

Physical realities of water in Colorado & focus on the Colorado Basin Plan

Speaker Biographies

Gigi Richard, Ph. D.

**Associate Professor of Geology, Director of the Water Center
Colorado Mesa University**

Gigi Richard is currently an Associate Professor of Geology at Colorado Mesa University (CMU) in Grand Junction, CO in the Department of Physical and Environmental Sciences and the Faculty Director of the Water Center at CMU. She holds an M.S. and Ph.D. from Colorado State University in hydraulic engineering and a Bachelor of Science in civil engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Gigi created the Watershed Science program at CMU and teaches water science and environmental geology classes. Her research on human impacts on rivers systems includes the study of downstream impacts of dams and levees on rivers in Colorado, New Mexico and New Zealand. Recent work has focused on better understanding the hydrology and morphology of intermittent streams in western Colorado and on the need for peak flows to maintain the channel form of the Yampa and Dolores Rivers in western Colorado. A resident of Colorado for 23 years, Gigi has experience in private engineering consulting and served on water quality and land use planning commissions in Summit County, Colorado from 1990 to 1996.

Louis Meyer, PE

Co-Founder & President/ CEO of SGM

Project Management Team/ Consumptive Liaison, Colorado Basin Implementation Planning Team

Louis Meyer, PE has practiced water, wastewater and general civil engineering on Colorado's Western Slope for over 35 years. He has provided water engineering for 20 entities and has consulted on a regular, long-term basis for over 20 others. Louis is particularly passionate about Western Slope water issues and regularly speaks to local groups on the topic. He is Garfield County's designated representative to the Colorado River Basin Roundtable. With this organization, Louis has an opportunity to stay abreast of, and to help promote creative solutions for, Colorado River Basin water supply challenges. Louis has been a consultant to, and participant in, the Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI). Through the roundtable, SWSI, SGM's practice, and the many other organizations he contributes his time to, including the Granby/Silver Creek Water/Wastewater Authority board, the Aspen Valley Land Trust board, the President of the Carbondale Rotary Club, the Valley View Hospital (Glenwood Springs) board trustee, and the Sunlight Mountain Resort board, Louis has developed a robust network of contacts and deep understanding of the issues at play and forces at work, especially water-related) in Western Colorado. Louis knows the water, people, and politics of the Western Slope. Louis' solid grasp of Colorado water law and his experience with water resources/water rights consulting projects will be particularly beneficial to this project. Louis is an avid kayaker, road biker, cross-country skier and organic farmer.