; 2) track losses in municipal water systems and eliminate leaks; 3) allow homeowners to collect rainwater for later use in their yards; and 4) modify water law to discourage waste. Our current "use it or lose it" water policy does just the opposite. Agriculture is the largest water user in Colorado. "Buy and dry" is not all bad. If farmers can grow the same crops with less water, they should be able to sell or lease the excess to someone else. • Consider subsidizing reductions in consumption by purchasing additional ins tream flow rights.	6.6, 10, 6.4, 6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. Conservation is a very cost effective tool and your ideas have already been incorporated into the current draft chapter. 6.6 Thank you for your comments. Section 6.6.3 addresses quantification methodologies for environmental water needs. 6.4 - Thank you for the comments. 6.4 - Thank you for the ATM related comments. The plan recognizes and supports free market activities, along with water law and private property rights. Added flexibility is discussed to further the goals of alternative transfer methods within the basic framework. The concept of increasing the ability for farmers to sell or lease their excess water is embedded in ATM programs such as 1248 and the idea of flex markets. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10..
Julio Iturreria, Arapahoe County , Metro and South Platte Basin Roundtable	• There is a need for balance and being proactive in water planning. • Colorado is the last western state without a water plan.		Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. The current course Colorado is heading down leads to several of the results that the commenter mentions. For instance, without action, up to 35% of Colorado's farms in the South Platte could be dried up. This is one impetus for why Colorado is pursuing the development of a water plan. Colorado's Water Plan will yield better results through support of conservation, reuse, sharing agreements between farmers and municipalities, incentive-based of water-smart land use, and the development of multi-purpose projects and methods.
Devon Buckels, Coordinator for the South Platte River Urban W aters Partnership, a partnership hosted by the Colorado State Forest Service Also submitted written testimony	• CWP should support the protection and restoration of the lands that support the hydrology which provide and convey the water for our use. • The CWP should support the incorporation of green infras tructure and the work of regional collaborative organizations like the Urban W aters Partnership. • Fires and flooding affect water quality and also affect the financial cost of water provided to the metro area. Meanwhile, trees in the forest affect snowmelt, and trees in the urban area help to m anage stormwater runoff reducing storm water treatment costs for local communities. Forest management work achieved through partnerships with forest service agencies can help protect our watersheds and water supplies. • The CWP should support the protection and restoration of the lands that support the hydrology, including forests, riparian corridors, creeks, and streams which provide and convey the water for our use. • The plan should also support the incorporation of green infras tructure as the region addresses its aging water infrastructure system and associated costs. • The CWP should support the work of regional collaborative organizations like the Urban W aters Partnership, which facilitate coordinated solutions to	6.5, 7	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Look to section 7.1 for more info about watershed protection, and 7.2 for natural disaster management. Sections 6.5 and 6.6 feature the work of the basin roundtables, and the projects and methods identified in the BIPs. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments.
Brian Loma, President, Metropolitan State University Water Association of Students Stewards Urban Program	• "Use it or lose it" should be changed to encourage water conservation. • Graywater infrastructure needs to be developed for new growth. • Recycling of fracking water should be required. • The CWP should include smart sprinkler systems and requirements for additional technology.	6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. Chapter 6.3.1 includes actions on sharing conserved water and adopting WaterSense specified outdoor technologies. Conservation and reuse, including gray water, are strategies considered in Colorado's Water Plan. The issue of graywater in Colorado is addressed within Subsection 6.3.2 Reuse. . Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.

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Nancy Stocker Also submitted written testimony	• Efficiency as a potential source of water is underestimated in the South Platte BIP. • Composting saves water that would otherwise be used to flush food down the drain and should be encouraged. Waterless toilets can save additional water. • Change the law that makes farmers use all their water rights for the awarded use or lose it. Make it so they can lease out their water. Somehow, the most basic human and environmental needs should be met before leasing is allowed for other uses, particularly new uses. • Consider all other means of getting water before making more trans-basin diversions. They damage the basins from which water is taken. They increase the likelihood of occasional severe flooding in the bas in to which water goes. And they are expensive. • Fracking water must be recycled over and over and over. Both carrots and sticks should be applied. Rec ycling would reduce both fresh water demands and the problems of disposal.	6.3, 6.5, 8	6.3 Thank you for your comments. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.3.1 highlights actions and best practices to increase water conservation statewide. 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. More information of TBDs, and the cross basin discussion on this subject is found in Chapter 8.
John McKenzie, Executive Director Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance Also submitted 9-page memorandum (excerpts provided in the following column).	• Given the importance of Colorado's ditch and reservoir companies, it would be appropriate to prov ide these entities with a separate "Ditch and Reservoir Company" chapter within the CW P. • The CWP can be developed that includes decisions that minimize risk, taking into account climate change, demographic patterns, identified projects, and including cultural and politic al considerations. The alliance has reviewed the DRAFT 5.1: Scenario Planning and Developing an Adaptive Water Strategy and believes that the process of formulating plausible scenarios has been useful in developing consensus to the extent possible and orienting the next steps. Now, scenarios and drivers need to be identified from the output of a model, ones that are determined after a carefully constructed analysis of Colorado's water system is complete. • There is a need to recognize the contribution of ditch and reservoir companies to the culture and environmental qualities of Colorado. These delivery systems include the diversion structures, the canals, the laterals, the reservoirs, the farms and ranches they serve, and the return flows. • Colorado's food system should be defended by protecting individual water rights and historic uses through the existing prior appropriation s ystem. • There is not a good database of ditch companies and their service areas, and practices. Baselines can be created to be used as a reference point in determining trends and future changes to the amount of water carried, water use, changes in the service area, amount of water tied to the ground, and financ ial viability of ditch companies. • Ditch companies have been providing substantial benefits to society, both directly and indirectly. Mechanisms for compensating ditch companies need to be explored, both monetary and non-monetary approaches. • Better planning capabilities for ditch and reservoir companies could make it easier for those companies to adapt to changing social and environmental pressures. Planning activities in the medium and long-term should be strengthened. Funds need to be set aside to help ditch companies plan for their futures for many know what needs to be done but need additional res ources. • More educational efforts should be undertaken to promote ATMs. For ATMs to be used in a free market system with willing participants, the various options need to be made clear and understandable. Models of financial impact to the parties need to be developed. More activities like the Fallowing Leasing Pilot Program (HB 13-1248) are important but need to be enhanc ed and promoted.	6.5, 6.1, 6.4	6.4 Regarding increasing education about ATMs and enhancing existing programs such as 1248 pilot projects - Agree. Could be further discussed in education and outreach section of CWP, and suggested future legislation in chapter 10. 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. The interrelationships of different water uses are discussed throughout the Plan. Regarding comments related to Section 6.1 - The thoughtful comments about doing a technical analysis across the state will be considered as part of the Statewide Water Supply Initiative 2016. This could be further advanced by the development of Colorado Decision Support System tools throughout Colorado. Completing these for the whole state is now one of the actions in Section 6.1. DARCA suggests two recommendations that warrent further discussion and consideration for the second draft of Colorado's Water Plan: Create baselines for ditch and reservoir companies, support ditch and reservoir company long-term planning (including how to manage for the potential impacts of climate change). Regarding comments related to Section 6.3.4 - The comment suggests that irrigation ditches help provide aesthetic and riparian values. Section 6.3.4 of the plan acknowledges that ag return flows and losses can incidentally support riparian vegetation and habitat. The comment also stresses the importance of vibrant ag, which the plan emphasizes throughout. Further the comment requests both technical assistance to ditches to modernize infrastructure and suggests that public and private incentives be provided to increase ditch company efforts to conserve water. As 6.3.4 observes in certain site specific locations ag efficiency changes can provide local instream benefits or salvaged water that could be made available to other uses, and incentives may be appropriate to encourage those efforts. Legal and administrative costs may offset the benefits, and therefore careful site specific analysis must be done to ensure the potential benefits outweigh those costs. Regarding comments related to Section 6.4 - Additional ATM examples have been included, along with a discussion of HB-1248 as suggested. Remainder of ATM enhancements were generally captured in the "action items" section. Education issues are addressed in Section 9.5.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Ditch and Reservoir Company Alliance (cont.)	• There is a lack of recognition by many decision makers and water rights owners on the impacts that climate change will have on ditch and reservoir companies. Individual ditch companies need to better monitor and begin recording their own data including flow patterns, water availability, temperature, evapotranspiration data, and annual precipitation. Seeing the effec ts of climate change through locally collected data that is more granular. • The financial, recreational, agricultural, and environmental costs for the long term as well as the present, along with an increasing concern for the Colorado River Basin, leads to the strong impression that additional transmountain diversions should be considered only after other solutions have been exhausted. • The CWP needs to focus on the development of guidelines and standards that reduce transaction costs and risk by providing more certainty in local regulations, easement definition, storm-water regulations, property rights disputes, taxation, and lender relations hips. Guidelines and standards can take the form of model regulations and laws, as well as conceptual principles that may encourage more effective cooperation between ditch companies and local communities. • Basin implementation plans include requests for approximately $8 billion for projec ts that are mainly focused on meeting future municipal water supply gaps and firming existing M&I supply. Despite the fact that ditch companies handle and distribute far more water across very large and productive areas, the plans omit sufficient requests for the funding of ditc h companies and agricultural needs, including infrastructure (diversion, conveyance, on-farm improvements, and storage) that will help ditch companies and agriculture prosper and shelter them from an uncertain future of climate variability, a growing state population, and other pres sures. • Many ditch companies feel that although im provements to their systems may be of benefit, the benefits do not justify the costs and risks. Other incentives should be considered such as: 1) creation of a transferable state tax credit for improvements much like the ones currently used for conservation easement; 2) lowering the rate of CWCB loans for infrastructure loans; and 3) providing or promoting mechanisms where private individuals can furnish funds for ag ditch company improvements. • Storage water will play a critical role in maintaining and enhanc ing the water portfolio of mutual ditch and reservoir companies. Transaction costs (permits, required studies) in today's regulatory climate make it too costly, and therefore infeas ible for limited resource ditch companies to expand, let alone build, new reservoirs. Until a more streamlined permitting process for reservoir expansion results, few storage expansion projects will be undertaken. • Once water demand overtakes the available supply, sources of water once considered unfeasible or improbable will need investigation. Higher costs may also lead to the widespread utilization of graywater and even the reuse of domestic water. However, conservation and reuse may not be sufficient. All options should be explored including piping water from the water-long area of the Missouri/Mississippi River system to Colorado. Storage could be provided in eastern Colorado in off stream reservoirs or stored in aquifers.	