

Irrigation Asset Inventory Project

an Eagle County C.D. Pilot Project

Project Goals

- Identify **LOCAL** Ag Industry needs
- * Privacy
- Funding opportunities
- Develop regional partnerships
- Engage ditch owners/users
- Address critical ditch issues

Risk to Colorado Agriculture

- Failure-based improvements
- Limited EQIP/NRCS Funds
- Loss of support industries
- Slim and variable margins of profit
- Threat of buy & dry for water rights
- Already existing water shortages
- Aging Infrastructure

State Identified Goals

Colorado Basin Implementation Plan (BIP)

Baseline Threats

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limited water availability 2. Limited water quality 3. Limited water quantity 4. Limited water quality 5. Limited water quantity 6. Limited water quality 7. Limited water quantity 8. Limited water quality 9. Limited water quantity 10. Limited water quality 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Limited water availability 2. Limited water quality 3. Limited water quantity 4. Limited water quality 5. Limited water quantity 6. Limited water quality 7. Limited water quantity 8. Limited water quality 9. Limited water quantity 10. Limited water quality
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Colorado Water Plan



Eagle County C. D. Project Approach

- Engagement -----> Utilize ECCD Board and NRCS
- Offer a carrot -----> Ditch Resource Binders
- Preserve Privacy -----> Ditch names not published
- Find Funding -----> Prioritize project list
- Advocate -----> Promote needs

Results

- Pilot project was successful
- Maintaining privacy is essential
- Build contact from existing relationships
- Pilot Project has lead to funding
- Ditch Resource Binders are a big draw
- Ag infrastructure need is great
- Add project cost estimates to future inventories

Brendon Langenhuizen, P.E. / **SGM**

Scott Jones / **Eagle County C.D. President** / Colorado River Ranch Manager

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Basinwide Themes

1	Protect and Restore Healthy Streams, Rivers, Lakes and Riparian Areas	4	Encourage a High Level of Basinwide Conservation
A	Protect and rehabilitate healthy rivers, streams, lakes and riparian areas	A	Improve Colorado Water Law to encourage efficiency, conservation and reuse
B	Define water quality needs and at-risk water bodies	B	Pursue continued municipal and industrial conservation
C	Preserve high quality recreational river and stream reaches with moderate flows	C	Promote agricultural conservation that maintains agricultural production and viability
D	Develop a basinwide funding system to meet basin environmental and recreational needs		
2	Sustain Agriculture	5	Develop Local Water Conscious Land Use Strategies
A	Reduce agricultural water shortages	A	Develop land use policies requiring and promoting conservation
B	Minimize potential for transfer of agricultural water rights to municipal uses	B	Support, preserve and promote local authorities management of stream health, development and conservation efforts
C	Develop incentives to support agricultural production	C	Expand regional cooperation efforts to improve efficiencies, provide water supply flexibility, and enhance environmental and recreational amenities
D	Increase education among the agricultural community about Colorado River Basin water issues	D	Extend water planning vision beyond 2050
3	Secure Safe Drinking	6	Assure Dependable Basin Administration
A	Secure growing water demand by developing in-basin supplies and expanding raw water storage supply	A	Protect and defend maximum mainstem calls at Shoshone Hydroelectric Plant and senior Grand Valley Irrigation diversions
B	Raise awareness of current obstacles and efforts facing water providers	B	Ensure sufficient Lake Powell water level for uninterrupted hydroelectric power production
C	Protect drinking water supplies from natural impacts such as extended droughts, forest fires, climate change, etc	C	Maintain Interstate Compact deliveries to Lake Powell
D	Ensure safe drinking water	D	Improve water court process

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Eagle Count Conservation District Irrigation Asset Inventory Project

Project Ranking

Drainage	Type of Project	Project	Ranking
Gypsum Creek	Pipe Repair or New Install	A proposed project for the ditch is to upgrade the infrastructure to a pipeline allowing for the operation of gravity fed sprinkling of the furthest fields. This would allow for more efficient use of the diverted water and significantly reduce the lost seepage from the open channel ditch currently being used.	1
Sweetwater Creek	Pipe Repair or New Install	Installing pipe along the ditch would significantly improve its function and prevent recurring issues along the open channel. The ditch currently experiences debris-clogged culverts, rock falls from surrounding hillsides, and varying inflow from the mountain side spring and streams. This project would involve the installation of pipe from the headgate to the largest users who would like to use the gravity pressure for an eventual sprinkling system. However, even piping the first section of the ditch or providing more durable lining in certain sections would be a substantial improvement to the ditch.	2
Gypsum Creek	Pipe Repair or New Install	Ditch operators would like to see the ditch piped as a solution to better regulate ditch inflows and outflows, particularly ditch seepage. Seepage may be contributing to high groundwater issues observed in a nearby residential community.	3
Gypsum Creek	Pipe Repair or New Install	Restoration of the historical headgate and historical alignment of the ditch. Several piped section inlets are in need of serious maintenance prior to carrying water again. The piped sections appeared to have been placed more than 30 years ago and showing signs of degradation. A new pipe should be placed to convey the water efficiently to the historically irrigated acres and specifically to the existing gated pipe.	4
Salt Creek	Sediment Control	Implement an erosion control plan for Salt Creek drainage	5
Brush Creek	Headgate and/or Diversion Structure	Replace the headgate and diversion structure, and add headwall and wingwalls	6

