



August 28, 2025

Ms. Lauren Ris
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Colorado Water Conservation Board
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Mr. Rob Viehl
Chief, Stream and Lakes Protection Section
Colorado Water Conservation Board
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**Re: Proposed Acquisition of an Interest in the Shoshone Water Rights for
Instream Flow Use on the Colorado River, Water Division 5**

Dear Ms. Ris and Mr. Viehl:

Colorado Water Trust ("Water Trust") is writing to provide a public comment letter regarding the Colorado Water Conservation Board's ("CWCB") proposed acquisition of an interest in the Shoshone Water Rights for instream flow use on the mainstem of the Colorado River. These comments are offered neither in support of nor in opposition to the proposed acquisition. Rather, they are offered to provide clarification and insight on an issue that has been raised by several parties in their August 4, 2025, Prehearing Statements and are offered based on the Water Trust's professional experience working with the CWCB's acquisition program.

Several parties have argued in their prehearing statements that the proposed acquisition agreement between CWCB and the Colorado River Water Conservation District ("District") impermissibly limits the CWCB's statutory authority and discretion to manage instream flow rights.¹ Specifically, these parties argue that the language in Paragraph 7 of the Draft

¹ See, e.g., Prehearing Statement of Aurora Water section II.E; Colorado Springs Utilities' Prehearing Statement section A.4; Denver Water's Prehearing Statement section II.4; Homestake Partners' Pre-



Shoshone Water Rights Dedication and ISF Agreement² requiring the CWCB to place a call for the Shoshone Water Rights for instream flow use—subject to some exceptions—any time the flow rate at a certain gauge drops below a specific rate represents a term that improperly limits the agency’s ability to adjust or remove the call for other considerations.³ These parties also argue that allowing an exception to the above requirement if CWCB and the District agree in writing to reduce the instream flow call improperly grants the district “veto authority” over the CWCB’s decision making power.⁴

In contrast, our decades-long experience in water sharing agreements reflects a different understanding of this issue: that CWCB’s abilities outlined in Instream Flow Rule 10, 2 CCR 408-2 (“ISF Rule 10”) to enter into agreements to a) partially limit its own discretion to manage an instream flow water right, or to b) delegate limited authority to act on its behalf are neither contrary to law nor a novel approach taken in this particular proposed transaction.⁵

Because the Water Trust is not a party to this acquisition hearing, we do not offer a separate legal rebuttal in this comment letter to the Front Range Parties’ position other than to say our experience is consistent with the positions on this limited issue described in the CWCB’s and the District’s prehearing statements.⁶ Rather, this comment letter describes the Water Trust’s experience in facilitating acquisitions on behalf of the CWCB and the role that these two CWCB authorities play in maintaining the flexibility and durability of the state’s instream flow program.

The mission of the Water Trust is to restore water to Colorado’s rivers and streams. During its 24-year history, the Water Trust has completed 27 flow restoration projects across the

Hearing Statement section III.2; Prehearing Statement of Northern Colorado Water Conservancy District and its Municipal Subdistrict sections II.B.a and b. (“Front Range Parties”).

² Included with the District’s Exhibit 1 to their Prehearing Statement.

³ See, e.g., Colorado Springs Utilities’ Prehearing Statement, 8.

⁴ See, e.g., Prehearing Statement of Aurora Water, 9.

⁵ This rule, among other things, allows the Board to “enter into enforcement agreements that limit the Board’s discretion in the protection, approval of inundation, modification or disposal of ISF right, and/or may delegate limited authority to act on the Board’s behalf.”

⁶ See Prehearing Statement of Staff of Colorado Water Conservation Board, 11; Joint Prehearing Statement of the Colorado River Water Conservation District, *et al.*, 16-17.



state, and many involve permanent or temporary acquisitions in support of the instream flow program. Several projects that we have completed in partnership with the CWCB are based on agreements that—in accordance with ISF Rule 10—either limit the CWCB’s discretion or delegate limited authority to the Water Trust or other partners to act on its behalf.

Perhaps the best example of both of these ISF Rule 10 abilities is our McKinley Ditch Project in Division 4. In this project, we originally partnered with the non-profit entity Western Rivers Conservancy (“WRC”) that purchased both irrigated ranch land out of foreclosure, as well as the associated water rights on the Little Cimarron River, tributary to both the Cimarron and Gunnison Rivers. While WRC worked to ultimately re-market the ranch, it sold the water rights to the Water Trust. The Water Trust partnered with the CWCB to seek water court approval to add instream flow use to the water rights. (Please see the decree for this project in Case No. 14CW3108, included herein as **Attachment 1**.)

Colorado Water Trust continues to hold title to these water rights, and we conveyed a permanent grant of flow restoration to the CWCB for instream flow use and a deeded a separate grant of use to the landowner for irrigation. (Please see the Grant of Flow Restoration Use between the Water Trust and the CWCB included herein as **Attachment 2** (“Grant”).) Both agreements lay out the process by which these entities will coordinate use of the water each year, whether it is a full season of continued irrigation, a full season of instream flow use, or a split-season of shared use. In an average hydrologic year, the landowner may use the water to grow crops during the first part of the irrigation season; and in the second half of the season, irrigation ceases and the CWCB uses the water for instream flow on the Little Cimarron and Cimmaron Rivers. These arrangements also allow for full season irrigation or full-season instream flow use if there is an exceptionally wet or dry year.

The Grant also specify how the parties, specifically the CWCB and the Water Trust, will work together to identify which use scenario they will implement each year. Similar to the proposed acquisition agreement between CWCB and the District, the Grant for our McKinley project also expressly grants limited authority to the Water Trust in accordance with ISF Rule 10 to act as CWCB’s agent in the administration and monitoring of the instream flow use of those water rights.



This arrangement, as outlined by Paragraphs 5 and 7 of the Grant, provides both some level of certainty but also some flexibility for other users of this water. Such a split-season arrangement would be nearly impossible without the CWCB's ability to limit its own discretion. For projects of this nature to operate successfully as intended, the CWCB must have the flexibility to enter into agreements to reasonably limit its own discretion in how and when it operates the instream flow water right. Likewise, the CWCB needs to be able to delegate some level of authority to other parties to act on its behalf, given the growing number of projects it is involved with and its limited resources and capacity.

In addition to the McKinley project, over the years the Water Trust has helped facilitate other projects around the state—both permanent and temporary—that rely on similar limitation-of-discretion or delegation-of-authority arrangements with the CWCB for success. In our years of supporting the CWCB, the Water Trust has found these ISF Rule 10 abilities to be vital for creating successful partnerships between environmental flow protection and other water uses, such as agricultural and municipal. This flexibility allows water rights owners to enter into long-term and short-term acquisition agreements with the CWCB while retaining some autonomy to continued use of their property rights as needed (and as agreed to). The Water Trust is concerned that, without these options, the demand from water users to participate in flexible water-sharing agreements with the CWCB would be greatly diminished statewide.

The importance of these flexible arrangements is also reflected in the Colorado Water Plan, which identifies water sharing as a key strategy for balancing multiple uses of water in the state. Water sharing is described in the plan as critical to closing the gap in meeting environmental and recreational flow needs, while at the same time supporting continued agricultural and municipal use. In our experience, CWCB's ability to occasionally limit its discretion and delegate limited authority to partners can be key practical mechanisms that enable these agreements to function effectively and succeed over the long term. These ISF Rule 10 abilities also help build trust and confidence with partners by ensuring their needs are considered in the operation of the agreement, which in turn makes potential partners more willing to participate in water-sharing agreements for the first time.

In summary, the Water Trust does not agree with the Front Range Parties' characterization that the CWCB may not limit its own discretion or grant authority to another entity, as is proposed in the acquisition agreement with the District. Based on our experience, agreements incorporating limited discretion and delegation have long been part of the



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CWCB's practice and are consistent with its statutory authority under ISF Rule 10. Moreover, these ISF Rule 10 abilities are critical to the continued success of the instream flow acquisition program: They allow the CWCB to implement flexible, durable water-sharing arrangements that balance the needs of instream flow protection with the continuing needs of the water rights owners, whether they are agricultural, industrial, or municipal. Without these abilities, many long-term and short-term acquisitions would not be possible. The CWCB's use of these authorities has been a consistent and accepted practice, and they remain important to the continued flexibility and effectiveness of the instream flow acquisition program.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Kate Ryan".

Kate Ryan
Executive Director

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Josh Boissevain".

Josh Boissevain
Senior Staff Attorney

Attachment 1

DISTRICT COURT, WATER DIVISION NO. 4 STATE OF COLORADO 1200 N. Grand Ave. Bin A Montrose, CO 81401	DATE FILED: October 1, 2018 CASE NUMBER: 2014CW3108
CONCERNING THE APPLICATION FOR WATER RIGHTS OF: COLORADO WATER TRUST and COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD IN GUNNISON and MONTROSE COUNTIES	▲ COURT USE ONLY ▲ Case No.: 14CW3108
FINDINGS OF FACT, CONCLUSIONS OF LAW, RULING OF THE REFEREE, AND DECREE OF THE WATER COURT	

This matter comes before the Water Referee upon the Application for Change of Water Rights (the "Application") filed by the above captioned applicants (the "Co-Applicants"). The Referee, having made such investigations as are necessary to determine whether the statements in the Application are true, and having become fully advised with respect to this matter, hereby makes the following findings of fact, conclusions of law, and ruling:

FINDINGS OF FACT

- Co-Applicants.** The Application in this matter was filed on December 31, 2014 by the Co-Applicants, the Colorado Water Trust ("Water Trust") and the Colorado Water Conservation Board (the "CWCB").
- Jurisdiction.** All notices required by law have been duly given, and the Water Court has jurisdiction over the Application and all parties affected thereby, whether or not they have chosen to appear.
- Statements of Opposition.** Statements of opposition to the Application were timely filed by David Taylor and Wayne Maurer. The Collier Ditch Company filed and was granted an Uncontested Motion to Intervene. All Opposers have stipulated to the entry of this Ruling and Decree.
- Consultation Report.** The Court has considered the Summary of Consultation dated May 14, 2015 filed in this matter by the Division Engineer and the Co-Applicants' Response thereto.
- Overview.** The Water Trust is a Colorado nonprofit corporation that seeks to restore and protect streamflows in Colorado using voluntary, market-based tools. The Water Trust owns 1.5 of the 8 shares (18.75%) in the water rights decreed to the McKinley Ditch (the "Shares"), a ditch with four priorities that diverts water from the Little Cimarron River, a tributary of the Cimarron River, a tributary of the Gunnison River. In furtherance of the Water Trust's mission, the Water Trust conveyed to the CWCB a Grant of Flow Restoration Use (the "Grant"), attached as Exhibit A. The Grant conveys to the CWCB the permanent right to use the Shares to preserve

and/or improve the natural environment to a reasonable decree pursuant to the terms of the Grant. At its September 12, 2014 meeting, the CWCB found that the Grant would preserve and/or improve the natural environment of the Little Cimarron River and the Cimarron River, to be used exclusively by the CWCB pursuant to Section 37-92-102(3), C.R.S. (2016). The Water Trust retains the underlying ownership of the Shares.

Under the proposed change of water rights, the preferred use of the Shares will be a split season use, with the historical irrigation use being made during the first part of the irrigation season and instream flow use being made in the later part of the irrigation season. However, in some years the Shares will only be used for irrigation, and in other years the Shares will only be used for instream flow use. Accordingly, a change of water rights is sought to add instream flow use by the CWCB to the existing decreed irrigation use of the Shares.

6. Decreed water rights for which change is sought:

6.1 Name of Structure: McKinley Ditch

6.2 Case Number, Court, and Date of Original and All Relevant Subsequent Decrees:

- (a) Civil Action No. 1319, District Court, Montrose County, March 28, 1904
- (b) Civil Action No. 1745, District Court, Montrose County, May 8, 1913
- (c) Civil Action No. 4742, District Court, Montrose County, April 21, 1941
- (d) Case No. 05CW132, District Court, Water Division 4, May 30, 2008
- (e) Case No. 12CW52, District Court, Water Division 4, February 14, 2013

6.3 Legal description of structure as described in most recent decree (12CW52): A point in the NW1/4NW1/4NW1/4, Section 12, Township 47 North, Range 6 West, N.M.P.M., 58 feet from the north section line and 220 feet from the west section line (easting 282861, northing 4247959, Zone 13, NAD 83).

6.4 Decreed source of water: Little Cimarron River, tributary to the Cimarron River, tributary to the Gunnison River.

6.5 Priorities, appropriation dates, total amount decreed, and amounts to be changed:

Table 1: Water Rights Decreed to McKinley Ditch/Co-Applicants' Ownership

McKinley Ditch (all amounts are absolute and are in cfs)			
Priority	Appropriation Date	Total Decreed Amount	Amount Co-Applicants Intend to Change (18.75% of each priority)
56	September 1, 1886	12.17	2.2819
125	May 10, 1905	3.125	0.5859
128	May 10, 1906	3.125	0.5859
285	May 1, 1912	12.58	2.359
TOTAL		31.0	5.8125

6.6 Previous Changes:

6.6.1 Case No. 05CW132, decreed on May 2, 2008 by the District Court for Water Division 4, corrected the point of diversion for the McKinley Ditch to the point referenced in Section 6.3 above.

6.6.2 Case No. 12CW52, decreed on February 14, 2013 by the District Court for Water Division 4, confirmed the historical place of use irrigation under the McKinley Ditch. That case also confirmed that each priority under the McKinley Ditch may be used on all lands irrigated under the McKinley Ditch, subject to certain terms and conditions set forth in that decree.

6.7 Decreed use: Irrigation.

7. Description of Proposed Change:

7.1 Change of Water Right to Add Instream Flow Use: In addition to the existing decreed irrigation use, Co-Applicants seek approval to use the Shares for instream flow use exclusively by the CWCB pursuant to the terms of the Grant and Section 37-92-102(3), C.R.S. (2016) for preservation and/or improvement of the natural environment to a reasonable degree, within stream Segments One, Two and Three described in Section 7.2 below. Any water so used for instream flow will be in addition to any other water to which the CWCB would otherwise be entitled pursuant to its existing or future decreed instream flow water rights on the Cimarron River described in Section 7.1.1 below.

7.1.1 Existing Decreed Instream Flow Water Right: The CWCB currently holds a decreed instream flow right on the Cimarron River, described in the table below.

Table 2: Existing Cimarron River Instream Flow Right

Case No.	Stream	Reach	Amount	Appropriation Date
84CW398	Cimarron River	Confluence of Little Cimarron River to confluence of Gunnison River	16 cfs (year round)	May 4, 1984

The CWCBC intends to use the Shares in priority for instream flow uses in Segment 3, described in Section 7.2 below, in combination with or in addition to the decreed instream flow appropriation described above. Use will be for preservation of the natural environment at times when the existing instream flow is not fully met, and for improvement of the natural environment at flow rates above the decreed rate of the existing instream flow right when the existing instream flow water right is fully met.

7.2 Instream Flow Segments: The instream flow use will occur in three stream segments of the Little Cimarron and Cimarron Rivers, described below and depicted on Figure 1 attached hereto.

Table 3 - Instream Flow Segment UTM Coordinates

Segment	X Coordinate*	Y Coordinate*
1 - Start	282,858.02	4,247,930.81
1 - End	280,924.83	4,252,774.82
2 - Start	280,924.83	4,252,774.82
2 - End	279,308.91	4,254,790.81
3 - Start	279,308.91	4,254,790.81
3 - End	278,031.53	4,259,180.93
*Projection: NAD 1983 UTM Zone 13N - Meters		

7.2.1 Segment One:

(a) Upper terminus: A point on the Little Cimarron River in the NW1/4 NW1/4 NW1/4, Section 12, Township 47 North, Range 6 West, N.M.P.M., as further described in the UTM Coordinates Table 3 above. This is the existing point of diversion of the McKinley Ditch.

(b) Lower terminus: A point on the Little Cimarron River where the return flows from the historical use of the Shares returned to the Little Cimarron River, estimated

to be upstream of the Perrin Ditch headgate in the NE1/4, Section 27, Township 48 North, Range 6 West, N.M.P.M., as further described in the UTM Coordinates Table 3 above.

