

Rio Grande Stream Management Plan

Stakeholder Survey

Project Background

The Colorado Water Plan set a goal of developing Stream Management Plans (SMPs) for 80 percent of locally prioritized rivers in Colorado by 2030. To help meet this goal, the Rio Grande Interbasin Roundtable's SMP Committee prioritized the following three stream reaches in the Rio Grande Basin for the first SMP phase: The Rio Grande from Stony Pass to the Colorado state line, Conejos River from Platoro Reservoir to the confluence with the Rio Grande, and Saguache Creek from Stone Cellar Campground to the Town of Saguache. The primary goal of the SMPs is to protect and enhance stream conditions and surface water uses through stakeholder-driven stream management planning.

Through stakeholder engagement, we aim to include the voices of everyone interested in the stream management planning effort. We are eager to hear from water users, local, state, and federal agency staff, and interested citizens of the San Luis Valley. We want to hear your opinions, ideas, and values surrounding surface water resources management. Your responses will help guide and inform the SMP process. Please answer the questions below to help us in developing the Rio Grande Stream Management Plan!

You can find detailed information about the Rio Grande SMP by visiting the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project's SMP website at <http://www.riograndeheadwaters.org/stream-management-plans.html> or by contacting Daniel Boyes at daniel@riograndeheadwaters.org.

Thank you!

- The Stream Management Planning team

Survey Questions

- 1) Name (Optional): _____.
- 2) Email (Optional): _____.
- 3) Phone Number (Optional): _____.
- 4) Please let us know if you are available for an interview regarding your responses to the survey (circle one).

Yes

No

- 5) Please rank the water use categories you most closely identify with, from 1-6 (enter 0 for water uses you do not identify with).

Agricultural

Please circle all that apply: *surface water;* *groundwater*

Recreational

Please circle all that apply: *commercial boating;* *private boating;*
 commercial fishing; *private fishing*

Wildlife or environmental

Industrial

Domestic (individual well)

Other (please explain below):

6) Please mark all that apply to you in the San Luis Valley.

- Full time resident
- Landowner
- Part-time resident
- Local business owner
- Water rights owner
- Public service (government, non-profit, etc.)
- Choose not to answer
- Other:

7) Do you have any concerns related to the following topics? Please select all that apply.
You may provide an explanation for each topic, if applicable.

- Low stream flows

- Riparian degradation (non-natives, erosion, bank stability, etc.)

- Surface water irrigation supplies

Recreation access (i.e. boat ramps, other facilities)

Fish habitat

In-state and inter-state legal surface water issues

Other (examples include water infrastructure needs, water quality, stream temperature, etc.). Please be as specific as possible and include location(s), if relevant.

8) What aspect of surface water resources management is most important to you? Please rank the following choices from 1-4. Please indicate your ranking in the box. You may include any additional water management objectives that are important to you under “other.”

- Maintaining adequate flow to support agriculture
- Maintaining adequate flow to support boating and/or wade fishing
- Maintaining adequate flow to support recreational fisheries
- Maintaining adequate flow to support stream ecological health
- Other (please explain below):

9) Do you have agricultural surface water on your property (circle one)? If yes, proceed to Question #10. If not, you may skip to Question #

