

**Colorado's Water Plan - Input Received  
between 6/21/2014 - 8/20/2014**

Item Number	Date	Input Provided By	Method of Input Submission	Related Chapters of CWP Framework	Summary of Input	Documents Submitted for Review	Staff Responses and Recommendations
1	6/21/14	Jacob Beck, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Are you trying to kill this state and more? All this big talk about protecting the environment but instead you turn around and sell out to the highest bidder, ie. oil companies. Water is the life of the western slope but in the irresponsible wants and desires of the front range I guess it doesn't matter does it?"	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> 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. Lastly, the public will have the ability to comment on Colorado's Water Plan over the course of this year and next through several iterations. Many roundtables will also be having public review, which the CWCB is encouraging. With regards to fracking, this practice 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 tomake energy use less water than traditional power plants. Colorado's Water Plan will recognize that there is an energy water nexus.
2	6/23/14	Peg Rooney, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		A water plan should address, not only water conservation, reuse and agriculture, it should also contain recommendations about drought management strategies, the relationship between land use decisions and water availability, improving water quality, investment in efficient infrastructure, protection of riparian zones and compliance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973. Recommendations: 1. Selling high efficiency plumbing fixtures in new homes 2. Stronger water pricing 3. Water conservation plans for utility companies 4. Assessing the broad ecosystem water needs 5. Control and use of flood waters/rainwater harvesting 6. Education for water consumers and training for water operations managers 7. Relooking at projected growth rates, water demand, need for revised cost estimates before recommending more dams and more expansions 8. Requiring strategies for existing reservoirs to operate with increased efficiency 9. Agriculture- Voluntary reduction of water use through crop incentive programs, e.g. paying irrigators to fallow some fields; limiting irrigations; decreasing the amount of water applied; planting low water crops; delaying irrigation; capturing rainwater 10. Maximize water delivery through investments in water supply infrastructure 11. Reject new supply projects from the Colorado River 12. Require water recycling by "frackers" 13. Temporary demand reduction 14. Maintaining, not weakening, approval and permitting processes. Although permitting can take time, it is necessary to determine if proceeding with costly and environmentally-sensitive projects are based on realistic and accurate projections. 15. Overcoming the bias toward economic and consumptive interests, at the expense of natural resources.	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> Many of the commenter's suggestions are incorporated into Colorado's Water Plan. Points 1-3 are captured in Section 6.3.1 "M&I Conservation" and Senate Bill 14-103, also referred to as the fixtures bill. Point 4 is captured in Chapter 3 "Water Demand by Sector" and Section 6.6 "Environmental and recreational projects and methods". Point 5 is captured in Section 7.2 "Natural disaster Management" and Section 6.3.2 "Reuse" for rainwater harvesting. Point 6 is captured in Section 9.4 "Outreach, education, and public engagement". Point 7 is captured in Chapter 5 "Water Demand by Sector", Section 6.5 " Municipal, industrial, and agricultural infrastructure projects and methods" and Section 9.1 "Economics & funding". Points 8 and 9 are captured in Section 6.3.4 "Agricultural conservation, efficiency, and reuse" and 6.4 "Alternative Agricultural to Urban Transfers". Point 10 is captured in Section 6.5 "Municipal, industrial, and agriculture infrastructure projects and methods". Point 11 is captured in Chapter 9 " Interstate and Intrastate Agreements and Projects". Point 12 is captured in Section 6.3.5 "Self-supplied industrial". Point 13's meaning is unclear. Point 14 is captured in Section 9.3 "Framework on more efficient water project permitting processes" which stresses the need to make permitting more efficiency and effective not weaker. To the commenter's final point, the four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. 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 as a critical component to helping meet future water needs.

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3	6/24/14	Bill Petty, Environmental Defense Fund	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "To Whom It May Concern: Attached are the names of 1,004 Colorado residents who have signed an online alert sent by Environmental Defense Fund on 24 May 2014. Of these responses, 45 have been personalized and are attached in a separate document. The text of the original message that they signed reads: Gov. Hickenlooper has said that "every conversation about water should begin with conservation," and I could not agree more. Water is our most precious natural resource and we must take steps now to protect and preserve it in a way that will benefit Colorado's rivers, wildlife, recreation, agriculture, businesses and residents. As you oversee the creation of a plan to meet our future water needs, I urge you to prioritize the following goals: 1. Keep Colorado's rivers healthy and flowing. Colorado's rivers are an integral part of our unique heritage and way of life. Rivers support our wildlife, agriculture, and a multi-billion dollar tourism industry. Protecting and restoring our rivers must be a top priority. 2. Increasing and prioritizing efficiency and conservation are crucial to our ability to meet our growing water needs. State studies have shown that existing water conservation efforts will have to expanded to ensure we can meet the needs of a growing population. Expand conservation incentives, increase indoor and outdoor efficiency and support recycling programs. 3. Help farmers and ranchers increase their profits and productivity through investments in modernizing agricultural and water sharing practices. The state should support voluntary, compensated, and flexible water-sharing agreements between agricultural producers and growing communities while respecting their water rights, as well as incentives to improve agricultural infrastructure that benefits operations and rivers. 4. Avoid new, large, trans-mountain water diversion projects. Trans-mountain diversion projects that drain water from West Slope rivers to supply growing Front Range demands are controversial, costly and damaging. Prioritize conservation and reuse so we can make every drop count and avoid the need for these projects. Thank you for helping to keep these four goals at the forefront of Colorado's water plan drafting process. Please take their concerns into account, and make Colorado's rivers a top priority in the Colorado Water Plan. Sincerely, Bill Petty"	Spreadsheet of all submissions	<b>Staff Response:</b> Thank you to the Environmental Defense Fund for organizing their constituent comments. The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. 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 as a critical component to helping meet future water needs. 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. CWCB staff suggests that the commenter read the "Citizen's Guide to Interstate Compacts" published by the Colorado Foundation for Water Education.
4	6/24/14	Daniel Trimm, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "I would like to state my objections to proposals to dam and divert Colorado river water on a basis of monetary and environmental reasons."	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. 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 as a critical component to helping meet future water needs. 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 CWCB would like encourage to multipurpose projects and full mitigation.
5	6/24/14	Charles W. Howe, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Ladies and Gentlemen: conservation, water reuse and vast changes in State and national agricultural policies must be keys in our State and national water plans. Our increasing water needs will come from agriculture, whether the planners want it or not. Let's be realistic while treating the West Slope and the environment as partners. Cheers! Chuck (Charles W.) Howe, Boulder."	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> 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.
6	6/25/14	Karen Gale, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Instead of draining Front Range rivers, drying up Western Colorado, paving over farms, and supporting massive public debt, this plan should promote water conservation and efficiency, water recycling, water-sharing agreements with farmers, and cost-effective alternatives. These alternatives aren't rocket science - this path forward has been laid out to the state government for years."	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> The commenter's suggested solutions are included in Colorado's Water Plan. For reference, please review Chapter 9.
7	6/25/14	Sara Carlson, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "I have lived in Colorado for 20 years, and though I am not a native, I own land here and I love this place. I am distressed to hear the contents of the proposed Colorado Water Plan. Instead of draining Front Range rivers, drying up Western Colorado, paving over farms, and supporting massive public debt, this plan should promote water conservation and efficiency, water recycling, water-sharing agreements with farmers, and cost-effective alternatives. I also believe that in a time when Colorado's own citizens face drought and water restrictions, Colorado's water should not be sold to bottling plants, or sold to water lawns in Arizona and California. It is our responsibility to care for this beautiful place where we live, and to protect it for future generations. The Colorado Water Plan as it stands, does neither of these. Please create another panel to make recommendations that includes representatives from the environmental sector, river protection/restoration groups, and others who are concerned with PROTECTING our natural resources. These voices should represent 50% of the panel - equal to the voices of those greedy businessmen interested in EXPLOITING our natural resources."	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> 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. Lastly, the public will have the ability to comment on Colorado's Water Plan over the course of this year and next through several iterations. Many roundtables will also be having public review, and CWCB is encouraging this. Additionally, Colorado does not sell water to Arizona or California. Colorado is engaged in and a participant of an interstate compact that was ratified by the U.S. Congress. We are obliged to follow this compact. 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.

