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ICWP Principle Statement #1 Federal Affairs

Adopted by the ICWP Board of Directors on June 25, 2025; Sunset/Review December 2026

Statement of the Issue:

ICWP is committed to keeping members informed of water policy issues to support our overall mission to provide opportunities for members to engage federal agencies and Congressional leaders in shaping national water policy.

Position Statement:

ICWP's overall desired policy outcome is to align federal water policies with state and interstate authorities, needs and capabilities. This is supported by:

- Active engagement on upcoming policy and legislative issues, including regular dialogue with federal agencies and Congress about ICWP's positions.
- Meaningful actions to communicate and coordinate to influence legislation.
- Assessments and timely comments on federal programs and proposals.
- Building and expanding coalitions to increase the impact of state/interstate participation.
- Engagement with and outreach to other similar organizations.
- Ongoing information-sharing with ICWP members, colleagues and prospective members.

Attachment A: 2025-2026 Policy Emphasis

1. Federal Agencies and Congress
 - ✓ Appropriations
 - i. USGS water-related programs, specifically in support for funding of:
 1. Federal Priority Streamgage Network
 2. Water Science Centers
 - ii. NOAA/National Weather Service water-related programs, specifically in support for funding of:
 1. NWS Office of Water Prediction
 2. Atlas 15

- 3. Probable Maximum Precipitation forecasting
 - iii. US Army Corps of Engineers water-related programs, specifically in support for funding of:
 - 1. Planning Assistance to States & Tribes (PAS&T)
 - 2. Silver Jackets
 - ✓ Water Resources Development Act (WRDA)
 - i. WRDA 2024 implementation – Prioritize PPA reform consultation with states/interstates and non-federal sponsors
 - ii. WRDA 2026 -- Identify and advocate support for ICWP policy priorities, as identified through the Legislation & Policy Committee
 - ✓ Other
 - i. Prioritize support for water-related bills and programs as determined by ICWP's:
 - 1. Principle Statements
 - 2. Board of Directors
 - 3. Legislation & Policy Committee
2. Drought
- ✓ NIDIS reauthorization support
 - ✓ NIDIS Executive Council participation
 - ✓ Consultation with FEMA and Homeland Security pre-disaster programs to ensure awareness of drought and water supply programs of other agencies (i.e.- Bureau of Reclamation)
3. Optimizing federal programs and resources
- ✓ Water "Subcabinet"
 - i. Support implementation of the Interagency Committee on Water Management and Infrastructure established under the Flood Level, Observation, Operations, and Decision Support Act (FLOODS Act) of 2022
 - ii. Underscore importance for ongoing non-federal/state involvement
4. Coalition-related efforts via ICWP's involvement in:
- ✓ Resiliency Coalition (US Chamber of Commerce)
 - ✓ USGS Coalition
 - ✓ 3DEP Coalition
 - ✓ Internet of Water
 - ✓ Association of Fish & Wildlife Agencies (AFWA)