

## 2.0 Introduction

The Professional Services Agreement/Scope of Work between the Interstate Stream Commission (ISC) and the San Juan Water Commission i.e., PSA No. 02-550-P552-0025, defined the Regional Water Planning program for the San Juan Hydrologic Unit. Pursuant to this Agreement (**Volume II, Appendix A-1**), the San Juan Water Commission prepared a Regional Water Plan for the San Juan Hydrologic Unit in accordance with the Regional Water Planning Handbook published by the ISC in December 1994, and as specified in the Scope of Work (collectively, PSA No. 02-550-P552-0025, Exhibit A.)

### 2.1 Individuals Involved in the Development of the Water Plan

Key individuals involved in the development of the San Juan Hydrologic Unit Regional Water Plan are listed below along with the interest they represent.

#### 2.1.1 San Juan Water Commission

As Plan Administrator, the San Juan Water Commission was represented by its Commissioners and Alternates.

#### SAN JUAN WATER COMMISSION COMMISSIONERS AND ALTERNATES

Mark Duncan	Chairman, San Juan Water Commission Commissioner representing San Juan County
Jim Dunlap	Vice Chairman, San Juan Water Commission Commissioner representing the San Juan Rural Water Users Association
Jerry Hanhardt	Commissioner representing the City of Aztec
Lynne Raner	Commissioner representing the City of Bloomfield
Cy Cooper	Commissioner representing the City of Farmington
Mike Arnold	Alternate, City of Aztec
Cas Ruybalid	Alternate, City of Bloomfield
Bob Hudson	Alternate, City of Farmington
Lawrence Brewer	Alternate, San Juan County
Keith Lee	Alternate, San Juan Rural Water Users Association

#### 2.1.2 Key Personnel - Staff, Tribal Representatives, and Contractors

The San Juan Water Commission provided the personnel to coordinate the planning effort and administer the development of the Regional Water Plan. Following is a list of key personnel - staff, tribal representatives, and contractors that worked on this project:

#### SAN JUAN WATER COMMISSION STAFF

Randy Kirkpatrick	Executive Director
Shaun Bishop	RWP Planning Administrator
Aaron Chavez	GIS Database Coordinator
Jacqueline Allcorn	RWP Planning Administrative Assistant

#### NAVAJO NATION REPRESENTATIVES

Arvin Trujillo	Executive Director, Division of Natural Resources
John Leeper	Sr. Civil Engineer - Branch Director, DNR, Water Management Branch
Michael Benson	Programs & Project Specialist, DNR, Water Management Branch
Mark Curley	Statistical Research Analyst, DNR, Water Management Branch

JICARILLA APACHE NATION REPRESENTATIVES

Aaron Manwell	Chairman, Water Commission
Mike A. Hamman	Water Administrator, Office of Water Administration
Stacey Sanchez	Public Relations Officer
Jiri Duskocil	GIS Systems Manager
Andrea LeFevre	Assistant Water Administrator, Office of Water Administration

CONTRACTORS

Parsons Engineering Science, Inc.	Rick Cox, P.E., Supervising Engineer, Water Resources
Parsons Engineering Science, Inc.	Kevin Needham, Civil Engineer, Water Resources
Wolfe, Taylor & McCaleb, P.C.	Elizabeth N. Taylor, Attorney
SWCA Inc. Environmental Consultants	William C. Leibfried, Senior Ecologist
Water Consult	Tom Pitts, P.E.

INTERSTATE STREAM COMMISSION

Mary Helen Follingstad	Manager, Regional Water Planning
John Whipple	Staff Engineer
Brian Wilson	Staff Engineer

**2.1.3 Advisory Committees**

Two advisory committees were established to support the Region's water planning effort, the Technical Committee and the Planning Committee.

**2.1.3.1 Technical Committee**

The Technical Committee provided technical assistance to the consultants and administrative staff. Four water experts serve as the Technical Committee.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE MEMBERS

John Whipple	Interstate Stream Commission, Staff Engineer
Mike Sullivan	City of Farmington, Community Development, Long Range Planner
John Leeper	Navajo Nation, Sr. Civil Engineer - Branch Director, Water Management Branch
Mike A. Hamman	Jicarilla Apache Nation, Water Administrator, Office of Water Administration

**2.1.3.2 Planning Committee**

The Planning Committee was established to provide a centralized group where information could be distributed and reviewed. The Planning Committee identified the political, social, environmental, and economic issues that needed to be addressed in the Region. Throughout the process, the Planning Committee proved to be dedicated and enthusiastic, putting significant effort into evaluating each Assessment report. The Committee reviewed the reports, considered the recommendations from the consultant's and the Technical Committee, evaluated the opinions and comments submitted by the public, and developed the alternative recommendations offered to the public for their consideration.

