

Colorado's Water Plan - Public Input Received
January 5 through March 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
1	1/12/2015	Carrie Lile	Webform	SW BIP	Hey! I work for the Southwest Basin Roundtable and it was brought to my attention that our IPP list is not available on this website for viewing. Could you please add this document? Contact me by email or phone and I can discuss this further and provide a pdf of the list. Thank you!	N/A	CWCB will post the referenced IPP list on the Southwest Basin's page at www.coloradowaterplan.com once it is received.
2	1/14/2015	Larry MacDonnell, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us	General	Is there a way to search for comments provided respecting the draft plan by name of the entity or person submitting them? Can the search cover all comments received to date in a single look?	N/A	All of the input is organized by the date it was received and posted online for review at the webpage listed below. At this time there is not a way to search by name or entity. Record of input received by date: https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cwaterplan/record-input-received-date
3	2/10/2015	Torie Jarvis, NWCCOG Water Quality/Quantity Committee	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us	General	Hi James, I wanted to let you know that Colorado College's annual State of the Rockies poll was released today. https://www.coloradocollege.edu/stateoftherockies/conservationinthewest/ . The State of the Rockies poll is an annual survey conducted by Colorado College to track conservation attitudes in the West. 6 states are included in the poll: MT, WY, CO, UT, NM, AZ. The poll traditionally focuses primarily on public lands issues but has included 1-2 water oriented questions. The poll shows water is now more likely to be viewed by Western voters as an extremely or very serious problem on par with unemployment. 82% view the low levels of water in rivers as a serious problem facing the state. Granted, perceptions of unemployment, typically the most concerning economic issue, have declined. At the same time, the intensity of concern about low level of water in rivers has increased slightly. The poll also shows that three-quarters of Colorado voters prefer that the state encourage more water conservation and reuse rather than diverting more water from rivers in less populated areas of the state. We share this information as a great resource for identifying public sentiment for the ongoing revisions to the Water Plan.	N/A	Thank you for sharing the results of this poll with CWCB.
4	2/19/2015	US Dept of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office	Letter mailed to CWCB	2, 5, 6, 8, 9, BIPs	Letter from the Bureau of Land Management, Colorado State Office regarding suggested edits to Colorado's Water Plan.	1 document	CWCB thanks the Bureau of Land Management for the comments. Staff will work on incorporating most of the changes into the second draft of Colorado's Water Plan, which will be released in July 2015.
5	2/23/2015	US Dept of the Interior, Fish and Wildlife Service	Letter mailed to CWCB	2, 3, 7.3	Letter from the US Fish and Wildlife Service regarding suggested edits to Colorado's Water Plan.	1 document	CWCB thanks the US Fish and Wildlife Service for the comments. Staff will work on incorporating most of the changes into the second draft of Colorado's Water Plan, which will be released in July 2015.
6	2/24/2015	Mark Hilberman, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us	4, 6.3	The importance of conservation in your water planning, and real caution about increasing trans-mountain water diversion from the Western Slope. This is likely to be expensive of little use if Colorado River water flow diminishes as predicted. As you are well aware, ~97% of Climate Scientists agree that anthropogenic global warming is real. It is not yet perfectly clear how our mountain precipitation and snow packs will be affected. However, the only safe route to planning is to assume that precipitation will decrease as will the flow in the Colorado River and its tributaries. Our top general science journal, Science on February 13 just past published a summary of a new and more comprehensive climate model entitled Longer Deeper Droughts in the Southwest and Great Plains which I have attached in case you have not seen it. Read it carefully. I am sending it on as a profoundly concerned and informed citizen to emphasize just how important taking steps now to conserve our water and prepare for a drier future are. These steps need not be expensive in the short term as the evidence accumulates and the depth of the problem becomes clearer from both data and modeling. Now is the time to address water conservation, encourage xeriscaping and non-tillable agricultural practices. What is coming may make the Dust Bowl drought of the 1930's seem a wet period! Many thanks for working on this complex set of issues.	N/A	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to help meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough. The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan recognize the importance of watershed health. 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. 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. 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.