6.1, 10, 6.5, 10, 9.4, 6.2	See DARCA response above.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Robert Longenbaugh Also testified at the September 17, 2014 South Platte Basin hearing and submitted a letter on the CWP (excerpts provided in the following column).	• The draft SPBIP does not adequately consider the quantity of ground water now stored in the South Platte and Republican River drainage basins. Nowhere in the report does it recognize the 10.5 million acre feet of water now stored in the South Platte alluv ial aquifer some of which can clearly be put to beneficial use to further water needs of Colorado, if managed properly. • The history of how irrigation wells were drilled to supplement inadequate and undependable s urface water supplies is crucial to understand current water administration problems. • The ground water aquifers and their use for storing excess river flows when precipitation is above normal must be one of the top priorities in the State W ater Plan. • Both the surface and ground water must be managed to maximize the water available to meet future Colorado citizen's needs. The 1969 Ground W ater Administration Act specifically requires the management of both the ground and surface water while also preventing injury to vested water rights. Current water administration only address the prevention of injury issue. To plan for 2050 we must return to an aggressive program of conjunctive use. • Prudent ground water pumping must be allowed to provide water for irrigation, municipal use and industrial needs when there is insufficient river flows such as early spring before the snow melt, in the fall and winter periods and especially during drought periods . Current well pumping with augmentation does not allow the wells to supply water during droughts. • For ground water management you need data on volumes pumped, volumes recharged, water table levels, and geologic information. Both calibrated ground and s urface water models would be beneficial to better manage Colorado 's water resources. • The South Platte River is now in a very dynamic state. Both physical and hydrologic conditions are changing in both time and space. Conservation, reuse, and using nontributory ground water and transbasin diversions to extinction are having major impact on river flows. It is well documented that river calls and dry up of stream flow reaches is occurring more frequently. Projections for 2050 using past rates of change in this case is not good science or technology and will result in critical errors of the projected deficiencies for all water users. • Water administration must be changed to allow the State Engineer flexibility in how he distributes excess surface runoff from storm events. • There are significant problems with how state water officials are administering water. There are statutes that require the State Engineer to prev ent waste, maximize beneficial use, prevent injury, administer water in the priority system , and impose retained jurisdiction in augmentation decrees to correct how those decrees are administered to prevent over augmentation. The Division I Engineer tells me he does not honor those statutory requirements because either the Bijou Irrigation Dis trict vs . Simpson Colorado Supreme Court Case in 2002 or the legis lation passed in 2002, 2003, or 2004 s pecifically requires him to only consider the accounting of depletions due to pumping and accretions due to artificial recharge in the existing augmentation decrees. If this conflict exists, then the Legislature needs to take action to resolve this problem, clarifying the way the State Engineer should administer the water. • We don't now have priority administration. All the irrigation wells that were drilled prior to 1965 hav e priority dates senior to the artificial recharge structures (first decree for artificial recharge was in 1972). W hy can't irrigation wells pump some water in their own priority? Why do we have over 100 new well permits issued since 2005 in W eld, Morgan, Logan and Sedgwick counties which have resulted in new wells irrigating new lands never before irrigated, while we have over 4,000 wells curtailed that have senior appropriation dates ? This situation needs to be evaluated to measure future potential problem s.	4, 10, 6.1, 6.2	Ch4 - additonal information on SP alluvial aquifer added to CH 3 and Ch 4. Other comments addressed where appropriate. Aquifer storage and recharge is also explored in Section 6.5. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Regarding your comments related to Section 6.5 - Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. These comments were also sent directly to the South Platte Basin Roundtable.
Robert Longenbaugh (Cont)	• We are now wasting water in the South Platte Bas in: Excess flows (400,000 acre feet per year on the average) go to Nebraska; Phreatophytes are consuming over 450,000 acre feet per year and that number is increasing; Increased evaporation from the soil surface due to the high ground w ater levels could easily be over 100,000 acre feet/yr. If we could salvage just a portion of each of those three wastes , then the projected 2050 M&I deficiency could be greatly reduced which would reduce or eliminate the need to im port water from the Colorado River Basin. • There are references in the SPBIP that there are expected changes (problems) coming: 1) in the fractured rock aquifers in the foothills and mountains ; 2) the Ogallala irrigation w ells in the Republican Basin; and 3) the Denver Basin Bedrock Aquifers because of declining piezometric ground water levels. There doesn't appear to be specific action items listed to be implemented prior to 2050 to addres s these critical water issues. Hopefully the State W ater Plan would schedule and initiate ac tion items. • The SPBIP has been structured to implement the recommendations from SWASI 2010 and includes action items: conservation , implement IPP's, address and limit agriculture transfers , and import water from the Colorado River Basin. This is commonly referred to as the "four	6.2, 10, BIP	CWCB Staff will pass these comments along to the South Platte Basin. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. In Section 6.3.4, Colorado's Water Plan addressed the need for reducing nonnative phreatophytes in order to gain salvagled water. Aquifer storage and recharge is also explored in Section 6.5.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Theresa Conley, Conservation Colorado Also testified at the September 17 South Platte Basin hearing and submitted a letter on the CW P (excerpts provided in the following column).	• Focus on demand management first, before exploring "new supply" and developing additional Colorado Riv er Water. This starts with increasing indoor and outdoor c onservation as well as increasing the use of recycled water. SB 14-103 (phase-out of the sale of certain low efficiency plumbing fixtures) and HB 13-1044 (authorizing the use of graywater) are two recent bills that have sought innovative ways to decrease the demands we put on fresh, potable water by increasing the efficiency of bathroom fixtures without impacting their effectiveness and exploring ways to use graywater, such as in our toilets or lawns. These are relatively easy changes that result in a significant impact. • We can and should connect land use planning and water planning. W e know the population of Colorado is growing with an additional four m illion people expected by 2050. A lot of our future water needs are within this new population group. Colorado s hould partner with counties, land use planners, and water utilities to embrace integrated planning that will lower the water footprint of new urban development. W hile education and training is an important first step, we will need additional m easures. • We need to continue the legacy of innovation that Colorado was founded on and find new ways to work smarter, build better, and use less water in the process.	6.3, 6.3.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments. Your comments have already been incorporated into the current draft for both demand management and land use and water use integration. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3.
Theresa Conley, Conservation Colorado (Cont.)	• Increased flexibility in water sharing. Creative water-sharing agreements (Alternative Transfer Mechanisms (ATMs)) can support agriculture, meet growing communities' needs, and protect Colorado's rivers. Currently buying and then drying up agricultural land is the easiest way to get water from agriculture. It was repeated several times at my table during small group discussion that we need more sharing opportunities and more flexibility in our water rights system (not an entire overhaul). The state should support water sharing agreements—ones that are voluntary, compensated, temporary, and flexible—to help meet future municipal and healthy flow needs while making agriculture more profitable. Of course, water rights need to be respected but farmers and irrigators should be rewarded for conservation practices, efficiency improvements, and sharing and not penalized. • Cross-basin comparison. I provided a matrix comparing the Basin Implementation Plans to each other on certain aspects – conservation, reuse, trans-mountain diversions, environmental and recreation methods and projects and agriculture (Basin Implementation Plans Matrix) as well as the several elements coming out of the BIPs that are noteworthy (Shareable BIP Elements). Another good comparison would be to examine how the Basin Implementation Plans (BIPs) match up to the Interbasin Compact Committee's (IBCC) No/Low Regrets Action Plan. Some basins meet the goals laid out by the IBCC's action plan while others do not. I call your attention to conservation levels, projects or methods designed for meeting environmental goals and success rates of identified projects and processes (IPPs). • Funding & Research. We need funding for and s tream management plans. These plans quantify the flows needed to preserve environmental and recreational attributes, identified by the basins, within specific river reaches. These basin-level stream management plans should be a top tier priority within the BIPs and the CW P. Of note, while watershed management plans are important, stream management plans (SMPs) specifically evaluate the flows and are needed independent of any larger watershed plan. SMPs allow local stakeholders to better assess river resources that need protecting.	6.4, 6.6, 3, 10	6.4 - Staff added language to convey ideas about water sharing agreements and increased flexibility. Flex markets being discussed as well. Could relate to chapter 10 and 6.6 - Thank you for your comments. Section 6.6.7 identifies work on both watershed management plans and stream management plans as necessary actions, and addresses strenthening funding for environmental projects. 6.3.3 includes discussion of integrating land use and water use more closely and the actions to accomplish this. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Many of your other comments are addressed in the revised draft November sections/chapters.
