



As a not-for-profit regional agency, our goal is to serve the community, not to generate profit. With every decision, we weigh the potential impact on the environment and strive to balance resource needs with the preservation of wildlife habitat. In northern Clark County, for example, we have worked closely with federal agencies to ensure that issues related to a planned groundwater development project are addressed.

SURFACE & GROUNDWATER DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVES

The SNWA holds surface water rights on the Muddy and Virgin rivers that could potentially provide more than 120,000 acre-feet of water annually to the Las Vegas Valley. The surface water development project will involve developing a delivery method that will be determined based upon a variety of environmental and operational factors.

The groundwater development projects involve pumping groundwater from basins outside the Las Vegas Valley. This initiative, which would be implemented under the direction of the Nevada State Engineer, will involve extensive hydrological monitoring to ensure those sensitive resources in the groundwater basins are not adversely impacted. The Nevada State Engineer, who issues groundwater permits and is charged by law with protecting the public interest, closely regulates groundwater development.

GETTING INVOLVED

We are committed to keeping stakeholders informed and involved throughout the process. To create an outcome in which everyone's interests are represented, we need input from local communities, environmental organizations and others.

Throughout this process, we'll be working proactively to keep stakeholders informed of progress and provide opportunities to contribute their perspectives. Under the leadership of the Bureau of Land Management, we'll be participating in a series of public workshops. And, perhaps most importantly, someone will always be available to discuss any issues that may arise.

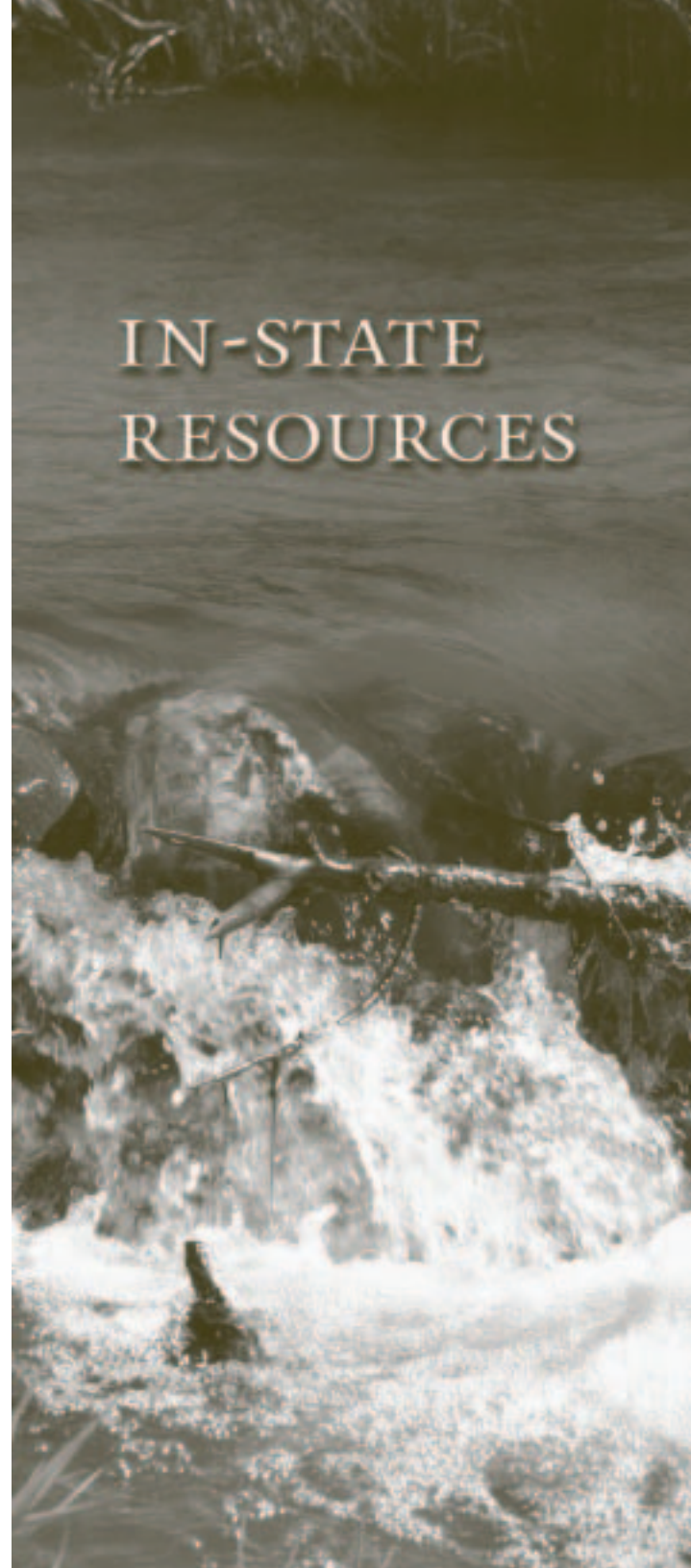
You can reach us toll free at **(866) 300-5600** or at **(702) 258-3930**. You may also contact us through our Web site, **snwa.com**, or send written comments to:

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LAS VEGAS, NV 89153
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SNWA MEMBER AGENCIES:
BIG BEND WATER DISTRICT
BOULDER CITY
CITY OF HENDERSON
CITY OF LAS VEGAS
CITY OF NORTH LAS VEGAS
CLARK COUNTY WATER RECLAMATION DISTRICT
LAS VEGAS VALLEY WATER DISTRICT

IN-STATE RESOURCES



BALANCING WATER RESOURCES

In-state, non-Colorado River water resources have historically been a part of Southern Nevada's diverse water resource portfolio, along with the Colorado River, shallow groundwater and other existing and potential resources such as investments in desalination and increased water recycling.

The responsibility for managing and prioritizing this menu of options falls to the Southern Nevada Water Authority. Work to develop some of these in-state water resources is well under way, for instance, in northern Clark County's Coyote Spring Valley.

In addition to long-term planning, the SNWA has implemented one of the country's most aggressive water conservation programs to maximize the efficiency of the region's water use.

In-state projects are being developed sooner than initially scheduled in response to a devastating Colorado River drought, the severity and duration of which cannot be fully predicted. The three major projects are: Existing water rights on the Virgin and Muddy rivers; groundwater in the Three Lakes Valley in northwestern Clark County; and groundwater from northern Clark, Lincoln and White Pine counties.

The Colorado River remains Southern Nevada's primary water supply, both now and for the foreseeable future. Our goal is not to replace this source with in-state resources, but rather to reduce the dependence on the Colorado River by implementing other water resource options identified previously in our long-term resource plan.

PRESERVING COMMUNITIES AND LIFESTYLES

We understand that the people of rural Nevada value both their water and their way of life. We are committed to protecting rural lifestyles and working with neighboring communities to address concerns. While studies indicate there is enough water to serve rural communities and existing water rights holders and to supplement Southern Nevada's water resources, further analysis will be done. We are committed to making sure our community's future does not come at the expense of rural Nevadans.

PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

The SNWA is committed to engaging in responsible environmental practices. From the creation of a collaborative process to manage a fragile ecosystem within Southern Nevada's watershed to the implementation of the Groundwater Management Program to protect the Las Vegas Valley groundwater aquifer, we have demonstrated that responsible water management is more than just a philosophy—it's a way of doing business.