

2002 NWCCOG REGIONAL WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT PLAN

VOLUME I - POLICY PLAN

	<u>Page</u>
Table of Contents	VI - 1
Introduction	VI - 2
How To Use This Plan	VI - 4
Policy 1. Water Quality	VI - 8
Implementation Recommendations	VI - 8
1.1 Meet Existing Water Quality Standards	VI - 8
1.2 Recommend Revisions to Water Quality Standards, Classifications, and Designations	VI - 8
1.3 Implement Local Governmental Land Use Controls	VI -11
1.4 Implement Water Quality Improvement Projects	VI -12
Policy 2. Water Use and Development	VI -14
Implementation Recommendations	VI -14
Policy 3. Land Use and Disturbance	VI - 15
Implementation Recommendations	VI - 15
Policy 4. Domestic, Municipal and Industrial Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities	VI - 16
Implementation Recommendations	VI - 16
Policy 5. Chemical Management	VI - 18
Implementation Recommendations	VI - 18
Policy 6. Management System	VI - 20
Background	VI - 20
The Designation Process	VI - 20
Implementation Recommendations	VI - 20
Summary of Policy Statements	VI - 23

NWCCOG 208 PLAN INTRODUCTION

2002

Pollution of the region's waters may constitute a menace to public health and welfare, may create public nuisances, may be harmful to wildlife and aquatic life, and may impair beneficial uses of these waters high quality waters are valued by the citizens of the region who recognize the necessity of protecting the existing uses for the benefit of residents, visitors, and future generations. The region consists of the area within Eagle, Grand, Jackson, Pitkin, and Summit Counties. Northwest Colorado Council of Governments ("NWCCOG") is the designated regional water quality management agency responsible for water quality planning within this region.

This NWCCOG 208 Plan is adopted pursuant to Section 208 of the Federal Clean Water Act as implemented through Colorado Water Quality Control Act. The Colorado General Assembly adopted the Colorado Water Quality Control Act "[t]o protect, maintain, and improve where necessary and reasonable, water quality for public water supplies, for protection and propagation of wildlife and aquatic life, for domestic, agricultural, industrial, and recreational uses" (CRS 25-8-102). The purpose of Section 208 of the Federal Clean Water Act is to require plans for coordinated regional approaches to water quality management. This Regional Water Quality Management Plan, or 208 Plan, is a comprehensive revision of the NWCCOG 208 Plan that was last approved in 1998 by Governor Romer.

This 208 Plan consists of two volumes and appendices (including a glossary). Volume I consists of the Regional Policies and describes recommendations to protect and enhance the water quality within the NWCCOG region, consistent with the requirements of the Clean Water Act. Volume II consists of the Regional Water Quality Assessment which describes existing water quality, identifies the major regional water quality issues, and presents the individual Water Quality Management Plans for each of the five watersheds within the NWCCOG region (Figure 1).

Figure 1. Northwest Colorado Council of Governments' Regional and Watershed Boundaries

HOW TO USE THIS PLAN

Volume I, Policy Plan, consists of six policies. Policy 1 outlines changes NWCCOG is recommending to the State Water Quality Control Commission regarding water quality regulations. The next four policies recommend actions to minimize water quality impacts for political jurisdictions that have the authority to regulate land use and development. These jurisdictions are federal, state, and local governments. The last policy identifies entities or "Management Agencies" that are responsible for implementing the recommended actions.

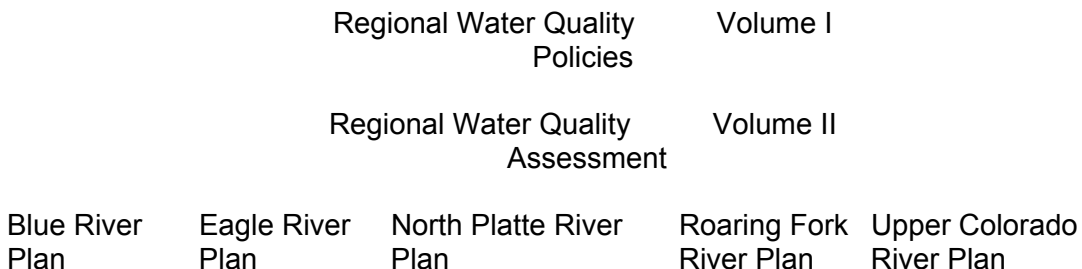
Volume II, Water Quality Program Development, describes the water quality assessments that were used to develop the policies in Volume I. The Regional Water Quality Assessment is a summary of the major water quality issues identified in the region. This section is also provided to inform readers of water quality impacts from various activities and gives an overview of the existing systems which protect water quality.

