



A Guide to Water Resource Acronyms

House Bill 2005-1177 (HB 05-1177): The Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act provides a permanent forum for broad-based water discussions in the state. It creates two new structures: 1) the Interbasin Compact Committee, and 2) the Basin Roundtables. There are nine Basin Roundtables based on Colorado's eight major river basins and the Denver metro area.

Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC): A 27-member committee established to facilitate conversations between basins and to address statewide issues. The IBCC is made up of two representatives from each roundtable, six governor appointments, a member each from both the Senate and House Agriculture Committees, and the Director of Compact Negotiations.

Basin Roundtable (BRT): The nine Basin Roundtables bring over 300 citizens into water discussions across the state. The diversity of Basin Roundtable membership broadens the range of stakeholders who are actively participating in Colorado's water decisions. The Basin Roundtables are each made up of a set of designated members (county, municipal, and water district representation), ten at-large members (agricultural, recreational, domestic water provider, industrial, environmental, and water right holder representation), non-voting members, agency liaisons, and the CWCB board member from that basin.

Colorado Department of Natural Resources (DNR): The department oversees parks, forests, wildlife, water resources, geology, mining, and soil management. DNR's mission is to develop, preserve and enhance the state's natural resources for the benefit and enjoyment of current and future citizens and visitors.

Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB): An agency within DNR, which was created in 1937 for the purpose of aiding in the protection and development of the waters of the state. The agency is responsible for water project planning and finance, stream and lake protection, flood hazard identification and mitigation, weather modification, river restoration, water conservation and drought planning, water information, and water supply protection.

Intrastate Water Management & Development Section (IWMD): HB06-1385 created CWCB's IWMD Section, which implements the Statewide Water Supply Initiative, the Water Supply Reserve Account, develops reconnaissance level water supply alternatives, tracks and supports water supply projects and planning processes, and supports the IBCC and BRTs.

Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI): In 2003, the CWCB commissioned SWSI, an 18-month study to explore, basin by basin, existing water plans, supplies, and existing and project demands through 2030, as well as a range of potential options to meet that demand.

Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA): In 2006, to help address Colorado's future water needs, the Colorado General

Assembly passed Senate Bill 06-179, which establishes the WSRA. The WSRA provides money for grants to complete water activities. Water activities are broadly defined and include water supply and environmental projects and/or studies. Requests for monies from the WSRA must be approved by the local Basin Roundtables. Once approved by the Basin Round table the request is forwarded to the CWCB to evaluate and make decisions regarding funding.

Nonconsumptive Needs Assessment (NCNA): HB 05-1177 indicated that each roundtable should produce a nonconsumptive, or environmental and recreational, water supply needs assessment.

Watershed Flow Evaluation Tool (WFET): A tool piloted in Colorado to assist in the quantification of nonconsumptive needs.

Identified Projects & Processes (IPPs): A term developed in SWSI to specify planned methods to meet water supply needs by water providers.

Municipal and Industrial (M&I): A term referring to the water needs of cities and towns throughout Colorado.

Self Supplied Industrial (SSI): A term referring to those industries that typically provide their own water, such as power plants and snowmaking facilities.

Colorado Division of Water Resources (DWR): An agency within DNR providing water rights administration.

Decision Support System (DSS): A general term referring to a tool that integrates a broad set of data and modeling to allow for better decision making at a regional scale.

Colorado Decision Support System (CDSS): A water management system developed by the CWCB and DWR. The goal of this system is to assist in making informed decisions regarding historic and future use of water.

Basin Needs Decision Support System (BNDSS): Formerly known as the IPP database, the BNDSS will provide a database for consumptive and nonconsumptive projects and methods and assist in calculating the water supply gap.

Colorado River Water Availability Study (CRWAS): Examines what water may be available within the Colorado River Basin in the future. The study models future hydrologies based off tree ring and climate change data. It then considers what water is available to meet existing and future demands.

Department of Local Affairs (DOLA): The Department works in cooperation with local communities to help build on the strengths, unique qualities and priorities of Colorado. It does so through financial and technical assistance, emergency management services, property tax administration and programs addressing affordable housing and homelessness.