

CONFERENCE MINUTES
RIO GRANDE ROUNDTABLE
EL PASO, TEXAS
SEPTEMBER 5, 2001

The conference commenced with a welcome and opening statement from LTC Raymond Midkiff, the District Engineer for the Corps of Engineers' Albuquerque District. The purpose of the conference was for the Corps of Engineers to listen to the stakeholders and to learn about the water resources needs and opportunities within the Basin. Meeting participants introduced themselves and the organizations they represented.

MEETING PARTICIPANTS.

The list of Participants to the Roundtable is found at

<http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/ppm/roundtable/index.htm>

BASIN OVERVIEW (KEN ORTH, SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS)

Mr. Orth's presentation focused on the structure and the history of the Corps of Engineers (Corps) within the Rio Grande Basin. The Corps is represented by two Divisions (South Pacific with its headquarters in San Francisco and the Southwestern Division with its headquarters in Dallas), and three District Offices. The Albuquerque District boundary (which is part of the South Pacific Division) encompasses the upper reaches of the Basin from the headwaters in Colorado to the confluence of the Rio Grande with the Pecos River in, Texas. The Fort Worth District boundary (which is part of the Southwestern Division) encompasses the middle reach from Amistad Reservoir to Falcon Dam in Texas. The Galveston District boundary (which is part of the Southwestern Division) encompasses the lower reach of the Basin from the Falcon Dam to the Gulf of Mexico.

One of the Corps' traditional missions includes providing service to Department of Defense in construction of facilities on Army and Air Force facilities. And it also provides engineering and construction services to other Agencies within the Federal Government. However, the mission that has the most direct impact on the Rio Grande Basin is the Corps Civil Works Mission. Many water resources stakeholders have direct dealing with the Corps on obtaining regulatory permits within the waterways of the United States. Along with the regulatory permits, the Corps is actively involved in the engineering and construction of water resources projects. The Corps' traditional mission has included projects that provide high priority benefits associated with Flood Damage Prevention and Navigation. Recently, the Corps has received new authority from the Congress for the planning, design, and construction of Environmental Restoration. The Corps is focusing on formulating projects that incorporate a new concept called environmental sustainability. This means the balancing of formulating a project that meets developmental needs, while at the same time meeting the environmental needs.

A copy of Mr. Orth's presentation can be found at

<http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/ppm/roundtable/index.htm>

CORPS OF ENGINEERS' LISTENING SESSION OVERVIEW (GARY LOEW, SOUTHWESTERN DIVISION, CORPS OF ENGINEERS)

In calendar year 2002, the Corps of Engineers embarked on a series of meetings to bring all stakeholders involved in the developing and maintaining of the water resources within the United States to discuss the Federal Government's role in the future infrastructure development. This meeting is an extension of the Listening Sessions to address the needs, opportunities, and constraints within the Rio Grande Basin.

Recently, there have been a large number of initiatives across the United States to address the future water resources needs. The Texas Senate Bill 1 (SB1) planning initiative is an example of the many ongoing studies that address the water resources issues of the basin. The Corps has experience in watershed basin studies that have produced tangible benefits through the coordination of Federal policies and authorities to meet local stakeholders needs. Studies such as SB1 have highlighted the need for future basin planning efforts, since the current process tends to favor stakeholders with the largest resources.

The Corps' planning process provides the ability to address new opportunities. It is moving towards identifying regional needs, in lieu of local needs on a case-by-case basis. The objective of the conference is to listen to the local stakeholders concerns and opportunities to address the water resources needs of the Basin. Additionally, the goal of the conference is to look at the future potential Federal Government role in addressing these opportunities.

Mr. Loew's presentation can be found at <http://www.spa.usace.army.mil/ppm/roundtable/index.htm>.

RIO GRANDE BASIN STAKEHOLDERS FEEDBACK

The participants at the meeting were asked to provide their thoughts and ideas regarding the Problems and Opportunities, Constraints, and the Federal Role. Participants were asked to provide their number one item for each element. A listing of all responses is listed in Appendix A. The following is a brief synopsis of the major items discussed at the conference.

PROBLEMS AND OPPORTUNITIES -

The major items identified by the participants within the Basin were categorized as follows:

?? Need for more water.

