Watershed / Stream Management Planning

Funding Sources

Funding Sources (page 1):

CWCB Watershed Restoration Grant (50% cost share) Categories: 1) Flood Mitigation, 2) Stream Management <u>Planning</u>, 3) Watershed & Stream <u>Restoration</u>

CWCB Water Plan Funds: \$7M in 2019 Categories: Storage, Agriculture, Outreach, Conservation, Env. & Rec

Other CWCB Funding:

- WSRF (feasibility studies, engineering, projects)
- Basin RTs

FEMA grants: flood recovery, hazard mitigation, pre-disaster mitigation

Department of Local Affairs (DOLA) (flood recovery)

Funding Sources (page 2):

BoR Watersmart Cooperative Watershed Mgmt. Program

- (\$50K for watershed group creation, planning, design; no cost-share)
- (\$100K for project implementation; 50% cost share)

BoR Watersmart Small-Scale Water Efficiency Grants

 \$75K max. funding for irrigation & water districts, etc. for small water efficiency improvements (flow measurement and automation devices, ditch lining / piping to address seepage, etc; 50% cost share).

CDPHE Nonpoint Source Funding (water quality; 60% cost share) CDPHE SEP grant (\$1K - \$100K; water quality; includes assessments)

State Forest Service:

- Forest Restoration & Wildfire Risk Mitigation Grant: 50% cost share, \$250K max grant.
- Forest Legacy Program (funds CEs to prevent forest fragmentation)

Fire facts:

- 2018: fire burned 524,000 acres in Colorado
- 1.8 M ac. of Beetle kill in CO (Increased by 178K ac. in 2018)
- Forested areas provide water to 80% of Colorado's residents
- ~ 2.9 M people live in Colorado's wildland-urban interface (CO Wildfire Risk Assessment (Nov. 2018, State Forest Service)

2018 Mountain Pine Beetle Activity

County	¢	2017 Acres Affected	¢	2018 Acres Affected	¢	1996-2017 Cumulative Acres Affected	¢	1996-2018 Cumulative Acres Affected
Garfield		0		0		11,000		11,000
Moffat		0		0		16,000		16,000
Rio Blanco		10		0		44,000		44,000

Watershed management planning can include assessment & prioritizing areas for forest thinning / fire mitigation to protect uses.

Funding Sources (page 3):

USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS):

Resource Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP)

- EQIP ditch companies now eligible
- Targeted Conservation Pool (TCP): Landowners plan and implement locally developed conservation projects that address priority resource concerns using a local work-group process.
- Emergency Watershed Protection Program (flood recovery)
- Watershed Rehabilitation Program: Financial & technical assistance for watershed dam rehab. Extends dam life or decommissions old dams that threaten life and property.

Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO); stream restoration

Non-Profits & Private foundations (see Colorado Watershed Assembly website – Funding Opportunities)

Wrap-up Discussion & Reference Resources:

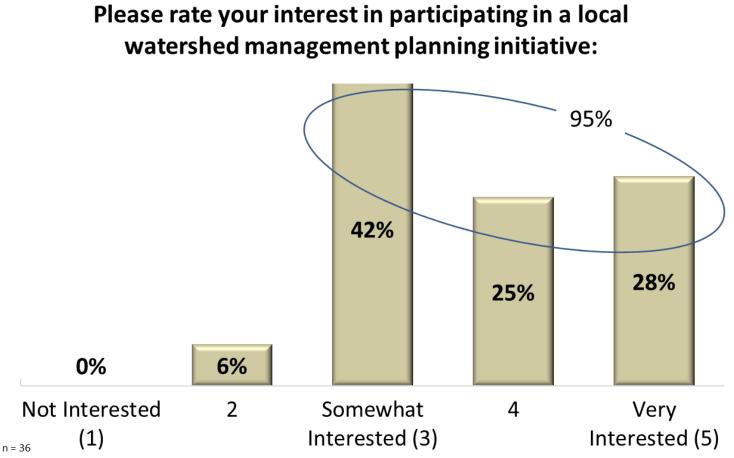
Take-aways of Successful watershed/stream planning:

- 1. Transparent process
- 2. Locally-led (local knowledge, familiarity, trust)
- 3. Clearly define needs and goals
- 4. Include all water stakeholders
- 5. Respects private land and water right ownership
- 6. One-on-one engagement with ag producers
- 7. Protect and maintain existing uses
- 8. Strive for multiple benefit projects (win-win)
- 9. Continually adapt and improve

10. Clear, Consistent Communication early and often!

Agriculture can help shape the goals, the priorities and the values of local plans!

Are Ag Producers in the White River Basin interested in Watershed and Stream Mgmt. Planning?



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Reference Resources:

Watershed Health and Management (Co. Water Plan, Chap. 7): https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cowaterplan/plan

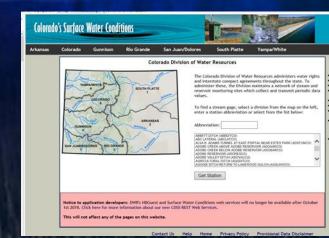
Water Law: Citizens Guide to Colorado Water Law (WEC)

Water Court: https://www.courts.state.co.us/Courts/Water/Index.cfm

Division of Water Resources (DWR) *Quick Guide to Water Rights* Division of Water Resources: DWR <u>http://water.state.co.us/Home</u> Surface water conditions: http://www.dwr.state.co.us/SurfaceWater/Default.aspx

CDSS: streamflow data, well rights & permits https://www.colorado.gov/cdss

Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District https://www.colorado.gov/rbwcd



Reference Resources:

CDPHE Water Quality Control Division -Integrated Water Quality Monitoring and Assessment Report https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cdphe/wqcc-reports-and-plans

Colorado Watershed Assembly (map): http://www.coloradowater.org/ Watershed groups and conservation districts:

http://www.coloradowater.org/colorado-watershed-basins-map

Map of Stream Management Plans (CAWA): https://www.coagwater.org/streammanagement

Stream Management Plans resource library: www.coloradosmp.org

Yampa River Structural Master Plan: https://friendsoftheyampa.com/yampa-river-structural-master-plan/



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