

# ICWP Spring 2021 Intern Projects

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# Intern Bios



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# State Water Planning



## STATE WATER PLAN REVIEW

April 2021



**Prepared by:**  
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## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

### Overview

The 2021 State Water Plan Review provides an overview of 10 state water plans and 2 interstate water plans. The Review identifies the driving forces behind state water planning and the goals of engaging in the planning process.

We also focused on five specific questions to help characterize state water plans:

- Does the state have a standalone climate plan?
- Does the state incorporate climate into its water plan?
- Does the state have a standalone drought plan?
- Does the state incorporate drought into its water plan?
- Does the state have a permitting system?

### Acknowledgements

We relied on publicly available state water plans to conduct our review. A link to each state's water plan is included in Appendix A.



Hoover Dam



Austin, TX

## TEXAS

### 2017 STATE WATER PLAN

#### Drivers

The 2017 State Water Plan focuses on addressing the gap between existing water supply and future water demand in the context of the pressures of population growth.

#### Highlights

This is the first year that Texas has incorporated drought into their state water plan. Although the Plan only mentions "climate" three times, it discusses the variability and uncertainty of future water supply and demand.

#### Goals

The Plan is a guide to state water policy that includes legislative recommendations and proposed water management strategies. It provides an understanding of water availability and water supply within the state and incentivizes stakeholder participation.

The Plan also serves as a progress report and an update to previous plans.

# State Water Planning

## Commonalities

- Planning is often driven by current or future water scarcity
- States use plans to:
  - set priorities
  - make recommendations
  - guide funding
  - engage stakeholders

## Differences

- States are at very different stages in the planning process
- Incorporation of climate change and drought varies by state
- Some states keep planning in-house while others outsource to consultants

# Interstate Water Organization Funding Models



## INTERSTATE WATER ORGANIZATIONS


Funding Models and Mechanisms  
Survey Report



Prepared by:  
**Katherine Tucker**  
ICWP Intern, 2021

### America's Watershed Initiative

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI



#### PERFORMANCE BASED REPORTING


AWI reports receiving grant funding from a private source that requires "extensive reporting against very specific performance standards." Such reporting includes benchmark metrics and dates, ensuring "x publications in Y time frame, x meetings with partners in y time frame, x number attending these meetings, etc." to ensure compliance with the parameters of the grant.

#### ABOUT THE ORGANIZATION


America's Watershed Initiative (AWI) is a collaboration working with hundreds of business, government, academic, and civic organizations to find solutions for the challenges of managing the Mississippi River and the more than 250 rivers that flow into it.

#### OVERVIEW OF FUNDING

As a non-governmental organization, AWI receives funding from its members, corporate gifts, and public grants.



Funding Source	Percentage
Public Grants	54%
Corporate Gifts	38%
Members/Signatory Parties	8%



### Guiding Questions

- Where do various interstate organizations source their funding from?
- Are they actively utilizing or able to utilize public and private grants?
- Do grant-funded projects require performance based metrics and reporting?
- Does the organization charter outline specific areas of responsibility that a certain percentage of funding must be directed towards?
- How is the Covid-19 pandemic affecting funding for interstate water organizations?

# USGS Streamgage Funding Fact Sheet



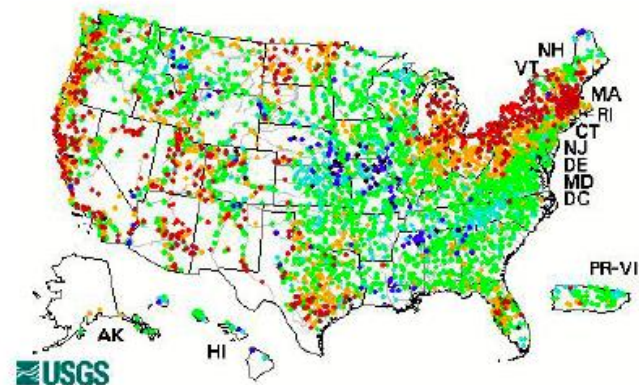
## ICWP SUPPORT FOR USGS STREAMGAGES 2021 FACT SHEET

USGS streamgages play extremely significant roles in making critical decisions around **public safety and the economy**. From **communicating flooding hazards and drought planning** to **managing construction** and promoting **economic well-being**, the data are crucial. These streamgages directly impact public health, safety, and economic development. Streamgages are also essential in navigating **climate change**, as consistent data aid in understanding the impacts on national water supply (in volume of water received, timing, and year-to-year variability).



*USGS scientists taking velocity and depth measurements*

The streamgage network consists of over **11,300 streamgages** in lakes, reservoirs and streams. The vital data is used by governmental organizations, private industries, and the general public. In 2020, there were **887 million requests for streamgage reports**. Streamgages in the USGS networks are funded using federal appropriated funds for Federal Priority Streamgages or Cooperative Matching Funds in combination with funds from more than 1,400 partners.



*Map of streamgage networks*