The five individual watershed plans in Volume II form the foundation of this 208 Plan. Each watershed plan has the following sections:

- A summary of the watershed characteristics and how the plan was developed;
- An evaluation of existing water quality data;
- Identification of Point and Nonpoint Source issues and recommendations for specific water quality issues in the basin;
- A description of existing and potential water quality improvement projects (including education);
- A summary of local water quality related land use regulations;
- A summary of water quality monitoring efforts and needs;
- A discussion of watershed stream segment water quality designations, classifications, standards and recommended changes.

The flow chart below (Figure 2) illustrates the structure of this 208 Plan.

Figure 2. NWCCOG Regional Water Quality Management Plan Structure



LEGAL AND REGULATORY FRAMEWORK

In 1972, Congress overrode a presidential veto to pass the Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 (PL92-500), also known as the Clean Water Act. This

Facility location					X	x			X	X								X			X
Facility needs						x			X												X
Facility capacity						x			X	X											X
Facility timing						x			X												X
Population projections						x			X												
Service area									X									x			X
Treatment level				X		x			X												X
Permit conditions						x			X												X
Wasteload allocations				X		x			X												X
NPS information						x												X	x		
Management agencies					X	x											x				X
WQ standards recommend	X					X						x	x	x							
Hydrologic modifications		X				x															X
Stream setbacks			X			x												X	x		
Silviculture activity			X			x													X		
Construction activity			X			x												X	X		
Urban runoff	X		X			X												X	X		
Onsite wastewater systems				X	X	x													x		
Chemical management				X		x												X	X		
WQ assessment	X					x					X										
BMP recommendations			x	X	x	x	X	x											x	x	
Water efficiency			X	X				x										X			
Model ordinances				x	X	x												x	x		

Policy 1. Protect and Enhance Water Quality

The surface and ground waters of the region shall be protected to minimize degradation of existing water quality and maintain existing and designated uses of those waters; waters not currently supporting designated uses shall be restored as soon as is financially and technically feasible.

Implementation Recommendations

1.1 Meet Existing Water Quality Standards

The Water Quality Control Commission has divided the surface waters of this region into stream segments, assigned designations, classifications, and set water quality standards. The five watershed plans in Volume II identify the existing designations, classified uses, and water quality standards in each of the watersheds. These designations, classifications, and standards are incorporated by reference and should be met through actions of designated management agencies, as identified in Policy 6.

1.2 Recommend Revisions to Water Quality Standards and Classifications.

Existing designations, classifications, and standards are documented in Section 8.1 of each of the watershed water quality plans. These designations, classifications and standards should be met through all actions of designated management agencies.

NWCCOG, after consultation with designated management agencies, will recommend selected revisions to these standards at triennial reviews and rule making hearings scheduled by the Commission. Recommended revisions to water quality standards are an element of 208 Plans under State Guidelines for the Continuing Planning Process.

1.2.1 Streams Which should be Investigated for Outstanding Waters Designation in Region XII

The Northwest Colorado Council of Governments does not currently recommend any additional waterbodies to the list of "Outstanding Waters" designation. If new wilderness areas within the region are approved by Congress, NWCCOG recommends investigations of waterbodies within those areas for appropriate ness of "outstanding waters" designation.

1.2.2 Use-Protected Waters in Region XII

Stream segments currently designated "Use-Protected" (discharges in these segments are not subject to antidegradation review) are listed in the appropriate watershed plans.

NWCCOG recommends that Segment 2 of the Blue River (the Blue River from French Gulch to Swan River) be designated "Use-Protected" because of water quality impacts from historical mining activities in French Gulch, lack of seasonal stream flows, and habitat impacts from historic placer mining. Additional information on this can be found in Chapters 2 and 8 of the Blue River Water Quality Management Plan.

1.2.3 Changes to Temporary Modifications in Region XII

Existing stream segments with temporary modifications are identified in the appropriate watershed plans in Volume II.

