



WATER EFFICIENCY ACTION NETWORK  
FOR THE COLORADO BASIN STATES

Collaboration on Water Efficiency

# Network Vision

Work together as diverse water interests

Advance water use efficiency--

understanding, application, effectiveness

Focus on Colorado Basin states



# Why a Network

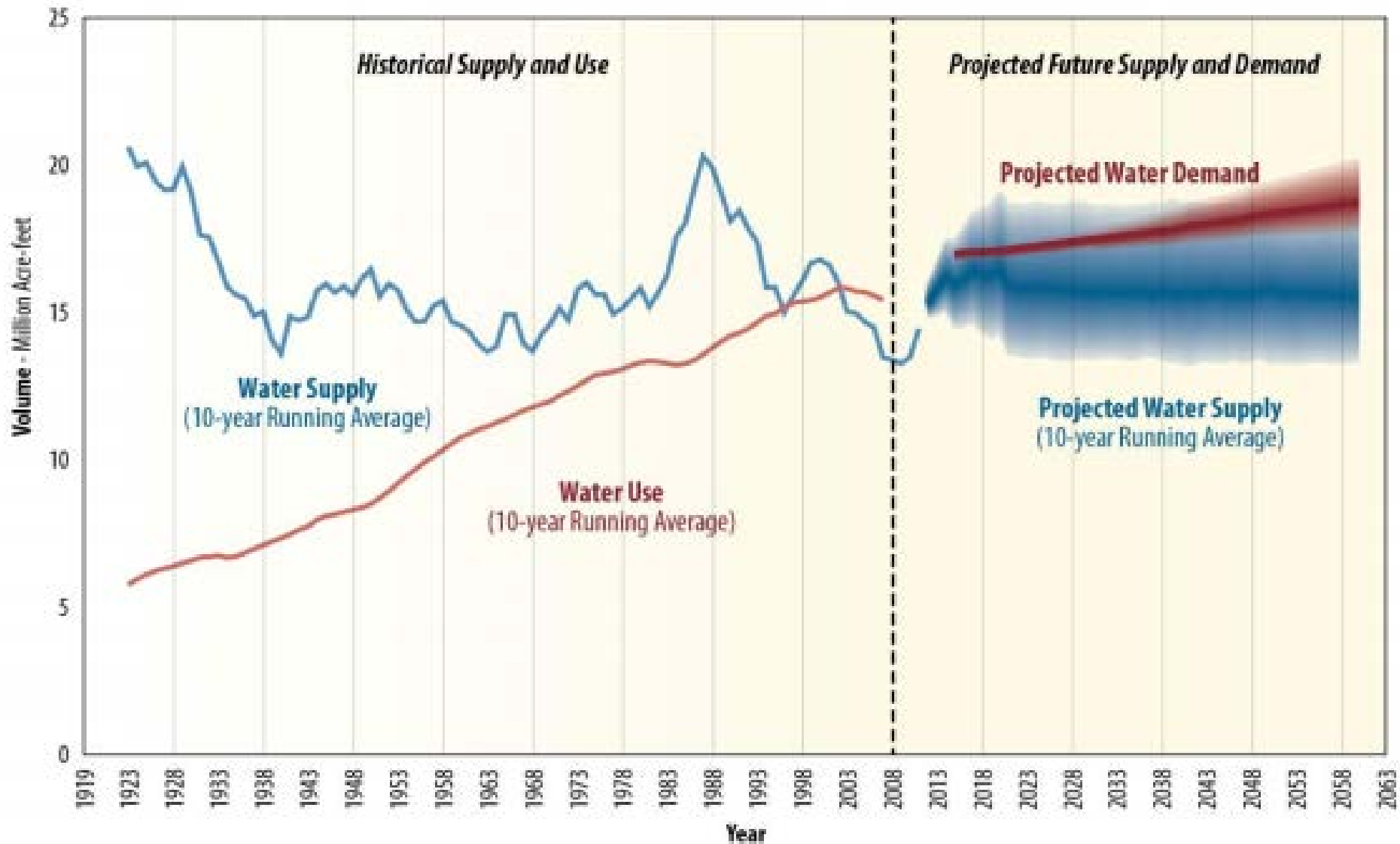
Not enough water is available in the Basin

Basin water uses and users are interdependent

We all benefit from sufficient water for our economies, communities, and environment

Collaboration can achieve results

# Colorado River Supply and Demand Imbalances



# Who Is the Network

Goal: wide, diverse geographic and water user representation

Water providers, nonprofits, government agencies, private industry, academia

Anyone can join

Network extends beyond members

Steering Committee mirrors membership goals



# Forming the Network

Oct 2012 workshop identified:  
mission, goals, initial priorities/needs, products

Scoping process:

- Is there value and interest in creating regional collaboration?
- If there is, what are potential structures of such collaboration?