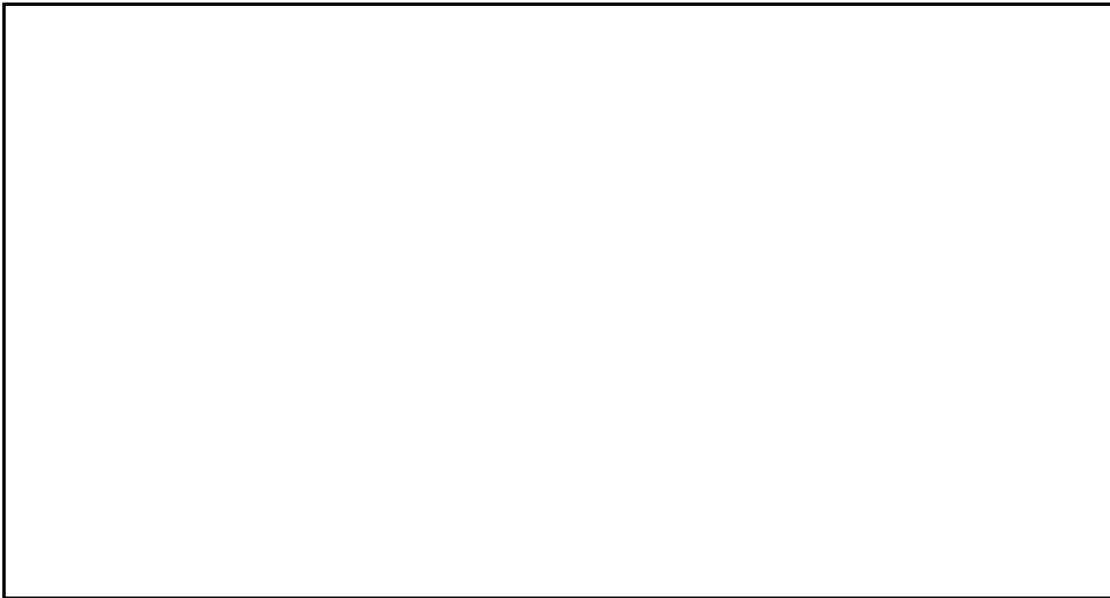
Yes *No*

10) If you have surface water rights, please elaborate on surface water uses (e.g. flood vs. sprinkler irrigation, crop type(s), or other uses).

11) Approximately how many miles of stream are on your property?



12) How would you describe the river and riparian zone on your property? (i.e. braided/single channel, canopy cover/understory wetland, etc.).

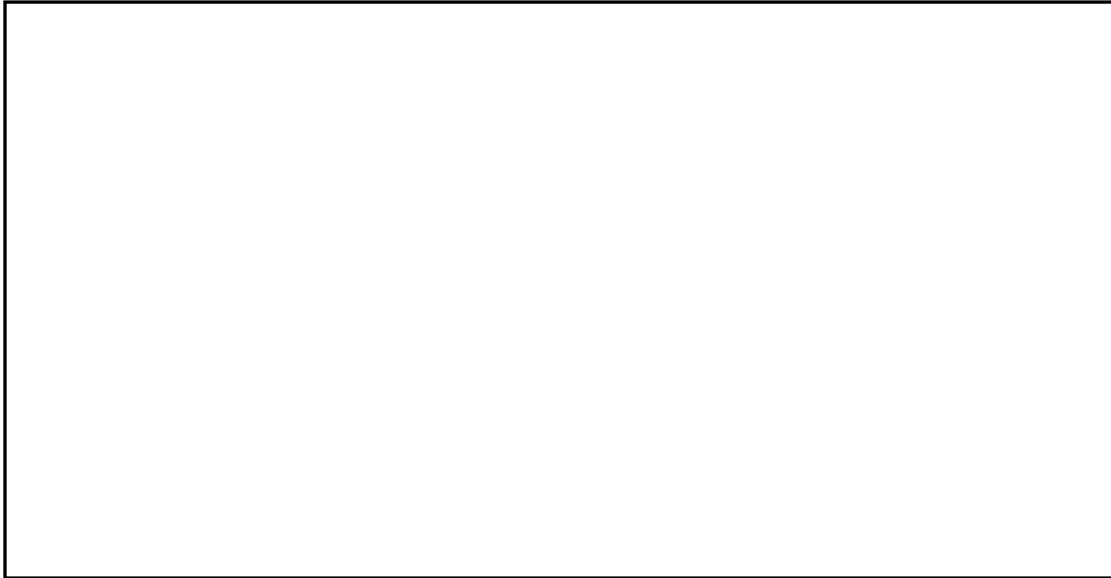


13) Have you completed any stream or riparian restoration projects on your property?
If so, can you describe the project(s), including the location, type, and extent?