NWCCOG supports the continuation of temporary standards in the Blue River watershed for segments 2(Blue River below French Gulch), 6 (Snake River source to Dillon Reservoir), 7 (Peru Creek), and 11 (French Gulch from Wellington-Oro to mouth). TMDLs are pending for these segments and appropriate underlying standards for these segment have not yet been determined. As mentioned in Chapters 2 and 4 of the Blue River Water Quality Management Plan, activities are occurring in each of these areas to assist in the development of TMDLs.

1.2.4 Designated Uses Recommendations in Region XII

Designated Uses include: domestic water supply; agriculture; recreation; and aquatic life. No changes in designated uses are recommended to the stream segments in Region XII.

NWCCOG is supportive of the State's antidegradation provision and protection of high quality waters. NWCCOG is concerned, however that currently classified Recreation Class 2 waters will be reclassified as Recreation Class 1a unless a Use Attainability Analysis (UAA) is completed. It is highly likely that Recreation Class 2 is the appropriate classification for most of these segments. UAAs are encouraged to be pursued, however it is unlikely that UAAs will be completed for all segments in the NWCCOG region, due to financial and time constraints. In the NWCCOG region these waters are:

Upper Colorado River watershed

Seg. 6 All tributaries to the Colorado River from Lake Granby to the Blue River not on National Forest lands

Seg. 6c Unnamed tributary to Willow Creek from Willow Creek Reservoir Rd to Willow Creek

Seg. 7 All tributaries to the Colorado River from Blue to the Roaring Fork not on National Forest lands

Blue River Watershed

Seg. 7 Peru Creek mainstem

Seg. 8 Keystone Creek, Chihuahua Creek, N Fork Snake

Seg. 11 Mainstem French Gulch Lincoln to confluence w/ Blue River

Seg. 12 Mainstem Illinois Gulch

Seg. 13 Mainstem Tenmile from Climax flume to W. Tenmile Creek

Eagle River Watershed

Seg. 11 Mainstem Alkali Creek

Roaring Fork River Watershed

Seg. 4 Mainstem Brush Creek

Seg. 10 Mainstem N. Thompson Creek to confluence w/ Crystal

North Platte Watershed

Seg. 2 Mainstem Encampment R to Wyoming border

Seg. 5 Mainstem Michigan River from source to N. Platte River

- Seg. 6 Mainstem Pinkham Creek from source to N Platte
- Seg 7 Mainstem of Government Creek from boundary of Colorado State Forest to the confluence with the Canadian River. Mainstem of Spring Creek from the source to confluence with Illinois River.

1.2.6 Water Quality Limited - Not Supporting (303(d) List) Recommendations in Region XII

Water designated "Not Supporting" are waters where designated uses are measurably impaired because of water pollution. The use may be present, but at a significantly reduced level from full support in all or some portion of the waterbody.

The existing "Not Supporting" identified segments are listed in the appropriate watershed water quality plan in the Water Quality Standards section. These segments are reflected in the State's existing 303(d) list as impaired waters.

Blue River

- Segment 2 - Blue River from French Gulch to Swan River confluence – zinc and cadmium.
- Segment 6 - Snake River - source to Dillon Reservoir – zinc, cadmium, copper, lead.
- Segment 7 - Peru Creek – source to Snake River confluence – zinc, cadmium, copper, lead.
- Segment 11 - French Gulch from Wellington–Oro mine to Blue River confluence – zinc, cadmium, pH.
- Segment 18 - Straight Creek - source to Blue River confluence – sediment (TMDL approved in 2000).

Eagle River

- Segment 3, Eagle River – Black Gore Creek - sediment
- Segment 5 - Eagle River – Belden to Gore Creek confluence – cadmium, zinc, manganese.
- Segment 7 - Cross Creek – lower portion near mouth – zinc, manganese.
- Segment 9 - Eagle River – Gore Creek to Colorado River confluence – manganese.

Roaring Fork River

- Coal Creek – source to Crystal River confluence - iron

Upper Colorado River

- Segment 6c - Tributary to Willow Creek from Three Lakes WWTF discharge to Willow Creek – ammonia (TMDL approved in 2000).