Pauline P. Reetz, Conservation Chairman, submitted written comments on behalf of the Audubon Soc iety of Greater Denver (excerpts provided in the following column).	• Water Conservation. The Plan should include a significant focus on water conservation (the cheapest, easiest and fastest way to "create" more water), including municipal water conservation, municipal reuse, agricultural efficiency, and water-efficient energy supplies. These measures can save substantial amounts of water and can help ensure that no new water diversions are needed from our already-depleted streams; they can make water available to restore degraded stream reaches. Some of these measures may require changes in Colorado law. We support conservation measures such as: 1) municipal and industrial wastewater reuse and recycling, water metering, tiered pricing, leak detection and repair, xeriscaping incentives, limiting development near stream banks, restoration of stream banks, and incentives for upgrades to water-saving appliances; 2) temporary water sharing agreements between agriculture and cities when agriculture has surplus water; 3) regulations that ensure that adequate and prov en long-term water supplies are available, before new developments are approved; and 4) significant increases in water efficiency by agricultural users. • Quantification of Non-consumptive water needs. So far the documentation for the plan has focused on quantifying the need for water for agricultural, municipal, and industrial uses, the consumptive uses of water. However, Colorado's economy and our Colorado lifes tyle benefit from a	6.3, 10, 6.6	6.3- Thank you for your comments. In the most current drafts for 6.3.1, 6.3.2 and 6.3.3 your comments and ideas have been incorporated and addressed into the discussion and actions for each section. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 6.6 - Thank you for your comments. Section 6.6 recognizes the need for additional quantification of environmental and recreational water needs and recommends strengthening funding for environmental projects. 7- Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Pauline P. Reetz (Cont.)	• River and stream restoration. Over the last 100 years we have drained, dammed and diverted our rivers and streams to the detriment of most species and to the detriment of the rivers themselves. As you are fully aware, we are not starting out in this planning process with healthy rivers! Most of Colorado's rivers are imperiled, diminished, and sometimes drained completely dry. Any further diversions will cause the loss of the water-based recreation (such as rafting and fishing) and wildlife resources that add billions to Colorado's income each year. The State W ater Plan needs to outline a strategy to restore ecological health and balanc e to our rivers and streams and preserve and enhance our remaining riparian ecosystems. Additionally, the state needs to plan/provide resources for more detailed inventory and assessment of river ecosystem conditions and actual water needs. • Coordination between land use, growth, and water supply. Until recently no developer had to consider where the water for his development would come from, and consumers had no information about it. This has changed slightly since 2008, but we still have a long way to go to integrate water supply planning and land us e. While many Coloradans oppose the "buy and dry" option because it would eliminate productive farmland, that is likely to be our future source of water if we don't plan ahead. W ater providers claim that they cannot be responsible for land use planning, but some of that is happening even now. Why not integrate water and land use, rather than depending on the helter-s kelter, water-wasteful system we have now? • Minimum stream flows are not adequate. W hile they are a good idea, miuimum stream flows are not adequate as a sole protection for environmental needs and values - they are too little, and too rec ent. Streams need spring floods to flush out sediment as well as adequate flows the rest of the year to support riparian and river bottom ecosystems. • Minimize construction of new dams and reservoirs. These store water on the surface where a large percentage is lost to evaporation. "Smarter" storage should be encouraged: underground, in aquifers , or in deep gravel pits where evaporation can be minimized. The State W ater Plan should be flexible enough to deal with changes caused by the warming of our planet due to fos sil fuel consumption and the ensuing increase in evaporation and transpiration rates. Storage in itself does not equal new water supplies. • Rivers and streams need to be viewed as continuous systems, not isolated reaches. Diversions and pollution upstream can have severe impacts on downstream ecosystems. The state should be protecting the upper reaches of our mountain streams, for example, even when they are intermittent, so as to ensure water quality and quantity for downstream users and resources. • Ground and surface water should be viewed as interrelated systems. Recent controversy over the use of ground water in the South Platte alluv ium should have taught us a lesson: often ground water and surface water resources are closely related. W ater planning needs to take this into account and acknowledge that ground water depletions can affect the quantity and quality of surface water in some areas. • Transbasin diversions should be a last option. The Colorado River is over- appropriated and, due to c limate change, it is unlikely that additional water will be available from that river basin. The Front Range should not count on augmenting our water supplies via diversions across the Continental Divide. In addition, mitigation for water removal from a basin cannot be satisfactorily accomplished, especially in light of degradation that has already occurred. Rather, we should focus on conservation and efficient use of our native water on the Front Range. • Audubon's mission, to advocate for the environment by connecting people with nature through educ ation, conservation and research, fully supports Governor Hickenlooper's Executive Order of May 13, 2013 which states	6.6, 6.3.3, 6.5, 7	6.3.3-Thank you for your comments. Your comments have already been addessed in the land use planning section through discussion of integrating land use and water use more closely and the actions to accomplish this. 6.6 - Section 6.6 recognizes the need for additional quantification of environmental and recreational water needs and recommends strengthening funding for environmental projects. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan, and is explored in Section 6.6. .6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Additionally, the BIPs address these concerns and the values of each basin roundtable. Chapter 7 addresses the importance of healthy watersheds, and climate change is addressed throughout the Plan. Climate change could have a serious effect on Colorado's water supplies, which is why Colorado's Water Plan is engaged in scenario planning. Climate change issues are addressed in various sections throughout Colorado's Water Plan. However, while temperature's impact on demands are understood, hydrolocial impacts are not. Since Colorado's water planners cannot necessarily impact the global climate change situation, Colorado's Water Plan is not directly focused on mitigating climate change. Other agencies within Colorado's state government consider climate mitigation strategies. Aquifer storage and recharge is also explored in Section 6.5
Doug Swartz September 30, 2014 letter to the committee (excerpts provided in the following column).	• The 2050 “water supply gap” is presented as a basic fact upon which much of the Roundtable’s work is based. This gap is predicated on a plethora of as sumptions which could be questioned and which, if modified, might lead to quite different c onclusions. One fundamental assumption is that the state’s population will continue to grow at a rate determined by factors other than water supply. In fact, in semi-arid Colorado, water may be a limiting factor for that growth rate, as it becomes more scarce and expensive. • The current planning process picks up at the present; i.e. the starting point is the present status of Colorado’s waterways. This suggests that the existing environmental degradation caused by the myriad water diversion, storage and usage projects developed in the past (hundreds if not thousands) is accepted. However further degradation from projects recommended for development under the SBPIP cannot be considered on a standalone basis; it must be evaluated from the standpoint of the cumulative impacts of past and new projects and new projects together. • The draft plan tries to convey that it’s possible to do it all: res tore healthy waterways, improve recreational opportunities and develop significant additional water supplies. This doesn’t pass the sniff test; it’s not going to be possible to meet all of these needs and wants. In fact, it is clear that the plan’s highest priority is to increase development of IPPs and new “multipurpose” projects, with a much smaller slice of the pie going to the restoration pieces. • Mention of the possibility of the development of new large-scale water projects and trans-basin diversions. The era of development of such projects is over, with better understanding of their deleterious impacts (and the lack of availability of federal funding for im plementation). • A push for streamlined permitting processes for new water development. I could support this only if environmental protection aspects receive increased, not decreased attention, as part of a process change. • The statement at the end of the Im plementation section of the Executive Summary: “Broader political and financial support is essential if the state is to use integrated projects to meet the supply gap.” Is this a plea for the state to take a larger role in advocating for and funding new water development projects? This is very concerning. • Areas of the planning effort that need additional em phasis and/or more research include: a discussion of carrying capacity must be part of the discussion about Colorado's water future; a shift in emphasis from development of additional supplies to conservation, efficiency, recycling, and creative water-sharing options. If there are obstacles in Colorado water law, we must work to improve the law rather than be handcuffed by it. Significant protection/restoration/enhancement of riparian environments must be accomplished before further degradation is considered. A meaningful plan must	6.1, 6.5, 7, 1, 9.4, 10	6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan, and is explored in Section 6.6. Watershed health concerns are addressed in Chapter 7, and the ongoing interbasin discussions on development of TMDs are discussed in Chapter 8, along with the myriad of concerns that accompany devleopment. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. For more about potential improvements to the permitting process, reference section 9.4. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Table 1 Small Group Discussion Report	• Agricultural water efficiency or transfers can hurt downstream uses. Municipalities should only be able to take or transfer the consumptive use. • Land use planning needs to include a focus on water efficiency. • Growth should not be subsidized. • Water should be used more holistically such as rainwater capture and storm water capture. There needs to be a study and data to determine the impacts of rainwater and storm water capture and their impacts or non-impacts on the downstream users. • Alternative uses/demands need to be more accessible and cost effective. • People need to be educ ated about living in an arid state and offered incentives to xeriscape. • Expressed opposition to the Chatfield Res ervoir expansion because reservoirs are inefficient and the CW P should look at underground storage. • Legislation should be considered to prevent HOAs from requiring inefficient water use. • The state, water providers, and other users must educate people coming into the state about water efficiencies be made aware of the state's arid environment.	6.3, 6.5, 10	6.3-Thank you for your comments.Many of your comments have been addressed already in the current draft chapter, such as land use and water use, the current rainwater pilot project at Sterling Ranch, and implementation of outdoor water use best practices. 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Xeriscape lawns are allowed statewide. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Table 2 Small Group Discussion Report	• Discussed the need for conservation and whether that should be mandated or incentivized. The table noted that 87% of water goes to agriculture and they talked about the efficiencies and roadblocks to increase agricultural efficiencies. This included challenges with interstate compacts and the need to store water that we're entitled to but goes downstream. • Recreation, ecosystems, and environmental concerns are important to the state's economy. • Questioned whether transbasin diversions should be part of the CW P. • Each basin is unique and questioned haw all the BIPs can be blend together into a s tatewide plan. • What impact will Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulations have on the state? • Water reuse and recycling of water is important. • Water education is important The Colorado Foundation for W ater Education Citizen's Guides are a great resource.	6.3, 8, 9.5	6.3-Thank you for your comments.Many of your comments have been addressed already in the current draft chapter. 6.3-The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. The development of Colorado's Water Plan has helped to raise the level of importance placed on education and outreach statewide related to water supply planning. The CWCB is working together with the Basin Roundtables (BRTS) to expand education and outreach activities related to raising awareness regarding the issues presented in the webform comments submitted and Section 9.5 Outreach, Education, and Public Engagement will include recommendations on continuing education on these topics long-term.