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8	6/26/14	Lisa Buchanan, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Attached are comments for the State Water Plan of Colorado. I have spent numerous hours evaluating the EIS for the Moffat-Gross Expansion Project. The project would essentially dry up the Fraser basin and not achieve the stated firm yield goal of the project. In fact, nowhere in the EIS was the firm yield documented as this is not required by the Colorado Division of Water Resources. Given the very large impacts additional diversions will impose on the upper Colorado basin communities, all water utilities should be obligated to document the firm yield of their existing and proposed water supply systems to better understand what is required to meet future increases in demand and plan for drought years. After completing an independent firm yield analysis for the Moffat-Gross project, which is also attached, I am more than ever convinced that now is the time to stop further diversions from the Upper Colorado Basins since the proposed eastern slope reservoirs or buckets will likely not provide the intended water supply benefit while the western slope basins WILL be dried up and pass the "tipping point." In addition, my analysis of water depletions in the Colorado River at Kremmling I provided for the EIS comments, showed that Colorado River flows at this USGS gage have been depleted by 70 to 75 percent of pre-diversion flows in the irrigation season; very close to the 90 percent depletion mark when calls from downstream Colorado Compact states are highly likely. Taking more out of the upper basins both for Denver and for northern Colorado does not seem like the best path forward. I will be signing up to talk at one of the CWCB meetings in July or September."	Comments	<b>Staff Response:</b> The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. 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 as a critical component to helping meet future water needs. Colorado's Water Plan will not support specific projects, however a broad group of stakeholders including members of the environmental community such as Trout Unlimited are in support of the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement which includes Moffat Expansion Project. This collaborative approach is encouraged in Colorado's Water Plan.
9	6/21/14 - 7/18/14	Emails generated from individuals who submitted a form letter online through the Environmental Defense Fund and change.org	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us	5.9, 5.6.1, 5.6.4, 5.11	Copy of form letter: "Gov. Hickenlooper has said that "every conversation about water should begin with conservation," and I could not agree more. Water is our most precious natural resource and we must take steps now to protect and preserve it in a way that will benefit Colorado's rivers, wildlife, recreation, agriculture, businesses and residents. As you oversee the creation of a plan to meet our future water needs, I urge you to prioritize the following goals: 1. Keep Colorado's rivers healthy and flowing. Colorado's rivers are an integral part of our unique heritage and way of life. Rivers support our wildlife, agriculture, and a multi-billion dollar tourism industry. Protecting and restoring our rivers must be a top priority. 2. Increase and prioritize efficiency and conservation. Finding ways to reduce our water usage is crucial to our ability to meet our growing water needs. State studies have shown that water providers will need to reduce current water use by 35% by 2050 in order to meet our future demands. Expand conservation incentives, increase indoor and outdoor efficiency and support recycling programs. 3. Modernize agricultural and water sharing practices. The state should support voluntary, compensated, and flexible water-sharing agreements between agricultural producers and growing communities while respecting their water rights, as well as incentives to improve agricultural infrastructure that benefits operations and rivers. 4. Avoid new, large, trans-mountain water diversion projects. Trans-mountain diversion projects that drain water from West Slope rivers to supply growing Front Range demands are controversial, costly and damaging. Prioritize conservation and reuse so we can make every drop count and avoid the need for these projects. Thank you for helping to keep these four goals at the forefront of Colorado's water plan drafting process."	Over 5,000 letters received	<b>Staff Response:</b> 1) 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 addition, the CWCB's Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA) grant program has been used by several basins to analyze water flow requirements related to ecological values. 2) With regard to conservation, the Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation as a critical component to helping meet future water needs. Initial work indicates that conservation will likely be able to meet the needs of an additional one million people. This is not enough to meet all of Colorado's future water demand, so Colorado's Water Plan will also encourage balanced multi-purpose projects to meet our future water needs. 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. 4) Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored.
10	6/27/14	Emails generated from individuals who submitted a form letter online through Save the Colorado website	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us	1, 5.6, 5.9	Copy of form letter: "Dear Governor Hickenlooper, 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. Thank you!"	2 letters received	<b>Staff Response:</b> The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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 will incorporate conservation as a critical component to helping meet future water needs. Initial work indicates that conservation will likely be able to meet the needs of an additional one million people. This is not enough to meet all of Colorado's future water demand, so Colorado's Water Plan will also encourage balanced multi-purpose projects to meet our future water needs. 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.
11	6/20/14 - 6/29/14	Emails generated from individuals who submitted a form letter online through Clean Water Fund's "failuretolead.org" campaign	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us	5.6.4	Copy of form letter: "The upcoming state water plan presents an opportunity to break from the status quo and create water policy for the future that reflects - and protects - our diverse water values. Senate Bill 14-023 would have created an innovative, collaborative, and modest sharing practice that would have helped our farmers, ranchers and our streams. I am disappointed that you chose to veto this important water conservation measure. As the water plan develops, we ask that you make a real commitment to protecting our rivers and streams. It's no longer enough to just have 'conversations about conservation', we need action as well - at the legislature, within the plan, in our homes, and from our top leaders like you. The more the state supports collaborative practices that help us save water, the better able we will be to meet our future water challenges and needs. We need your leadership to create change and to implement creative, collaborative solutions that protect our farms, rivers, and growing communities. You failed to lead on Senate Bill 14-023, please don't fail to lead on our state water plan."	5 letters received	<b>Staff Response:</b> On June 5th, 2014 Governor Hickenlooper vetoed SB14-023. In the Governor's veto message, he agrees with the commenter that the goals of the bill are important for our water future but he believes that the breakdown of consensus over the legislation would have made it difficult to adequately implement the bill. The Governor's message continued by asking the Department of Natural Resources and CWCB staff to work with stakeholders to develop a pilot project that addresses opponent's concerns. The CWCB staff is committed to collaboration and consensus building and will continue incorporate discussions of conservation and agricultural water rights into Colorado's Water Plan.

