DNR Division of Water Information and Updates

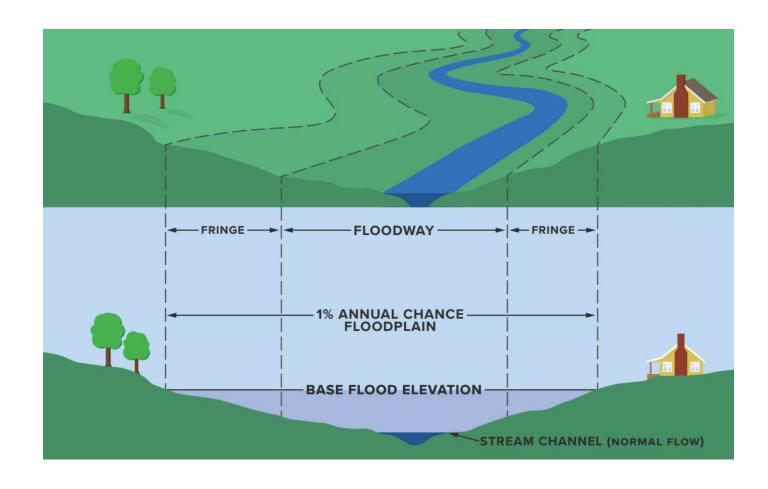


Indiana Farm Bureau Drainage School August 26, 2025

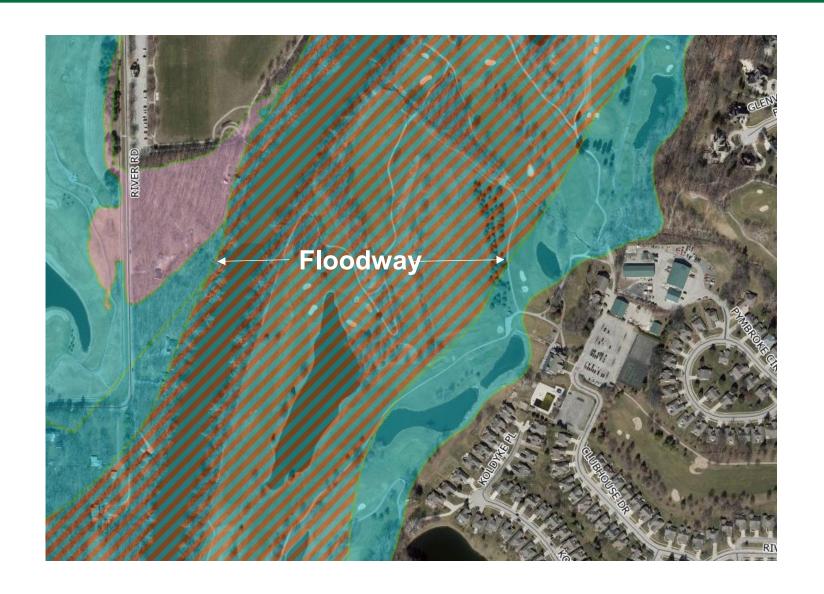


The Flood Control Act (IC 14-28-1) requires the prior approval of the DNR Division of Water for any construction in the floodway including an obstruction, fill, excavation, or the construction of a building.

The DNR Division of Water's jurisdiction under the Flood Control Act is limited to activity in the floodway.