7	2/27/2015	Audubon Society of Greater Denver	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us	South Platte BIP	These comments are submitted on behalf of the Audubon Society of Greater Denver. We thank you for this opportunity to participate in the formation of the Colorado Water Plan.	1 document	CWCB will send these comments on to South Platte Basin Roundtable.

Colorado's Water Plan - Public Input Received
January 5 through March 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
8	3/2/2015	Bob Grossman	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Word document submitted regarding reservoir evaporation.	1 document	Reservoir evaporation does lead to water loss. Viable solutions to this problem are currently under examination.
9	1/5/2015 - 3/4/2015	Ensure a secure water future for Colorado	302 form emails	6.3	Dear Governor Hickenlooper: I wanted to thank you for featuring water issues prominently in your State of the State address and your recent remarks to the Colorado Water Congress. You've stated that "there is no magic" when it comes to balancing our booming population with our increasingly strained water supply, and I agree. As a citizen of Colorado, I want you to know that I support a Colorado Water Plan that establishes a clear water conservation goal for our cities and towns, fosters the reuse and recycling of water, avoids new large trans-mountain diversions, and incentivizes modern water sharing practices in our agricultural sector. As you know, water conservation is faster, better, and cheaper than new water projects, which would cost billions to build, harm our environment, wreck our rivers, and increase our water bills. Thank you for your leadership on this issue, and your ongoing efforts to protect the future of Colorado's rivers.	N/A	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be examined. 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 does not include any specific transmountain water project, but it discusses how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.
10	1/5/2015 - 3/4/2015	1 Percent Could Make a Big Difference in Colorado's Water Plan	33 form emails	6.3	Thank you for your leadership in developing Colorado's first-ever water plan. I want you to know that I support prioritizing water conservation in our cities and towns. Water conservation is faster, better, and cheaper than new water projects, which would cost billions to build, harm our environment, wreck our rivers, and increase our water bills. With just a 1 percent annual reduction in our water usage, we can conserve enough water to serve 1.8 million families in Colorado. We should adopt this 1 percent annual goal through 2050 in our state water plan. Thank you for your leadership and for protecting the future of Colorado's rivers.	N/A	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be examined. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. As is currently described in the No and Low Regrets Action Plan and Colorado's Water Plan, there should be a minimum statewide water conservation target of 320,000 acre-feet by 2050, which includes 150,000 acre-feet from passive and 170,000 acre-feet from active conservation efforts. The Interbasin Compact Committee Conservation Subcommittee agreed to discuss the issue of a statewide stretch water conservation target and proposed strategies over the next few months. The public is welcome to participate in this ongoing discussion on conservation in Colorado's Water Plan. For more information and a calendar visit www.coloradowaterplan.com .
11	1/5/2015 - 3/4/2015	Set a strong statewide water conservation goal	691 form emails	6.3	Our rivers are overworked today, and with expectations of continued population growth, we need commitments to ensure our rivers remain healthy into the future. I am not alone in this concern. According to Colorado College's 2015 State of the Rockies poll, 82 percent of Coloradans are concerned with low levels of water in rivers. A priority for the water plan must be to keep rivers healthy and sufficiently flowing. We need a strong statewide water conservation goal within the water plan. By reducing per person use in our cities and towns 10 percent by 2020, we can help reduce the increasing burden of demand and keep more water in rivers. We can meet the vast majority of our projected new water demands with cost-effective conservation, reuse, and other common sense solutions. Aggressive water conservation is effective, less expensive, faster to implement, and more flexible than developing environmentally harmful new West Slope supplies for Front Range use. I thank you, the Basin Roundtables, and the Colorado Water Conservation Board for drafting our first water plan. The plan must provide water security for both people and the environment alike. Solutions to our future water imbalance must include incentives for changing water use patterns. A strong urban water conservation goal is a common sense action that could be invaluable for sufficiently flowing rivers. As you have said, "every conversation needs to start with conservation."	N/A	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be examined. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. As is currently described in the No and Low Regrets Action Plan and Colorado's Water Plan, there should be a minimum statewide water conservation target of 320,000 acre-feet by 2050, which includes 150,000 acre-feet from passive and 170,000 acre-feet from active conservation efforts. The Interbasin Compact Committee Conservation Subcommittee agreed to discuss the issue of a statewide stretch water conservation target and proposed strategies over the next few months. The public is welcome to participate in this ongoing discussion on conservation in Colorado's Water Plan. For more information and a calendar visit www.coloradowaterplan.com .
