



WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER

Farms and ranches, recreation and tourism, towns and cities: they all depend on the health of the Colorado River and its tributaries. In western Colorado, water from the Colorado River basin irrigates about 700,000 acres of land on about 9,000 farms and ranches. These operations produce crops and animals for market and contribute over \$1 billion to the Western Slope economy.

Similarly, our recreation and tourism industries depend heavily on western Colorado rivers to support rafting, camping, and other activities. Recreation contributes over \$9 billion to the economy of western Colorado. This industry owes much of its success to agriculture's protection of open spaces, wildlife habitat and the unique culture and heritage that still exist in the West.

Together, these independent sectors comprise western Colorado's largest economic engine: an engine that runs on water. Healthy rivers are the key.

CONTACT US

WWW.OURCORIVER.COM

For more information on the **OUR COLORADO RIVER** effort please contact:

Richard Van Gytenbeek

Colorado River Basin

Outreach Coordinator

307-690-1267

r.vangytenbeek@tu.org

For more information about **CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS** contact Drew Peternell at 303-440-2937 or the Trout Unlimited staff in your river basin.

UPPER COLORADO RIVER BASIN

Rob Firth

970-531-3939

rfirth@tu.org

GUNNISON RIVER BASIN

Cary Denison

970-596-3291

cdenison@tu.org

Jesse Kruthaupt

970-209-0976

jkruthaupt@tu.org

YAMPA/WHITE RIVER BASIN

Brian Hodge

970-846-0414

bhodge@tu.org

DOLORES/MANCOS RIVER BASIN

Matthew Clark

970-799-0274

mclark@tu.org

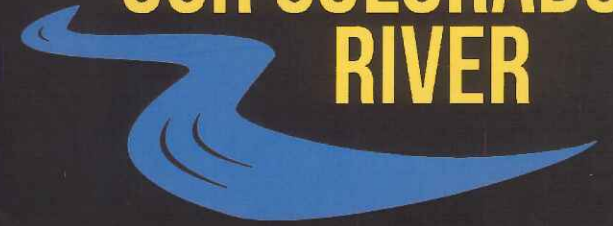
SAN JUAN/ANIMAS RIVER BASIN

Mely Whiting

720-470-4758

mwhiting@tu.org

OUR COLORADO RIVER



KEEP IT FLOWING



WWW.OURCORIVER.COM

Attachment E



OUR COLORADO RIVER: WHO WE ARE

OUR COLORADO RIVER is a project of Trout Unlimited (TU). TU is a non-profit fisheries conservation organization made up of sportsmen and women. We have 150,000 members nationwide and 10,000 in Colorado.

The Our Colorado River project is an outgrowth of TU's work in local communities across western Colorado to improve the quality of the Colorado River and its many tributaries. While the Our Colorado River project highlights our ongoing partnerships with agriculture, its primary intent is to facilitate broad support for smart water management on Colorado's Western Slope through a set of core values designed to promote healthy communities through healthy rivers.

OUR COLORADO RIVER: CORE VALUES

These five core values are essential to protecting and maintaining healthy rivers and healthy communities on the Western Slope of Colorado. By endorsing them, western Colorado expresses our unified resolve for smart water management. These core values should also be reflected in water planning efforts such as Governor Hickenlooper's executive order to complete a draft state water plan by December 2014.

1) **Cooperation, Not Conflict:** Work together to ensure the Colorado River is able to meet our diverse needs, from agriculture to recreation and tourism. Cooperation is the key to sustaining our economy and way of life.

2) **Protect Our Quality of Life:** Maintain our open spaces through a vigorous agricultural sector and ensure that our rivers and streams are flowing and healthy.

3) **Modernize Irrigation:** Upgrade our aging irrigation infrastructure systems to make them more productive, economical, and habitat-friendly.

4) **Innovative Management:** Explore new ways to meet our water supply needs through innovative conservation and management practices.

5) **Keep our Rivers at Home:** Leave water in its home basins and oppose new, large-scale, river-damaging trans-basin diversions of water from the Colorado River to the Front Range.

To show your support for these core values go to:
www.ourcoriver.com

OUR COLORADO RIVER: CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIPS

Citizens of western Colorado have a lot to gain by working cooperatively to meet water needs and maintain healthy rivers and streams. Trout Unlimited partners with ranchers and irrigators to implement projects that benefit agriculture while ensuring healthy rivers.

For example, we work with agricultural producers to improve diversion structures, stabilize stream channels, improve fish passage, upgrade irrigation infrastructure, augment stream flows, and complete other mutually beneficial projects.



Are you interested in a stream restoration project on your land? Trout Unlimited is here to help. For many landowners this is a fulfilling way to improve operations, boost land values and practice stewardship.