

The Southwestern Water Conservation District
The West Building, 841 E Second Avenue
Durango, CO 81301

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN
A Regular Board Meeting of the
Southwestern Water Conservation District
will be held **via Zoom only**

Wednesday, December 8, 2021
8:15 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

[Click here to join Zoom](#)

Phone Number: (346) 248 7799

Meeting ID: 835 9975 3537

No Participant ID

Password: 474186

Posted and Noticed December 6, 2021

Tentative Agenda

*In adherence with state and local health recommendations, **public participation in this meeting is available via Zoom only** using the connection information above. A few members of the board and staff may meet in person at SWCD's office at 841 E 2nd Avenue, Durango, Colorado. Remaining participation will be via Zoom only.*

*Please text 970-901-1388 if you have difficulty joining the meeting. Please raise your hand to be recognized by the chair. To raise your hand by phone, dial *9. To raise your hand by computer, please use Alt+Y (Windows) or Option+Y (Mac). To mute and unmute by phone, dial *6.*

Except the time indicated for when the meeting is scheduled to begin, the times noted for each agenda item are estimates and subject to change. The Board may address and act on agenda items in any order to accommodate the needs of the Board and the audience. Agenda items can also be added during the meeting at the direction of the Board.

Agenda items may be placed on the Consent Agenda when the recommended action is non-controversial. The Consent Agenda may be voted on without reading or discussing individual items. Any Board member may request clarification about items on the Consent Agenda. The Board may remove items from the Consent Agenda at their discretion for further discussion.

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

- 1.0 Call to Order – Roll Call, Verification of Quorum (8:15 a.m.)**
- 2.0 Review and Approve Agenda (8:17 a.m.)**
- 3.0 Approve and/or Remove Consent Agenda Items (8:20 a.m.)**
- 4.0 Consent Agenda (8:25 a.m.)**
 - 4.1** Approval of Minutes (October 4-5, 2021; November 10, 2021)
 - 4.2** Acceptance of Treasurer's Report (October 2021)
 - 4.3** Proposed 2022 SWCD Meeting & Holiday Schedule
 - 4.4** Requests for 2021 SWCD Grant Extensions through 2022

5.0 Executive Session (8:30 a.m.)

- 5.1 San Miguel River Basin Water Supply Planning
- 5.2 Colorado River Compact, Interstate and Intrastate negotiation matters, including re-negotiation of the interim guidelines
- 5.3 Use of Transmountain Water Rights Originating within the District
- 5.4 Closeout of SWCD Loan to Bauer Lake Water Company
- 5.5 SWCD Personnel Matters
 - 5.5.1 SWCD General Manager Job Description
 - 5.5.2 SWCD Programs Coordinator Job Description

Break (10:30 a.m.-10:40 a.m.)

6.0 Summary and Action Items from Executive Session (10:40 a.m.)

7.0 Questions and Comments from Audience (10:42 a.m.)

8.0 Reports (10:45 a.m.)

- 8.1 Director Reports
- 8.2 Water Information Program Report
- 8.3 Engineering Report
 - 8.3.1 Upper Colorado & San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Programs
 - 8.3.2 Highlights and Themes: 2021 Southwest Basin Implementation Plan
- 8.4 Hydrologic Conditions, including updates from the Division Engineers for Water Divisions 4 and 7 – Bob Hurford and Rob Genualdi (11:15 a.m.)

9.0 General Manager's Report (11:30 a.m.)

- 9.1 Colorado River Basin Hydrologic Conditions
- 9.2 2022 CWCB Proposed Instream Flow Program Recommendations
 - 9.2.1 Spring Creek, Division 4
- 9.3 State and Division Engineers' Draft Measurement Rules for Division
- 9.4 Southwest Basins Roundtable Report
- 9.5 SWCD's Strategic Plan Discussion
- 9.6 Proposed Virtual Meeting Protocol (Draft)
- 9.7 Lower Basin Tour Update
- 9.8 Recommendation regarding Certificate of Deposit Maturing January 2022
- 9.9 General Manager Activities

Lunch Break (12:15 p.m.)

10.0 FY2022 Budget Hearing & Adoption (1:00 p.m.)

- 10.1 Discussion of Proposed FY2022 Budget
- 10.2 Proposed 2022 Budget Message
- 10.3 Budget Hearing & Public Comment
- 10.4 Resolutions to Adopt Budget, Set Mill Levy & Appropriate Sums of Money

11.0 Legislative Affairs (2:00 p.m.)

- 11.1 Congressional & Legislative Redistricting
- 11.2 Federal Affairs Update
- 11.3 State Legislative Matters: Introduction of SWCD's New Lobbying Services from Colorado Legislative Strategies

12.0 Partner Updates & Presentations (2:30 p.m.)

12.1 Update: Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership - Mandy Eskelson

13.0 General Counsel Legal Report (2:45 p.m.)

13.1 October Water Court Resume Review (Divisions 3, 4, 7)

13.2 2022 Proposed Water Information Program Independent Contractor Agreement

13.3 Proposed updates to SWCD's General Manager and Programs Coordinator job descriptions

13.4 Closeout of SWCD Loan to Bauer Lake Water Company

14.0 Executive Session (as needed) (3:15 p.m.)

15.0 Adjournment (3:30 p.m.)

(Proposed) Upcoming Meetings

January 20, 2022	Special Board Meeting
February 3, 2022	Special Board Meeting
February 7-10, 2022	Lower Basin Tour (Hosted by the Colorado River District and SWCD)
February 16-17, 2022	Regular Board Meeting

Southwestern Water Conservation District
Budget Comparison Summary
January through October 2021

	Jan - Oct 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
Income				
4 · SWCD INCOME				
4.1 · Property Tax	1,552,073	1,588,850	(36,777)	98%
4.2 · Specific Ownership Tax	117,382	130,000	(12,618)	90%
4.3 · Interest, PILT & Other Taxes	31,558	35,500	(3,942)	89%
4.4 · Other Income				
4.4.1 · Interest Earned	42,248	40,000	2,248	106%
4.4.2 · Loan Interest	139	139	0	100%
4.4.3 · Miscellaneous Income	3,739	5,000	(1,261)	75%
4.4.4 · Water Seminar Registration	390	2,000	(1,610)	20%
4.4.5 · ALP/WIP Cost Sharing	390	100	290	390%
4.4.7 · SJRBRIP Water User Committee	0	50,873	(50,873)	0%
4.4.8 · Stream Gaging Reimbursement	26,125	28,656	(2,532)	91%
4.4.9 · Water Info Program	46,410	35,100	11,310	132%
Total 4.4 · Other Income	119,441	161,868	(42,427)	74%
4.5 · County Treasurer Fees	(45,300)	(52,631)	7,330	86%
Total 4 · SWCD INCOME	1,775,153	1,863,588	(88,435)	95%
Total Income	1,775,153	1,863,588	(88,435)	95%
Gross Profit	1,775,153	1,863,588	(88,435)	95%
Expense				
5 · SWCD EXPENSES				
5.1 · DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION				
5.1.1 · Management				
51101 · Wages - Executive Director	0	0	0	0%
51102 · Wages - General Manager	43,250	130,000	(86,750)	33%
51103 · Wages - Programs Coordinator	41,501	50,393	(8,892)	82%
51104 · Wages - Overtime, Pgm Coord.	264	0	264	100%
51105 · Wages - Payroll Taxes	6,629	16,235	(9,606)	41%
51106 · Wages - Retirement Benefit	0	9,020	(9,020)	0%
51107 · Wages - Health & Life Insurance	19,213	29,350	(10,137)	65%
51108 · Wages - GM Bonus	0	0	0	0%
51109 · Wages - Coordinator Bonus	0	0	0	0%
51110 · Recruitment	41,888	0	41,888	418,877,400%
Total 5.1.1 · Management	152,744	234,998	(82,254)	65%
5.1.2 · Legal				
51201 · Attorney Fees - General Counsel	172,484	180,000	(7,516)	96%
51202 · Travel Exps - General Counsel	4,431	15,000	(10,569)	30%
51203 · Litigation - General Counsel	29,694	40,000	(10,306)	74%
51204 · Co River Litigation- General Co	0	40,000	(40,000)	0%
51205 · Attorney Fees - Special Counsel	24,884	45,000	(20,116)	55%
51206 · Attorney Exps - Special Counsel	0	5,000	(5,000)	0%
Total 5.1.2 · Legal	231,493	325,000	(93,507)	71%
5.1.3 · Engineering				
51301 · Engineering - General	20,078	45,000	(24,922)	45%
51302 · Engineering - Special Projects	64,074	25,000	39,074	256%
Total 5.1.3 · Engineering	84,152	70,000	14,152	120%

Southwestern Water Conservation District

Budget Comparison Summary January through October 2021

	Jan - Oct 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
5.1.4 · Board of Directors				
51401 · Director Fees	14,350	20,000	(5,650)	72%
51402 · Director Travel	3,179	11,000	(7,821)	29%
Total 5.1.4 · Board of Directors	17,529	31,000	(13,471)	57%
5.1.5 · Office Expenses				
51501 · Accounting	3,893	5,000	(1,107)	78%
51502 · Audit	8,700	8,600	100	101%
51503 · Capital Outlay	2,890	5,000	(2,110)	58%
51504 · Casual Labor	0	200	(200)	0%
51505 · Dues and Memberships	1,238	1,900	(663)	65%
51506 · Equipment Leasing	1,500	1,800	(300)	83%
51507 · Insurance - General Liability	7,577	7,300	277	104%
51508 · Legal Notices	82	600	(518)	14%
51509 · Manager's Discretionary Budget	0	2,000	(2,000)	0%
51510 · Meeting Expenses	760	5,000	(4,240)	15%
51511 · Miscellaneous	69	500	(431)	14%
51512 · Office Exps	4,105	6,000	(1,895)	68%
51513 · Postage	2,865	1,500	1,365	191%
51514 · Registration Fees	3,869	8,500	(4,631)	46%
51515 · Rent	27,547	31,412	(3,865)	88%
51516 · Staff Training/Development	25	2,500	(2,475)	1%
51517 · Staff Travel	4,428	20,000	(15,572)	22%
51518 · Telecommunication	2,862	3,500	(638)	82%
Total 5.1.5 · Office Expenses	72,409	111,312	(38,903)	65%
Total 5.1 · DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION	558,327	772,310	(213,983)	72%
5.2 · WATER SUPPLY - QUANTITY QUALITY				
5.2.1 · Regional, Interstate Planning				
52101 · SWCD Water Defense	0	0	0	0%
52102 · SWCD Water Development	0	0	0	0%
52103 · Water Bank Working Group	0	0	0	0%
52104 · Technical Other Expenses	29,000	50,000	(21,000)	58%
Total 5.2.1 · Regional, Interstate Planning	29,000	50,000	(21,000)	58%
5.2.2 · SWCD Project Water Rights	0	10,000	(10,000)	0%
5.2.3 · Data Collection				
52301 · Center for Snow & Avalanche	7,000	7,000	0	100%
52302 · Stream Gaging - Federal	6,142	99,954	(93,812)	6%
52303 · Stream Gaging - Colorado	0	2,640	(2,640)	0%
52304 · Water Quality Studies	1,500	13,000	(11,500)	12%
52305 · SW Colorado Permanent Radar	0	10,000	(10,000)	0%
Total 5.2.3 · Data Collection	14,642	132,594	(117,952)	11%
5.2.4 · Supply Augmentation				
52401 · Weather Modification	22,040	117,000	(94,960)	19%
52402 · Phreatophyte Removal	0	0	0	0%
Total 5.2.4 · Supply Augmentation	22,040	117,000	(94,960)	19%
5.2.5 · Environmental				
52501 · Bonita Peak CAG	5,000	5,000	0	100%
52502 · SJRBRIIP Water User Committee	50,873	101,746	(50,873)	50%
Total 5.2.5 · Environmental	55,873	106,746	(50,873)	52%

Southwestern Water Conservation District
Budget Comparison Summary
January through October 2021

	Jan - Oct 21	Budget	\$ Over Budget	% of Budget
5.2.6 · Local Financial Support	162,142	230,000	(67,858)	70%
5.2.7 · Previously Committed Support	81,268	91,294	(10,026)	89%
Total 5.2 · WATER SUPPLY - QUANTITY QUALITY	364,964	737,634	(372,670)	49%
5.3 · WATER POLICY & LEGISLATION				
5.3.1 · Federal Policy/Legislation				
53101 · Federal Lobbying Fees	50,000	50,000	0	100%
53102 · Federal Lobbying Expenses	0	5,500	(5,500)	0%
Total 5.3.1 · Federal Policy/Legislation	50,000	55,500	(5,500)	90%
5.3.2 · State Policy/Legislation				
53201 · State Lobbying Fees	12,750	10,000	2,750	128%
53202 · State Lobbying Expenses	0	0	0	0%
Total 5.3.2 · State Policy/Legislation	12,750	10,000	2,750	128%
5.3.3 · Dues & Memberships	24,638	25,450	(812)	97%
Total 5.3 · WATER POLICY & LEGISLATION	87,388	90,950	(3,562)	96%
5.4 · WATER EDUCATION				
5.4.1 · Water Info Program	51,990	72,295	(20,305)	72%
5.4.2 · SWCD Children's Water Festival	350	10,500	(10,150)	3%
5.4.3 · Water Leaders Pgm Scholarship	4,000	5,000	(1,000)	80%
5.4.4 · Watershed Education Program	0	6,000	(6,000)	0%
5.4.5 · Water Education Colorado	11,000	11,000	0	100%
5.4.6 · SWCD Water Seminar	2,305	18,000	(15,695)	13%
5.4.7 · Event Sponsorships	380	6,000	(5,620)	6%
5.4.8 · Demo CSU Farm/Water Efficiency	0	10,000	(10,000)	0%
Total 5.4 · WATER EDUCATION	70,026	138,795	(68,769)	50%
5.5 · TABOR Reserve	0	52,191	(52,191)	0%
5.6 · Emergency Contingency Reserve	0	75,000	(75,000)	0%
Total 5 · SWCD EXPENSES	1,080,705	1,866,880	(786,175)	58%
Total Expense	1,080,705	1,866,880	(786,175)	58%
Net Income	694,447	(3,292)	697,740	(21,094)%

11:00 AM
November 2, 2021
Accrual Basis

Southwestern Water Conservation District
Bank Account Summary
As of October 31, 2021

	<u>Oct 31, 21</u>
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	1,698,355.35
101 · SWCD Credit Card	(1,696.96)
102 · Water Info Program Checking	136,330.33
107 · COLOTRUST General (0.025%)	1,000.48
167 · 1st SW Bank - CD 2 - Jan 2022	1,586,624.56
168 · 1st SW Bank - CD 3 - July 2022	507,882.75
169 · 1st SW Bank - CD 4 - Jan 2023 4	419,206.91
170 · 1st SW Bank - CD 5 - Jan 2023 1	102,872.86
Total Checking/Savings	<u>4,450,576.28</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>4,450,576.28</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>4,450,576.28</u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	0.00

11:02 AM

11/02/21

Southwestern Water Conservation District

Check Detail

September through October 2021

Num	Date	Name	Memo	Account	Original Amount
VISA	09/01/2021	Blue Channel	swgcd.org domain name registration	101 - SWCD Credit Card	-25.00
			swgcd.org domain name registration	51518 - Telecommunication	25.00
TOTAL					25.00
VISA	09/03/2021	Avis Car Rental	Biederman Car Rental 9/19-22/21	101 - SWCD Credit Card	-452.69
			Biederman Car Rental 9/19-22/21	5.4.6 - SWCD Water Seminar	452.69
TOTAL					452.69
VISA	09/05/2021	Charter Spectrum	August 2021	101 - SWCD Credit Card	-69.99
			August 2021	51518 - Telecommunication	69.99
TOTAL					69.99
VISA	09/05/2021	FedEx	Bd Mtg Packet 9-8-21	101 - SWCD Credit Card	-231.70
			Bd Mtg Packet 9-8-21	51513 - Postage	231.70
TOTAL					231.70
VISA	09/05/2021	Adobe Acrobat	Sept 2021	101 - SWCD Credit Card	-14.99
			Sept 2021	51512 - Office Exps	14.99
TOTAL					14.99
Bill.com	09/07/2021	Steve Wolff - V	Mtgs 8/20-26/21	100 - SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-288.80
			Mtgs 8/20-26/21	51517 - Staff Travel	288.80
TOTAL					288.80
ACH	09/07/2021	Laura E Spann	08/23-09/05/21	100 - SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-1,449.36
			08/23-09/05/21	51103 - Wages - Programs Coordinator	1,938.40
			08/23-09/05/21	51107 - Wages - Health & Life Insurance	-92.75
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-167.00
			08/23-09/05/21	51105 - Wages - Payroll Taxes	120.18
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-120.18
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-120.18
			08/23-09/05/21	51105 - Wages - Payroll Taxes	28.11
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-28.11
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-28.11
			08/23-09/05/21	216 - State W/H Tax Payable	-81.00
TOTAL					1,449.36
ACH	09/07/2021	Steven W Wolff	08/23-09/05/21	100 - SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,619.58
			08/23-09/05/21	51102 - Wages - General Manager	5,000.00
			08/23-09/05/21	51107 - Wages - Health & Life Insurance	-222.92
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-561.00
			08/23-09/05/21	51105 - Wages - Payroll Taxes	310.00
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-310.00
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-310.00
			08/23-09/05/21	51105 - Wages - Payroll Taxes	72.50
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-72.50
			08/23-09/05/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-72.50
			08/23-09/05/21	216 - State W/H Tax Payable	-214.00
TOTAL					3,619.58
Bill.com	09/08/2021	Don Schwindt	CWC Conf Steamboat August 2021	100 - SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-544.80
			CWC Conf Steamboat August 2021	51402 - Director Travel	544.80
TOTAL					544.80
Bill.com	09/08/2021	Elaine Chick Consulting	August 2021	102 - Water Info Program Checking	-4,120.47
			August 2021	54111 - WIP Contract Coordination	4,120.47
TOTAL					4,120.47

11:02 AM

11/02/21

Southwestern Water Conservation District

Check Detail

September through October 2021

Num	Date	Name	Memo	Account	Original Amount
Bill.com	09/08/2021	Integrita Productions	WIP brochure update/redesign	102 · Water Info Program Checking	-200.00
			WIP brochure update/redesign	54117 · WIP Brochures	200.00
TOTAL					200.00
ACH	09/08/2021	Bill.com	August 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-131.82
			August 2021	51501 · Accounting	131.82
TOTAL					131.82
Bill.com	09/09/2021	Christopher Treese	August 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-900.00
			August 2021	53201 · State Lobbying Fees	900.00
TOTAL					900.00
Bill.com	09/09/2021	Van Vurst Law	August 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-24,125.76
			August 2021	51201 · Attorney Fees - General Counsel	17,072.00
			August 2021	51203 · Litigation - General Counsel	5,421.00
			August 2021	51202 · Travel Exps - General Counsel	1,632.76
TOTAL					24,125.76
ACH	09/14/2021	United States Treasury	August 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,579.14
			August 2021	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	1,456.00
			August 2021	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	860.36
			August 2021	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	860.36
			August 2021	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	201.21
			August 2021	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	201.21
TOTAL					3,579.14
VISA	09/14/2021	ImageNet	September 2021	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-150.00
			September 2021	51506 · Equipment Leasing	150.00
TOTAL					150.00
Bill.com	09/15/2021	Robinson, Waters & O'Dorisio	July 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-270.70
			July 2021	51205 · Attorney Fees - Special Counsel	270.70
TOTAL					270.70
Pay.gov	09/15/2021	US Geological Survey	2Q2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-2,126.00
			2Q2021	52302 · Stream Gaging - Federal	2,126.00
TOTAL					2,126.00
VISA	09/15/2021	Square	Credit Card Processor Attachment (for Event Registrations)	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-10.84
			Credit Card Processor Attachment (for Event Registrations)	5.4.6 · SWCD Water Seminar	10.84
TOTAL					10.84
Bill.com	09/16/2021	Trout Raley	August 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-1,276.00
			August 2021	51205 · Attorney Fees - Special Counsel	1,276.00
TOTAL					1,276.00
Bill.com	09/16/2021	J R Ford	Mtg 9-8-21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-100.00
			Mtg 9-8-21	51401 · Director Fees	100.00
TOTAL					100.00
VISA	09/17/2021	ImageNet	4Q2021 Base, 3Q2021 Overage	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-593.30
			4Q2021 Base, 3Q2021 Overage	51512 · Office Exps	593.30
TOTAL					593.30

11:02 AM

11/02/21

Southwestern Water Conservation District

Check Detail

September through October 2021

Num	Date	Name	Memo	Account	Original Amount
VISA	09/19/2021	Holiday Inns	Biederman - Water Connections Hotel	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-700.47
			Biederman - Water Connections Hotel	5 4 6 · SWCD Water Seminar	700.47
TOTAL					700.47
VISA	09/19/2021	Microsoft 365	2021-2022 Subscription	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-300.00
			2021-2022 Subscription	51512 · Office Exps	300.00
TOTAL					300.00
ACH	09/20/2021	Laura E Spann	09/06-19/21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-1,449.37
			09/06-19/21	51103 · Wages - Programs Coordinator	1,938.40
			09/06-19/21	51107 · Wages - Health & Life Insurance	-92.75
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-167.00
			09/06-19/21	51105 · Wages - Payroll Taxes	120.18
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-120.18
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-120.18
			09/06-19/21	51105 · Wages - Payroll Taxes	28.10
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-28.10
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-28.10
			09/06-19/21	216 · State W/H Tax Payable	-81.00
TOTAL					1,449.37
ACH	09/20/2021	Steven W Wolff	09/06-19/21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,619.58
			09/06-19/21	51102 · Wages - General Manager	5,000.00
			09/06-19/21	51107 · Wages - Health & Life Insurance	-222.92
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-561.00
			09/06-19/21	51105 · Wages - Payroll Taxes	310.00
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-310.00
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-310.00
			09/06-19/21	51105 · Wages - Payroll Taxes	72.50
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-72.50
			09/06-19/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-72.50
			09/06-19/21	216 · State W/H Tax Payable	-214.00
TOTAL					3,619.58
VISA	09/22/2021	Steve Wolff - V	Club 20 Fall Conference Panel 9/10-11/21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-420.79
			Club 20 Fall Conference Panel 9/10-11/21	51517 · Staff Travel	420.79
TOTAL					420.79
Bill.com	09/23/2021	Kogovsek & Associates, Inc.	4Q2021 Retainer	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-12,500.00
			4Q2021 Retainer	53101 · Federal Lobbying Fees	12,500.00
TOTAL					12,500.00
Bill.com	09/24/2021	Wright Water Engineers	July 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-11,390.50
			July 2021	51302 · Engineering - Special Projects	11,390.50
TOTAL					11,390.50
Bill.com	09/27/2021	Aaron Clay	Water Law Teaching Fee - Sept 17	102 · Water Info Program Checking	-540.00
			Water Law Teaching Fee - Sept 17	54113 · WIP Workshops	540.00
TOTAL					540.00
Bill.com	09/27/2021	Steve Wolff - V	San Miguel River Tour 9-20-21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-149.52
			San Miguel River Tour 9-20-21	51517 · Staff Travel	149.52
TOTAL					149.52
VISA	09/28/2021	Verizon	August 2021	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-137.74
			August 2021	51518 · Telecommunication	137.74
TOTAL					137.74