7.2.2 Segment Two:

(a) Upper terminus: A point on the Little Cimarron River where the return flows from the historical place of use of the Shares return to the Little Cimarron River, estimated to be upstream of the Perrin Ditch headgate in the NE1/4, Section 27, Township 48 North, Range 6 West, N.M.P.M., as further described in the UTM Coordinates Table 3 above.

(b) Lower terminus: The confluence of the Little Cimarron River and the Cimarron River, as further described in the UTM Coordinates Table 3 above.

7.2.3 Segment Three:

(a) Upper terminus: The confluence of the Little Cimarron River and the Cimarron River, as further described in the UTM Coordinates Table 3 above.

(b) Lower terminus: The confluence of the Cimarron River and the Gunnison River, as further described in the UTM Coordinates Table 3 above.

8. Historical Use.

The additional uses described in Section 7 are based on a historical use analysis performed by Bishop-Brogden Associates (“BBA”). Historical irrigation use of the Shares resulted in a net depletion to the Little Cimarron River during the irrigation season and a net accretion to the river during the non-irrigation season. Historically, there have been no calls on the Little Cimarron River outside of the irrigation season. During operation of the instream flow use of the Shares, the non-irrigation return flows are included in the bypassed water and will naturally accrue to the stream and be available to other water users below Segment Three. The study period for the analysis was 1974 through 2013. This study period is sufficiently long, includes a representative variety of wet, average, and dry years, and is representative of the historical use of the McKinley Ditch, meeting the requirements of § 37-92-305(d), C.R.S. (2016).

8.1 Irrigation and Instream Flow Seasons of use. The historical irrigation season of the Shares was from April through November. For the change of the Shares approved in this decree, the season of use shall be from May 1 through October 31, for either irrigation or instream flow use, subject to the volumetric limits set forth in 9.3.2 below. Any diversions at the McKinley headgate made by the ditch during the months of April or November attributable to the Shares shall be measured and immediately returned to and relinquished to the stream.

8.2 Historical Diversions. To determine the amount of in-priority diversions to the historically irrigated property, the total diversions were limited to diversions taken in-priority, up to the decreed flow rate and then were pro-rated by the ratio of 1.5/8 shares (18.75%). The historical in-priority diversions of the Shares are as follows:

Table 4: Co-Applicants' Pro-Rata Share of In-Priority Historical Headgate Diversions in Each Month of the Future Instream Flow Season of Use – All Priorities

Month	Average (af)
May	106.8
June	237.6
July	206.7
August	142.6
September	102.9
October	58.0
Annual	854.6

In instances when only the most senior McKinley Ditch water right (Priority 56) was in priority and only the decreed limit of 87.5625 acres could be irrigated, the average irrigation season diversions attributable to the historically irrigated property are as follows:

Table 5: Co-Applicant's Pro-Rata Share of In-Priority Historical Headgate Diversions in Each Month of the Future Instream Flow Season of Use – Priority 56 only

Month	Average (af)
May	67.2
June	130.8
July	134.9
August	118.6
September	92.6
October	54.2
Annual	598.3

8.3 Ditch Losses. Ditch losses in the McKinley Ditch suffered by the Shares were historically 10% of the amount diverted.

8.4 Historical Net Depletions. The Shares were used to irrigate pasture grass on the 194.5 acres depicted on Figure 1 attached hereto. However, this analysis of the historical depletions limits the irrigated acreage to 177.5625 acres per the decreed acreage in Case No. 12CW52. Furthermore, 87.5625 acres was used in the historical use analysis when only the senior McKinley Ditch water right (Priority 56) was in priority. Net irrigation season depletions were determined using the Modified Blaney-Criddle method in the State CU model. A value of 10% was used to account for ditch loss. Climate data was obtained from the NOAA Cimarron

weather station. A maximum irrigation efficiency of 55% was used in the model, as all the lands under the McKinley Ditch are flood-irrigated. Soil moisture capacity was determined through an analysis of underlying soils. Forty percent of ground water returns flows were lagged using a Glover analysis.

The historical net depletions from the in-priority diversions in each month of the future instream flow season of use resulting from such irrigation of 177.6 acres were as follows:

Table 6: Historical Net Depletions of Shares - All Priorities

Month	Average (af)
May	41.7
June	105.4
July	99.4
August	68.5
September	36.9
October	6.5
Annual	358.3

The following table shows the historical net depletions in each month of the future instream flow season of use from the use of the Shares when only the decreed limit of 87.5625 acres could be irrigated and when only Priority 56 was in priority:

Table 7: Historical Net Depletions of Shares - Priority 56 only

Month	Average (af)
May	21.5
June	52.6
July	57.8
August	48
September	29.1
October	7.4
Annual	216.4

9. Future Operations.

9.1 Use of the Shares - Scenarios. The preferred future use of the Shares will be split season use, whereby the Shares will continue to be used to irrigate the historically irrigated land in the first part of the irrigation season and then used during the remainder of the irrigation season for instream flow use instead of irrigation. This will allow the historically irrigated land to remain irrigated for at least part of the year, but makes the Shares available to preserve and/or improve the natural environment in Segments One, Two and Three in the later part of the irrigation season when stream flows normally drop. Alternatively, the Shares may be also used

for irrigation throughout the entire irrigation season or for instream flow for the entire irrigation season.

9.2 Notification. To provide sufficient notice of which of the above operational scenarios will be used in any given year, the Co-Applicants will give the Division Engineer, the Collier Ditch Company [Jack Perrin, President of Collier Ditch Company, at his email address: Perrin, Karen (kperrin@coloradomesa.edu), or such other person as the Collier Ditch Company may designate], and Three P's LLC [Garry Forney, 1701 Bowker Rd., El Centro, CA 92243, garryf@bullentinc.net] or Three P's LLC's successor in interest 30-day notice before use of the Shares for instream flow.

9.3 Instream Flow Rates by Segment. Flow rates for instream use of the Shares will vary by Segment. When in priority, these flow rates will be available daily for instream flow use by the CWCB, subject to the limitations in Table 8. In the event that this amount is not physically available at the McKinley Ditch headgate, the CWCB will be entitled to place an administrative call on the Little Cimarron at the McKinley headgate.

9.3.1 Segment One. As noted above, the historical use of the Shares was fully depletive to the Little Cimarron River throughout Segment One, as return flows from irrigation use of the Shares did not accrue to the stream until the upstream terminus of Segment Two. Accordingly, in Segment One, the rate of flow that may be bypassed past the headgate of the McKinley Ditch for instream flow purposes will be equal to the Co-Applicant's pro rata portion of the decree priorities for the McKinley Ditch then in priority available at the McKinley Ditch headgate, as limited herein, less 10% of such amount to be diverted down the McKinley Ditch to replicate historical ditch losses.

9.3.2 Further, in order to avoid enlarged use of the Shares, Co-Applicants shall be limited to the following monthly, annual, and 20-year volumetric limits set forth in Table 8 for their pro rata share of water available for diversions at the McKinley Ditch, whether the water is used for irrigation or instream flows.

Table 8: Monthly, Annual, and 20-Year Volumetric Limits

Month	Maximum annual in ac-ft	20-year volumetric in ac-ft
May	252	2135
June	346	4751
July	321	4133
August	239	2851
September	208	2058
October	214	1160
Annual	1158	---

Co-Applicants' diversions in any month shall be limited to the lesser of either (1) the maximum allowable diversion for that month or (2) the maximum diversion that is allowable under the 20-year volumetric limitation for that month. The maximum diversion allowable under the 20-year volumetric limitation in any particular month shall be calculated by subtracting the total of the diversions during the previous 19 years in that particular month from the 20-year volumetric limitation for that particular month. In applying the 20-year volumetric limitations during the initial 20-year period following entry of this decree, the Co-Applicant's cumulative headgate diversion entitlements cannot exceed one-half of the 20-year monthly volumetric limitation in either the first or last 10-year period. In addition, the Co-Applicants' diversions shall be limited to 1,158 acre-feet in any May 1 through October 31 period.

9.3.3 Segments Two and Three. In segments Two and Three the rates of flow that can be used for instream flow purposes are the historical net depletions determined by multiplying the pro rata portion of the decree priorities for the McKinley Ditch then in priority available at the McKinley Ditch headgate determined in Section 9.3.1 for Segment One, by the monthly depletion factors shown in Table 9 (which factors take into account the ten percent ditch loss in the McKinley Ditch), and then reduced for transit losses pursuant to Paragraph 11.6 below.

Table 9: Net Depletion Factors

Net Depletion Factors	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
	39%	44%	48%	48%	36%	11%

10. Maintenance of Historical Return Flows.

10.1 Irrigation Season Return Flows. Under full season irrigation, irrigation season return flows will occur as they have historically. Under full season instream flow use, irrigation season return flows will be maintained through delivery of return flows as a portion of the bypassed instream flow water. Under a split-season scenario, historical irrigation season return flows will be maintained through a combination of historical irrigation use of the Shares and delivery of bypassed instream flow water.

10.2 Non-Irrigation Season Return Flows. There have been no historical calls on the Little Cimarron River outside of the irrigation season. As described in Section 7.1.1, the CWCB has an existing, year-round instream flow right downstream on the Cimarron River in Segment Three - the Cimarron River from its confluence with the Little Cimarron River to its confluence with the Gunnison River. Segment Three has benefitted from non-irrigation season return flows from the historical irrigation use of the Shares. However, pursuant to 2 CCR 408-2(6)(e) of the Rules Concerning the Colorado Instream Flow and Natural Lake Level Program, the CWCB has determined that the benefit to the natural environment of the Little Cimarron and the Cimarron River from this project during the irrigation season outweighs the potential detriment to the natural environment that could result in some years from unmaintained lagged return flows to the Cimarron River. During operation of the instream flow use of the Shares, the non-irrigation season return flows are included as part of the bypassed water and will naturally accrue to the stream and be available to other water users below Segment Three. Consequently, no injury will occur to downstream water rights and this change will not require the replacement of any historical non-irrigation season return flows during the non-irrigation season.

11. Additional Terms and Conditions. The following additional terms and conditions on the operation of the change approved herein are required, and are adequate, to protect other owners or users of water rights or decreed conditional water rights from material injury.

11.1. Diversion/Bypass Only In Priority. Diversions of the Shares for irrigation use and bypass of the Shares for instream flow use shall be limited to periods that the McKinley Ditch water rights are in priority, and only occur from May 1 through October 31 for irrigation and instream flow use.

11.2 Limitation of Irrigated Acreage. During periods of a valid downstream senior call, the use of the Shares for continued irrigation shall be limited to 87.5625 acres if only Priority 56 is in priority and limited to 177.5625 acres if all of the Shares' priorities are in priority. At times without a valid call, irrigation may occur on the entire 194.5 acres as provided in Case No. 12CW52.

11.3 No Split of Priorities. The Co-Applicants shall only use all the priorities of the Shares for continued irrigation or for instream flow uses, and will not split the uses by priority. The Co-Applicants shall apply the Shares to continued irrigation or to instream flow uses for

whole-month increments throughout the irrigation season. Once the Shares are used for instream flow purposes in any one year, the Shares shall continue to be bypassed for instream flow purposes for the remainder of that irrigation year.

11.4 Ditch Loss. During months that the Shares are being bypassed to the stream for instream flow use and other McKinley Ditch shares are being diverted for irrigation, 10% of the flow rate bypassed at the McKinley Ditch for instream flow as determined in Section 9.3.1 shall be left in the McKinley Ditch to protect the remaining shareholders for ditch loss.

11.5 Dry-up. During the months that the Shares are being bypassed to the stream for instream flow use, the historically irrigated land may not be irrigated by the Shares or other existing McKinley Ditch shares; however, the historically irrigated land may be irrigated by sources approved in a subsequent decree, through a substitute water supply plan, or by other statutory mechanism.

11.6 Transit Losses. The transit losses associated with delivery of the changed right through the instream flow segments will be determined and assessed by the Division Engineer, as provided in the Stipulation Between Co-Applicants and Opposer the Collier Ditch Company ("Collier Ditch Company Stipulation"), at the time deliveries are made.

12. **The Collier Ditch Company Stipulation and Wayne Maurer Stipulation Terms**. Co-Applicants have filed stipulations herein with The Collier Ditch Company and Wayne Maurer, which the Court has approved and hereby incorporates into this decree.

13. **Administration Past Downstream Headgates**. The Division Engineer shall administer the portion of the Shares in priority and changed to instream flow use past any headgates in Segment One as determined in Section 9.3.1 , including the Collier Ditch headgate, provided that adequate structures are in place to bypass and measure such bypassed water, as provided in the Collier Ditch Company Stipulation. Within Segments Two and Three, the Division Engineer shall administer the portion of the Shares in priority and changed to instream flow use as determined in Section 9.3.3 past any headgates, provided that adequate structures are in place to bypass and measure such bypassed water.

14. **Conjunctive Administration**. For the purposes of administration of the McKinley Ditch for instream flow purposes, the CWCB shall be entitled to call for and exercise the Shares, up to the amounts decreed herein, alone or in combination with the existing instream flow water right described in Section 7.1.1 or any future instream flow water right(s), under each water right's respective priority. The CWCB's exercise of the McKinley Ditch for instream flow purposes shall not decrease the amount of water that can be called for and used under its existing instream flow water right.

15. **Measurement and Accounting.** The Co-Applicants shall install such measuring devices and maintain and submit monthly accounting records as may be required by the Division Engineer. Co-Applicants shall also submit such required monthly accounting records to a designated representative of the Collier Ditch. Co-Applicants shall also submit such required monthly accounting records to Three P's LLC or its successor in interest at the address in Section 9.2 until notified otherwise.

16. **Downstream Use.** During years in which the Shares are used for instream flow use, either for a partial or full season, the Water Trust retains the right to bring about beneficial use of the historical consumptive use of the Shares downstream of Segment Three as fully consumable reusable water pursuant to section 37-92-102(3), C.R.S. (2016).

17. **No Material Injury.** The change of water rights described herein, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein, will not injuriously affect any person entitled to use water under a vested water right or a decreed conditional water right.

18. **Can and Will.** The change of water rights described herein is not speculative, can and will be completed within a reasonable time, and otherwise meets all legal requirements.

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

19. **Incorporation.** To the extent they constitute legal conclusions, the foregoing Findings of Fact are incorporated herein.

20. **Complete Application.** The Application is complete, covering all applicable matters required pursuant to the Water Right Determination and Administration Act of 1969, C.R.S. §37-92-101-602.

21. **Fulfillment of Legal Requirements.** Applicants have fulfilled all legal requirements for a decree as requested.

RULING OF THE REFEREE

THEREFORE, the Water Referee rules as follows:

22. **Fully Incorporated Ruling of the Referee.** The foregoing Findings of Fact and Conclusion of Law are hereby fully incorporated into this Ruling of the Referee.

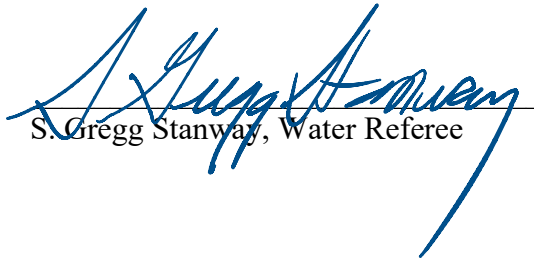
23. **Change of Water Rights.** The change of water rights described above is hereby granted, subject all of the terms and conditions set forth above.

24. **Retained Jurisdiction.** Pursuant to the provisions of C.R.S. §37-92-304(6), the Court shall retain jurisdiction over the change of water rights granted herein for reconsideration of the question of whether the provisions of this decree are necessary or sufficient to prevent injury to the vested water rights of others. The Court's retained jurisdiction period shall automatically terminate five years after the first day of instream flow use of all or part of the Shares hereunder by the CWCB below the Collier Ditch. During said period, the Court's retained jurisdiction may be invoked by any existing party to this case by petition, with appropriate notice to all other parties. The petition shall set forth with particularity the specific injury alleged, together with proposed decretal language that the petitioner contends would remedy the alleged injury that is the basis for the petition. The person filing the petition shall have the burden of proof to establish that the modification sought is required to avoid injury to the petitioner.