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12	6/29/14	Ellen Hafner, Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "My husband and I are thinking of moving to Colorado within the next 2 years. Are there parts of Colorado that have more consistent water supplies? How do find out if a property we consider buying has a productive well or consistent water supply?"	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> The Water Supply Planning Section has drafted Chapter 6 which shows regional surface and ground water supply statewide. We encourage testing the productivity of a well when purchasing a home. The Division of Water Resource staff may be a good resource to consult when choosing to move to a particular homestead in Colorado.
13	6/24/14	David Leinweber, Anglers Covey	Webform submission on coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: Water is big business, and there are plenty of stakeholders waiting in line for their allocation. Outdoor recreation is often considered small business, and to some degree it is; thousands of small businesses just like mine, together contributing \$686 billion annually to our national economy. This is almost double the auto industry's contribution of \$352 billion. Here in Colorado, hunting and fishing alone is an economic driver of about \$2 billion. Overall outdoor recreation in Colorado exceeds \$13 billion annually and supports 125,000 Colorado jobs, \$4.2 billion in wages and salaries, and \$994 million in state and local tax revenue. As the owner of a small business that depends on healthy, flowing streams, I ask for consideration when it comes to providing water in-stream. Dewatering a streamflow below the point at which a stream's ecosystem can sustain itself harms my business and restricts access for anglers. Several streams in the Arkansas Basin, for example, do not currently have minimum flows which could protect these resources. The Colorado Water Plan must include meaningful efforts to protect and restore healthy rivers and streams as well as preserve the responsible environmental and recreational usage of our water. Healthy rivers are vital to our communities. They promote property values, support a strong recreation economy, and contribute to the quality of life that makes Colorado a great place to live.	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. For more information, please review Chapter 5 and Chapter 7.
14	6/20/14 - 6/29/14	Emails generated from individuals who submitted a form letter online through the Audubon Rockies	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Copy of form letter: "Thank you and the basin roundtables for your remarkable efforts in creating the first Colorado Water Plan. The task of quantifying Colorado's current and future water needs is important to me and to fellow Coloradans. To create a meaningful Colorado Water Plan, both the consumptive and non-consumptive (environmental and recreational) needs must be fully considered and placed on equal ground. Both are important components in long-term planning for our water future. Not all basins have committed equal efforts to identifying environmental river flows and water needs. We know the needs and gaps for municipal and agricultural water uses, but know nearly nothing about environmental needs or gaps. This lack of data leaves our rivers and recreation economies that depend on them in jeopardy. As you and your staff develop Colorado's Water Plan, please provide leadership to the basin roundtables in the following areas: 1.) The basin roundtables need direction from the CWCB to allow for a time-sensitive placeholder in their BIPs to assess multipurpose environmental and recreational river flow needs and gaps. However, environmental flows are difficult to assess because they are a continuum, with variables that may not correspond to traditional engineering and legal structures of management. 2.) Ask basins to further define environmental and recreational sections (reaches) including the flow needs associated with these reaches. Protecting reaches and their corresponding flows provides for: healthy river channels, riparian vegetation, bird and other wildlife habitat, boatable whitewater, and fishing needs. Selected best management practices should mimic or protect natural hydrographs where they exist. 3.) Establish a common language and quantifiable metrics to be used statewide. A common glossary of terms and metrics are needed to compare information accurately across basins. I urge you to provide this clarity of assignment to the basin roundtables so Colorado can have a more thorough and meaningful water plan." ☐	41 letters received	<b>Staff Response:</b> Thank you to the Audubon Society for organizing their constituent comments. CWCB staff will send a copy of the letters to the Basin Roundtables. The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. For further review, please see Sections 6.6 and 9.1 which suggest funding watershed master plans statewide and addresses a number of concerns mentioned by the Audubon Society.
15	7/11/2014 - 7/16/14	Emails generated from individuals who submitted a form letter online through the Conservation Colorado website	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us	5.6.4, 5.7, 5.11	Copy of form letter: "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."	3 letters received	<b>Staff Response:</b> Colorado's Water Plan will support Colorado's rivers as described in Section 6.6, address the need for increased conservation as described in Subsection 6.3.1, and the need for agricultural efficiencies and water sharing practices as described in 6.3.4 and 6.4. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC is exploring 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.

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16	7/17/14	Shivani Kuckreja, South Carolina Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Dear Colorado water planners, My name is Shivani Kuckreja and I am an intern at the Coastal Conservation League in Charleston, South Carolina. I am compiling information on the surface water appropriation programs and processes of all 50 states in the US and have a question about Colorado's surface water use program. It seems that the state already has an application program in place, as I found this application online: 'http://www.courts.state.co.us/Forms/renderForm1.cfm?Form=175' Does this indicate that once one obtains a water right, one can withdraw as much water as they would like? Does everyone need to obtain a water right regardless of how much they would like to withdraw? From my understanding, the following are the fees associated with obtaining a surface water right: Minimum Application Filing Fee: Water Attorneys: \$150-\$300 per hour + Engineering Costs: \$100- \$200 per hour. Are these fees correct? Furthermore, how will the Colorado Water Plan change the process of withdrawing surface water?"	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> Water rights are appropriated for specific uses and amounts. The water court filing fee for a new water right is \$224, and then Applicants must pay the actual cost of publication (in local a newspaper). The commenter's' suggested hourly rates for attorney's & engineers seems reasonable. For further information, please contact the Division of Water Resources.
17	7/18/14	Peg Rooney, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "The following is an excerpt from a report by American Rivers and Western Resource Advocates July 14, 2014. Five Affordable Solutions To Ensure A Reliable Water Future. These five solutions below can help improve the health of the Colorado River, grow the economies of the seven basin states, and protect essential western natural habitats. 1. Municipal conservation, saving 1 million acre-feet—Water efficiency programs have worked time and again, and represent the lowest cost and greatest business benefits; they sometimes cost five to 10 times less than structural projects. Conservation can happen without infringing on consumers and businesses; instead conservation can occur through improved landscaping techniques, rebate programs that incentivize water-saving devices, installing new appliances and fixtures. In addition, standardized water audits across municipalities routinely result in dramatic savings. 2. Municipal reuse, saving 1.2 million acre-feet—Wastewater and gray water can be treated for potable use, and reused for irrigation, industrial processing and cooling, dust control, artificial lakes and replenishing groundwater supply. Rainwater harvesting using innovative new technologies is a simple additional step. 3. Agricultural efficiency and water banking, saving 1 million acre-feet—Agriculture is the river's largest water use, extending across 5.7 million acres of arid western land and consuming more than 70 percent of the river's water. But water shortages will soon inevitably impact the agricultural economy and farmers' livelihood. Voluntarily irrigation efficiency, regulated irrigation, rotational fallowing, crop shifting and innovative irrigation technologies are concepts that many farmers already are using. In addition, water banking is a market-based approach that allows farmers (and others) to bank their unused water voluntarily. 4. Clean, water-efficient energy supplies, saving 160 thousand acre-feet—Generating enough energy for the area's population requires a significant amount of water, particularly to cool down thermoelectric power generation. To reduce the need for water to cool thermoelectric power plants, Colorado River basin states can continue to pursue energy efficiency and renewable sources of energy like wind, solar photovoltaics, and geothermal, which require little or no water. And new fossil plants can use waste water for cooling or air-cooled towers to save water- technologies already adopted by power plants in Colorado River Basin states. 5. Innovative water opportunities, generating up to 1 million acre-feet—Inland desalination in certain areas with brackish groundwater and surface water is a viable option to stretch water supplies, potentially generating 620,000 acre-feet of water. In addition, dust-on-snow management can help save a minimum of 400,000 acre-feet of water. Finally, tamarisk is an invasive plant that hoards water along the river. Removing dense invasive plants in upland areas will save a minimum of 30,000 acre feet of water."	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> Colorado's Water Plan recognizes the importance of many of the commenter's points, which are incorporated into the following sections: conservation 6.3.1, reuse 6.3.2, agricultural efficiency and sharing 6.3.4 & 6.4, and conservation for energy 6.3.5. With regard to the commenter's last point on desalination and other innovative water opportunities - water providers are considering reverse osmosis however brine disposal is a significant water quality and environmental concern. Section 6.3.2 indicates Colorado's support of technological invasion such as zero liquid discharge to make such technologies more viable from an environmental stand point. Finally, tamarisk does consume a significant amount of water as its monoculture is detrimental to many avian species however, tamarisk has not been shown to use a significantly greater amount of water than native plants like cottonwoods. The water savings for tamarisk as well as the yields from many of the aforementioned strategies are likely overstated.