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11/02/21

Southwestern Water Conservation District

Check Detail

September through October 2021

Num	Date	Name	Memo	Account	Original Amount
VISA	09/28/2021	Fredrick Zink & Associates	August 2021	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-199.50
			August 2021	51501 · Accounting	199.50
TOTAL					199.50
Bill.com	10/01/2021	Colorado Employer Benefit Trust	October 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,109.55
			October 2021	51107 · Wages - Health & Life Insurance	3,109.55
TOTAL					3,109.55
Bill.com	10/01/2021	Elaine Chick Consulting	September 2021	102 · Water Info Program Checking	-5,875.86
			September 2021	54111 · WIP Contract Coordination	5,875.86
TOTAL					5,875.86
ACH	10/04/2021	Laura E Spann	09/20-10/3/21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-1,449.36
			09/20-10/3/21	51103 · Wages - Programs Coordinator	1,938.40
			09/20-10/3/21	51107 · Wages - Health & Life Insurance	-92.75
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-167.00
			09/20-10/3/21	51105 · Wages - Payroll Taxes	120.18
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-120.18
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-120.18
			09/20-10/3/21	51105 · Wages - Payroll Taxes	28.11
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-28.11
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-28.11
			09/20-10/3/21	216 · State W/H Tax Payable	-81.00
TOTAL					1,449.36
ACH	10/04/2021	Steven W Wolff	09/20-10/3/21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,619.58
			09/20-10/3/21	51102 · Wages - General Manager	5,000.00
			09/20-10/3/21	51107 · Wages - Health & Life Insurance	-222.92
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-561.00
			09/20-10/3/21	51105 · Wages - Payroll Taxes	310.00
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-310.00
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-310.00
			09/20-10/3/21	51105 · Wages - Payroll Taxes	72.50
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-72.50
			09/20-10/3/21	215 · FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-72.50
			09/20-10/3/21	216 · State W/H Tax Payable	-214.00
TOTAL					3,619.58
VISA	10/04/2021	Adobe Acrobat	October 2021	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-14.99
			October 2021	51512 · Office Exps	14.99
TOTAL					14.99
VISA	10/05/2021	Charter Spectrum	September 2021	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-69.99
			September 2021	51518 · Telecommunication	69.99
TOTAL					69.99
VISA	10/05/2021	FedEx	Bd Packet Mailing 10/4-5/21	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-209.70
			Bd Packet Mailing 10/4-5/21	51513 · Postage	209.70
TOTAL					209.70
VISA	10/05/2021	FedEx	Bd Packet Mailing 10/4-5/21	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-33.10
			Bd Packet Mailing 10/4-5/21	51513 · Postage	33.10
TOTAL					33.10
VISA	10/06/2021	ImageNet	October 2021	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-150.00
			October 2021	51506 · Equipment Leasing	150.00
TOTAL					150.00

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11/02/21

Southwestern Water Conservation District

Check Detail

September through October 2021

Num	Date	Name	Memo	Account	Original Amount
Bill.com	10/07/2021	The West Building	October 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-2,525.74
			October 2021	51515 · Rent	2,525.74
TOTAL					2,525.74
Bill.com	10/07/2021	Sodexo	Water Connections Catering	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-851.25
			Water Connections Catering	5.4.6 · SWCD Water Seminar	851.25
TOTAL					851.25
ACH	10/07/2021	Bill.com	September 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-126.26
			September 2021	51501 · Accounting	126.26
TOTAL					126.26
Bill.com	10/13/2021	J R Ford	Mtgs 10/4-5/21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-200.00
			Mtgs 10/4-5/21	51401 · Director Fees	200.00
TOTAL					200.00
Bill.com	10/13/2021	Russell Hinger	Mtgs 8/11-10/5/21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-400.00
			Mtgs 8/11-10/5/21	51401 · Director Fees	400.00
TOTAL					400.00
Bill.com	10/13/2021	Christopher Treese	September 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-2,025.00
			September 2021	53201 · State Lobbying Fees	2,025.00
TOTAL					2,025.00
VISA	10/13/2021	Telluride Newspapers Inc	Budget Notice FY2022	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-9.88
			Budget Notice FY2022	51508 · Legal Notices	9.88
TOTAL					9.88
VISA	10/13/2021	Office Depot	Restock office supplies	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-215.48
			Restock office supplies	51512 · Office Exps	215.48
TOTAL					215.48
VISA	10/13/2021	Dove Creek Press	Budget Notice FY2022	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-13.20
			Budget Notice FY2022	51508 · Legal Notices	13.20
TOTAL					13.20
VISA	10/13/2021	Durango Herald	Budget Notice FY2022	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-34.32
			Budget Notice FY2022	51508 · Legal Notices	34.32
TOTAL					34.32
Bill.com	10/14/2021	Trout Raley	September 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-638.00
			September 2021	51205 · Attorney Fees - Special Counsel	638.00
TOTAL					638.00
Bill.com	10/14/2021	Steve Wolff - V	Mtg CWCB Colorado River 10/7-8/21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-489.21
			Mtg CWCB Colorado River 10/7-8/21	51517 · Staff Travel	489.21
TOTAL					489.21
Bill.com	10/14/2021	Don Schwindt	Mtgs 9/8-10/5/21	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-382.20
			Mtgs 9/8-10/5/21	51401 · Director Fees	300.00
			Mtgs 9/8-10/5/21	51402 · Director Travel	67.20
			Water Connections 9/21/21	51514 · Registration Fees	15.00
TOTAL					382.20

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Southwestern Water Conservation District

Check Detail

September through October 2021

Num	Date	Name	Memo	Account	Original Amount
VISA	10/14/2021	Office Depot	W2s, 1099s 2021	101 - SWCD Credit Card	-83.66
			W2s, 1099s 2021	51501 - Accounting	83.66
TOTAL					83.66
ACH	10/15/2021	United States Treasury	September 2021	100 - SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,579.14
			September 2021	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	1,456.00
			September 2021	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	860.36
			September 2021	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	860.36
			September 2021	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	201.21
			September 2021	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	201.21
TOTAL					3,579.14
VISA	10/16/2021	Office Depot	Restock office sign plastic protectors	101 - SWCD Credit Card	-9.99
			Restock office sign plastic protectors	51512 - Office Exps	9.99
TOTAL					9.99
ACH	10/18/2021	Laura E Spann	10/4-10/17/21	100 - SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-1,449.36
			10/4-10/17/21	51103 - Wages - Programs Coordinator	1,938.40
			10/4-10/17/21	51107 - Wages - Health & Life Insurance	-92.75
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-167.00
			10/4-10/17/21	51105 - Wages - Payroll Taxes	120.18
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-120.18
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-120.18
			10/4-10/17/21	51105 - Wages - Payroll Taxes	28.11
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-28.11
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-28.11
			10/4-10/17/21	216 - State W/H Tax Payable	-81.00
TOTAL					1,449.36
ACH	10/18/2021	Steven W Wolff	10/4-10/17/21	100 - SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,619.58
			10/4-10/17/21	51102 - Wages - General Manager	5,000.00
			10/4-10/17/21	51107 - Wages - Health & Life Insurance	-222.92
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-561.00
			10/4-10/17/21	51105 - Wages - Payroll Taxes	310.00
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-310.00
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-310.00
			10/4-10/17/21	51105 - Wages - Payroll Taxes	72.50
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-72.50
			10/4-10/17/21	215 - FICA/Medicare/Fed W/H	-72.50
			10/4-10/17/21	216 - State W/H Tax Payable	-214.00
TOTAL					3,619.58
VISA	10/18/2021	Office Depot	Restock binder labels	101 - SWCD Credit Card	-19.98
			Restock binder labels	51512 - Office Exps	19.98
TOTAL					19.98
VISA	10/18/2021	Office Depot	Packet Binders for Board	101 - SWCD Credit Card	-69.52
			Packet Binders for Board	51512 - Office Exps	69.52
TOTAL					69.52
Bill.com	10/18/2021	Elaine Chick Consulting	September 2021 Expenses	102 - Water Info Program Checking	-361.80
			Water Law Nutshell Course Postage and Binders	54113 - WIP Workshops	174.30
			Printing Updated WIP Brochures	54117 - WIP Brochures	72.50
			River District Seminar Registration	54114 - WIP Conferences/Events	15.00
			Durango Chamber of Commerce	54125 - WIP Memberships	100.00
TOTAL					361.80
Bill.com	10/19/2021	Van Vurst Law	September 2021	100 - SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-23,559.00
			September 2021	51201 - Attorney Fees - General Counsel	21,048.00
			September 2021	51203 - Litigation - General Counsel	2,511.00
TOTAL					23,559.00

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Southwestern Water Conservation District

Check Detail

September through October 2021

Num	Date	Name	Memo	Account	Original Amount
VISA	10/21/2021	Fredrick Zink & Associates	September 2021	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-126.50
			September 2021	51501 · Accounting	126.50
TOTAL					126.50
VISA	10/21/2021	Pagosa Springs Sun	FY22 Budget Notice	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-24.35
			FY22 Budget Notice	51508 · Legal Notices	24.35
TOTAL					24.35
Bill.com	10/22/2021	Steve Wolff - V	Mileage Pagosa (Dry Gulch Tour, SJWCD Mtg)	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-62.72
			Mileage Pagosa (Dry Gulch Tour, SJWCD Mtg)	51517 · Staff Travel	62.72
TOTAL					62.72
Bill.com	10/25/2021	BVN Technology	IT support for office scanner, backup laptop	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-195.00
			IT support for office scanner, backup laptop	51512 · Office Exps	195.00
TOTAL					195.00
Bill.com	10/25/2021	Colorado River WCD	August-September 2021 Modeling Costshare	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,540.05
			August-September 2021 Modeling Costshare	52104 · Technical Other Expenses	3,540.05
TOTAL					3,540.05
Bill.com	10/25/2021	Harris Water Engineering, Inc	August-September 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,492.50
			August-September 2021	51301 · Engineering - General	3,492.50
TOTAL					3,492.50
Bill.com	10/26/2021	Wright Water Engineers	August 2021 SWCD opposition	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-5,261.50
			August 2021 SWCD opposition	51302 · Engineering - Special Projects	5,261.50
TOTAL					5,261.50
Bill.com	10/26/2021	Wright Water Engineers	August 2021-September 19, 2021 SWCD Project X	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-12,500.00
			August 2021-September 19, 2021	51302 · Engineering - Special Projects	12,500.00
TOTAL					12,500.00
VISA	10/27/2021	CRWUA	2021 CRWUA Conf Registration - Huff	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-505.00
			2021 CRWUA Conf Registration - Huff	51514 · Registration Fees	505.00
TOTAL					505.00
VISA	10/28/2021	Verizon	September 2021	101 · SWCD Credit Card	-136.22
			September 2021	51518 · Telecommunication	136.22
TOTAL					136.22
Bill.com	10/28/2021	The West Building	November 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-2,507.19
			November 2021	51515 · Rent	2,507.19
TOTAL					2,507.19
Bill.com	10/28/2021	Colorado Employer Benefit Trust	November 2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-3,109.55
			November 2021	51107 · Wages - Health & Life Insurance	3,109.55
TOTAL					3,109.55
ACH	10/29/2021	Colorado Department of Revenue	3Q2021	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-1,746.00
			3Q2021	216 · State W/H Tax Payable	1,746.00
TOTAL					1,746.00

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Southwestern Water Conservation District

11/02/21

Check Detail

September through October 2021

Num	Date	Name	Memo	Account	Original Amount
Bill.com	10/29/2021	Steve Wolff - V	7 Basin States Mtg Vegas (10/24-25/21)	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-596.15
			7 Basin States Mtg Vegas (10/24-25/21)	51517 - Staff Travel	596.15
TOTAL					596.15
Bill.com	10/29/2021	Laura Spann-V	Reimbursement Computer Recycling	100 · SWCD Checking (0.38%)	-15.00
			Reimbursement Computer Recycling	51512 Office Exps	15.00
TOTAL					15.00

MEMO

TO: SWCD Board of Directors

FROM: Steve and Laura

DATE: November 16, 2021

RE: Proposed 2022 SWCD Meeting Schedule

We propose this schedule for your adoption at the December meeting, for consideration as part of the Consent Agenda.

Proposed 2022 SWCD Meeting Schedule with Updates

Biweekly special board meetings regarding state legislation every other Thursday at noon starting on January 20th.

Regular board meetings are proposed as follows:

- February 16th-17th (Grant approvals)
- March 31st (Annual Water Seminar April 1st)
- June 8th
- August 10th (Board Basin Tour, August 9th)
- Sept 14th (Budget Workshop)
- October 12th
- December 7th

If it's helpful, here are some other 2022 water meetings and conferences dates:

- January 20 (TBD) Southwest Basins Roundtable Meeting
- January 26-28 Colorado Water Congress Annual Conference
- February 9-11 Lower Basin Tour (Colorado River District and SWCD)
- February 23-25 Family Farm Alliance Annual Conference
- April 28 Southwest Basins Roundtable Meeting
- July 28 Southwest Basins Roundtable Meeting
- August 24-26 Colorado Water Congress Summer Conference
- October 27 Southwest Basins Roundtable Meeting
- December 14-16 Colorado River Water Users Association Annual Conference

2022

SWCD BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					31	1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					

MARCH

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20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

APRIL

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10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY

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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

JUNE

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			1	2	3	4
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

JULY

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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

AUGUST

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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SEPTEMBER

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

OCTOBER

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Regular Board Meeting

Other Meetings

Educational Events

Holiday Closure

PROPOSED 10-6-21

DECEMBER 31: NEW YEARS DAY (OBSERVED)

THURS, JAN 20: SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

THURS, FEB 3: SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

MON, FEB 14: PRESIDENTS DAY

FEB 16-17: REGULAR BOARD MEETING (GRANTS)

THURS, MARCH 3: SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

THURS, MARCH 17: SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

THURS, MARCH 31: REGULAR BOARD MEETING

THURS, APRIL 1: ANNUAL WATER SEMINAR

THURS, APRIL 14: SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

THURS, APRIL 28: SPECIAL BOARD MEETING

WED, MAY 4: CHILDREN'S WATER FESTIVAL

MON, MAY 30: MEMORIAL DAY

WED, JUNE 8: REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MON, JULY 4: INDEPENDENCE DAY

TUES, AUG 9: BOARD BASIN TOUR

WED, AUG 10: REGULAR BOARD MEETING

MON, SEPT 5: LABOR DAY

WED, SEPT 14: BUDGET WORKSHOP

WED, OCT 12: REGULAR BOARD MEETING

FRI, NOV 11: VETERAN'S DAY

THURS, NOV 24-WED, NOV 25: THANKSGIVING

WED, DEC 7: REGULAR BOARD MEETING

DEC 22 & 23: XMAS EVE & XMAS (OBSERVED)

MEMO

Southwestern Water Conservation District

From: Laura Spann
To: SWCD Board of Directors
Date: December 1, 2021
Subject: Requests for Grant Extensions through 2022

Enclosed with this memo are three written requests from 2021 grant recipients for an extension to use their grant funds in 2022. Below is a summary with our staff recommendation to approve all three grant extension requests through 2022 and therefore allocate \$44,394 towards Previously Committed Funds line item in the proposed 2022 SWCD budget. This recommendation based on the understanding that the SWCD board intends to adopt a 2022 budget with a grant program that would permit other shovel-ready projects to fairly compete for 2022 grant program dollars.

Farmers Water Development Company (FWDC), \$27,642, Gurley Dam Embankment Repair

Reason for request: Modifications to the dam embankment repair plan resulted in a delay in scheduling the repair. FWDC now has the state approved repair plan and a contractor selected. They continue to seek funding partners and other grants for support. Project completion is expected by October 2022.

Recommendation: While this grant was originally approved for emergency use, given that this reservoir stores pre-compact waters rights (a priority consideration for SWCD's grant program) and progress has been made toward completion, we recommend the board approve Farmers Water Development Company's grant extension request through 2022.

Town of Silverton, \$11,752, Kendall Mountain Well Field Test Drilling Program

Reason for request: Due to increases in materials costs and contractor availability issues, the original estimates doubled between 2020 and 2021. Fortunately, Silverton may be able to secure additional funding from the CWCB in 2022 to support the cost overrun. Once that support has been secured, Silverton plans to drill two test wells as originally planned with no additional funding request to SWCD. Project completion is expected by fall 2022.

Recommendation: Given that a CWCB grant may address cost increases and allow the project to proceed as planned next year, we recommend the board approve the Town of Silverton's grant extension request through 2022.

Montezuma School to Farm Project, \$5,000, Water Plan Educational Materials Initiative

Reason for request: Because of several staff turnovers and school closures due to COVID-19, the Project was not able to purchase classroom and garden materials for the water plan curriculum. It's on schedule for implementation in the classroom during the first quarter of 2022, with support from the Colorado Water Conservation Board as well.

Recommendation: In consideration of their pandemic-related delays, we recommend the board approve the Montezuma School to Farm Project's grant extension request through 2022.



FARMER'S WATER DEVELOPMENT COMPANY

PO Box 10, Norwood, CO 81423

970-327-0484 farmerswdc@yahoo.com

November 2, 2021

Southwest Water Conservation District
841 East Second Avenue
Durango, CO 81301

To Whom It May Concern,

The Farmers Water Development Company (FWDC) was awarded Emergency Grant Funds by the Southwest Water Conservation Board of Directors at their April 2, 2021 meeting in the amount of \$27,642.00.

FWDC is requesting an extension of time into early 2022 for the use/disbursement of those funds, due to modifications in the repair plan of the dam slip we are just now beginning to schedule the repair work on our reservoir. The bid awarding has taken place and we are expected to begin repair work in the next two weeks weather permitting.

Please consider this request for extension for use of funds due to factors out of the control of our Board of Directors and also knowing that we now have a state approved repair plan and a contractor for the repair work.

Respectfully Submitted,

David Alexander
Board President



Town of Silverton

John Sites
Public Works Director
jsites@silverton.co.us

October 26, 2021

To: The Southwest Water Conservation District Board of Directors
From: John Sites, Silverton Public Works

Re: Grant Extension Request – Kendall Mountain Well Field Test Drilling Program

SWCD Board of Directors,

The Town of Silverton would like to request an extension of the grant awarded to the Town from the SWCD during the December 2020 cycle. The funds are to be used to complete the Kendall Mountain Well Field Test Drilling Program to bolster the redundancy of our municipal water supply. Funding for this project is a partnership between the Town (\$13,851), SWCD (\$11,752), SWBRT (\$2,100) and CWP (\$27,702) for a total estimated project cost of \$55,405.

The Town and our engineers proceeded to request proposals for drilling and testing in the summer of 2021. Unfortunately, due to increases in materials costs and contractor availability issues the original estimated costs doubled between 2020 and 2021.

Our options were to drill only one test well instead of two, which is a viable option, or to push the project until 2022 where more options / outcomes are available. The first potential outcome is that materials costs could go down as they seem to be trending as supplies are catching up to demand after 2020. After discussing options with our funding partners for this project, in talks with the CWCB we discovered that additional funding for the project could be available in 2022 to offset the cost increases. The Town plans to apply for more funds for this project, based upon 2021 bids, from the Colorado Water Plan in November 2021.

We will plan to drill two test wells or one in the fall of 2022 regardless of project cost fluctuations or additional funding outcomes. Silverton has great need for water supply redundancy and the support of the SWCD in these efforts is greatly appreciated.

Regards,

John Sites

John Sites



The Montezuma School to Farm Project (MSTFP) unites our local agricultural heritage with our growing future by engaging students at the crossroads of food production, resource conservation, and nutrition through educational experiences.

November 3, 2021

To: Southwestern Water Conservation Board

Re: Request for Grant extension

Dear Grant Committee,

I'm writing today to ask for your support in extending the grant awarded to the Montezuma School to Farm Project. Our grant is intended for material costs for our new curriculum that is being developed through a three year grant given by the Colorado Water Project. This curriculum is on track to be implemented starting Spring of 2022 and we will have all 33 lessons published by October 2022. Due to school closures and staff turnover we were unable to purchase the classroom and garden materials needed for this curriculum in 2021. Moving forward we will be able to purchase and expend these grant funds in the first quarter of 2022. We are excited to provide a new and updated curriculum focused on water conservation in the Southwest to students across Montezuma County. With your support I feel confident that not only will students have access to quality hands-on lessons, but as an organization we can lead similar educational projects across the Southwestern region.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to sharing our success with you all in the future.

Sincerely,

Ben Goodrich

Ben Goodrich
Executive Director
Montezuma School to Farm Project
(P) 970-317-4808
Bgoodrich@mstfp.org

"I wish we had garden class 5,000 times a week". - 2nd grade student

202 West North Street
Cortez, CO 81321

HARRIS WATER ENGINEERING, INC.
954 EAST SECOND AVENUE, #202
DURANGO, COLORADO 81301
970-259-5322
carrie@durangowater.com

Memorandum
December 2, 2021

To: SWCD Board of Directors
From: Carrie Padgett
Subject: Engineering Report for the December 8 and 9, 2021 Board Meeting

The following is a summary of the topics Carrie Padgett worked on for SWCD since the last Board meeting, during the months of October and November in 2021. For more background and detail please contact me.

San Juan and Upper Basin Endangered Fish Recovery Programs

I participated in multiple committee conference calls in October and November. Mostly recently, I participated in a series of Biology Committee meetings this week. This past week was the first time our new water development interests' representative, Tom Chart, participated as a Biology Committee member. After sitting through these all-day meetings with Tom, I am in awe of his knowledge about these endangered species and what he can bring to the table. He was an excellent choice to represent our interests on the committee.

The multi day meetings this week focused heavily on the discussion of nonnative removal efforts as they pertain primarily to channel catfish impacts on endangered fish. The committee recommended taking a hiatus from removal efforts in the coming years. During this hiatus they will explore other management activities that could be implemented to help with recovery efforts.

Navajo Reservoir

As of November 2, the releases from the reservoir were decreased from 350 to 300 cfs. This decrease was done in response to increasing flows and decreased irrigation in the critical habitat reach. The next Navajo Reservoir Operations meeting will be held virtually on January 18, 2022.

The upcoming Upper Basin Drought Response Operations Agreement planned releases from Navajo Reservoir have been postponed at this time. Due to the 24-Month Study, potential shortages were projected for users of the reservoir which caused Reclamation to reevaluate the need for a release at this time. At the recent Biology Committee meetings, the options to still continue with the releases, at some point in the future, were discussed. Tom Chart recommended holding off on a release in December and saving this water until the spring runoff season. A decision was not made out our meeting but the Biology Committee's recommendations will be provided to Reclamation for further consideration.

Animas Watershed Partnership (AWP)

The steering committee continues to meet monthly. AWP was successful in securing a grant from the Southwest Basins Roundtable to start their stream management planning process. They were awarded \$20,400. The total project costs are estimated to be \$82,474 for this first phase of the project. AWP also submitted a grant application to the Watershed Restoration Fund this past month and will also be applying to Southwestern's grant program.

Southwest Basin Roundtable 2021 BIP Update

While the 2021 BIP update is not a part of my duties at SWCD, I wanted to let you know I will be giving a brief presentation on the BIP at the upcoming Board meeting. I hope to show you some ties between the BIP and your strategic planning efforts. I think there is a lot of foundational data the BIP has gathered that could be useful to the Board in the future.

A quick reminder, the 2021 BIP update is two documents, known as Volume 1 and Volume 2. Volume 1 is a standardized document for all Roundtables with the same sections for every basin. This volume includes:

- an overview of the basin,
- descriptions of demand, supply, and potential water needs,
- updated goals and strategies,
- past achievements since 2015,
- future basin projects,
- outreach strategies,
- and a conclusion (1 page summary of Volume 1).

For Volume 2, we have created webpages for each subbasin that dive deeper into the basin-wide content presented in Volume 1. I used Esri story maps to provide maps of the basin, projects in the basin, and show environmental and recreational identified attributes. Volume 2 also includes narratives and a link to the Projects List, which was formally called the IPP List.