# Scoping Process

Formal study framed the challenges

38 interviews

4 workshops in Basin

Basinwide webinar

Basinwide organizational meeting



# Network Goals

Identify needs and opportunities for water efficiency

Demonstrate value

Accelerate adoption

Create a forum

Improve ecosystem health

Advance solutions and practices

Be a clear voice



WATER EFFICIENCY ACTION NETWORK  
FOR THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN STATES

# Initial Needs

Document and share cost-benefit cases and new technologies & practices

Benchmark state and local policies

Support state level action

Identify useful research



# How the Network Functions

Working groups

Steering Committee

Website [www.wean-crb.org](http://www.wean-crb.org)

Almost virtual network

Annual meeting

Annual road map

All volunteer



# Working Groups

Research dialogue

Financial impacts of water efficiency

Climate change adaptation

Topics selected by member survey

Future:

- Performance contracting
- Local codes and standards
- Instream flows



# Network Outreach

Webinars

Panels

Networking opportunities

Information sharing

Annual meeting

Working groups decide their products



WATER EFFICIENCY ACTION NETWORK  
FOR THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN STATES

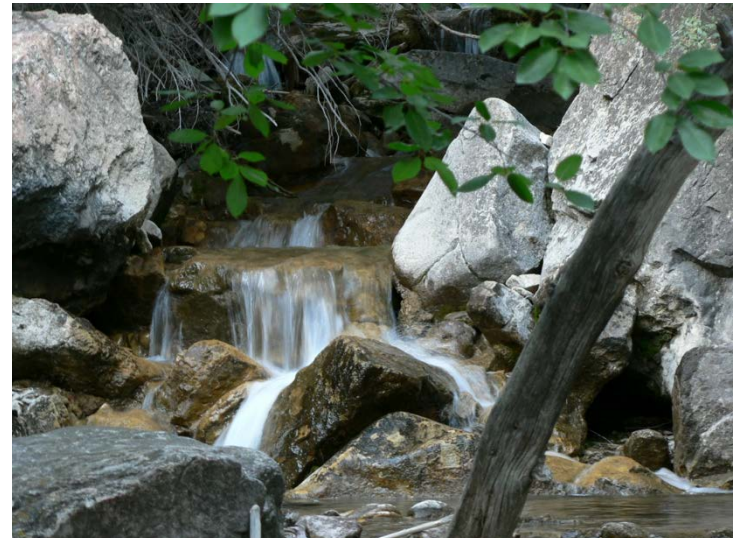
# Startup Challenges

Capacity: all volunteer

Competition and trust

Process doesn't feel like action

Member fees and funding



# Future of the Network

Two year pilot phase to demonstrate validity of this framework

Implement road map

Expand membership: municipal, agriculture, business

New working groups

Attract funding

Build information sharing



# Opportunities to Engage

- Basinwide interactive database on research efforts
- Performance contracting working group
- Basinwide maps and clearinghouse on water efficiency policies





# WATER EFFICIENCY ACTION NETWORK FOR THE COLORADO BASIN STATES



[www.wean-crb.org](http://www.wean-crb.org)



WATER EFFICIENCY ACTION NETWORK  
FOR THE COLORADO BASIN STATES

Anyone can join!

[www.wean-crb.org](http://www.wean-crb.org)