1.2.7 Monitoring and Evaluation Recommendations in Region XII for 2002 303(d) List

The Northwest Colorado Council of Governments recommends that several segments in the region be added to the State of Colorado's 303(d) list for monitoring and evaluation

as follows:

Eagle River Watershed

- Milk, Ute and Alkali Creeks (Eagle River segment 10) - this segment is likely impaired due to highly erosive soils and past and possibly current land use practices. Water quality impacts are related to sediment and salinity loads. It is not known if this problem has a technical or cost-effective solution, or if the impacts from this segment on the Eagle River are significant.

Upper Colorado Watershed

- Fraser River (Upper Colorado River segment 10) – this segment is likely impaired due to Highway sanding and erosive conditions. Water quality impacts are related to sediment. Data collected in this segment to date is inconclusive.

Roaring Fork Watershed

- Four Mile Creek is likely impaired due to low stream flows, point and significant nonpoint source inputs of nutrients, and nonpoint source sediment loading.

The Northwest Colorado Council of Governments recommends that several segments in the region be removed from the State of Colorado's 303(d) list for monitoring and evaluation as follows:

North Platte Watershed

It is recommended that the North Platte, Grizzly Creek, Illinois River, Canadian River and Michigan River are removed from the Monitoring and Evaluation list. These segments were proposed for evaluation based on elevated iron and manganese values. In the July 2000 Rule Making Hearing, the Commission ruled that for segments with a water supply classification that have an actual water supply use, that the numerical standard would be the less restrictive of either a) the existing quality as of July 2000, or b) the water supply table value criteria. Based on the information collected by the Jackson County Water Conservancy District, it appears that the elevated concentrations of iron and manganese are naturally occurring, and that the existing quality is the appropriate standard.

The Jackson County Water Conservancy District has monitored Newcomb, Ninegar, Pinkham, and Snyder Creeks, for sediment impacts and recommends deletion of these segments from the monitoring and evaluation list.

1.3. Implement Local Governmental Land Use Controls to Address Nonpoint sources.

1.3.1 Counties and municipalities should continue to adopt and enforce land use regulations designed to address water quality impacts associated with land use activities

1.3.2 NWCCOG should assist counties and municipalities to implement the NWCCOG Model Water Quality Regulations through their individual land use codes. The priority areas for implementation are Grand, Summit and Eagle Counties

1.3.3 Municipalities should adopt watershed protection regulations to protect the area located upstream of their intake point for municipal water supply pursuant to CRS 31-15-707(1)(b).

1.3.4 Entities providing domestic water supplies should work with the Water Quality Control Division's Source Water Assessment and Protection Program to ensure a safe water supply.

1.4 Implement Water Quality Improvement Projects

NWCCOG should facilitate activities of designated management agencies and other interested parties to implement voluntary water quality improvement projects.

The Regional Priorities for projects and project funding is based on the regional priorities listed in Volume II and listed below.

- Nonpoint Source Pollutants From Development Areas
- Acid Rock Drainage
- Point Source Discharges From Developed Areas
- Hydrologic Modifications From Water Projects
- Large Area Soil Disturbance Activities
- Roadways and Pavements

As identified in Chapter 2 of Volume II, the two most significant water quality priorities in the region are Nonpoint Source Pollutants From Development Areas and Acid Rock Drainage.

Nonpoint Source Pollutants From Development Areas

Areas of focus should include:

- Urbanized areas in the Fraser River, Blue River, Gore and Eagle River, and Roaring Fork River

Pollutants of interest include:

- Nutrients
- Sediment

A subset of this area of focus is related to groundwater impacts in development areas and includes impacts from septic systems and urban activities.

Acid Rock Drainage

Areas of focus should include:

- Snake River Watershed
- French Gulch
- Blue River below French Gulch
- Eagle River in the Belden area

NWCCOG recommends that projects addressing these two issues receive the highest priority for grant funding and direction of personnel activity.

It should be noted that although Roadways and Pavement have been broken out separately, it is a subset of Nonpoint Source Pollutants from development areas, and should also receive high priority for activities and funding – especially in the following areas:

- Fraser River
- Straight Creek
- Black Gore Creek

Chapter 4 in each of the watershed plans identifies watershed-specific projects that NWCCOG supports.

1.4.1 Nonpoint Source Improvement From Development Area Projects

Nonpoint pollution from development areas have the potential to significantly impact water quality in the region. Pollutants of highest concern are sediment, nutrients and dissolved solids (salt). The NWCCOG and local land use management agencies should actively work to develop nonpoint source water quality improvement projects directed in developed urban areas in the Fraser, Blue, Eagle, and Roaring Fork watersheds.