THE SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Developing and Conserving the Waters in the
SAN JUAN AND DOLORES RIVERS AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES
West Building – 841 East Second Avenue
DURANGO, COLORADO 81301
(970) 247-1302

BOARD MEMORANDUM

From: Steve Wolff, General Manager

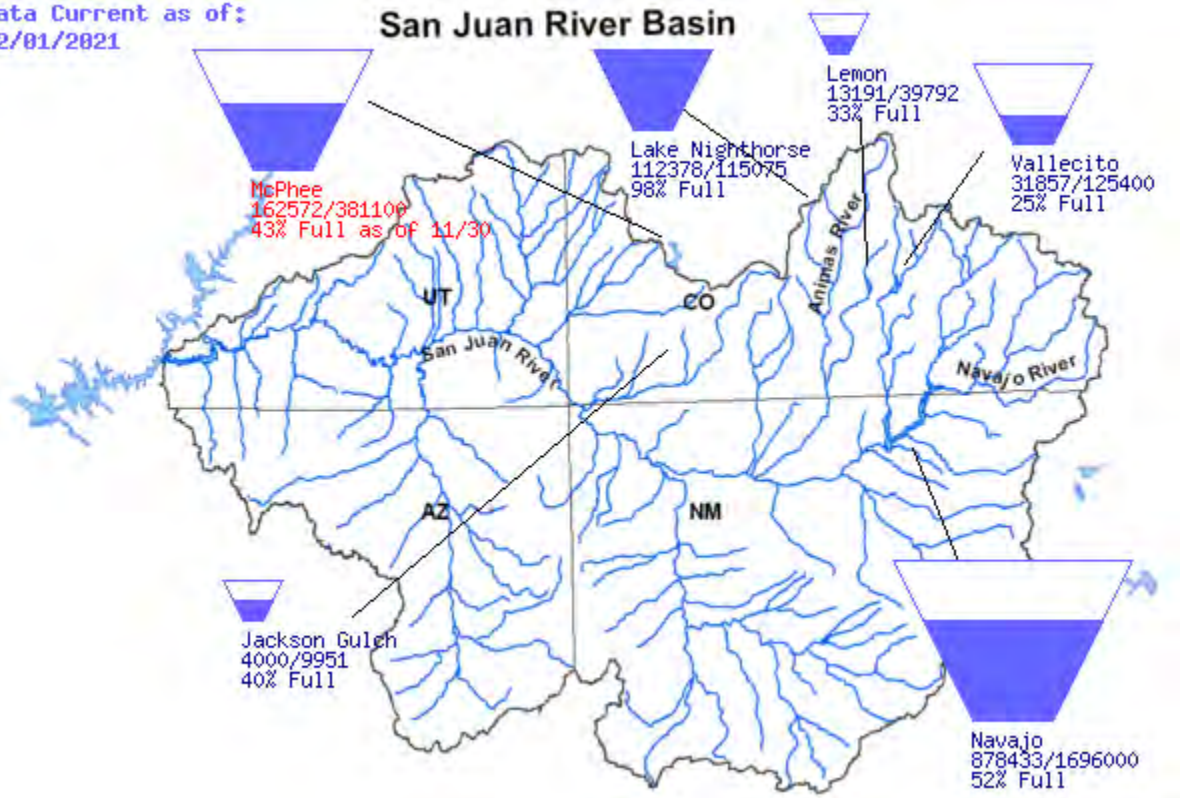
Subject: Hydrology Update

Date: 2 December 2021

Streamflow Conditions as of 2 December 2021

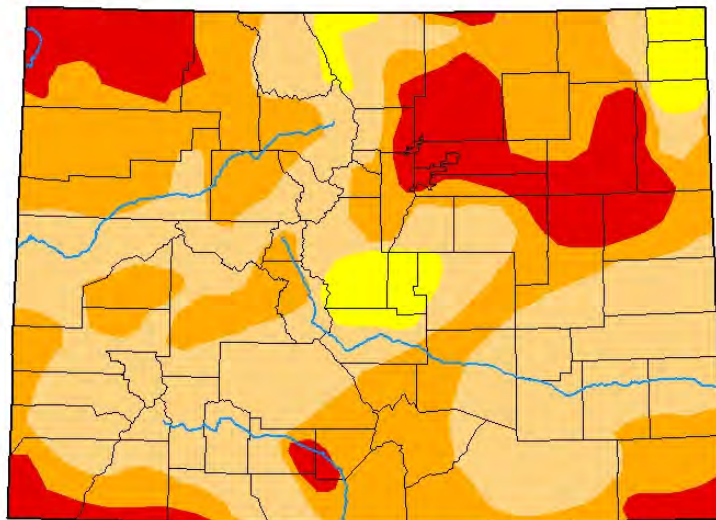
Site	Current Flow	Mean Flow for this Date
San Juan @Pagosa Springs	49 cfs	77 cfs
Piedra @ Arboles	37 cfs	97 cfs
Los Pinos near Ignacio	3.3 cfs	69 cfs
Animas @ Durango	161 cfs	243 cfs
La Plata @ Hesperus	5 cfs	---
Mancos near Towaoc	1.4 cfs	15 cfs
McElmo Creek near Cortez	-ice-	---
Dolores @ Dolores	51 cfs	64 cfs
San Miguel @ Placerville	-ice-	
San Miguel @ Uravan	28 cfs	99 cfs
San Juan @ Four Corners	471 cfs	1,090 cfs

Data Current as of:
12/01/2021



U.S. Drought Monitor
Colorado

November 30, 2021
(Released Thursday, Dec. 2, 2021)
Valid 7 a.m. EST



Intensity:

- None
- D0 Abnormally Dry
- D1 Moderate Drought
- D2 Severe Drought
- D3 Extreme Drought
- D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

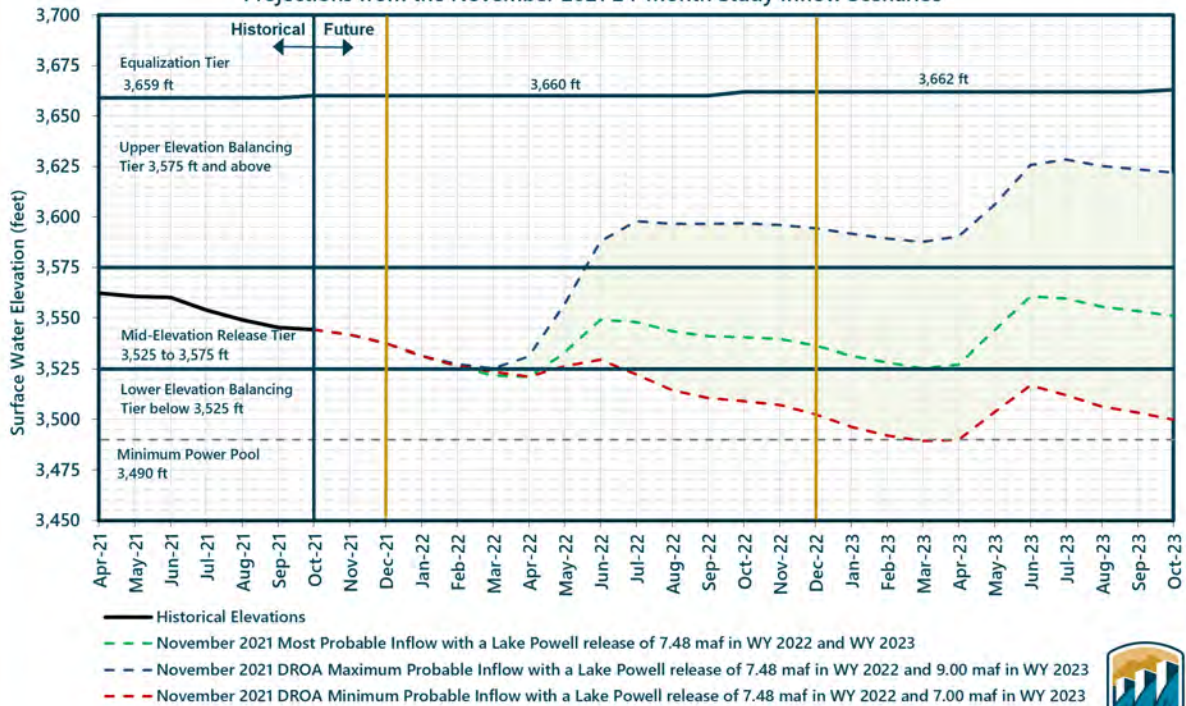
Richard Heim
NCEI/NOAA



droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Lake Powell End of Month Elevations

Projections from the November 2021 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios

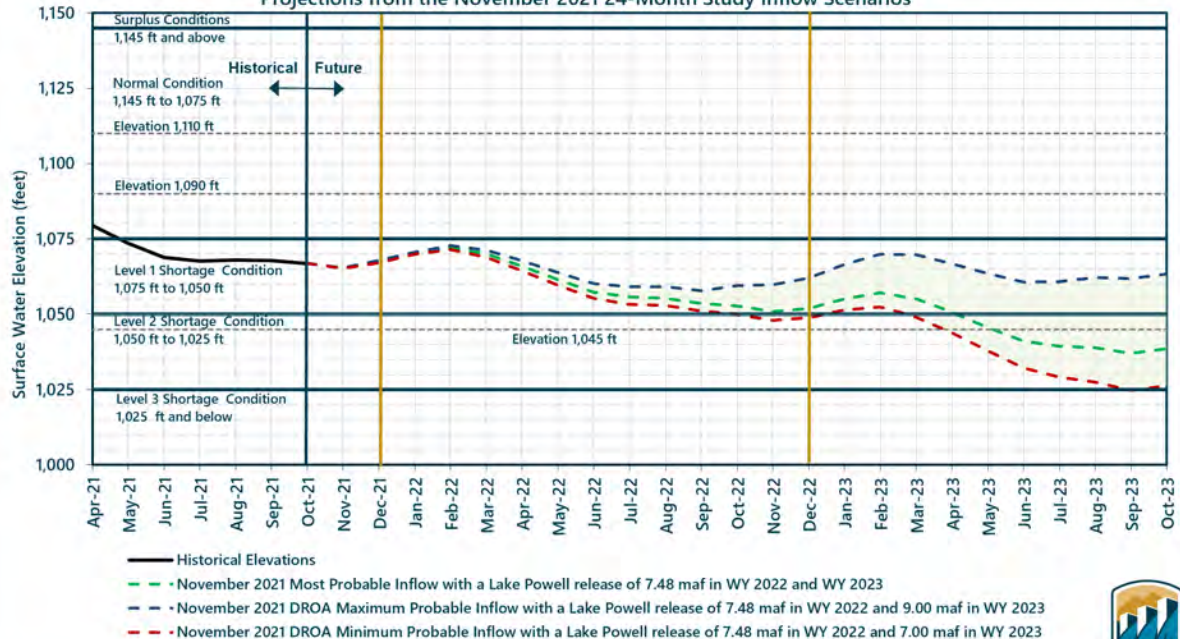


The Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) is available online at: <https://www.usbr.gov/dcp/finaldocs.html>.



Lake Mead End of Month Elevations

Projections from the November 2021 24-Month Study Inflow Scenarios



The Drought Response Operations Agreement (DROA) is available online at: <https://www.usbr.gov/dcp/finaldocs.html>.

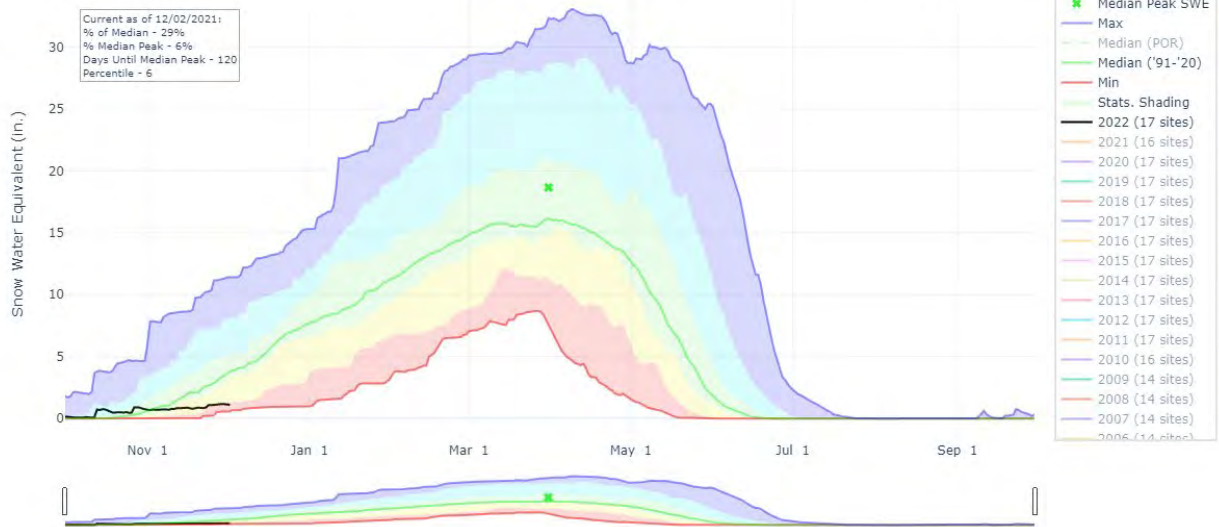


SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN UPPER SAN JUAN

Reset Range

Link to data: CSV / JSON

Station List

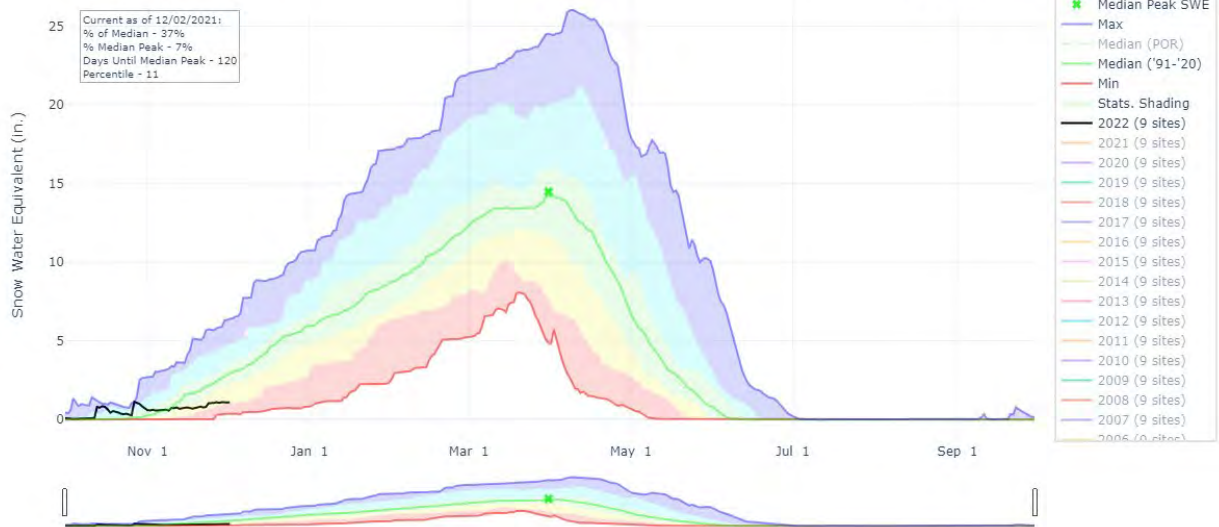


SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT IN UPPER COLORADO-DOLORES

Reset Range

Link to data: CSV / JSON

Station List



BASIN		ELEV.	SNOW WATER EQUIVALENT			TOTAL PRECIPITATION		
Data	Site Name	(Ft)			%			%
			Current	Median	Median	Current	Median	Med

SAN MIGUEL, DOLORES, ANIMAS AND SAN JUAN RIVER BASINS

Beartown	11600	1.1	5.0	22	4.7	8.0	59
Black Mesa	11580	3.9	-M	*	3.5	-M	*
Cascade	8880	.4	1.8	22	2.9	6.2	47
Cascade #2	8920	.1	1.9	5	3.1	5.9	53
Columbine Pass	9400	.8	2.6	31	4.1	5.8	71
Columbus Basin	10785	2.4	5.4	44	5.0	7.8	64
El Diente Peak	10000	.2	2.4	8	3.4	5.6	61
Lizard Head Pass	10200	1.9	3.5	54	3.3	4.8	69
Lone Cone	9600	1.5	3.4	44	4.5	5.6	80
Mancos	10000	.2	2.6	8	2.5	4.7	53
Mineral Creek	10040	.7	3.3	21	4.5	5.4	83
Molas Lake	10500	.8	4.2	19	4.4	6.2	71
Red Mountain Pass	11200	4.0	5.5	73	6.0	7.9	76
Scotch Creek	9100	.4	2.0	20	3.2	4.6	70
Sharkstooth	10720	.9	3.7	24	4.9	5.6	88
Spud Mountain	10660	.2	5.0	4	4.4	8.6	51
Stump Lakes	11200	1.8	4.4	41	3.5	5.8	60
Upper San Juan	10200	1.1	5.6	20	5.0	9.2	54
Vallecito	10880	.2	3.0	7	2.3	5.4	43
Weminuche Creek	10740	.6	2.8	21	3.0	6.6	45
Wolf Creek Summit	11000	4.2	7.9	53	5.7	9.2	62
Basin Index (%)				31	62		



COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 718
Denver, CO 80203

P (303) 866-3441
F (303) 866-4474

Jared Polis, Governor

Dan Gibbs, DNR Executive Director

Rebecca Mitchell, CWCB Director

TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Robert Viehl, Chief
Stream and Lake Protection Section

DATE: November 17, 2021

AGENDA ITEM: 24. Notice of Recommended 2022 Instream Flow Appropriations in Water Divisions 4, 5, and 6

Staff Recommendation

This is an informational item that provides notice of recommended stream segments that staff may bring to the Board in January or March 2022 with a recommendation that the Board form its intent to appropriate ISF water rights. No Board action is required.

Background

Pursuant to Instream Flow (“ISF”) Rule 5c., the Colorado Water Conservation Board is providing notice that the following 14 stream segments are being considered for ISF appropriations in 2022. At the January or March 2022 CWCB meeting, Staff may request that the Board form its intent to appropriate ISF water rights on some or all of the streams listed in Table 1. All of these streams were previously noticed at the Board’s March 2021 meeting and a March notice sent via the ISF subscription mailing list.

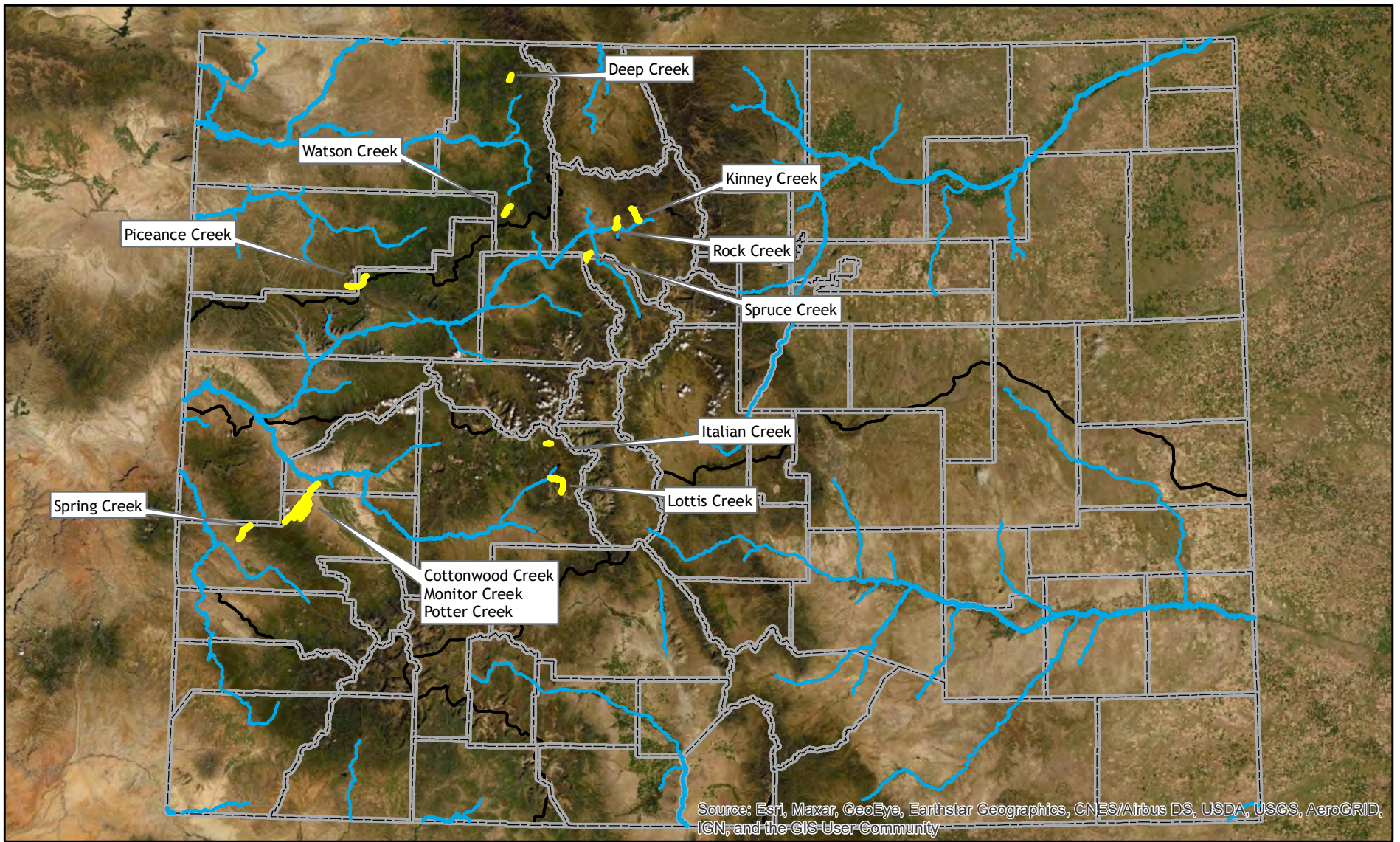
Additional information regarding these stream segments is also available on the CWCB website located at: <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/2022-isf-recommendations>

Table 1

Div.	Stream Name	Watershed	County	Length (miles)	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus
4	Cottonwood Creek (Increase)	Lower Gunnison	Delta Montrose	23.3	Hawkins Ditch hdgt	confl Roubideau Creek
4	Lottis Creek (Increase)	East-Taylor	Gunnison	10.33	headwaters	confl Taylor River
4	Italian Creek (Increase)	East-Taylor	Gunnison	2.42	confl South Italian Creek	confl Taylor River
4	Monitor Creek	Lower Gunnison	Montrose	9.44	USFS Property Boundary	confl Potter Creek
4	Potter Creek (Increase)	Lower Gunnison	Montrose	8.10	USFS Property Boundary	confl Monitor Creek



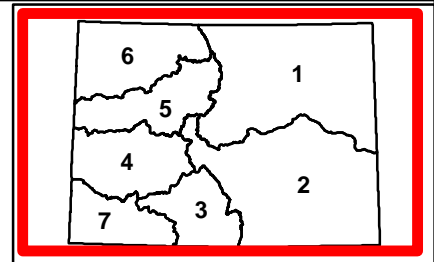
Div.	Stream Name	Watershed	County	Length (miles)	Upper Terminus	Lower Terminus
4	Potter Creek <i>(Increase)</i>	Lower Gunnison	Montrose	1.72	confl Monitor Creek	confl Roubideau Creek
4	Spring Creek	San Miguel	Montrose	7.47	headwaters	Crabtree Ditch hdgt
5	Kinney Creek <i>(Increase)</i>	Colorado headwaters	Grand	6.31	headwaters	confl McQueary Creek
5	Rock Creek*	Colorado headwaters	Grand	4.92	headwaters	confl Colorado River
5	Spruce Creek <i>(increase)</i>	Blue	Grand, Summit	3.54	headwaters	Hoagland Canal hdgt
6	Deep Creek	Upper Yampa	Routt	2.45	headwaters	confl Steamboat Lake
6	Piceance Creek	Piceance- Yellow	Garfield Rio Blanco	6.93	headwaters	confl unnamed tributary
6	Piceance Creek	Piceance- Yellow	Rio Blanco	3.83	confl unnamed tributary	confl Cow Creek
6	Watson Creek	Upper Yampa	Routt	5.86	confl Moody Creek	Hardscrabble Ditch hdgt



COLORADO
**Colorado Water
Conservation Board**
Department of Natural Resources

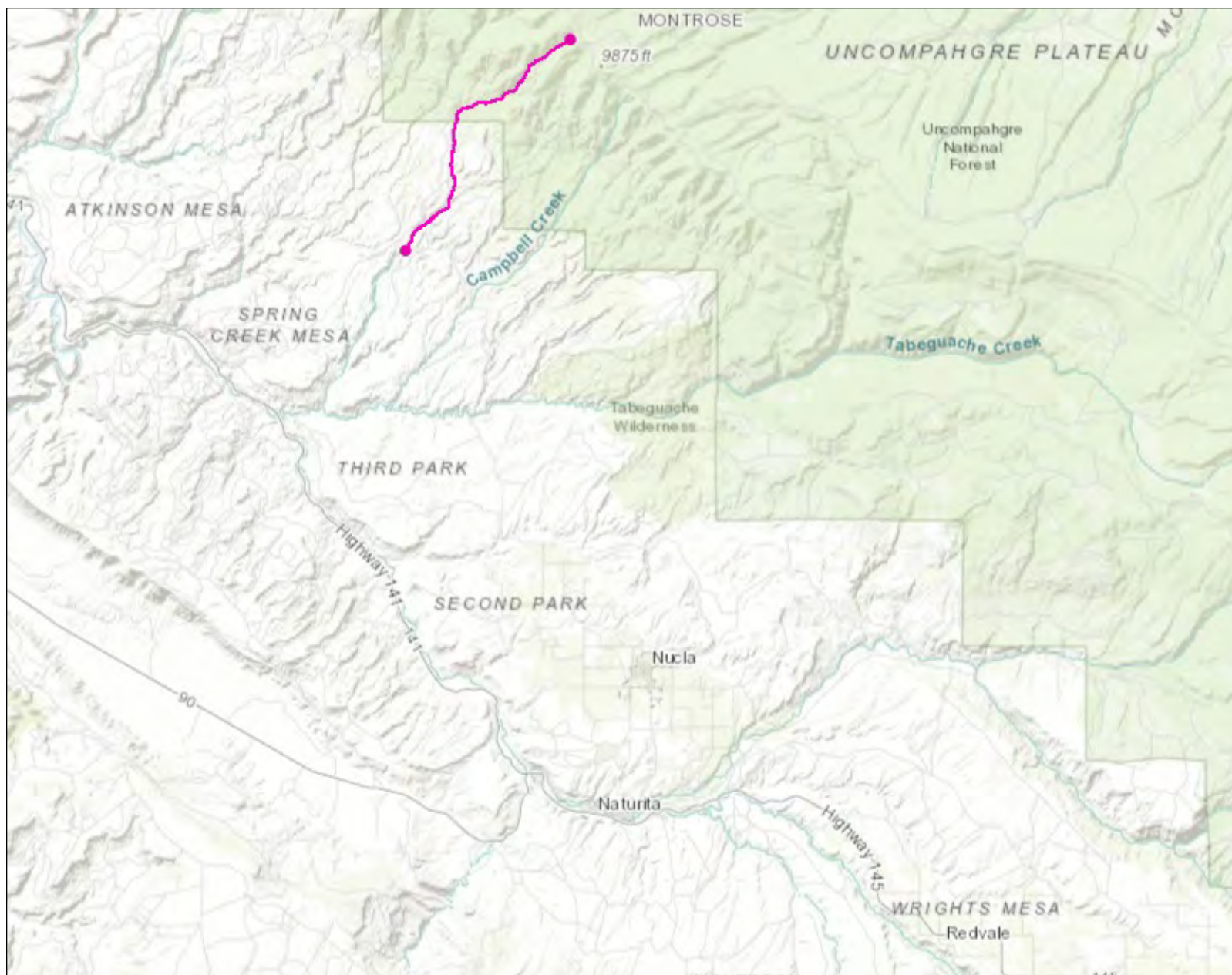
2022 Recommended ISF Reaches

0 30 60 120 Miles





Map Viewer



Legend

- ISF Recommended Termini
- ISF Recommended Flow Rate
- County

Location



Notes

7.09 0 3.54 7.09 Miles

1: 224,514



This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

Date Prepared: 12/1/2021 3:19:59 PM

DRAFT RECOMMENDATION – SUBJECT TO CHANGE

Ms. Linda Bassi
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, Colorado 80203

Dear Ms. Bassi:

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) is writing this letter to formally communicate its recommendation for instream flow water rights on Spring Creek, located in Water Division 4.

