

Summer 2018

Dear 2018 Candidate,

The Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC) commends your bid for public service and wants to alert you and all citizens to important water and natural resource challenges in front of all Coloradans. Colorado faces drought, wildfire, flooding, climate variability and change, and extraordinary growth. Reconciling the rising imbalance between diverse water demands and our variable water supply remains a complex bipartisan effort. Our state's future requires flexibility and action in the face of uncertainty.

Who are we?

The IBCC is a 27-member committee, with two representatives from the state's major river basins and Denver metropolitan area, six gubernatorial appointees, two legislative appointees, and a director. Established in 2005 by the Colorado Legislature's Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act, the IBCC's main charge is to facilitate conversations among basins and unite statewide interests.

The state's nine basin roundtables and the IBCC were foundational to the creation of Colorado's Water Plan and are invaluable in their capacity to engage and implement water solutions at a local level. The IBCC and roundtables continue to provide critical input on a variety of water issues, policies, and programs since their inception.

Why should you care?

As a candidate for office, you know that water is fundamental to the function and prosperity of our state. Our iconic mountains, rivers, and plains draw people by the millions. All are key to our economic well-being, but the health of these resources is under significant stress. Our population grew from 1 million in 1930 to over 5 million today and could reach 8.5 million by 2050. Supporting this growth and our quality of life requires water.

What is the solution?

Colorado's Water Plan sets forth strategies to meet our future needs through balanced policies and actions that all Coloradans and their elected officials can support while preserving the Doctrine of Prior Appropriation – the basis of our water laws since statehood. The plan attests to our citizens' ability to organize around shared goals to preserve our water values of a productive economy, vibrant and sustainable cities, productive agriculture, a strong environment, and a robust recreation industry.

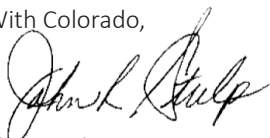
But a plan isn't enough. Colorado's Water Plan alone does not relieve us of the inherent uncertainty of water scarcity, uncertain supplies, natural hazards, economic cycles, or population and economic growth. The plan requires implementation, leadership, and funding.

How can you get involved?

1. The plan requires implementation of collaborative, balanced water solutions through the intersectional efforts of political will and leadership, as well as long-term stable and sustained funding.
2. The State of Colorado and countless water providers and experts are working hard to implement Colorado's Water Plan and will need continuing, bipartisan statewide support.
3. All Coloradans share in the responsibility to fund and implement water solutions as we all have a stake in our state's water future. The IBCC is available to answer any questions about Colorado's Water Plan and the implementation required to support Colorado's water future.

The IBCC looks forward to working with you to ensure the state's most valuable resource is protected and available for generations to come.

With Colorado,



The Interbasin Compact Committee
John Stulp, Director



Thirsty for more information?

- Check out our progress at bit.ly/CWP-RE2017
- Read Colorado's Water Plan at bit.ly/CWP-2015

