



COLORADO

**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Robert Viehl, Chief
Brandy Logan, Water Resource Specialist
Stream and Lake Protection Section

DATE: March 15, 2022

AGENDA ITEM: 13. Public Notice of 2023 Instream Flow Recommendations

Staff Recommendation: This is an informational item with no Board action required.

Background

Pursuant to Rule 5c. of the Rules Concerning the Colorado Instream Flow (ISF) and Natural Lake Level Program (“ISF Rules”), Staff is providing notice that the following 56 stream segments have been recommended for instream flow (ISF) appropriations in 2023 along with 1 natural lake level (NLL) recommendation. At the January 2023 CWCB meeting, Staff may request that the Board form its intent to appropriate ISF and NLL water rights.

Please note that the list below includes fifteen new recommendations (identified with an *) and 42 recommendations that Staff received in previous years. Staff has not yet moved the previous recommendations forward due to the need for additional scientific data and/or ongoing attempts to address stakeholder issues. In 2023, Staff will recommend that the Board move forward on the recommendations for which sufficient data collection and outreach are completed.

Outreach

Staff plans to provide public notice of the recommendations in both March and November of 2022 to the ISF subscription mailing list. Staff will offer to give presentations to County Commissioners for each county where the stream segments are located. Staff intends to mail letters to landowners adjacent to the proposed ISF reaches and to inform them about the ISF Program and the recommendation. In addition, staff plans on publishing notice in newspapers located near the recommended ISF reaches. Lastly, staff plans to contact water commissioners, water right holders, and others when possible to discuss the recommendations.

Detailed information regarding these stream segments is also available on the CWCB website located at: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/2023-isf-recommendations>



ISF Recommendations

Div.	Stream Name	Watershed	County	Length (miles)	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus
1	Garber Creek	Upper South Platte	Douglas	4.75	confl North and South Garber Creeks	confl West Plum Creek
1	Herman Gulch <i>(Increase)</i>	Clear Creek	Clear Creek	3.64	headwaters	confl Clear Creek
1	Platte Gulch	South Platte Headwaters	Park	1.54	headwaters	confl MF South Platte River
1	Sulzer Gulch	Big Thompson	Larimer	3.73	headwaters	confl Big Thompson River
1	Unnamed Tributary to Duck Creek	Upper South Platte	Clear Creek	1.08	outlet of Lower Square Top Lake	inlet of Duck Lake
1	West Plum Creek	Upper South Platte	Douglas	22.6	headwaters	confl East Plum Creek
2	Cottonwood Creek	Arkansas Headwaters	Custer	6.00	headwaters	F. Keuhn Ditch No. 2 hdgt
2	Cottonwood Creek	Arkansas Headwaters	Fremont	9.42	confl Salt Creek	Giem Ditch hdgt
2	East Gulch	Arkansas Headwaters	Fremont	8.81	confl Antelope Gulch	confl Arkansas River
4	Beaver Dams Creek	Uncompahgre	Ouray	3.29	headwaters	confl East Fork Dry Creek
4	Big A Creek	San Miguel	Montrose	1.42	outlet of unnamed lake	confl Red Canyon Creek
4	Cottonwood Creek <i>(Increase)</i>	Lower Gunnison	Delta Montrose	23.3	Hawkins Ditch hdgt	confl Roubideau Creek
4	Cameron Creek*	East-Taylor	Gunnison	3.69	headwaters	confl Lottis Creek
4	Cross Creek*	East-Taylor	Gunnison	2.48	headwaters	confl Lottis Creek
4	Curecanti Creek <i>(Increase)</i>	Upper Gunnison	Gunnison	21.4	headwaters	confl Morrow Point Reservoir
4	East Fork Dry Creek	Uncompahgre	Montrose Ouray	3.11	headwaters	confl Beaver Dams Creek
4	East Muddy Creek	North Fork Gunnison	Gunnison	6.32	confl Lee Creek	confl West Muddy Creek
4	Goat Creek	San Miguel	San Miguel	6.25	headwaters	confl Beaver Creek
4	Kelly Creek	San Miguel	Montrose	1.59	headwaters	confl Red Canyon Creek
4	Little Cimarron River <i>(Increase)</i>	Upper Gunnison	Gunnison	2.49	confl Van Boxel Creek	Butte Ditch hdgt
4	Little Cimarron River	Upper Gunnison	Gunnison Montrose	6.56	Butte Ditch hdgt	confl Cimarron River