Table 3 Small Group Discussion Report	• The data for the models used in the BIP should be better explained in the South Platte BIP. • Alluvial storage in the South Platte Bas in deserves more attention. • Concerned about losing the value of East Slope agriculture due to "buy and dry." • Conservation should result in a reduction in consumptive use. • A better understanding of the water inventory is needed to better manage the water supply. • The legislature's duty is to protect the public's interest in water as well as priority rights to that water.	6.5, 6.3	6.3-Thank you for your comments.Many of your comments have been addressed already in the current draft chapter such as a focus on outdoor water use. 6.3-The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. 6.5 - Thank you for your comments. These comments and others with similar sentiment have been taken into consideration and will be reflected in the November draft of CWP. Refer to Chapters 2 and 9 for more about the priority system.
Table 4 Small Group Discussion Report	• Water used for fracking should be reused. • More land use and water planning is needed locally and statewide. • Questioned whether there could be legislative support for local green infrastructure. • Flora and fauna are im portant for filtering water and watershed health. • Forest management is important. • Better management of storm water is needed. • High mountain reservoirs are important. • The Federal Environmental Impact Statement process could be streamlined to reduce costs.	7, 6.3, 9.4	6.3-Thank you for your comments.Many of your comments have been addressed already in the current draft chapter,such as better land use and water use integration. 6.3-The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. 7.1- Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Public Comments Recieved from Questionnaires on the CWP (Colorado River Basin)			
Steve Acquafresca, Mesa County Board of County Commissioners, Also testified	How much weight will the CO BIP carry in the CWP? No more TMDs as they would devestate the basin's water resources. The conecpt of "water banking" needs a great deal of study, refinement, and additional work	3, 8, 6.4	The revised November draft of Colorado's Water Plan includes additional BIP integration. 8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.
Annie Henderson, Upper Colorado River Private Boaters Association, Also testified	How will real policy be used to enforce CWP's values? Public policy implementatin plan is lacking. How will we identify quanitifiable measurements to gain better use of data and track use and effectiveness of efforts? Who is providing the funding to alow us to create policy around the plan? The Colorado legislature must push to enact regulation that favors conservation effots. They must address rampant growth and encrouage sustainable, responsible development, espcially in basin that diver water of of existing communitites.	10, 4, 9.2	CH 4- noted Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Funding opportunities are discussed in Section 9.2.
Mike McDill, Municipal with recreation and environment interests	Who proposed reservoir in Roaring Fork tributaries for stream health? How will minority interests be adequately represented? The legislature should: 1) Use plan to develop change sin Colorado Law, 2) Establish guidelines for statewide land use planning, 3) Maybe declare irrigation of turf grass NOT a beneficial use, 4) Look to the long term best solution for the while state, 5) Avoid power politics for short term problems. Colorado needs to learn to live within its water means. There should be different rules for water within a bsin versus water from outside a basin. Past experience with Front Range water makes the Western Slope very suspicious of the next "deal." We always have neded up o nthe short of of previous agreements.	8 & 10	8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Ken Neubecker, Also testified	Potential projects should be tiered. Other Comments: There is nothing more important for Colorado's future than water. Given that, few things are more important than the current effort to create a statewide Colorado Water Plan. It is high time that all Coloradans start taking water, water use and the rivers that supply most of our water seriously. Its also high time that we take a hard look at how we use water and start making some long overdue changes to water laws and traditions. We can not meet the stated goals and values of the Colorado Water Plan without new thinking.It has been said that the Colorado Basin Roundtable's BIP has a "defensive" tone, as if that were somehow inappropriate and less than collaborative. Of course the Colorado Basin is defensive. The Colorado River Basin is the major donor basin providing water for the cities and farms of the Eastern Slope and has been for more than a century. It is the only basin that not only has its own water supply "gap" to fill but is also expected to be a significant source for filling at least three other basins "gaps". Yes, the Colorado Basin is defensive. Meeting the West Slope "gaps" is no less important and no less vital to the future of Colorado than meeting the perceived shortfalls of the Eastern Slope basins.There are continued calls for a new, large diversion of water from the already heavily drained Colorado River system. The claim is that such a new diversion will be necessary if the Front Range basins are to fill the "gap" between anticipated water demand and supply for that demand. While we cannot legally say "not one more drop", that is the overwhelming sentiment of the people within the Colorado basin. Any "New Supply" will mean taking water from an existing and valuable West Slope use and thus must be the very last option for filling the Front Range "gaps". Reducing the demand for water through high levels of conservation and efficiency, re-use and significant adaptations through land use planning must occur first.Any new diversion from the Colorado River system, whether it's from the Green River in Wyoming, the Yampa River or the Colorado River can no longer be a reliable source of water for the growing Front Range. There just isn't enough water left without further crippling the West Slope, our rivers and our economy. It also could have grave consequences with Colorado's ability to meet our downstream	8, 6.1, 6.6, 10	8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Ken Ransford, Recreational Representative of Colorado Basin Roundtable, Also testified	Supports high municipal conservation, smart land use planning (high ddensity, minimize sprawl), protect irrigated ag land, reduce outdoor watering. The IPPs total over 410,000 af in the CO river basin which is not sustainable, the CO roundtable should reduce demand rather than increase supply. There are disincentives to practiving efficient irrigation practies-no one leaves water cour with more rights than they entered with. The opposite is ture, and thus water right holders try to increase thier use to the maximum amount possible, leading to inefficient water use and dried up rivers. The legislature should 1) Adopt a pilot program to adjudicate water rights in a basin and remove barriers so users can freely transfer water for riparian or agriculture needs. 2. Come up with a funding mechanism to lease instream flows when river flows are low. This should be funded by utility customer block rates that increase as gallons per capita per day (GPCD) use more. 3. We need common metrics; * Basin should report numbers for GPCD use indoor and outdoor, residential and commercial. * Gaps should be identified for Municipal, Agricultural and Energy Development and breakeven Municipal (GPCD) should be determined to eliminate the gap. * We should be able to compare BIPs between basins regarding the above. I am concerned about climate change and decreased flow, the over allocation in the Colorado compact states while the CWCB acts like the state can divert more from the river, and the carrying capacity of the Colorado river. I think we need to put more water back into rivers, yet the Colorado Water Plan is weak on this issue. The basin plans all say conservation is important, but they allocate few resources to it. For example, the Gunnison Basin Roundtable has $516 million budgeted for projects, but $0 for nonconsumptive needs. This illustrates the divide I feel that exists between the zeal to take more water out of rivers and the painful reality that we have a weak instream flow program very few miles that are designated as outstanding rivers, and some of our biggest rivers dry up in low flow years (Fraser, Crystal, Roaring Fork, Dolores)	6.1, 8, 9.2, 6.3, 10	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. 8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Funding opportunities will be explored in Section 9.2 and will continue to evolve in 2015.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Rachel Richards, Pitkin County Commissioner, Also testified	Is the outcome of the state water plan supporting the Front Range water providers desire to avoid mitigations, conservation, and smart land use planning a forgone conclusion? Is a new TMD a forgone conclusion of the State Water Plan? Will the Colorado River Basin Plan hold any weight with the state decision makers? The basin plan should insist on more Front Range storage projects; especially to capture flood waters. There should be NO new TMDs until all Front Range flood waters are captured and put to beneficial use! More investigation and investment must be made into agriculture efficiently and agriculture conservation. The state plan is for water needs through 2050 - our basin fears there will be new demands for more TMD after this plan. That the west slope economy and way of life will be sacrificed for Front Range economic gain. That conservation and land use will be ignored while the state pursues new TMDs. That compact compliance costs will fall upon the West Slope rather than the Front Range. The state plan does not adequately acknowledge economic value of the environment. Conservation goals should be increased.Land use planning must be addressed. Full mitigations, social, economic, and environmental for any increased TMDs must be secured for basins of origin. The state plan may "forestall" the demise of agriculture; but it will NOT, by itself, stop the demise of agriculture. The state should fund more non-consumptive. There should be NO state funding for new TMDs. Permitting must stand on its own, after appropriate National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) processes. State funding should only be allocated to small growth, high conservation communities. With 450,000 to 600,000 acre feet (AF) a year going to the Front Range currently, better conservation of land use planning is a tool that the Front Range must employ to SAVE Agriculture. It is not "the mean West Slope" that doesn't want to give up more water (which we don't have); it is the Front Range that won't admit that they must manage what they already have better.We must find ways to change the "use it or lose it" mindset regarding agriculture rights. We must find ways to allow agriculture to maximize their water conservation savings; selling those rights to municipal and industrial (M and I) or river health needs.	6.1, 6.3, 6.3.4, 6.5, 6.6, 8, 9.2, 10	6.3-The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. 8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Funding opportunities will be explored in Section 9.2 and will continue to evolve in 2015.