- ~~///~~ The Rio Grande is seen as two rivers based on the sources of water. The dividing point is Fort Quitman. Based on historic flows for the reach below, Fort Quitman, a majority of the water is from the Rio Conchos in Mexico.
- ~~///~~ Due to the reality of the limited water within the Basin, there is a need to address the uses of existing water (conservation and desalination).
- ~~///~~ The need for more water within the Basin is not visible to many users due to its availability and low cost. Proper use and conservation measures may not be implemented until current conditions change.

?? Support for Water Supply and Ecosystem Restoration

- ✂ There is a misconception that water resources opportunities are limited in arid regions. More attention needs to be made toward ecosystem restoration development in these areas.
- ✂ There is a need to study the feasibility of non-traditional water supply sources such as desalination.
- ✂ The Federal Government should investigate the possibility of establishing a National Program for water supply that is similar to the Federal Highway Administration.

✂

?? Need for Basin Management. Current efforts have been focused more on solving water resources needs on a case-by-case basis without looking at the impacts on the total Basin. The goal would be to develop a process/plan to balance all needs within the watershed.

- ✂ Many studies have been initiated at the local, State and Federal levels to address the water resources needs of the Basin. However, there has not been one overall review of the Basin.
- ✂ Historically, many cities along the Rio Grande used groundwater to meet their needs. Due to the diminished availability of groundwater, they are now looking at surface water sources to meet their needs. An integrated basin-wide approach to study the problem in lieu of the current local planning process would add efficiencies to the process, and make communities more self reliant and not dependant on a single source for water.
- ✂ The Corps' role in the Basin should be directed towards watershed planning. They have the ability to bring the Republic of Mexico, US Federal Agencies and the Tribal Governments together to address local needs.
- ✂ Today there is the opportunity to restore the ecological health of the Rio Grande. Currently, the Middle Rio Grande is the only location of endangered species. A study of the entire basin could be used to address this issue before the solution becomes too costly.
- ✂ In today's world, one entity cannot be dependent on one source (i.e., groundwater) for water. Studies should address an integrated multi-source approach to meeting water supply needs.
- ✂ The Basin is made up of landowners and water owners with competing interests. The Corps has a nation-wide presence, and could become an "honest" broker to balance the needs of both groups.

?? Establishment of a Federal/non-Federal Consortium. Currently there are numerous Local State, and Federal initiatives within the Basin. However, it is not apparent whether any one agency is taking the lead. This concern resulted in the following comments from the participants:

- ✂ All Federal Agencies within the Basin should work to develop a program similar to the Chesapeake Bay and Everglades to address the water resources needs in the Basin.
- ✂ The Corps of Engineers has received some funding to review the Texas Regional Planning Reports. The Corps needs review its existing authorities to address the water resources needs of the Basin.

- Recent initiatives have been based on a “grass-root” planning process. This has resulted in successful watershed management. Any potential Federal initiatives should build on these plans.
- There is a perception that the Federal Agencies are not working together to meet the water resources needs of the Basin. Conflicts between competing water needs are being experienced since all Federal Agencies have different policies and regulations.
- The establishment of a Federal/non-Federal group will provide the opportunity to educate stakeholders within the Basin about institutional parameters (i.e., Rio Grande Compact; Federal, State and Local Laws, etc.) that impact the water resources needs.
- The problem of water supply is not a local issue. The problem of water supply must be addressed at a National level.
- The water resources needs and opportunities must take into account the needs of all stakeholders. This will require the involvement of the US, Mexico, and the Native American Tribes within the Basin.
- There is a need for hydrologic studies that link ground and surface water sources. This should be accomplished with the USGS to ensure the data developed is valid.
- An opportunity exists to include international input into the planning process. The effort that is currently ongoing is a grass root effort.

CONSTRAINTS -

The participants identified the following constraints that they believed were impacting water resources development of the Basin.

?? Funding

- Stakeholders have been involved in water resources planning initiatives. The issue is funding to implement the various plans.
- The current funding formulas for Federal/non-Federal costs for comprehensive studies are not conducive to watershed studies. Full Federal funding of studies would resolve coordination issues due to the large number of stakeholders within the Basin.

