



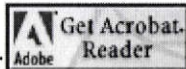
# State of Colorado

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## Ground Water Commission

The Colorado Ground Water Commission is a regulatory and an adjudicatory body authorized by the General Assembly to manage and control designated ground water resources within the State of Colorado. The General Assembly has granted the Ground Water Commission this authority under Title 37, Article 90 of the Colorado Revised Statutes (Ground Water Management Act).

- ◆ [Designated Basins and Groundwater Management Districts](#)
- ◆ [Commission Members](#)
- ◆ [Duties of the Commission](#)
- ◆ [Rules and Regulations for the Management and Control of Designated Ground Water \(updated February 1, 2001\) \(Adobe PDF format\)](#)
- ◆ [Rules for Small-Capacity Well Permits in Designated Ground Water Basins \(Adobe PDF format\)](#)
- ◆ [Policies of the Ground Water Commission](#)
- ◆ [Commission Meetings](#)

The Adobe reader is available as a free download from:  [Adobe Systems Incorporated](#)

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### To contact the Colorado Ground Water Commission:

For commission business, contact William H. Fronczak, Designated Basins Team Supervisor, at the address below or by an email to [bill.fronczak@state.co.us](mailto:bill.fronczak@state.co.us).

For administrative concerns related to the commission, contact Marta Ahrens at the address below or by an email to [marta.ahrens@state.co.us](mailto:marta.ahrens@state.co.us).

Colorado Division of Water Resources  
1313 Sherman Street, Room 818

Denver, CO 80203  
Phone: (303) 866-3581  
Fax: (303) 866-3589

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### Other Water Related Sites:

[Colorado Division of Water Resources Home Page](#)

[Colorado Water Conservation Board Home Page](#)

[State Board of Examiners of Water Well Construction and Pump Installation Contractors Home Page](#)

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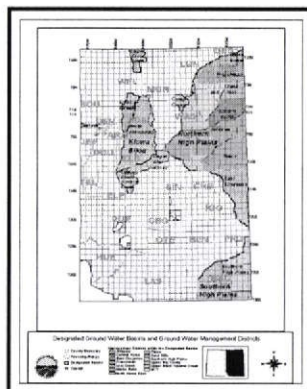
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## ***Designated Basins and Groundwater Management Districts***

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Currently, the Ground Water Commission has established eight designated basins and 13 Ground Water Management Districts (GWMDs) within such basins. A diagram and a listing of these basins and districts are shown below. Also included are contact information for each GWMD.



<b>Designated Ground Water Basin</b>	<b>Ground Water Management Districts</b>	<b>GWMD Contact Information</b>
Kiowa-Bijou	North Kiowa-Bijou	Loyd Musgrave (970) 483-5652
Southern High Plains	Southern High Plains	Douglas Melcher (719) 537-6214
Upper Black Squirrel Creek	Upper Black Squirrel Creek	Linda McCalib (719) 347-0704
Lost Creek	Lost Creek	Sheryl Wailes (303) 644-3081 <a href="mailto:Lostcreek@sprintmail.com">Lostcreek@sprintmail.com</a>
Camp Creek	-	-
Upper Big Sandy	Upper Big Sandy	Angela Wingard (719) 541-2669



Upper Crow Creek	-	-
Northern High Plains	Plains	Stan Murphy (719) 346 8487 <a href="mailto:Plainsgwmd@ria.net">Plainsgwmd@ria.net</a>
	Sand Hills	Aron Nien (970) 332-4155
	Arikaree	Darrel Davis (970) 358-4318
	Frenchman	Aron Nien (970) 854-3484
	Central Yuma County	Aron Nien (970) 332-4155
	W-Y	Jack Adams (970) 848-5333
	East Cheyenne	Stan Murphy (719) 346 8487 <a href="mailto:Plainsgwmd@ria.net">Plainsgwmd@ria.net</a>
	Marks Butte	Aron Nien (970) 854-3484

The GWMDs are authorized to adopt additional rules and regulations to help administer groundwater within their district. The GWMD rules and regulations available on this site are shown below:

#### Upper Black Squirrel Creek GWMD Rules and Regulations



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## **COMMISSION MEMBERS**

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The Ground Water Commission consists of twelve members, nine of whom are appointed by the Governor and three others who consist of the Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources (DNR), the Director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB), and the State Engineer. Members currently serving on the Ground Water Commission are listed below. Section 37-90-104, C.R.S., also establishes that the State Engineer shall be the Executive Director of the Commission, who shall carry out and enforce all decisions, orders and policies of the Ground Water Commission.