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Item Number	Date	Input Provided By	Method of Input Submission	Related Chapters of CWP Framework	Summary of Input	Documents Submitted for Review	Staff Responses and Recommendations
18	7/16/14	Jeff Wiedner, American Rivers	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Please find attached comments on the Colorado Water Plan from our constituents. I'm attaching a CSV of the comments that have been made and a sample of the letter that would have gone to the water plan email address. The action alert was sent in April 2014 with comments having been made as late as July 15, 2014. The comment letter that they would have sent: === Dear Director Colorado State Water Conservation Board, As a supporter of American Rivers, Conservation Colorado, Western Resource Advocates, Friends of the Yampa, and High Country Conservation Advocates, I am writing to ask that you insist Colorado's rivers be protected through specific stream improvement projects identified in each river basin. These rivers include the Yampa, Green, Colorado, Fraser, Blue, Eagle, Frying pan, Roaring Fork, and Gunnison Rivers. All of these rivers are now being targeted for potential new projects that could drain even more water to the Front Range. There simply is not enough water left to satisfy all the demands being made without irreparably damaging the health of our world-class rivers. The Colorado River and its major tributaries are the economic foundation of the West Slope of Colorado. Current diversions that move water across the continental divide already take more than half a million acre feet (over 160 billion gallons) each year. Other projects already in the works will drain even more. Colorado River headwaters see as much as 40 to 60 percent of their flow siphoned off by Front Range diversions. Additional diversions would take as much as 80 percent from some rivers when they are completed. These massive reductions in flow have left a wake of damaged rivers in the heart of Colorado's most famous scenic and recreational areas. Yet the Front Range still demands more water. The Upper Colorado River itself is nearly sucked dry, so some interests are shifting their focus to the Yampa, Green, and Gunnison Basins. Any new diversion from the Colorado River basin in Colorado must be only a distant and last resort. There are many alternatives that must be employed first, including much greater conservation and efficient use of both municipal and agricultural water. Colorado's Water Plan needs to incorporate these conservation essentials: * High levels of water conservation by urban water providers in their local plans * A more refined and accurate forecast of the Front Range's municipal water "gap" * An emphasis on water re-use/recycling projects as the infrastructure of the future * Recognize that large new trans-mountain diversions from the Colorado River Basin are not the solution for filling the Front Range "gap" * Colorado's Water Plan must also recognize the need to quantify and provide for the real water needs of healthy rivers, streams, and a "strong environment." * The water needs and "gap" for municipal, industrial, and agricultural uses are well documented, but not for the non-consumptive needs of the environment and recreation. Providing for non-consumptive needs must be more than just "enhancements" added on to both existing and planned diversions. They must be plans in their own right, adding flow to damaged rivers. Flows need to meet the needs of healthy rivers and the species	Spreadsheet of all submissions	<b>Staff Response:</b> Thank you to American Rivers for organizing their constituent comments. The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. Meeting Colorado's nonconsumptive needs is a critical aspect of Colorado's Water Plan. 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 IBC's work. CWCB staff suggests that the commenter read the "Citizen's Guide to Interstate Compacts" published by the Colorado Foundation for Water Education. For further review, please see Sections 6.6 which addresses a number of concerns mentioned by the letters.
19	7/3/14	WaterforColorado.org	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Dear James Ecklund and CWCB Board: Attached are the names of 378 Colorado residents who have signed an online alert on the website WaterforColorado.org in May and June 2014. It has been brought to our attention that your public input email address system was not working properly to capture the comments provided by citizens of Colorado. The text of the original message that they signed reads: Dear Director Ecklund: Gov. Hickenlooper has said that "every discussion about water should begin with conservation," and I could not agree more. Water is our most precious natural resource and we must take steps now to protect and preserve it in a way that will benefit Colorado's rivers, wildlife, recreation, agriculture, businesses and residents. As you oversee the creation of a plan to meet our future water needs, I urge you to prioritize the following goals: 1. Keep Colorado's rivers healthy and flowing. Colorado's rivers are an integral part of our unique heritage and way of life. Rivers support our wildlife, agriculture, and a multi-billion dollar tourism industry. Protecting and restoring our rivers must be a top priority. 2. Increase and prioritize efficiency and conservation. Finding ways to reduce our water usage is crucial to our ability to meet our growing water needs. State studies have shown that water providers will need to reduce current water use by 35% by 2050 in order to meet our future demands. Expand conservation incentives, increase indoor and outdoor efficiency and support recycling programs. 3. Modernize agricultural and water sharing practices. The state should support voluntary, compensated, and flexible water-sharing agreements between agricultural producers and growing communities while respecting their water rights, as well as incentives to improve agricultural infrastructure that benefits operations and rivers. 4. Avoid new, large, trans-mountain water diversion projects. Trans-mountain diversion projects that drain water from West Slope rivers to supply growing Front Range demands are controversial, costly and damaging. Prioritize conservation and reuse so we can make every drop count and avoid the need for these projects. Thank you for helping to keep these four goals at the forefront of Colorado's water plan drafting process. We urge you take their concerns into account, and make Colorado's rivers a top priority in the Colorado Water Plan. If you need any additional information, please call 303-477-0972 or email sue@rivercampaign.org. Sincerely, WaterforColorado.org Team"	Summary spreadsheet of letters	<b>Staff Response:</b> 1) 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 addition, the CWCB's Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA) grant program has been used by several basins to analyze water flow requirements related to ecological values. 2) With regard to conservation, the Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation as a critical component to helping meet future water needs. Initial work indicates that conservation will likely be able to meet the needs of an additional one million people. This is not enough to meet all of Colorado's future water demand, so Colorado's Water Plan will also encourage balanced multi-purpose projects to meet our future water needs. 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. 4) Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored.

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20	7/7/14	Matt Reed, The Sierra Club	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Please find attached general comments from The Sierra Club - Rocky Mountain Chapter on the development of Colorado's Water Plan. The Rocky Mountain Chapter includes over 40,000 members and supporters in Colorado, and has a vested interest in water conservation and riparian health throughout the state. Thank you!"	Letter	<b>Staff Response:</b> The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. 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 as a critical component to helping meet future water needs. 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. Colorado's water markets allow for agricultural water rights to be transferred to an urban water right through the water court process. Although Colorado's Water Plan does not seek to prohibit willing seller from selling their water rights to willing buyers, additional options are needed. One of the largest concerns expressed in Colorado's Water Plan is that the status quo could lead to a perceptious amount of agricultural dry up. A description of Colorado's water law is in Section 2.1 and a description of agricultural transfers including alternatives were discussed in Section 6.3.
21	7/8/14	Mely Whiting, Trout Unlimited	Email to Kate McIntire, forwarded to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Summary of recommendations: 1. Increase state and local agency resources to weigh in early in the EIS development process 2. Eliminate the section 122.2 process and allow CPW to provide comments directly to the federal agencies 3. Enter into MOUs with federal permitting agencies to (1) encourage front-loading of environmental impacts investigations; (2) identify common elements in water projects that need to be analyzed; and (3) provide for meaningful stakeholder involvement in the development of environmental impacts investigation and of measures to prevent or mitigate impacts. These MOUs should be developed with stakeholder input. 4. Involve stakeholders early in the process and preserve transparency in decision-making to avoid preventable challenges. 5. Reject far-fetched and/or ineffective suggestions that divert attention and resources away from more practical and effective solutions.	Letter	<b>Staff Response:</b> CWCB appreciates the detailed letter from Trout Unlimited and will consider the permitting improvement suggestion during the revision process of Section 9.3.
22	7/8/14	Robert Stocker, Colorado Citizen	Webform submission on coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: Please see the attached letter.	Letter	<b>Staff Response:</b> 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. The CWCB will consider revisions to Section 6.3. Additional comments are included in Chapters of Colorado's Water Plan. More information on transmountatin divresison can be found in Section 9.2. More information on aquifer storage and recharge is available in Section 6.5. More information on water quality is available in Section 7.3.
23	7/8/14	Marge Vorndam, Colorado Citizen	Webform submission on coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: The Arkansas River Basin , beside the Arkansas River, is reliant on Mountain feeder streams. The health and integrity of those streams has to be a paramount consideration of the Arkansas River watershed. Please consider how Millset Creek, St. Charles River, all Apache Creeks, Purgatoire, Cucharas River,, Huerfano River and Graneros watersheds, along with other rivers that contribute to Arkansas River flows along the Front Range, contribute to the integrity of the Arkansas River. How can their traditional (what's left after current water rights withdrawal) be preserved for Arkansas River flows? Can instream non-allocated or unused rights be implemented to preserve what flows are left on these streams?	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> CWCB staff will pass this on to the Arkansas Basin Roundtable.