?? Coordination (Communication)

- Communication between the stakeholders above and below Fort Quitman has been hindered due to past court cases.
- A public awareness program to educate the citizens within the Basin of the water resources issues does not exist. A program that includes community involvement is necessary.
- The International Boundary and treaties affect the ability to bring all stakeholders together.
- There are a lot of Federal Agencies within the Basin; however, their roles are narrow. Very few Federal Agencies have a broad perspective of the Basin. There is a need for an “honest broker” to begin the process of developing a National Water Policy.
- Concern was raised about expanding the role of Federal Agencies, such as the Corps, since they do not have a history of working within the lower Basin.

Expanding the role of Federal Agencies has not worked in the past due to an increase in bureaucratic layers.

- ~~EE~~ Federal/State organizations result in too many layers. There are too many groups looking at specific issues and not at the entire Basin.
- ~~EE~~ The different Federal Agencies interpret existing laws and regulations differently. This action causes confusion in the identification of opportunities for water resources development within the Basin.
- ~~EE~~ The Indian Tribes are moving forward with actions to improve the water resources for reaches of the River. All stakeholders in the Basin should acknowledge and work with the Tribes to take advantage of the cultural and historical values of the Basin.
- ~~EE~~ Public awareness of the challenges and opportunities within the Basin is low. Many Federal Agencies, such as the Corps, do not conduct effective Public Awareness Programs for informing the public of all issues.
- ~~EE~~ Many of the participants voiced a concern about the Federal process in developing water resources projects. The concerns were over
 - ?? Cost
 - ?? The perception that each Federal Agency had its own interest, and were not creative in using existing policies to meet the water resources needs of the Basin.
 - ?? Some Federal Agencies, such as the Corps, have limited experience in the Basin. This has resulted in past experiences that were not positive.
 - ?? There is a lack of coordination between Agencies.
- ~~EE~~ The organizational structures of the Federal Government do not overlay well with Local and State entities. For example, the Corps has 3 District Offices, and there are 5 Congressional Districts within the State of Texas. This results in the involvement of such a large group that there is a lack of coordination on the responsible party.
- ~~EE~~ Concerns were voiced on the Federal planning process. A lot of regional and local planning efforts have been initiated to develop strategic plans for meeting future water resources needs. These planning efforts have gained local support due to the “grass-roots” process used in identifying potential solutions. The concern is that the Federal planning process will not use the findings of these studies as a basis to begin their evaluations.

?? Prioritization of Land Use and Water Rights

- ~~EE~~ Conflict resides in “who owns the water”. State laws are different which leads to a misunderstanding over the best use of releases from the upper Basin. It is almost impossible to develop a plan to meet the Basin’s needs if there is an uncertainty of who has the rights to the water. Federal Agencies should review their authorities to address ways to modify existing projects to better fit the conditions and needs of the Basin. This action should be a priority of the Corps, Bureau of Reclamation and the IBWC.
- ~~EE~~ There have been too many lawsuits within the Basin. The Courts do not have the time for water law resulting in long delays in resolving conflicts. Stakeholders

recommended the need for a specific Federal Court assigned to only address water problems.

?? Limited Water/Resources

- ~~///~~ There is limited potable water within the Basin.
- ~~///~~ Water supply is a timing problem. The major flows within the Basin come in a 90-day period. The rest of the year is unknown. There is a need for additional structures to address the hydrologic realities of the Basin.
- ~~///~~ The desire for economic development is not taking into account that water is a limited resource in the Basin. Stakeholders within the Basin must recognize the hydrologic realities of the Basin. It may not be possible to achieve all proposed economic development desired within the Basin.

FEDERAL ROLE -

During this portion of the Roundtable, participants were asked to identified ways that the Federal Government could

?? Funding

- ~~///~~ Recommend Federal Agencies develop a strategic plan for the Basin to ensure a coordinated effort to fund studies and projects.
- ~~///~~ Develop authorities for funding Local and State initiatives based on EPA discretionary type funding.
- ~~///~~ Federal Government should provide direct funding programs to allow stakeholders to develop needed projects.
- ~~///~~ The Federal Government should have a commitment to the Rio Grande to assure quality/quantity of water is there to meet future demands.
- ~~///~~ Federal funding formulas and cost sharing provisions should be examined to better utilize existing Federal funding. This would require new provisions allowing use of Federal funding from multiple Agencies for project implementation.
- ~~///~~ The Corps does not have sufficient funding to meet its commitments. Renewed support should be provided so that the Corps can fully fund its water operations review for the Upper Basin.