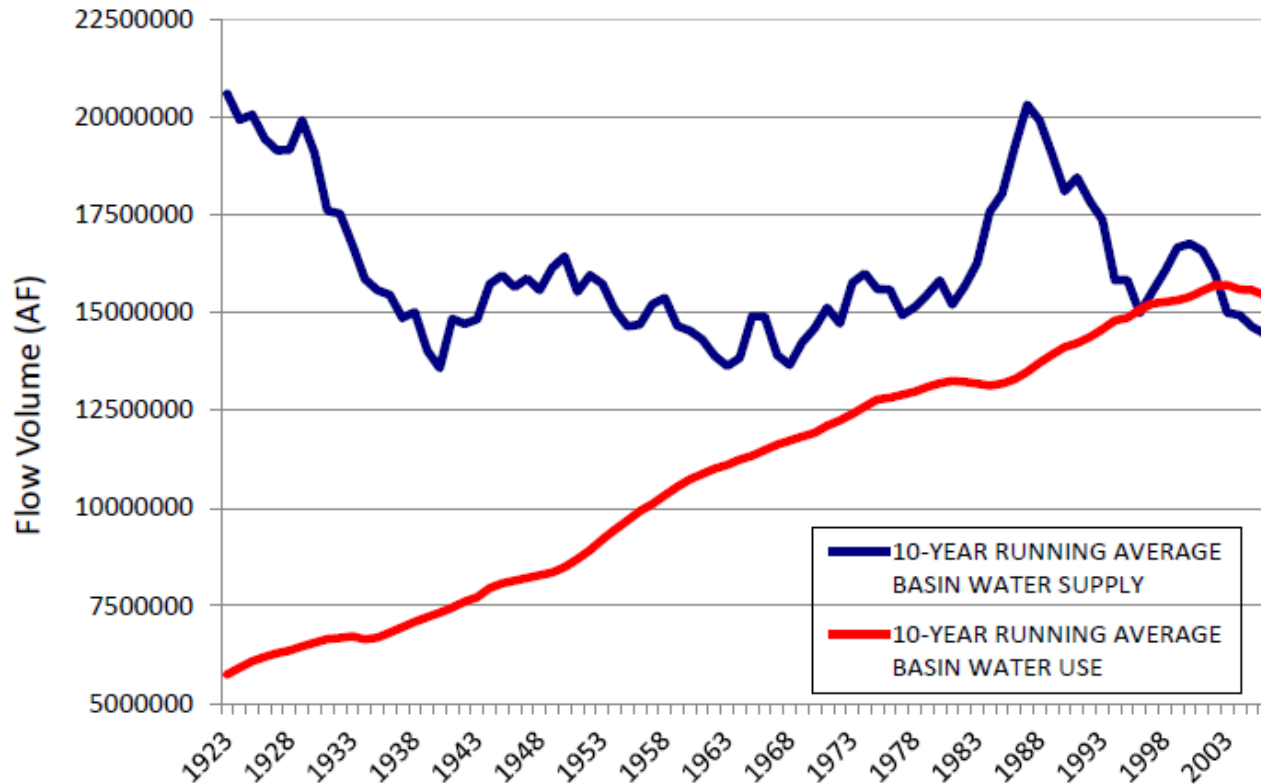
WATER EFFICIENCY ACTION NETWORK  
FOR THE COLORADO BASIN STATES

Anyone can join!

[www.wean-crb.org](http://www.wean-crb.org)

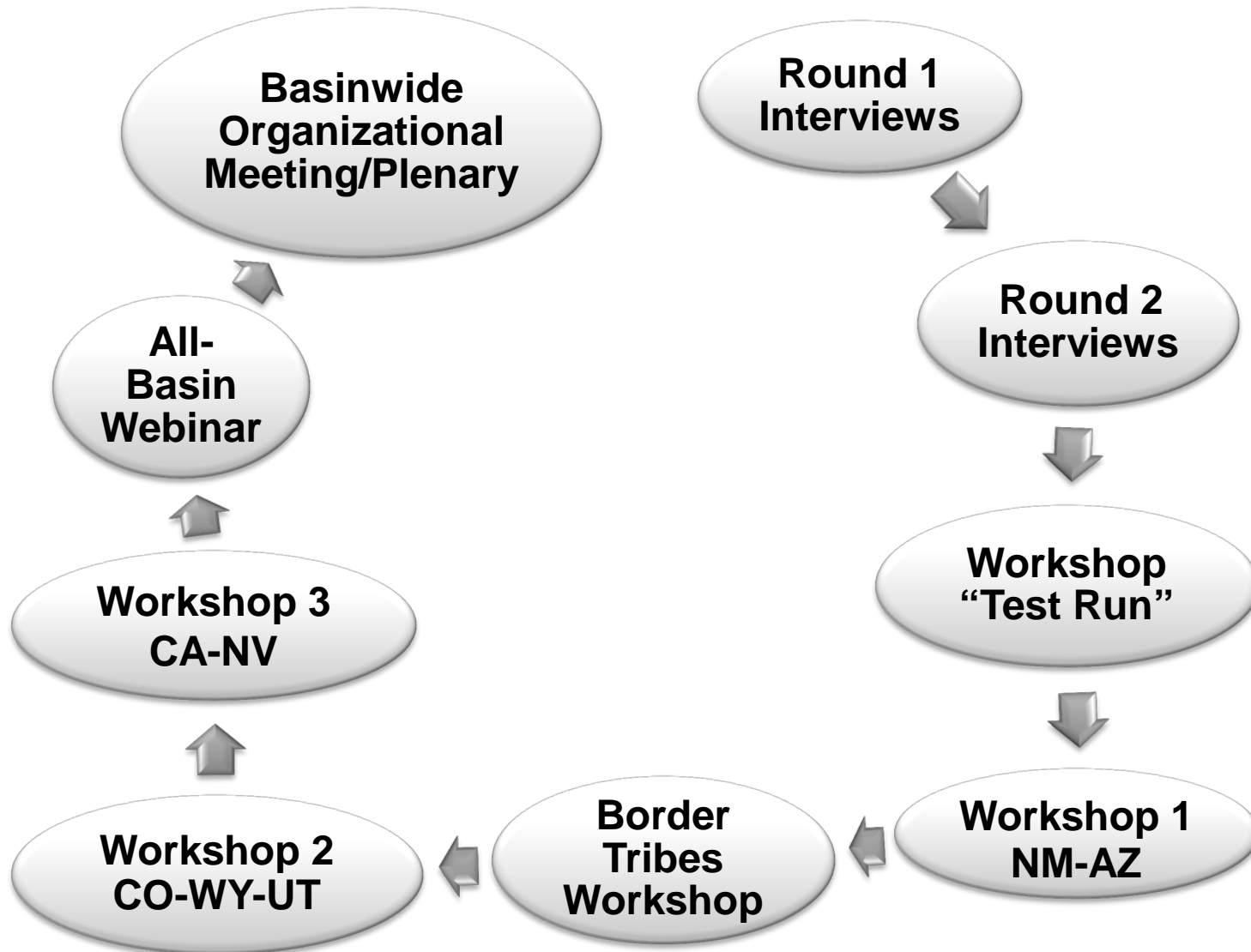
# The Big Picture: Framing the Challenge