Location and Land Status. Spring Creek originates on the southwest side of the Uncompahgre Plateau, approximately 12 miles northeast of Uravan. Spring Creek flows into Tabeguache Creek approximately 3.0 miles southeast of Uravan. This recommendation covers the stream reach beginning at the headwaters and extends downstream to the confluence with Tabeguache Creek. This stream reach covers a distance of approximately 12.45 miles. BLM manages 7.7 miles of this stream reach, the U.S. Forest Service manages 3.75 miles of this reach, and 1.01 miles are in private ownership.

Biological Summary. Spring Creek is a cool-water, high gradient stream located in a canyon that is generally less than 0.25 mile in width. The stream is mostly step-pool morphology with few riffles. The stream is typically narrow, has a good width-depth ratio, and a highly developed floodplain. The substrate is comprised of sand mixed with cobbles. Bank stability is excellent because of numerous bedrock controls, a vigorous riparian community, and abundant woody debris.

The riparian community along Spring Creek is in exceptionally good condition. The good condition likely occurs because Spring Creek has a very stable base flow provided by a number of springs and because of low grazing usage. The riparian community is composed of narrowleaf cottonwood, three-leafed sumac, red-osier dogwood, and thinleaf alder. The cottonwood trees along the creek are notable because of the variety of age classes and health of individual specimens.

Spring Creek is not known to support fish. An intensive macroinvertebrate survey has not been performed, but BLM spot surveys have revealed a macroinvertebrate community that includes stoneflies, mayflies and caddisflies.

R2Cross Analysis. BLM collected the following R2Cross data from Spring Creek:

Cross Section Date	Discharge Rate	Top Width	Winter Flow Recommendation (meets 2 of 3 hydraulic criteria)	Summer Flow Recommendation (meets 3 of 3 hydraulic criteria)
6/16/2016 #3	1.79 cfs	8.5 feet	0.94 cfs	1.33 cfs

6/16/2016 #4	1.98 cfs	7.8 feet	0.82 cfs	0.93 cfs
Averages:			0.88 cfs	1.20 cfs

Even though Spring Creek does not support a fish community, in this instance BLM chose to utilize an R2Cross analysis procedure to determine flow rates needed to support riparian and macroinvertebrate values. BLM's conclusion is the flow rates identified by R2Cross would also serve to maintain a wetted rooting zone in the alluvial aquifer for the riparian community. BLM also concluded that flow rates identified by R2Cross would be sufficient to provide suitable habitat for the macroinvertebrate community. If the riparian community along the creek were rare or threatened, BLM believes that an alternative quantification methodology and protection of higher flows would be required.

BLM's analysis of this data, coordinated with Colorado Parks and Wildlife, indicates that the flows specified in the following paragraphs are needed to preserve the natural environment to a reasonable degree.

1.20 cubic feet per second is recommended for the high temperature period from April 1 through October 31. BLM concludes that a meeting all three instream flow criteria will maintain a wetted root zone in the alluvial aquifer during the growing season for the riparian community. Meeting all three instream flow criteria will also provide suitable conditions in the stream substrate for the aquatic macroinvertebrate community.

0.88 cubic feet per second is recommended for the low temperature period between November 1 and March 31. The riparian community is dormant during the period, but protecting base flow conditions will prevent desiccation of the riparian rooting zone. In addition, the base flow rate will maintain conditions in the creek's hyporheic zone below the stream channel for any aquatic macroinvertebrates that overwinter in the creek.

Water Availability. BLM notes that the base flow of the creek is supported by springs, so traditional hydrologic methods may underestimate base flows in the creek. BLM recommends consulting several data sources to confirm water availability. First, Streamstats should be consulted to determine the general range and magnitude of snowmelt runoff flows. The timing and magnitude of snowmelt runoff can also be consulting USGS gage 09176500 (Tabeguache Creek near Nucla, CO). Spring Creek is part of the larger Tabeguache Creek watershed, and the watershed measured by this gage has similar watershed characteristics to Spring Creek. BLM does not recommend relying upon this gage information to determine base flows from July through September, because it appears that gage readings were influenced by sizable irrigation diversions in upstream locations. Finally, BLM recommends consulting diversion records for the ditches that are located within the stream reach. While diversions records do not directly measure streamflow, such records indicate that minimum flow rate found in the stream at the time diversions were made.

BLM is aware of the following ditches located within the proposed instream flow reach

Crabtree Ditch – 6.0 cfs

Tilton Ditch – 1.0 cfs

Spring Creek Ditch No. 2 – 1.0 cfs

Spring Creek Ditch No. 3 – 1.74 cfs

BLM is also aware of one ditch located upstream from the proposed instream flow reach:

Burro Creek Ditch – 0.87 cfs

BLM's understanding is that return flows from all of the ditches listed above accrue to Spring creek.

Relationship to Land Management Plans. The draft land use plan for the Uncompahgre Field Office specifies that BLM when BLM authorizes any management actions, such as mineral leasing and rights-of-way, such authorizations will contain stipulations to protect riparian values associated with the creek. The plan also specifies that grazing along with creek will be managed to meet BLM's land health standards.

Appropriation of an instream flow water right would assist BLM in long-term management of riparian values, aquatic habitat, and amphibian and values.

Data sheets, R2Cross output, fishery survey information, and photographs of the cross section were included with BLM's draft recommendation in February 2017. We thank both Colorado Parks and Wildlife and the Colorado Water Conservation Board for their cooperation in this effort.

If you have any questions regarding our instream flow recommendation, please contact Roy Smith at 303-239-3940.

Sincerely,

Brian St. George
Deputy State Director
Resources and Fire

Cc: Greg Larson, Uncompahgre FO
Jedd Sondergard, Uncompahgre FO

2021-11-10. These are draft Measurement Rules to be used for the purpose of facilitating the input from stakeholders during stakeholder meetings. These draft rules are subject to change.

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Division of Water Resources

RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR IMPLEMENTING THE STATE AND DIVISION ENGINEERS' STATUTORY AUTHORITY TO REQUIRE THE INSTALLATION OF DIVERSION STRUCTURES AND THE MEASUREMENT OF DIVERSION, STORAGE, AND RELEASE OF SURFACE AND GROUNDWATER IN WATER DIVISION 6.

18.1. Title

The Title of these rules and regulations is "Rules and Regulations for implementing the State and Division Engineers' Statutory Authority to Require the Installation of Diversion Structures and the Measurement of Diversion, Storage, and Release of Surface and Groundwater in Water Division 6." The short title of these rules and regulations is "Water Diversion, Storage, and Measurement Rules for Water Division 6" and in this document these rules and regulations may be referred to as "Rules."

18.2 Authority

These Rules are adopted pursuant to the State Engineer's authority under section 37-80-102(g), C.R.S., and according to the provisions in the State Administrative Procedures Act, section 24-4-101 et seq. (the "APA"), C.R.S.

18.3 Scope and Purpose of the Rules

- A. These rules are applicable to all surface water diversions, groundwater diversions, and reservoir storage, within Water Division 6, as defined in 37-92-201(1)(f), C.R.S., except
1. Permitted or unregistered wells that operate pursuant to the provisions of section 37-92-602(1), C.R.S.;
 2. Ponds that fill during spring runoff and are not situated on a stream or filled by a diversion from a stream; *{SEO Note: We will continue to develop this exception}*
 3. Head stabilization ponds;
 4. Surface water diversions, including springs, for ordinary household purposes in no more than three single-family dwellings, fire protection, watering of domestic animals, and the irrigation of not over one acre of home gardens and lawns;
 5. Livestock Water Tanks, as described in section 35-49-103, C.R.S.;
 6. Erosion Control Dams, as described in section 37-87-122, C.R.S.; and
 7. A diversion that is certified by the Division Engineer to be inactive.

2021-11-10. These are draft Measurement Rules to be used for the purpose of facilitating the input from stakeholders during stakeholder meetings. These draft rules are subject to change.

- B. The purpose of these Rules is to establish consistent and reliable standards to assist Water Users in their compliance with statutory provisions regarding the diversion, measurement, and storage of water. These statutory provisions are found in Title 37, Articles 84 and 92 of the Colorado Revised Statutes.

Specifically, the purpose of these Rules is to:

1. Establish standards for the selection and installation of Headgates and Measurement Methods for the purpose of controlling and measuring Diversions of water for beneficial use.
2. Establish consistent and reliable standards for the recording and reporting of water diversion data and the means by which the Division Engineer will acquire the data.
3. Establish consistent and reliable standards for assessing compliance with the Division Engineer's authority to enforce the statutory requirement for installation of Headgates and Measurement Methods.

18.4 Definitions

- A. Definitions: Any term used in these Rules that is defined in Title 37 of the Colorado Revised Statutes has the same meaning given therein unless the context requires otherwise.
1. "Alternative Measurement Method" means a Measurement Method that does not meet the definition of a Measuring Device, and is used to determine the Flow Rate, Total Volume, or the amount of water stored in a reservoir, within the standards of accuracy identified in these Rules.
 2. "Beneficial Use" means the use of that amount of water that is reasonable and appropriate under reasonably efficient practices to accomplish without waste the purpose for which the appropriation is lawfully made and as more fully defined in section 37-92-103(4), C.R.S.
 3. "Diversion Structure" means a structure designed to control and Divert water.
 4. "Diversion" or "Divert" means removing water from its natural course or location or controlling water in its natural course or location, by means of a control structure, ditch, canal, flume, reservoir, bypass, pipeline, conduit, well, pump or other structure and as more fully defined in section 37-92-103(7), C.R.S.

2021-11-10. These are draft Measurement Rules to be used for the purpose of facilitating the input from stakeholders during stakeholder meetings. These draft rules are subject to change.

5. “Flow Rate” means instantaneous flow, usually expressed in gallons per minute or cubic feet per second.
6. “Groundwater” means any water not visible on the surface of the ground under natural conditions, as more fully defined in section 37-90-103(19), C.R.S.
7. “Headgate” means a permanently installed combination of controllable, lockable (if necessary) device, embankments, diversion dam, or any other means that provides for the Diversion of water when in priority or otherwise authorized by law and prevents the Diversion of water, intentional or otherwise, when not in priority or that cannot be beneficially used.
8. “Measuring Device” means a Measurement Method that is permanently-installed equipment used to directly determine the Flow Rate, Total Volume, or volume of water stored in a reservoir, within the standards of accuracy identified in these Rules.
9. “Measurement Method” means a method to determine the Flow Rate, Total Volume, or volume of water stored in a reservoir, within the standards of accuracy identified in these Rules.
10. “Notification,” “Notice,” or “Notify” to the Division Engineer means submission to the Division Engineer by mail or email of a written message, or, where specifically required by these Rules, of a completed form or other format prescribed by the State Engineer.
11. “Person” means an individual, a partnership, a corporation, a municipality, the State of Colorado, the United States, or any other legal entity, public or private, as defined in section 37-92-103(8), C.R.S.
12. “Qualified Tester” means a person who is currently certified by the State Engineer as qualified to determine the accuracy of an installed Measuring Device or Measurement Method or a hydrographer, hydrologic technician, or Professional Engineer competent in such testing.
13. “Recording Device” means any device acceptable to the Water Commissioner that is capable of recording the flow data or water level.
14. “Reservoir,” for the purpose of these rules, means a structure designed to impound and store water for future release to a designated location for a Beneficial Use or for a Beneficial Use within the Reservoir. For the purpose of the application of these Rules, a Reservoir is for the purpose of storing water according to a storage right for one or more decreed Beneficial Uses and the storage right is administered according to terms and conditions of a decree.

2021-11-10. These are draft Measurement Rules to be used for the purpose of facilitating the input from stakeholders during stakeholder meetings. These draft rules are subject to change.

15. “Total Volume” means the volume of water, usually expressed in acre-feet, that flows through a Diversion Structure over a specified period of time or that is stored and/or released from a reservoir.
 16. “Verification” or “Verified” means the test performed by a Qualified Tester to verify the accuracy of an installed Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method.
 17. “Water Right” means a right to use in accordance with its priority a certain portion of the waters of the state by reason of the appropriation of the same. Section 37-92-103(12), C.R.S.
 18. “Water User” or “User” means a Person who owns or uses a Diversion Structure and/or the associated Water Right.
 19. “Well,” as defined in section 37-92-103(14), C.R.S., means any structure or device used for the purpose or with the effect of obtaining groundwater for beneficial use from an aquifer.
- B. Other Definitions. All other words used herein shall be given their usual, customary, and accepted meanings. All words of a technical or legal nature specific to the State of Colorado water rights administration shall be given the meaning that is generally accepted within that field. Any term used in these Rules not defined herein that is defined in other Rules and Regulations of the State Engineer shall have the same meaning given therein.

18.5 Headgate Requirements

All diversions of surface water within the scope of these rules shall have a Headgate or other means of controlling the diversion. Headgates shall allow the Water Commissioner to accurately adjust the flow of water with reasonable effort and within a reasonable amount of time and to secure the structure at the adjusted condition so as to prevent any unauthorized diversion or adjustment.

18.6 Measurement Methods and Recording Requirements

All Diversion Structures within the scope of these Rules shall either (1) be equipped with a Measuring Device or an Alternative Measurement Method that meets the requirements of Rule 18.6.A and is approved by the Division Engineer as described in Section 18.7, or (2) be declared inactive. All Measuring Methods must be tamper resistant. The Division Engineer may require a wasteway downstream of the Diversion Structure’s Measurement Method for the purpose of returning excess Diversions to the stream and may require the installation of a Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method at the wasteway.

2021-11-10. These are draft Measurement Rules to be used for the purpose of facilitating the input from stakeholders during stakeholder meetings. These draft rules are subject to change.

A. Measurement Method Functional Standard:

1. A Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method must measure Flow Rate, Total Volume, or both, depending on the defining elements of the Diversion's Water Right or plan for augmentation, if applicable.
2. A Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method shall accurately measure flows to within ± 5 percent of the standard rating (or an empirically created custom rating) for the device throughout the full range of anticipated flows. *{SEO Note: We may consider a standard of \pm a flow rate instead of a percentage for small Flow Rates below a threshold.}*
3. A Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method must be located within reasonable proximity of the Diversion Structure to enable the Water Commissioner to observe the effect of Headgate adjustments.
4. A Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method must be properly installed or calibrated to engineering specifications to ensure proper measurement.
5. A Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method must be maintained by the User in a condition to provide accurate measurement throughout the full anticipated range of Flow Rate or volume of water stored in a Reservoir
6. A Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method shall not be deemed complete until such time that a rating table, accurately calibrated to the Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method, or stage-capacity table, as applicable, has been made available to the Water Commissioner unless such rating table is for a standard flume, weir, or meter.
7. Off-stream Reservoirs require:
 - a. Measuring Devices or Alternative Measurement Methods at the point of Diversion of the structure used to deliver water to a Reservoir;
 - b. a Measuring Device or Alternate Measurement Method to measure stage and volume of water in storage; and
 - c. a Measuring Device or Alternate Measurement Method to measure releases. Measurement of releases may also be made by calibrated release tables, gaging, or by calculation of change in storage.

2021-11-10. These are draft Measurement Rules to be used for the purpose of facilitating the input from stakeholders during stakeholder meetings. These draft rules are subject to change.

8. On-stream Reservoirs require:

- a. a Measuring Device or Alternate Measurement Method to measure stage and volume of water in storage; and
- b. a Measuring Device or Alternate Measurement Method to measure releases. Measurement of releases may also be made by calibrated release tables or gaging, sufficient to determine or calculate evaporation, inflows, and outflows.

B. Recording Device Functional Standard

1. A Recording Device may be required pursuant to the terms and conditions of a water court decree, terms and conditions of a well permit, or as may be reasonably required by the Division Engineer.
2. Where required, a Recording Device shall be a device acceptable to the Water Commissioner that is capable of continuous recording of stage data at a resolution of 0.01 foot or other equivalent positive determinant of Flow Rate at a resolution of comparable accuracy through an approved Measuring Device at no greater than 15-minute intervals over a period of time.
3. Where required, a Recording Device must include a means to verify on-site that the device is properly calibrated.
4. Where required, such Recording Device shall not be deemed complete and acceptable until all equipment and software necessary to download and process recorded data is supplied to the Water Commissioner and/or the Division Engineer.

C. Temporary Measurement Method

1. In the instance where an accepted Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method is incapable of accurately measuring flows, the Division Engineer may allow a temporary Measurement Method until the Measuring Device or Alternative Measurement Method can be repaired, replaced, or restored.

D. Measurement Method Verification

1. The Division Engineer may require that a Measuring Device be rated or verified to be operating properly. Such verification shall be conducted by a Qualified Tester.

2021-11-10. These are draft Measurement Rules to be used for the purpose of facilitating the input from stakeholders during stakeholder meetings. These draft rules are subject to change.

2. Alternative Measurement Methods shall be rated or verified {at a frequency}. Such verification shall be conducted by a Qualified Tester. {SEO Note: the Rules may define a frequency for verification}
3. A report of the verification testing shall be provided to the Division Engineer on a form developed by the State Engineer.
4. All flow measuring equipment used to certify the accuracy and working condition of Measuring Devices and Alternative Measurement Methods in the field must be calibrated every two years to be accurate within plus or minus 2 percent, unless a variance is granted by the Division Engineer. Calibration and certification of accuracy of such testing equipment must be accomplished by a facility qualified and equipped to certify a test meter as accurate in accordance with this rule using National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) traceable standards.

18.7 Approval of Measurement Method

- A. To comply with these rules, each Measurement Method is subject to approval by the Division Engineer.
 1. For the purpose of obtaining approval of the use of a Measurement Method, and in compliance with the phase in provisions of Rule 18.16, the Water User of a pre-existing Measurement Method, the Water User of a newly installed or reinstalled Measurement Method, and the Water User of a changed Measurement Method shall provide Notice, to the Division Engineer or the Division Engineer's delegate, that includes the following information: (1) Person's Name, (2) Diversion Structure Name, (3) Decree (if applicable), (4) Legal Description (PLSS quarter-quarter, section, township and range or UTM coordinates) of the Diversion, (5) Measuring Device installed, (6) Rating table for measuring device (if non-standard), and/or a stage-capacity table in the case of a Reservoir, and (7) the date of installation.
 2. To obtain approval of a Measuring Device, the Water User must provide evidence that the Measuring Device is properly rated and properly installed.
 3. To obtain approval of an Alternative Measurement Method, the Water User must provide the basis for the use of an Alternative Measurement Method, including, but not limited to assumptions, field conditions, and calculations, to the satisfaction of the Division Engineer, to ensure that the Division Engineer can accurately determine that the Alternative Measurement Method will operate according to the accuracy standards identified in these Rules.

2021-11-10. These are draft Measurement Rules to be used for the purpose of facilitating the input from stakeholders during stakeholder meetings. These draft rules are subject to change.

18.8 Data Recording and Data Submission

Each Diversion Structure subject to these rules shall have its Diversions recorded by the Water Commissioner or the Water User. The Division Engineer, in cooperation with the Water User, will determine each of their responsibilities. The Water User shall report to the Water Commissioner, in a format prescribed by the Division Engineer, the amount of water diverted at the Diversion Structure during the preceding irrigation year (November 1 through October 31) no later than November 15, or as required by a decree, or according to the frequency determined by the Division Engineer.

18.9 Noncompliance

{SEO Note: This section will describe the Division Engineer's statutory authority to obtain compliance with the statutory authority to order Headgates and Measurement Methods}

18.10 Variance

When the strict application of any provisions of these Rules would cause undue hardship, the Division Engineer may grant a variance. Any request for a variance shall be made to the Division Engineer, in a format prescribed by the State Engineer, and shall state the basis for the requested variance and provide supporting documentation. If the Division Engineer finds the request justifiable, the Division Engineer may issue a written order granting the variance and setting forth the terms and conditions on which the variance is granted. Variance requests are granted at the sole discretion of the State or Division Engineer.

18.11 Effect of Rules on Other Diversions

18.12 Process to Appeal a Decision under These Rules.

{SEO Note: This section will describe the water user's right to appeal a decision of the Division Engineer in the application of the Rules.}

18.13 Severability

If any portion of these Rules is found to be invalid, the remaining portion of the Rules shall remain in force and in effect.

18.14 Revisions

These Rules may be revised in accordance with section 24-4-103, C.R.S., and 2 CCR 402-5.

18.15 Statement of Basis and Purpose Incorporated by Reference

The Statement of Basis and Purpose for these Rules is incorporated herein as part of these Rules.

2021-11-10. These are draft Measurement Rules to be used for the purpose of facilitating the input from stakeholders during stakeholder meetings. These draft rules are subject to change.

18.16 Phase In

- A. In order to allow Water Users the time necessary to come into compliance with these Rules, the Division Engineer shall set scheduled dates for installation of Measuring Devices or Alternate Measuring Methods and the approval of such based on a geographic area or type of diversion.
- B. Water Users are not in violation of Rules 18.5 or 18.6 if they meet the following criteria:
 - 1. The structure is in a geographic area where the Division Engineer has designated a scheduled date for installation of Measuring Devices or Alternate Measurement Methods, and that date has not passed, or
 - 2. The structure is in a type of diversion where the Division Engineer has designated a scheduled date for installation of Measuring Devices or Alternate Measurement Methods and that date has not passed.
- C. Upon a showing of good cause the State Engineer may extend the compliance deadlines of Rule 18.16.A for one or more periods of time not exceeding one year each and may impose such terms and conditions as part of such extension as the State Engineer deems reasonably necessary to ensure compliance with the requirements of the Rules. Good cause requires that the Water User demonstrate that it has been diligent in its efforts to comply with the requirements of these Rules, has made substantial progress in complying with the requirements of these Rules, and despite its diligent and good faith efforts has been unable to fully comply with the requirements of these Rules. The Water User must also provide an estimate of the amount of additional time required for it to fully comply with the Rules and such other information as the State Engineer may reasonably require in order to evaluate a request for an extension of time.

18.17 Effective Date

These Rules, as adopted by the State Engineer, shall become effective on XXXXX XX, 20XX and shall remain in effect until amended as provided by law. IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that any persons wishing to protest these Rules may do so in the manner provided in sections 24-4-101 et seq., C.R.S., (the State Administrative Procedure Act).

Submitted on this XXXX day of XXXXXX, XX

Kevin G. Rein, P.E.

State Engineer

Southwest Basin Roundtable Update to SWCD Board of Directors November 30, 2021

Basin Implementation Plan Update: The Southwest Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) is now available at engagecwcw.org for public comment through November 15th, along with the CWCB's comprehensive projects database, an outcome of the BIP update process. The BIP will come before the Roundtable for adoption in December before its final release in January 2022. The Colorado Water Plan's final release is anticipated in June 2022.

Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC) Update: Colorado Department of Natural Resources Director Dan Gibbs has replaced Russ George as IBCC Director. The IBCC will hold a special meeting soon to further discuss whether the IBCC be charged with structuring the proportionality/equity aspects of any demand management program, if implemented.

Colorado Water Conservation Board Update: The CWCB board has adopted a decision-making framework for the demand management feasibility investigation, which is available on the CWCB website. Conversations about Colorado River negotiations are moving forward as well.

Public Education, Participation & Outreach (PEPO): The CWCB is considering increasing annual basin PEPO funding from \$6,500 to \$25,000 per basin per year starting July 2022. The CWCB is undertaking a phased Colorado Water Plan messaging campaign with support from PEPO liaisons. The Water '22 campaign will include an event based in southwest Colorado.

Colorado River Issues Subcommittee: Participants in the Homestake Reservoir Pilot release presented to the Colorado River Subcommittee on their effort evaluate the mechanics of shepherding water under a potential curtailment scenario or the proposed demand management program. Michelle Garrison, CWCB, detailed conditions, operations and forecasts for Lakes Mead and Powell.

DNR Updates: The Governor currently has in his budget for FY 2023, Four Regional Water Plan Grant Coordinators; Water Accounting Coordinators in the South Platte, Arkansas and Rio Grande basins to track ground water for compact compliance; and a Water Resource Manager to manage the State Land Board water rights.

Water Supply Reserve Fund: The WSRF Basin Fund balance is \$603,903, of which \$191,400 is federal relief that must be appropriated by March 2023. Due to declines in severance tax revenues, it's unlikely that WSRF will be replenished in the coming three-five years and so the CWCB is exploring alternatives to create stability for the Basin Accounts, including setting a distribution list of \$300,000 per basin per year for three years. The CWCB may even place a \$750,000 carryover limit on WSRF Basin accounts. March 2022 will be the last CWCB meeting where grants from the statewide WSRF fund will be considered. Any funds remaining in the statewide account will then be distributed to the basin accounts. Starting November 1st, the CWCB will offer an online WSRF application form and process.

Southwest Colorado Projects: The Roundtable supported WSRF applications for the following projects: Animas Watershed Partnership: Animas River Stream Management Plan, Phase I; Center for Snow & Avalanche Studies: Ongoing Snowpack Monitoring and Research; Lone Cone Ditch & Reservoir Company: Dam Outlet Repair Engineering & Design; Town of Pagosa: Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's Yamaguchi South Project; and Pagosa Area Water & Sanitation District: Snowball Water Treatment Plant Replacement

The Roundtable approved letters of support for Colorado Water Plan applications from the Mancos River Restoration Project, 4CORE's drafting of a greywater ordinance for La Plata County, the Upper San Juan Watershed Enhancement Partnership's Yamaguchi South Project, and Colorado Airborne Snow Observatory's statewide snowpack monitoring flights.

Upcoming Meetings & WSRF Deadlines: 2022 Roundtable meetings are scheduled for January 20th, April 28th, July 28th and October 27th, with WSRF applications due on April 15th (for April meeting consideration) and October 14th (for October meeting consideration).



THE SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Developing and Conserving the Waters in the
SAN JUAN AND DOLORES RIVERS AND THEIR TRIBUTARIES
West Building – 841 East Second Avenue
DURANGO, COLORADO 81301
(970) 247-1302

BOARD MEMORANDUM

From: Steve Wolff & Laura Spann

Subject: Revised Strategic Plan

Date: 2 December 2021

Based on written comments received and the discussion we had on 10 November, we have revised the draft SWCD Strategic Plan (attached). A summary of those changes include:

- We have shortened the document considerably by removing much of the background narrative.
- We have also attempted to include the concept of the importance of data by including it in (what was) Strategic Priority #2 and moved it to the first strategic priority.
- Items in the previous version entitled “Implementation Strategies” have been removed. Our feeling is these were a bit too detailed for a five year-plan and have opted to include those in a supplement document entitled “Annual Action Plan”, which we envision as being developed by staff and approved by the Board on an annual basis.
- To the extent possible, we have tried to remove the overlap of topics discussed under each priority.

We look forward to further discussions on this document.



“To protect, conserve, and develop waters of the San Juan and Dolores Rivers and their tributaries in Southwestern Colorado.”

Southwestern Water Conservation District

Strategic Plan: 2022 – 2026

Draft Version 12-02-21

Adopted: XXX

Background

The Southwestern Water Conservation District (District or SWCD) was created on April 16, 1941 by the Colorado General Assembly through House Bill #795 ([Statute 37-47-101 et seq.](#)). The District is comprised of all or part of nine counties in southwestern Colorado: Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, San Juan, San Miguel, and parts of Hinsdale, Mineral, and Montrose. Each Board of County Commissioners appoints one representative to the District Board of Directors, which meets every other month.

SWCD’s statutory authority is to protect, conserve, use and develop the water resources of the San Juan and Dolores River Basins (Figure 1) for the welfare of the District, and safeguard for Colorado all waters of the basins to which the state is entitled. Following this mandate, the District has assumed a broad strategic role on behalf of its diverse constituents for more than 80 years. That history is an important part of the District and we plan to document the details of that history in a stand-alone document to be prepared in the near future.

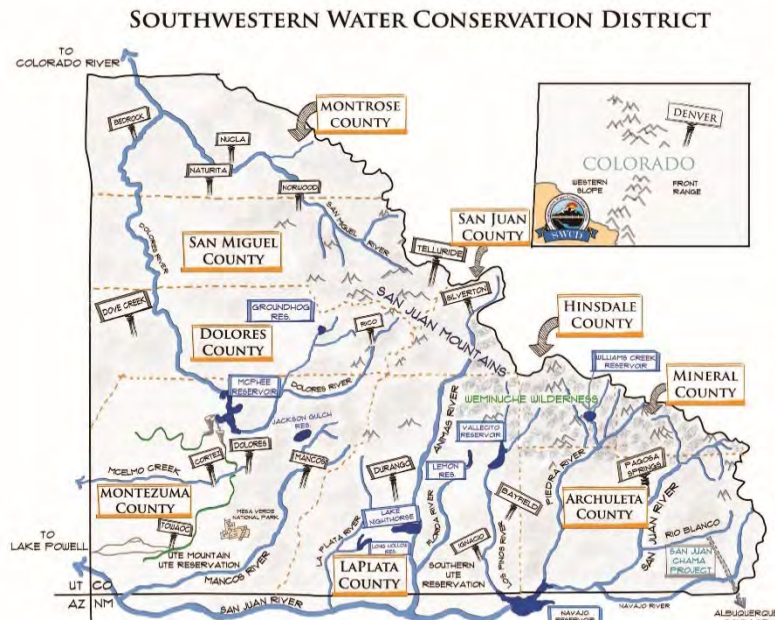


Figure 1. Map of the Southwestern Water Conservation District.

SWCD carries out this essential work thanks to a small tax levied on property within the District. In 2021 the Board of Directors adopted a budget showing total revenues of \$1,863,588 with \$1,739,689 in proposed operating expenses. The District’s audited ending fund balance for fiscal year 2020 was \$3,756,612. The District currently employs two full-time staff, a general manager, and a programs coordinator. The District contracts out for legal, engineering, and other needed professional services.

In 2019, the SWCD Board of Directors initiated discussions about the need to develop a strategic plan. Subsequently, the Board and District staff, with support from Wellstone Collaborative Strategies, have worked to develop this draft plan.

Strategic priorities

1. In coordination with the appropriate partners, ensure the District remains engaged in obtaining, updating and analyzing water supply, demand and quality data necessary to address the water management challenges facing southwest Colorado

Overview As the demand for water resources increases, and supplies simultaneously decline, more innovation and cooperation will be required to continue to effectively manage the water we have. At the forefront of this is the need for the best possible available information on the quantity and quality of the supplies we have, as well as the demand on those resources. Furthermore, in the face of reduced supplies, the District must prepare for inevitably tighter management, which only heightens the need for better water data.

The District is at ground zero when it comes to climate change and drought in the western United States, necessitating adaptation and resiliency in the face of increasingly hotter and drier conditions. Drought and climate have already impacted agriculture, municipal water supplies, and the environment.

- **Goal 1:** Through District sponsorship and related partnerships, ensure ongoing data collection efforts on water supply, demand, and quality.
 - *Indicator 1:* By 2023, the District has an increased understanding of intra-district water supply, demand and risks; and has initiated discussions with local water user entities on future needs and issues.
 - *Indicator 2:* Continue to fund and support accurate and increased data collection on water quantity and quality in southwestern Colorado to encourage a common foundation of information for decision-making among diverse interests.
 - *Indicator 3:* By 2024, funding partnerships (state, federal, local, or other) are in place to support drought planning and implementation efforts.
 - *Indicator 4:* By 2026, the District supports the development of two to three plans for water users and providers at a sub-basin scale.
- **Goal 2:** The District and its stakeholders have the necessary data, tools and agreements in place to understand, adapt to and be resilient in the face of extended drought and climate change.

- *Indicator 1:* Where needed, work to develop or support augmentation plans in water short areas that can be utilized as a tool for climate and drought planning.

2. Lead advocacy for southwest Colorado in Colorado River, interstate, and transmountain issues

Overview The District has a unique and important role to play as one of three entities in state with the statutory charge to safeguard the waters of Colorado. As such, a primary goal of the District is to protect water for future generations, and interstate Colorado river issues provide one of the greatest threats to water protection. Much water development in southwest Colorado is relatively recent in Colorado's history and there is concern that without water protection the ability for the region to grow and change over time will be foreclosed. With fewer pre-compact rights than many basins, the District's water users are potentially at higher risk under a strict curtailment regimen.

Big river issues are further exacerbated by a drier future with a decrease in supplies and an imbalance between supply and demand across the entire Colorado River Basin and in several places within the District. This priority points directly to our statutorily charge to protect, conserve, use and develop the water resources of the San Juan and Dolores River Basins for the welfare of the District, and safeguard for Colorado all waters of the basins to which the state is entitled.

- **Goal 1:** Waters within the District, to the extent possible, are protected for current and future uses.
 - *Indicator 1:* Beginning in 2022, the District is engaged and helping to inform Colorado River Basin discussions at the District, state, and interstate levels to protect and advocate for southwestern Colorado's unique risks while leveraging similarities with other river basins in Colorado.
 - *Indicator 2:* Any newly negotiated big river operation guidelines are a product the District can support.
 - *Indicator 3:* In coordination with the District's general counsel, continue to monitor activities related to transmountain diversions that may impact the water supply within the District's boundaries. Respond accordingly and proportionately.
- **Goal 2:** Continue to provide support to both the Upper and San Juan River Endangered Species Recovery Implementation programs (RIPs).
 - *Indicator 1:* Provide support to the ongoing post-2023 process to develop the framework for the operations and funding of the RIPs for the period of 2023 – 2037.
 - *Indicator 2:* Ensure the continued success of both RIPs into the future by remaining an active participant in both programs

3. Balance meeting multiple water needs amongst a diverse set of priorities, especially when there is potential for conflict or mutual benefit

Overview Water needs within the District are diverse and in some cases in conflict. Rather than advocating for any one water interest, the District supports balancing needs, being proactive, and identifying opportunities for win-win situations. Specific needs that the District hopes to help address through multi-purpose projects and collaborative water management include:

- **Tribal:** Support partnerships to ensure tribal water needs are met.
- **Municipal / domestic water use, especially small communities:** Some of the smaller communities do not have senior water rights or augmentation plans. In addition, several communities are growing and so are their water needs.
- **Agriculture:** Agricultural water supplies have also dwindled in some basins due to drought. In addition, some irrigated lands have been subdivided and the water rights are not being exercised as they were historically. Similarly, there is not as much farming and agricultural water use as there used to be due to generational shifts. There is need to preserve historic agricultural rights as well as improve agricultural water conservation tools.
- **Environment:** Having a healthy environment and ensuring that native fish have sufficient clean water to survive is important. The endangered fish species recovery programs and CWC's instream flow program need to be monitored and supported where appropriate, all the while considering future water development needs. The consumptive needs of the environment, such as cottonwoods and willows, are also important to the ecology of the region.
- **Recreation:** The recreational economy, such as boating and fishing, is critical to some communities.
- **Water Quality:** Mine drainage, sediment, and temperature are specific areas of concern that must be addressed in areas.

Goal 1: Work with and support all stakeholders in water management discussions. Always seek consensus and minimize potential conflicts through active planning and engagement.

- *Indicator 1:* Support integrated water planning efforts through funding and engagement. By 2023, be meeting regularly with local water users to discuss and plan for future water needs. This effort includes understanding the water rights in the district to meet multiple needs and implications under scenarios identified in the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan.
- *Indicator 2:* The District will seek to strengthen relationships with the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute Tribes and identify opportunities to partner with on water management issues. Establish regular coordination efforts with Tribal Councils.
- *Indicator 3:* Work collaboratively with the diverse partnerships present in the basin to support ways to address the multiple sets of water quantity and quality priorities.

4. Support investment in improvements to existing and development of new infrastructure for multiple uses in southwest Colorado

Overview There is a significant amount of aging infrastructure in the District that requires evaluation, rehabilitation and reinvestment. The challenges and costs to rebuild and repair are considerable. Yet it is important for maximizing storage, ensuring agricultural deliveries, enhancement of native fish needs, and supplying municipal needs for communities that this infrastructure to be restored and improved upon urgently.

Deteriorating agricultural ditches, diversions, and reservoirs means some of Colorado's water never reaches the crops, and in some cases, threatens to stall ongoing use of precious pre-compact water rights within the District. Moreover, efficiency in agricultural water deliveries is a critical issue in record dry hydrologic conditions.

Municipal infrastructure must upgrade water and wastewater treatment to keep up with new water quality regulations. In addition, some municipal water rights are not fully secured and the area is experiencing growth. Several small rural municipalities in southwest Colorado do not have adequate domestic water supply for dry summers. The District can support these communities evaluate their supply gaps, implement strategies to address their needs, and seek state funding.

Additional water storage may be a valuable tool for southwestern Colorado in drier hydrologic conditions. Maximizing existing storage within the District can involve activities such as dredging, expanding storage at existing reservoirs, rehabilitating existing dams that have fallen into disrepair or no longer meet public safety standards, and securing and constructing new storage facilities. Several aging reservoirs within the District are under storage restrictions to protect the public, and the costs for their repair and rehabilitation are major challenges to continue their operation. The District should serve as a key local advocate for state and federal funding to support these much-needed projects.

And finally, under a severe climate scenario, southwest Colorado's risk for natural disasters is greatly increased. Forest fires can have devastating impacts on reservoirs, run-off, and water quality. The region is expected to have three times the damages due to wildfires, which is the greatest increase for any region in the state. The District must remain involved in forest health discussions, to support the connections to water supply conditions.

- **Goal 1:** Water infrastructure restoration, planning, conservation and protection opportunities that strategically support the District's needs are met and risks reduced.
 - *Indicator 1:* Ensure that opportunities brought by the 2021 infrastructure bill are realized, which will entail working with federal, state and local entities to identify and develop projects worthy of funding

- *Indicator 2:* Ensure the District's grant program prioritizes use of funds to leverage state and federal dollars to maximize the benefit of our resources to meet the goals of the district.
- *Indicator 3:* The District will continue to participate in forest health initiatives and collaboratives to understand and advocate for benefits to water supply and quality.

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5. Strengthen the continued professional and efficient operation of the District while building a culture of mutual trust and respect

Overview Building and maintaining a culture of mutual trust and respect among District staff, Board members, consultants and stakeholders is essential to developing consensus around unifying goals, enhancing partnerships, engendering the engagement of relevant stakeholders, and ultimately advancing the District's mission. The District's internal culture must serve as an example of how our partners, stakeholders and even adversaries are treated. The District's internal operations must be trustworthy as well, with continued responsible fiscal management, a culture of public transparency in our operations, and a constant effort of "customer service".

Professionalism is the foundation for building an internal culture of respect and trust, as it empowers District representatives to stay focused on their common goals, undeterred by unrelated issues that derail progress and distract from the District's statutory obligations to its constituents. For example, having clear staff job descriptions, director responsibilities, and fluid communication with District consultants ensures that expectations of each team member's contributions are clear.

With the District's lean budget and limited capacity, board, staff, and consultant commitment to efficiency is critical to achieving the District's other strategic priorities. Improving operational efficiency starts with the development of this strategic plan, which will guide the District team in focusing its efforts and budgeted resources toward identified priorities and related outcomes. Efficiencies can also be sought in small ways, such as seeking improved, cost-effective office management techniques or implementing standing policies to guide financial management so the board can focus on water policy and advocacy.

- **Goal 1:** Increase professionalism by establishing clear expectations for the District's team.
 - *Indicator 1:* By 2022, review and update staff job descriptions and implement an effective performance evaluation process.
 - *Indicator 2:* By 2023, adopt director responsibilities and board code of conduct.
 - *Indicator 3:* By 2023, the board will consider adoption of District investment policy to ensure appropriate financial management of its funds.
- **Goal 2:** Align District resources and activities with strategic plan priorities.
 - *Indicator 1:* Board and staff annually review and update strategic plan.
 - *Indicator 2:* By 2022, review and discuss District staffing needs.
 - *Indicator 3:* Starting in 2023, ensure budgeted resources are directed towards strategic plan priorities.
 - *Indicator 4:* Further improve coordination and utilization of District consultant team to ensure agility and efficiency.
- **Goal 3:** Facilitate inclusive conversations, prioritize transparency, and seek active stakeholder input for strategic board decisions.

- *Indicator 1:* Seek to return to in-person board meetings as soon as practicable while pursuing enhanced avenues for board and stakeholders engagement in the virtual world.
- *Indicator 2:* SWCD board meetings will be led by the president in a clear fashion that encourages board engagement, allows space for public participation, and facilitates board consensus on key decisions.

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6. Cultivate District credibility with decisionmakers and public through targeted outreach efforts

Overview The District’s policy efforts are effective when its voice and mission are easily identified by local and state decisionmakers, as well as its constituents. Building the District’s name recognition and credibility will require prioritizing public outreach to brand SWCD as southwest Colorado’s water watchdog and the “go-to” on water policy in our corner of the state. While the District maintains a group of interested supporters, focused outreach can expand our base constituency, increase communication and collaboration with key partners, and generally improve visibility of the District’s work with the public. Moreover, strengthening the District’s digital communication infrastructure will prepare it to lead rapid mobilization efforts to convey advocacy messages or other urgent information to key leaders and constituents.

Furthermore, any public entity should be able to clearly justify to taxpayers its value and need. In that sense, public outreach reinforces District accountability to constituents by regularly reporting District activities, policy positions, and goals directly to them. Increased outreach would also seek to meet the public’s expectations regarding accessibility in the digital age by entering the communications spaces they engage with regularly. Finally, should a future board wish to request a tax increase from voters, the District will be better positioned having already implemented key outreach strategies.

- **Goal 1:** Increase District mission recognition and credibility with target audiences.
 - *Indicator 1:* By 2022, the District board, staff, and consultants have agreed upon an “elevator speech” and tagline that adequately summarizes SWCD’s work.
 - *Indicator 2:* By 2023, the District board and staff have identified target audiences to deliver the agreed upon message of SWCD’s work and credibility on various policy matters.
 - *Indicator 3:* By 2024, the District staff has prioritized and begun implementing a suite of selected strategies to reach target audiences.
- **Goal 2:** Develop and operate a District outreach program that can provide information, education and support to water users across the basin.
 - *Indicator 1:* Compile and write history of District

Related Documents:

Action Plan: An annual work plan for SWCD staff and Board. Developed each year by staff and submitted to the Board for approval each year at the December Board meeting. Action Plan should be informed by and back up annual budget.

Strategic Plan “One-Pager”: One page document that shows Strategic Priorities and Goals. Primarily used as a “quick reference” for Board, staff and others.

SWCD Historical Documentation: It would be useful for the District to research and compile a “historical review” of the District. This is a longer-term project but should be started in 2022.

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DRAFT 2021 Southwest Water Conservation District Strategic Plan Snapshot

Statutory Mandate: To protect, conserve, use and develop the water resources of the San Juan and Dolores River Basins for the welfare of the District, and safeguard for Colorado all waters of the basins to which the state is entitled.

Strategic Priorities					
1. In coordination with the appropriate partners, ensure the District remains engaged in obtaining, updating and analyzing water supply, demand and quality data necessary to address the water management challenges facing southwest Colorado	2. Lead advocacy for southwest Colorado in Colorado River, interstate, and transmountain issues	3. Balance meeting multiple water needs amongst a diverse set of priorities, especially when there is potential for conflict or mutual benefit	4. Support investment in improvements to existing and development of new infrastructure for multiple uses in southwest Colorado	5. Strengthen the continued professional and efficient operation of the District while building a culture of mutual trust and respect	6. Cultivate District credibility with decisionmakers and public through targeted outreach efforts
Goals					
1.1. Through District sponsorship and related partnerships, ensure ongoing data collection efforts on water supply, demand, and quality. 1.2. The District and its stakeholders have the necessary data, tools and agreements in place to understand, adapt to and be resilient in the face of extended drought and climate change.	2.1. Waters within the District, to the extent possible, are protected for current and future uses. 2.2. Continue to provide support to both the Upper and San Juan River Endangered Species Recovery Implementation programs (RIPs).	3.1. Work with and support all stakeholders in water management discussions. Always seek consensus and minimize potential conflicts through active planning and engagement.	4.1. Water infrastructure restoration, planning, conservation and protection opportunities that strategically support the District's needs are met and risks reduced	5.1. Increase professionalism by establishing clear expectations for the District's team. 5.2. Align District resources and activities with strategic plan priorities. 5.3. Facilitate inclusive conversations, prioritize transparency, and seek active stakeholder input for strategic board decisions.	6.1. Increase District mission recognition and credibility with target audiences. 6.2. Develop and operate a District outreach program that can provide information, education and support to water users across the basin.
Indicators					
a. By 2023, the District has an increased understanding of intra-district water supply, demand and risks; and has initiated discussions with local water user entities on future needs and issues. b. Continue to fund and support accurate and increased data collection on water quantity and quality in southwestern Colorado to encourage a common foundation of information for decision-making among diverse interests. c. By 2024, funding partnerships (state, federal, local, or other) are in place to support drought planning and implementation efforts. d. By 2026, the District supports the development of two to three plans for water users and providers at a sub-basin scale. e. Where needed, work to develop or support augmentation plans in water short areas that can be utilized as a tool for climate and drought planning.	a. Beginning in 2022, the District is engaged and helping to inform Colorado River Basin discussions at the District, state, and interstate levels to protect and advocate for southwestern Colorado's unique risks while leveraging similarities with other river basins in Colorado. b. Any newly negotiated big river operation guidelines are a product the District can support. c. In coordination with the District's general counsel, continue to monitor activities related to transmountain diversions that may impact the water supply within the District's boundaries. Respond accordingly and proportionately. d. Provide support to the ongoing post-2023 process to develop the framework for the operations and funding of the RIPs for the period of 2023 – 2037. e. Indicator 2: Ensure the continued success of both RIPs into the future by reaming an active participant in both programs	a. Support integrated water planning efforts through funding and engagement. By 2023, be meeting regularly with local water users to discuss and plan for future water needs. This effort includes understanding the water rights in the district to meet multiple needs and implications under scenarios identified in the Southwest Basin Implementation Plan. b. The District will seek to strengthen relationships with the Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute Tribes and identify opportunities to partner with on water management issues. Establish regular coordination efforts with Tribal Councils by 2023. c. Work collaboratively with the diverse partnerships present in the basin to support ways to address the multiple sets of water quantity and quality priorities. By 2026, have worked in partnership to address at least three priorities. Increase OBH Capacity and Resources	a. Ensure that opportunities brought by the 2021 infrastructure bill are realized, which will entail working with federal, state and local entities to identify and develop projects worthy of funding. b. Ensure the District's grant program prioritizes use of funds to leverage state and federal dollars to maximize the benefit of our resources to meet the goals of the district. c. The District will continue to participate in forest health initiatives and collaboratives to understand and advocate for benefits to water supply and quality.	a. By 2022, review and update staff job descriptions and implement an effective performance evaluation process. b. By 2023, adopt director responsibilities and board code of conduct. c. By 2023, consider adoption of District investment policy. d. Board and staff annually review and update strategic plan. e. By 2022, review and discuss District staffing needs. f. Starting in 2023, direct budgeted resources towards strategic plan priorities. g. Further improve coordination and utilization of District consultant team to ensure agility and efficiency. h. Seek to return to in-person board meetings as soon as practicable while pursuing avenues for stakeholder & board engagement virtually. i. Board meetings led to encourage board engagement, public participation, and facilitates consensus on key decisions.	a. Indicator 1: By 2022, the District board, staff, and consultants have agreed upon an "elevator speech" and tagline that adequately summarizes SWCD's work. b. Indicator 2: By 2023, the District board and staff have identified target audiences to deliver the agreed upon message of SWCD's work and credibility on various policy matters. c. Indicator 3: By 2024, the District staff has prioritized and begun implementing a suite of selected strategies to reach target audiences. d. Indicator 1: Compile and write history of District by January of 2023

Note: This is a draft concept but we want to further explore software options and hear board input before we finalize it.

