

**SUBMIT OPTION SUBMITTAL FORM BY:**

1. EMAIL TO: [COLORADORIVERBASINSTUDY@USBR.GOV](mailto:COLORADORIVERBASINSTUDY@USBR.GOV)

2. U.S. MAIL TO: BUREAU OF RECLAMATION, ATTENTION MS. PAM ADAMS, LC-2721, P.O. BOX 61470, BOULDER CITY, NV 89006-1470

3. FACSIMILE TO: 702-293-8418

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## Option Submittal Form

**Contact Information (optional):**

**Keep my contact information private.**

Contact Name: _____	Title: _____
Affiliation: _____	
Address: _____	
Telephone: _____	E-mail Address: _____

Date Option Submitted: February 1, 2012

**Option Name:**

Upper Basin Accounting
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**Description of Option:**

<p>CO, NM, UT, and WY improve state-level procedures for determining water use in all sectors. Specifically, the Upper Basin states would agree to common standards for water accounting, which in turn would be implemented via programs of each state. These standards would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Result in timely, annual reporting of consumptive use; ;</li><li>- Encourage adoption of appropriate technologies, such as metering, or remote sensing;</li><li>- Facilitate improved administration of water rights within each state;</li><li>- Facilitate improved administration of water transfers within each state;</li><li>- Facilitate improved administration of compact obligations, both within each state and among the four states; and</li><li>- Facilitate implementation of an Upper Basin Water Bank.</li></ul>
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**Location:** Describe location(s) where option could be implemented and other areas that the option would affect, if applicable. Attach a map, if applicable.

Areas of the Upper Basin in which Colorado River water is used.
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**Quantity and Timing:** Roughly quantify the range of the potential amount of water that the option could provide over the next 50 years and in what timeframe that amount could be available. If option could be implemented in phases, include quantity estimates associated with each phase. If known, specify any important seasonal (e.g., more water could be available in winter) and/or frequency (e.g., more water could likely be available during above-average hydrologic years) considerations. If known, describe any key assumptions made in order to quantify the potential amount.

This strategy does not directly result in water, but it is an essential prerequisite to options such as water banking that do.
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## Additional Information

**Technical Feasibility:** Describe the maturity and feasibility of the concept/technology being proposed, and what research and/or technological development might first be needed.

Improvements in accounting using appropriate technologies have been implemented elsewhere. For example, the Idaho Department of Water Resources now relies on remote sensing for tribal water rights negotiations, water rights compliance, and irrigation water use monitoring.

**Costs:** Provide cost and funding information, if available, including capital, operations, maintenance, repair, replacement, and any other costs and sources of funds (e.g., public, private, or both public and private). Identify what is and is not included in the provided cost numbers and provide references used for cost justification. Methodologies for calculating unit costs (e.g., \$/acre-foot or \$/million gallons) vary widely; therefore, do not provide unit costs without also providing the assumed capital and annual costs for the option, and the methodology used to calculate unit costs.

Costs are unknown, but IDWR reports cost savings when compared to traditional methods for calculating water use such as interpolating using electricity usage at wells.

**Permitting:** List the permits and/or approvals required and status of any permits and/or approvals received.

N/A

**Legal / Public Policy Considerations:** Describe legal/public policy considerations associated with the option. Describe any agreements necessary for implementation and any potential water rights issues, if known.

There are no known legal barriers to adopting appropriate technologies for water administration. However, in some places water use measurement has been historically quite imprecise, and water users may have concerns. States considering adoption of new technologies and procedures would be well served by working closely with water users and other stakeholders to ensure a smooth transition.

**Implementation Risk / Uncertainty:** Describe any aspects of the option that involves risk or uncertainty related to implementing the option.

N/A

**Reliability:** Describe the anticipated reliability of the option and any known risks to supply or demand, such as: drought risk, water contamination risk, risk of infrastructure failure, etc.

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N/A
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**Water Quality:** Identify key water quality implications (salinity and other constituents) associated with the option in all of the locations the option may affect.

N/A
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**Energy Needs:** Describe, and quantify if known, the energy needs associated with the option. Include any energy required to obtain, treat, and deliver the water to the defined location at the defined quality.

Energy Required	Source(s) of Energy
N/A	

**Hydroelectric Energy Generation:** Describe, and quantify if known, any anticipated increases or decreases in hydroelectric energy generation as a result of the option.

Location of Generation	Impact to Generation
	N/A

**Recreation:** Describe any anticipated positive or negative effects on recreation.

Location(s)	Anticipate Benefits or Impacts
	N/A

**Environment:** Describe any anticipated positive or negative effects on ecosystems within or outside of the Colorado River Basin.

Location(s)	Anticipated Benefits or Impacts
	N/A

**Socioeconomics:** Describe anticipated positive or negative socioeconomic (social and economic factors) effects.

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N/A

**Other Information:** Provide other information as appropriate, including potential secondary benefits or considerations. Attach supporting documentation or references, if applicable.