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24	7/10/14	Gary Wockner, Save the Colorado River Campaign	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Still no response to my question below... I'd like to get back to these 1,200 people and let them know you received their comments. I ask because I heard you were having trouble with your online comment system. Did you receive them?"	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> Thank you for your email and input on Colorado's Water Plan. At each Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) Board meeting since September, 2013 there has been a public input agenda item regarding Colorado's Water Plan. All of the comments received via the Colorado's Water Plan website or by email to cwaterplan@state.co.us have been included in the CWCB Board packets for review and comment and are also linked below. Depending on the date of submission, input has or will be reviewed at the next scheduled CWCB Board meeting. While not every individual receives a direct email reply regarding their input, a CWCB staff response and/or recommendation regarding all input received is included in a summary spreadsheet within the related Board packet and also available for review online, the link is provided below. Input received between June 21 through August 20 will be included in the September Board packet. At this time, the CWCB is in coordination with the Governor's Office regarding comments related to Colorado's Water Plan. As you know, the first draft version of the plan will be submitted to the Governor on December 10, 2014. Please review the updated schedule including public comment deadlines on the draft of Colorado's Water Plan through 2015 online here: <a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/CWP-Timeline-052014.pdf">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/sites/default/files/CWP-Timeline-052014.pdf</a> You can also learn more by reading the May 2014 Statewide and Basin Status Update for Outreach. Please email cwaterplan@state.co.us with any additional questions regarding your group's public input.
25	7/10/14	Theresa Conley, Conservation Colorado	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Attached please find my cover letter outlining the actions members of Conservation Colorado have taken in the first half of 2014 regarding Colorado's Water Plan that were directed at the CWCB and cwaterplan@state.co.us. In addition to these 880 actions, additional actions were directed at the Governor and other decision makers, I have not included those in these materials but I can do so if helpful. In addition to my cover letter, I have attached one document with the texts of the comment letters that were submitted to the CWCB as well as the names and contact information of the individuals who submitted comments. Unfortunately, due to the timing and the structure of our databases, we are unable to retrieve the comment letters that were personalized or the exact dates each of the actions were sent (either general or personalized); however, we have included the date ranges. Thank you for your attention to this matter and your continued efforts with outreach. If you have any comments or need additional information, please let me know."	Letter, Text from action alerts, spreadsheet of veto alert, spreadsheet of Colorado's Water Plan alert	<b>Staff Response:</b> Thank you to Conservation Colorado for organizing their constituent comments. Colorado's Water Plan will support Colorado's rivers as will be described in Section 6.6 address the need for increased conservation as described in Subsection 6.3.1, and the need for agricultural efficiencies and water sharing practices as described in 6.3.4 and 6.4. With regard to new transmountain diversion projects, the IBCC is exploring 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.
26	7/11/14	Gary Wockner, Save the Colorado River Campaign	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "The South Platte/Metro BIP is being presented to the CWCB at 10:35 on Wednesday. Do you have that presentation in your possession? If you have that presentation in your possession, please send it to me today. (It's not posted on the basin's webpage.) If not, point me to who has it so I can get it today or Monday."	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> A copy of this presentation and the Basin Implementation Plan is available online at <a href="http://www.coloradowaterplan.com">www.coloradowaterplan.com</a>
27	7/11/14	Buddy Sims, Colorado Citizen	Webform submission on coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: A single marijuana plant uses 6 gallon of water per day on average, more if a very large plant. In Eagle town building a 20,000 sq ft grow house, that 18,000 gallons of water per day with 3,000 pot plants. Need to regulate number of pot plants in CO as each store has to grow 70% of their pot for retail sale.	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> CWCB staff will have a Board discussion on whether or not Colorado's Water Plan needs to incorporate projections of water use for growing marijuana in the water demand projections.
28	7/14/2014	Dave Miller, Colorado Citizen	Email to Lindsay Cox, forwarded to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Unfortunately, I can not attend CWCB's July 16-17, 2014 Board Meeting in Rangely. Therefore, please immediately forward my attached June 24, 2014 Colorado Water Planning letter and enclosures to all CWCB members, as my "Public Input" for Agenda Item No. 14, per CWCB's printed Meeting Agenda instructions. In addition, please have all CWCB members consider this email as my official request to give a 60 minute PowerPoint Presentation titled: Central Colorado Project (CCP) - Colorado's Innovative State Water Plan, at CWCB's September Board Meeting. Natural Energy Resources Company's previously provided Central Colorado Project 32 slide PowerPoint disc, dated 8-1-13 includes detailed engineering data. This overlooked data explains how annual revenues from CCP's high altitude peaking power and western blackout protection capabilities will substantially exceed CCP's annual costs to solve Colorado's escalating "water supply gap" throughout both sides of the Continental Divide, including down river states. Curiously, none of CCP's breakthrough clean water, energy, and air solutions for Colorado and its down river states are mentioned in any of CWCB's extensive efforts to formulate a meaningful State Water Plan. CWCB can quickly correct this state water planning travesty with an objective briefing and preliminary NEPA required EIS scoping/modeling evaluation of Central Colorado Project. Thank you CWCB members for considering these comments and our proposed Central Colorado Project briefing at your Board's earliest opportunity. Please advise ASAP."	Letter	<b>Staff Response:</b> All of the comments on Colorado's Water Plan, received via the Colorado's Water Plan website or by email to cwaterplan@state.co.us will be included in the CWCB Board packets for review and comment. The public comment period for this week's Board meeting closed on June 20th. While not every individual receives a direct email reply regarding their input, a CWCB staff response and/or recommendation is included in a summary spreadsheet within the related Board packet and is also available for review online. Here is a link to the webpage where you can view a record of all input received to date (including links to summary spreadsheets and all of the documents received). The input received through June 20th has been posted and is available at: <a href="https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cwaterplan/record-input-received-date">https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cwaterplan/record-input-received-date</a> Due to the already crowded agenda for the upcoming September Board meeting, I cannot offer you an hour of presentation time on the agenda. However, during our standing public input agenda item, there is an opportunity to address the Board. We ask that organizations coordinate with CWCB staff at least two week in advance of the meeting date and limit presentation time to a maximum of 5 minutes.