12	1/5/2015 - 3/4/2015	Tell Governor Hickenlooper - Make Water Conservation the Priority in Our Cities and Towns	70 form letter emails - petition from American Rivers on Change.org	6.3	As a citizen of Colorado, I want to thank you for your leadership as you draft our state's first ever water plan. And I want you to know that I support prioritizing water conservation in our cities and towns. As you know, water conservation is faster, better, and cheaper than new water projects, which would cost billions to build, harm our environment, wreck our rivers, and increase our water bills. With just a 1% per year reduction in our water usage, we can conserve enough water to serve 1.8 million families in Colorado. We should adopt this 1% per year goal through 2050 in our state water plan. Thank you for your leadership, and for protecting the future of Colorado's rivers.	N/A	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be examined. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. As is currently described in the No and Low Regrets Action Plan and Colorado's Water Plan, there should be a minimum statewide water conservation target of 320,000 acre-feet by 2050, which includes 150,000 acre-feet from passive and 170,000 acre-feet from active conservation efforts. The Interbasin Compact Committee Conservation Subcommittee agreed to discuss the issue of a statewide stretch water conservation target and proposed strategies over the next few months. The public is welcome to participate in this ongoing discussion on conservation in Colorado's Water Plan. For more information and a calendar visit www.coloradowaterplan.com .
13	1/5/2015 - 3/4/2015	Support conservation, not dams and diversion, in the Colorado Water Plan	60 form emails	6.3	In your State of the State address, you have said that "every discussion about water should start with conservation." I could not agree more -- now it's time to put your words into action! Many of Colorado's rivers -- including the Colorado River itself, which flows from Colorado to Los Angeles and Mexico -- are already drained and depleted. Further, climate change is a new and bigger threat that will likely decrease the water flowing in our rivers. Despite this, some Colorado cities are trying to build more dams and diversions to take even more water out of our rivers. This is the wrong path forward! We need to protect and restore the rivers in Colorado so that people in the Southwest can have safe, clean, drinking water and healthy rivers flowing throughout our region of the U.S. As you and your staff formulate Colorado's Water Plan, please provide leadership in three key areas: 1. Push for water conservation, reuse, and recycling as key steps in securing our future water needs. 2. Do not support new dams and diversions from Colorado's rivers. 3. Start focusing on river restoration. I urge you and Colorado's Water Conservation Board to protect Colorado's future by safeguarding our rivers for future generations.	N/A	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be examined. 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 does not include any specific transmountain water project, but it discusses how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.

Colorado's Water Plan - Public Input Received
January 5 through March 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
14	1/5/2015 - 3/4/2015	Taking the Lead on Conservation	1 form email	6.3	I am writing in support of your efforts to create Colorado's Water Plan and urge you to include a high statewide conservation goal in the Plan. As a water resources engineer, I believe that conservation is a sure step in securing our water future without damaging rivers or diminishing agriculture. Water conservation is effective, cost efficient and has bipartisan support-- a recent poll shows that 78% of Coloradans support investment in finding new ways to use current water supplies more wisely. Colorado is counting on your leadership to protect the resources that make our state great and maintain our quality of life. Conservation is a commonsense approach to smart water management. By including a statewide conservation goal in the plan, we have a shared commitment to using water wisely and the freedom to decide how to best reduce use. Please make sure we have a state plan that turns to conservation first, our rivers, rural communities, local economies and concerned Coloradans will thank you for it.	N/A	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be examined. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan recognize the importance of watershed health. 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.
