Rhode Island Water Resources Board

Water Resource Management in Rhode Island
“It shall be the duty of the Water Resources Board to regulate the proper development, protection, conservation and use of the water resources of the State”
“The Rhode Island Water Resources Board…..will provide necessary balance in working toward the *sustainability* of Rhode Island's water resources”
“The water resources board is the state agency which manages the withdrawal and use of the waters of the state of Rhode Island”
How do we meet the goals of the Board...to regulate the development, protection, conservation and use of the water resources of the state?
Rhode Island General Laws

Rules and Regulations
Water Use and Efficiency Act
Water Supply System Management Plan
Emergency Interconnection Program
Water Development Fund
Big River Management Area Policies
Water Facilities Assistance Program
Water Quality Protection Charge
So what really makes the Water Resources Board “work”? 
Board Members

Pamela Marchand – Chair
Ronnie Gibson – Vice Chair
James Pagliarini
Eugenia Marks
Sheila McGauvran
Michael DeFrancesco
Jessie Rodriguez
Susan Licardi
Peter Cottrell
Daniel O’Rourke
Janet Coit (RIDEM)
Marcel Valois (RIEDC)
Kevin Flynn (Planning)
Michael Fine (RIDOH)
Board Committees

Legislation and Policy

Technical

Finance
How does the Board ensure that their work integrates with other State agencies and divisions?
Questions at this point?
How do we identify the major issues that face the WRB right now?
WRB Strategic Planning Initiative
(adopted March 2012)

Dynamic Strategic Planning Process
Innovative - Solution Oriented - New Ideas

Planning process was driven by a See-Think-Do process to develop alternatives: Used information of known supply infrastructure, hydrologic conditions, and growth patterns to develop reasonably available alternatives

Result: Development of 20 supply and demand initiatives
Major Water Supplies
Urban Services Boundary
Questions and Results:

1- How much Water is there? (May 5, 2011)

2,000 MGD (average)

2- How much Water are we using? (June 2, 2011)

134 MGD (average), 180 MGD (peak)

3- How much Water do we need? (July 14, 2011)

Need to Quantify Demand....
Demand Analysis
Build-out Availability Results

NORTHERN REGION
Average Demand: 129 MGD
Summer Demand: 168 MGD
Total Available: 132 MGD
Average: + 3 MGD
Summer: - 36 MGD

SOUTHERN REGION
Average Demand: 34 MGD
Summer Demand: 52 MGD
Total Available: 22 MGD
Average: - 12 MGD
Summer: - 30 MGD

AQUIDNECK REGION
Average Demand: 15 MGD
Summer Demand: 19 MGD
Total Available: 19 MGD
Average: + 4 MGD
Summer: + 0 MGD

ISLANDS REGION
Avg. Demand: 1 MGD
Total Avail: 1 MGD
Average: + 1 MGD
Summer: + 1 MGD
That’s Great! Now what?

- Develop **Short Term** Management Options
  - Develop *agricultural efficiency programs*
  - Develop *appliance and fixture rebate program*
  - Develop peak use *education program*

- Develop **Long Term** Management Options
  - Develop Regional Water Management Plans
  - Develop new sources of supply

- For both Short and Long Term
  - Develop Declaration for exceedance of Safe Yield
  - Develop appropriate management tools for State agencies, Municipalities, Water Suppliers and farmers
SAVE WATER THIS SUMMER