## Historical Colorado River Water Supply and Demand



Bureau of Reclamation, 2011.

# Scoping Approach



# Water and Energy Sectors

<b>Characteristic</b>	<b>Water</b>	<b>Wastewater</b>	<b>Electricity</b>	<b>Gas</b>
Number	52,000	15,000	Over 3,000	nearly 2,000
Size & service	400 serve half	1,770 treat over 90% of volume	145 make ¾ of sales	140 make 90% of sales
Ownership	Public	Public	Investor owned	Investor owned
Regulation	Drinking water	Water quality	Rates & profits	Rates & profits
Rates	Local or regional	Local or regional	State PUC	State PUC
Revenues	\$42 b	\$47 b	\$368 b	\$115 b
Efficiency	BMPs & planning	Operational efficiency	EERSs	EERSs

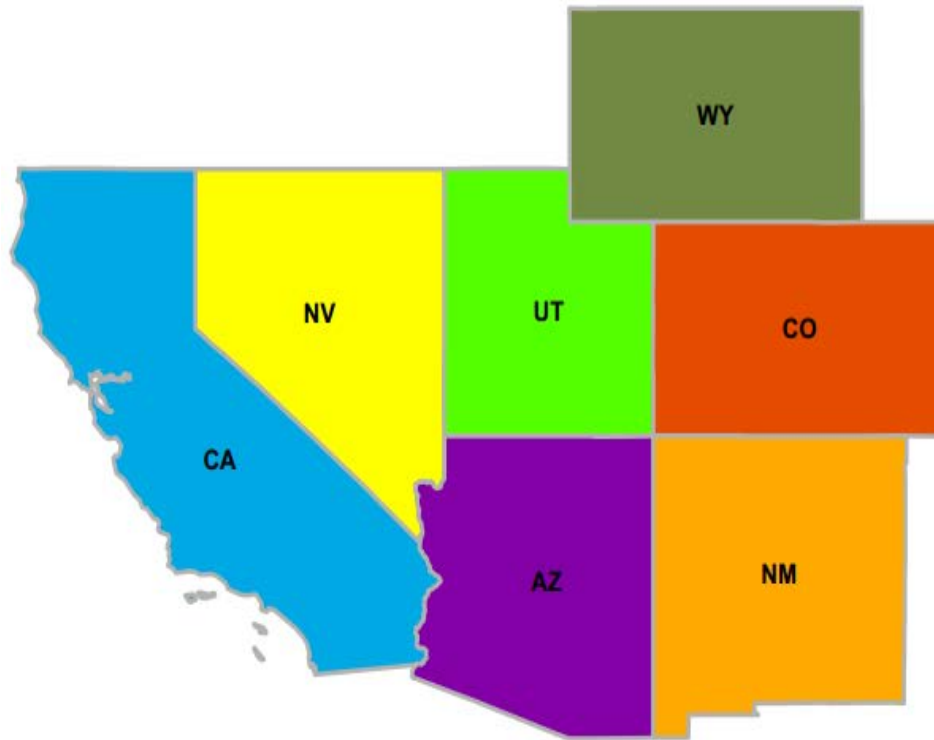








# Seven Basin States



WATER EFFICIENCY ACTION NETWORK  
FOR THE COLORADO RIVER BASIN STATES

# Case studies

- Deschutes River, OR- role of nonprofit
- Grand Valley, CO-modernizing irrigation
- Manastash Creek, WA-agricultural efficiencies
- Cedar River, WA-Long term conservation
- N Blackfoot River, MT-individual efforts
- Russian River, CA-more natural flows



# Colorado River basin









# Focus: Colorado River basin