25. **No Precedent.** This Decree is entered into by way of compromise and settlement of this litigation. Any agreements or terms and conditions herein are due solely to the unique circumstances and facts of this case. This Decree shall not establish any precedent and shall not be construed as a commitment to include any specific findings of fact, conclusions of law, specific engineering methodologies, or administrative practices in future stipulations or decrees..

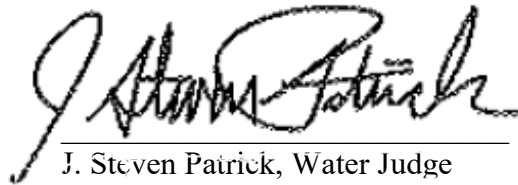
26. **Filing.** A copy of this Judgment and Decree shall be filed with the Water Clerk for Water Division 4, and this Decree shall become effective upon such filing. A copy of this Judgment and Decree shall also be filed with the Division Engineer for Water Division 4 and with the State Engineer.

Dated this 6th day of September, 2018.


S. Gregg Stanway, Water Referee

NO OBJECTION HAVING BEEN FILED TO THE FOREGOING RULING OF THE REFEREE WITHIN THE TIME PERMITTED BY STATUTE, THE FOREGOING RULING IS HEREBY MADE THE JUDGMENT AND DECREE OF THE WATER COURT.

DATED October 1, 2018



J. Steven Patrick, Water Judge



GRANT OF FLOW RESTORATION USE

This GRANT OF FLOW RESTORATION USE (this "Grant") dated this ~~23~~ day of ~~April~~ ^{DATE FILED: September 6, 2015 2:47 PM} 2015, is between the COLORADO WATER TRUST (the "Trust"), a Colorado nonprofit corporation, and the COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD (the "Board"), an agency of the State of Colorado (sometimes collectively referred to herein as the "Parties").

1. The Water Rights. The following water rights were decreed to the McKinley Ditch that is located or irrigates land in the Counties of Montrose and Gunnison, and were conveyed to the Trust by Special Warranty Deed dated January 6, 2014, which was recorded in the real property records of Gunnison County, Colorado on January 15, 2014, at Reception No. 625180 and in the real property records of Montrose County, Colorado on January 29, 2014, at Reception No. 853303. The Trust owns an undivided 18.75% in each of the following priorities ("Water Rights"):

- Priority 56, decreed in Civil Action No. 1319, District Court, Montrose County, March 28, 1904 for 12.17 cfs
- Priority 125, decreed in Civil Action No. 1745, District Court, Montrose County, May 8, 1913 for 3.125 cfs
- Priority 128, decreed in Civil Action No. 1745, District Court, Montrose County, May 8, 1913 for 3.125 cfs
- Priority 285, decreed in Civil Action No. 4742, District Court, Montrose County, April 21, 1941 for 12.58 cfs

The Water Rights were subsequently changed by decree in Case No. 05CW132 dated May 30, 2008 and by decree in Case No. 12CW52 dated February 15, 2013, District Court, Water Division 4.

2. Grant. Subject to the covenants and reservations hereinafter contained, the Trust, for due and sufficient consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which are hereby acknowledged, does hereby grant to the Board the permanent right to use the Water Rights to preserve and/or improve the natural environmental to a reasonable degree (the "Grant") in the following stream reaches for the following purposes:

- a. Instream flow use ("Full Season Instream Flow Use") exclusively by the Board for the entire irrigation season to preserve and/or improve the natural environment to a reasonable degree in the following stream reaches (the "Instream Flow Reaches):
 - i. Little Cimarron River from the McKinley headgate downstream to its confluence with the Cimarron River.



- ii. Cimarron River from its confluence with the Little Cimarron River downstream to its confluence with the Gunnison River.
 - b. A split-season arrangement ("Split-Season Use"), where during a single irrigation season, the Water Rights are used for irrigation in the first part of the irrigation season and then instream flow use exclusively by the Board for the remain of the irrigation season to preserve and/or improve the natural environment to a reasonable degree in the Instream Flow Reaches.
3. The Parties intend that the Grant shall run with the Water Rights and shall burden the Trust's successors and assigns.
4. Change Case. The Parties recognize the need to obtain a change of the Water Rights to allow the desired use of the Water Rights for instream flow purposes as contemplated herein. Pursuant to the Water Rights Acquisition Agreement dated April 9, 2015 between the Parties regarding the Water Rights, the Parties will file as co-applicants an application for such a change with the District Court in and for Water Division No., 4 (the "Change Case"). This Grant shall be subject to any terms and conditions in the Change Case decree. If the Change Case is denied, in whole or in part, for any reason, or is conditioned in such a manner as to prevent the purposes of this Grant from being fulfilled, the Parties shall consult with each regarding future use of the Water Rights.
5. Annual Operation. The Parties agree that Split-Season Use is the preferred use of the Water Rights in any given year. Recognizing that Split-Season Use may not be feasible or desirable by the Parties in every year, the Trust and the Board agree that under the following circumstances, full season irrigation or Full Season Instream Flow Use may occur under the following circumstances (the "Special Circumstances"):
- a. Full season irrigation may occur if the Parties agree that:
 - i. projected climatological conditions are such that there is no need to use the Water Rights to preserve and/or improve the natural environment in the Instream Flow Reaches; or
 - ii. there is a land management issue that requires full season irrigation, such as re-vegetation of the historically irrigated land; or
 - iii. there is an unanticipated or pressing situation that renders full season irrigation necessary.
 - b. Full Season Instream Flow Use may occur if the Parties agree that:



- i. projected climatological conditions are such that there is a need for the use of the Water Rights for Full Season Instream Flow Use to preserve and/or improve the natural environment in the Instream Flow Reaches; or
- ii. circumstances make irrigation impractical, including unavailability of a lessee for irrigation; or
- iii. there is an unanticipated or pressing situation that renders Full Season Instream Flow Use necessary.

The Parties agree to consult before April 1 of each year to determine whether any Special Circumstances exist and to discuss the use of the Water Rights during the upcoming irrigation season. If no Special Circumstances exist, but the Parties do not agree on whether to begin instream flow use on July 1 or August 1, the Parties shall hire a mediator to assist them in reaching agreement on the start date. Subject to the availability of funds, the Parties shall split the costs of the mediator.

6. Irrigation Use. Under either the full season irrigation or Split-Season Use scenario, the Trust shall have the right to allow the use (by lease or otherwise) the Water Rights for the period in question to irrigators under the McKinley Ditch or other ditches below the McKinley Ditch for irrigation use, for such consideration and on such terms as the Trust desires, provided there is no diminishment of yield to the Water Rights for instream flow use or injury to existing instream flow water rights, to the satisfaction of CWCB. The Board shall have no responsibilities and bear no costs for such irrigation use of the Water Rights. Under the Split-Season Use scenario, the Trust shall coordinate all aspects of the irrigation use, including the switch from irrigation to instream flow use.

7. Administration. Pursuant to 2 CCR 408(2)(10), the Board hereby authorizes the Trust to be the CWCB's agent for administration and monitoring of the instream flow use of the Water Rights. If the stream flow at any monitored point falls below the decreed instream flow amount provided by the Water Rights, the Trust shall notify the staff of the Board. Upon consultation with the Trust and the Division of Water Resources, the staff of the Board shall place a call for administration of the Water Rights if appropriate. The Trust shall provide an annual report to the Board regarding the use of the Water Rights each year and the actions taken by the Trust as the Board's agent. Such report shall be due on or before December 31st of each year.

8. Injury with Mitigation. If the Board and Trust successfully obtain a decree in the Change Case, the Board commits to use the Water Rights, as changed, for instream flow purposes to preserve and/or improve the natural environment to a reasonable degree, consistent with the terms of the decree and this Grant, and to take all reasonable steps to enforce those rights for instream flow purposes and protect them from injury. If the Board receives a request to consider injury with



mitigation for the portion of the Little Cimarron River and/or Cimarron River benefited by the change of the Water Rights, the Board shall promptly inform the Trust of such request, consult with the Trust regarding such request, and not take any action that, in the Trust's reasonable judgment, would impair the benefits to the Little Cimarron River and/or Cimarron River resulting from the Trust's Grant to the Board of the Water Rights and their change to add instream flow uses.

9. Stream Gages. Subject to the availability of funds, the Board shall be solely responsible for the installation and maintenance of any stream gages within the Instream Flow Reaches that are required by law or needed to exercise the instream flow uses added to the Water Rights. The Board shall consult with the Trust regarding the type, location, and other aspects of the gaging.

10. Reserved Rights. The Grant is subject to the following rights that are expressly reserved to the Trust:

- a. the right to use the Water Rights for irrigation purposes pursuant to Section 4 above; and
- b. the right to bring about, by sale, lease or otherwise, the beneficial use of the historical consumptive use of the Water Rights as fully consumable water downstream of the Instream Flow Reaches, pursuant to 37-92-102(3), C.R.S, subject to such terms and conditions as the Water Court deems necessary to prevent injury to vested water rights or decreed conditional water rights.

11. Enforcement. The Parties agree that the exclusive venue and jurisdiction of any action pertaining to the interpretation or enforcement of this Grant shall be in the District Court, Water Division No. 4, to the extent permitted by law. If jurisdiction or venue is not proper in the water court, it is agreed that the exclusive venue and jurisdiction of any action pertaining to the interpretation or enforcement of this Grant shall be in the District Court of Gunnison County, Colorado. Before commencing any action for enforcement of this Grant, the party alleging a breach shall notify the other party in writing of the alleged breach and the Parties shall make a good faith effort to resolve their differences through informal consultation. Specific performance shall be the exclusive remedy for failure of either party to comply with any provision of this Grant.

12. Right of First Refusal. In the event the Trust begins actively marketing the Water Rights, the Trust will give the CWCB notice within two (2) weeks of the commencement of such activity. The Trust hereby grants to the Board a right of first refusal to purchase all or a portion of the Water Rights in the event the Trust seeks to convey these interests to a third party. Upon receipt of an offer to purchase that the Trust may accept, the Trust shall give the Board at least one hundred twenty (120) days' notice of the Trust's intention to transfer or convey the Water Rights by delivering to the Board a bona fide written offer to purchase made by a third party.



During the one hundred twenty (120) day notice period, the Board shall enjoy its right of first refusal, entitling it to purchase the Water Rights proposed for sale. If within one hundred twenty (120) days following notice by the Trust of the Trust's intention to sell the Water Rights, the Board chooses to exercise its right to purchase, the purchase price of the Water Rights shall be the fair market price of the Water Rights prevailing at the time of the offer. Provided that the Board notifies the Trust within one hundred twenty (120) day notice period of its intent to exercise its right to purchase, the Trust shall cooperate with the Board to allow sufficient time to complete the purchase of the Water Rights. In the event that the Board decides not to exercise its right to purchase the Water Rights offered for sale, the Trust shall be free to sell the Water Rights to the third party. In any sale to a third party, the Trust shall, as a part of that conveyance, require the third party purchaser to abide by the terms of this Grant.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Trust and the Board have executed this Grant on the date set forth above.

COLORADO WATER TRUST

By: Amy Beatie

Amy Beatie

Executive Director

COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION
BOARD

By: James Ekland

Name: James Ekland

Title: Director



STATE OF COLORADO)
) ss.
COUNTY OF DENVER)

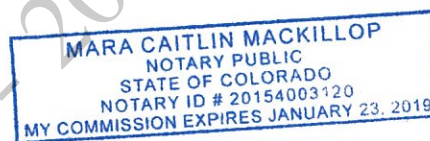
The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 23 day of April, 2015, by Amy Beatie, as Executive Director of the Colorado Water Trust, a Colorado nonprofit corporation.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Mara Mackillop
Notary Public

My commission expires: January 23, 2019

STATE OF COLORADO)
) ss.
COUNTY OF Denver)

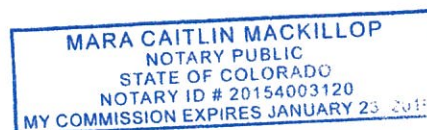


The foregoing instrument was acknowledged before me this 23 day of April, 2015, by James Eklund, as Director of the Colorado Water Conservation Board, an agency of the State of Colorado.

Witness my hand and official seal.

Mara Mackillop
Notary Public

My commission expires: January 23, 2019



Sean Norris – President
Shirley E. Llewellyn – Secretary-Treasurer
Phillip B. Bertrand – Superintendent



688 26 Road
Grand Junction, CO 81506
Phone (970) 242-2762
Fax (970) 242-2770
office@grandvalleyirrigation.com
grandvalleyirrigation.com

August 19, 2025

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

Esteemed members of the Colorado Water Conservation Board,

The Grand Valley Irrigation Company (GVIC) submits the following statement in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board's (Board) proposed acquisition of an interest in the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights:

GVIC is the oldest irrigation provider in the Grand Valley, holding the first right on the Colorado River dating to 1882. GVIC provides irrigation water to over 42,200 acres and 2,988 shareholders extending from Palisade to Mack, Colorado.

GVIC is an original party to the Blue River Decree, a beneficiary under Senate Document 80, and a member of the historic users pool. GVIC is a key party to the Orchard Mesa Check case, the Shoshone Outage Protocol, and the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement. GVIC is an original member of the coalition to acquire the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights.

GVIC supports the application to acquire an instream flow interest in the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights and incorporates by reference the position statement of the Colorado River Water Conservation District.

The nonconsumptive diversions of the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights have evolved into a critical component of the management of the Colorado River, being written into many key agreements affecting the River. These key agreements not only affect the Grand Valley but are critical to the Middle River and Headwaters. Indeed, the acquisition of an instream flow interest in the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights received massive statewide support. For the Grand Valley, the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights stabilizes the flow of the River, supports key water agreements, and preserves water quality – all serving to protect, preserve and improve the natural environment.

The need for the protection of the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights is nothing short of compelling.

The objections raised by certain parties from the Front Range should be disregarded since they are not relevant to the issues before the Board, such as injury, historic use, etc. GVIC does not dismiss their concerns but only points out that they will be fairly addressed in subsequent water court proceedings.

GVIC urges the Board to approve the application for an instream flow interest in the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights.

Respectfully,



Sean Norris
President of the Board



75 South Frontage Road West
Vail, Colorado 81657
vailgov.com

Town Council
970.479.2106
970.479.2157 fax

August 5, 2025

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support Shoshone Water Rights Preservation

To Whom it May Concern:

The Town of Vail wishes to express its strong support for the permanent protection of the Shoshone Water Rights.

The Shoshone Hydroelectric Plant holds some of the largest and most senior nonconsumptive water rights in the Upper Colorado River system. For over a century, these water rights have ensured essential water flows through Glenwood Canyon in the main stem of the Colorado River, "pulling" water downstream through tributaries like Gore Creek and the Eagle River as well. These flows are crucial to the health and vibrancy of the communities on Colorado's Western Slope.

The Shoshone water rights are vital to Colorado's nearly \$12 billion dollar agricultural and nearly \$15 billion dollar recreational economies which support our thriving Western Slope communities. The Shoshone call has underpinned the way water is distributed in Colorado for generations. To deny the Colorado River Water Conservation District's request for an in-stream flow right would risk upending a delicately balanced system that is increasingly strained by heavy use and an uncertain climate future.

Increasing temperatures and dwindling snowpack have diminished flows in the Colorado River by 20% since the turn of the 21st Century. The best available science indicates that this downward trend will continue in years to come. Without the Shoshone water rights, flows in western slope rivers would be significantly lower, threatening critical habitat that supports Gold Medal fisheries and native and endangered fish habitat.

Town of Vail, a headwaters community on the banks of Gore Creek values the health and vitality of our local waterway and has invested millions of dollars over the last decade to restore our it. The people of Vail are keenly aware that the snow that falls on our local mountains becomes the water that serves 40 million people throughout the Colorado River Basin and beyond. Vail is proud to join a broad, diverse, and long-standing coalition of communities, local

partners, irrigation entities, environmental groups, and recreation interests in support of the Colorado River District's application for an in-stream water right. We urge you to approve this application and support this one-time opportunity to protect the Colorado River and the communities that depend on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Travis Coggin".