?? Facilitator/Coordinator

- ~~///~~ One Federal Agency should take the leadership role to facilitate coordination of study efforts and to obtain the necessary funding. The Federal Agencies should be brought together to better utilize existing authorities and policies.
- ~~///~~ Ensure obligations to the Tribes are upheld.
- ~~///~~ Broker arrangements within International Stakeholders.
- ~~///~~ Develop tools for communication between stakeholders. An example could be a web site to provide all stakeholders hydraulic data on the Basin.
- ~~///~~ Need to establish a process for communicating information to the public so that a comprehensive and complete picture of the Basin is available to interested and affected stakeholders. Items that would be helpful for educating the public about issues within the Basin include information on the Rio Grande Compact, State and Federal laws, etc.

- ~~///~~ Federal role should include education of the public on the history of the Basin as it relates to items such as the limited supply of water, the competing interests in the Basin, and to explain what we are trying to achieve by managing the river.
- ~~///~~ All Federal actions should be established to build on work accomplished by local and State initiatives. Many of the successful plans have been developed at the grass-root level.
- ~~///~~ The Federal role should be to facilitate discussion between all stakeholders. The constraints are different within the Basin. No one plan fits all.
- ~~///~~ Federal Agencies should listen to local and State polices in development of any plans.

?? Technical Assistance

- ~~///~~ What does the Corps see as their role:
 - ~~///~~ Coordination of the numerous initiatives already taking place?
 - ~~///~~ View towards environmental sustainability?
- ~~///~~ Develop Center of Excellence for Arid Areas. Studies on the Rio Grande Basin could be the basis for establishing the Center.
- ~~///~~ The Corps should continue on its water operations review and EIS in the upper reaches of the Basin. Any new initiatives should not delay the ongoing work.
- ~~///~~ The Corps should review existing authorities to identify new legislative initiatives that will provide opportunities to participate in water supply, etc.
- ~~///~~ Before initiating studies to identify new projects, the Corps should review its existing projects to determine if they are meeting current needs of the Basin. These studies should address such items as deepening/dredging of reservoirs, changing project operation, and including new project purposes.
- ~~///~~ Federal Agencies should work together to develop standard tools (i.e., Riverware) for use in optimizing the management of the limited water resources.
- ~~///~~ Perform studies of the Basin to identify ways to capture flows so that they can be delivered to stakeholders at the most opportune time.
- ~~///~~ There is a need to map the entire watershed to better delineate floodplains and environmentally sensitive areas.
- ~~///~~ On the American Dam in southern New Mexico, IBWC and the Corps should consider working together to determine if a non-structural solution can be identified. The Federal Agencies should review their existing authorities to determine if additional sharing of expertise.
- ~~///~~ Studies and projects are needed to restore the ecological health of the river.
- ~~///~~ Hydrologic studies of the entire Basin are needed. The studies should address both surface and groundwater sources.
- ~~///~~ Pilot programs for Ecosystem Restoration could be implemented on Tribal lands.
- ~~///~~ Investigate programs for removal of Salt Cedar plants, particularly on Federal lands, to mitigate adverse impacts.
- ~~///~~ The Corps and other Federal Agencies have the expertise to provide the hydrologic and hydraulic analysis requiring development of a plan for managing the river.
- ~~///~~ Federal Agencies should work with border communities to develop strategic plans to solve their water resources needs.

WHAT'S NEXT (KEN ORTH)

The Roundtable ended with the discussion on where we go following this meeting. The options range from:

- ✍ Option No. 1: No Follow-on. The Corps would summarize the results of this meeting, and post them to the web site.
 1. Future opportunities would be based on local request for assistance.
 2. Separate Federal funding would be required for each request for assistance.
 3. May not result in the most efficient develop of resources within the Basin.
- ✍ Option No. 2: Section 729 Study. The Corps would conduct a comprehensive watershed study for the entire Basin under the Authority of Section 729 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986. The Corps would build on the study efforts that have been initiated by the Albuquerque District. Activities that should be considered prior to expanding the current study include:
 1. Prior to initiating a Basin-wide study, all 3 States would need to support the initiative.
 2. Studies would involve all Federal, State and Local Agencies involved in the Basin.
 3. Study would use findings of completed studies conducted by local and regional entities.
 4. Study would provide a forum for exchange of information between all stakeholders in the Basin.
 5. Study would include a review of existing policies and authorities in order to identify potential changes to meet the water resources needs of the Basin.

