

# 2023 Instream Flow Proposals

HIGH COUNTRY  
CONSERVATION  
ADVOCATES







# Water Division 4

## Splains Gulch





# Instream Flow Right



Proposing instream flow protection on  
Splains Gulch

○ No existing CWCB ISF right on Splains Gulch





## Natural Environment

Brook trout fishery documented by CPW (fish observed during sampling)

Healthy riparian area featuring mixed spruce and pine forests and willows





# Current R2CROSS Criteria

## Hydraulic Criteria

- 1 ft./sec Average Velocity
- 50% Wetted Perimeter
- Average Depth

## Flow Recommendations

- Flow recommendations meet 3 of 3 hydraulic criteria





# Proposed ISFs

Cross Section (Date)*	Measured Discharge	Bankfull Top Width (ft)	Winter Flow Recomm endation (cfs)	Summer Flow Recommendation (cfs)
Splains Gulch (7-7-22)	1.71	7.1	1.07 cfs	1.36 cfs
Preliminary Cross Creek ISF Recommendations			<b>1.1 cfs</b> <b>(May 1- Aug. 31)</b>	<b>1.4 cfs</b> <b>(Sep. 1 – Apr. 30)</b>

\*Additional cross section may be completed in 2023

# Water Availability



## Physical

- R2Cross
- Looked at gage data for Elk Creek and Coal Creek (at McCormick & Splains Gulch road)



# Water Availability

## Legal

- No diversions







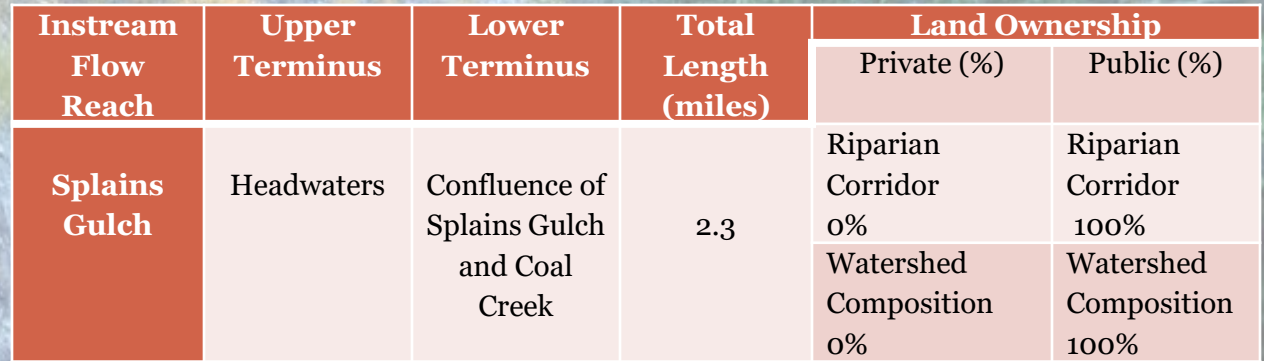
# Stakeholders

**US Forest  
Service**

**Colorado Parks &  
Wildlife**

**Gunnison County**

**The Upper  
Gunnison River  
Water  
Conservancy  
District**



Instream Flow Reach	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus	Total Length (miles)	Land Ownership	
				Private (%)	Public (%)
Splains Gulch	Headwaters	Confluence of Splains Gulch and Coal Creek	2.3	Riparian Corridor 0%	Riparian Corridor 100%
				Watershed Composition 0%	Watershed Composition 100%





# **Water Division 4**

## Deer Creek





# Instream Flow

No existing CWCB ISF  
right on Deer Creek







# Natural Environment

Fishery of unknown species (fish observed during sampling). CPW will be sampling 2023.

Healthy riparian area featuring riffles and small pools

Abundant macroinvertebrates noted while conducting pebble counts





# Proposed ISFs

Cross Section (Date & Location)	Measured Discharge (cfs)	Bankfull Top Width <sup>1</sup> (ft)	Winter Flow Recommendation (cfs)	Summer Flow Recommendation (cfs)
Deer Creek (7/8/22)	.33	4.5	0.61	1.01
Proposed ISF Rate:			<b>0.6 cfs</b> <b>(Oct. 1- Apr. 30)</b>	<b>1.0 cfs</b> <b>(May 1- Sep.30)</b>



# Water Availability



## Physical

- R2Cross
- Looked at data from the gage on the East River below Cement Creek



# Water Availability

## Legal

- There is one significant diversion on Deer Creek, the Beitler No. 2 Ditch
- 11.5 cfs with a 6/2/1912 priority date







# Stakeholders

**US Forest Service**

**Colorado Parks & Wildlife**

**Gunnison County**

**The Upper Gunnison River Water Conservancy District**

**Water Rights Holder**

Instream Flow Reach	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus	Total Length (miles)	Land Ownership	
				Private (%)	Public (%)
Deer Creek	Headwaters	Beitler No. 2 diversion structure	2	Riparian Corridor 0%	Riparian Corridor 100%
				Watershed Composition 0%	Watershed Composition 100%



# Questions?



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