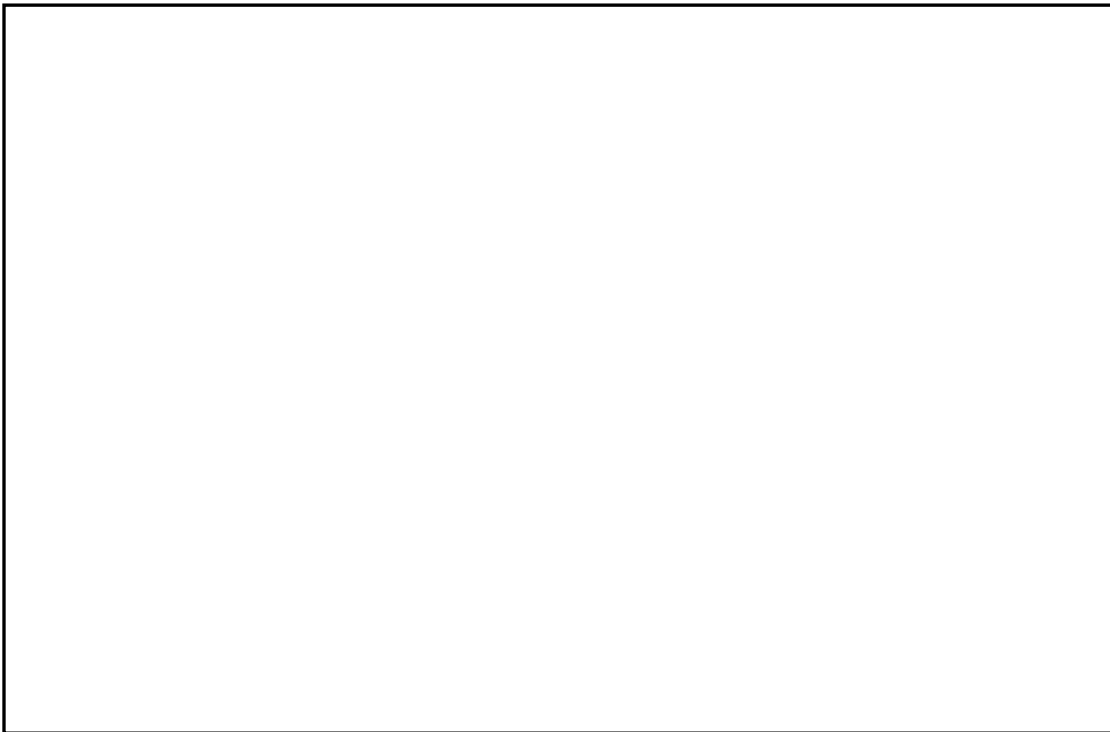


14) Are there stream restoration needs/opportunities on your property? If so, please describe the restoration need(s).

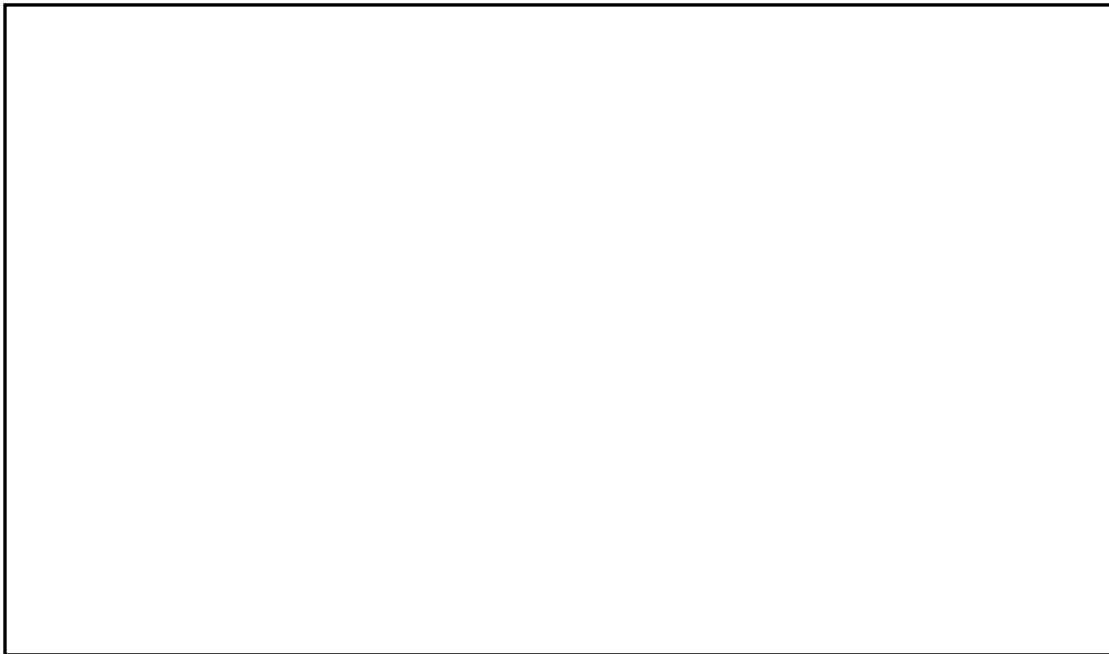
15) When making decisions regarding your water rights, do you feel the necessary information is readily available? If not, please explain what information is missing or difficult to access.