Public Comments Recieved from Questionnaires on the CWP (Rio Grande River Basin)			
Ron Brink, member of the Rio Grande Basin Roundtable Also testified	Protect agriculture water and the "first in time; first in right!" Keep all the water in Colorado that is available and not obligated to compacts! Storage Statewide.	9.1	9.1-The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Nicole Langley	I am a member of the Steering Committee and the M and I Subcommittee for our BIP. I am also co-author of the M and I Guidelines for the BIP, and for 8 years I have written most of the water project grants which have been funded by the Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA) and other sources. In our basin here in the Rio Grande, as I presume is true in other basins of the Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC), we do not have a systematic funding plan or strategy. The roundtable has stated its goals and objectives but does not have a funding strategy or a systematic way to prioritize or implement those requests that should move forward. WSRA requests for funds come before the roundtable from (1) internal folks who are leaders on the roundtable or (2) projects which are, in a rather haphazard way, brought to the roundtable as problems or opportunities which we feel are credible or likely to meet the criteria/guidelines. Basins need to have their own internal funding priorities and strategies in addition to the very well developed statewide criteria!! I believe the entire M and I subcommittee's "Guidelines" (we didn't call it a plan) need to be included in the Rio Grande BIP. The recommendations with respect to prioritizing, funding, and providing technical assistance to remote small communities (places where humans live) and a few of the informative tables we created should be included. Yes, M and I only represents a small fraction of water use for us, but if even one town which has 100-year-old infrastructure (as all of ours do) gets its blackwater and greywater mixed up, we will have a disaster on our hands. Remote rural communities frequently cannot qualify for Colorado Department of Public Health and Evironment (CDPHE) or any other forms of funding due to small populations, nonexistent or small staff, inadequate communication tools/skills, or the technical resources to put together the engineering or the scientific aspects of a proposal. Each basin needs to have a Water Resources Outreach program to address/remedy this lacuna. * Legislature should: Please consider ways to expand the IBCC/CWCB funding criteria and guidelines to enable small, poor, remote, rural and otherwise disadvantaged communities to gain access to (CDPHE) and/or other sources of funding. Perhaps you could establish a specific fund for this? Perhaps you could insist that the implementation portion of our basin plans include a requirement for basins to establish ways to support and provide needed technical help? For us, National Resource Conservation Service (NRCS) cutbacks have virtually stopped our ability to bring WSRA requests to the roundtable. I have right now four projects which cannot get the engineering or technical help we have always appreciated from NRCS. They're very backed up. As a result, you will SEE CLEARLY that this year's funding requests from the Rio Grande Basin are at almost zip compared to other years. I would like to be a part of putting such a statewide plan together, working from the perspective of the applicant, because I am well acquainted with the issues in these kinds of communities. It isn't rocket science. Please help us by providing funding for	BIP, 7.3, 9.2, 10	CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Rio Grande Basin. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Funding opportunities will be explored in Section 9.2 and will continue to evolve in 2015.
Melissa J Leintz	Supports water conservation - finding out who can conserve and how much and how to regulate. Healthy Rivers! Agriculture is 85% of usage. Maybe we shouldn't focus on it just because they are the biggest. Maybe the smallest user can actually conserve the most. Legislature should force the land development full usage to secure water rights prior to any start up. The amount will continue to decrease. How can we develop new ways to reuse what there is?	6.3, 6.3.3	6.3-The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. Coordinating land and water use planning is discussed in Section 6.3.3.
Chuck Reel, Also testified	Why is there no allowance for poor people that live on their own land outside of a city limit to grow a small garden? Without the right to grow their own food organically, these people are forced to spend money they may not have on cheap foods that are full of pesticides and herbicides affecting their health in a negative manner. Legislature should allow people with in-house wells only to grow a garden to supply their own food at a minimum. It would also be nice to grow some trees to help conserve energy. Concerned that individual water rights for basic survival will be more important as more people move in to Colorado than the right of people who make money from water. Force farmers to grow crops that are water conservative. Don't let natural gas fracking use huge amounts of water do to fracking that also poisons water wells near fracking sites. Encourage water conservative farming techniques like drip irrigation and the shape of the soil surface to catch water and run it down into the soil instead of running it off the soil.	6.3.4, 6.3.5, 10,	Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4. Fracking currently uses approximately 18,000 acre feet per year, which is a very small proportion of Colorado's overall water use. However, there may be some areas where there are greater regional effects. In addition, power plants that burn natural gas to make energy use less water than traditional power plants. Therefore, from an overall resource management perspective, fracking and the resulting energy production do not consume a significant amount of water compared to current levels. Colorado's Water Plan seeks to work collaboratively to uphold Colorado's water values and does not put a value judgement on any one beneficial use. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Public Comments Recieved from Questionnaires on the CWP (Southwest River Basin)			

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Margaret Cozine, retired librarian, Also testified	More efficient use of this water resource through education, positive reinforcement. I'm a citizen who wants water harvesting to become a valued method of water conservation.	6.3, 5.6	6.3-The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. Rainwater harvesting does have some limitations within current Colorado water law. However, CWCB maintains a pilot program to explore how rainwater harvesting can be used. This is further discussed in Subsection 5.6.1.
Raymond Lattin	New storage? Conserve or share without losing water rights? Ensure Colorado water law is observed at all times and protected. Loss of water rights because of a call from other states, will it be for how long?	9.1	9.1-The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.
John Taylor	Transbasin diversions should be subject to Colorado river compact. Legislature should strongly protect water rights, protect state rights. Grass roots solutions Strongly support agriculture enterprises. Hydro power generation	8, 9.1	8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. 9.1-The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Energy is explored in Section 6.3.5.