Div.	Stream Name	Watershed	County	Length (miles)	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus
4	Main Hubbard Creek	North Fork Gunnison	Delta	2.50	headwaters	Overland Ditch
4	Middle Hubbard Creek	North Fork Gunnison	Delta	2.37	headwaters	Overland Ditch
4	Monitor Creek	Lower Gunnison	Montrose	9.44	USFS Property Boundary	confl Potter Creek
4	Pine Creek	Upper Gunnison	Gunnison	16.7	headwaters	confl Morrow Point Reservoir
4	Potter Creek (Increase)	Lower Gunnison	Montrose	8.10	USFS Property Boundary	confl Monitor Creek
4	Potter Creek (Increase)	Lower Gunnison	Montrose	1.72	confl Monitor Creek	confl Roubideau Creek
4	Red Canyon Creek	San Miguel	Montrose	3.25	headwaters	confl Big A Creek
4	Steuben Creek*	Upper Gunnison	Gunnison	9.96	confl West Steuben Creek	confl Blue Mesa Reservoir
4	Unnamed Tributary to EF Dry Creek *	Uncompahgre	Montrose Ouray	2.75	headwaters	confl EF Dry Creek
4	Van Boxel Creek*	Upper Gunnison	Gunnison	7.75	headwaters	confl Little Cimarron River
4	West Hubbard Creek	North Fork Gunnison	Delta	2.32	headwaters	Overland Ditch
4	West Muddy Creek	North Fork Gunnison	Gunnison	5.52	confl Ault Creek	confl East Muddy Creek
4	West Steuben Creek*	Upper Gunnison	Gunnison	5.39	headwaters	confl East Steuben Creek
5	Coon Creek*	Colorado Headwaters-Plateau	Mesa	4.71	Coon Creek Reservoir No. 4	South Side Canal
5	Derby Creek* (Increase)	Colorado headwaters	Eagle	8.42	confl South Derby Creek	confl Colorado River
5	Little Elk Creek*	Roaring Fork	Pitkin	1.98	headwaters	Elk Creek No. 1 Ditch hdgt
5	Rock Creek	Colorado headwaters	Grand	4.92	headwaters	confl Colorado River
6	Bear Creek	Upper White	Garfield	3.09	headwaters	confl NF White River
6	Big Fish Creek	Upper White	Garfield	4.30	headwaters	confl NF White River
6	East Marvine Creek	Upper White	Rio Blanco	7.31	headwaters	confl Marvine Creek
6	Hill Creek	Upper White	Rio Blanco	3.84	headwaters	Hill Creek Ditch #2 & #3 hdgt
6	Hauskins Creek	Upper White	Garfield	2.11	headwaters	confl NF White River
6	Lynx Creek	Upper White	Garfield	1.58	headwaters	confl NF White River

Div.	Stream Name	Watershed	County	Length (miles)	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus
6	Milk Creek	Lower Yampa	Moffat	4.11	confl Wilson Creek	confl Yampa River
6	Mirror Creek	Upper White	Rio Blanco	2.16	headwaters	confl NF White River
6	Paradise Creek	Upper White	Garfield Rio Blanco	2.98	headwaters	Paradise Ponds Diversion Hdgt
6	Piceance Creek	Piceance- Yellow	Garfield Rio Blanco	6.93	headwaters	confl unnamed tributary
6	Piceance Creek	Piceance- Yellow	Rio Blanco	3.83	confl unnamed tributary	confl Cow Creek
6	Picket Pin Creek	Upper White	Garfield	2.66	headwaters	confl NF White River
6	South Fork White River	Upper White	Rio Blanco	8.07	Flat Tops Wilderness Area Boundary	confl Swede Creek
6	Vermillion Creek*	Vermilion	Moffat	18.55	confl Talamantes Creek	confl Ink Springs
6	Vermillion Creek*	Vermilion	Moffat	10.12	confl Ink Springs	Vermillion Ditch hdgt
6	Vermillion Creek*	Vermilion	Moffat	7.33	Vermillion Ditch hdgt	confl Green River
6	Ways Gulch*	Upper Yampa	Routt	4.45	headwaters	confl Willow Creek
6	Wheeler Creek*	Upper North Platte	Jackson	3.22	headwaters	Ackers Ditch hdgt

NLL Recommendations

Div.	Lake Name	Watershed	County	Location (NAD 1983 Zone 13 North)
4	Hack Lake*	Colorado headwaters	Garfield	UTM: 4409994.98N UTML 316816.32E

*Recommendation received at February 2022 ISF Workshop