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29	7/21/2014	Kari Harden, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "As the landowners (for multiple generations) of more than 90 percent of the property proposed for conversion into Morrison Creek Reservoir, we are open to the idea of the project on the condition that it operates and functions in a manner that is reasonable, respectful, sustainable, and aesthetic. We have been in discussion with the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (UYWCD) for many years about the potential reservoir, and as families whose homes and livelihoods depend on this land, have carefully considered the personal tradeoffs. The proposed site of the reservoir includes valuable agricultural and recreational land, as well as favorite fishing grounds and the wedding locations of our daughters and granddaughters. We have been engaged throughout this process with the UYWCD regarding the specifics of the construction and operation of the reservoir. One primary concern discussed has been minimizing the draw down in order to minimize mudflats in the shallow areas. We have also agreed upon non-motorized recreational use, minimal traffic impacts, and private shoreline. Upon weighing the costs and benefits of the project as it relates to the land to which we are all deeply devoted, we have worked to also keep at the forefront what is best for the Yampa Valley community and state of Colorado. We support the Morrison Creek Reservoir project – but only with the inclusion of the aforementioned matters that relate directly to our continued quality of life on the land we have fought to preserve and the natural resources we have worked to conserve. Signed, The Dequine family, Germaine family, and Kim Singleton"	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. CWCB staff will pass this letter along to the Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable.
30	7/21/2014	Richard Saterdal, Morrison Divide Ranch HOA	Email to Kate McIntire, forwarded to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "We at the Morrison Divide Ranch subdivision, along with our neighbors, have been following the proposed Morrison Creek Reservoir with great interest since we first heard about this project in 2007. There is quite a bit of information available regarding this reservoir including information that is pertinent to the Yampa-White-Green Basin Implementation Plan (YWG BIP). The proposed Morrison Creek Reservoir is given prominence in the draft YWG BIP by being one of only five projects and processes called out by name in the executive summary. This reservoir is described in Chapter 4 where its purpose, capacity, storage right, cost and challenges are addressed in Table 4-4 of the draft YWG BIP. But much of this information has not been filled in yet in this table. For instance, Table 4-4 does not include a cost estimate for this project. However, Resource Engineering prepared a reservoir feasibility study report for the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (UYWCD) in 2009 that estimated the cost of this project to be \$20,300,000. Many of the challenges to making this reservoir a viable project and to getting the necessary permits and approvals are also known and should be included in Table 4-4. Construction of the proposed Morrison Creek Reservoir will destroy wetlands and encroach into the Sarvis Creek Wilderness area, requiring a challenging permitting and approval process. This reservoir will also destroy prime agricultural hay and meadowlands, as shown below, as well as inundate areas designated by the Colorado Division of Wildlife as severe winter elk habitat. [image attached] The proposed Morrison Creek Reservoir will also disrupt and deplete the natural flow of the outstanding trout stream below the Morrison Creek dam, especially since the UYWCD wants to transfer via pipeline the water stored in this reservoir out of the Morrison Creek basin and into Stagecoach Reservoir. The water rights that the UYWCD has for Morrison Creek water are very junior water rights, and for this reason there is a substantial risk that the UYWCD will be unable to store water in Morrison Creek Reservoir in dry years or periods of high demand. There are also community opposition, technical and cost challenges that the project must overcome. The benefits of this reservoir must outweigh the drawbacks in order for it to be a viable project. These issues should be listed in Table 4-4 to convey some of the challenges that the proposed reservoir project must overcome. Chapter 2 of the draft YWG BIP discusses environmental needs, including instream flows. It is my understanding that the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) has in recent years obtained decreed instream flow water rights for Morrison Creek downstream of the proposed Morrison Creek Reservoir for the protection of aquatic life, but that these rights are junior even to the UYWCD's water rights. This reservoir will therefore not be required to be operated in a way that maintains minimum flows in the creek. The CWCB has discussed instream flows below the reservoir with the UYWCD and should be able to provide an accurate assessment of the potential impacts of the reservoir on instream flows for the YWG BIP. Table 2-14, Attributes of	Image	<b>Staff Response:</b> Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. CWCB staff will pass this letter along to the Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable.
31	7/22/2014	Leland Swenson, USDA Farm Service Agency	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "The Colorado Farm Service Agency (FSA) State Committee would like to submit the attached statement for consideration in the development of the Colorado Water Plan. The members of the state committee are listed on the letterhead. They are agriculture producers that represent all regions of Colorado. Thank you for including this in your deliberations."	Letter	<b>Staff Response:</b> Colorado's Water Plan recognizes the importance of agriculture to Colorado. Many of the values expressed by the USDA FSA State Committee are incorporated throughout much of Colorado's Water Plan. Statement of importance related to agriculture is in Chapter 5, agriculture efficiency is detailed in Section 6.3.4, and alternative transfer methods are discussed in Section 6.4.

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32	7/21/2014	Lou Dequine, Colorado Citizen	Webform submission on coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: As the landowners (for multiple generations) of more than 90 percent of the property proposed for conversion into Morrison Creek Reservoir, we are open to the idea of the project on the condition that it operates and functions in a manner that is reasonable, respectful, sustainable, and aesthetic. We have been in discussion with the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (UYWCD) for many years about the potential reservoir, and as families whose homes and livelihoods depend on this land, have carefully considered the personal tradeoffs. The proposed site of the reservoir includes valuable agricultural and recreational land, as well as favorite fishing grounds and the wedding locations of our daughters and granddaughters. We have been engaged throughout this process with the UYWCD regarding the specifics of the construction and operation of the reservoir. One primary concern discussed has been minimizing the draw down in order to minimize mudflats in the shallow areas. We have also agreed upon non-motorized recreational use, minimal traffic impacts, and private shoreline. Upon weighing the costs and benefits of the project as it relates to the land to which we are all deeply devoted, we have worked to also keep at the forefront what is best for the Yampa Valley community and state of Colorado. We support the Morrison Creek Reservoir project – but only with the inclusion of the aforementioned matters that relate directly to our continued quality of life on the land we have fought to preserve and the natural resources we have worked to conserve. Signed, The Dequine family, Germaine family, and Kim Singleton	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> Colorado's Water Plan will not include any specific water projects. The CWCB would like to encourage multipurpose projects and full mitigation. CWCB staff will pass this letter along to the Yampa/White/Green Basin Roundtable.
33	7/24/2014	Molly Mugglestone, Protect the Flows; Brooke Webb, Colorado Citizen	Webform submission on coloradowaterplan.com; Email to James Eklund, forwarded to cewaterplan@state.co.us		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: Please see a pledge signed by 43 CO elected officials including State Senators, State Representatives, County Commissioners, Mayors and City Council members regarding the state water plan.	Letter	<b>Staff Response:</b> Many of the values expressed in the commenters letter are incorporated into Colorado's Water Plan. More efficient agricultural water delivery issues are discussed in Section 6.3.4 ,municiple conservation is discussed in Section 6.3.1. Moderizing and maximizing existing storages is a common theme and is discussed in Section 6.5 and 6.6. The health and vitatily of Colorado's rivers is discussed in Chapter 5 and Section 6.6.
34	7/28/2014	Kate Greenberg, National Young Farmers Coalition	Email to cewaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "I hope this finds you well. I am sending along my comments for the State Water Plan on behalf of the National Young Farmers Coalition. You'll see it is addressed to the CWCB and a number of roundtables--these are where we have supporters in Colorado. The first page is a summary of our statements and the following pages are more in-depth comments. I am sending to the respective roundtables and am cc'ing the Colorado Water Plan email address here. In brief, the National Young Farmers Coalition supports urban and agricultural conservation as the first and best option to meet Colorado's needs. Water education and land-use planning should be scaled up; agricultural conservation incentivized and its diverse impacts accounted for; land stewardship that works on behalf of clean and ample water should be elevated as a state-wide priority; farmers should be able to contribute to the health of streams and rivers rather than face disincentives to conservation; permanently removing water from the land must be a last resort and any transfer should be accompanied by strong conservation strategies that plan for the health and productivity of the land over time; and no new transmountain diversions should be included in the plan as these threaten the social, economic and ecological foundation on which rural communities are built, thus jeopardizing the ability of young farmers and ranchers to make a living off the land. You'll find further detail in the attached document. Thanks so much for your time on this."	Comments	<b>Staff Recommendation:</b> The comments on land stewardship such as soil health management, rotational grazing, and conservation tillage will be incorporated into Section 6.3.4 on agirculatural efficiency and reuse. Other comments are incorporated into Section 6.3.1, Section 6.3.3, and Section 6.4.