Public Comments Recieved from Questionnaires on the CWP (Arkansas River Basin)			
Gary Barber	CWP requires more solutions to ground water depletions and dependency. * Legislature should take action to relieve ground water augmentation requirements. The quality of any engineering model cannot meet the stringent requirements of a judicial "non-injury" standard. Ground watering subject to the plenary authority of the General Assembly. Most western states manage ground water conjunctively without real injury to surface water rights. * U ncertainty is inherent in the Colorado River Compact. Using "risk mitigation" is a reality that will never be, nor has it ever been, a zero level of risk. Permitting is too expensive. Public/private partnerships maybe a solution, particularly with respect to a future transbasin diversion. The State of Colorado has a role to play but today that role is not clear.	4, 8, 10,	CH 4 - additional GW discussion added. The CWCB and Colorado's Water Plan support water supply management strategies that will allow the state to better conjunctively utilize groundwater within currently existing legal constraints. SWSI 2010 found that unappropriated water in the South Platte, Arkansas, and Rio Grande Basins is extremely limited, and reliance on nonrenewable, nontributary groundwater as a permanent water supply creates reliability and sustainability concerns, particularly along the Front Range. In anticipation of HB 1278 recommendations related to groundwater monitoring and modeling, the CWCB is requesting $500,000 under the 2014 Projects Bill that would allow the CWCB to further evaluate the causes of high groundwater levels within the South Platte River Basin. The CWCB and DWR also maintain Decision Support Systems (DSS) tools that could serve as useful resources to be used in groundwater modeling in the future. The South Platte/Metro BIP states: "The South Platte Basin Roundtable is addressing these concerns through a Groundwater Subcommittee comprised of BRT members and other interested parties and, together with the Metro BRT has formally adopted a process to address these concerns (including potential strategies related to water rights administration) that will extend well beyond the publication of the draft South Platte BIP in July 2014. This process will offer opportunities to build on the work done in response to House Bill 1278 and help determine the degree to which this resource may be effectively, reliably and legally put to some greater level of use." The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Margaret Vondam, Also testified	The plan is obviously addressed to the needs of human populations in Colorado. Population will nearly double in Colorado between 2015 and 2050. Will the plan meet the goals to supply water for those here in 2050? What about beyond? If we continue to siphon water from agriculture and recreation/wildlife/ environment past 2050, what good does a plan do now for the future? We need to set what the total human population number goal is to address in this plan. * Supports: Need to preserve agricultural values. We cannot count on imported foodstuffs to fulfill all of our consumptive needs. Local agriculture has to be included in the equation. Removing the ability to produce food locally removes our environmental values, wildlife values and recreational values. Most of what I've heard at the meetings that I've attended gives lip service to these subjects, but is mainly concentrated on how to obtain water for M and I. If it's going to be part of the overall plan, then those related topics NEED to be taken seriously. * Would like to see: mphasis on protecting tributary flows. So much of wildlife and recreation also depend on the streams and rivers that flow into the Arkansas. The plan does not address the need to preserve instream flows and wetlands associated with all tributaries of the Arkansas River. Also, per Trout Unlimited, transfer of interbasin flows is counterproductive to the planning in the communities from which this occurs. We need to learn to live with what we have, and not cause damage re: water loss, from other communities. * Legislature should: Conservation -- need to be FAR more proactive in implementing measures that will promote conservation of existing water supplies. DO AWAY WITH the ability of Front Range communities to divert traditional flows from West Slope communities. * No address of tributary protections. Tributaries are "up for grabs" for water right claims but drying up tributaries hurts wildlife and environmental values. Need to address what realistic human population growth numbers can be served with EXISTING appropriations, without implementing more interbasin flow plans. There should be more emphasis on the importance of preserving wildlife and environmental values for every community. This has to be a local effort, not defined by regional interests. The plan should support wildlife, recreation and environmental values equally as the needs of municipality and industries and Agriculture interests.	1, 6.1, 6.3, 6.6, 10	6.3-The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. Updates to Colorado's Water Plan will be explored in Chapter 11.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Sandy White	It appears that the draft BIP is a consultant generated document under guidance from the CWCB staff. There have been very few meaningful opportunities for public input, i.e., input that is actually considered by the consultants, on the general portions of the plan. The consultants generated the draft and it is presumed that their draft is the correct approach. Consequently, the much touted public input is illusory. Input has been given but was not considered. There needs to be a mechanism through which those who took the time to give input get a substantive response. The BIP (and the CWP)need to affirm that existing decreed water rights will be honored. Both plans need to address the question of local control, e.g. the current authority of local governments to regulate projects under HB 74-1041, 1034. *Legislature should: Keep a very close eye on the CWP process; don't let it degenerate into another ignored (or worse, a harmful) attempt at centralized planning. Be sure to fund your staff adequately so that it can exercise independent and informed judgment, free from undue influence by the CWCB or project partisans. * Without a DecisionSupport System (DSS) in the Arkansas, planning is being done by the seat of our pants. That is not always bad and the basin has benefited from individuals' visions that have come to fruition. Nevertheless, now we're at the point where we have a fully appropriated system but we're trying to work around existing rights while looking for more water and flexible water use. For example, one of the inputs received by the roundtable was from the Division Engineer (and others) suggesting a futile call model from some of the tributaries. That is a significant need which could be met by a DSS and would promote both maximization and flexibility in water use. Funding should be influenced by that consistency, but not limited by the vision of the CWP's drafters. Leaving funding decisions to the discretion of the CWCB (rather than some scoring system based on the CWP) is the only reasonable way to ensure that all important projects be given adequate consideration. While an enormous amount of money has been spent on consultant work, the real payoff will be when the result of that work is evaluated and becomes the basis of policy decisions.	BIP/9.5, 9.1, 6.1, 9.2	Each BRT managed extensive outreach efforts throughout the development of their BIPs. CWCB will pass these comments on to the BRT for consideration in the final BIPs by spring 2015. There is a new recommendation in Section 6.1 to support the DSS systems. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.
Public Comments Recieved from Questionnaires on the CWP (Yampa/White River Basin)			
Ken Brenner, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District, Friends of the Yampa, Yampa River Legacy Project, Colorado Mountain College trustee, representing himself, Also testified	Support: No state funding for any TMD. State Water Plan is East Slope problem, needs Eastern Slope solution. Eastern Slope must focus on conservation, re-use, fallowing (agriculture-municipal water sharing), storage on East Slope, sustainable land use (water policy) Modify: Strong statement that we will NOT SUPPORT ANY transmountain diversion! MORE EMPHASIS THAT THE YAMPA RIVER IS EXTREMELY IMPORTANT SOURCE OF WATER FOR THE COMPACT OBLIGATION. Climate change/extended drought is real problem. * Legislature should: 1) Ensure due process of CWP.2) Help every Colorado resident understand that Colorado has a limited water supply and water suppliers can not keep coming to the West Slope for more water. 3) Allow a more easier, friendly, water sharing (agricultural > municipal and industrial>recreation, etc.) process in water court, less rigidity) * Modify plan to ensure "No State Staff Support of State Funds for a transmountain diversion." Should State Funding or permits for water projects be limited to the CWP?: Yes, Eastern Slope storage assistance only. * The Yampa River is the cornerstone of our regional economy. Supports agriculture, driver recreation valley's environmental integrity, energy production. The Yampa River is the last remaining free flowing (relatively) Colorado River tributary and must be preserved as such. The Yampa River's role in state water plan should be a consistent and reliable source of water to meet the Colorado River compact obligation.	8, 9.1, 10	8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Anthony D'Aquila, Also testified	A lot of data is presented in summary graphs and tables. I understand the need to do this. But I think access to the assumptions and factors used to derive the numbers expressed in the tables would be helpful. It would let interested individuals like myself see how conclusions being presented were derived. * Modify: First, the plan is "supply-centric" - it seems to only address water supply, and does very little to address "demand". The other side of water policy planning. It needs to include discussion on conservation, demand management and efficiency of water use. These considerations need to be applied to all users, M and I, self-supplied industrial (SSI), and Agriculture. I also take exception to the focus on "preserving historic use." What if historic use is not efficient, is wasteful, or could be improved upon? * Legislature should: Focus on fairness for all. Be aggressive in negotiations with other states and feds concerning Colorado's involvement in the Colorado River Compact. Work to establish water conservation and reuse-reclaim. * Concerned about: Water quality and maintenance of appropriate environmental flows. Oppose trans mountain diversions. Not a good idea. * I generally support the plan, and agree protecting diversity and agriculture are important. But as agriculture represents the largest consumer of water, I think the state should be more aggressive in pursuing best management practices and efficiencies (re-use, reclaim, drip irrigation vs. flood, etc.)	1, 6.3, 7.3, 8	6.3 The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. 8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. The Water Quality Division of the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment (CDPHE) regulates water quality issues of this nature in the state. Water Quality has been recognized as critical for Colorado's water future. The CWCB is working closely with the Water Quality Control Division and the Basin Roundtables in order to address Colorado's Water Quality needs. This is further explored in Section 7.3.
Lou Dequine	My family owns property that would be partially covered by the proposed Morrison Creek reservoir. We are not opposed as long as the reservoir could be operated so that it would be significantly lowered only in a severe drought year. We do believe that additional storage is very important in keeping our water in Colorado, and specifically in our basin.	6.5	Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation.
James Hicks	Considering the obligations of the Colorado River Compact and the requirement for endangered fish, it has been demonstrated that there is not any excess water for diversion of water out of the basin. Support: Efficiency of agriculture. Water use - weirs and lining ditches. Modify: The plan needs to address in a more understandable language IF there is really any excess water that could be diverted to the Front Range. * Legislature should: Require through laws that water users develop strict conservation plans to reduce water use. Conservation of water use is the key to having enough water in the future. These laws need to be developed now before we have water emergencies like they are having in Colorado. * There is a finite amount of water in the state and we need to find ways to use it more efficiently. There should not be any water diversions out of the basin. The Front Range needs more water storage for water produced there. They have flood control problems and water supply shortages. Plant more trees to replace pines that the pine beetle destroyed. The Yampa River should be designated as a major supplier of water to meet compact requirements. Much of the lower Yampa River should be designated as wild and scenic river by the Federal government.	4, 6.2, 6.3, 8, 7, 10	8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. Ch 4 addresed where appropriate. 7.1- Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Bruce Lindahl	We need to keep the water on the Western Slope. We have needs for the water. No more TMDs from West Slope to East Slope.	8	8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Jason Peasley	In an environment, where Colorado's population continues to grow, can we preserve our water resources for recreation and wildlife habitat? Concerned about: Diversions to the Front Range; loss of free flowing nature of the Yampa. I support utilizing the Yampa to meet the downstream obligations and letting it flow unregulated down to Lake Powell.	8, 9.1	8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work 9.1-The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues.