No limitations were placed on the size of the Planning Committee. As a result, the Planning Committee has fifty-five (55) members (48 active – 7 inactive), consisting of individual stakeholders solely representing themselves, and individual stakeholders representing the collective interests of a particular group.

**PLANNING COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Robert Ahkeah	Navajo Nation, Gadiiahi Chapter
Arlene Arviso	Navajo Nation, Diné Power Authority
Nick Ashcroft	West Hammond Domestic Water Users Association
Rob Ashman	PNM, San Juan Generating Station
Jill Atencio	Self
David Barr	Self
Lorenzo Bates	San Juan River Diné Water Users
Steven C. Begay	Navajo Nation, Diné Power Authority
Mike Belt	Giant Industries
Michael Benson	Navajo Nation, Water Management Branch
Charles Blassingame	La Plata Conservancy District
Andy Brady	Navajo Nation, Gadiiahi Chapter
David Brannan	Flora Vista Water Users Association
Bob Browning	Self
Carroll Crawford	Self and Vista San Juan Estates Subdivision
Mary Day	City of Bloomfield
Jiri Doskocil	Jicarilla Apache Nation, GIS Systems Manager
Jim Dunlap	San Juan Rural Water Users Association and San Juan Water Commission
Fred Lee Etcitty	Navajo Nation, Nashitti Chapter
Tim Foster	Self
Rosalin Fulton	Navajo Nation, Newcomb Chapter
Richard Grimes	Arizona Public Service
Mike Hamman	Jicarilla Apache Nation, Office of Water Administration
Robert Hays	Navajo Nation, Shiprock Chapter – Grazing
Dwight James	Upper La Plata Water Users Association
Elizabeth Kaime	Self
Randy Kirkpatrick	San Juan Water Commission
Teresa Lane	Hammond Conservancy District
Keith Lee	Lower Valley Water Users Association and San Juan Water Commission
Andrea LeFevre	Jicarilla Apache Nation, Assistant Water Administrator
Loren Linville	Self
Ray E. Marley	Self
Paul F. Martin	City of Farmington, City Engineer
Paul Montoia	City of Farmington, Water Resources Manager
Michael Nordstrom	Self
Norman Norvelle	Self
Evert Oldham	Self
Don Owen	Stacey Ditch (Organization)
Bob Oxford	Self
Lynne Raner	City of Bloomfield and San Juan Water Commission
Jim Renfro	Lee Acres Water Users
Bob Richards	Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments
Maude Grantham-Richards	City of Farmington, Farmington Electric Utility
Cas Ruybalid	City of Bloomfield and San Juan Water Commission
Hobson Sandoval	Jicarilla Apache Nation
Jack Scott	Self
Steve Stevenson	Lindrith Area, Ranching and Livestock interests
Lawrence Stock	Self
Michael B. Sullivan	San Juan County Agricultural Water Users Association
Mr. Trujillo	Self
Max Vigil	Jicarilla Apache Nation, Water Commission
Shawn Williams	City of Farmington, Water Resources Department
Becenti Wilson	Bureau of Indian Affairs, Jicarilla Agency
Zang Wood	Self and Flora Vista Water Users Association
A. J. Yazzie	Navajo Nation, Twin Lakes Chapter

**2.1.4 Other Participants**

In addition, through the public participation program, all officials and citizens of the portions of San Juan, McKinley, Rio Arriba, and Sandoval Counties, which lie in the San Juan River

watershed within New Mexico (herein referred to as the San Juan Hydrologic Unit) and the municipalities and associations therein, were invited and encouraged to participate.

