

STATE WATER PLANNING PROCESS GOALS, PRODUCTS, AND EXPECTATIONS

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PROCESS GOALS

What will water planning do for the State of Wyoming?

- Maintain an inventory of accurate and contemporary water data for use by the Governor, State Legislature, and state agencies to help respond to federal legislation and regulation, promote responsible development, and help local level grassroots decision making.
- Ensure Wyoming's ability to develop remaining compact allocations.

PRODUCTS

The planning team envisions two major products from the planning process:

- Comprehensive Basin Plans for the seven major river basins in Wyoming.
- A series of water planning web pages accessed via the internet and housed at the Wyoming Water Resources Data System (WRDS) at UW. (Note the web address at the top of the page)

The website houses all of the information and products developed during the plans and is a critical element in basin planning. On the website you will find:

- General basin planning information, the State Framework and individual basin water plans, meeting agendas and meeting minutes.
- Digital Reference Notebook containing BAG presentations, Green/Colorado River Basin information (compacts, federal regulations, Wyoming water information, etc.).
- Digital comment cards for making comments and recommendations to the planning team.

EXPECTATIONS

The Basin Advisory Group (BAG) has a role to play in the planning process. BAG responsibilities:

- Attendance at the BAG meetings. The meeting locations will rotate throughout the basin providing opportunity for attending at least one or two meetings.
- Giving, and listening to, presentations that define issues/challenges and their strategies for handling the challenges.
- Strategy discussions during, and outside, of BAG meetings (written comment cards, web comment card, personal conversation with the Consultants and state agencies).

The BAG and contributing agencies are encouraged to participate in the development of strategies. Examples of strategies follow:

- Municipal master plans.
- Conservation.
- Development of water supplies (reservoirs-new and rehabilitated, groundwater, etc.)
- Watershed planning.
- Enhancing environmental and recreational opportunities.
- Assessment of reservoir operations for handling changes in runoff.
- Groundwater modeling.
- Expanding the State's stream gaging network.

Contact the project manager for further information and to reach other planning team members.

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