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# GLOBALIZATION AND WATER MANAGEMENT: THE CHANGING VALUE OF WATER

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## DESIGNING COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS TO RESOLVE WATER RESOURCE CONFLICTS

Christine D. Karas<sup>1</sup>

**ABSTRACT:** Competing human and environmental use of water resources in the western United States has led to the development of several large-scale, transboundary programs designed to integrate law, science, and policy in a manner that satisfies all needs. All employ a degree of adaptive management by continually reevaluating and adjusting management actions on the basis of observed results and the outcome of experiments within the confines of the water and environmental law. This paper discusses the evolution of the Upper Colorado Recovery Implementation Program for Endangered Fish, including the crafting of legislation to resolve certain institutional issues, and compares the cooperative mechanisms it uses to other similar programs. These more recent programs relied on the Recovery Implementation Program as a model, yet were modified to address specific issues. The discussion illustrates what works well, what does not, and provides recommendations for what to consider when designing a large cooperative program.

**KEY TERMS:** Endangered species, partnerships, planning

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<sup>1</sup>United States Bureau of Reclamation, 125 S. State Street, Room 6107, Salt Lake City, UT 84138-1147 USA.  
[ckaras@uc.usbr.gov](mailto:ckaras@uc.usbr.gov)