

## Questions to consider for Reach Meetings

### **Goal One: Protect and Preserve existing water rights and other beneficial uses**

#### **Consumptive Use**

- Does quantifying consumptive use on the White River and/or Piceance Creek fit in with your overall goals and mission?
- Is there an upside or downside to quantifying consumptive use?
- Who is most benefitted by quantifying consumptive use?
- Does quantifying consumptive use help you in your water management?

#### **Do in-stream flow rights impact your water security?**

- What are the potential impacts of in-stream flow rights?
- Does this change if there is reservoir storage available for agricultural use?
- What are the potential impacts if the CWCB acquires a more senior water right?

#### **Should Drought Contingency Planning be part of protecting and preserving existing agricultural water rights and other beneficial uses?**

- Drought contingency planning looks at different scenarios of water availability and studies what are the impacts and possible remedies in each situation.
  - Example: If flows in the White River Basin continue to decline what are the impacts to agriculture, municipalities, environmental concerns, and industry?
    - What are possible solutions to these impacts?

### **Goal Two: Protect and enhance water quantity and quality through promoting best management practices for:**

#### **A. Forest Health**

##### **What are the best management practices for forest health that we wish to promote?**

- How does forest health impact the water supply/runoff?
- The main factors having a negative impact on forest health are:
  - Aridification - hotter, dryer weather patterns resulting in long term changes in the types of vegetation appropriate for a given area.
  - Lack of forest management
    - Fragmentation from roads - altered water runoff
    - Fires
    - Insect - beetle kill
  - Increased Use

## **B. Riparian Health**

**What are the best management practices we wish to promote for riparian health?**

- How does riparian health impact water quantity?
- How does riparian health impact water quality?

**C. What are the best management practices for rangeland health we wish to promote?**

- Is rangeland health a part of drought contingency planning?

## **D. Favorable Conditions of Streamflow**

**What are the best management practices for establishing favorable conditions of streamflow?**

- What are favorable conditions of streamflow?
- Are there environmental or man made obstacles to favorable conditions of streamflow? What are they?
- Does algae impact what you consider favorable conditions of streamflow?

**In previous meetings, water quantity concerns were ranked higher than water quality concerns.**

- Is this ranking still valid?
- Are there point sources of nutrients, minerals, and/or salts that could be addressed?
  - If so, what are the obstacles to addressing point source issues?
- What are your water quality concerns?

**Goal Three: Identify Opportunities for creation or improvement of infrastructure to support efficient consumptive and non-consumptive uses.**

- This is the primary focus of Phase II
- Will the assessments done in Phase II be representative of the river/creek?
- Are there other infrastructure concerns that need to be evaluated?

**Goal Four: Support the development and maintenance of efficient and necessary long-term storage solutions that will improve, enhance and ensure: irrigation, river health, water quantity, water quality, and native and recreational fisheries.**

### **Water Storage**

- How does the PAC support storage projects?
- Is there a place for smaller projects that would benefit fewer users, but have a large impact on those users?
  - Piceance Creek