1.4.2 Inactive Mine Water Quality Improvement Projects

Historic mining activities in Region XII have left mine and mill tailings, spoil piles and inactive mine workings which cause water quality degradation through acid mine drainage. While these mines were operated according to standards accepted at the time, these inactive mines often contribute to water quality problems. Local governments and NWCCOG are working with the Colorado Water Quality Control Division and the Division of Minerals and Geology to improve water quality where impacts have been identified. Public and private sector cooperative efforts should be undertaken to reclaim these sites and to minimize long-term water quality impacts. Specific site projects are listed in the appropriate watershed plan in the Watershed Water Quality Improvement Projects section.

Policy 2. Water Use and Development

The project developer shall mitigate the impacts to water quality and the aquatic environment caused by water projects.

Implementation Recommendations

2.1 Municipalities and counties should require mitigation of impacts to water quality and the aquatic environment caused by water use and development activities subject to local government regulations.

2.2 Where a federal permit is required for a water project water quality impacts, including those caused by hydrologic modifications, should be analyzed and mitigated through the federal permit process; NWCCOG will review and comment on proposed federal permits to ensure that mitigation is required to the extent allowed by law.

2.3 NWCCOG should encourage the Colorado Water Conservation Board to establish instream flows and acquire the water rights necessary to protect those flows in cooperation with local water user groups and water quality management agencies so that all affected interests can be taken into consideration.

2.4 NWCCOG should work with local governments to identify Recreational In-Channel Diversion projects that protect and enhance water quality and the aquatic environment while developing water rights.

2.5 NWCCOG should continue its efforts, such as the Upper Colorado Basin Project in Grand and Summit Counties, to jointly develop water quality and quantity data with operators of trans-mountain diversion projects so that those projects can be operated to avoid increases in wastewater treatment costs and to minimize adverse impacts to waterbodies within the Region.

2.6 NWCCOG should develop and support efforts in the Front Range and the Region to improve water use efficiency such as conjunctive use agreements, water banking, water metering, potable and non-potable reuse, landscaping requirements and conservation.

2.7 NWCCOG should facilitate public/private cooperative efforts to implement stream restoration projects that address the adverse impacts of hydrologic modifications (specific recommendations are listed in the individual watershed water quality management plans in the Watershed Improvement Projects Section).

2.8 Whenever authorized pursuant to intergovernmental agreements, counties should require an applicant for a permit to construct a major water project to consider and mitigate impacts to water quality and the aquatic environment that might result in an adjacent jurisdiction.

POLICY 3. Land Use and Disturbance

Land uses and disturbances shall not result in significant degradation of water quality nor impair the natural protection and/or treatment processes provided by wetlands, floodplains, shorelines, and riparian areas.

Implementation Recommendations

3.1 Local governments should amend their land use codes to adopt the NWCCOG Water Quality Regulations (Appendix 10) or other regulations that require building setbacks from waterbodies, erosion control, post-construction stormwater detention, snow storage and melt criteria, and related techniques to prevent degradation of water quality associated with building and development.

3.2 NWCCOG and counties should encourage the agricultural community to implement voluntary Best Management Practices (BMPs) for agricultural activities to minimize adverse impacts to water quality from these activities. Examples of BMPs can be found in Appendix 11.

3.3 Developers should protect critical stream environment zones, floodplains, wetlands, riparian areas, and reservoir shorelines for public uses through conservation easements, land exchanges, transfer of development rights, or similar resource protection techniques whenever possible.

3.4 Developers should maintain the hydrologic characteristics of the development site similar to pre-development conditions. Drainage plans, including calculation of storm runoff volumes and velocities (before and after development) using accepted hydrologic calculation procedures, should be designed and implemented..

3.5 Counties and municipalities should adopt building restrictions on slopes greater than 30% as a means of limiting the water quality impacts of soil disturbance.

3.6 Counties and municipalities should require that development proposals be designed to minimize impervious surfaces.. The greatest restrictions on impervious cover are recommended for groundwater recharge areas. The Colorado Water Quality Control Division's Wellhead Protection Program has information on these areas.

3.7 Stormwater discharges should not result in any significant increase in total pollutant loads and the direct discharge of stormwater to a waterbody or drainage way should be prohibited.