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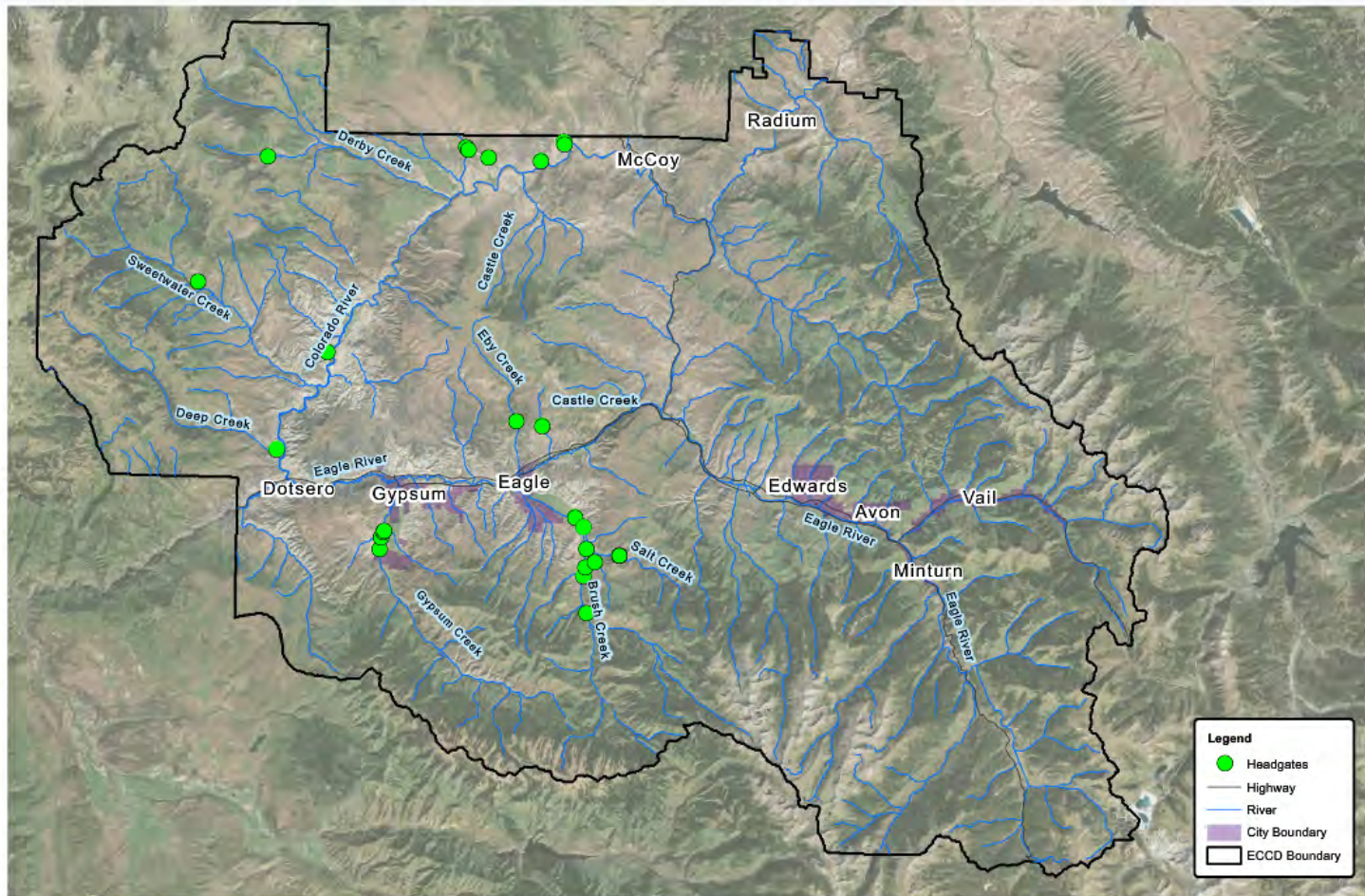
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Goal of 25 Ditch Evaluations

Volunteer Based Involvement

***Outreach by NRCS Staff and ECCD Board**



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Keynote Themes	Keynote Themes
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water Security 2. Water Quality 3. Water Quantity 4. Water Access 5. Water Efficiency 6. Water Resilience 7. Water Equity 8. Water Stewardship 9. Water Governance 10. Water Innovation 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Water Security 2. Water Quality 3. Water Quantity 4. Water Access 5. Water Efficiency 6. Water Resilience 7. Water Equity 8. Water Stewardship 9. Water Governance 10. Water Innovation

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