

NEVADA DIVISION OF
WATER RESOURCES



Nevada Department of
**CONSERVATION &
NATURAL RESOURCES**

Nevada State Water Plan: Overview

2023 Carson River Watershed Forum

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Presented by:

Bunny Bishop

Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR)

Chief, Water Planning and Drought Resiliency Section

Nevada State Water Plan

Past and Present

The last State Water Plan was published in 1999...

- Nevada's water resource landscape has changed in the last 20+ years
- Water supplies and demands fluctuate, and water resource planning must evolve
- As the driest state in the nation, **proactive and holistic management is vital**
- Decisions regarding specific objectives are best determined and implemented at the local level
- An updated plan is needed to establish a comprehensive process for addressing evolving water needs across the state
- The Nevada State Water Plan can help **inform and guide local planning** while also **communicating local concerns and challenges** to policymakers

NDWR is responsible for assisting with the development of effective plans for the use of water (NRS 540.011)

Nevada State Water Plan

What is it?

What the State Water Plan IS:

- ☑ High-level planning and policy document
- ☑ Updated assessment of water resources across the state
- ☑ Identification of knowledge gaps and water resource planning challenges
- ☑ Options for management strategies, actions, and policies that can be implemented by various stakeholders
- ☑ Recommendations aimed at increasing the sustainability and improving the management of water resources over the next 20 years

What the State Water Plan is NOT:

- ⊘ The plan does not change water law, or reallocate water among users
- ⊘ This plan is not new regulations
- ⊘ The plan is not a regional or local water supply plan
- ⊘ The plan will not focus on infrastructure or project planning
- ⊘ The plan is not an advocacy document
- ⊘ The plan will not make recommendations related to Colorado River management

2021 WATER RESOURCE PUBLIC SURVEY

Overview

- 1,192 participants completed the survey
- Responses were received from all Nevada counties

Top Topics of Concern

- Adequate long-term water resource planning
- Inefficient or wasteful water use
- Future water supplies for them and their community

<http://water.nv.gov/waterplans.aspx>



LONG-TERM WATER RESOURCE PLANNING



SUSTAINABILITY



WATER MANAGEMENT



NEVADA DIVISION OF WATER RESOURCES

Key Findings from the 2021 Water Resource Public Survey

SURVEY PURPOSE & SCOPE

In late 2021, the Nevada Division of Water Resources (NDWR) conducted a public survey at the onset of the process to update the 1999 State Water Plan. The survey was designed to collect feedback from a diversity of Nevadans regarding their water-related concerns, priorities, and perceptions. The survey responses provide a baseline dataset that will be considered in the planning process.

The 1999 State Water Plan summarized a broad range of water-related data and information, describes policy issues, and provided recommended actions. Over the next few years, NDWR will produce a contemporary, high-level plan that accounts for the many changes that have occurred over the past decades. A better understanding of the public's current views helps provide context for the plan, as the responses illuminate opportunities and challenges that can be addressed in the planning process and the final product.

The survey was distributed publicly via a press release, social media, and email blasts from NDWR and its partners. The questions asked survey respondents to rate their level of concern on a variety of water resource topics, rank the importance of various water planning priorities, and share any visions for water management in the future.



Nevada State Water Plan

Stakeholder Engagement

■ Public Input:

- Survey
- Presentations
- Open Comment Period

■ Stakeholder Advisory Group (SAG):

- Group of about 18 members
- Represent diverse interests and regions across the state

■ Technical Partners:

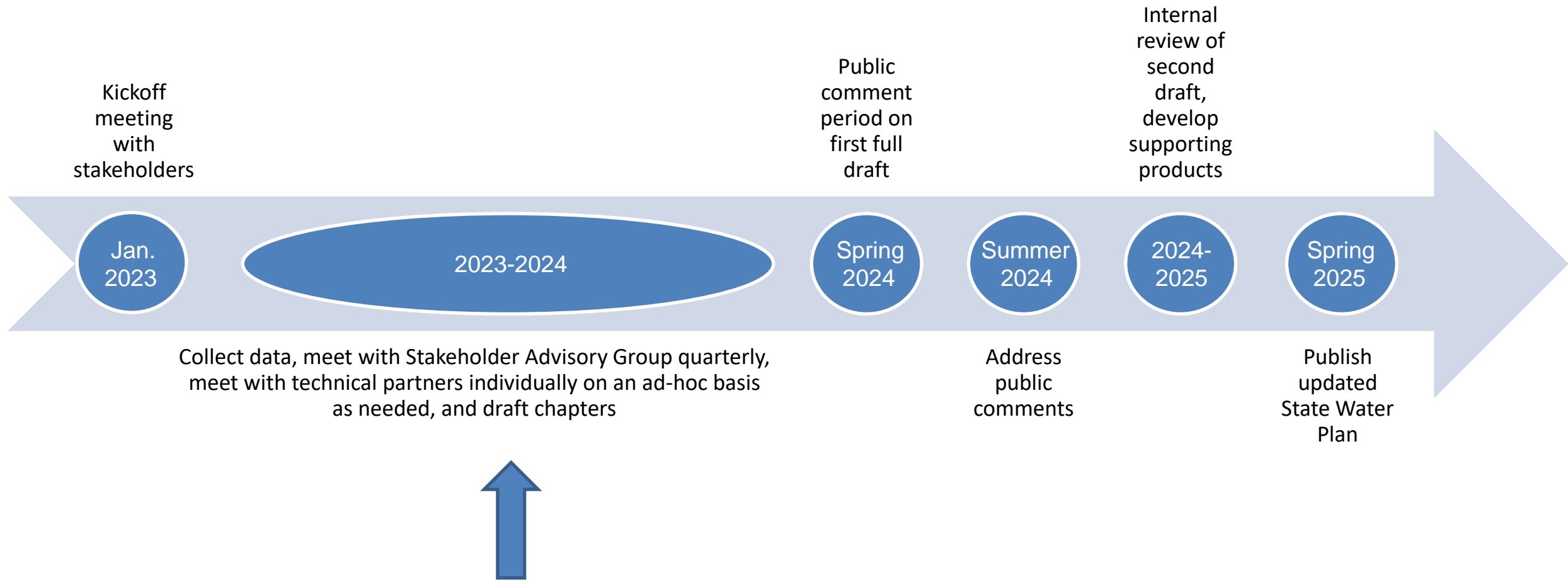
- Local
- State
- Tribal
- Federal

<http://water.nv.gov/waterplans.aspx>



Nevada State Water Plan

[Tentative] Timeline



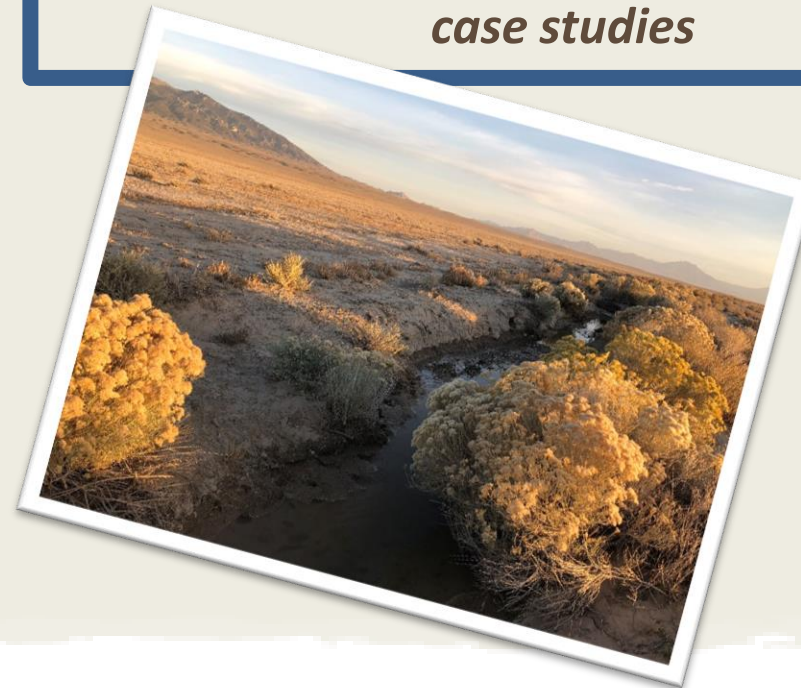
Nevada State Water Plan

General Outline

- Front Matter
- Executive Summary
- Introduction
- Climate and Water Resources of Nevada
- Water Use
- Potential Future Water Demands
- Strategies for Water Resource Planning
- Findings and Recommendations
- Looking Forward
- Appendices

Vignettes

Short profiles of a variety of water users, projects, etc. will be highlighted throughout the State Water Plan to showcase unique case studies





Questions?

Contact

Bunny Bishop

Chief, Water Planning and Drought Resiliency Section

Nevada Division of Water Resources

Phone: 775-684-2834

Email: bbishop@water.nv.gov