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35	7/30/2014	Nic Korte, Grand Valley Audubon Society	Webform submission on coloradowaterplan.com		Text from email: "I hope this finds you well. I am sending along my comments for the State Water Plan on behalf of the National Young Farmers Coalition. You'll see it is addressed to the CWCB and a number of roundtables--these are where we have supporters in Colorado. The first page is a summary of our statements and the following pages are more in-depth comments. I am sending to the respective roundtables and am cc'ing the Colorado Water Plan email address here. In brief, the National Young Farmers Coalition supports urban and agricultural conservation as the first and best option to meet Colorado's needs. Water education and land-use planning should be scaled up; agricultural conservation incentivized and its diverse impacts accounted for; land stewardship that works on behalf of clean and ample water should be elevated as a state-wide priority; farmers should be able to contribute to the health of streams and rivers rather than face disincentives to conservation; permanently removing water from the land must be a last resort and any transfer should be accompanied by strong conservation strategies that plan for the health and productivity of the land over time; and no new transmountain diversions should be included in the plan as these threaten the social, economic and ecological foundation on which rural communities are built, thus jeopardizing the ability of young farmers and ranchers to make a living off the land. You'll find further detail in the attached document. Thanks so much for your time on this."	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> Thank you for your positive comments on the nonconsumptive toolbox. Colorado's Water Plan does not seek to make fundamental changes to Colorado's water law and limiting all future nonconsumptive use is well outside the bounds of the plan. However, the plan does recognize how critical the environment is to Colorado and summarizes the environmental projects found in the Basin Implementation Plans in Section 6.6. Colorado's Water Plan also suggests funding watershed master plans in Section 9.1. With regard to the commenter's point on desalination and other innovative water opportunities - water providers are considering reverse osmosis however brine disposal is a significant water quality and environmental concern. Section 6.3.2 indicates Colorado's support of technological invasion such as zero liquid discharge to make such technologies more viable from an environmental stand point.
36	7/31/2014	Celia Greenman, Colorado Citizen	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the State Water Plan. For my interest in non-consumptive use, some of the items I found useful and which were discussed in the Non-Consumptive Toolbox" report (July 2013) were the basin maps; the measurable outcomes along with examples; the toolbox; and the decision tree. When discussing ecosystems and sensitive species, use of CPW, CNHP, and TNC evaluations were utilized. I also appreciate that stakeholder groups would be assembled to work on implementation. With regard to other points: · The real quantifiable water needs for Environmental and Recreational uses must be determined. (These are listed as an Action Request). · Minimum in-stream flows may not be adequate as a sole protection for environmental needs and values if water rights are too limited or too junior to be effective. · Rivers and streams should be seen as continuous systems, not isolated reaches. Therefore, close attention should be paid to the connectivity section of the Non-Consumptive Toolbox report. · Environmental and Recreation uses must be factored into discussions of land use, growth, and water supply .. Most importantly, all alternatives to a new Trans-Mountain diversion must be implemented before any new project from the Colorado River is considered. The Metro Basin Roundtable produced a conservation strategy but it did not seem to incorporate some of the ideas discussed in the Non-Consumptive Toolbox. 1) In addition to identifying aquatic species that may be in need of protection, plant and animal species in adjacent wetland and riparian areas must also be assessed. 2) I did not read of conservation measures associated with agricultural practices. Replacement of failing infrastructure in water delivery for municipal, industrial, and agricultural use should be a priority. I do not believe this should extend to the lining of irrigation ditches, however, as that would have an adverse effect on surrounding vegetation, particularly cottonwoods. 3) Also the Metro Fact Sheet on wet and dry periods has not been updated since 1997? And certain floods (such as the 1965 flood) are not shown as wet periods, why is this? I could not connect the illustration of flood losses to the issue of water demand. I did not see a Conservation Strategy listed for the South Platte Basin Roundtable."	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> We appreciate the commenter reading many of the materials provided. On July 31, 2014, the day the commenter submitted comments, the draft of the Basin Implantation Plans were also submitted. The plan can be reviewed on www.coloradowaterplan.com. Colorado's Water Plan also suggests funding watershed master plans in Section 9.1 and Section 6.6.
37	8/4/14 - 8/20/14	Emails generated from individuals who submitted a form letter online through change.org	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Water is Colorado's most precious resource – allowing our wildlife, agriculture and businesses to thrive. But Colorado's water resources are already stretched too thin and the state's population is expected to double by 2050. If we don't act now to protect them, our remarkable rivers and the bald eagles, mule deer, red foxes, cottontails, rainbow trout, blue herons and other wildlife that depend on them will be in peril. Please urge the Colorado State Water Conservation Board to prioritize the health of Colorado's rivers and wildlife as they draft the state's first-ever water plan."	Over 1,900 letters received	<b>Staff Response:</b> The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. 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 as a critical component to helping meet future water needs.

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38	8/1/2014	Reed Hunker, Colorado Citizen	Webform submission to coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: Please consider the fracking going on in the head waters of the CRB, (refer to the three news articles below). This makes no sense to me.	Articles attached	<b>Staff Response:</b> 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. Colorado's Water Plan will recognize that there is an energy water nexus.
39	8/2/2014	Geoff Withers, Douglas County Rural Water Authority	Webform submission to coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: As a member of the Douglas County Rural Water Authority Board for four years, I am particularly concerned about the continued prospect of the availability of Denver Basin aquifer water to those of us who have no real alternative. Well monitoring in Douglas County continues under a contract with the USGS, and Elbert County is trying to establish such a program. A northern El Paso County group has tried to establish one, and apparently Arapahoe County is considering it. It is also critical to scientifically evaluate DB supplies, and encourage - in every way possible - municipal high production well users to find alternative, sustainable supplies as early as possible, so that rural household and domestic water users can be assured a continued source of supply.	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> The issues raised by the commenter are largely addressed in Colorado's Water Plan. Denver basin aquifers are described in Chapter 4 and water supply, projects, and methods are decide in Section 6.5, including aquifer storage and recharge. The SWSI 2010 gap numbers which are being utilized in Colorado's Water Plan, include the replacement of 30,000 AF of Denver Basin aquifer supplies currently being used. CWCB continues to support groundwater monitoring in Douglas County.
40	8/7/2014	Carl Carnein, Colorado Citizen	Webform submission to coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: I have read the executive summary of the South Platte portion of the plan. My wife and I live in a small subdivision with a special district supplying water in the mountain part of the South Platte basin. On average, we use 30 gpd apiece. We are legally prevented from utilizing water outside of our home--we can't even have a pot of flowers on our deck. We are familiar with what it takes to conserve water. In the executive summary of the South Platte basin plan, I see very little effort to address what I see as the gross waste of water in Colorado's two main urban areas--Denver and Colorado Springs. The evidence for waste is everywhere--from sprinklers running in golf courses and fancy subdivisions to the diversion of water from agricultural uses so that urban users can maintain their leaky faucets and toilets without bothering to fix them (I know, because I have friends whose toilets and faucets have leaked for months--there is no incentive to fix them). In short, I don't see any effort to (1) provide incentives for real conservation in the urban environment, either by individuals or by municipalities that also waste water for frivolous uses; or (2) to control growth as a way of reducing the projected 500,000 acre-foot shortfall in 2050. I believe these two things should be the centerpiece of the plan. Everything else is, to me, secondary. Let's all get serious about the truth, which is that water is going to limit growth in Colorado. If the citizens of the state don't wake up and realize that they can easily reduce their water use, we will all suffer. We need to develop basin-wide regulations, and, if necessary, punitive rate structures as conservation tools, and we need to start thinking seriously about implementing strategies to reduce population growth.	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> : The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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 will incorporate conservation as a critical component to helping meet future water needs. Initial work indicates that conservation will likely be able to meet the needs of an additional one million people. This is not enough to meet all of Colorado's future water demand, so Colorado's Water Plan will also encourage balanced multi-purpose projects to meet our future water needs. The CWCB will send this comment to the South Platte/Metro Basin Roundtable.
41	8/8/2014	John Whitler, Water Research Foundation	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "I had two minor comments on the reuse section. 1. This section should recognize that the National Research Council identified 14 research needs in its report Water Reuse: Potential for Expanding the Nation's Water Supply Through Reuse of Municipal Wastewater. Several organizations and institutions are funding DPR related research in follow up to this report. 2. Additionally, there is DPR research being done by organizations beyond just the WRRF/CA DPR Research Initiative. This could be noted by saying, "Individual utilities, and organizations like the Water Research Foundation are also funding DPR related research.""	None	<b>Staff Recommendation:</b> Will include suggestion made by the commenter in future revisions.
42	8/11/2014	Laura Belanger, Water Resource Advocates	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Please accept the attached revised version of Western Resource Advocate's White Paper on Urban Reuse in the Colorado Water Plan to replace the version that was submitted on June 4, 2014 by Drew Beckwith (Table 2 errors have been corrected in this version). Thank you"	WRA's White Paper on Urban Reuse	<b>Staff Response:</b> Reuse is an important part of Colorado's Water Plan and is explored in Section 6.3.2. Your comments will be taken under consideration during the review of that subsection. Some additional information about reuse and how the Basin Implementation Plans incorporated it into their draft BIPs can be found in Section 6.2.
43	8/11/2014	Margaret Cozine, Colorado Citizen	Webform submission to coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: Hello I am concerned that the average citizen in colorado (unlike New Mexico, Arizona, California, Texas) cannot harvest rainwater from her roof to use in growing food for her family. Please address this in your plan as we now are considered a least progressive state in the West with our complicated and punishing water laws. Example: My home had a well permit. I can harvest water, but only to use INSIDE the house. How crazy is that? Margaret Cozine	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> 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 6.3.1.
44	8/19/2014	Brenda Miller, Rancher and licensed wildlife rehabilitator	Webform submission to coloradowaterplan.com		Comments to be considered in Colorado's Water Plan: No more landscaping/watering of road medians on front range-xeriscape only--no drip systems--only what grows in CO. No more watering cemeteries and ball fields (I grew up playing on dirt/weed fields-sometimes someone volunteered to mow) Limit golf course watering to fairways only. Limit how much grass/lawn can be grown around a home. Limit what kind of grass can be grown and receive water. I don't have a lawn--I mow the weeds now and then around the house--nothing fancy because I don't have water to use on a lawn! Things HAVE to GET Real Serious! There are TOO MANY PEOPLE! Limit the human population--it has to happen now.	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> The percentage of munciple water use is small compared to all other uses. However, it is important to use this and other water resources wisely. Conservation and growth.