Cody Perry, college outdoor educ ation teacher, Friends of the Yampa, Also testified	Energy development. I would like to see a plan that recognizes energy development, specifically oil and gas, as having a major impact on water quality and supply. Modify: Additional studies on climate change and effects. * Concerned that the state will develop water supplies to simply sustain short term growth. That the State of Colorado will reduce the quality of life by destroying habitat by creating artificial ones on the Front Range. * Should State Funding or permits for water projects be limited to the CWP?: No, unless the State Water Plan is entirely comprehensive. That would include aspects of the Colorado River compact.	7.3, 6,6	Fracking currently uses approximately 18,000 acre feet per year, which is a very small proportion of Colorado's overall water use. However, there may be some areas where there are greater regional effects. In addition, power plants that burn natural gas to make energy use less water than traditional power plants. Therefore, from an overall resource management perspective, fracking and the resulting energy production do not consume a significant amount of water compared to current levels. Colorado's Water Plan seeks to work collaboratively to uphold Colorado's water values and does not put a value judgement on any one beneficial use. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.
Paul Stettner	How can we maintain our Yampa River quality and quantity. Modify: Municipalities must have a water supply intact before development, not look for a water supply after development.	6.6, 6.3.3	Section 6.3.3 discusses the coordination of land and water development. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan.
Public Comments Recieved from Questionnaires on the CWP (North Platte River Basin)			
Susan Peterson	Modify: Not providing for unlimited growth. Adding conservation incentives. Eliminate Glade Reservoir. * Law to require developers to bring water shares to water district (e.g., East Larimer County Water District) rather than $ for taps.	6.5, 6.3.3, 10	Colorado's Water Plan and the technical work that supports it includes three growth scenarios: low-growth, mid-growth, high-growth. As water planners, Colorado must prepare for any of these future possibilities as we do not have control over the state's economy and how many people are born or choose to move here. While some communities choose to limit growth, doing so on a broad statewide scale is untenable and unconstitutional. The CWCB is working with each basin on their Basin Implementation Plan and will continue to encourage all interested parties to do the same. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Public Comments Recieved from Questionnaires on the CWP (South Platte River Basin)			
Alice Bergeron	I think that damming the Poudre River is not an option - especially for the proposed Glade Reservoir. Save the Poudre.	6.5	Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Tom Hale	Other Comments: As the Town of Georgetown does not have the resources to participate directly in the South Platte Water Roundtable meetings that are developing the "Colorado Water Plan" for Clear Creek, the Town of Georgetown included our goals and requests in the Basin Implementation Plan for the Colorado Water Plan. Currently contemplated projects include, but are not limited to, any combination of the projects listed below along with a summary of the Town of Georgetown project descriptions.Town of Georgetown Storage Projects PROJECT DESCRIPTIONSOverviewGeorgetown currently supplies water to a customer base of approximately 997.384 equivalent residential units (EQRs) and 591 individual taps for both residential and commercial customers with a permanent population of 1,110 residents. It diverts water for its municipal uses from Clear Creek under the Georgetown Ditch and Reservoir right, decreed in the District Court, City and County of Denver, in Case No. CA 41340 on October 9, 1914, with a priority date of January 10, 1866, for 1.14 Cubic feet per second (CFS) during the period from October 1st to May 1st, and 3.0 cfs from May 1st to October 1st in each year. Although fairly senior, this water right is subject to call. Georgetown therefore also has decreed storage rights and plans for augmentation that allow it to continue to provide a legal, reliable water supply to its existing customers when the 1866 right is out of priority. Georgetown's existing water rights and supplies include junior storage rights and transmountain water that is available by contract. Georgetown anticipates the need to bolster and add to its existing portfolio in order to provide reliable service into the future, as development and infill occur. Additional storage is currently considered to be crucial to meeting future demand with sufficient legal, reliable water supplies. Currently contemplated projects include, but are not limited to, any combination of:• Enlargement of the existing storage capacity at Georgetown Lake;• Agreements, which may require construction of infrastructure, with Clear Creek Skiing Company regarding diversion and use of water for snowmaking during the ski season, with the water used for such snowmaking becoming available for storage by Georgetown as it melts during the runoff season and flows into Clear Creek or its tributaries; • Development of underground storage, which may require infrastructure construction;• Repair and/or reconstruction of the small storage component of Georgetown's 1866 water right to facilitate deliveries of the 1866 right at the Georgetown intake. Successful completion of these projects will provide Georgetown with a permanent interest in facilities, water rights and agreements necessary to enable Georgetown to reliably store and use water rights and water supplies to meet the needs of its existing and future customers. Project SponsorThe Town of Georgetown, and possibly other partners, such as the Clear Creek Skiing Company, the City of Black Hawk, or Clear Creek County. Project BeneficiariesGeorgetown is investigating the feasibility of alternative storage options to meet its own needs, but anticipates that	3, 6.5	CWCB Staff will pass these comments to the South Platte Basin Roundtable.
Chris Kraft, Also testified	Modify: Properly account for agriculture water use. Gross diversions may not be the best way. We use and reuse (from return flows) and are quite efficient. The ultimate users of agriculture water are all of the citizens not just those in agriculture. Concerned that: water use is misunderstood.Return flows from irrigation create a flowing river and allows for water use downstream. Support: Alternatives to buy and dry. Mostly wanted INCREASED STORAGE for all users.	5, 6.4	The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan recognize the importance of sustaining agriculture. Those four values are 1) vibrant and sustainable cities, 2) viable and productive agriculture, 3) a robust recreation and tourism industry, and 4) a thriving environment that includes healthy watersheds, rivers, streams, and wildlife. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Steve Malers, Municipal chair of the Fort Collins Water Board, founded Open Water Foundation	CWP Needs a clear description and visual of relationship of SPDSS, SWSI, BIP, CWP and path forward. (Strategy, tactical, operational), Need clear description of "who does planning in CO and how is planning done - e.g., local master plans - how recognized/integrated regionally.Need more connective content (state, regional, local) How do these connect? * Modify: Disclosure - I am on the consulting team for the South Platte/Metro Basin BIP.The BIP is rushed."Grass Roots" is volunteers - tough to create/review plan. * Legislature should: 1) Don't create a one time plan. 2) Recognize levels of planning and also gaps in planning. 3) Leverage tools like South Platte DSS 4) Be more nimble and adaptive -- should be possible to update plan relatively, frequently like any "Board" works on policy/ strategy, etc. * Concerned about: "Death by a thousand cuts" rather than an integrated systems approach. Lack of understanding and transparency about complex issues. * The BIP, SWSI and CWP are very many pages. Who is CWP intended for? Balancing? Summary and detail is important. Is it a document or truly a plan that is actionable? * Are there projects that state should fund/own?What about regional projects?- Ground water storage- Bring all reservoir storage to original decree- Network of "small" reservoirs. * The Open Water Foundation strives to improve data access and transparency on complex issues - part of the plan should be how to have analysis process and systems in place to support on-going planning, data driven, transparent, ongoing. The gap analysis could be fundamentally improved (I've done some work)	1, 9.3, 10, 11, 4, 6.1, 6.2	Ch 4- noted. The development of Colorado's Water Plan has helped to raise the level of importance placed on education and outreach statewide related to water supply planning. The CWCB is working together with the Basin Roundtables (BRTS) to expand education and outreach activities related to raising awareness regarding the issues presented in the comments submitted and Section 9.5 Outreach, Education, and Public Engagement will include recommendations on continuing education on these topics long-term. The current course Colorado is heading down leads to several of the results that the commenter mentions. For instance, without action, up to 35% of Colorado's farms in the South Platte could be dried up. This is one impetus for why Colorado is pursuing the development of a water plan. Colorado's Water Plan will yield better results through support of conservation, reuse, sharing agreements between farmers and municipalities, incentive-based of water-smart land use, and the development of multi-purpose projects and methods. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Diane Marschke, Also testified	Support: Conservation and reuse, and agricultural transfers as part of the "Four Legs of the Stool" of Colorado water planning. * Modify: 1) Top priority seems to be "streamlining" projects approval, like Glade Reservoir. A faulty environmental impact study (EIS) resulted from this attitude the first time around. Please don't cast out environmental and economic concerns, or public input in this rush to get done. 2) Multi-purpose reservoirs beg to be filled! Encouraging recreational use puts pressure to justify the expense and expectations of a reliable and stable shoreline. In Los Angeles, California they actually cover many of their reservoirs. Check it out. * Legislature should: 1) Taxpayers will be more amenable to the likes of Glade if they see efforts by the government to FIRST conserve water. This is a great opportunity to enact statewide municipal conservation standards like more efficient plumbing, tiered water rates, greywater use, rainwater capture, xeriscaping, recyling, etc.2) Research the above as well as alternative transfer methods (ATM's) and aquifer storage and recovery (ASR.) Make the extracting industries pay for treatment of lower quality water resulting from fracking, not the public. * Which comes first, water or the developers? I worry about all of the communities signing up for Glade that rely on projected population growth to pay off the huge bonds. "If you build it they will come" Do we want them to? Barry Goldwater often regretted his work to bring so much Colorado River water to Phoenix. He feared it would become another Los Angeles.	6.3, 6.4, 6.5, 10	6.3-The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan and included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4 Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Robert F. Marshke	CWP needs a better focus of conservation and tiered levels of increasing expense for increased water usage. Support: Additional, thorough, environmental impact study is needed to focus upon the protection of the Poudre River flow. * Legislature should: Any bond issue aimed at water storage to the benefit of developers needs to go to a vote as a statewide referendum. * Do NOT build Glade Reservoir. Instead, find other means/plans for water storage to protect water flows in the Poudre River.	