Travis Coggin
Mayor

August 6, 2025

To: Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver CO 80203

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Shoshone Water Rights to be included in the State's Instream Flow Program and encourage the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I am writing as chairman of the Grand Junction Area Realtor Association's Government Affairs Committee. Our Association has nearly 1,000 members with associates. Also our connections with this committee go to approx. 70 Realtors and organizations in Western Colorado.

Working with real estate every day, we have great concern for protection of the Shoshone Water Rights. Many communities in Western Colorado depend on the Colorado River for drinking water as well as for our vital agricultural programs. Many of us own water rights and understand the great importance of keeping the Colorado River flowing to the highest degree.

If more water is diverted at the top of the mountains, we have less 'clean' water to drink, for farmers & ranchers, as well as for recreation.

PLEASE accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the communities here in Western Colorado.

Thank you for your consideration,



Lois Dunn Chairman
GJARA Government Affairs Committee
loisgdunn@gmail.com
PO Box 1889
Grand Junction CO 81502

970-261-5408

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Western Colorado Contractors Association

2470 Patterson Road, Suite 14, Grand Junction, CO 81505
Phone: 970-245-1384 • FAX: 970-245-1394 • E-mail: wcca@wcca-gj.com

July 8, 2025

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Shoshone Water Rights

Colorado Water Conservation Board,

Western Colorado Contractors Association (WCCA) supports the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urges the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

As an association representing over 400 construction related businesses in Western Colorado, WCCA knows how important the flows of water are to Western Colorado and the regional economy. The construction industry, along with several other industries in the region have worked together to protect the Colorado River and abide by all regulations to ensure its health. The challenges that come with restricted water rights for the construction industry include:

- Increased challenges of obtaining water permits for new projects as the climate becomes drier and the flows are choked down.
- Increased costs of water for new developments increasing housing affordability
- New regulations on dredging and filling projects which add more restrictions on water available which would ultimately limit which projects are completed.

Contractors in Western Colorado must navigate the complexities of water law and comply with multiple water regulations more so than the front range being mostly forested federal land and agriculture. Not being able to access the water and work collaboratively to protect the flows of our area would stifle the growth and economy of Western Colorado.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.
Thank you for your time and consideration.

"Providing Service to Members Since 1948"



Western Colorado Contractors Association

2470 Patterson Road, Suite 14, Grand Junction, CO 81505

Phone: 970-245-1384 • FAX: 970-245-1394 • E-mail: wcca@wcca-gj.com

Shawna Grieger, Executive Director

On behalf of Western Colorado Contractors Association

Western Colorado Contractors Association (WCCA) is a not-for-profit member association with the mission to protect and promote construction related businesses across 27 counties of Western Colorado.

"Providing Service to Members Since 1948"



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Andrew Dolian <ardolian@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 10:13 AM

Hello,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Andrew Dolian, and while I live in North Carolina, my brother lives in Denver and my parents in Genesee, CO. My family are big recreators and supporters of the outdoors.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thanks,

Andrew Dolian

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Alex Glockner <aglock15t@gmail.com>

Fri, Aug 8, 2025 at 10:07 PM

Reply-To: Alex Glockner <aglock15t@gmail.com>

To: Viola Bralish <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Dear CWCB Members,

CWCB members: I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

The Colorado River is a treasured Gold-Medal fishery and recreational asset, the lifeblood of many of our state's communities and working lands, a driver of our multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and an iconic part of Colorado's natural and cultural heritage. For more than 100 years, the Shoshone water right has helped maintain the Colorado River and its values to our state - and has been especially critical in maintaining winter flows that are essential to the river's health. By accepting the Shoshone Rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help preserve the longstanding flow regime that has been a foundation for all of those values supported by a healthy, flowing Colorado River.

The nonconsumptive water rights at Shoshone have played a critical role in sustaining the Colorado River from headwaters to the Grand Valley, generating diverse benefits not only for Western Colorado, but also for residents of Colorado's eastern slope who also depend upon the river. By accepting those rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help ensure that the Shoshone rights continue to operate for the river as they have for more than a century, so that Coloradans continue to enjoy those benefits even when the hydropower facility itself goes off line as its infrastructure ages.

Please accept the Shoshone flows into CWCB's instream flow program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the environment and communities that rely upon it.

Sincerely,

Alex Glockner

[Pueblo West, CO 81007](#)



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Andrew Kerth <time4thepow@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 8:55 AM

Hello,

I am writing to let you know that I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I have paddled extensively on the Colorado River from Glenwood Canyon and below, and it would be wonderful to see this stretch of the river runnable at all times while also serving the water needs of all stakeholders.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thanks!
Andy Kerth
Colorado Springs

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Alden Vanden Brink <al@rioblancowcd.org>
To: "Bralish - DNR, Viola" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 11:42 AM

RE: Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

The Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District supports the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. This water right will provide substantial benefit to the ISF program on the Colorado River and down stream water users. Loss of this water to the river could prove troublesome to the main stem of the Colorado.

The Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District is based Rangely, Colorado and charged with "Conserving and developing land and water resources for the greatest beneficial use within district boundaries." The Colorado River Water Conservation District shares a very similar mission which included the Shone Water Rights for the Colorado ISF Program. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Best Regards,

Alden Vanden Brink, District Manager

Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District

2252 East Main Street

Rangely, Colorado 81648

(970) 675-5055 office



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STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Re:Public Comment Support for Instream Flow Acquisition of the Shoeshone Water Right

1 message

Anita Winter <anitawintermail@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 1:38 PM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the state's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I am a Western Slope resident, artist and lover of rivers.

Thank you,
Anita Winter

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Allyson Witham <allysonw@sgm-inc.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 12:58 PM

Dear Viola,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I've lived in Colorado for over 30 years, including the past 14 on the Western Slope. While I have close family in other states, one of the main reasons I choose to stay in Grand Junction is the high quality of our water and the dedicated people who work to protect this vital resource.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Sincerely,

Allyson Witham

Office Manager



phone (970) 930-8228
email allysonw@sgm-inc.com
259 Grand Ave, Suite 200
Grand Junction, CO 81501





STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Beth Jacobi <beth.a.jacobi@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 at 10:11 PM

To the Colorado Water Conservation Board,

Please support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program, and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

As a former river guide on the Colorado River for Dvorak's Expeditions, I've seen how important the river is for recreation, fish, wildlife, and communities all along the river system.

Please protect this gem of a resource for future generations.

Thank you for your service.

Beth Jacobi

--

Beth Jacobi

beth.a.jacobi@gmail.com

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Preserving Shoshone Water Rights

1 message

Bill Kight <bkight13@gmail.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 10:45 AM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the Colorado Water Conservation Board to accept the proposed acquisition of the Shoshone water rights.

My name is Bill Kight, and I live in Carbondale, Colorado having moved to the middle Colorado River Valley in 1984. From 1984 until 2016 I was employed by the Bureau of Land Management and the US Forest Service stationed in Glenwood Springs.

My connection to water in Western Colorado was through not only public lands occupation (retiring in 2016 as Public Affairs Officer for the White River National Forest), but also from all seasons recreation. Over the past 40 years of living here, my accumulated understanding of the Colorado River's importance runs deep. Conservation of the Colorado River water for the whole basin is of utmost importance.

Water from the Colorado River is the lifeblood of this region of the Colorado Plateau that I call home. Preserving the instream flow of Shoshone water rights is vital for environmental health, economic stability, and community well-being in the Colorado River basin

Please accept these important flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Respectfully,

/s/William H. Kight

Senior Fellow, American Leadership Forum

Bill Kight

[Carbondale, CO 81623](#)



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Bob Richardson <yampah14@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Fri, Aug 15, 2025 at 12:08 PM

Preserve the Shoshone water rights to flow in the Colorado river below the power plant in Glenwood Canyon and beyond. I have been running the Colorado river for 45 years, the health of the river is important to the state of Colorado .
Bob Richardson Grand Junction CO 81501

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

3curb Smith <3curb@cox.net>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 1:47 PM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I'm Bruce and I live on Colorado's front range. I have enjoyed recreating on the upper colorado river via rafting, kayaking, and fishing for years. The need to protect these opportunities for future generations is apparent.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thanks,

Bruce



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Bridget Straub <bridgetecohen@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 12:23 PM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Bridget Straub from Bellvue, CO. I love to kayak all of Colorado including Shoshone!

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Best,

Bridget Straub - Poudre Paddlers Conservation & Access Officer

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Ben Ward <bnwrd28@gmail.com>

Fri, Aug 8, 2025 at 8:17 PM

Reply-To: Ben Ward <bnwrd28@gmail.com>

To: Viola Bralish <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Dear CWCB Members,

CWCB members: I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

The Colorado River is a treasured Gold-Medal fishery and recreational asset, the lifeblood of many of our state's communities and working lands, a driver of our multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and an iconic part of Colorado's natural and cultural heritage. For more than 100 years, the Shoshone water right has helped maintain the Colorado River and its values to our state - and has been especially critical in maintaining winter flows that are essential to the river's health. By accepting the Shoshone Rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help preserve the longstanding flow regime that has been a foundation for all of those values supported by a healthy, flowing Colorado River.

The nonconsumptive water rights at Shoshone have played a critical role in sustaining the Colorado River from headwaters to the Grand Valley, generating diverse benefits not only for Western Colorado, but also for residents of Colorado's eastern slope who also depend upon the river. By accepting those rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help ensure that the Shoshone rights continue to operate for the river as they have for more than a century, so that Coloradans continue to enjoy those benefits even when the hydropower facility itself goes off line as its infrastructure ages.

Please accept the Shoshone flows into CWCB's instream flow program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the environment and communities that rely upon it.

Sincerely,

Ben Ward

[Durango, CO 81302](#)



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public comment – please accept Shoni water rights into ISF program

1 message

Carolyn Anderson <mama.81301@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 8:06 PM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

My name is Carolyn Anderson. I reside in Fruita, Colorado and support keeping water flowing for our agricultural region. Agriculture is a main component of our economy here. This region is famous for its hayfields, grapes, wineries and delicious palisade peaches. The water from the Colorado river is the life source for this industry.

Please accept the inclusion of the Shoshone water rights through the states, instream flow program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Thank you,

Carolyn Anderson

Sent from my iPhone

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Cori Barnes <irocbarnes@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 7:36 PM

Hello,

My name is Cori Barnes, and I live in Boulder. I am a native Coloradan and as such I understand the importance of making wise decisions with the limited water we have. The proposed action to buy the XCEL water rights and energy plant up river of Glenwood Springs, would help the communities downstream along with maintaining critical habitats for the animals that rely on the Colorado River. The people opposed to this acquisition are primarily communities in the front range who see it as a threat to their existing agreements with XCEL to take water and ship it out here. This proposal although it may require some adjustments on Front Range water providers, will be useful to ALL Coloradans, as we make wiser choices with how to use and preserve this dwindling resource.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's In stream Flow Program and urge the CWC to accept the proposal.

Sincerely,

Cori Barnes



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Christopher Bynum <ckbynum@aol.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Thu, Aug 21, 2025 at 5:18 PM

Dear Colorado Water Conservation board:

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Christopher Bynum, MD
Montrose Colorado

Avid whitewater rafter, fly fisherman and supporter of outdoor tourism and protecting nature



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Colorado River public Comment

1 message

CCC <14erhiker@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Sun, Aug 24, 2025 at 5:14 PM

Dear Members of the Colorado Water Conservation Board,

Please proceed with the acquisition of Shoshone Water Rights through the Colorado's Instream Flow Program (ISF).

The permanent protection of these Colorado River water rights to maintain flow of water through the middle Colorado watershed to support agricultural, recreational and ecological systems is critical to the economic well-being of Central and Western Colorado.

As our climate becomes warmer and drier, it is more and more imperative to preserve whatever water we can to face the challenges ahead, including fighting wildfires.

Thank you for your service to our beautiful state, and for considering my input.

Charlyn Canada

Sent from my iPhone

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Claire Carren <clairecarren@icloud.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Thu, Aug 21, 2025 at 8:10 AM

Hi,

My name is Claire Carren. I am an avid whitewater kayaker and rafter. I live at Copper Mountain near Frisco. One of my favorite kayak runs is the Shoshone section of the Colorado. Over the years, I have boated the Colorado River from Kremmling (Gore Canyon) down through Glenwood Canyon, Ruby Horsetheif, Westewater, and the Grand Canyon.

I am writing today to urge you to support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it. With the continuing drought, we need all the water we can get to flow down our rivers!

Sincerely,
Claire Carren



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Chris Polly FITZGERALD <fitzyvail@msn.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 10:46 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Please confirm this program and do not allow any organization that is involved with any front range community to sway you to their opinion.

Chris Fitzgerald

West Vail homeowner and resident

Thank you for taking the time to read.

Have a great day

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Cindy Fornstrom <cindy_fornstrom@comcast.net>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 9:32 AM

Dear Colorado Water Conservation Board,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the state's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I have a personal connection to this acquisition, as I live in Colorado (in Englewood), am an avid lover of rivers and the ecosystems which they support, support Western Slope water rights, and I'm a whitewater kayaker who uses the Gore Canyon, Shoshone, and Westwater Canyon sections of the Colorado River to recreate on.

Preserving the stream flow created by the Shoshone water rights creates massive benefits for the Upper and Lower Colorado River basin. Please accept these flows into the state's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the communities and ecosystems that rely on it.

Sincerely,

Cindy Fornstrom

[Englewood, CO 80113](#)



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Cross Harris <thecrossharris@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 12:18 PM

Dear CWCB,

I strongly support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the state's Instream Flow Program, and I urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

As a whitewater rafting guide who has worked on Shoshone for three years, I've seen first hand the business this incredible section of river brings to the region. The community rallies around the Colorado River here. To preserve the flow through this section is to preserve a vibrant natural resource for locals and newcomers alike.

There are special moments when leadership, like the CWCB, has the opportunity to make a decision of lasting impact. This is one of those moments. Please accept the flows into the state's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River and communities that rely on it.

Best,
Cross Harris
Whitewater Rafting Guide

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Cheyenne Johnson <marycheyenne@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Cheyenne Johnson <marycheyenne@gmail.com>
To: Viola Bralish <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Tue, Aug 12, 2025 at 11:34 AM

Dear CWCB Members,

CWCB members: I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

The Colorado River is a treasured Gold-Medal fishery and recreational asset, the lifeblood of many of our state's communities and working lands, a driver of our multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and an iconic part of Colorado's natural and cultural heritage. For more than 100 years, the Shoshone water right has helped maintain the Colorado River and its values to our state - and has been especially critical in maintaining winter flows that are essential to the river's health. By accepting the Shoshone Rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help preserve the longstanding flow regime that has been a foundation for all of those values supported by a healthy, flowing Colorado River.

The nonconsumptive water rights at Shoshone have played a critical role in sustaining the Colorado River from headwaters to the Grand Valley, generating diverse benefits not only for Western Colorado, but also for residents of Colorado's eastern slope who also depend upon the river. By accepting those rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help ensure that the Shoshone rights continue to operate for the river as they have for more than a century, so that Coloradans continue to enjoy those benefits even when the hydropower facility itself goes off line as its infrastructure ages.

Please accept the Shoshone flows into CWCB's instream flow program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the environment and communities that rely upon it.

Sincerely,
Cheyenne Johnson

Thornton, CO 80241

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Support for Shoshone Water Rights – Please Act Now1 message

Claire Lewandowski <clairelewando@gmail.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 4:10 PM

Hi CWCB Team,

I'm writing to strongly support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program, and I urge you to accept the proposed acquisition. This is a critical step to protect the health and future of the Colorado River.

My name is Claire Lewandowski, and I live in Eagle County. As someone who lives, plays, and works connected to this river, I depend on clean, healthy water—not just for recreation but for the communities, ecosystems, and economies that thrive because of it. The Shoshone flows are a lifeline for this valley and beyond.

Please move forward and accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program. This is our chance to secure this vital protection for the river and for everyone who relies on it now and in the future.

Thank you for your leadership and action on this.

Claire Lewandowski
Eagle County Resident

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Protect the Colorado River/Shoshone Water rights...