3.8 Design, construction, operation and maintenance of golf courses should follow "Guidance for Water Quality Enhancement at Golf courses through the Use of Best Management Practices" prepared for the Colorado Nonpoint Source Council, December, 1996 (Appendix 11).

3.9 Design and maintenance of mountain driveways should follow "Mountain Driveway Best Management Practices", prepared for the Colorado Nonpoint Source Task Force, June 1999 (Appendix 11).

Policy 4. Domestic, Municipal, and Industrial Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities

Decisions to locate water supplies, wastewater treatment systems, and other water and wastewater facilities shall be made in a manner which protects water quality and the aquatic environment. Where growth and development requires the need for additional facility capacity, existing facilities should be expanded in lieu of developing new facilities, unless expansion is not feasible because of technical, legal or political reasons.

Implementation Recommendations

4.1 NWCCOG will review site applications for wastewater treatment plants and industrial water projects and forward comments to the county or municipal government within which the project will be located, and to appropriate state and federal agencies.

4.2 NWCCOG will coordinate local watershed efforts with those off the State Water Quality Control Division to track waste load allocations.

4.3 NWCCOG and appropriate watershed management agencies will coordinate efforts to minimize nonpoint source pollution so that point source dischargers do not bear a disproportionate share of water quality protection costs.

4.4 NWCCOG should recommend to the Water Quality Control Commission that the effectiveness of pollutant trading schemes be evaluated. During facility planning and drafting of Colorado Discharge Permits (CDPS), the cost-effectiveness of controlling nonpoint sources of critical pollutants should be considered. Dischargers should be given credit towards CDPS limits for removal of critical point source pollutants from nonpoint sources.

4.5 Whenever possible, new development should be served by central wastewater treatment systems. Where central systems are not possible, onsite wastewater systems (individual sewage disposal systems or septic systems) should be required to meet appropriate performance criteria that are protective of surface and groundwater quality.

4.6 The proliferation of wastewater treatment plants and operating agencies should be discouraged by consolidating treatment plants and management agencies whenever possible. Counties and the Water Quality Control Division should require that wastewater treatment plants be operated by entities with the technical, financial and legal capability to ensure reliable treatment over the life of the facility.

4.7 Biosolids generated by municipal and industrial wastewater treatment plants should be disposed of and/or beneficially re-used according to a disposal plan approved by the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the appropriate local government. Re-use of biosolids locally is strongly encouraged as an alternative to landfill disposal.

4.8 Counties should work with municipal and special district wastewater treatment facilities to consider the treatment of septic tank septage from onsite wastewater systems and recreational vehicles. Costs for construction, operation, and maintenance

of these facilities should be paid for by the generators of the septage.

4.9 Any new wastewater facility shall be consistent with this Plan. A site application for a wastewater treatment facility not identified in this plan is required to provide adequate information in an engineering report submitted with the site application to ensure consistency with this plan. A check list of the required information for facilities over 10,000 gallons per day is found in Appendix 15.

4.10 The use of Operating Agencies, i.e. homeowner associations or private wastewater operators, to own and manage wastewater treatment facilities should be avoided whenever possible because of the time, technical training, and consistency of effort needed to manage and operate wastewater facilities.

4.11 NWCCOG will facilitate watershed-based water and wastewater provider forums for discussion of TMDLs, wasteload allocation and management, and sharing of information. Existing examples include the Summit Water Quality Committee and the East Grand Water Quality Board.

Policy 5. Chemical Management

The uses of pesticides, fertilizers, algacides, road deicing and friction materials, and other chemicals which would temporarily or permanently cause a significant degradation of water quality or impair the current or designated uses of these waters should be regulated to the extent allowed by law.

Implementation Recommendations

5.1 Decisions about limitations and management of agricultural, industrial, and domestic chemicals should be based upon preparation of carefully designed pest control and nutrient management plans reflecting integrated approaches to pest control and detailed soil testing and plant analyses. Appropriate Management Agencies will encourage education efforts in cooperation with the Natural Resources Conservation Service and State Extension Service to inform the public and other users of fertilizers and pesticides concerning the appropriate use and alternatives to the use of these materials in order to minimize water quality impacts.