### **Governor-Appointed Members of the Colorado Ground Water Commission**

<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>Occupation</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Term Ending May 1<sup>st</sup> of</b>
Eugene A. Bauerle	Resident Agriculturist	Agriculture	Northern High Plains	2001
Jon B. Brownell	Resident Agriculturist	Agriculture	Water Division 3 (Rio Grande)	2002
Anne J. Castle	Attorney	Municipal & Industrial	Denver	2002
Larry W. Clever	Director, Water Conservancy District	Municipal & Industrial	Western Slope	2004
Dennis W. Coryell	Resident Agriculturist	Agriculture	Northern High Plains	2004
Richard F. Huwa	Resident Agriculturist	Agriculture	Lost Creek	2001
Robert R. Loose	Resident Agriculturist	Agriculture	Kiowa-Bijou	2003
Earnest L. Mikita	Resident Agriculturist	Agriculture	Upper Big Sandy	2001
Charles "Max" Smith	Resident Agriculturist	Agriculture	Southern High Plains	2003

### **Ex-Officio Members of the Colorado Ground Water Commission**

<b>Commissioners</b>	<b>Title</b>
Hal D. Simpson, Executive Director	State Engineer
Greg E. Walcher	Executive Director of the Department of Natural Resources
Rod Kuharich	Director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board



## ***Duties of the Ground Water Commission***

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The Ground Water Commission is authorized to establish Designated Ground Water Basins pursuant to Section 37-90-106, Colorado Revised Statutes. "Designated Ground Water" is defined as ground water that is not adjacent to continuously flowing natural streams or would not be available or required for the fulfillment of decreed surface rights. Additionally, the Ground Water Commission has the authority to create Ground Water Management Districts within predetermined designated ground water basins. Currently the Ground Water Commission has established eight designated basins and 13 Ground Water Management Districts within such basins.

The Ground Water Management Act gives the Ground Water Commission authority to issue large capacity well permits, changes in water rights and replacement wells, and to adopt rules and policies. Additionally, the Ground Water Commission has the authority to enforce permit conditions and priorities, and to issue summary orders prohibiting or limiting withdrawal of ground water. Currently the Ground Water Commission has adopted rules and several policies to assist in the administration of designated ground water. The Ground Water Commission has delegated many functions to the State Engineer which include:

- Issuance of new conditional large capacity well permits
- Determination of rights to ground water in the Denver Basin aquifers within the designated basins
- Issuance of replacement well permits for large capacity wells
- Granting change of water rights for large capacity wells or Determinations of Water Right
- Issuance of final permits for large capacity wells
- Provide technical and administrative support to the Ground Water Commission and the Ground Water Management Districts.

The only functions that the Ground Water Commission has not delegated to the State Engineer are the determination of designated ground water basins, the creation of ground water management districts, the creation and adoption of rules and policy, and the review of variance requests to such rules and policy.

The Ground Water Commission has the authority to conduct adjudicatory hearings and these decisions are subject to judicial review. Currently the Ground Water Commission has delegated to its hearing officer the review of facts, conclusions of law and initial decisions of the Ground Water Commission concerning designated ground water. This delegation relieves the Ground Water Commission from initial hearing procedures and decisions. The Ground Water Commission may hear or review protests to the hearing officer's decisions and acts as final administrative authority. If a contesting party is still unsatisfied, this party may appeal the Ground Water Commission decision to district court in the county where the water right is located.



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## ***Policies of the Ground Water Commission***

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[Policy Memorandum 95-3: Concerning Use of Flow Meters or Power Meters \(as an Alternate Method or Device for Water Measurement\)](#)

[Policy Memorandum 94-4: Small Capacity Commercial Wells for Confined Animal Feeding Operations Designated Ground Water Basins](#)

[Policy Memorandum 93-1: Amendment or correction of well locations](#)

[Link to other policies used by the State Engineer's Office](#)



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## ***Ground Water Commission Meetings***

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### **The 2001 Commission Meeting Schedule is:**

**Date:****Location:**

February 16, 2001	1313 Sherman Street, Room 318, Denver, CO
May 18, 2001	1313 Sherman Street, Room 318, Denver, CO
August 17, 2001	To Be Determined
November 16, 2001	1313 Sherman Street, Room 318, Denver, CO

### **Agenda for Commission Meetings:**

May 18, 2001

February 16, 2001

### **Minutes of Recent Commission Meetings:**

February 16, 2001 (to be released)

November 17, 2000

August 18, 2000

May 19, 2000

February 17, 2000



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