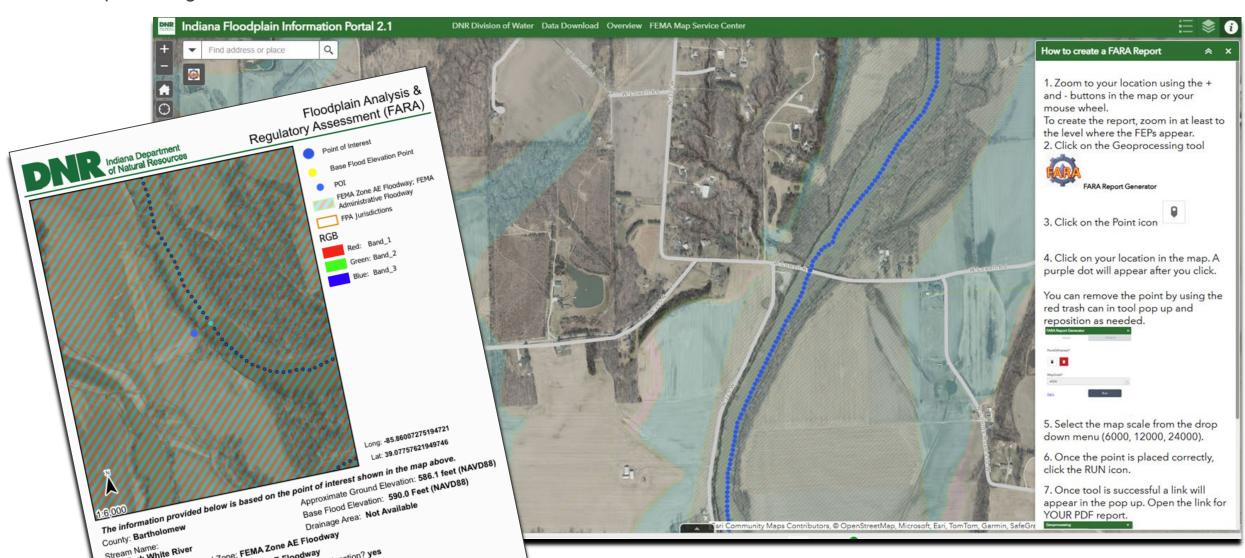






Indiana Floodplain Information Portal (INFIP)

Visit: infip.dnr.IN.gov







dnr.IN.gov/water/regulatory-permit-programs/exemptions/

General Licenses

Gold Prospecting
Outfall Structures
Utility Lines
Wetland Restoration

Exemptions

Agriculture Fence
Agriculture or Residential Stream Crossings
Creek Rock Removal
Logjams
Maintenance and Reconstruction of Regulated Drains
Streambank Protection
Tree Removal



Indiana Waterways Inquiry Request

- WATERWAYS
- IDEM and DNR partnered together to create the **Indiana Waterways Inquiry Request** to help Indiana citizens determine when or if they need a permit to complete a project. It can be accessed the following website (www.waterways.IN.gov).
- The Waterways Inquiry Request relates specifically to:
 - Isolated Wetlands Permits
 - Section 401 Water Quality Certifications
 - Constructions in a Floodway permits
 - Other construction along streams, lakes or dams



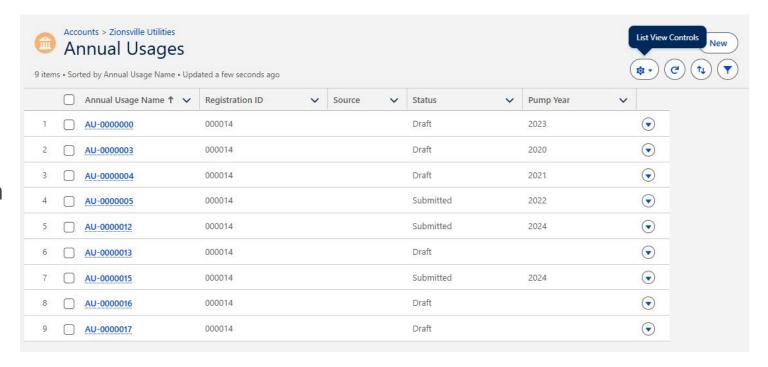
DNR Division of Water New Database

- All online, communication and submittal of documents will be through the online system
- A complete application will be needed to start the review of an application
- Guided questions will assist in making sure a complete application is submitted
- Guided question can assist in determining if your project might meet a general license or exemption
- The system will have the ability to contact DNR staff for more guidance or request a pre-application meeting
- Any deficiency items, after submittal, will need to be addressed quickly
- These changes are focused on decreasing review time
- Water use and well logs will also be incorporated into the system



SWWF Registration and Water Use Reporting

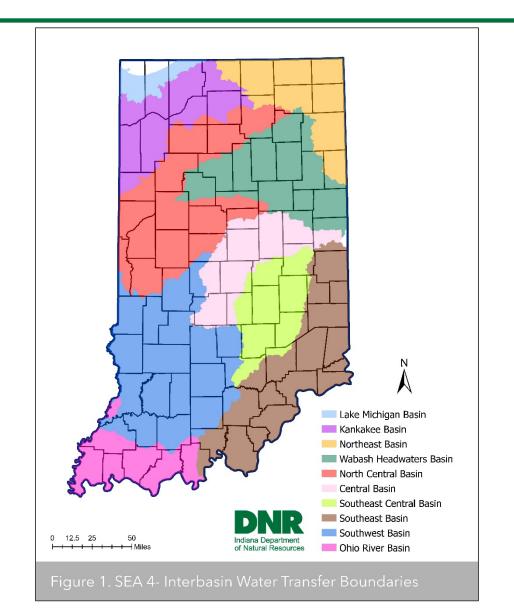
- Online registration for new SWWFs
- GIS integration
- New online water use reporting system





SB 4 – Water Transfers in Indiana

SEA 4 adds a new chapter to Indiana Code IC 14-25-17, which regulates the transfer of water between different watersheds. Figure 1 shows the watershed boundaries defining when water movement constitutes an interbasin transfer.