The opinions of the stakeholders present at the Roundtable regarding the next step in the process included:

1. All stakeholders within the Basin (including the Republic of Mexico) must be involved in a comprehensive basin study. Due to limitations of the Corps' authority this may not be possible.
2. The stakeholders experience and understanding of the Corps is limited. The Corps was requested to develop a proposal defining the scope of a Section 729 study, and listing the advantages that could be achieved from such an initiative.
3. Stakeholders requested the Corps review existing authorities for implementing strategies and projects identified through local and regional planning efforts, such as the SB1 initiatives in Texas (i.e., removal of evasive plants, Challenge 21, etc.).
4. The region may not be ready to initiate basin-wide study at this time. The Corps should look at opportunities to develop tools for use within the Basin, and build to a larger initiative in the future. Tools needed today include mapping, hydraulic modeling, etc.
5. Due to the complexity of the Basin, concerns were stated that a broad approach at this time could result in the expenditure of a lot of funds,

without benefit. States and communities need an understanding of potential benefits.

6. Any initiative by the Corps must work within existing constraints identified within the Basin, and by Regional planning efforts.
7. While the Regional planning efforts have gone a long way in identifying the water resources needs of the Basin, it should not be assumed that the plans address all issues and needs.
8. Stakeholders requested a catalogue of Federal Domestic Assistance that is available to improve the water resources of the Basin. There is an existing GSA web site (www.CFDA.gov) that includes a listing of all assistance programs within the Federal Government.
9. Initial work should be directed towards creating an International Watershed Council/Forum similar to the Great Lakes Forum to address issues of the Basin. This would require Congressional authorization.
10. The Corps should develop a proposal, and meet with the stakeholders again in 6 months. Representatives from the Republic of Mexico should participate in the next meeting.

APPENDIX A

Needs and Opportunities

Resources and facilitation to encourage/enable water reclamation and reuse

Continuation of regional water planning process

Changing attitudes and cultures from “use it up and throw it away” to conservation and sustainability of all natural resources

Political will and leadership and national/state level

Implement recommendations identified in Texas approved regional water planning group water supply plans

Find methods to minimize volume of unused divisions from Rio Grande Project

River Park for recreation/ecosystem enhancement and preservation of water source

Water Markets to allow Inter state Transport

Protect the river both in a quality s and in the quantities aspect

Re-regulation of flows in MRG to help meet use and ESA needs. (Amend enabling legislation)

Basin-wide Task Force to facilitate balance of the diversity of interests/needs

Restore ecological function to river

GW depletion causing in creased M & I demand for surface water, quantities of which cannot support projected development needs

Unified data collection (database) including MX data (consistent definitions, QC, timing)

Improved ability to transfer and market rights across entities (Jurisdictions)

A catalyst for true regional planning

Define in-stream flow requirements necessary to maintain and restore ecosystem functioning

One (1) entity In US to facilitate/coordinate plan/implement projects. Consortium

Sustainable water resource

ESA – Help/Trust Humans

Quality of Life

Identification of ecosystem needs for flows with a precision equal to demands of other water users

Increased funding for water, water-wastewater infrastructure projects, sp. For small communities and Mexico

Need for complete environmental and water resources monitoring efforts on a watershed basis

Need to restore Rio Grande to ecological health and functionality (as a river)

Environmental restoration / the Riverine system

Assist the forest service and BLM in reducing evapotranspirations from excessive forests, woodlands, and riparian phreatophytes

Emphasis on best Management Practices – (Urban and Rural Acres) – on Private lands to improve water quantity and quality

Need for improved water quality in order to preserve livability of areas

Limited water resources to meet growing demands

River should be wet year round

Challenge of meeting changing water uses

Water supply shortage, high loss rates, conveyance problems

CONSTRAINTS

Lack of Water

Hydrologic Reality

Lack of use of River as economic driver and recreation B/C of “security” constraints along border, particularly in Downtown El Paso

It’s tri national (?COE Role Given Differing Legal Frameworks and Politics

Diversity of needs/perspectives/priorities across a huge geographic area

Out-dated laws and treaties

Inconsistency in water laws among the basin's jurisdictions, and jurisdictional conflicts generally severely impede basin-wide planning

Lack of Federal Coordination

Lack of appropriate infrastructure

Arid areas not priorities

United States/Mexico Basin Management, policy, water use and needs

Hydrologic reality – Limited and highly variable water supply with increasing demand

