RECOMMENDATIONS OF WATER COURT COMMITTEE AUGUST 1, 2008

- 1. The Colorado General Assembly should consider an amendment to C.R.S. § 37-92-201 (e) and (f) to place the White River and its drainages within the jurisdiction of Water Division 6, instead of Water Division No. 5 as currently placed.
- 2. The Colorado Supreme Court, using its public comment and hearing procedures, should consider amending Colorado Rule of Civil Procedure 90 and Rule 2, 3, 6, and 11 of the Uniform Rules For All Water Court Divisions.
- 3. The Colorado Supreme Court should consider adopting a declaration for all experts to sign in water court proceedings.
- 4. The Colorado Supreme Court, the Colorado Bar Association through its Water Section, and Continuing Legal Education, Inc. of the Colorado Bar Association should work together for a comprehensive ongoing educational program for water attorneys, judges, and other professionals participating in water court proceedings.
- 5. The Colorado Supreme Court should establish a standing Water Court Committee.
- 6. The State Court Administrator's Office should work with the standing Water Court Committee to prepare a user friendly set of materials designed for assisting the public and individuals without attorneys to better understand and participate in water court proceedings.
- 7. The Water Judges, working with the standing Water Court Committee, should review all current standard forms used in water court proceedings and make appropriate revisions and additions.
- 8. The Colorado Supreme Court, the Attorney General, the Department of Natural Resources, the State Engineer, and the Colorado Water Conservation Board should work together to obtain the General Assembly's approval of funding necessary for operation of timely, fair and effective water courts.
- The Colorado General Assembly should continue to foster the development of publicly-usable river basin computational models, predictive tools, and model data transparency.
- 10. The Colorado Supreme Court through its State Court Administrator should review all current water court staffing and assignments and make necessary additional assignments or reassignments, as needed to ensure timely, fair and effective water courts.