DRAFT SWCD Virtual Meeting Protocol

(language to be added to SWCD board packets and included at the end of SWCD agendas?)

Public Access and Commenting

To ensure public access to SWCD's meetings while protecting everyone's safety, virtual meetings of the SWCD board will be conducted via webinar as of **February 2022** (Date TBD). The public is off video and muted until granted permission by the chair to speak. To make public comment please raise your hand and you will be unmuted by the host to speak. For any technical difficulty or other meeting logistics questions, please call 970-247-1302 or email lauras@swwcd.org.

Disruptions:

In the event of a Virtual Meeting disruption (e.g. "Zoom bombing), the host (SWCD staff) will:

1. Attempt to report the disruptive participant and remove them from the meeting; if that doesn't work, it may be necessary to end the meeting immediately to reduce the duration of the disruption;
2. Email a new meeting link to the board and staff (and if possible, any public in attendance whose emails SWCD already has) as soon as possible;
3. Send the new meeting link to all public who immediately request it via email (lauras@swwcd.org). In the case that the public is unable to reconnect or obtain the new meeting link, the recording can be made after the meeting available upon request; and
4. Send the new meeting link via email to all those who have requested to be notified of SWCD meetings.

Lost Connection:

To avoid lost connection, the virtual meeting host permissions will be shared between SWCD staff and consultants in various locations. If, however, internet connectivity disrupts the meeting, SWCD board, staff, and public can utilize the same link once a connection is reestablished by a host (either the SWCD staff or another party).

If a member of the public who lose internet connectivity and therefore access to the meeting, they can use the call-in number available on the agenda instead.



THE SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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(970) 247-1302

BOARD MEMORANDUM

From: Steve Wolff, General Manager

Subject: Lower Basin Tour; February 2022

Date: 2 December 2021

As we have discussed previously, Southwestern Water Conservation District (“SWCD”) and the Colorado River District are partnering to sponsor a tour of a portion of the Lower Colorado River Basin and related water resource facilities across parts of Nevada, Arizona, and California on **February 8-11, 2022**.

Invited participants include board members and relevant staff from SWCD and the Colorado River District, directors representing the Western Slope on the Colorado Water Conservation Board, representatives from the Southern Ute Indian Tribe and Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, and other key Western Slope stakeholders. It is also our hope that this time together will allow for fruitful discussion among the Western Slope contingency.

The purpose of the tour is to enable western Colorado water users and stakeholders to explore the issues associated with declining Colorado River hydrology, water transfers in the Lower Basin, and related lessons for the Upper Basin. We anticipate visiting several key facilities managed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and water users and interacting directly with Lower Basin agricultural producers and water managers. **Thanks to the efforts of the Colorado River District, we will have a detailed itinerary to share soon.**

If you plan to attend, you should plan on flying into Las Vegas later in the day on Tuesday, February 8th and out of Southern California (airport TBD) late Friday, February 11th or early Saturday, February 12th. The substance of the tour will start the early morning of Wednesday, February 9th through the late afternoon of Friday, February 11th.

Please RSVP to Laura (lauras@swgcd.org, 970 -247-1302) no later than December 20.

MEMO

Southwestern Water Conservation District

From: SWCD Staff
To: SWCD Board of Directors
Date: December 1, 2021
Subject: Recommendation regarding Certificate of Deposit Maturing January 2022

One of SWCD's certificate of deposit (CD) will mature on January 3, 2022. See a summary of the CD details below:

Balance: \$1,589,791.29
Interest Rate: 2.35%
Maturity Date: January 3, 2022
Location: 1st Southwest Bank

As of November 30th, 1st Southwest Bank (which consistently offers the best CD rates locally) is offering 0.30% for 12-month and 0.40% for 24-month jumbo CDs. This rate is only slightly higher than that of our current checking account. TBK Bank is offering 0.35% for 12-month and 0.40% for 24-month CDs. COLOTRUST Edge YTD yield is 0.1544%.

Given that interest rates are again expected to rise next year, we recommend that the SWCD board authorize the signers to cash out this CD in January and deposit the balance in its Bank of Colorado checking account temporarily until further discussion with the SWCD Board Finance Committee can occur.

Public funds in SWCD's checking account are protected by the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) up to \$250,000 and are further secured by the Public Deposit Protection Act (PDPA). Please see the attached letter from Bank of Colorado explaining these protections, as well as a factsheet on the PDPA.

For your reference, I've included a summary of current SWCD account balances and interest rates:

SWCD Account Name	Interest Rates	Current Account Balance
SWCD Checking	0.38%	\$1,575,616.21
SWCD Credit Card		(\$1,434)
Water Info Program Checking	0.34%	\$132,515.01
COLOTRUST General	0.0482%	\$1,000.48
1 st SW Bank – CD 2 – Jan 2022	2.35%	\$1,589,791.29
1 st SW Bank – CD 3 – July 2022	1.25%	\$508,421.94
1 st SW Bank – CD 4 – Jan 2023	0.60%	\$419,420.53
1 st SW Bank – CD 5 – Jan 2023	0.60%	\$102,925.29
	Total	\$4,328,256.75



August 2, 2019

In regards to: Public Deposit maintained at Bank of Colorado

Southwestern Water Conservation District
841 E Second Ave
Durango, CO 81301

To Whom It May Concern:

This letter is in response to your request for information regarding your public funds deposited in Bank of Colorado. Bank of Colorado monitors public fund deposit totals daily to maintain adequate coverage from a combination of FDIC insurance and pledged securities. Monthly the individual deposits and individual securities listings are submitted to the State of Colorado Division of Banking who is responsible for enforcing the Public Deposit Protection Act (PDPA). The type of securities we are allowed to pledge as well as the coverage ratios are outlined in section PDP3 of the Act. The Division of Banking then reviews our submission for compliance with the Act. Please feel free to review the Act and other information regarding PDPA at <http://www.dora.state.co.us/banking>.

The Division of Banking can supply information about PDPA and their responsibility to public entities. They can also verify that your accounts are being reported by any bank where deposits are maintained. Bank of Colorado identifies public funds on the account statement to help verify it is being reported.

Bank of Colorado also offers CDARS (Certificate of Deposit Account Registry Service) as an alternative to protect deposits. The State of Colorado has approved CDARS as an investment option for public entities. CDARS protect your deposits by placing individual portions of your totals deposit with as many financial institutions as necessary to maintain the \$250,000 limit for FDIC insurance. For convenience you still only deal with Bank of Colorado that sets the rate and you are provided one statement, the rest is done by us. More information regarding CDARS and public funds can be obtained at <https://www.cdars.com/media/249560/cdars-co-law.pdf>

Bank of Colorado manages its public funds pledging everyday and does it for public entities all across the state. Whether these deposits are maintained within our bank or managed through CDARS, you should feel comfortable that we are doing what the law requires to protect public funds.

Sincerely,

Craig Lichtenwalner
Senior Vice President/ Cashier
Bank of Colorado



MEMBER FDIC

Main Avenue Office 1199 Main Avenue, Durango CO 80301 • 970.247.5151
South City Market Office 9th & Camino Del Rio, Durango CO 80301
North City Market ATM Live 3130 Main Avenue, Durango CO 80301
Drive Up/Walk Up 902 E 2nd Avenue, Durango CO 80301
Bayfield ATM Live 381 E Colorado Drive, Bayfield CO 81122 • bankofcolorado.com



COLORADO

Department of
Regulatory Agencies

Division of Banking

THE PUBLIC DEPOSIT PROTECTION ACT (C.R.S., 11-10.5-101, et. seq.) FACT SHEET

The Colorado Division of Banking, under the authority of the Colorado State Banking Board, oversees Colorado chartered commercial banks, inter-state, and national commercial banks that are certified to hold Colorado public deposits. Public deposits held by Savings and Loan associations are regulated under different statutes and rules. Please contact the Colorado Division of Financial Services (303-894-2336) for information concerning Savings and Loan association public deposit protection.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Public Deposit Protection Act (PDPA) is to ensure that public funds held on deposit in eligible public depositories are protected in the event that the eligible public depository holding the public deposits becomes insolvent. The PDPA protects only public funds placed in deposit accounts at an eligible public depository. Deposit accounts include: Demand Deposit, Negotiable Order of Withdrawal (NOW), Savings, Money Market Deposit, and Time/Certificate of Deposit (CD) accounts.

DEFINITIONS

1. **Public Deposits** – All moneys in deposit accounts at an eligible public depository that either: (1) belong to a public unit or public entity, or (2) are under the control of the Official Custodian of a public unit or entity.
2. **Public Unit** – State of Colorado or any Colorado county, Colorado city or municipality, Colorado city and county, or any political subdivision thereof.

"Political subdivision" includes any subdivision or any principal department of a public unit:

- (I) The creation of which subdivision or principal department has been expressly authorized by state statute;
- (II) To which some functions of government have been delegated by state statute; and
- (III) To which funds have been allocated by ordinance or state statute for its exclusive use and control.

"Political subdivision" also includes drainage, irrigation, navigation, improvement, levee, sanitary, school districts, power districts, bridge and port authorities and any other special district created by state statute or compact between the state of Colorado and one or more states.

"Political subdivision" does not include subordinate or nonautonomous divisions, agencies, or boards within principal departments of a public unit.



3. **Public Entity** – Colorado public entities include: institutions of higher education; institutions, departments, agencies, instrumentalities, or authorities of any Colorado public unit; local government investment pools; public entity insurance pools; any public body corporate created or established under the constitution of the State of Colorado or any state statute; or other entity, organization or corporation formed by intergovernmental agreement or other contract between or among any of the foregoing.
4. **Official Custodian** - A designee with plenary authority, including control over public funds of a public unit which the official custodian is appointed to serve. For purposes of this paragraph, "control" includes possession of public funds, as well as the authority to establish accounts for such public funds in banks and to make deposits, withdrawals, or disbursements of such public funds. If the exercise of plenary authority over the public funds of a public unit requires action by or the consent of two or more putative official custodians, then such official custodians shall be treated as one official custodian with respect to such public funds.

A designee, other than a designee described in the above paragraph, with authority, including control, over public funds of an entity, including the state of Colorado; any institution, agency, instrumentality, authority, county, municipality, city and county, school district, special district, or other political subdivision of the state of Colorado, including any institution of higher education; any institution, department, agency, instrumentality, or authority of any of the foregoing, including any county or municipal housing authority; any local government investment pool organized pursuant to Part 7 of Article 75 of Title 24, C.R.S.; any public entity insurance pool organized pursuant to state statute; any public body corporate created or established under the constitution of the state of Colorado or any state statute; and any other entity, organization, or corporation formed by intergovernmental agreement or other contract between or among any of the foregoing. For purposes of this paragraph, "control" includes possession of public funds, as well as the authority to establish accounts for such public funds in banks and to make deposits, withdrawals, or disbursements of such public funds. If the exercise of authority over such public funds requires action by or the consent of two or more putative official custodians, then such official custodians shall be treated as one official custodian with respect to such public funds.

METHODS OF PROTECTION

1. The Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation (FDIC) provides deposit insurance protection, up to established thresholds, pursuant to 12 C.F.R. Section 330.15. Each separate public unit's Official Custodian (not each separate deposit account) is insured up to \$250,000 for the aggregate of all time and savings deposit accounts and up to \$250,000 for the aggregate of all demand deposit accounts. These insurance limits are per bank, not per branch of the same bank. In addition, deposit accounts containing qualifying trust, pension, and municipal bond redemption funds are separately insured on a per-beneficiary basis if FDIC requirements are met. Please contact the FDIC Deposit Insurance Call Center with questions concerning FDIC coverage (1- 877-275-3342). If an entity is not a public unit as defined in Section 11-10.5-103(13), C.R.S., but is an entity described in Section 11-10.5-103(9)(b), C.R.S., the entity is insured up to \$250,000 for the aggregate of all demand deposit and time and savings accounts.

2. The PDPA requires each eligible public depository to deliver readily marketable assets (typically securities) to a Division-approved escrow institution to be held in safekeeping, pledged to the Colorado State Banking Board, to secure all uninsured public deposits held by the eligible public depository. In the event that the eligible public depository holding the public deposits becomes insolvent, the Colorado State Banking Board, or a designee (typically the FDIC), will sell the pledged assets of the insolvent bank (if necessary) and distribute the proceeds to the Colorado public unit or entity's Official Custodian requiring reimbursement beyond the amount insured by the FDIC.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE OFFICIAL CUSTODIAN

1. If an official custodian chooses to place public funds in a bank deposit account, the custodian must ensure that the bank is one that has been certified by the Colorado State Banking Board to hold public deposits. A list of certified banks, eligible public depositories, is maintained on the Division's website.
2. Maintain records/documents verifying that the custodian qualifies as an "official custodian" and that the funds under the official custodian's control are public funds subject to the provisions of the Public Deposit Protection Act.
3. Register with the Colorado Division of Banking to obtain an Official Custodian Identification Number, if the Official Custodian intends to place public funds in a deposit account at an eligible public depository. The application is available on our website. When the Official Custodian Identification Number(s) have been obtained, the Official Custodian must provide each eligible public depository in which public funds are deposited with the assigned Official Custodian identification numbers.

Any Official Custodian who violates the provisions of the PDPA is guilty of a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of between \$200 and \$500 and possible removal from public office.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ELIGIBLE PUBLIC DEPOSITORY

1. Obtain certification under the PDPA to hold public deposits. The application is available on the Division's website.
2. Deliver eligible collateral to an approved escrow institution (a list of which is available on the Division's website) and pledge that collateral to the Colorado State Banking Board to protect uninsured public deposits. The total market value of all pledged assets must be, at a minimum, 102% of the bank's aggregate uninsured public deposits at all times. Higher collateral percentages may be required per Banking Board Rule PDP5.
3. Enter into a Deposit/Pledge agreement with an approved escrow institution to maintain pledged collateral in accordance with the requirements of Section 11-10.5-108(2), C.R.S. and the Banking Board's pledging and releasing policies and procedures.

4. Comply with the following reporting requirements:
 - a. Monthly reporting to the Colorado Division of Banking of all public deposit accounts and aggregate market value of pledged assets.
 - b. Arrange to have an annual audit or directors' examination conducted by an independent person for compliance with the PDPA. File a copy of the PDPA audit or directors' examination report with the Colorado Division of Banking within required timelines.
 - c. Make all records available to examiners of the Colorado Division of Banking for periodic inspection for compliance with the PDPA, and pay all associated assessments and examination fees.
5. Do not accept or receive public funds if the bank is not certified to hold public deposits or under verbal or written orders from the Colorado State Banking Board to not accept or receive public funds.

Any director, bank officer, or manager who knowingly violates any PDPA provision is guilty of a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of between \$200 and \$2,000.



THE SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Developing and Conserving the Waters in the
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West Building – 841 East Second Avenue
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(970) 247-1302

BOARD MEMORANDUM

From: Steve Wolff, General Manager

Subject: General Manager Activities

Date: 2 December 2021

1. Ongoing work with Hydros Consulting to assess District's water supply and demand conditions.
2. Presented at Animas River Community Forum webinar.
3. Attended San Juan Water Conservancy District Board meeting in Pagosa Springs.
4. Attended (via webinar) Colorado River District's October's Board meeting.
5. Attended Four Corners Water Center (Fort Lewis College) "Meet and Greet".
6. Had conversation with Taylor Hawes (TNC) on forest health efforts in southwest Colorado.
7. Met with Aaron Kingle and Eileen Roberts on Southwest Impact Fund.
8. Participated in IBCC virtual meeting. Interesting discussion of "equitable and proportional" concept.
9. Attend most of Colorado Water Congress's State Affairs and Federal Affairs calls.
10. On-going work with Laura and other support to upgrade SWCD's IT systems.
11. Attended Upper Colorado River Commission work meeting in Salt Lake City. As Chair of the Engineering Committee, made report on committee activities.

12. Made presentation to the Southwest Colorado Bar Association on Colorado River issues.
13. Participated in two small group discussions relative to the Dolores River NCA draft legislation.
14. Moderated panel discussion at Colorado Mesa's annual Upper Colorado River Basin Water Forum.
15. Hold monthly phone calls with Andy Mueller (Colorado River District).
16. Participated in Lower Colorado River Basin Operations conference call sponsored by Bureau of Reclamation.
17. Participated on conference call with western slope agricultural group.
18. Attended (virtually) San Miguel River Stakeholders work group meeting.
19. Had forest health discussion with Colorado River District and TNC.
20. Meet with Brad Wind and Kyle Whitaker (Northern Water) and toured Dolores Project with Ken Curtis.
21. Participated on MOA2 call lead by CWCB. MOA2 is funding source for UB states to use to support Reclamation built projects.
22. Met with Garin Vorthman (CLS) to discuss upcoming Colorado General Assembly session.



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November 16, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Southwestern Water Conservation District (SWCD), I would like to express our support for the following project: *Phase I of the Colorado Aerial Snowpack Measurement Study*. This project will build upon the work that the Colorado Airborne Snow Observatories workgroup has conducted throughout 2021 to develop a plan for establishing a statewide aerial snow measurement program (a WSRF sponsored project).

As the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) knows, exceptional drought in southwestern Colorado continues to have myriad impacts on local water uses and watershed health. As aridification alters the timing of runoff, affects soil moisture, and reduces total snowpack, improved runoff forecasting is more essential than ever for southwest Colorado. We saw that airborne lidar can also help us better understand low-elevation snowpack, which we have few opportunities to predict and measure during the winter season.

SWCD is grateful that the CWCB supported 2020-2021 flights in the Animas and Dolores basins to demonstrate the value of aerial snow measurement. However, given the price tag, local agencies alone will not be able to provide the amount of funding necessary for consistent year-to-year flights here; that's why SWCD is supportive of this Water Plan Grant application as a test of the method at a statewide scale.

Beyond its benefits for southwest Colorado, SWCD believes statewide aerial snow measurement in Colorado will have benefits for all major water sectors and stakeholders — municipal, environmental, recreational, agricultural, and industrial sectors will all see value from the added accuracy of snowpack measurement from airborne lidar.

SWCD fully supports this plan, will remain engaged in aerial snow measurement efforts in Colorado, and encourages the CWCB to give full and favorable consideration to this Water Plan Grant application.

Sincerely,

Steve Wolff, General Manager
Southwestern Water Conservation District



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October 29, 2021

The Honorable Joe Neguse
United States House of Representatives
Longworth House Office Building 1419
Washington, D. C. 20515

cc: Water, Oceans, and Wildlife Subcommittee, House Committee on Natural Resources, United States House of Representatives

*Subject: **Support for H. R. 5001** -- To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to continue to implement endangered fish recovery programs for the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basins, and for other purposes.*

Dear Representative Neguse:

I am writing to express my support for H.R. 5001 on behalf of the Board of Directors of the Southwestern Water Conservation District, which has supported the Upper Colorado and San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Programs since their inception.

H.R. 5001 provides necessary amendments to the authorizing legislation for the recovery programs (P. L. 106-392) that are needed to assure continuity in recovery program operations. The ongoing success and stability of the Upper Colorado and San Juan Recovery Programs is a priority for our District and water users throughout the San Juan and Dolores River basins as the San Juan Recovery Program provides Endangered Species Act compliance for water projects while recovering endangered fish species.

We are grateful for your leadership in introducing H.R. 5001 and look forward to its passage by the U.S. House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Steve Wolff, General Manager
Southwestern Water Conservation District



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October 21, 2021

Re: Support for Montezuma County's Grant Application for Phreatophyte Removal

To Whom it May Concern:

On behalf of Southwestern Water Conservation District ("SWCD") Board of Directors, I am writing to express support for the Montezuma County Noxious Weed Department (MCNWD)'s application for their Phreatophyte Removal Project.


The project's prime purpose is to remove salt cedar and Russian olive from waterways. Both of these invasive plant species have deep tap roots and consume large amounts of water from the ground, transforming valuable desert streams and ponds into salty dry basins. Fully funded, the project should remove three times more non-native phreatophytes per season than has been done in the past project years. In past years, the project averaged 15,323 trees removed. MCNWD estimates that with three years of being fully funded, the crews would be able to remove about 140,000 trees spanning over 1,000 acres, which would also provide a significant benefit to native wildlife. MCNWD estimates water savings of 3,072 acre-feet by year end 2024.

Projects like this align with SWCD's mission to protect, conserve, use and develop the waters of the Dolores and San Juan River basins in southwestern Colorado. SWCD supports phreatophyte removal as one of many water supply augmentation tools available to our drought-stricken basins. SWCD has supported Montezuma County's effort, which since 2019 is said to have conserved approximately 700 acre-feet of water by removing Russian olive and salt cedar and restoring the land to grasses and forbs.

We encourage you to give this funding request full and favorable consideration.

