

**Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC)**  
**Recommendations for Change to Categories in Walton/Gates Funding Strategy**  
**October 18, 2018**

At their meeting on October 18, 2018, the Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC) agreed to the following recommendations for additional changes to the categories outlined in the Funding Strategy document drafted by Funding Strategy Group convened by the Walton and Gates Foundations.

**1. Stakeholder Input**

Moving forward, it is important to have clear communication and input opportunities for the IBCC, the Basin Roundtables, and other interested stakeholders who will be critical to the success of any effort.

**2. Clarification of Purpose**

It is important to better define that the purpose of new funding is to supplement existing funding sources to better address the various gaps identified in the Water Plan. This means that new funding would be used to increase the overall amount of funds available through existing sources and to provide additional funds to support projects that are not currently eligible for funding through existing mechanisms or programs.

**3. Conceptual Framework**

The reference to the Conceptual Framework should be moved out of the infrastructure section and moved up in the document. Additionally, it is important to clarify that the Conceptual Framework in Colorado's Water Plan addresses new transmountain diversions. State funding made available for all or part of a new transmountain diversion should be consistent with the relevant parts of the Conceptual Framework.

**4. Rolling Average**

Given the uncertainties and inherent fluctuations of needs and priorities, a ten-year rolling average (or longer) is likely necessary to provide flexibility in balancing funds between categories. In addition, depending on drought conditions and the need for potential drought contingency operations, a reserve fund may be helpful for the Compact category.

**5. Healthy Aquifers**

Along with healthy waters above ground, it is important to note that the health of our groundwater and the preservation of aquifer storage is critical to meeting multiple needs in many parts of the state.

**6. Water Rights Protection**

Water rights protection is critical to all projects that occur in Colorado. The reference to water rights protection should be removed from the agriculture category and moved up to the introductory language. It should be rephrased to focus less on programs and more on the overall importance of protecting water rights.

**7. Compact Category Language**

It is important to ensure that language in the Compact section is not too specific to the Colorado River and addresses all of Colorado's compacts. The language should be a more generic reference to the importance of full development of Colorado's water allocation in all of its compacts with other states.