5.2 Application of road deicing and friction materials should be conducted throughout the region in accordance with the following recommendations. NWCCOG and county governments should provide these recommendations to state or federal agencies involved with road maintenance efforts:

- Sanding materials and chemical application rates should be the minimum necessary to obtain safe and efficient operation of streets, roads, and highways.
- Salt and other chemicals should be applied only when removal of snow and ice cannot be accomplished by blading, plowing or sanding.
- Measures should be taken to minimize and mitigate the use of sand and chemicals in and adjacent to environmentally sensitive areas including: streams; lakes; ponds; wetlands; potential aquifers; and flood prone areas.
- Chemically treated or sanded snow and ice should not be dumped or stored where melt can flow directly into surface waters.
- Snow storage areas shall be located taking into consideration state requirements that direct discharges of snow storage areas to waterbodies require a Colorado Discharge Permit.

5.3 Local governments should enact regulations to require that storage, handling, and use of hazardous substances be conducted in accordance with the following general guidelines:

- All materials should be kept in appropriate containers and/or under cover, protected from precipitation and stormwater flows and in compliance with state and federal hazardous waste and management laws.
- All storage areas should be kept clean of spilled material.
- Handling and moving of materials should be limited as much as possible.
- Only "reasonable" quantities of toxic materials should be kept on hand.
- Hazardous substances should not be stored on potential aquifer recharge areas, unstable slopes, flood prone and other geologic hazard areas.

5.4 Storage, handling and transporting of large amounts of hazardous substances should be tracked and monitored throughout the region by the local fire departments or designated emergency response provider.

5.5 Water providers that depend on ground and surface waters for domestic water supplies should develop appropriate protection programs, such as a source water protection program pursuant to Section 1428 of the Safe Drinking Water Act or a watershed protection program pursuant to CRS 31-15-707(1)(b).

5.6 The communities and solid waste disposal facilities in the region should encourage responsible management of household hazardous wastes (oil, paint, acids, pesticides, etc.) through public education outreach. Development of a region-wide hazardous materials management program and waste minimization programs should be encouraged.

POLICY 6. Management System

The waters of the region shall be protected by a management agency structure within the existing governmental and regulatory framework that allows decisions to be made at the most appropriate level of control. For nonpoint source pollution control the recommended level of management is at the watershed level. Table 2 identifies the recommended management agency structure.

Background

The federal Clean Water Act requires the governor of each state to designate management agencies responsible for carrying out the provisions of approved water quality management programs. Once designated by the governor and approved by the Regional Administrator of EPA, functional responsibility for carrying out the provisions of the water quality management plan is legally assigned to that entity.

Further, the Federal Clean Water Act specifies that:

- Future construction grants for wastewater treatment facilities under Section 201 of the Act will be awarded only to entities who are designated as management agencies.
- No discharge permit will be issued which is in conflict with the recommendations of an approved 208 Plan as updated by the designated planning and management agencies.

The Designation Process

The designation of management agencies establishes part of the legal basis for delegation of authorities necessary to carry out the recommendations of Water Quality Management Plans. The management agency structure by NWCCOG is outlined in Table 3.

Implementation Recommendations

See Table 3 for the Recommended Management Agency Structure to implement the NWCCOG Regional Water Quality Management Plan.

6.1 Federal Lands: Federal land managers (USFS, BLM, NPS) are management agencies for lands which they manage in cooperation with counties where the land is located.

6.2 Local Governments: Municipal and county governments are designated as management agencies for local land use decisions within their jurisdictions.

6.3 Sanitation Districts: Sanitation Districts are designated as management agencies for the construction, operation, and maintenance of wastewater facilities within their service area. The following districts operate under an intergovernmental agreement:

Breckenridge, Frisco, and Kremmling

Sanitation districts should enter into agreements with their local general purpose governmental body which indicates their resolution to act as the management agency

responsible for controlling point source discharges consistent with the 208 Plan, and agree to abide by the local government's regulations with respect to nonpoint source control of water pollutants related to their activities.

6.4 Municipal and County Facilities: The following general purpose governments operate municipal wastewater treatment facilities and are designated as management agencies for wastewater treatment within their service areas: the Towns of Eagle, Gypsum, Hot Sulphur Springs, Red Cliff, Silverthorne/Dillon, and Summit County (Snake River).

6.5 Operating Agencies: Homeowner associations and private owners of wastewater treatment facilities are designated as operating agencies for their own facilities. Operating agencies are encouraged to have agreements in place with appropriate management agencies (local governments and special districts) regarding their service areas, scope of services, cooperative monitoring programs and responsibilities.