Sincerely,

Steve Wolff, General Manager

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
1	SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT PROPOSED 2022 BUDGET 						Version 12-2-21		
2		ACTUAL 2020	ADOPTED BUDGET 2020	ADOPTED BUDGET 2021	YEAR TO DATE 10/31/21	ESTIMATED YEAR END	PROPOSED BUDGET 2022	PROPOSED 2022 BUDGET MODIFICATIONS	NOTES FOR BOARD & STAFF
3	Beginning Fund Balance	3,202,268	3,116,867	3,776,368	3,756,612	3,756,612	4,147,304	4,147,304	
4									
5	REVENUES								
6	Property Tax	1,593,812	1,620,102	1,588,850	1,552,073	1,588,850	1,576,934	1,575,682	2022 mill levy .407; final net assessed valuation \$3,871,453,415
7	TIF Reimbursement	-	0	0	-	-	0	970	Durango Urban Renewal Authority
8	Specific Ownership Tax	147,681	100,000	130,000	117,382	130,000	120,000	120,000	Reduced to reflect board comments
9	Interest, PILT & Other Tax Revenue	36,781	35,500	35,500	31,558	35,500	35,500	35,500	
10	Other Income	173,224	172,679	161,868	119,441	128,404	103,924	99,924	
11	Interest Earned	61,688	40,000	40,000	42,248	50,000	30,000	30,000	Investment interest
12	Loan Interest	275	275	139	139	139	0	0	No outstanding loans
13	Miscellaneous	4,878	5,000	5,000	3,739	4,800	5,200	5,200	CWCB reimbursement of Roundtable recorder duties + WIP copies/postage
14	Water Seminar Registration	0	6,000	2,000	390	390	6,000	2,000	
15	WIP Cost Sharing	93	200	100	390	450	0	0	Moved to Miscellaneous
16	San Juan Recovery Program Water User Committee	50,873	50,873	50,873	-	0	0	0	No longer collecting assessments on behalf of Committee
17	Stream Gaging	18,613	32,481	28,656	26,125	26,125	23,924	23,924	Updated with UMETCO's commitment, La Plata County stepping away
18	Water Information Program	36,804	37,850	35,100	46,410	46,500	38,800	38,800	Recommended by WIP Steering Committee
19	County Treasurer Fees	(46,660)	(52,668)	(52,631)	(45,300)	(52,631)	(51,973)	(51,973)	
20	TOTAL REVENUES	1,904,838	1,875,613	1,863,588	1,775,154	1,830,123	1,784,385	1,780,103	
21	TOTAL RESOURCES	5,107,106	4,992,480	5,639,956	5,531,766	5,586,735	5,931,689	5,927,407	
22									
23	EXPENSES								
24	District Adminstration	630,402	820,325	822,310	587,328	794,904	861,362	1,284,362	
25	Management	167,491	272,629	234,998	152,745	195,742	237,222	237,222	
26	Wages - Executive Director	71,794	146,450	-	-	-	-	-	
27	Wages - General Manager	-	-	130,000	43,250	70,500	130,000	130,000	
28	Wages - Programs Coordinator	49,703	50,393	50,393	41,765	50,657	51,905	51,905	\$24.96/hour for estimated 2,080 hours; includes 2022 3% raise - sww
29	Wages - Payroll Taxes	9,896	17,716	16,235	6,629	10,900	16,371	16,371	
30	Wages - Retirement Benefit	5,787	11,811	9,020	-	-	9,095	9,095	5% employer match
31	Wages - Health & Life Insurance	19,986	46,260	29,350	19,213	21,797	29,350	29,350	Up to \$1200/month/employee + \$307.08 life insurance
32	Bonus - Executive Director or General Manager	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
33	Bonus - Programs Coordinator	500	-	-	-	-	-	-	
34	Recruitment	9,825	-	-	41,888	41,888	500	500	Treese admin/policy/hiring, postings, moving costs
35									
36	Legal	258,123	240,000	325,000	231,493	309,000	292,000	600,000	
37	Attorney Fees/General Counsel	184,299	140,000	180,000	172,484	230,000	200,000	500,000	\$200,000=0.4 FT; \$500,000=1.0 FTE
38	Attorney Travel Exps/General Counsel	1,152	15,000	15,000	4,431	6,000	12,000	20,000	
39	Litigation/General Counsel	42,701	30,000	40,000	29,694	40,000	40,000	40,000	
40	Colorado River Litigation/General Counsel	-	40,000	40,000	-	-	-	-	
41	Attorney Fees/Special Counsel	29,971	10,000	45,000	24,884	33,000	35,000	35,000	Trout Raley, Magruder
42	Attorney Exps/Special Counsel	-	5,000	5,000	-	-	5,000	5,000	
43									
44	Engineering and Technical Services	78,816	120,000	120,000	113,152	177,000	190,000	295,000	
45	Engineering Fees/ General	34,523	45,000	45,000	20,078	27,000	45,000	45,000	Harris Water

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
46	Engineering Fees/Special Projects	8,168	25,000	25,000	64,074	90,000	45,000	100,000	Wright Water
47	Engineering Fees/Modeling	36,125	50,000	50,000	20,080	45,000	50,000	50,000	Hydros
48	Other Technical Services	0	0	0	8,920	15,000	50,000	100,000	
49									
50	Board of Directors	32,934	52,000	31,000	17,529	25,000	30,000	40,000	
51	Director Fees	27,700	21,000	20,000	14,350	20,000	20,000	20,000	
52	Director Travel	5,234	31,000	11,000	3,179	5,000	10,000	20,000	*Includes LB costs for directors, SWCD invitees
53									
54	Office Expenses	93,038	135,696	111,312	72,410	88,162	112,140	112,140	
55	Accounting	3,975	500	5,000	3,893	5,000	5,000	5,000	
56	Audit	8,200	8,400	8,600	8,700	8,700	9,000	9,000	
57	Capital Outlay	15,260	15,000	5,000	2,890	2,890	5,000	5,000	
58	Casual Labor	-	200	200	-	-	200	200	
59	SDA Membership	1,236	1,900	1,900	1,238	1,238	1,500	1,500	
60	Equipment Leasing	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,500	1,800	1,800	1,800	
61	Insurance - General Liability	6,734	6,000	7,300	7,577	7,577	8,000	8,000	
62	Legal Notice	189	600	600	82	120	600	600	
63	<i>Manager's Discretionary Budget</i>	759	2,000	2,000	-	-	-	-	
64	Meeting Expenses	1,165	10,000	5,000	760	2,500	5,000	5,000	
65	Miscellaneous Expenses	162	500	500	69	200	500	500	
66	Office Expenses	4,597	7,500	6,000	4,105	5,000	6,000	6,000	
67	Postage	1,828	1,000	1,500	2,865	3,200	3,000	3,000	
68	Registration Fees	6,348	8,500	8,500	3,869	5,000	8,500	8,500	
69	Rent	29,476	30,796	31,412	27,547	31,412	32,040	32,040	2% contractual increase
70	Staff Training & Professional Development	-	2,500	2,500	25	25	2,500	2,500	
71	Staff Travel	8,150	35,000	20,000	4,428	10,000	20,000	20,000	
72	Telecommunications	3,159	3,500	3,500	2,862	3,500	3,500	3,500	
73									
74	Water Supply - Quantity & Quality	550,188	1,728,080	687,634	335,965	457,484	552,891	543,146	
75	Regional and Interstate Water Planning, including protection of compact entitlements	175,347	1,096,246	228,746	72,913	72,913	128,112	118,112	
76	SWCD Water Defense	0	350,000	0	0	0	0	0	
77	SWCD Water Development	0	500,000	0	0	0	0	0	
78	San Juan Recovery Program Water User Cmt	101,147	101,746	101,746	50,873	50,873	38,112	38,112	Reduced to reflect SWCD's cost only, contractors are now paid by San Juan Water Commission
79	Southwestern Colorado Permanent Radar	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-	-	
80	Water Bank Working Group	11,000	17,500	-	-	-	-	-	
81	Weather Modification (SW Colorado)	63,200	117,000	117,000	22,040	22,040	90,000	80,000	\$74,900 currently planned in proposed contracts
82									
83	<i>SWCD Project Water Rights</i>	-	10,000	10,000	-	-	-	-	
84									
85	Public Forums, Data Collection and Related Efforts	123,621	136,140	127,594	19,642	125,794	130,385	130,640	
86	Bonita Peak Community Advisory Group	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	5,000	
87	Center for Snow & Avalanche Studies	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	7,000	
88	Stream Gaging/Federal	97,111	108,500	99,954	6,142	99,954	102,745	103,000	\$101,204+\$1788 Slick Rock (need to discuss cap to SWCD costs in 2023)
89	Stream Gaging/Colorado	2,400	2,640	2,640	-	2,640	2,640	2,640	Cherry Creek and Long Hollow DWR
90	Water Quality Studies	12,110	13,000	13,000	1,500	11,200	13,000	13,000	CPW/CDPHE mercury testing, San Miguel Watershed Coalition & Pine River Watershed Group
91									
92	Local Water Community Financial Support	247,016	400,000	230,000	162,142	172,454	250,000	250,000	
93	Previously Committed Local Financial Support	4,204	85,694	91,294	81,268	86,324	44,394	44,394	*Awaiting final decisions on grant extensions
94	Farmers Water Development Company						27,642	27,642	2022 grant extension request

	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J
95	Montezuma School to Farm Project						5,000	5,000	2022 grant extension request
96	Town of Ophir					10,312			
97	Town of Silverton						11,752	11,752	2022 grant extension request
98									
99	Water Policy & Legislation	72,351	75,950	90,950	87,388	87,388	103,300	103,300	
100	Federal	50,708	55,500	55,500	50,000	50,000	55,500	55,500	
101	Lobbying Fees	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	
102	Lobbying Expenses	708	5,500	5,500	-	-	5,500	5,500	
103									
104	State	0	0	10,000	12,750	12,750	21,300	21,300	
105	Lobbying Fees	-	-	10,000	12,750	12,750	20,300	20,300	
106	Lobbying Expenses	-	-	-	-	-	1,000	1,000	
107									
108	Dues & Memberships	21,643	20,450	25,450	24,638	24,638	26,500	26,500	
115									
116	Water Education / Outreach	97,550	137,095	138,795	70,025	99,655	140,795	140,795	
117	Water Info Program	65,012	72,095	72,295	51,990	65,000	85,295	85,295	2022 SWCD Match Estimate \$32,600; total revenues and costshare \$71,000, \$85,295, diff of \$1389
118	SWCD Children's Water Festival	658	9,500	10,500	350	350	10,500	10,500	
119	Water Leader Program Scholarship	3,500	5,000	5,000	4,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	
120	Watershed Education Program	6,000	6,000	6,000	-	6,000	6,000	6,000	San Miguel Basin
121	Water Education Colorado	10,500	10,500	11,000	11,000	11,000	10,000	10,000	
122	SWCD Educational Events	880	18,000	18,000	2,305	2,305	18,000	18,000	Seminars or webinars
123	Event Sponsorships	1,000	6,000	6,000	380	1,000	6,000	6,000	GM discretionary approval of requests up to \$1,000
124	Demo CSU Farm/Water Efficiency	10,000	10,000	10,000	-	10,000	-	-	Consider as grant applicant
125									
126	TOTAL OPERATING EXPENSES	1,350,491	2,761,450	1,739,689	1,080,706	1,439,431	1,658,348	2,071,603	\$268,068 deficit in SWCD budget
127	TABOR Contingency Reserve	-	84,424	52,191	-	-	49,750	62,148	3% of total budgeted expenses
128	SWCD Contingency Reserve	-	96,414	75,000	-	-	75,000	75,000	To support unanticipated expenses
129	TOTAL APPROPRIATED FUNDS	1,350,491	2,942,288	1,866,879	1,080,706	1,439,431	1,783,098	2,208,751	
130	Excess Revenue Over (Under) Expenses	554,347	(1,066,675)	(3,291)	694,448	390,692	1,287	(428,648)	*Includes \$13,895 deficit spending in WIP budget (recommended by SC)
131	ENDING FUND BALANCE	3,756,615	2,050,192	3,773,077	4,451,060	4,147,304	4,148,590	3,718,656	
132	Restricted - 3% TABOR reserve					52,191			Projected year end fund balance detail for board discussion
133	Committed - Undisbursed grants					44,394			
134	Assigned - WIP year end carryover					130,000			
135	Assigned - SWCD Water Defense					2,052,431	292,431		increase from total of 1,760,000 as of 12/31/20 (60% of remainder)
136	Assigned - SWCD Water Development					1,368,288	228,288		increase from total of 1,140,000 as of 12/31/20 (40% of remainder)
137	Unassigned - i.e. general operating for 1Q 2022					500,000			



SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT

DRAFT 2022 BUDGET MESSAGE

Highlighted sections are subject to change prior to final December budget adoption.

ABOUT SWCD

The Southwestern Water Conservation District ("SWCD") consists of all or part of nine counties in southwestern Colorado: Archuleta, Dolores, La Plata, Montezuma, San Juan, San Miguel, and parts of Hinsdale, Mineral, and Montrose counties. Each Board of County Commissioners appoints a representative to the SWCD Board of Directors. The board meets regularly and the schedule (while subject to change) is available at swwcd.org.

SWCD was formed by the Colorado General Assembly on April 16, 1941 and charged with the conservation, use, and development of the water resources of the San Juan and Dolores rivers basins. SWCD is charged by statute ([C.R.S. §37-47-101](#)) to safeguard for Colorado all waters to which the state of Colorado is equitably entitled and has such powers as are necessary to carry out this mandate. Within [SWCD's boundaries](#) are the San Juan and Dolores River Basins, in which there are nine distinct watersheds.

Following this mandate, SWCD maintains a broad strategic role on behalf of its diverse constituents. SWCD advocates for southwestern Colorado's water interests at the local, state, regional, and federal level.

For more information about SWCD, please visit swwcd.org, call 970-247-1302, or email lauras@swwcd.org. The SWCD office is located at 841 East Second Avenue in Durango, Colorado.

BRIEF BUDGET OVERVIEW

SWCD will provide the following services during the 2022 budget year: support the conservation, development and management of water use in southwestern Colorado; safeguard all waters to which the State is equitably entitled; participate in and provide funding for data collection; support, participate in, and lead local policy efforts; represent southwestern Colorado on federal and state policy concerns; and provide a variety of public education on water-related issues. Finally, SWCD will seek to serve constituents in providing general water information as requested.

SWCD's accounting is performed on a modified accrual basis, consistent with generally accepted accounting practices. SWCD's financial statements are [audited annually](#).

BUDGET DETAIL: REVENUE AND EXPENSES

This budget reflects estimated revenues and proposed expenditures for 2022. For your reference and information, please find below a detailed description of the budget by line item.

SWCD's total budgeted revenues for 2022 are projected to be **\$1,780,103**.

Property Tax. SWCD is supported through a mill levy, which is assessed on property located within the District boundaries. Property tax revenues are expected to be approximately \$1,575,682, based on a mill levy of .407. This revenue is based on a combined assessed valuation across nine counties of \$3,871,453,415.

Specific Ownership Tax. This is a property or ad valorem tax levied in addition to sales (or use) taxes on a motor vehicle and is paid annually when the vehicle is registered within a county. SWCD receives a portion of these taxes collected by the nine counties.

Interest, PILT, and Other Tax Revenue. SWCD receives revenue from delinquent tax from prior years that has been recently collected, payment in lieu of tax (PILT), and other miscellaneous taxes.

Other Income. SWCD receives income from interest on investments (**Interest Earned**), reimbursements from the Colorado Water Conservation Board for staff time and meeting expenses dedicated to coordination of the Southwest Basins Roundtable (**Miscellaneous**), and registration fees for SWCD's Annual Water Seminar (**Water Seminar Registration**). SWCD also receives income for the Water Information Program from its 30 partner entities, along with any educational event registration fees (**Water Information Program**) and from local partners that support federal stream gages in southwest Colorado (**Streamgaging**).

SWCD's total ~~budgeted-appropriated funds expenses~~ are \$2,208,751.

County Treasurer Fees. This line item covers fees charged by the nine counties to collect and disburse property tax revenue on behalf of SWCD. Country Treasurer Fees are estimated at three percent of total tax revenue budgeted.

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Management.

- **Wages – Executive Director.** This position was eliminated in 2020.
- **Wages – General Manager.** This line item estimates the salary for a general manager, a new position created in 2020.
- **Wages – Programs Coordinator.** This line item includes a three percent increase.
- **Wages – Payroll Taxes.** This line item includes SWCD's payroll taxes for two employees.
- **Wages – Retirement Benefit.** This line item includes SWCD's retirement plan contributions for two employees. SWCD equally matches each employee's personal contributions to their retirement plan, up to 5% of their annual salary.
- **Wages – Health & Life Insurance.** This line item includes the maximum cost of the health and life insurance benefits offered to SWCD's two employees.
- **Bonus – General Manager.** No amount is currently budgeted for 2022.
- **Bonus – Programs Coordinator.** No amount is currently budgeted for 2022.
- **Recruitment.** This line item includes the cost of potential recruitment of additional staff and related needs.

Legal.

- **Attorney Fees/General Counsel.** This line item covers attorney fees and legal costs for representation on general matters ~~currently provided by Van Vurst Law.~~
- **Attorney Travel Expenses/General Counsel.** This line item covers travel time and expenses for representation on general legal and litigation matters ~~currently provided by Van Vurst Law.~~
- **Litigation/General Counsel.** This line item covers attorney fees and legal costs for representation ~~currently provided by Van Vurst Law for litigation.~~
- **Colorado River Litigation/General Counsel.** This line item will be discontinued.

- **Attorney Fees/Special Counsel.** This line item covers fees for special legal counsel ~~Trout-Raley, which currently represents SWCD~~ in matters related to ~~the SWCD "Project" Water Rights~~ SWCD's water rights and, and Robinson, Waters & O'Dorisio, which currently represents SWCD on certain employment matters.
- **Attorney Expenses/Special Counsel.** This line item covers expenses for special legal counsel.

Engineering and Other Technical Services.

- **Engineering Fees/General.** This line item covers fees and expenses related to general engineering activities ~~carried out by Harris Water Engineering.~~
- **Engineering Fees/Special Projects.** This line item covers fees and expenses related to special engineering activities performed by other consultants, ~~such as Wright Water Engineers.~~
- **Engineering Fees/Modeling.** This line item covers modeling efforts necessary to support and assess inter- and intrastate water administration scenarios.
- **Other Technical Services.** This line item covers other contracted technical services that may arise during the course of the year, such as additional engineering work or other technical needs.

Board of Directors.

- **Director Fees.** The board members receive \$100 per day while engaged in SWCD business.
- **Director Travel.** This line item includes mileage, lodging, flights, meals, and any other travel costs incurred by board members while conducting SWCD business.

Office Expenses.

- **Accounting.** This line item covers any costs related to SWCD accounting, such as accounting software or consultation with professional accountants Frederick Zink and Associates.
- **Audit.** This line item covers the cost of the annual audit of SWCD's financial statements, which is provided to the state by July 31 each year.
- **Capital Outlay.** This line item covers any purchases of items such as computers, other office equipment, or furniture.
- **Casual Labor.** This line item covers any one-time labor needs, such as movers or event support.
- **SDA Membership.** This line item covers SWCD's Special District Association (SDA) membership.
- **Equipment Leasing.** This line item includes the monthly cost of leasing a copier.
- **Insurance – General Liability.** This line item covers general liability insurance for SWCD, public officials' liability, and excess liability, along with SWCD's worker's compensation policy.
- **Legal Notice.** This line item includes SWCD's noticing of the budget hearing annually in local papers in each of the nine counties.
- **General Manager's Discretionary Budget.** This line item will be discontinued.
- **Meeting Expenses.** This line item covers all meals, venue costs, facilitation, and other meeting-related expenses. This line also includes all costs related to coordination of the board's remote meeting and basin tour.
- **Miscellaneous Expenses.** This line items covers any expenses that do not clearly fall into another category, such as flowers for a hospitalized colleague or director.
- **Office Expenses.** This line item includes office supplies, consumable supplies, copy costs, software purchases, subscriptions, and other office-related needs.

- **Postage.** This line item covers postage costs for office mailings, principally board packets.
- **Registration Fees.** This line item covers conference, seminar or other event registration fees for board or staff.
- **Rent.** This line item includes monthly rent for SWCD's current office space, related utilities, parking spaces, and storage.
- **Staff Training & Professional Development.** This line item covers the cost of courses or training for staff.
- **Staff Travel.** This line item reimburses staff for mileage, lodging, flights, meals, and any other travel costs incurred in the course of conducting SWCD business.
- **Telecommunications.** This line item includes SWCD's phone, internet, teleconferencing, and website services.

WATER SUPPLY – QUANTITY AND QUALITY

Regional and Interstate Water Planning, including Protection of Compact Entitlements.

- **SWCD Water Defense.** This line item was historically referred to as the Project Reserve and included in previous budgets as an expense. SWCD discontinued this practice in the 2021 budget and instead assigned a portion of the fund balance to what is now referred to as the SWCD Water Defense for the purpose of defending the water resources of the District.
- **SWCD Water Development.** This line item was historically referred to as the Emergency Contingency Reserve and included in previous budgets as an expense. SWCD discontinued this practice in the 2021 budget and instead assigned a portion of the fund balance to the SWCD Water Development for the purpose of developing and maintaining the water resources of the District.
- **San Juan Recovery Program Water User Committee.** This line item covers SWCD's 50% cost share for the cost of the two consultants, who participate in the broader San Juan River Basin Recovery Implementation Program (SJRBRIP) on behalf of water users in New Mexico and Colorado. This program works to recover the endangered Colorado pikeminnow and razorback sucker populations in the San Juan River, and its ongoing success protects water uses across the basin.
- **Southwestern Colorado Permanent Radar.** ~~This line item covers up to \$10,000 to equally match local commitments~~ SWCD has committed to pay up to \$10,000 to match local contributions toward ~~to~~ an operation and maintenance fund for the permanent weather radar scheduled to be installed in La Plata County. However, installation is not expected in 2022, so there is no amount budgeted for 2022.
- **Water Bank Working Group.** This line item has previously supported studies currently being undertaken by the Water Bank Working Group. No funding is budgeted for 2022.
- **Weather Modification (SW Colorado).** SWCD matches local partner commitments to winter cloud seeding (also known as weather modification).

SWCD "Project" Water Rights. This line item covers costs associated with maintenance and development of the SWCD "Project" Water Rights, which are conditional rights on the Animas River held by SWCD. As these costs are currently embedded in line items such as special counsel fees, this line item will be discontinued.

Public Forums, Data Collection and Related Efforts.

- **Bonita Peak Community Advisory Group.** This line item supports operational costs for the Bonita Peak Mining District Community Advisory Group.

- **Center for Snow & Avalanche Studies.** This line item supports the Center for Snow & Avalanche Studies, which conducts valuable research on the impacts of dust on snow to runoff.
- **Stream Gaging/Federal.** This line item covers SWCD's cost share with the US Geological Survey for operation and maintenance of several regional stream gages. SWCD also supports operation of the Dolores River near Slick Rock gage via a cost share with San Miguel County. As noted in the revenue line, SWCD receives partial reimbursement from local partners for some of the stream gages, ~~which is estimated at \$23,924 for 2022.~~
- **Stream Gaging/Colorado.** This line item covers the cost for Colorado Division of Water Resources to operate their Cherry Creek and Long Hollow stream gages.
- **Water Quality Studies.** This line item covers support for water quality studies across the region, including regular monitoring by the San Miguel Watershed Coalition and the Pine River Watershed Group. This also covers over-budget costs for the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's partnership with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to test mercury levels in several local reservoirs.

Local Water Community Financial Support. This line item covers grants that may be awarded through SWCD's Financial Assistance Program to qualified entities that are carrying out projects consistent with SWCD's statutory purposes.

Previously Committed Local Financial Support. This line item covers any previously committed aid, approved in a prior year, for which the SWCD staff or board approves an extension through 2022.

WATER POLICY AND LEGISLATION

Federal.

- **Federal Lobbying Fees.** This line item covers fees related to federal lobbying efforts on behalf of SWCD ~~carried out by Christine Arbogast with Kogovsek and Associates.~~
- **Federal Lobbying Expenses.** This line item covers principally travel expenses related to federal lobbying efforts on behalf of SWCD ~~carried out by Kogovsek and Associates.~~

State.

- **State Lobbying Fees.** This line item covers fees related to contracted state lobbying efforts on behalf of SWCD ~~carried out by Garin Vorthmann with Colorado Legislative Strategies.~~
- **State Lobbying Expenses.** This line item covers principally travel expenses related to contracted state lobbying efforts on behalf of SWCD ~~carried out by Garin Vorthmann with Colorado Legislative Strategies.~~

Dues & Memberships. This line item covers memberships to organizations that provide benefits to SWCD and its constituents. SDA's membership provides administrative benefits and therefore is not included here.

WATER EDUCATION & OUTREACH

Water Information Program (WIP). This line item covers all program expenses related to operation of WIP, which is presently financially supported by 30 partners in southwestern Colorado, with a dollar-for-dollar match from SWCD for partner contributions. Also included are any revenue generated from sponsored events (e.g. "Water Law in a Nutshell"). WIP provides balanced water-related educational content and programming to our nine-county region. This line item includes the cost of the independent contractor who manages the Water Information Program.

As noted under budgeted revenue, among the Water Information Program's revenue is an estimated \$32,600 from local partners for 2022.

SWCD Educational Events. This line item covers all costs related to SWCD's Annual Water Seminar, at which nearly 200 people attend each year to hear from state and local water experts. If the in-person event cannot be held in 2022 due to public health concerns, this line item will cover any costs related to any alternative virtual educational event(s) that SWCD may host.

Water Education Colorado. This line item covers SWCD's support for the programming and content produced by Water Education Colorado, a statewide educational organization.

Water Leader Program Scholarship. This line item allows SWCD to potentially support all or a portion of tuition for any professionals from southwestern Colorado accepted to the statewide Water Leaders Program.

SWCD Children's Water Festival. This line item covers all costs related to SWCD's Annual Children's Water Festival, at which more than 700 fifth graders from across southwestern Colorado engage in educational programs for a full day at Fort Lewis College each May. If the in-person event cannot be held in 2022 due to public health concerns, this line item will cover any costs related to virtual or other educational events that SWCD may host for children.

Watershed Education Program. This line item covers support for the Watershed Education Program, which provides water-related field trips throughout the year to elementary students in the Upper and Lower San Miguel basin.

Event Sponsorships. This line item covers SWCD support for water-related events regionally and locally.

Demo CSU Farm/Water Efficiency. This line item supports the CSU Southwestern Colorado Research Center, which conducts valuable research on dryland farming and water efficiency, among other relevant agricultural topics. This line item will be discontinued.

TABOR Contingency. This line item is required by the TABOR amendment to the state constitution, which mandates that at least three percent of SWCD's fiscal year spending (excluding bonded debt service) be set aside as a contingency reserve for declared emergencies.

SWCD Contingency Reserve. This line item allows for expenses which may be incurred in 2022 but which are uncertain at the time of budget adoption. It is intended that the contingency may be used to cover any line item in the budget or cover new SWCD expenses.

Suggested SWCD Budget Motions (Revised Fri, Dec 6th):

Adopt the Budget

Option 1: Move to approve Resolution 2021-04 to adopt the 2022 budget as proposed.

OR

Option 2: Move to approve Resolution 2021-04 to adopt the 2022 budget with the adjustments made by the board at today's meeting, specifically [REDACTED].

Appropriate Sums of Money

Option 1: Move to approve Resolution 2021-05 to appropriate funds in the amount of \$2,208,751 to be spent in 2022.

OR

Option 2: Move to approve Resolution 2021-05 to appropriate funds in the amount of \$ [REDACTED] to be spent in 2022, as adjusted at today's meeting.

Set Mill Levy

Move to approve Resolution 2021-06 to certify a mill levy of .407 on the assessed valuation of \$3,871,453,415 (three billion, 871 million, 453 thousand, 415 dollars) to generate revenue of \$1,575,682 in 2022.