SB 4 – Water Transfers in Indiana

- The law applies to "notable users," defined as persons who transfer or propose to transfer either:
 - More than an annual average of 30 million gallons of water per day, or
 - Water from an area designated by the department as a restricted use area under IC 14-25-3
- Notable users are prohibited from transferring water out of a basin or supplying water to another party they know will transfer more than 100,000 gallons of water per day out of a basin without obtaining a transfer permit from the DNR.
- Transfer permit applications must include detailed information about the beneficial use, purpose, and necessity of the interbasin transfer, along with hydraulic and hydrologic data, environmental impacts, costs, proposed conservation practices, and feasibility of alternatives.
- The DNR has 90 days after receiving a complete application to notify the applicant of approval or denial. The department will approve applications that meet two criteria:
 - The transfer will not result in perennial overdraft of groundwater resources or perennial stream flow depletion
 - The transfer serves the public interest as defined in IC 14-25-1-1 and IC 14-25-1-2
- Permittees must file a certification of compliance with permit terms at least once every five years



SB 28 – Emergency Regulation of Ground Water Rights

- IC 14-25-4 currently provides owners of small capacity water wells with protection against the impacts of high-capacity groundwater pumping.
- SB 28 provides for the owner or operator of a significant groundwater withdrawal facility to file a complaint with the DNR if it is believed that the facility has failed to furnish its normal supply of water due to water level impacts caused by another high-capacity facility.
- DNR must launch an investigation into a complaint of a well failure from a significant groundwater withdrawal facility within three business days.
- Well owner responsible of the failure or substantial impairment of another user must provide "Timely and reasonable compensation, limited to:
 - The immediate temporary provision at the prior point of use of an adequate supply of potable water.
 - Reimbursement of expenses reasonably incurred by the complainant.
- SEA 28 does not establish a priority for groundwater withdrawals in Indiana based upon well capacity, type of water use, or prior appropriation



EO 25-63: Statewide water inventory and management plan





EO 25-63: Guiding Principles

- Builds upon 2018 Water Infrastructure Task Force,
 IGA SB4 (2019) and IFA's regional water studies;
- Focuses on water supply needs and priorities at a regional scale;
- Supported by data and accepted scientific practices;
- Works within existing statutory authorities; and,
- Provides a transparent process for stakeholder input.

WATER INFRASTRUCTURE TASK FORCE



Indiana Legislative Services Agency 200 W. Washington Street, Suite 301 Indianapolis, Indiana 46204

Friday November 09, 2018



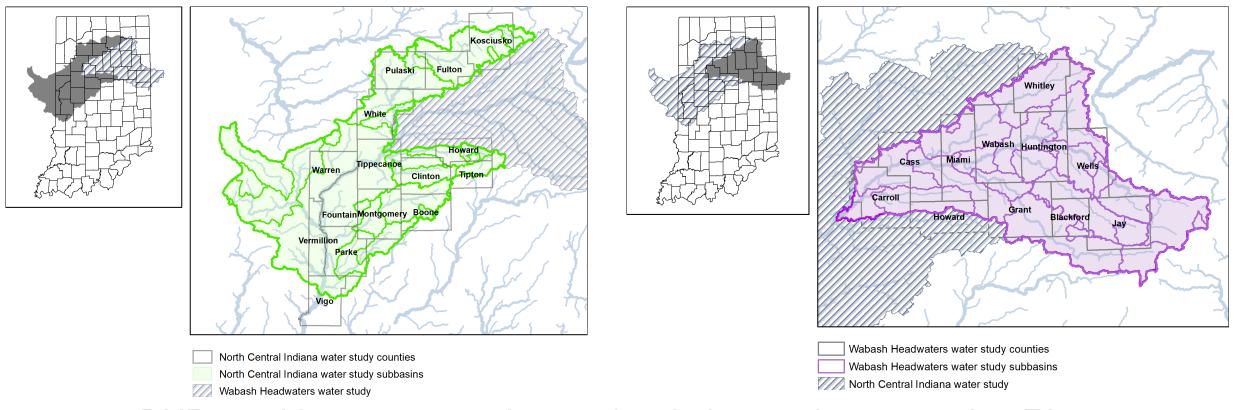
EO 25-63: Directives

- 1. Inventory current usage, availability of surface and groundwater resources and forecasting of future demand.
- 2. Develop a statewide water planning framework at a regional scale.
- 3. Develop recommendations for enhancement and optimization of Indiana's water resource monitoring networks.
- 4. Create a centralized, publicly accessible, on-line water data platform.