## 2.2 Previous Water Planning Efforts in the Region

A Chronicle of Water Planning Efforts in the San Juan Basin, describing the previous activities associated with the Region's water-related planning efforts from 1968 through July 2002, was prepared by the San Juan Water Commission and distributed to the public at the July 25, 2002 Public Meeting for Regional Water Planning. The document was also distributed to the Planning Committee at their August 8, 2002 meeting. A copy of the Chronicle of Water Planning Efforts in the San Juan Basin is located in **Volume II, Appendix A-3**, in its entirety. The San Juan Water Commission will update this document as the planning process progresses. An excerpt from the Chronicle of Water Planning Efforts in the San Juan Basin follows:

- 1968 Legislation enacted providing for state participation in national water planning efforts.  
*History: 1953 Comp., § 14-57-2, enacted by Laws 1967, ch. 239, § 2*
- 1976 In response to the 1968 legislation, the Interstate Stream Commission, in cooperation with a number of federal agencies, published the New Mexico Water Resources Assessment for Planning Purposes.
- 1981 San Juan County prepared a Water Supply Master Plan for San Juan County. Funding for the preparation was provided by the Four Corners Regional Commission, Interstate Stream Commission, and San Juan County. Professional services were provided by Black & Veach Engineers-Architect.  
*[Sections 3-56-1 to 3-56-9 NMSA 1978] may be cited as the "Regional Planning Act."*
- 1987 In all practicality, regional planning began in 1987 when the New Mexico Legislature first authorized the Interstate Stream Commission to fund regional planning efforts.  
*History: (Laws 1987, ch. 182) (Sections 72-14-43 to 72-14-44 NMSA 1978)*
- 1989 The San Juan Water Commission contracted with Black & Veach Engineers-Architect, to prepare a 40-Year Regional Water Supply Plan. Funding for the preparation of the report was provided by the Interstate Stream Commission and the San Juan Water Commission.  
*History: (Laws 1987, ch. 182) (Sections 72-14-43 to 72-14-44 NMSA 1978)*
- 1994 The Northwest New Mexico Council of Governments (NWNMCOG) prepared a 40 Year Regional Water Plan for San Juan, McKinley, and Cibola Counties. Though McKinley and Cibola County have little or no hydrologic connection with San Juan County, the three-county area was grouped together for political purposes.
- 1995 The San Juan Water Commission received a grant from the Interstate Stream Commission to assist the San Juan Water Commission and the Navajo Nation in their coordinated effort to develop a regional public participation program. The San Juan Water Commission, through a separate agreement\* with the Navajo Nation, transferred a portion of the grant funds to the Navajo Nation, to prepare a bibliography of sources for existing water use and demographic information, and develop a regional public participation program within the Navajo Nation area in the San Juan Basin. *\*(Contract # C60435)*

From 1995 - 1998, a substantial number of public meetings were held by the Navajo Nation and the San Juan Water Commission throughout their respective areas, to inform water resource stakeholders, local officials, private organizations, and governmental agencies about the regional water planning process and to establish a Regional Water Planning Committee.

- 1996 The San Juan Water Commission received grant funds from the Interstate Stream Commission for initial data collection and the continuation of the public participation program.
- The Navajo Nation completed the Navajo Nation San Juan River Basin Bibliography in November 1996.
- 1997 The initial effort to develop a public participation program was completed by the Navajo Nation and the San Juan Water Commission, resulting in each drafting an organizational document based on the comments received during the public meetings held in their respective areas. *(These two draft documents were subsequently used in 2002, to prepare the Agreement Organizing the San Juan River Basin Regional Water Planning Committee for New Mexico, to establish the Planning Committee)*
- The San Juan Water Commission established a Geographical Information Systems (GIS) Department, to develop and maintain a comprehensive water resources data base. Recognizing that a water resources data base was crucial to any decision making process concerning water, the San Juan Water Commission made the collected data available for purposes of regional water planning.
- 1998 Parsons Engineering Science, Inc. completed the draft San Juan Hydrologic Unit Data Collection Study in September 1998.
- November 1998, a public meeting was held to establish a Planning Committee for the Regional Water Planning program. The effort to establish a Planning Committee was frustrated by limited funding and by individuals opposing the proposed organizational structure.
- 1999 Though work continued, further funding from the Interstate Stream Commission for regional water planning purposes was not available to the San Juan Water Commission and the Navajo Nation until 2000.
- 2000 The Navajo Nation received (separate) grant funds from the Interstate Stream Commission to formulate regional water development alternatives for the Navajo communities in the San Juan Basin.
- 2001 Legislation enacted to appropriate funds to the Interstate Stream Commission for regional water planning. From the total appropriation, the Interstate Stream Commission set aside \$225,000 for regional water planning in the San Juan Basin.
- 2002 In January 2002, the contract for regional water planning between the Interstate Stream Commission and the San Juan Water Commission was fully executed, and the San Juan Water Commission received authorization from the Interstate Stream Commission to begin the work. The San Juan Water Commission, the Navajo Nation, and the Jicarilla Apache Nation are coordinating their efforts for regional water planning purposes.
- (Contract No. Professional Services Agreement 02-550-P552-0025)*
- February 2002, the San Juan Water Commission accepted the Agreement Organizing the San Juan River Basin Regional Water Planning Committee for New Mexico.
- (The two documents, drafted in 1997, were used to develop this organizational document.)*
- May 2002, the draft Water Supply Assessment for the San Juan Hydrologic Unit was submitted to the ISC.
- June 27, 2002, a public meeting to establish the Planning Committee was held and individuals interested in becoming members on the Committee were identified.

