

Jessica is a recent graduate of the Environmental Studies Master's program at the University of Colorado. She focused her studies on policy issues facing water resource managers in Colorado. Starting with an interest in environmental policy from working for the National Park Service and other eco-tourism companies, Jessica's fascination for water policy grew from observing the water allocation system in the west. She is particularly interested in drought planning, conservation and water supply management for sustainable future growth.

Working for the Western Water Assessment during her graduate studies, Jessica focused her thesis research on how the WWA can improve their utility for water resource managers. Her thesis research evaluated many science-policy assessments for their ability to relate useful information to decision makers. She concluded that in order to produce useful assessments, scientists must facilitate interactions between themselves and decision makers to learn how research can help provide guidance for future policy decisions.

Currently, Jessica is putting her research to the test by working with the WWA to try and understand the current and future informational needs of local water managers. She hopes to help WWA researchers translate those needs into useful products and services.