6.6 NWCCOG will facilitate the development of Memorandums of Understandings or Inter-Governmental Agreements between federal, state, local, and private entities to manage water quality issues.

6.7 The recommended role of NWCCOG is to:

- Develop, review and revise the Regional Water Quality Management Plan;
- Provide outreach and education to its member jurisdictions;
- Support watershed water quality planning processes;
- Encourage and assist local governments in developing regulations which address water quality issues as recommended in the 208 Policy Plan;
- Facilitate intergovernmental agreements which will further watershed water quality planning;
- Provide technical support in development of water quality improvement projects;
- Review, and comment when appropriate on, Site Applications, water quality standards, environmental impact statements and permits in the region, in accordance with the 208 Plan policies and implementation recommendations.
- Participate in State activities, such as Water Quality Control Commission hearings and State sponsored work groups, to promote the interest of members of NWCCOG, as identified in this 208 Plan.

Table 3. Management Agency Structure

Activity and Policy	Management Agency
Areawide Water Quality Planning	Northwest Colorado Council of Governments
Local Land Use Planning	Counties and municipalities
Policy 1. Protect and enhance water quality	
Recommend water quality standards revisions	NWCCOG, counties, municipalities, special districts, Water Quality Control Division
Policy 2. Water Use and Development	
Issue 1041 permits	Counties and municipalities
Issue Special Use Permits/Right of ways	USFS, BLM, Counties
Issue 404 permit	US Army Corps of Engineers
Issue 401 certifications	Colorado Water Quality Control Division
Policy 3. Land Use and disturbance	

Encroachment	Counties, municipalities, special districts, federal land management agencies
Public facilities	Counties, municipalities, special districts, federal land management agencies, Colorado Department of Transportation
Vegetative disturbance	Counties, municipalities, special districts, federal land management agencies
Soil Disturbance	Counties, municipalities, special districts, federal land management agencies, Natural Resource Conservation Service
Issue 1041 Permits	
Impervious Cover	Counties, municipalities
Stormwater	Counties, municipalities, Colorado Water Quality Control Division
Policy 4. Domestic, municipal, and industrial water and waste treatment facilities	
Issue Colorado Discharge Permits	Colorado Water Quality Control Division
Approve site applications	Colorado Water Quality Control Division
Review site applications	NWCCOG, counties, municipalities, special districts
Issue 1041 permits	Counties, municipalities
Biosolids Applications	Counties, Water Quality Control Division, Hazardous Materials Division
Landfill site approvals	Counties, Hazardous Materials Division
Onsite wastewater systems	Counties, Colorado Water Quality Control Division
Policy 5. Chemical Management	
Spill prevention and cleanup	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment, CDOT, municipalities, special districts

NWCCOG 208 Plan Policy Summary

Policy 1. Protect and Enhance Water Quality

The surface and ground waters of the region shall be protected to minimize degradation of existing water quality and maintain existing and designated uses of those waters; waters not currently supporting designated uses shall be restored as soon as is financially and technically feasible.

Policy 2. Water Use and Development

The project developer shall mitigate the impacts to water quality and the aquatic environment caused by water projects.

POLICY 3. Land Use and Disturbance

Land uses and disturbance shall not result in significant degradation of water quality nor impair the natural protection and/or treatment processes provided by wetlands, floodplains, shorelines, and riparian areas.

Policy 4. Domestic, Municipal, and Industrial Water and Wastewater Treatment Facilities

Decisions to locate water supplies, wastewater treatment systems, and other water and wastewater facilities shall be made in a manner that protects water quality and the aquatic environment. Where growth and development requires the need for additional facility capacity, existing facilities should be expanded in lieu of developing new facilities, unless expansion is not feasible because of technical, legal or political reasons.

Policy 5. Chemical Management

The uses of pesticides, fertilizers, algacides, road deicing and friction materials, and other chemicals which would temporarily or permanently cause a significant degradation of water quality or impair the current or designated uses of these waters should be regulated to the extent allowed by law.

POLICY 6. Management System

The waters of the region shall be protected by a management agency structure within the existing governmental and regulatory framework that allows decisions to be made at the most appropriate level of control. For nonpoint source pollution control the recommended level of management is at the watershed level. Table 2 identifies the recommended management agency structure.