

## Colorado Basin Roundtable

Nov. 25, 2019

Noon to 4 p.m.

Glenwood Springs Community Center

### Agenda

**Note: We are taking December off! And this Nov. 25 meeting is being chaired by Vice Chair Karn Steigelmeier**

**11:45                      Pizza lunch and free irrigation**

**12:15                      Water Supply Reserve Fund balance and grants business**

**Balance information: \$112,816 (provided Multa Trina and Missouri Heights grants are approved at the Nov. 20-21, 2019 CWCB meeting**

Grants recommended by Next Steps for full body approval:

West Divide for a Crystal River Study -- \$12.5k Basin;

\$12.5 Statewide

Grand Valley Audubon for wetlands construction --

\$25k Basin Account

\$50k Statewide Account

Diamond Ditch -- \$25k

North Fork -- \$10k

**Subtotal after today -- \$40,316**

Replenishment expected in January 2020 -- \$140k; April 2020

\$140k

Voting:

**Grand Valley Audubon: \$25k Basin Account; \$50k**

**Statewide Account**

This is a collaboration between GVAS, Ducks Unlimited, Audubon Rockies, and RiversEdge West, to improve riparian and wetland habitat on the Audubon Nature Preserve property in Grand Junction. This publicly accessible, highly visible property is adjacent to the Colorado River mainstem, endangered fish habitat, a state park and public trail. See minutes for Next Steps discussion and recommendation.

**Garfield County School District 16/Diamond Ditch: \$25k**

The Diamond Ditch Piping Project will replace an open-ditch delivery system sourced from Parachute Creek, a tributary to the Colorado River, with approximately 2,000 feet of 24-inch ADS pipe. The existing open-ditch system is approximately 6,000 feet long and has been mostly piped except for the first 2,000 feet which has significant conveyance losses, estimated at 20% of diversions. These high losses through the first 2,000 feet impact the ability of the ditch users to receive

the irrigation water needed particularly at the athletic fields at Grand Valley High School. See minutes for Next Steps discussion and recommendation.

**Crystal River Augmentation Feasibility Study: \$12.5 Basin Account; \$12.5 Statewide**

This WSRF funding will be utilized to conduct a feasibility level study to develop a plan for augmentation in the Crystal River Basin. The drought of 2018 highlighted the fact that at least 6 subdivisions and various other junior water users do not have a legal water supply during a senior water right call on the Crystal River. During 2018, emergency SWSP's were required to ensure municipal water deliveries. It has become apparent that a basin-wide augmentation solution is needed. The Crystal River Caucus will be submitted comments in a resolution. See minutes for Next Steps discussion and recommendation and the Caucus attachment.

**North Fork Watershed Study: \$10k Basin Account**

The North Fork of the Colorado River drains out of the Never Summer Wilderness and through Rocky Mountain National Park after which it passes through a stretch of private ownership. The Grand Ditch diverts water from the Never Summer Mountains and has historically removed 30-40% of the flow from the Upper North Fork. Studies conducted in the Park have shown that the diversions have impacted riparian zones in the Park and Kawauneeche Valley. A recent breach of the Grand Ditch deposited many tons of sediment into the stream which resulted in a claim by the National Park Service (NPS) against the Ditch Company for the damages caused by this excessive sedimentation. This in addition to other natural and human activities has led to the North Fork being a significant contributor to sediment and nutrient loading into Shadow Mountain Reservoir. See minutes for Next Steps discussion and recommendation.

**12:45 Grants Policy Discussion**

There was no consensus to change our grant application process, other than adding the grant matrix checklist to the application process (again). Angie Fowler and Laurie Rink are changing the old form to a new one. See minutes for Next Steps discussion and recommendation.

**1:15 Officer Elections for January**

If any member is interested in offering themselves for nomination to the chair, vice chair, IBCC and recording positions, please send a letter of interest to [ken@kenransford.com](mailto:ken@kenransford.com)

**1:30 Break**

**1:45**                      **Demand Management Workgroup Discussion**  
Chair Kirsten Kurath, Paul Bruchez

**2:15**                      **CWCB Report from Nov. 21-22, 2019 meeting**  
Board member Gail Schwartz and/or staff liaison Megan Holcomb

**2:30**                      **IBCC Report from the Oct. 23, 2019 meeting**  
Carlyle Currier, Stan Cazier, Paul Bruchez  
(gubernatorial appointee)

**2:45**                      **Open Discussion/Points of Information**