



The Office of the State Engineer/ Interstate Stream Commission

2023 New Mexico Water Data Initiative (WDI) Plan
Las Cruces New Mexico October 3, 2023
Water and Natural Resources Interim Committee

Presented by Hannah Riseley-White, Director of the Interstate
Stream Commission

Outline

- ❖ Vision and mission of the OSE/ISC
- ❖ Current state of the OSE/ISC engagement in the Water Data Initiative (WDI)
- ❖ 2023 Goals and targets
- ❖ Challenges

OSE/ISC Vision

The Office of the State Engineer and the Interstate Stream Commission is the preeminent water management agency, which is trusted by the public to effectively and transparently manage, allocate and protect New Mexico's water resources.

OSE/ISC Mission

To actively protect and manage the water resources of New Mexico for beneficial uses by its people, in accordance with law:

- ❖ To investigate, measure, and distribute water in the most efficient manner in accordance with state laws, court adjudications, and State Engineer rules and regulations;
- ❖ To administer a water rights system that lawfully and effectively allocates and reallocates water and adjudicates water rights to meet the needs of New Mexico's growing population;
- ❖ To maximize use of New Mexico's renewable interstate stream apportionments in order to improve the sustainability of New Mexico's water supplies; and
- ❖ To plan for the future water needs of New Mexico's people.

WDI Engagement

❖ Current Online Data Examples

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- OSE Spatial Data <https://geospatialdata-ose.opendata.arcgis.com/>
 - NMBGMR Water Data <https://catalog.newmexicowaterdata.org/>
 - NM Water Rights Reporting System(NMWRRS)
 - Reporting on data with partners and other entities

❖ WDI staff involvement

- Three full time IT positions have been created for the WDI including two application developers and one IT water data liaison.
- Recruitment is underway for the application developers positions with two recent vacancies.
- All OSE and ISC staff contribute directly or indirectly to water data

❖ Modernization of Management Information Systems (MIS)

- Taxonomy Project (standardizing terms and usage across internal groups)
- Water Rights Adjudication Tracking System (WRATS)
- Many others like Waters Administration Technical Engineering Resource System (WATERS), geographic information, and Dam Safety to name a few.

WDI Goals and Targets

❖ **Goal 1:** Maintain inter- and intra-agency communications about activities and implementation of the Water Data Act.

✓ Target Summary: Communication plan

❖ **Goal 2:** Work with the WDI groups to build digital data availability and integration using modern web services and documentation.

✓ Target Summary: Implement modern technology

❖ **Goal 3:** Identify and communicate Water Data Act funding needs to decision makers.

✓ Target Summary: Funding gap analysis

❖ **Goal 4:** Work collaboratively within the WDI groups to develop data standards and support the maintenance of data standards.

✓ Target Summary: Document water data standards

❖ Complete water data inventory

Challenges

- ❖ Backlog of information technology projects
- ❖ Existing systems need to be maintained in parallel with modernization
- ❖ Process change to align with the WDI and new technologies
- ❖ Modernizing legacy management information systems with limited resources

Thank you!