1 message

Roth, Chandler <Chandler.Roth@coloradodefenders.us>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 4:30 PM

Hello,

I support the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's instream flow program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. My name is Chandler Roth and I live in New Castle on the Western slope of Colorado. My kitchen window looks out directly at the Colorado River. Please protect the river by accepting these flows into the state's instream flow program.

This river needs and deserves to have as much water flowing through it as possible because it seems as if each year, there are more demands upon this finite resource that is depended upon by so many in Western Colorado.

I have recently seen that multiple entities in the metro/front range have opposed this proposal. I find it ironic that despite already diverting a large percentage of water that would contribute to the flows in our river, the unchecked municipal growth and lack of any real conservation measures continues to drive the insatiable desire to continue diverting water from rivers to taps on the Eastern Slope.

I believe that if allowed, the malignant development of cities in Eastern Colorado would consume every drop of water from our West Slope rivers and streams to fuel unsustainable boom and bust cycles. Thank you for your concern and attention to this matter.

Chandler Roth

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Shoshone Water Right

1 message

Chris Skan <wildskan@gmail.com>

Tue, Aug 5, 2025 at 10:36 PM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Ms. Bralish,

As a Colorado resident and recreational boater, I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

The consistent flow on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. As you probably know, the Colorado River is home to four endangered fish species: Humpback Chub, Pikeminnow, Razorback Sucker, and Bonytail, and the Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties. PLEASE accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Thank you for consideration of my view on this important matter,
Christine Skan

Lakewood, CO 80215

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

cindytopkins@aol.com <cindytopkins@aol.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Sat, Aug 23, 2025 at 8:03 AM

My name is Cindy Tompkins and I live in Alachua, Florida. My husband and I have enjoyed kayaking on the Upper Colorado River for over 15 years. We love the natural beauty of the river and the breathtaking views of the surrounding geological formations. Part of the reason why we choose to spend our summers in the Rocky Mountains, is to kayak the Upper Colorado River.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Sincerely,

Cindy Tompkins

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Charley Whitman <whitmancharley@gmail.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 10:50 AM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. I work and play on the water in Western Colorado especially on the Colorado River. I love Ruby Horse-Thief, Westwater, Gore Canyon. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Best,
Charley Whitman



August 21, 2025

Board of Directors
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

Dear Honorable Board Members,

On behalf of the city of Grand Junction, I am writing to express our strong support of the inclusion of Shoshone Water Rights into the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

The Colorado River has been a critical resource for the City of Grand Junction since its founding in 1881. Early settlers relied upon the Grand River, as it was named then, for drinking water. While today the city of Grand Junction's water utility sources its primary water supply from the Kannah Creek watershed on the Grand Mesa, our partner utilities that serve portions of the City and neighboring communities (Clifton Water District and Ute Water Conservancy District) utilize the Colorado River water as either their primary or secondary source of water. Therefore, our city continues to rely upon the Colorado River for potable water.

In addition to serving as a municipal water supply, the Colorado River supports the economic vitality of the city of Grand Junction. The city has transformed the river corridor with the development of several projects including Las Colonias Park, Dos Rios, and the Riverfront Trail system. The 130-acre Las Colonias Park includes an amphitheater, a river park, pond features, and a business park. The Las Colonias Business Park was supported by an investment of \$30 million through a public/private partnership. The Riverfront at Dos Rios is a 58-acre mixed-use development which includes 15.8 acres of parks and open space, 9.5 acres of light industrial/commercial, and 10.2 acres for mixed-use development. With unparalleled access to the river, trail systems, green space and downtown, the City envisions this area as a vibrant neighborhood serving as a home, workplace, and play place for residents. The Grand Junction Riverfront Trail is a 28-mile paved path that runs along the Colorado River.

The Colorado River is the focal point for each of these important projects that serve Grand Junction residents and visitors and bolster the recreational and business economies. Maintaining Shoshone historical return flows via the State's Instream Flow Program thereby securing the protection for the Colorado River is imperative for communities like Grand Junction that rely on it. For these reasons, we implore CWCB to accept the Shoshone flows into the State's Instream Flow Program.

In April 2024, the city of Grand Junction adopted a resolution supporting the contribution of \$1,000,000 for the acquisition and permanent protection of the Shoshone Water Rights. This



letter of support for inclusion of the Shoshone flows into the State's Instream Flow Program complements our financial commitment to this important.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Cody Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Cody Kennedy
President of the City Council



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Daniel Brogan <riverenthusiast@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 8:22 PM

Dear Ms. Bralish,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Dan Brogan and I live in Carbondale, Colorado. I kayak and raft along the Colorado River and its tributaries. I enjoy sitting on its banks and skipping stones, and understand the importance of maintaining critical instream flows for river processes and organisms that depend on them.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Regards,
Dan

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Donna Corrigan <uyri@steamboatsouth.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Mon, Aug 11, 2025 at 6:45 AM

- 1. I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. Donna Corrigan, Yampa Colorado, agricultural water rights holder. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.*

Warmest regards,

--

Donna Corrigan
Upper Yampa Realty, Inc.
PO Box 747
Oak Creek CO 80467
970-846-8454 – cell
uyri@steamboatsouth.com
www.Colorado-Ranches.com



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

David Erbe <erbe.david@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Thu, Aug 21, 2025 at 9:30 PM

Hello,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Dave Erbe (from Grand Junction, CO) and I love kayaking on the Upper Colorado River.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you,

David Erbe

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public comment Shoshone water rights

1 message

Dave Focardi <datawrangler81@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 at 11:57 AM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

I've lived in Moab Utah since 1991, when I moved there to be a whitewater raft guide for Sheri Griffith Expeditions. I started kayaking in 1993, and still get out about 20 days a year, some years more. A lot of those days are on the Moab daily stretch. Right now, the flows are right around 2000cfs, about as low as I've seen it in 34 years. With this in mind, I strongly urge the CWCB (Colorado Water Conservation Board) to include the admission of the Shoshone water right into the ISF (Instream Flow Program).

Coming from Moab, I know how important consistent and reliable river flows are to river recreation - boating, fishing, habitat preservation.

Despite the overwhelming majority of my time boating on the Colorado from the Westwater section down through the Grand Canyon, I have also spent at least 30 or 40 days in the upper Colorado stretches kayaking and rafting . Even now, I come out to Glenwood springs and the the Eagle River Park several times a year to enjoy the play parks.

I'm sure the technical reasons and water flow calculations that show how this water right benefits the uses I've described are presented elsewhere, so I'll leave this as a personal plea to accept the Shoshone Water Right into the ISF program.

Dave Focardi

[Moab, UT 84532](#)



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Debbie H <dhinde1@msn.com>

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 1:25 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

I wholeheartedly support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Debbie Hinde

Fort Collins, Colorado

I have paddled the Upper Colorado, Glenwood and several other sections of the Colorado River many times.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Debbie Hinde

ACA L4 Canoe Instructor

Member of Poudre Paddlers and the Rocky Mountain Canoe Club

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Dan Kochanek <mxdank@yahoo.com>
Reply-To: Dan Kochanek <mxdank@yahoo.com>
To: Viola Bralish <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Thu, Aug 21, 2025 at 9:43 AM

Dear CWCB Members,

CWCB members: I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

The Colorado River is a treasured Gold-Medal fishery and recreational asset, the lifeblood of many of our state's communities and working lands, a driver of our multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and an iconic part of Colorado's natural and cultural heritage. For more than 100 years, the Shoshone water right has helped maintain the Colorado River and its values to our state - and has been especially critical in maintaining winter flows that are essential to the river's health. By accepting the Shoshone Rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help preserve the longstanding flow regime that has been a foundation for all of those values supported by a healthy, flowing Colorado River.

The nonconsumptive water rights at Shoshone have played a critical role in sustaining the Colorado River from headwaters to the Grand Valley, generating diverse benefits not only for Western Colorado, but also for residents of Colorado's eastern slope who also depend upon the river. By accepting those rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help ensure that the Shoshone rights continue to operate for the river as they have for more than a century, so that Coloradans continue to enjoy those benefits even when the hydropower facility itself goes off line as its infrastructure ages.

Please accept the Shoshone flows into CWCB's instream flow program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the environment and communities that rely upon it.

Sincerely,
Dan Kochanek

Denver, CO 80230

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Darren Olson <darren.olson@comcast.net>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Thu, Aug 14, 2025 at 7:45 PM

Ms. Bralish,

As a Colorado resident and recreational boater, I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

The consistent flow on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. As you probably know, the Colorado River is home to four endangered fish species: Humpback Chub, Pikeminnow, Razorback Sucker, and Bonytail, and the Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties.

Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Thank you for consideration of my view on this important matter,

Darren Olson

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Derek Petak <derek@redrock-interactive.com>

Fri, Aug 8, 2025 at 4:20 PM

Reply-To: Derek Petak <derek@redrock-interactive.com>

To: Viola Bralish <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Dear CWCB Members,

CWCB members: I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

The Colorado River is a treasured Gold-Medal fishery and recreational asset, the lifeblood of many of our state's communities and working lands, a driver of our multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and an iconic part of Colorado's natural and cultural heritage. For more than 100 years, the Shoshone water right has helped maintain the Colorado River and its values to our state - and has been especially critical in maintaining winter flows that are essential to the river's health. By accepting the Shoshone Rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help preserve the longstanding flow regime that has been a foundation for all of those values supported by a healthy, flowing Colorado River.

The nonconsumptive water rights at Shoshone have played a critical role in sustaining the Colorado River from headwaters to the Grand Valley, generating diverse benefits not only for Western Colorado, but also for residents of Colorado's eastern slope who also depend upon the river. By accepting those rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help ensure that the Shoshone rights continue to operate for the river as they have for more than a century, so that Coloradans continue to enjoy those benefits even when the hydropower facility itself goes off line as its infrastructure ages.

Please accept the Shoshone flows into CWCB's instream flow program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the environment and communities that rely upon it.

Sincerely,
Derek Petak

[Edwards, CO 81632](#)



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public comment-Shoshone water rights

1 message

Dan Roman <droman22@comcast.net>

Thu, Aug 21, 2025 at 4:47 PM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

I support inclusion of Shoshone water rights into in stream flows.

I have been paddling the Colorado for 47 years.

Thanks, Dan Roman

Sent from my iPad

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Daan Stevenson <daan.stevenson@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Fri, Aug 22, 2025 at 10:15 AM

To whom it may concern,

I am a long time resident of the Western Slope and care deeply about its water use and water rights. The Shoshone Water Right plays an essential role in sustaining flows through the heart of our watershed. These flows directly support local agriculture, recreational economies, ecological health and municipal water users in the Middle Colorado region—from Glenwood Canyon through De Beque. They are fundamental to the natural hydrologic regime that so many communities depend on, especially in the face of increasing drought and climate variability.

I recognize that the Shoshone Water Right benefits all of Colorado—not just our region—by maintaining compact compliance, supporting fisheries and helping sustain reliable flows for downstream users. We also appreciate the leadership of the Colorado River District and its coalition in bringing this opportunity forward.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Regards,
Daan Stevenson

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Re: Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Darryl Tompkins <djtompkins@aol.com>

Sat, Aug 23, 2025 at 8:03 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Darryl Tompkins and I have owned a condo in Vail Colorado for over 20 years. My wife and I are class III kayakers and regularly look forward to kayaking the beautiful Colorado River in Glenwood Canyon and the Upper Colorado every summer.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Sincerely,

Darryl Tompkins



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Shoshone Water Letter

1 message

Deb Wooddell <highcountryprop@outlook.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 2:43 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Cc: "marc.catlin.senate@coleg.gov" <marc.catlin.senate@coleg.gov>, "larry.sucle.house@coleg.gov" <larry.sucle.house@coleg.gov>

Larry Wooddell
Broker/Owner (Realtor)

High Country Properties, Inc.
1002 S 3rd Street
Montrose, CO 81401
highcountryprop@outlook.com
970-209-2791

August 26, 2025

Colorado Water Conservation Board
[1313 Sherman Street, Room 718](#)
Denver, CO 80203

To the Colorado Water Conservation Board,

I am writing to express my strong support for the inclusion of the **Shoshone Water Rights** in the State's **Instream Flow Program**, and to respectfully urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

As a REALTOR® and former farmer and rancher in Western Colorado, I understand firsthand how critical these historic water rights are to our region. The consistent flows provided by Shoshone support not only our environment and local agriculture, but also tourism, outdoor recreation, community health, and property values.

The Colorado River is the foundation of life and livelihood in our area. Permanently securing the Shoshone flows ensures stability for future generations, protects the economic vitality of small towns, and honors the value of balanced, statewide water management.

I urge the CWCB to act in favor of this acquisition and take this important step to preserve the Shoshone Water Rights within the Instream Flow Program.

Thank you for your attention and commitment to Colorado's water future.

Sincerely,
Larry Wooddell
Broker/Owner

High Country Properties, Inc.

Montrose Association of Realtors

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public comment Shoshone water rights

1 message

Emily Hancock <em.hancock13@gmail.com>

Fri, Aug 22, 2025 at 11:48 AM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. My name is Emily Hancock and I live in Paonia, and am a proud recreater, supporter and conservationist when it comes to water in Western Colorado.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

*Thanks,
Emily Hancock*

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public comment-please protect Shoshone water rights

1 message

Emily S. <rimrockrabbits@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 1:42 PM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Hello,

I am writing in support of protecting the Shoshone water rights. It sounds like including it in the State's Instream Flow Program is a way to do that. Please do whatever it takes to protect western slope water and keep Colorado River Basin water in the Colorado River Basin. All of us downstream, even all the way to California, depend on that water. It will be used and appreciated many times on its way to the ocean, and my husband and I are two of the many who need it. We are proud to use Colorado water to produce beef, corn, oats, and hay, contributing to good homegrown nutrition for our neighbors and our country! As farmers, we are some of the last industries left supporting Colorado's economy. We are an important part of the economic network that supports the livelihoods of those who love in our beautiful state.

Thank you,
Emily Sigrist

Farm wife
[Mack, CO 81525](#)

August 20th, 2025

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support: Shoshone Water Rights Preservation

Dear Colorado Water Conservation Board Members:

The Eagle County Conservation District strongly supports the permanent protection of the Shoshone Water Rights and urges the Colorado Water Conservation Board to accept the use of the Shoshone Water Rights for instream flow purposes.

The Shoshone Hydroelectric Plant, located on the Colorado River in Glenwood Canyon, collectively holds some of the largest, most senior nonconsumptive water rights on the Colorado River. These rights ensure essential water flows through the Colorado River's mainstem, providing vital ecosystem, habitat, and restoration benefits from the river's headwaters in Grand County to Grand Junction.

As the local conservation district serving Eagle County, we work directly with agricultural producers, landowners, and community partners to protect soil and water resources. Our mission is deeply tied to the health of the Colorado River, as Shoshone flows support agriculture, healthy riparian corridors, and community resilience in Western Colorado. Any reduction of flows attributable to the Shoshone Water Rights could lead to increased transmountain diversions across the Continental Divide and uncertainty for Western Slope water users who have relied on a historical flow regime that has existed for generations. Achieving the permanent protection of the Shoshone Water Rights is the best mechanism available to reduce these risks while providing essential water security for all of Western Colorado.

Preserving the instream flow of the Shoshone water right is a permanent and priceless investment in the health and vitality of the Colorado River and all who depend on it. We urge you to accept the acquisition and support a once-in-many-generation opportunity to protect Colorado River flows for future generations.

Sincerely,

Laura Bohannon
Eagle County Conservation District
Laura@ECCDistrict.org
(970) 236-6131



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Support for Adding Shoshone Water Rights to Instream Flow Program

1 message

Greg <drgreghaitz@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 12, 2025 at 8:10 AM

Dear Colorado Water Conservation Board Members,

I am writing in strong support of the proposal by the Shoshone Water Right Preservation Coalition to add the Shoshone Water Rights to Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Protecting the year-round flows of the Colorado River benefits all who depend on it — from irrigators and anglers to recreation businesses, municipalities, and the ecosystems that sustain our wildlife. The Shoshone Water Rights are a cornerstone of our state's water heritage, and ensuring their protection through the Instream Flow Program will safeguard both our economy and environment for generations to come.