15	1/5/2015 - 3/4/2015	Protect Our Rivers	20 form emails	6.3, 6.4	I am writing to support your efforts to create the first ever statewide water plan. Thank you for reiterating the importance of the plan, and water conservation, in your recent State of the State address. As our state's communities grow, our rivers are becoming increasingly strained. That means we need to change the status quo. We need our rivers to be clean and flowing - to support our fish and wildlife, tourism, recreation, and future generations. Colorado's Water Plan has the potential to chart an innovative path forward for our state. I urge you to stand up for measures to protect and restore our rivers, push for conservation, and for cities to live within their means. We need to help agriculture modernize and increase efficiency, and stop looking to the West Slope to solve our water issues. We need to maintain working landscapes, support growing communities, and protect river health. Please ensure that Colorado's Water Plan uses our state's ingenuity to "be prepared" for our water future."	N/A	The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to help meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough. The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan recognize the importance of watershed health. 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. 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. Additional balanced options need to be examined. These topics are explored in Section 6.3. Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB encourages multipurpose projects and full mitigation. 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 does not include any specific transmountain water project, but it discusses how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.
16	1/5/2015 - 3/4/2015	Prioritize Urban Water Conservation in CO Water Plan	1 form email	6.3	I want you to know that I support prioritizing water conservation in our cities and towns. As a citizen of Colorado, I cherish our state's healthy and free-flowing rivers and streams. I also value the wildlife and recreation-based economies that are dependent on healthy river systems. As you know, water conservation is faster, better, cheaper and more flexible than new water projects, which would cost billions to build, harm the environment, shortchange recreation, wreck our rivers and increase our water bills. With just a 1% per year reduction in our water usage, we can conserve enough water to serve 1.8 million families in Colorado. We should adopt this 1% per year goal through 2050 in our state water plan. Thank you for your leadership, and for protecting the future of Colorado's rivers.	N/A	The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan recognize the importance of watershed health. 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. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be examined. 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 does not include any specific transmountain water project, but it discusses how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.
17	1/5/2015 - 3/4/2015	Make Colorado's Water Plan Emphasize Healthy Rivers, Conservation, and Partnerships	2 form emails	6.3	As you work to finalize Colorado's Water Plan in 2015, I urge you to ensure that the final plan puts its greatest emphasis on aggressive water conservation, maintaining healthy rivers, and promoting water partnerships - and avoids controversial and damaging new projects for large transbasin diversions. Healthy rivers are a vital part of Colorado's quality of life, recreational economy, and environment. Irrigated lands are also key in providing locally-produced food, sustaining local economies, and providing quality habitat. Instead of drying up our rivers and farms, Colorado should emphasize water conservation so that we can use our water supplies as wisely as possible. Colorado's Water Plan should set strong but achievable goals - reducing per capita consumption by even 1% a year would help reduce the drain on rivers and agriculture, and represents a level of conservation improvement that we've easily exceeded over the past 10 years -- yet the Draft Plan does not embrace even this modest goal. Conservation needs to be more strongly emphasized. Colorado also needs to invest in its healthy rivers. Unlike other water uses where end-users pay for their water supplies, investment in healthy rivers depends on the State to make investments on behalf of its citizens. Investing in the health of our rivers is simple common sense given the vital role rivers play in Colorado's multi-billion recreation economy, in drawing other businesses, residents, and visitors to our State, and in maintaining a high quality of life for our citizens. Large transbasin diversion projects are not the answer for Colorado and should not be promoted in the Plan. Such projects will hurt our rivers and damage west slope communities, and it isn't even clear that there is enough undeveloped water legally available to support the projects in the future. Conservation and innovative partnerships for water sharing are better solutions.	N/A	The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan recognize the importance of watershed health. 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. The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan incorporate conservation and reuse as critical components to helping meet future water needs, however those strategies alone are not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be examined. 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 does not include any specific transmountain water project, but it discusses how we can move forward with this option should it be needed, based on the IBCC's work.