

Ark BIP Coordinator Final Report

To: Ben Wade, Carol Dunn, Al Tucker

CC: Arkansas Roundtable Executive Committee

From: Gary Barber

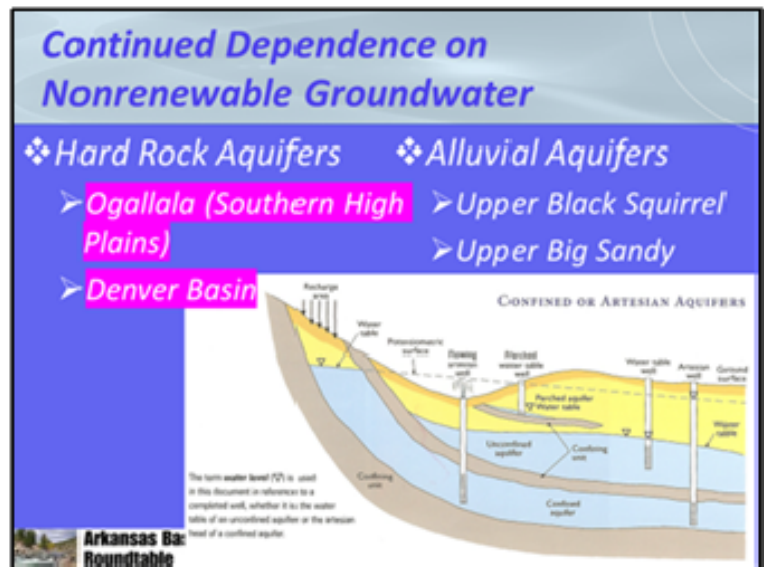
Date: November 6, 2018

Re: BIP Coordinator Year 3 Wrap Up

November 2018 marks the end of funding for the third year of the Basin Implementation Plan Coordinator program. The first year of the program was approved by CWCB in the Fall of 2015. Mid-2016 saw a change in fiscal agents to the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District. A positive balance of funds remaining from Year 1 was incorporated with funding for Year 2 to encompass 14 months, ending on November 30, 2017, with a balance carried over of \$1,670. The funding for Year 3 for an additional year included both funding for administration of the grant by the Huerfano County Water Conservancy District and implementation support by the Ark RT secretary under Task 5. A proposed extension of six months for a Year 4 of the BIP Coordinator was declined by the Arkansas Basin Roundtable at its August 2018 meeting

In wrapping up the final year, this memorandum will document those ongoing activities that might garner further support from the Arkansas Basin Roundtable. These include:

- A consolidated website with a “Story Map” showing historic and active projects. As SWSI completes another cycle, an updated project database can be used to support the story map on the website.
- Recommendations generated by the Pikes Peak Regional Water Authority Colorado Water Plan grant entitled “Groundwater Depletions in El Paso County: Project Implementation Strategies to Address the Supply and Demand Gap.” Matching funds for this grant are based on an El Paso County Water Master Plan to be completed by the end of 2018. One element of the Water Master Plan is integration of land use approvals and water supply availability.
- A presentation to the Arkansas Basin Roundtable of the USGS Big Sandy Designated Groundwater Basin Water Balance Study. The project database includes potential projects that are predicated on completion of the study.



Some suggestions for areas to consider by the Arkansas Basin Roundtable, based on the Measurable Objectives contained in Section 6 of the Basin Implementation Plan, include:

- Support for Water Education Colorado Young Leaders program (May 2018 Ark RT presentation included in folder).
- Investigation of depletions in the Southern High Plains (Ogalalla) aquifer in southeastern Colorado.
- Update of the 2014 CSU Water Institute Economic Study to assess status of the BIP Objective to sustain the \$1.5 Billion agricultural economy in the Arkansas Basin.

Also included in the folder are two talking-points papers, one entitled “*bip coord what worked and didn’t*” followed by Notes dated 8/17/2018 concerning “*Discussion Regarding BIP Funding.*” With SWSI imminent, an update to the Arkansas Basin Implementation Plan can be anticipated in the near future. This update was anticipated in Section 6 Measurable Outcomes of the April 2015 edition of the BIP.

Finally, the coordination between southern roundtables referred to as the South Slope Joint Roundtable Meeting is appropriately postponed pending springtime weather conditions. A continuation of that dialogue may bear fruit in the future.

Preservation of Agriculture

"The preservation of irrigated agriculture in the Arkansas Basin shall be given a high priority in the statewater plan. It is too important to tourism, the preservation of food production, recreation, the environment and the health and well-being of our citizens as well as the economy of the State of Colorado to be ignored."

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    A[Ark Basin Roundtable Exec Committee] --> B[Ark BIP Feasibility Scope of Work]
    B --> C[Technical Studies]
    B --> D[Policy Studies]
    B --> E[Pilot Projects]
    
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Arkansas Basin Roundtable

Section 6 Measurable Outcomes: Cyclical Planning (2018 Revised Version 2)

- ❖ Assumes a six (6) year cycle
- ❖ Update project database
 - Refine Status Terms- Implementation Ongoing too broad?
 - Story Map (ARWC)
- ❖ Chronical success stories

Arkansas Basin Roundtable

Thank you for the opportunity to support the initiatives of the Arkansas Basin Roundtable.

GB