The inventory shall be completed by Oct. 31, 2026, with a report provided to the Governor and Legislative Council by Dec. 31, 2026.



Water Inventory – IFA Regional Water Studies



DNR provides water use data and technical assistance to the IFA along with the US Geological Survey, IU and IDEM



Statewide planning framework



 State provides technical information - assessment of water use, future demand, supply availability, etc.

55 Panhandle

- Water use sectors represented and stakeholder input invited
- Water resource priorities and strategies developed at the regional level to reflect unique challenges

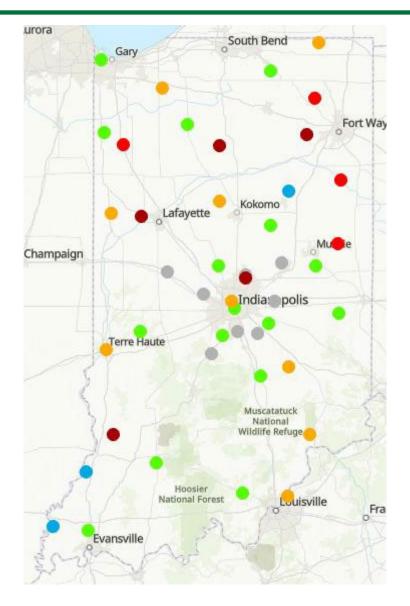




Monitoring networks – Enhancement and optimization

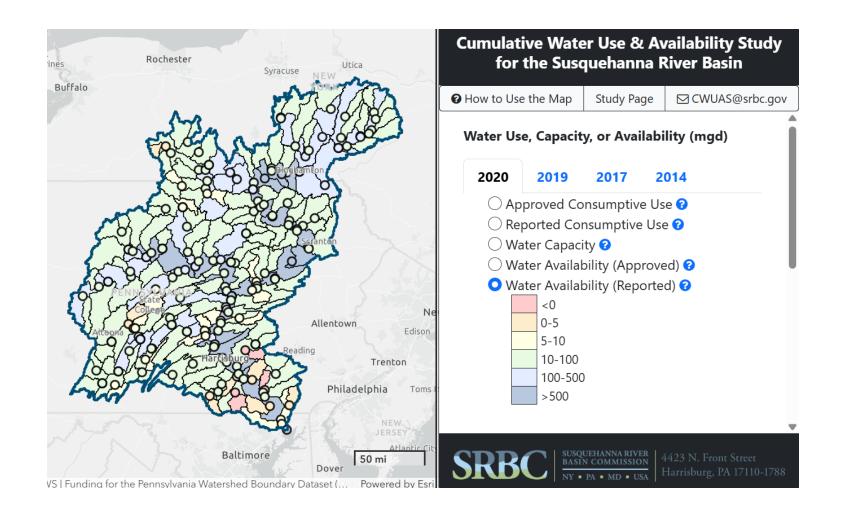








On-line Water Data Platform



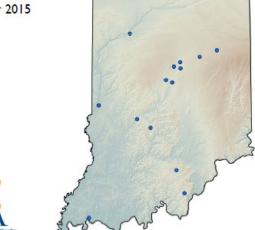


Next Steps

Evaluation of Water Utility Planning in Indiana

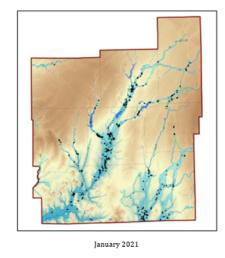
A survey of best practices, challenges, and needs

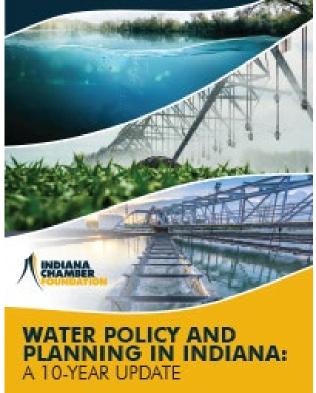
October 2015

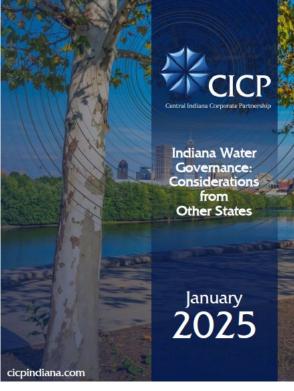




Future Demand, Availability, Options









How to stay informed: on.IN.gov/water-plan-email