Appropriate rights of water without Feds and states providing funding for needed environmental actions suggested by the majority of stockholders

Patterns of land use and ownership, and associated water needs or obligations

Lack of coordination: limits political influences necessary to get \$\$

Limited existing water resources to meet increased demands Endangered species Act, Clean water Act, and national Environmental Policy Act

Lack of political/government (consensus) about management politics i.e. United States and Mexico

Treaty, economy, infrastructure, population growth and lack of coordination

Overlapping and conflicting authorities Regulations among water resource agencies

Limited income in portions of basin, resulting in inability to change irrigation systems, BMPs, etc at own expense which would yield off-site benefits (i.e. water quantity/quality)

Funding

No communication, many tribes area it given a chance for comment as it pertains to river issues

No legal mandate for ecological restoration of the Rio Grande

Multiple Agencies/Entities Managing Basin from 2 countries, many states

More regulation, more urban sprawl – less water and less awareness with how to protect the resource

Watershed is fragmented among too many federal agency regions, detracts, etc., similarly at state level – little coordination

Monetary for large projects

State and federal legislation on water rights and water operations that don't recognize ecosystem needs for water

Limited water resources

Limited funding

Multiple jurisdictions, differencing agency responsibilities multiple water owners/user interests

International Posturing United States/Mexico Rio Grande/Rio Bravo Planning should be bilateral

Drought/dry conditions tendency in Basin, which produces smaller supplies of water and now more competing interests for that limited and supply

Differences in United States/Mexico water administration and laws

Federal coordination to implement projects identified in State and Regional approved water supply plans

FEDERAL ROLE

Work with local and state authorities agencies to identify potential conjunctive use benefits and opportunities for COE

Work with local and state authorities agencies to identify potential conjunctive use benefits and opportunities for COE projects in the regional

Assist states in effectively managing each state compact allocation

Technical Expertise/Funding

Federal Government has trust responsibility to tribes to protect our interests and inform us of issues that may affect the Tribes (ESA, Water Quality) Federal Government needs to uphold that obligation

Provide affordable financial assistance to implement projects identified in state and regional approved H2O Supply Plans

Provide leadership in planning, coordinating and paying for ecological restoration of the Rio Grande

Provide support role in basin wide planning – allow communities to suggest areas where Federals can help don't dictate to local communities

Facilitate government to Government Cooperation (International, state and local – Government's)

Take the lead in funding and coordinating community actions

Provide quality data and attempt to standardize (to extent possible) so that data can be compared

Funding, coordination

Assist the 3 states in efficiently managing each state's individual annual allocation of Rio Grande water for water supply and flood control purposes

Pro-active environmental role and all of the agencies involved with working with the environment-habitat should coordination

Serve as technical and implementation link between needs of public and management of water resources

Designate (1) ONE federal agency to investigate plan, coordinate and implement projects-this (1) Federal Agency would participate with a concretion of states, cities, districts, and entities

Act as a coordinator to facilitate a "bottoms up" approach to basin-wide planning and undertake projects whose scale precludes private – sector or local government action

Forum/resources/technical/incentives to information facilitate an encourage basin-wide effective planning

To be the unbiased party that meets the needs of as many water users as possible (within the law)

Development of watershed model for entire basin

Facilitator/coordinator/communicates Dispute resolution

Federal Funding to "fix" outdated Federal Projects; Ecosystem Restoration

Timely assist the states in the management of the water resources

United State/Mexico Basin Management, Policy, Water needs and uses

Provide, funding

Provide Incentives/Both Technical and Financial to private landowners to install best management practices

Complying with Contracts

Seek Federal Funds 100%

Should have less control over management of state and local resources

Financial Assistance for with New Mexico infrastructure and environments and repr

Coordinate activities among own agencies

All Federal natural resource and environment agencies should make Rio Grande and its restoration the highest priority in annual and long-term performance/work plans

Develop the true watershed model on each sub-basin; including ground, surface, and atmospheric water and all land uses

Comprehensive Planning and Implementation

Educate public on history of water supply in Basin and reasons for Federal involvement (Projects, etc.)

Give more responsibilities to state and local governments

Forge workable resource policy and Mexico

Coordination and financing

Establish water use hierarchy based on commerce and natural security