July 18, 2002, the first meeting of the Planning Committee was held.

July 25, 2002, a public meeting was held to give the public the opportunity to review the draft Water Supply Assessment for the San Juan Hydrologic Unit with Parsons Engineering, the consulting firm that prepared the document. The draft report Legal Issues was presented by attorney Elizabeth Taylor. Parsons Engineering presented preliminary information about the methodology used to prepare the Water Demand Assessment.

August 8, 2002, a Planning Committee meeting was held.

September 2002, the draft Water Demand Assessment and Water Budget Analysis for the San Juan Hydrologic Unit was submitted to the Interstate Stream Commission.

September 26, 2002, a public meeting was held to give the public the opportunity to review the draft Water Demand Assessment and Water Budget Analysis for the San Juan Hydrologic Unit with Parsons Engineering, the consulting firm that prepared the document.

***[A description of the activities from October 2002 through November 2003 can be found in the copy of the Chronicle of Water Planning Efforts in the San Juan Basin located in Volume II, Appendix A-3.]***

It is anticipated that the San Juan Basin Regional Water Plan will be completed by December 2003.

### 2.3 Contents of the Water Plan

This San Juan Basin Regional Water Plan (Plan) follows the New Mexico Interstate Stream Commission's Regional Water Planning Handbook (1994) and the Regional Water Planning Template contained therein. The Plan includes background information on the Planning Region (San Juan Hydrologic Unit), a discussion of legal issues, an overview of water resources in the Region, estimates of water demand, water resources information provided by the Jicarilla Apache Nation and the Navajo Nation, a discussion of 'preferred' water planning alternatives for the Region, and a recommended Water Plan with a 40-year horizon.

Recognizing the importance of the regional water planning program, the Jicarilla Apache Nation drafted a water development plan for the San Juan Basin Regional Water Plan. The “*Jicarilla Apache Nation Water Development Plan*” is contained, in its entirety, in **Volume II, Appendix A-4**. Information on the projected water demands for the Jicarilla Apache Nation was provided by the Jicarilla Apache Nation’s Office of Water Administration and is contained in **Volume IV, Section 4**. Analyses of the water supply and demands for the Jicarilla Apache Nation are not included in this regional plan.

Since the early 1990’s, the Navajo Nation has been a valuable contributor to the regional water planning program. Concurrent with the Basin’s regional planning effort, the Navajo Nation is completing a water planning program for the Nation’s [own] water resources. Information relating to the ‘alternatives’ recommendations of the Navajo Nation were provided by the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources and are included in the Plan in **Volume I, Section 9.9, Section 10.13.1, and Section 10.14**. The Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources provided [reference] material used in the development of the Navajo Nation’s water plan and it can be found in **Volume II, Appendix A-5 through A-8**. When the Navajo Nation’s independent, regional water plan has been accepted by the Interstate Stream Commission, it will be incorporated into this Plan as a reference document in **Volume II, Appendix A-9**. A copy of Contract No. PSA 01-550-30 - the *Professional*

*Services Agreement between the Interstate Stream Commission and the Navajo Nation*, specifying the terms and conditions under which the Navajo Nation will provide a regional water plan, is located in **Volume II, Appendix A-9**. In a separate endeavor, aside from its own regional water planning effort, the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources developed water demand projections for the Navajo Nation. Information developed by the Navajo Nation Department of Water Resources is presented in this Plan in **Volume IV, Section 3**. Analyses of the water supply and demands for the Navajo Nation are not included in this regional plan.

The Plan describes actions to be taken through the planning period (year 2004 to year 2044) which will preserve and perhaps augment the water supply in the San Juan Hydrologic Unit. While the actions are to occur within the next 40 years, an emphasis has been placed on preserving the area's water supply and protecting the existing uses, while fully developing the Region's water potential (within the constraints of the Endangered Species Act), to provide a consistent water supply to sustain and possibly improve the 'human' quality of life. The Plan is summarized in the Executive Summary and contained herein.