

Common Water Resources Management Needs Across the Nation

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 Delaware River Basin Commission
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Critical Challenges/Needs: Funding

ACROSS REGIONS		
WESTERN STATES	CENTRAL STATES	EASTERN STATES
Funding	Funding/Resources/ Comprehensive Investments	Funding
Data and Information	Data and Information IWRM/Multipurpose Water Management	Data and Information IWRM/Multipurpose Water Management
Technical assistance IWRM/ Balancing Competing Needs	Infrastructure	Water Supply
Infrastructure	Water Supply/ Water Conservation	Water Quality
Water Supply	Ecosystem Needs	Planning & Policy
Streamflow Gauging	Regulatory/Authorities	Regulatory/Authorities

Critical Challenges/Needs: Data/Information

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Critical Challenges/Needs: IWRM

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- ### What the Heck is IWRM????
- Integration of:
 - Multiple Interests
 - Multiple Levels of Government
 - Variety of Stakeholders
 - All Water Sectors
 - No Stovepipes
 - Ultimate Goal - One plan addressing:
 - Quality and quantity
 - Water supply/droughts, stormwater/flooding, wastewater, ecological flow needs, (and land use)
 - Groundwater and surface water
 - In a watershed context

Mississippi River Issues Exemplify Water Challenges

- Loss of wetlands, bottomland, and forests from agricultural pursuits
- Loss of agricultural land to industrial and municipal use from population growth
- Pristine headwaters become polluted at St. Louis
- Point and nonpoint source pollution, e.g., chemicals, sedimentation, runoff, toxicity, depletion of oxygen
- Threats to endangered species and loss of prime habitat for wildlife and fish







Example of IWRM for the Mississippi River

- USACE Mississippi Valley Division Commander desires to build a unified vision for the Mississippi River -- 3rd largest watershed in the world -- 31 states and 2 Canadian provinces
- Doing it with and through stakeholders
 - Interagency Levee Task Force
 - MS Valley Flood Control Association including congressional representatives
 - New "Fusion Cell" among US Weather Service, USGS, USACE, and MVD
 - MOUs with TNC and Audubon Society
 - Special issues meetings like "Diversion Summit"
- Partnering opportunities found in Flood Risk Management mission: Develop risk classification of levee systems



Other Critical Challenges/Needs

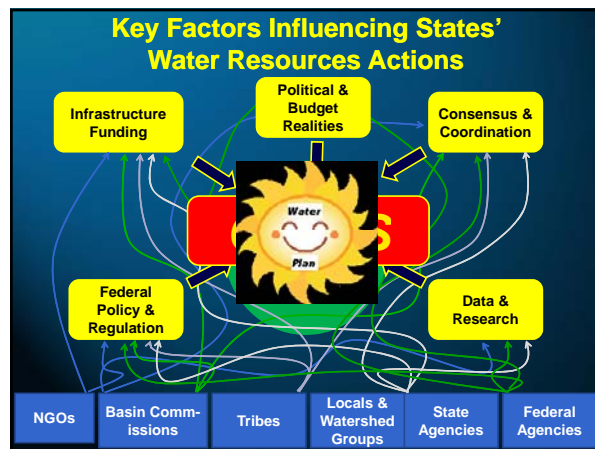
- Aging infrastructure
 - To expand/replace/repair/upgrade aging infrastructure (water/wastewater/flood control/dams/navigation)
- Competing water needs/limited water supplies
 - M&I, agricultural, power generation, mining, ecosystem...

Other Critical Challenges/Needs

- Authorities/regulatory processes/governance issues
 - Streamlining
 - Improved coordination
 - Clarity of guidance
 - Conflicting/overlapping authorities and policies
- Governance for IWRM
 - within and across state boundaries,
 - greater consistency across Federal agencies
- Climate Change
 - Impacts and Adaptation

ASCE 2009 Report Card

Aviation	D	Public Parks & Recreation	C-
Bridges	C	Rail	C-
Dams	D	Roads	D-
Drinking Water	D-	School	D
Energy	D+	Solid Waste	C+
Hazardous Waste	D	Transit	D
Inland Waterways	D-	Wastewater	D-
Levees	D-		



Roles in Water Management

- Federal - *“Fund, Guide, and Assist. Do Not Dictate”*
- States - *“Working to Plan, Implement, and Administer a Water Resources Vision”*
- Tribes - *“A Voice for Native American Water Rights”*
- NGOs - *“Shared Interest with a Unique Perspective”*
- Interstate Organizations – *“Forum for Watershed-based Decision Making”*

Unique Watershed-Based Role of Interstate Commissions

Interstate basin commissions conduct assessments, promote collaboration, offer a systems view of regional conditions and needs, and report on results

WESTERN	CENTRAL	EAST
Facilitate discussions	Provide advocacy for water resources	Identify and synthesize regional needs
Provide education and outreach	Provide education, communication, outreach	Build consensus and engage stakeholders
	Facilitate compacts, agreements	Facilitate integrated basin planning
	Convene stakeholders	Coordinate monitoring and data sharing
	Stimulate/support regional planning	Facilitate compacts for common good
	Practice/promote IWRM	Foster education and awareness

Some Examples

- Delaware River Basin Commission
 - Basin Plan and State of the Basin Report
 - Flexible Flow Management Plan -- reservoir mgt. for supply, ecological flows, & flood mitigation
- Upper Mississippi River Basin Association
 - Fishers and Farmers Database -- on streams
- Susquehanna River Basin Commission
 - Comprehensive strategic planning through IWRM for coordination, flood damage reduction, disaster recovery, water quality, water supply, economic development, aquatic ecosystems restoration, and sediment management
- Interstate Commission on the Potomac River Basin Commission
 - Collaborative water quality and water supply planning
- Red River Basin Commission
 - Comprehensive and integrated Natural Resources Framework Plan
- Great Lakes Commission
 - Great Lakes Regional Collaboration Strategy

States Want to Be In the Driver Seat

States/Interstates Know the Necessity of Water Planning and Management

Needs to Accomplish the Goal

- Funding
- Data and Information
- IWRM
- Change Crisis Mgt. to Proactive Strategies
- Watershed Approach
- Governance Changes –
 - streamlining, eliminate stove pipes, etc.
- Transboundary Solutions

