Poster: Resolving Beaver/ Human Conflict through Flow Devices in Gunnison

Malcolm Macleod, Master of Environmental Management Student, Western CO State University

Abstract

Changing the way people manage beaver conflict in the Gunnison Basin through installing flow devices. Beavers provide a myriad of ecosystem services and working with them is an essential adaptation strategy that is currently underutilized. Flow device practitioners throughout the West are successfully mitigating property damage while improving ecological health by allowing beaver to keep doing their vital functions. Flow device technology has recently been introduced to the Gunnison area and its use is expected to expand as local stakeholders witness this approach's benefits compared to traditional beaver management.

Biography

Malcolm Macleod is a Master of Environmental Management student at WCU, a Returned Peace Corps Volunteer (Panama 2015-2017), a Coldharbour Clark Fellow doing citizen science on Tomichi Creek, and is currently enrolled in a Beaver Professional Certification program through the Beaver Institute. His true passion is promoting the ecological benefits of beaver by helping stakeholders manage conflict using mutually beneficial approaches. He is a Beaver Believer that sees huge potential for ecosystem restoration and increased land resiliency by working with this marvelous creature.