6.5, 10	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. With regard to indoor water conservation and tiered rate structures, the vast majority of water providers currently operate with tiered water rates. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Carolyn Mita	1. We live in a desert and thus have high evaporation rates. Therefore - 2. Water should be stored in covered tanks or cisterns to conserve this precious resource.3. They say agriculture needs the H2O, but cities buy up all the H2O rights so we can waste it watering the Kentucky bluegrass laws required by all the HOAs. 4. This is a waste of the little H2O not evaporated in reservoirs.5. We act like we are the only species on the planet. The Whooping Cranes are practically extinct and are we going to send the SandHill Cranes to the same fate by eliminating the water they need in the Platte River in Nebraska during their migrations. 6. Can we please provide a minimum flow in streams and then fight over the rest? * Modify: Any H2O storage should be covered to mitigate our high evaporation rates in our desert environment in which we live. Please provide minimum flows in streams before we fight over the rest of this precious natural resource. * Concerned about: 1. Open storage in reservoirs in high evaporation environments wastes too much H2O.2. Watering bluegrass lawns as required by HOAs is wasteful.3. Minimum streamflows are needed to keep species such as cranes, from going extinct. * Please give us and the other species that share our planet minimum stream flows before we waste the H2O.	6.5, 10, 7	7.1- Thank you for your comment, no further incorporation is needed because your comment has already been considered or addressed. CWCB maintains and operates In Stream Flow and Natural Lake Level programs, both of which are highly regarded as some of the most successful programs of their kind in the Western US. Nonconsumptive needs are critically important aspects of the Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan. Although not fully tested, instream flows can be designed to directly benefit riparian areas, and the CWCB Stream and Lake Protection Section has been working with the BLM to design an approach to in-stream flows by providing a flood flow component It is currently illegal for Homeowners' Associations in Colorado to require bluegrass lawns, and xeriscape lawns are allowed statewide. Colorado water allocation and governance has always been guided by local users meeting local needs and Colorado's Water Plan will not change that. Rather than diminishing local control or authority over water, Colorado's Water Plan seeks to strengthen local decision-makers' ability to achieve regional and statewide water solutions. To that effect, Colorado's Water Plan will work to encourage, rather than mandate, several of the points presented in the comments.in the spring. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Kevin McCarty, Little Thompson Watershed Restoration Coalition, Also testified	Modify: The Little Thompson River/ Watershed is never mentioned in SWSI and is noticeably overlooked in the State Water Plan. The gap analysis which has been conducted is on a very broad scale and is certainly not focused on the scale necessary to solve the "gap" that already exists in our watershed. Our water problems include some of the most stringent water restrictions in the state at Pinewood Springs, the river going dry in places and decreasing diversion quantities for ditches diverting our water. Legislature should: Possibly fund small scale projects which can stabilize water supplies in the Little Thompson Watershed.	3, 6.2, 10	Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10. CWCB is committed to ongoing support of watershed groups and this is discussed in Section 7.1.
Laura Pritchett	Why was the roundtable membership not more inclusive? Few conservationists represented. * Support: I support the fact that an overall plan is in place.Modify: The plan should focus on restoring rivers and conservation - NOT NISP or other dams/reservoirs. * Spend more time on this: Don't fast track permitting reviews. * I'd love to see more focus on water conservation, efficiency, recycling and growth/population management.	6.2, 6.3, 9.4	Each Basin Roundtable is made up of a diverse set of stakeholders and the inclusion of both an environmental and recreational representative is required by the Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act. In addition, representatives from each county, municipalities within each county, industry, agriculture, and domestic water suppliers are required. Lastly, a representative from each water conservation and conservancy district are also mandated. There are also several other at large seats, and many of these are held by environmental interests, and many of the local government representatives are also focused on environmental and recreational issues since their citizens care about these topics and the area may be dependent on tourism. The CWCB and the Basin Roundtables will be working to support conservation, environment, and recreation in the Basin Implementation Plans and draft of Colorado's Water Plan. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Permitting issues are explored in Section 9.4 and the section will be further developed in 2015.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Laurie Thomas	Can the Governor be as aggressive about conservation as he is about growth? * Support: I support the aspects that stress conservation of our water resources and maintaining riparian ecosystems.Modify: The South Platte BIP needs to include more time from local environmental groups and the general public to evaluate the impacts in their own communities. The BIP should not fast track projects - especially not the Northern Integrated Supply Project (NISP) or Glade reservoir - let the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and water quality agencies do their due diligences to ensure if the project is environmentally feasible. * Legislature should not fund water storage projects - let municipalities foot the bill if growth is necessitating more water. DO NOT increase availability of cheap water to the oil and gas industry. The industry should be regulated more - subsidized less. * I'm concerned that a new water supply project NISP or Glade Reservoir would be a short sighted, short term solution to the insatiable growth projected for the South Platte Basin. In the end, it will short change the residents of the Fort Collins area which is a wonderful place to live because of the vibrant ecosystem around the Poudre River. * I support expanding existing reservoirs and water conservation measures. I do not think that a new reservoir project in Fort Collins would make enough difference in water storage to justify this unpopular project that would further stress our river. * State funding should not be subsidizing municipal or industrial water. Permits for new growth (albeit on a local zoning level) should always have a component of water conservation. * We cannot survive without water for more than three days. We can live without oil and gas - (it's eventually going to be exported overseas anyway). We cannot continue to strip away our natural resources for short-term profits. Please do what you can to keep Colorado intact.	6.3, 6.3.5, 9.5, 6.5, 10	6.3-The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. Chapter 6.3.3 discusses the connection between land and water planning. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.
Public Comments Recieved from Questionnaires on the CWP (Denver Metro River Basin)			
Jennifer Barrow, also testified	We cannot survive without water for more than three days. We can live without oil and gas - (it's eventually going to be exported overseas anyway). We cannot continue to strip away our natural resources for short-term profits. Please do what you can to keep Colorado intact. * Support: I highly support the conservation and reuse portions of the BIP.Modify: I feel the South Platte BIP needs to adopt a "High Conservation Strategy." I don't think the BIP goes far enough in addressing water conservation. I feel the BIP is structured to favor supply projects. * New development along the Front Range and in Colorado needs to incorporate smart growth strategies and water-wise landscaping in all new developments. I understand that new supply projects are necessary, but I think a high conservation strategy needs to be incorporated as well. Colorado legislature should consider active conservation measaures. HOAs often require lawns for their residents, this should not be a barrier for residents wishing to xeriscape their yards. * I'm concerned that supply projects in the South Platte Basin will permanently affect our river ecosystems. I'm concerned that a double in population by 2050 without implementation of a high conservation strategy will not solve Colorado's water problems. * I support the Colorado River Basin's adoption of a high conservation standard as well as no new transmountain diversions.	BIP, 6.3, 6.3.3, 10	6.3-The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. It is currently illegal for Homeowners' Associations in Colorado to require bluegrass lawns, and xeriscape lawns are allowed statewide. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work. CWCB Staff will work with the BRTs and pass these comments along to the Denver Metro Basin. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.

Source of Comment	Summary of Comments	Associated Chapters	Staff Response
Harriet Huddle	1. Will we all end up in court because of water rights? 2. Golden is involved by "water attorney's watching!" the Colorado Water Plan. 3. New Colorado River Supply? - Is this siphoning off at headwaters - Arizona? * Support: Active conservation - Chatfield expansion. Moffat Tunnel expansion. Require fracking to reycle water they use. Modify:Clarification of what obligations are to Colorado River Compact of 1922. New water storage - established conservation goals. Established new TMD's and cost and when construction starts. Mandatory distribution system leak identification and regain data availability for usage - where is water being used. * More public education - hearings. STATEWIDE Town Hall meetings. Mail information to every registered voter. * Concerned about: Distribution system leak identification and repair. Low water use landscapes. Lawn watering restrictions. * Support infrastructure repair. Fix the leaks. Implement low water use landscapes in any new projects. * Water diversion projectsare not part of the Colorado Water Plan, but are in "Colorado Water Portfolio." What does that mean?	4, 6.3.3, 6.5, 8, 9.1, 10	8-With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC provided a draft conceptual agreement which explored innovative ways to address this issue in a balanced manner. Scenario planning indicates that a new transmountain diversion may not be needed in the future, however some futures suggest that new transmountain diversions may be a necessary part of Colorado's water supply portfolio. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific transmountain water project, but it will discuss how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work 9.1-The state is working vigorously with other upper basin states and the Colorado River Basin as a whole to mitigate any risks Colorado may face with regard to compact compliance and other interstate issues. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Ch 4. noted and addressed where applicable. Section 6.3.3 discusses the connection between land and water planning. Your legislative suggestions will be considered in the drafting of Chapter 10.