I urge you to accept this proposal and keep Shoshone flowing.

Sincerely,

Greg Haitz, DC

Grand Junction, CO



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Gregg Minion <gminion@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 3:43 PM

Ms. Bralish, Colorado Conservation River Board:

As rafters, we support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program.

This is a truly unique opportunity to manage a resource that is critical to us all.

We are personally asking for your assistance in maintaining the Colorado River's vitality.

Your backing of a permanent, proactive solution for protecting river flows in the face of climate change, overuse, growing demands, and pressure for more transmountain diversions is imperative.

Please endorse this rare opportunity to shape Colorado's water legacy.
We urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

We sincerely appreciate your consideration,

Mary Beth and Gregg Minion M. D.

Glenwood Springs, CO.

www.springvalleycoalition.com

August 19, 2025

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

Esteemed members of the Colorado Water Conservation Board,

The Grand Valley Irrigation Company (GVIC) submits the following statement in support of the Colorado Water Conservation Board's (Board) proposed acquisition of an interest in the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights:

GVIC is the oldest irrigation provider in the Grand Valley, holding the first right on the Colorado River dating to 1882. GVIC provides irrigation water to over 42,200 acres and 2,988 shareholders extending from Palisade to Mack, Colorado.

GVIC is an original party to the Blue River Decree, a beneficiary under Senate Document 80, and a member of the historic users pool. GVIC is a key party to the Orchard Mesa Check case, the Shoshone Outage Protocol, and the Colorado River Cooperative Agreement. GVIC is an original member of the coalition to acquire the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights.

GVIC supports the application to acquire an instream flow interest in the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights and incorporates by reference the position statement of the Colorado River Water Conservation District.


The nonconsumptive diversions of the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights have evolved into a critical component of the management of the Colorado River, being written into many key agreements affecting the River. These key agreements not only affect the Grand Valley but are critical to the Middle River and Headwaters. Indeed, the acquisition of an instream flow interest in the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights received massive statewide support. For the Grand Valley, the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights stabilizes the flow of the River, supports key water agreements, and preserves water quality – all serving to protect, preserve and improve the natural environment.

The need for the protection of the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights is nothing short of compelling.

The objections raised by certain parties from the Front Range should be disregarded since they are not relevant to the issues before the Board, such as injury, historic use, etc. GVIC does not dismiss their concerns but only points out that they will be fairly addressed in subsequent water court proceedings.

GVIC urges the Board to approve the application for an instream flow interest in the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights.

Respectfully,



Sean Norris
President of the Board

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Shoshone ISF Right

1 message

Hayden Strickland <gwheyduke@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 10:53 PM

Viola,

Thanks for taking, organizing and presenting comments on the potential inclusion of the Shoshone water right in the Colorado Instream Flow Program.

I live on the front range, and have for my entire life, including Fort Collins, Centennial (but in Denver Water's extraterritorial service area), Roxborough (served by Arvada), and now Evergreen, on my own groundwater well. I have also worked as a water rights engineer for the past 20 years for clients including Denver Water, the Colorado River District, Ute Water, The City of Westminster and many others, so I am well aware of the tensions between the east slope and west slope, and how those continue to change with the continued growth.

I support putting the Shoshone water right in the instream flow program for the following reasons:

- 1) Recreation on the Upper Colorado: We recreate on the Colorado River every year multiple times, and often in July and August. Without the Shohone Power Plant call, there would be limited flow, and my recreation would likely move elsewhere. This recreation contributes to the economies of Kremling and Silverthorne, where I always spend money on each trip.
- 2) Critical Habitat Reach - The critical habitat reach located upstream of Palisade should be protected, and efforts should continue to improve flows in this area. Wlthout the Shoshone Right calling, this becomes exceedingly difficult.
- 3) Minimal impact to transbasin transfers: As I hope the hearing (if there is one) will show, including the Shoshone water right into the ISF program will have limited if any impact on Denver Water and Aurora's water supplies. These impacts could instead be offset by conservation measures, such as those adopted by Castle Rock limiting non-eseenital turf grass in new developments. As a previous rate payer, any reasonable increase in rates caused by the inclusion of the Shoshone Water right into the ISF program is worth the benefits described above.

Thanks in advance.

Hayden Strickland



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Julie Cooper <juliec@sgm-inc.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 12:45 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Hello-

I am writing to support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. I live in the Roaring Fork Valley, and the river is the heart of our communities. It's imperative that we do all we can to protect this vital resource before it is too late.

Thank you

Julie Cooper

Julie Cooper

Human Resources Director



phone (970) 880-9516

email juliec@sgm-inc.com

118 W. 6th Street, Suite 200

Glenwood Springs, CO 81601



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

john francisco <johncfrancisco@msn.com>

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 12:36 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I have been kayaking and rafting on the Upper Colorado River for 35 years starting when I moved to Colorado to go to college. When I got married I introduced my wife to the river and now we are taking our kids on the river. I want future generations to have the same opportunity to enjoy the river corridor as we have.

We also love to camp, hike, and bike in the area and the river is what draws people to area for recreation.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Sincerely,

John Francisco



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

(no subject)

1 message

jeremy graham <germiniah@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Fri, Aug 22, 2025 at 4:09 PM

Hi,

Please assure our future for water and add this to the comments. I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water rights through the States Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. My name is Jeremy Graham from Carbondale and I am a long time river user and have made my living as a guide and steward of these western waterways for over 35 years. Please accept these flows into the program and insure this vital protection for the Colorado river and the communities that rely on it. We really are counting on it and the time is now to act on this for all involved.

Jeremy Graham



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Jim Harris <mrjimharris@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 2:08 PM

Hi Viola-

I live in Glenwood Springs and the rivers here are a cornerstone of what makes this a good place to live. If Shoshone Power Plant's water rights were allocated anywhere other than downstream flows, that would irrevocably change the river corridor for agriculture, recreation and wildlife, not to mention all the communities like Glenwood that use this for our municipal water source.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thanks for your attention to this very important issue.

Sincerely,
Jim
[Glenwood Springs, CO 81601](#)

Harris



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

James Logan <hpgjamie@gmail.com>

Fri, Aug 15, 2025 at 6:03 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I live in Carbondale CO and use the Colorado River often...Gore and Shoshone Canyons for kayaking and South Canyon for fishing.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

James Logan. [Carbondale CO](#)

--

Jim Logan

jimskilogan@gmail.com

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public comment on the Shoshone water rights acquisition for in stream flows1 message

Jocelyn Mullen <mullenjocelyn@hotmail.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 12:37 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Hello, and To Whom It May Concern,

I am writing to urge you to please accept Shoshone Water Rights into the ISF Program. I am a Grand Junction resident, an environmental engineer, a practicing PE in the State of Colorado, and also an avid recreationalist who depends on water for everything from growing vegetables in my garden to skiing on it in the winter and then recycling it as cfs in the spring, summer and fall for boating joy. I work to protect river ecosystems, I design and operate Public Water Systems professionally, and I refresh my spirit in river canyons all over the west.

Perhaps more importantly, I view the Colorado River as a living entity with a soul (more so than corporations via Citizens United) and believe that the western doctrine of Beneficial Use robs river ecosystems of their right to coexist apart from their use to humans. Accepting the Shoshone water rights into the instream flow program would go a long way towards protecting the Colorado for years to come.

Thank you for your efforts on behalf of the Colorado River and Western Slope.

Jocelyn Mullen, PE
Grand Junction, CO

Sent from my iPhone



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

John Olson <j_olson@comcast.net>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Fri, Aug 15, 2025 at 1:59 PM

Ms. Bralish,

As a Colorado resident and recreational boater, I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program. I am concerned with Colorado river flow because I am a private rafter.

Thank you for consideration of my view on this important matter,

John Olson

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Jacob Quiggle <jquig87@mac.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Thu, Aug 14, 2025 at 12:26 PM

Hello,

My name is Jacob Quiggle, I live in silverthorne co. My family and I regularly recreate on the headwaters of the Colorado. We spend much of the late summer enjoying the instream flows on the upper Colorado River.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Have a great day!

Jacob Quiggle

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment: Please accept the Shoshone Water Rights into the ISF Program

1 message

John Stansbury <lastansbury@hotmail.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Fri, Aug 15, 2025 at 12:49 PM

I very strongly support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights into the State's Instream Flow Program, and I strongly urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition of those water rights.

My Name is John Stansbury. I am a retired Licensed Water Resources Engineer and a former Water Resources Engineering Professor at the University of Nebraska. I now live in western Colorado, and I am very interested in proper decision-making for the dwindling water resources in the Colorado River. The proposed acquisition will help maintain critical riverine habitat for threatened fish species, and it will improve options for a proper and lasting compact among the Colorado River Basin states (e.g., it will help keep Lakes Powell and Mead from drying up). Thank you for your consideration.

John Stansbury, Ph.D.
Fruita, CO

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

jeanne stough <telluridetrails@hotmail.com>

Thu, Aug 7, 2025 at 5:57 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Ms. Bralish,

As a Colorado resident and recreational boater, I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

The consistent flow on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. As you probably know, the Colorado River is home to four endangered fish species: Humpback Chub, Pikeminnow, Razorback Sucker, and Bonytail, and the Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties. Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Thank you for consideration of my view on this important matter,

Jeanne Stough

Eagle, CO 81631

Sent from my iPhone



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

john templeton <templeton.john@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 7:53 AM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

John

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

JEFF WALTERS <jjw-enterprise@comcast.net>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 1:18 PM

Hello,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. I am a lifelong Colorado resident that cherishes the Colorado river system that provides so many recreational, ecological, and agricultural opportunities. This shouldn't be an east vs. west issue, but an issue for the continued health of the basin. What a fantastic opportunity to help preserve this for future generations. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Sincerely,
Jeff Walters
Denver, Colorado

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Kelly Brown <kaabrown@outlook.com>

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 1:36 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Dear Colorado Water Conservation Board,

My name is Kelly Brown and I am writing to you in support of the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

While I enjoy kayaking and rafting on this stretch of the Colorado River with my family, I also know the ecological importance of flows and value the use of renewable energy.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River and communities that rely on it for generations to come.

Sincerely,
Kelly Brown

Boulder, CO

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Katherine Morris <katherine.ann.morris@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Thu, Aug 7, 2025 at 4:54 PM

Dear Ms. Bralish,

I am a 4th generation Coloradoan, graduate of East High School, Colorado College and Colorado School of Mines. I have worked for Grand County government in water resources for the past 18 years, raised my kids and lived in the county for the past 23. Though I am writing today as citizen Katherine Morris, as the Water Quality Manager for Grand County I reviewed every draft of the Moffat and Windy Gap Firming Project Environmental Impact Statements, and I am very familiar with the demands on the over-appropriated and hard-working Colorado River. I was here when the penstock blew out at Shoshone that led to the Shoshone Outage Protocol, and I'm familiar with what can happen to flows through Grand, Eagle, and Gilpin counties when the Shoshone plant is not calling to draw flows west through these counties.

I spent some formative years playing in Little Dry Creek off of Orchard Road in Littleton, which, though small, was teeming with life. My grandparents and our families are avid flyfishers, and some of my best times have been spent standing in a river. I've also seen what can happen to streams like Cherry Creek, Clear Creek, and the Cache La Poudre when development takes them over and all they can grow are golf balls, trash, foam and foul odors. Coloradoans can do better than this.

Grand is the hardest hit county in Colorado by trans-basin diversions (TBD), with around 50% of all TBD volumes supplied from our headwater streams. Shoshone permanency is a critical part of the solutions that are needed to retain what little water remains in the river, to protect the Colorado River from being a shadow of its former self, and to protect the people and ecosystems west of the Divide that also deserve to have their interests represented.

For these reasons and a multitude of others, **I urge the CWCB to accept the Shoshone Water Rights into the In-Stream Flow Program.**

--

Sincerely,
Katherine Morris

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Shoshone Water Rights -Accept into ISF Program

1 message

Karen Roberts <karenleer54@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 10, 2025 at 10:00 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Hello all:

I live in Rifle, CO along the Colorado River and the city gets its drinking water from the Colorado River. My name is Karen Roberts and I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the ISF program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. This is a must for the Western Slope of Colorado and all citizens that live and work here. And all the wildlife, which is imperative to our eco-balance and to the State economy.

Sincerely,

Karen Roberts - Secretary - Board of Directors

Pauline S Schneegas Wildlife Foundation



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Lisa Adams <misslisaadams@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 at 7:46 AM

Good morning Ms. Bralish,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Lisa Adams, and I live in Palisade, CO. I grew up paddling the waters of the Colorado in the front of my dad's canoe. When I was 13, I began paddling my own canoe and took it down Shoshone, through Ruby and Horsethief canyons, and even paddled Westwater. I trained on the Colorado river year round at the Blue Heron boat ramp, eventually earning a place on the US National Wildwater team and representing our country at the Junior World Championship races in Europe. I would never have been able to achieve this if not for the water in the Colorado River flowing year round. I only had an eddy line and some current to paddle in, but it was enough.

Now, the river I love is in danger of becoming extinct 6 months of the year due to insufficient flows. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you,
Lisa Adams

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Strongly support inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program

1 message

Lois Dunn <loisgdunn@gmail.com>

Wed, Aug 6, 2025 at 2:45 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Viola, Please accept this letter in lieu of the former one I just sent - early - by mistake. Thank you!

To: Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Toom 718
Denver CO 80203

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Shoshone Water Rights to be included in the State's Instream Flow Program and encourage the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I am writing as chairman of the Grand Junction Area Realtor Association. Our Association has nearly 1,000 members with associates. Also our connections go to approx. 70 Realtors and organizations in Western Colorado.

Working with real estate every day, we have great concern for protection of the Shoshone Water Rights. Many communities in Western Colorado depend on the Colorado River for drinking water as well as for our vital agricultural programs. Many of us own water rights and understand the great importance of keeping the Colorado River flowing to the highest degree. If more water is diverted at the top of the mountains, we have less 'clean' water to drink, for farmers & ranchers, as well as for recreation.

*PLEASE accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and
the communities here in Western Colorado.*

Sincerely,

Lois Dunn Chairman
GJARA Government Affairs Committee
loisgdunn@gmail.com
PO Box 1889
Grand Junction CO 81502

--

Lois Dunn
Invest in Colorado West, Inc.

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Lois Dunn
Invest in Colorado West, Inc.
2019 GJARA Realtor of the Year
2019 CAR Bill Good Memorial Award
970-261-5408
loisgdunn@gmail.com

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Keep Shoshone Flowing

1 message

Linda Feucht <bmmeup3@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 5, 2025 at 12:17 PM

Ms. Bralish,

As a Colorado resident and recreational boater, I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

The consistent flow on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. As you probably know, the Colorado River is home to four endangered fish species: Humpback Chub, Pikeminnow, Razorback Sucker, and Bonytail, and the Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties.

Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Thank you for consideration of my view on this important matter,

[Linda Feucht



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Leonie Frances <leonie.frances@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Fri, Aug 15, 2025 at 6:02 PM

Hello there

As a local resident of Avon, Colorado and as a person who enjoys packraft trips on both the Eagle River and the Colorado River, I am writing to say that I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program.

I urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Call to action: Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you so much for your time,

Leonie Linger



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Lee Gelatt <leegelatt@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 3:53 PM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the Colorado Water Conservation Board to accept the proposed acquisition.

I am a longtime Western Colorado river runner living in Grand Junction, CO. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Lee Gelatt

[Grand Junction CO 81507](#)

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Laura Kay Good <laurakay@agnc.org>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>
Cc: Tiffany Pehl <tiffany@agnc.org>

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 at 7:51 PM

Please accept the attached letter as our written public comments in support of the effort to permanently protect the Shoshone water rights. We support accepting the Shoshone Hydropower Plant's historic water rights into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Please notify me with any questions.

