

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910968129003321
Titolo	Desalination : a national perspective / / Committee on Advancing Desalination Technology, Water Science and Technology Board, Division on Earth and Life Studies, National Research Council of the National Academies
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Washington, D.C., : National Academies Press, c2008
ISBN	9786611800321 9780309134347 030913434X 9781281800329 1281800325 9780309119245 0309119243
Edizione	[1st ed.]
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (313 p.)
Disciplina	628.167
Soggetti	Saline water conversion - United States Water-supply - Environmental aspects - United States Water - Purification - United States
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references (p. 233-261).
Nota di contenuto	Introduction -- Historical and contemporary context for desalination -- Water for the future -- State of the technology -- Environmental issues -- The costs and benefits of desalination -- Implementation issues -- A strategic research agenda for desalination.
Sommario/riassunto	There has been an exponential increase in desalination capacity both globally and nationally since 1960, fueled in part by growing concern for local water scarcity and made possible to a great extent by a major federal investment for desalination research and development. Traditional sources of supply are increasingly expensive, unavailable, or controversial, but desalination technology offers the potential to substantially reduce water scarcity by converting the almost inexhaustible supply of seawater and the apparently vast quantities of

brackish groundwater into new sources of freshwater. Desalination assesses the state of the art in relevant desalination technologies, and factors such as cost and implementation challenges. It also describes reasonable long-term goals for advancing desalination technology, posits recommendations for action and research, estimates the funding necessary to support the proposed research agenda, and identifies appropriate roles for governmental and nongovernmental entities.

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