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45	8/20/2014	Sue Brown, WaterforColorado.org	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Hello - Please find attached a letter with a summary of recent comments on the water plan from over 7000 concerned Colorado residents. These comments were sent directly through the CWCB input email since June 21st, 2014. These Colorado residents participated through an online alert generated by WaterforColorado.org in order to facilitate comments from the public on the state water plan. Each one of them took time from their busy day to read the information, make a conscious decision to send an email to you, and become engaged in the water plan process. We trust you recognize the value of this participation from people you may normally not hear from on water issues. Please let us know if you need any additional information at sue@rivercampaign.org or 303-477-0972"	Letter	<b>Staff Response:</b> Thank you to WaterforColorado.org for organizing their constituent comments. 1) 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 addition, the CWCB's Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA) grant program has been used by several basins to analyze water flow requirements related to ecological values. 2) The Basin Implementation Plans and Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation as a critical component to helping meet future water needs. Initial work indicates that conservation will likely be able to meet the needs of an additional one million people. This is not enough to meet all of Colorado's future water demand, so Colorado's Water Plan will also encourage balanced multi-purpose projects to meet our future water needs. 3) Agricultural water sharing and modernizing agricultural efficiencies are aspects of Colorado's Water Plan included in Section 6.4 and Subsection 6.3.4. 4) Colorado's Water Plan will incorporate conservation and reuse, however those strategies alone might not be enough to meet Colorado's future water needs. Additional balanced options need to be explored.
46	8/20/2014	Joe Norris, representing the Consolidated Mutual Water Company and the Agricultural Ditch & Reservoir Company	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "Please see the attached letter dated August 20, 2014 from the Consolidated Mutual Water Company and the Agricultural Ditch & Reservoir Company for substantive comments regarding policy implications of the State Engineer's recent participation in water court, especially in the context of change adjudications. The attached file exceeded the maximum file size for submission online, so please consider this as a general comment for consideration by the CWCB at its next scheduled meeting. Please contact myself or Evan Ela of my firm if you have any questions regarding this comment submission."	Letter	<b>Staff Response:</b> CWCB is working with their sister agencies to who are evaluating their own policies to meet the values expressed in Colorado's Water Plan. Your comments will be considered in future revisions of Section 6.4.
47	8/19/2014	Tracy Irving, Colorado Citizen	Webform submission to coloradowaterplan.com		Comments on Colorado's Water Plan Website: after many hour of study i have not been able to answer who.how,etc. the short or long term water markets are operated or are regulated in co. Why is their not more visibility related to this issue? This would seem to deserve some emphasis. My mother always told me if you want to fine the truth - follow the gold	None	<b>Staff Response:</b> Colorado's water markets allow for agricultural water rights to be transferred to an urban water right through the water court process. Although Colorado's Water Plan does not seek to prohibit willing seller from selling their water rights to willing buyers, additional options are needed. One of the largest concerns expressed in Colorado's Water Plan is that the status quo could lead to a percipitious amount of agricultural dry up. A description of Colorado's water law is in Section 2.1 and a description of agricultural transfers including alternatives were discussed in Section 6.3.
48	8/19/2014	Melinda Kassen, IBCC member; Bart Miller, Brew Beckwith, and Laura Belanger, all with the Western Resource Advocates, Theresa Conley, Conservation Colorado	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Text from email: "As mentioned last week, here's a memo laying out those elements from draft BIPs we think other basins, but also the Colorado Water Plan itself, should adopt."	Memorandum	<b>Staff Recommendations:</b> Staff recommends incorporating aspects of the comments into Colorado's Water Plan such as integrating consumptive projects with environment and recreation ones, adding climate change analysis and developing watershed master plans across the state. These suggestions have been incorporated into Section 6.6 next steps. Comments related to conservation will be considered in the update to Section 6.3. Comments related to increased yeilds related to identified projects and processes is in Section 6.2. Comments related to new supply are in Section 8 and alternative agricultural tranfers are in Section 5.7.
49	8/18/14 - 8/19/14	Emails generated from individuals who submitted a form letter through Protect Colorado's Rivers	Email to cwaterplan@state.co.us		Copy of form letter: "Dear Director Eklund: As a citizen of Colorado, I urge you to prioritize water conservation in our cities and towns as you draft our state's first-ever water plan. Water conservation is faster, better, and cheaper than new water projects, which 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 for a year. We should adopt this 1% per year goal in our state water plan. We cannot afford to continue taking more and more water from our rivers -- water conservation is the way forward for Colorado. Thank you for your leadership, and for protecting the future of Colorado's rivers."	11 letters received	<b>Staff Response:</b> The four values driving Colorado's Water Plan include attention to environmental needs. 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. 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 as a critical component to helping meet future water needs.
50	8/8/2014	Front Range Water Council	Received by US mail		The Front Range Water Council has divided its comments into five distrinct section reflective of these themes: 1) The need to further advance conservation and reuse efforts, while recognizing all that has been accomplished to date. 2) The need to lower existing barriers to the implementation of alternative transfer methods and other water sharing opportunities. 3) The advancement of concrete, identifiable refinements to the water project premitting processs so as to reduce unnecessary costs and delays. 4) The future role of the state in the financing and construction of water projects, both consumptive and non-consumptive. 5) Support for the package of priniiacles contained in the IBCC Conceptual Agreement.	Letter	<b>Staff Response:</b> Thank you to the Front Range Water Council for putting a considerable amount of effort into your comments. In future revisions of sections on conservation, reuse, alternative agriculture transfers, and permitting, your comments will be considered. In addition, financing is considered as part of Section 9.1 and Section 5.5 will include a description in the appendixes of what other states are doing to meet their water supply gaps. The IBCC conceptual agreement on transmountain diversions is discussed in Chapter 8 and your comments will be considered in future revisions.

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51	8/10/2014	High Country Conservation Advocates	Received by US mail		* Funding for stream management surveys and plans that will fill in the knowledge gap for nonconsumptive needs on priority stream segments. *Funding to develop projects on these segments, where there is limited NGO capacity to bring nonconsumptive projects to the table. * Support for augmenting instream flows (by appropriation, acquisition, leasing, and water sharing mechanisms) in cooperation with agriculture. * Clear criteria for water development, requiring conservation, reuse, and efficiency strategies before increased diversions - transmountain or otherwise.	Letter and postcards	<b>Staff Response:</b> Thank you for compiling comments into a concise letter. Funding for watershed master plans is included as a recommendation under Section 6.2 and 9.1 as well as funding for environmental and recreational projects and increasing capacity. Clear criteria for water development will be considered as part of Section 9.4. Lastly, agricultural and environmental water sharing is an important multipurpose component mentioned in many Basin Implementation Plans and CWCB supports these types of multipurpose and multipartner projects.