DRAFT

**SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 2021-04 TO ADOPT BUDGET
(Pursuant to 29-1-108, C.R.S)**

A RESOLUTION SUMMARIZING EXPENDITURES AND REVENUES FOR THE GENERAL FUND AND ADOPTING A BUDGET FOR THE SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR BEGINNING ON THE FIRST DAY OF JANUARY 2022 AND ENDING ON THE LAST DAY OF DECEMBER 2022.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Southwestern Water Conservation District has appointed General Manager Steve Wolff as Budget Officer to prepare and submit a proposed budget to said governing body at the proper time; and

WHEREAS, Budget Officer Steve Wolff has submitted a proposed budget to this governing body on October 4, 2021 for its consideration; and

WHEREAS, upon due and proper notice, published or posted in accordance with the law, said proposed budget was open for inspection by the public at a designated place, a public hearing was held on December 8, 2021, and interested taxpayers were given the opportunity to file or register any objections to said proposed budget; and

WHEREAS, whatever increases may have been made in the expenditures, like increases were added to the revenues or planned to be expended from reserves/fund balances so that the budget remains in balance, as required by law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, COLORADO:

Section 1. That the budget as submitted, amended, and summarized by fund, hereby is approved and adopted as the budget of the Southwestern Water Conservation District for the year stated above.

Section 2. That the budget hereby approved and adopted shall be signed by the Budget Officer and made a part of the public records of the District.

ADOPTED, THIS 8TH DAY OF DECEMBER, 2021

Attest:

Jenny Russell, President

Charles Smith, Secretary-Treasurer

DRAFT

**SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 2021-05 TO APPROPRIATE SUMS OF MONEY
(Pursuant to Section 29-1-108, C.R.S.)**

A RESOLUTION APPROPRIATING SUMS OF MONEY TO THE GENERAL FUND OF THE SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, COLORADO GENERAL FUND FOR THE 2022 BUDGET YEAR IN THE AMOUNT AND FOR THE PURPOSES SET FORTH BELOW:

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of the Southwestern Water Conservation District adopted the annual budget in accordance with the Local Government Budget Law on December 8, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors has made provision therein for revenues in an amount equal to or greater than the total proposed expenditures as set forth in said budget; and

WHEREAS, it is not only required by law, but also necessary to appropriate the revenues and reserves or fund balances provided in the budget to and for the purposes described below, thereby establishing a limitation on expenditures for the operations for the Southwestern Water Conservation District.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, COLORADO,

Section 1. That the following sums are hereby appropriated from the revenue of each fund, to each fund, for purposes stated:

TOTAL GENERAL FUND	\$2,208,751
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ADOPTED THIS 8TH DAY OF DECEMBER 2021

Attest:

Jenny Russell, President

Charles Smith, Secretary-Treasurer

DRAFT

**SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT
RESOLUTION 2021-06 TO SET MILL LEVIES
(Pursuant to 39-5-128, C.R.S. and 39-1-111, C.R.S.)**

A RESOLUTION LEVYING PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE YEAR 2021 TO HELP DEFRAID THE COSTS OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, COLORADO, FOR THE 2022 BUDGET YEAR.

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of Southwestern Water Conservation District, has adopted the annual budget in accordance with the Local Government Budget Law, on December 8, 2021; and

WHEREAS, the amount of money necessary to balance the budget for general operating purposes from property tax revenue is \$1,575,682; and

WHEREAS, the 2021 valuation for assessment for the Southwestern Water Conservation District as certified by the County Assessors is \$3,871,453,415.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF SOUTHWESTERN WATER CONSERVATION DISTRICT, COLORADO.

Section 1. That for the purpose of meeting all general operating expenses of the Southwestern Water Conservation District during the 2022 budget year, there is hereby levied a tax of .407 mills upon each dollar of the total valuation for assessment of all taxable property within the counties for the year 2021.

Section 2. That Steve Wolff, Budget Officer, is hereby authorized and directed to immediately certify to the County Commissioners of Archuleta, Dolores, Hinsdale, La Plata, Mineral, Montezuma, Montrose, San Juan and San Miguel Counties, Colorado, the mill levy for the Southwestern Water Conservation District as hereinabove determined and set.

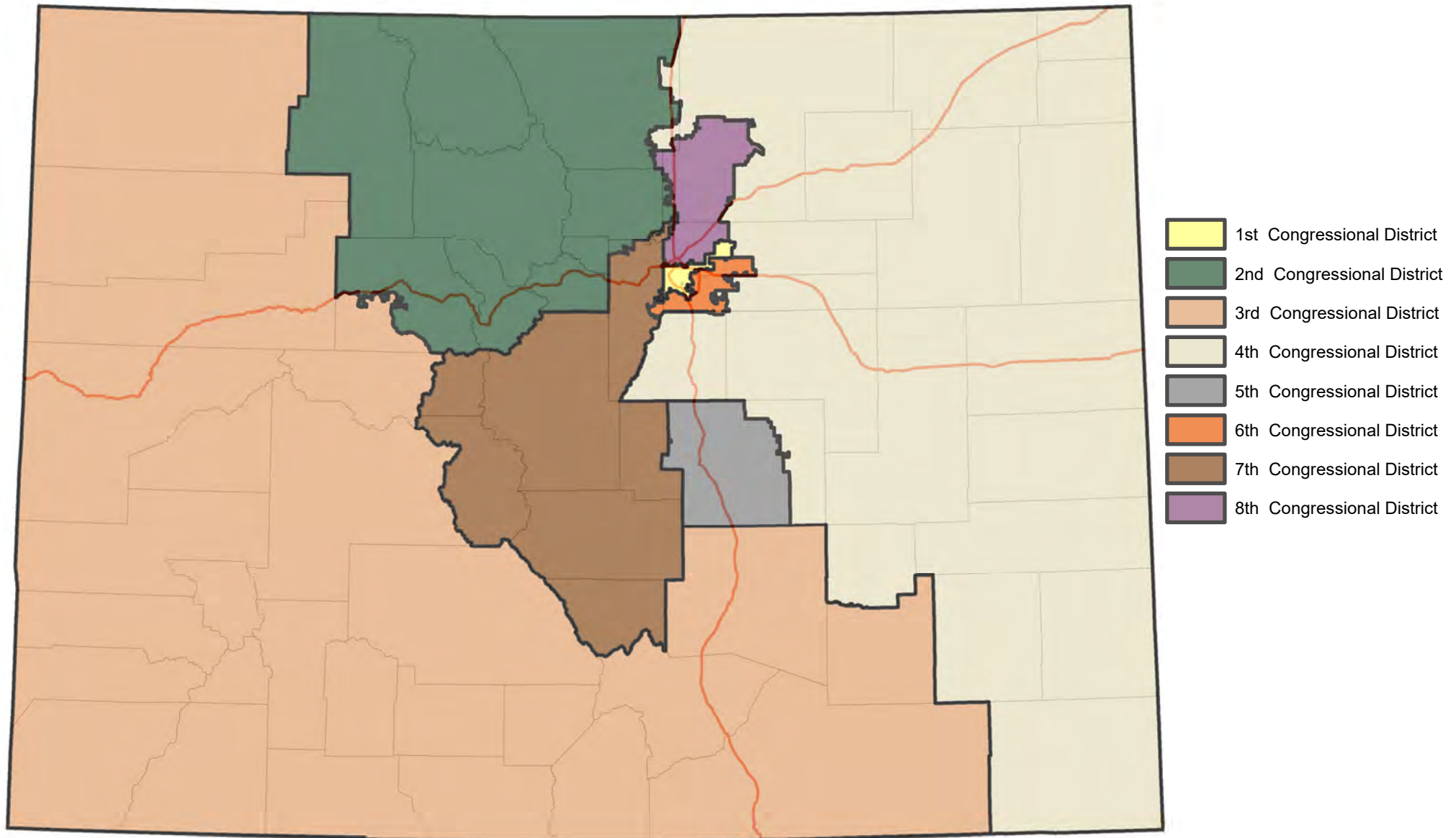
ADOPTED this 8th day of December, 2021.

Attest:

Jenny Russell, President

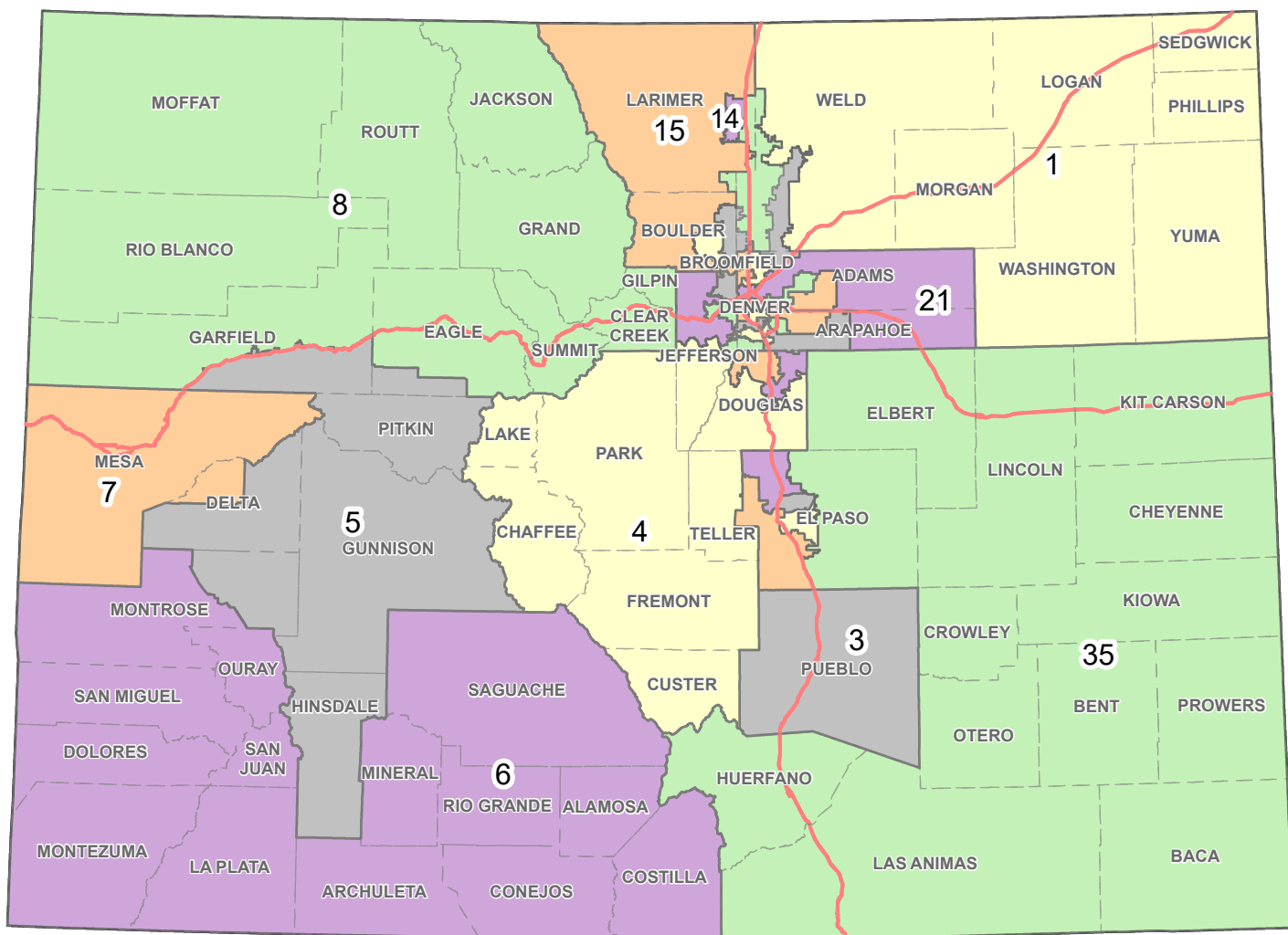
Charles Smith, Secretary-Treasurer

Colorado Congressional Districts (Final Approved Plan)

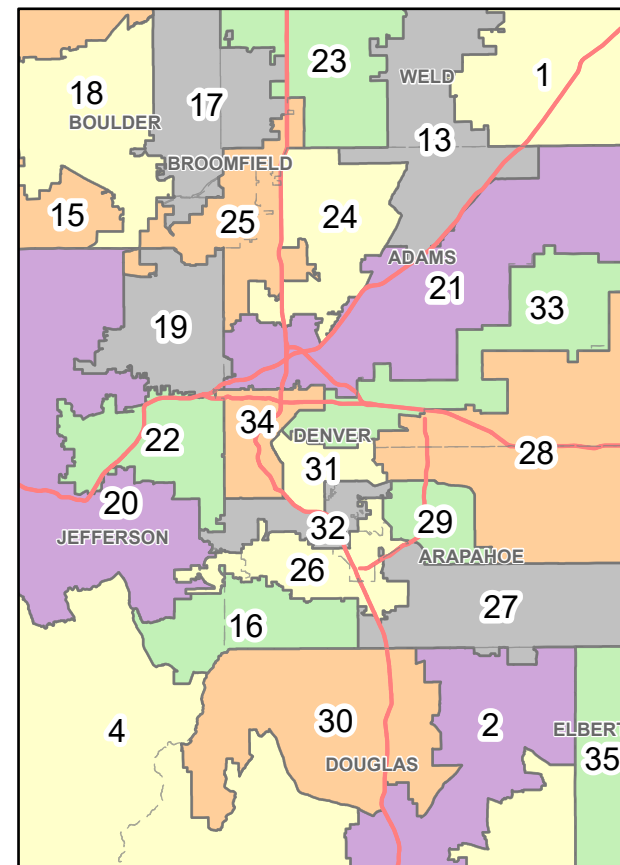




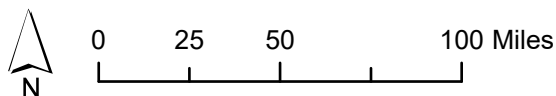
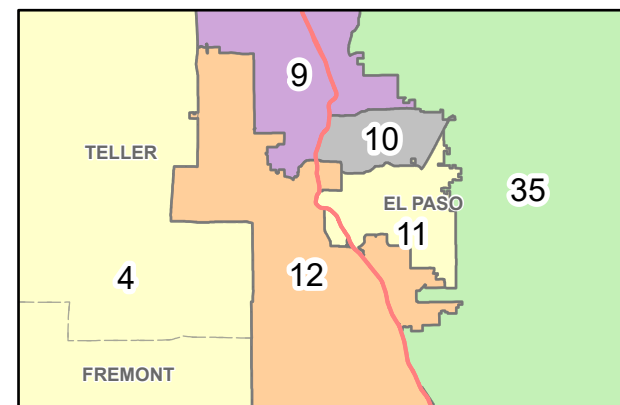
Colorado Senate Districts Statewide - Final Approved Plan



Denver Metro Area

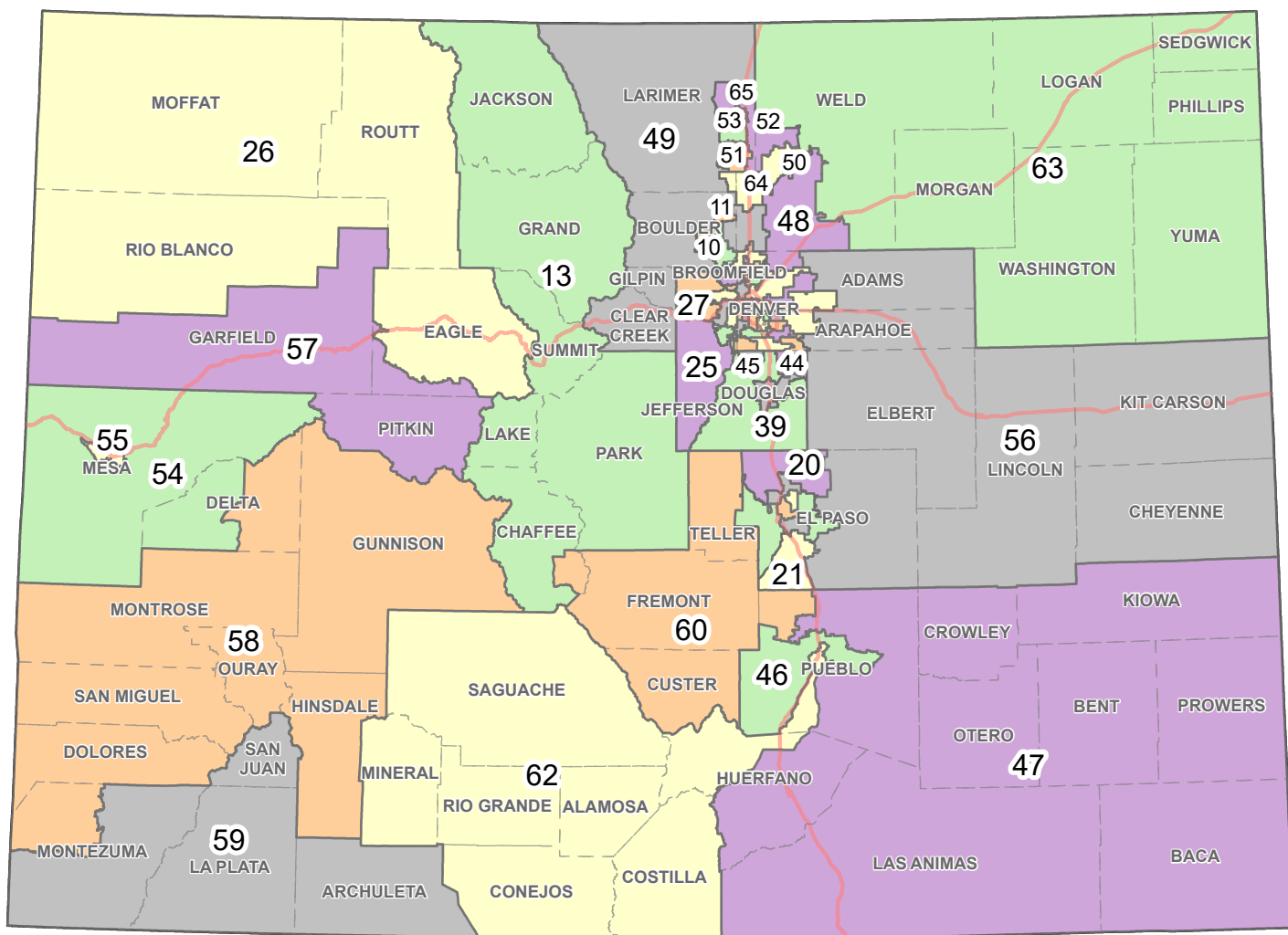


Colorado Springs Metro Area

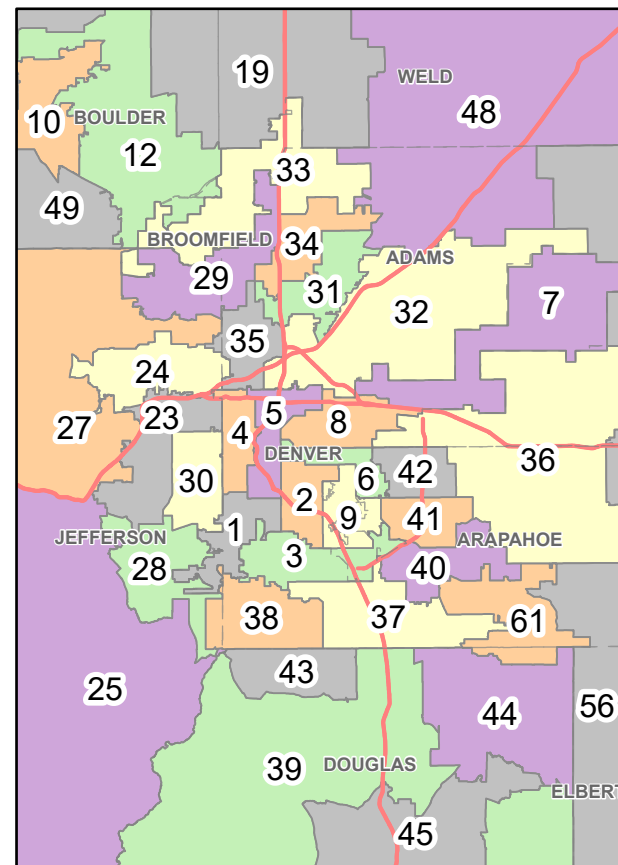




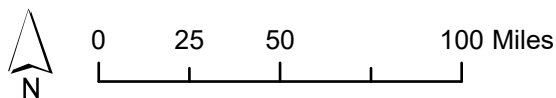
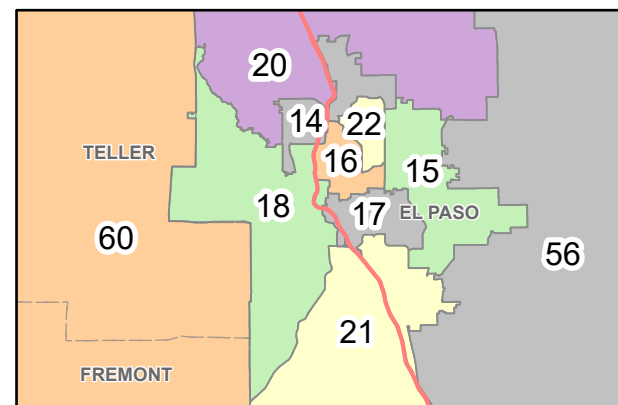
Colorado House Districts Statewide - Final Approved Plan



Denver Metro Area



Colorado Springs Metro Area



**GARIN VORTHMANN****Partner, Lobbyist**

Garin began her political career in Washington D.C. working for Senator Wayne Allard and ran the government affairs department at Colorado Farm Bureau before joining Colorado Legislative Services in 2007. She became partner in 2012 and steadfastly through her career, Garin has honed her policy knowledge on issues related to agriculture, including water and property rights. She also is highly skilled as a strategist for higher education, business, liquor, and state licensure issues.

Growing up on a ranch in southwest Colorado gave Garin a strong work ethic and her dedication to understanding an issue completely shows up when representing CLS clients. Her adeptness in many policy areas and direct manner of speaking means that she is a trusted resource for legislators on both sides of the aisle. She is regarded as a top water policy expert in Colorado and has been recognized for her work bolstering the Colorado business climate by working to align agriculture and energy-- two of the top five drivers of the Colorado economy--on a variety of issues. Garin was recognized as one of Colorado's "Top Women in Energy" and "Who's Who in Agriculture" by the Denver Business Journal in 2017 and 2019, respectively.

She is a proud graduate of Colorado State University where she earned an Agricultural Business degree. Garin has completed Colorado Farm Bureau's Elite Leaders Academy, is a member of the Women's Energy Network of Colorado and has served on the Colorado Agricultural Leadership Program board and Butterfly Pavilion's Fund Development Committee.

In her free time, Garin cherishes time with her husband and two daughters, especially during trips to the mountains. She is an avid reader, sous-chef for her husband and wine connoisseur who frequents the Napa Valley.



GARIN VORTHMANN

STRENGTHS	Government Relations, Lobbying, Colorado Water Policy	
CURRENT POSITION	Partner, Lobbyist <i>Colorado Legislative Strategies; Denver, CO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy research; presenting the who, what, why, where, and how of public policy. • Representing clients at the State Capitol and local governments. • Presenting client concerns and needs to state legislators. • Developing issue papers and testimony. • Providing suggestions for legislative and permitting strategies. 	2007 - Present
PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE	Director of State Affairs <i>Colorado Farm Bureau; Centennial, CO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chief lobbyist at the state capitol. Organized and presented testimony regarding legislative issues important to the interests of CFB and Colorado agriculture. • Coordinated year-round grassroots policy development program, which determined Farm Bureau's position on bills and regulations. • Annually identified and recommended state legislative priorities. • Prepared other staff and members to present testimony in a clear, concise manner. 	2003 – 2007
	Policy and Research Specialist <i>Colorado Trial Lawyers Association; Denver, CO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Developed and coordinated organizational policy and research programs to inform Colorado Farm Bureau members on current statute and regulations. • Wrote correspondence regarding the organization's stance on regulatory issues. • Led policy division on endangered species, wildlife and water quality issues. 	2002 - 2003
	Regional Manager <i>Colorado Trial Lawyers Association; Pueblo, CO</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worked one-on-one with 10 individual county Farm Bureau boards to implement CFB programs, grassroots policy development and member activities. • Provided educational information and training to county Farm Bureau members. 	2000 - 2002
	Intern <i>United States Senator Wayne Allard; Washington, DC</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provided support for Senatorial staff and learned about the federal legislative process. • Worked with other staff to answer constituent questions and address concerns learning excellent customer relation skills. 	2000
EDUCATION	Colorado State University; Fort Collins, CO Bachelor of Science, Agriculture Business	
SERVICE ACTIVITIES	Member; Arapahoe County Extension Advisory Committee Treasurer, Executive Committee; Colorado Agricultural Leadership Program (CALP) Former Participant; Colorado Agricultural & Rural Leadership Program (CARL), Class III Chair; Lawton-Taylor Academy Parent Partnership Group	