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ICWP Principle Statement #3 Interstate Coordination and Planning

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

Statement of the Issue:

ICWP serves as the national policy voice for the state and interstate water resource managers and planners and provides a national forum for the evaluation of policy issues and the development of solutions to water resource challenges.

Position Statement:

ICWP's desired policy outcome is effective state, regional and federal water policy that supports integrated planning for sustainable water resource management. ICWP provides a forum (state-to-state, state-to-region) to highlight integrated planning and the benefits of interagency cooperation.

We work to secure federal support of state and interstate planning efforts, advocate for coordination of state/interstate plans with federal agencies that have planning or regulatory authority, and make assessment of impediments, recommend actions, and develop strategic, forward-looking approaches to integrated planning for sustainable water management.

Attachment A: 2025-2026 Policy Emphasis

1. Water Planning
 - ✓ Develop list of Planning Best Practices for Water Resources Planning to communicate planning benefits
 - ✓ State
 - i. Encourage multi-dimensional state water planning (i.e.- flood, drought, ecosystem services, decision support systems)
 - ii. Highlight the importance of state water planning programs
 - iii. Advocate for improved communications and awareness for water planning programs

- ✓ Federal
 - i. Emphasize the importance of federal agencies and programs that are supportive in planning and implementation (i.e.- USACE Planning Assistance to States & Tribes (PAS&T), Bureau of Reclamation WaterSMART, USDA/NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership Program, NIDIS Drought Early Warning System)
 - ii. Cross-reference with WD&S to evaluate federal water data and science platforms that support planning (i.e.- NOAA National Water Model and National Water Prediction Service)
- 2. Interjurisdictional groundwater management
- 3. Expanding integrated water planning into new federal channels
 - ✓ Water/Energy nexus -- Department of Energy
 - ✓ Others, as identified
- 4. Cross-pollination
 - ✓ USACE Planning Assistance to States & Tribes (PAS&T)
 - i. Conduct analysis of ICWP members' utilization, district variations, opportunities for collaboration
 - ii. Support non-federal sponsor cost share requirement flexibility, in-kind services for technical services
 - ✓ State Water Plans
 - ✓ Drought Planning
 - ✓ Optimizing federal resources case studies