WRRC Annual Conference 2009

Integrated Water Resources Management (IWRM) – What does it mean?

Workshop Participants

Moderator

- **Brian Manwaring**
  Program Manager, U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution

Panel

- **Sharon Megdal**
  Director, U of A's Water Resources Research Center
- **Chris Scott**
  Assistant Professor, Udall Center for Studies in Public Policy and the Department of Geography and Regional Development at the University of Arizona
- **Jean Calhoun**
  Director of Land & Water Conservation, The Nature Conservancy

Definition - IWRM

From the Global Water Partnership (2000) --

A process which promotes the coordinated development and management of water, land and related resources, in order to maximize the resultant economic and social welfare in an equitable manner without compromising the sustainability of vital ecosystems

"Integration" in IWRM

- **Management of Water Supply AND Demand**
- **Natural System Integration**
  - Land and water
  - Surface water and groundwater
  - Quantity and quality
- **Human System Integration**
  - Mainstreaming of water resource decision making
  - Vertical/Horizontal Integration
  - Upstream and downstream needs/interests
  - Water supply and wastewater

Drivers and Challenges

The Problem:

- Water resources under pressure
- Water governance divide

The Challenges:

- Securing water for people and food production
- Protecting ecosystems and economies
- Managing risk and variability
- Creating popular awareness
- Ensuring collaboration across boundaries

Applied IWRM

- Comprehensive vs. Integrative
- River Basin vs. Components
- IWRM concepts or components reflected in:
  - Water Development Plan
  - Water Resource Master Planning
  - River Basin Management
  - Watershed Management
- Panel Presentations