

## PAC Minutes May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2022

### Attendees

Julia Eskelson	Deirdre Macnab	Chris Collins	Jerry Oldland
Walt Proctor	Mario Sullivan	Forrest Nelson	Ron Reich
Alden VandenBrink	Mike Dillon	James Roberts	Ian Wilson
Stu Massey	Callie Hendrickson	Kari Brennan	Liz Chandler

### Decisions

- Phase III SOW recommended to include:
  - Long term projects
    - Upland Vegetation Management
    - Hydrology Study on the Middle Reach of the White River focusing on return flows and the aquifers
  - Short term projects
    - Diversion and Riparian Assessments
    - Stock Pond Renovation
    - Education/Youth Engagement Project

### Actions to be taken before July PAC

- PAC Coordinator will work with BLM, Forest Service, CSFS, and NFF to develop a Scope of Work to present to the PAC for their consideration.
- PAC Coordinator will work with the Hydrology Committee and engineers to develop a Scope of Work to present to the PAC for their consideration
- A proposed Scope of Work will be developed for pond renovation and diversion and riparian assessments.
- PAC Coordinator will work with Walt Proctor to develop the Scope of Work for the Education/Youth Engagement project.

### Minutes

Phase II Report – the discussion centered on the data gaps identified in the White River Basin. It was decided the report should be all inclusive and serve as a reference as to gaps at this point in time. Additionally, mapping of invasive species along the White River needs to be included as a gap. Some information is known about the impact Colorado River Curtailment could have on the White River.

Reach Reports – a short summary will be included at the beginning of each report

All additional comments from the PAC need to be to the Coordinator by June 1<sup>st</sup>. Corrections and additions to the reports will be made and sent out to the PAC by June 15<sup>th</sup>. We will finalize and approve the reports at the July meeting.

Phase III Scope of Work – Presentations were made to represent all the potential areas identified as options for the Phase III SOW.

- Upland Vegetation Management – James Roberts, BLM There is a need to remove woody vegetation that is encroaching on traditional forage areas. There are a variety of techniques

available and are used in a site-specific manner. Forest management has been previously discussed.

- Hydrology – There is a need to understand the flow dynamics of the middle reach and how they interact and influence the entire river system downstream. The Hydrology Committee is suggesting a study of the middle reach to focus on the aquifers and return flows.
- Small reservoirs - after discussion, it was felt this was better left to the Conservation Districts to manage
- Renovation of stock ponds – most of these are on the BLM and are widespread. When the ponds are functional, they help to disperse grazing across a wider area and help capture sediment during runoff events.
- Diversion and Riparian Assessments – The assessments were very well received by the water rights and land owners. These are viewed as a good method to keep the community engaged in the water planning process.
- Education/Youth Engagement – Walt Proctor has done significant research into developing a water measuring demonstration that could be in situ in Meeker or mobile and available to take to different locations. CNCC is interested in engaging students with this program. It is envisioned that the measuring demonstration could become a focal point for water seminars and other teaching opportunities.

The PAC voted to approve all of the above projects with the exception the small reservoirs for Phase III.