Thank you,

Laura Kay Good
Co-Regional Grants Navigator
phone: 970.665.1095
mobile: 214.675.9261



Po Box 593
Grand Junction, CO 81502
www.agnc.org
[Sign up to stay in touch!](#)



Public Comment - CWCB Shoshone.pdf
132K

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Shoshone river water rights

1 message

Lyndsay Hilde <lyndsayhilde8@gmail.com>

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 7:42 PM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Lyndsay Hilde I'm from Kremmling Colorado and my experience on the Upper Colorado River has been more than joyous.it brings the community together and lets Us experience a beautiful and scenic river recreationally.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Lyndsay Hilde

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Meredith Brown <meredith.lee.brown@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 4:28 PM

Dear CWCB Board,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Meredith Brown and I now live in Mill Valley, CA. I relocated here from Denver. I grew up rafting the Upper Colorado River and spent many years working to conserve the River and increase its resilience to climate change. I regularly visit friends and family who live on the West Slope and I want to see this River protected for my child and all children who come after us.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Meredith Brown

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

ACCEPT Shoshone Water Rights Acquisition into CWCB ISF Program

1 message

Michael Erion <Michael@coloradorivereng.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 2:02 PM

Dear CWCB Board Members:

I support the continued use of and urge you to accept the acquisition of the Shoshone Power Plant Water Rights for inclusion into the CWCB Instream Flow Program. I am a Water Resources Engineer at Colorado River Engineering in Rifle, CO and work for numerous West Slope municipalities, water districts, and private property owners. This action is crucial to maintaining the historic regimen of the Colorado River streamflow. The historic Agreements between the transbasin diverters and local/State/Federal entities were analyzed and negotiated based on and premised on (either directly or indirectly) the existence of the Shoshone Water Rights. The Shoshone Water Rights are critical for Colorado to keep West Slope Water flowing to meet the demands for West Slope citizens and the Colorado River Compact delivery requirements to lower basin states. The need for maintaining use of the Shoshone Water Rights is amplified by the current prolonged drought and extreme dry years such as 2025.

Kind Regards,

Michael



Michael Erion, P.E., C.F.M.

Principal Water Resources Engineer

Phone: 970-625-4933

Mobile: 970-366-6602

Email: Michael@ColoradoRiverEng.com

136 East 3rd Street

Rifle, CO 81650

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Mary Evans <Mary.Evans@lrewater.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 1:06 PM

Hi Viola,

I **support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program** and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I am the chair of the Middle Colorado Watershed Council's outreach and education committee. I am an Environmental Scientist working in water and wetlands - this is a sincere and educated proposition.

Thank you.

Mary Evans, M.S.

Environmental Data Scientist III

LRE Water | A Spheros Environmental Company

Office: 970-945-6777 | Mobile: 303-241-6544

Mary.Evans@LREwater.com

LREWATER.COM

909 Colorado Avenue, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Please accept Shoshone water rights into ISF program

1 message

Michael Freeman <mfreeman81601@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 16, 2025 at 6:30 PM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

My name is Mike Freeman and I live at [Glenwood Springs, CO 81601](#). I have lived in and recreated in Glenwood Canyon for over 40 years. It would be a travesty to let this recreational resource become unavailable to residents, tourists and future generations. The loss of tax revenue would be disastrous to the entire Colorado River corridor.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Sincerely;

Mike Freeman

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Please accept the Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Matt Janzen (ABSN) <Mjanzen@abasin.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 8:22 AM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Matt Janzen, I live in Dillon Colorado. I am an avid river user and travel rivers all over the United States. Living and rafting in the Western United States I have seen the effect of dewatering some of my favorite rivers.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River and communities that rely on it. These instream flows are incredibly important for many reasons. These include wildlife habitat, local municipalities and agriculture, recreation and the upper basin states commitment to the 1922 Colorado river compact.

Thank you,

**LEGENDARY
FOR
ARAPAHOE BASIN
REASON****Matt Janzen**
Director of Snow Safety
Arapahoe Basin Ski Area
Mjanzen@abasin.com
970.513.5730

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Mike Kashinski <mike@northofnell.com>

Thu, Aug 14, 2025 at 1:30 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Cc: "mkash1@comcast.net" <mkash1@comcast.net>

Ms. Bralish,

As a Colorado resident and recreational boater, I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

The consistent flow on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. As you probably know, the Colorado River is home to four endangered fish species: Humpback Chub, Pikeminnow, Razorback Sucker, and Bonytail, and the Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties.

This water benefits many people on the western slope in so many ways and hope you will act to protect our water rights.

Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Thank you for consideration of my view on this important matter,

Mike Kashinski
[Aspen, CO 81611](#)

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program

1 message

Maddy McGinty <maddy_mcginty@yahoo.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 5, 2025 at 11:42 PM

Hi there,

As a Colorado resident and recreational boater, I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

The consistent flow on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. As you probably know, the Colorado River is home to four endangered fish species: Humpback Chub, Pikeminnow, Razorback Sucker, and Bonytail, and the Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction.

Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties.

Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Thank you,
Madison

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public comment on Shoshone water rights

1 message

Mary OBrien <obmary@yahoo.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 8:48 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

To whom it may concern,

1. **Opening:** *I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.*
2. **Who you are:** *Name, location, and your connection to water in Western Colorado*
3. **Call to action:** *Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.*

Mary O'Brien, Concerned Citizen of the USA

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Mike Probst <mprobst2002@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 12:35 PM

Ms. Bralish,

As a previous Colorado resident, who now spends many of my precious vacation dollars to come back to raft, kayak and fish in Colorado. I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

The consistent flow on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my family's desire to take our fall vacation in Colorado. The Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right create boatable flows on many of the the rivers we love to run while we are here, and support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties.

Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Thank you for consideration of my view on this important matter,

Mike Probst
mprobst2002@gmail.com



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Mark Straub <geckozoo@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Wed, Aug 20, 2025 at 10:57 AM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I am a kayaker based in Bellvue, CO and I would like to see Shoshone remain open to paddlers with navigable flows.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Best,
Mark Straub

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

mfwinter1961@gmail.com <mfwinter1961@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 10:21 AM

Greetings,

I am Mike Winter, P.E., a resident of Montrose, Colorado and Colorado-registered Engineer. Through my career assignments and also through my volunteer efforts with various NGO's based in western Colorado, I have a strong interest in land and water conservation initiatives, including preserving water rights and stream flows in the Colorado River Basin and maintaining the health of the overall ecosystem in the area. Particularly with increasing long-term stress on available water resources, it is important to protect water supply to support existing uses and protect riparian corridor vitality with the resources we have. I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Sincerely,

Mike Winter, PE

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Rae Rae Gaines <raeraegaines17@yahoo.com>

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

1

Hello,

Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept acquisition.

I am Rachel Gaines from Montrose, CO and I enjoy all of the Colorado rivers via recreation, sustainability, and health. I volunteer for the Uncompahgre - Friends of the River Uncompahgre. I know this river is not entirely affected by the water rights, but I have a strong understanding of the importance of the issue and strongly support it.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and I will rely on it.

Thank you,

Rachel Gaines

Rodriguez

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Ryan Kane <coloradokane@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 at 9:36 PM

Hi Viola,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. I live in Eagle, CO. My wife grew up in Eagle, rafting the rivers of the Western USA and we actively take our kids, their cousins, and grandparents rafting on these important rivers. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thanks,
Ryan Kane

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Shoshone Water Rights

1 message

Robert Marcos Studios <robertmarcos2@gmail.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>
Cc: "Brad Barham, PhD" <bradford.barham@gmail.com>

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 6:49 PM

Dear Ms. Bralish -

The current conflict between the four front range water districts (Aurora Water, Denver Water, Colorado Springs Utilities, and Northern Water) and the Colorado River District over the CRD's proposed purchase of the Shoshone hydroelectric facility concerns the volume of water guaranteed by Shoshone's most senior rights. Will these water rights be based upon the historic volume of 1,250 cubic feet per second, or on a smaller amount that may better represent current conditions?

This conflict is similar to others in the Colorado Basin, where every water user wants to maximize the 'volume' of their water claim. While understandable in historical terms this approach is unsustainable (due to climate change), and is counterproductive to future negotiations.

A more useful discussion would include the concept of 'shares' or 'proportionality' to identify how future cuts will be shared utilizing either strict proportions based on historical allotments or slightly adjusted proportions that account for critical needs and potential gains from 'transfers' of water rights. The proportionality concept is already deployed among the Upper Basin states of the Colorado System to allocate water whenever historical allotments have to be curtailed to meet Lower Basin demands for Colorado River water. It could help to ensure that future reductions in water use along the Colorado River are coordinated to improve outcomes for farmers, communities, and the environment and to avoid paralyzing legal conflicts.

Sincerely yours,

Bradford Barham, Professor Emeritus, University of Wisconsin, Madison
Robert Marcos, photojournalist
Grand Junction, Colorado

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Ronald MCCORMICK <2103mccormick@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Ronald MCCORMICK <2103mccormick@gmail.com>
To: Viola Bralish <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Thu, Aug 14, 2025 at 1:26 PM

Dear CWCB Members,

CWCB members: I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

The Colorado River is a treasured Gold-Medal fishery and recreational asset, the lifeblood of many of our state's communities and working lands, a driver of our multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and an iconic part of Colorado's natural and cultural heritage. For more than 100 years, the Shoshone water right has helped maintain the Colorado River and its values to our state - and has been especially critical in maintaining winter flows that are essential to the river's health. By accepting the Shoshone Rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help preserve the longstanding flow regime that has been a foundation for all of those values supported by a healthy, flowing Colorado River.

The nonconsumptive water rights at Shoshone have played a critical role in sustaining the Colorado River from headwaters to the Grand Valley, generating diverse benefits not only for Western Colorado, but also for residents of Colorado's eastern slope who also depend upon the river. By accepting those rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help ensure that the Shoshone rights continue to operate for the river as they have for more than a century, so that Coloradans continue to enjoy those benefits even when the hydropower facility itself goes off line as its infrastructure ages.

Please accept the Shoshone flows into CWCB's instream flow program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the environment and communities that rely upon it.

Sincerely,
Ronald MCCORMICK

Divide, CO 80814

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Rachael Schultz <schultz.rachael@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 6:53 PM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I'm Rachael Sellers based in Carbondale, Colorado and the Upper Colorado River is an incredibly special place my family and I are lucky enough to have in our backyard (but also pay to leave near the access) and we spend many a weekend rafting and kayaking with family and friends near and far.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Rachael Sellers



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Ronald Teck <ronteck01@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 10:01 PM

The Shoshone water rights have protected important stream flows along the Colorado River for many years and need to be protected for the sake of everyone that depends on the river. It looks like it is going to get bad enough without the increased impact of those rights going away.

My home is on the Ute Water system in Fruitvale.

Thank you for your thoughtful consideration.

Ronald Teck
Retired

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Rick Watkins <rickwatkins1@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 16, 2025 at 2:20 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

As a resident of Mesa Co living in Grand Junction, these flows are pivotal to how I engage in local recreation, enjoy the natural beauty of Colorado, and define my own sense of place and belonging. Ensuring these flows for the future will safeguard the regions continued growth and development as a place people want to live, visit, protect and cherish.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Sincerely,

Richard Watkins, Registered Nurse

Grand Junction, CO

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment-Shoshone Water Rights

1 message

S B <buffalogerl@hotmail.com>

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 9:14 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Dear Members of the Colorado Water Conservation Board,

I am writing to urge you to support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights in the State's Instream Flow Program and to accept the proposed acquisition.

I live in Glenwood Springs, where the Colorado River is at the heart of our community. The river makes Glenwood Spring what it is, as a source of beauty, recreation, agriculture, and community identity. In a time of climate change, with rising temperatures and shrinking snowpack, protecting the Shoshone flows is more critical than ever. These rights ensure steady flows that safeguard farms, families, ecosystems, and towns that depend on the Colorado River.

If secured, these flows will:

- Support agriculture by providing reliable irrigation even in dry years.
- Protect river health by sustaining fish, wildlife, and riparian habitat.
- Strengthen communities and economies by ensuring water for recreation, tourism, and clean drinking water.

Without this protection, climate change will only magnify the risks — lower flows, degraded water quality, failing crops, stressed ecosystems, and weakened communities across Western Colorado.

Please act now and accept these flows into the Instream Flow Program to secure this vital protection for the Colorado River and for future generations.

Thank you for your leadership at this pivotal moment.

Sincerely,

Sheryl Bower

Glenwood Springs

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Sue Evanoff <sueevanoff@yahoo.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 1:42 PM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

I'm a resident of Garfield County who regularly SUPs various sections of the Colorado River from Rancho del Rio to Moab.

I also purchase and enjoy produce from farmers on the Western Slope that depend on irrigation water from the Colorado River.

Maintaining the current flows is critical to recreation and agriculture on the Western Slope.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thanks -

Sue Evanoff
Carbondale, CO
sueevanoff@yahoo.com



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Sophia Fabrizio <sgfab94@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 9:57 AM

Dear Colorado Water Conservation Board,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. My name is Sophie. I live in Telluride, CO and am an avid boater and citizen who is concerned about the state of water in the west. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Sincerely,
Sophie Fabrizio

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Shoshone Water Rights

1 message

Scott Fitzwilliams <sfitzwilliams@msn.com>

Sat, Aug 23, 2025 at 11:52 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's in-stream Flow Program and I urge CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. This is THE most important long-term water conservation effort in the State of Colorado. The in-stream flows are absolutely essential for the future of recreation, fisheries, irrigation and downstream agriculture. The communities that rely on these flows and the services they provide will be seriously impacted economically if the water is reconstituted to front range water providers.

I urge you to accept these flows into the Instream Flow Program!

Scott Fitzwilliams

New Castle. CO 81647

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Shelley Hall <sherpashelley@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Sun, Aug 24, 2025 at 4:27 PM

I am writing to express strong support for the proposed acquisition of the Shoshone Water Right through the State's Instream Flow Program. I urge the CWCB to accept this historic and forward-looking proposal, which would permanently protect one of the most critical non-consumptive water rights on the Colorado River.

The Shoshone Water Right plays an essential role in sustaining flows through the heart of our watershed. These flows directly support local agriculture, recreational economies, ecological health and municipal water users in the Middle Colorado region—from Glenwood Canyon through De Beque. They are fundamental to the natural hydrologic regime that so many communities depend on, especially in the face of increasing drought and climate variability. Wildfire resilience, habitat restoration and community education depend on a healthy, flowing river.

We recognize that the Shoshone Water Right benefits all of Colorado—not just our region—by maintaining compact compliance, supporting fisheries and helping sustain reliable flows for downstream users. I also appreciate the leadership of the Colorado River District and its coalition in bringing this opportunity forward.

I urge the CWCB to accept this acquisition into the Instream Flow Program and ensure the long-term protection of the Shoshone Water Right for future generations.

--

Take care,

Michelle (Shelley) Hall

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Shoshone Water Rights

1 message

Samantha Hart <khart81612@yahoo.com>
To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Mon, Aug 25, 2025 at 3:52 PM

*To whom it may concern,
I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's
Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.*

*My name is Kelly Hart and I live in Carbondale, Co. I am an avid white water
rafter and recreate on the Coloradao River often especially Shoshone, the water
in western Colorado has a special place in our community for so many.*

*Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure
this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.
Thank you,
Kelly Hart*



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Stewart Lawson <stewartqlawson@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Thu, Aug 21, 2025 at 6:08 PM

Hello,

My name is Stewart Lawson. I live in central Utah. I haven been recreating on the upper Colorado river basin my entire life.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you

-Stewart



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Seth Lorson <sethlorson@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 3:36 PM

Hello Colorado Water Conservation Board,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you,

Seth Lorson
Whitewater enthusiast
Fort Collins, Colorado

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Shoshone Water Rights Support

1 message

Shirley Powers <shirleyjeanmoore@gmail.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 2:14 PM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

To the Colorado Water Conservation Board,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Shirley Powers, I live and was born and raised in the Roaring Fork Valley between Glenwood and Basalt. I have been recreating on and around the Colorado River for as long as I can remember, and have been a conservationist for my entire adult life. I believe it takes proactive and intentional action to preserve our resources and protect wildlife and the flora and fauna that makes this place our home.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Shirley Powers

shirleyjeanmoore@gmail.com

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Scott Ryplewski <bigryp@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Thu, Aug 21, 2025 at 12:24 PM

Ms. Viola Bralish,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Scott Ryplewski and I am a native of Colorado. I now live on the Western Slope and I have always known how vital the flow of the Colorado River is to the Grand Valley. I'm a member of the Colorado Water Users Association. My irrigation water depends on the Colorado River and our rights. The economy and agriculture of the entire Grand Valley depends on the Colorado River. The flows from Shoshone have been beneficial to this valley for over 100 years.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you,

Scott Ryplewski
Director, Indian Hills Fire Protection District

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Tom Hayes <tomhayes1@hotmail.com>

Sat, Aug 16, 2025 at 8:01 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Hello and good day

My name is Tom Hayes and I live in Fort Collins, Colorado 80525. My family and I recreate frequently in the upper Colorado watershed and having a river with adequate water is very important to us and our region. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you for your time

Tom Hayes

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Protect Shoshone Water Rights into Instream Flow Program

1 message

Tor Anderson <tordesigns@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 16, 2025 at 7:18 PM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Dear Ms. Bralish,

As a longtime Colorado resident and avid recreational boater, I urge that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Consistent flows on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. The Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties.

Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program and protect native fish habitat and our state's recreation economy.

Thank you for careful consideration on this important matter,
Tor Anderson

Tor Anderson

Telluride CO 81435

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Tom Hayes <tomhayes1@hotmail.com>

Sat, Aug 16, 2025 at 8:01 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Hello and good day

My name is Tom Hayes and I live in Fort Collins, Colorado 80525. My family and I recreate frequently in the upper Colorado watershed and having a river with adequate water is very important to us and our region. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you for your time

Tom Hayes

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Protect Shoshone Water Rights into Instream Flow Program

1 message

Tor Anderson <tordesigns@gmail.com>

Sat, Aug 16, 2025 at 7:18 PM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

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As a longtime Colorado resident and avid recreational boater, I urge that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Consistent flows on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. The Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties.

Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program and protect native fish habitat and our state's recreation economy.

Thank you for careful consideration on this important matter,
Tor Anderson

Tor Anderson

Telluride CO 81435



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

CAKE6D4 <tylercolaw64@gmail.com>

Wed, Aug 20, 2025 at 9:43 AM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Hello,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

My name is Tyler Colaw. I live in Western Maryland but lived in Western Colorado in 2015/16. I was lucky enough to be able to paddle my kayak down the Shoshone section of the Colorado River multiple times while I was there.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you,

Tyler Colaw

Maryland Park Service Associate II

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Topher Donahue <topherdonahue@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Sat, Aug 16, 2025 at 5:42 PM

Hi,

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

I live on the east side of the Divide, but I'm a 5th generation Coloradoan – my great-great grandpa was here before Colorado was a state – and the waters of the Colorado river are as important to the west as anything else in the universe. Please don't let it be taken away.

Thank you,
Topher Donahue
Nederland, CO

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Tony Haschke <TonyH@sgm-inc.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 12:39 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Attention:

1. I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.
2. I am Tony Haschke,
 - a. Home: [Battlement Mesa, CO 81635](#) (Parachute, CO)
 - b. Work at SGM: 118 W 6th Street, Suite 200, Glenwood Springs, CO 81601
3. My connection to water in Western Colorado is for
 - a. Life: drinking, showering, garden(food) and landscape growth
 - b. Recreation: Fishing, Hunting, boating, rafting
 - c. Indirect Life: Ranch land that gives meat to eat, land in general that provides wildlife to flourish and meat to eat. Farmland that gives food to eat.
4. Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Tony Haschke, PE, CBCP, CEM, CLEP

Senior Mechanical Engineer



phone (970) 384-9070
email TonyH@sgm-inc.com
118 W. 6th Street, Suite 200
Glenwood Springs, CO 81601





Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program.pdf

165K



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Shoshone Water Rights and ISF Program

1 message

Todd Hoffman <hoffman.todd.a@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 4:45 PM

Hi,

I'm Todd Hoffman, a frequent visitor to Colorado.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Kind regards,

Todd

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Todd Putnam <toddvail@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 at 8:30 PM

Ms. Bralish,

As a Colorado resident and recreational boater, I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

The consistent flow on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. As you probably know, the Colorado River is home to four endangered fish species: Humpback Chub, Pikeminnow, Razorback Sucker, and Bonytail, and the Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties.

Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Thank you for consideration of my view on this important matter,

Todd Putnam

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Terrence Smith <Smitht1954@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Terrence Smith <Smitht1954@gmail.com>
To: Viola Bralish <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Sat, Aug 9, 2025 at 1:10 PM

Dear CWCB Members,

CWCB members: I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

The Colorado River is a treasured Gold-Medal fishery and recreational asset, the lifeblood of many of our state's communities and working lands, a driver of our multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and an iconic part of Colorado's natural and cultural heritage. For more than 100 years, the Shoshone water right has helped maintain the Colorado River and its values to our state - and has been especially critical in maintaining winter flows that are essential to the river's health. By accepting the Shoshone Rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help preserve the longstanding flow regime that has been a foundation for all of those values supported by a healthy, flowing Colorado River.

The nonconsumptive water rights at Shoshone have played a critical role in sustaining the Colorado River from headwaters to the Grand Valley, generating diverse benefits not only for Western Colorado, but also for residents of Colorado's eastern slope who also depend upon the river. By accepting those rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help ensure that the Shoshone rights continue to operate for the river as they have for more than a century, so that Coloradans continue to enjoy those benefits even when the hydropower facility itself goes off line as its infrastructure ages.

Please accept the Shoshone flows into CWCB's instream flow program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the environment and communities that rely upon it.

Sincerely,
Terrence Smith

[Centennial, CO 80122](#)



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Shoshone Water Rights and ISF Program

1 message

Todd Hoffman <hoffman.todd.a@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Mon, Aug 18, 2025 at 4:45 PM

Hi,

I'm Todd Hoffman, a frequent visitor to Colorado.

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Kind regards,

Todd

**STATE OF
COLORADO****Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>**

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Todd Putnam <toddvail@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 at 8:30 PM

Ms. Bralish,

As a Colorado resident and recreational boater, I would like to ask that the CWCB include the Shoshone Water Right in Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

The consistent flow on the Blue River from Green Mountain Reservoir, and along the reaches of the Upper Colorado River to Dotsero, Glenwood Springs, and downstream, greatly enhances my quality of life as I raft the Colorado regularly from spring through fall. As you probably know, the Colorado River is home to four endangered fish species: Humpback Chub, Pikeminnow, Razorback Sucker, and Bonytail, and the Shoshone water right helps meet the flow targets needed to maintain native fish habitat set by the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program, particularly along the 15-Mile Reach from the Cameo Diversion through Grand Junction. Furthermore, the river flows guaranteed by the Shoshone Water Right support a significant portion of the recreational economies in multiple Western Slope counties.

Please accept the Shoshone Water Right into Colorado's Instream Flow Program.

Thank you for consideration of my view on this important matter,

Todd Putnam

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Terrence Smith <Smitht1954@gmail.com>
Reply-To: Terrence Smith <Smitht1954@gmail.com>
To: Viola Bralish <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Sat, Aug 9, 2025 at 1:10 PM

Dear CWCB Members,

CWCB members: I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

The Colorado River is a treasured Gold-Medal fishery and recreational asset, the lifeblood of many of our state's communities and working lands, a driver of our multi-billion dollar outdoor recreation economy, and an iconic part of Colorado's natural and cultural heritage. For more than 100 years, the Shoshone water right has helped maintain the Colorado River and its values to our state - and has been especially critical in maintaining winter flows that are essential to the river's health. By accepting the Shoshone Rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help preserve the longstanding flow regime that has been a foundation for all of those values supported by a healthy, flowing Colorado River.

The nonconsumptive water rights at Shoshone have played a critical role in sustaining the Colorado River from headwaters to the Grand Valley, generating diverse benefits not only for Western Colorado, but also for residents of Colorado's eastern slope who also depend upon the river. By accepting those rights into Colorado's instream flow program, the CWCB can help ensure that the Shoshone rights continue to operate for the river as they have for more than a century, so that Coloradans continue to enjoy those benefits even when the hydropower facility itself goes off line as its infrastructure ages.

Please accept the Shoshone flows into CWCB's instream flow program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and the environment and communities that rely upon it.

Sincerely,
Terrence Smith

[Centennial, CO 80122](#)

**TOWN OF PARACHUTE, COLORADO
RESOLUTION NO. 2025-38**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PARACHUTE, COLORADO SUPPORTING THE INCLUSION OF THE SHOSHONE WATER RIGHTS THROUGH THE STATE'S INSTREAM FLOW PROGRAM AND URGING THE COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSED ACQUISITION

WHEREAS, the Town of Parachute is a political subdivision of the State of Colorado, is a community located on the banks of the Colorado River, and has committed financial contributions to the Shoshone Water Right acquisition and is therefore an interested party to the effort to the Colorado Water Conservation Board's (CWCB) decision to include the water rights in the instream flow program; and

WHEREAS, the permanent protection of the Shoshone flows will secure multiple benefits to Colorado River water users on the West Slope and across the state such as: maintaining Colorado's foundational \$14.6 billion recreation economy and \$11.9 billion agricultural economy, water quality improvements for agriculture & drinking water, ecosystem benefits and stream flow to support a successful Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program and healthy 15-Mile Reach, and maintaining stream flow through Upper Colorado River Wild & Scenic Alternative Management Plan river sections; and

WHEREAS, during the last 23 years of severe drought, the benefit of the Shoshone call to the flow of the river has become even more evident and important; and

WHEREAS, the CWCB has the authority to acquire water rights for instream flow purposes in order to preserve the natural environment to a reasonable degree; and

WHEREAS, inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights in the State's Instream Flow Program will permanently protect these flows for the benefit of the environment, recreation, and all who depend upon the Colorado River; and

WHEREAS, broad regional collaboration has demonstrated strong public support for ensuring that the Shoshone Water Rights are preserved and managed for the collective benefit of Colorado's people, communities, and economies.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF PARACHUTE, COLORADO THAT:

- Section 1. The foregoing recitals are incorporated herein as findings by the Town Council.
- Section 2. The Town Council strongly urges the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition and acceptance into the Instream Flow Program.

INTRODUCED, PASSED, ADOPTED, AND APPROVED by a vote of 4 to 0
of the Town Council of the Town of Parachute, Colorado at a regular meeting held at Town Hall
in the Town of Parachute, Colorado, on the 21st day of August, 2025 and approved by the Mayor
on the 21 day of August, 2025.



**TOWN COUNCIL OF THE
TOWN OF PARACHUTE, COLORADO**

By

Claudia Flores-Cruz, Mayor Pro Tem

ATTEST:

Lucy Spalenka, Town Clerk



75 South Frontage Road West
Vail, Colorado 81657
vailgov.com

Town Council
970.479.2106
970.479.2157 fax

August 5, 2025

Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

RE: Letter of Support Shoshone Water Rights Preservation

To Whom it May Concern:

The Town of Vail wishes to express its strong support for the permanent protection of the Shoshone Water Rights.

The Shoshone Hydroelectric Plant holds some of the largest and most senior nonconsumptive water rights in the Upper Colorado River system. For over a century, these water rights have ensured essential water flows through Glenwood Canyon in the main stem of the Colorado River, “pulling” water downstream through tributaries like Gore Creek and the Eagle River as well. These flows are crucial to the health and vibrancy of the communities on Colorado’s Western Slope.

The Shoshone water rights are vital to Colorado’s nearly \$12 billion dollar agricultural and nearly \$15 billion dollar recreational economies which support our thriving Western Slope communities. The Shoshone call has underpinned the way water is distributed in Colorado for generations. To deny the Colorado River Water Conservation District’s request for an in-stream flow right would risk upending a delicately balanced system that is increasingly strained by heavy use and an uncertain climate future.

Increasing temperatures and dwindling snowpack have diminished flows in the Colorado River by 20% since the turn of the 21st Century. The best available science indicates that this downward trend will continue in years to come. Without the Shoshone water rights, flows in western slope rivers would be significantly lower, threatening critical habitat that supports Gold Medal fisheries and native and endangered fish habitat.

Town of Vail, a headwaters community on the banks of Gore Creek values the health and vitality of our local waterway and has invested millions of dollars over the last decade to restore our it. The people of Vail are keenly aware that the snow that falls on our local mountains becomes the water that serves 40 million people throughout the Colorado River Basin and beyond. Vail is proud to join a broad, diverse, and long-standing coalition of communities, local

partners, irrigation entities, environmental groups, and recreation interests in support of the Colorado River District's application for an in-stream water right. We urge you to approve this application and support this one-time opportunity to protect the Colorado River and the communities that depend on it.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Travis Coggin". The signature is stylized with a large "T" and a long, sweeping "C".

Travis Coggin
Mayor



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Virginia Winter <gwinter@equinoxconsultancy.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us
Cc: Virginia Winter <gwinter@equinoxconsultancy.com>

Wed, Aug 20, 2025 at 12:10 PM

Dear Viola, Greetings! My name is Virginia Winter and I am a CO resident and property owner living in Boulder, CO.

I have boated on sections of the Upper Colorado River recreationally for over 30 years.

I would like Colorado Water Conservation Board to accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and thereby secure this vital protection for the Colorado River and the communities that rely on it.

Thank you for your consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,
Virginia

Virginia ('G') Winter
Managing Principal, Equinox Consultancy LLC
T: 303.355.4924
C: 303.518.4587
www.equinoxconsultancy.com

"Sentiment without action is the ruin of the soul." Ed Abbey



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program1 message

Bill Rivers <billiamrivers@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 19, 2025 at 2:07 PM

I have personally camped and paddled all of the sections of the Colorado River from Pumphouse to Glenwood Springs and below many times and my canoe club plans yearly weekend gatherings in the Radium area so maintaining sufficient water levels in the upper Colorado is very important to me.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

William F "Bill" Rivers

Longmont,

CO

80503

- Shakespeare

"One touch of nature and the whole world is kin"



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Zoe Aldous <zoe.l.alldous@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Fri, Aug 22, 2025 at 11:48 AM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. I'm Zoe Aldous and live on the western slope of Colorado and keeping flows high is important for wildlife, recreation and stream health and is so important to our community and way of life

STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Zach Andersson <zachandersson@gmail.com>

Fri, Aug 15, 2025 at 9:14 AM

To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Viola,

I think it's very important that the Shoshone water right be included in the state's Instream Flow program so Western Colorado water continues to support an active and stable fishery, recreation industry, and agriculture legacy. I'm a long time user of the flows from the headwaters in Rocky Mountain National Park, all the way down to the state line near Westwater. I'm a fisherman, rafter, and consumer of western slope ag products. These legacy flows are important and vital to keeping western slope water in the Colorado river. My good friend, Ed Moyer, has been working for years on the project with other partners in surrounding water districts. He's shown me the value of the flows

Sincerely,

Zach Andersson

member of American Whitewater and Trout Unlimited



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment - Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

kyle deonier.com <kyle@deonier.com>

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 5:35 PM

To: "viola.bralish@state.co.us" <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Kyle DeOnier, grand junction, grand junction irrigation district.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

*Thank you,
Kyle DeOnier, Mesa County Resident.*



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Lizzy Owens <elizabeth.z.owens@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 4:57 PM

I support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition.

Please accept these flows into the State's Instream Flow Program and secure this vital protection for the Colorado River, and communities that rely on it.

Thank you,

Lizzy Owens
Eagle County resident
Board member, Eagle River Coalition



STATE OF
COLORADO

Bralish - DNR, Viola <viola.bralish@state.co.us>

Public Comment – Please Accept Shoshone Water Rights into ISF Program

1 message

Mary Beth Minion <mbminion@gmail.com>
To: viola.bralish@state.co.us

Tue, Aug 26, 2025 at 5:12 PM

- I strongly support the inclusion of the Shoshone Water Rights through the State's Instream Flow Program and urge the CWCB to accept the proposed acquisition. The historic Shoshone Hydropower Plant water right keeps the Colorado River flowing downhill through Western Colorado, for the benefit of ecosystems and economies.
I am a resident of Glenwood Springs and think it is imperative that we protect river flows in the face of climate change, overuse, growing demands, and pressure for more transmountain diversions.

Sincerely,
Mary Beth Minion
Glenwood Springs, CO