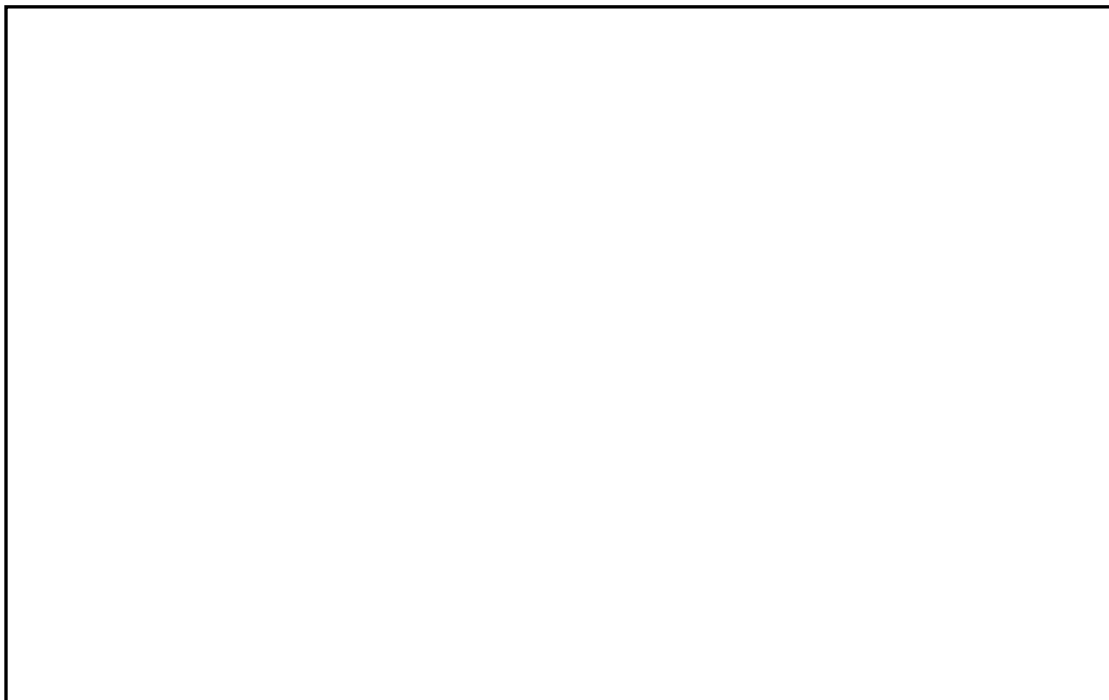
16) Are you aware of any specific repairs or improvements needed for headgates, diversion dams, or streambank stability on the mainstem Rio Grande?



17) Are there any reasons changes to the irrigation infrastructure described above should not be implemented? Please be as specific as possible.

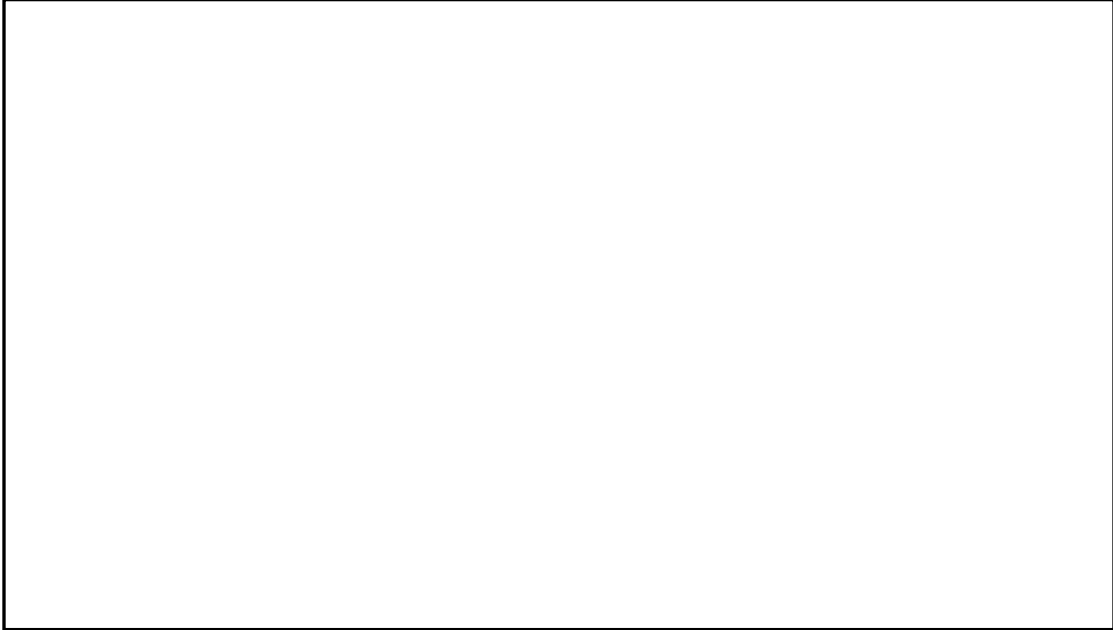


18) Are you aware of any invasive fish or plant species in the river or riparian area on your property?



19) Please describe your top two “water woes,” or what you would like to see improved in the future related to water resources management on the Rio Grande. Examples include irrigation shortages, riparian condition, low flows, water quality, etc. Please include as much specific information as you can.

1.



2.



20) Do you have ideas or recommendations for projects or programs that could improve water use efficiency on your property, business, or public land on the Rio Grande? If so, please specify the location(s).

21) Do you have ideas or recommendations for projects or programs to enhance water quality, hydrologic function, streambank stability, or any other aspect of stream function on the Rio Grande? If so, please specify the location(s).

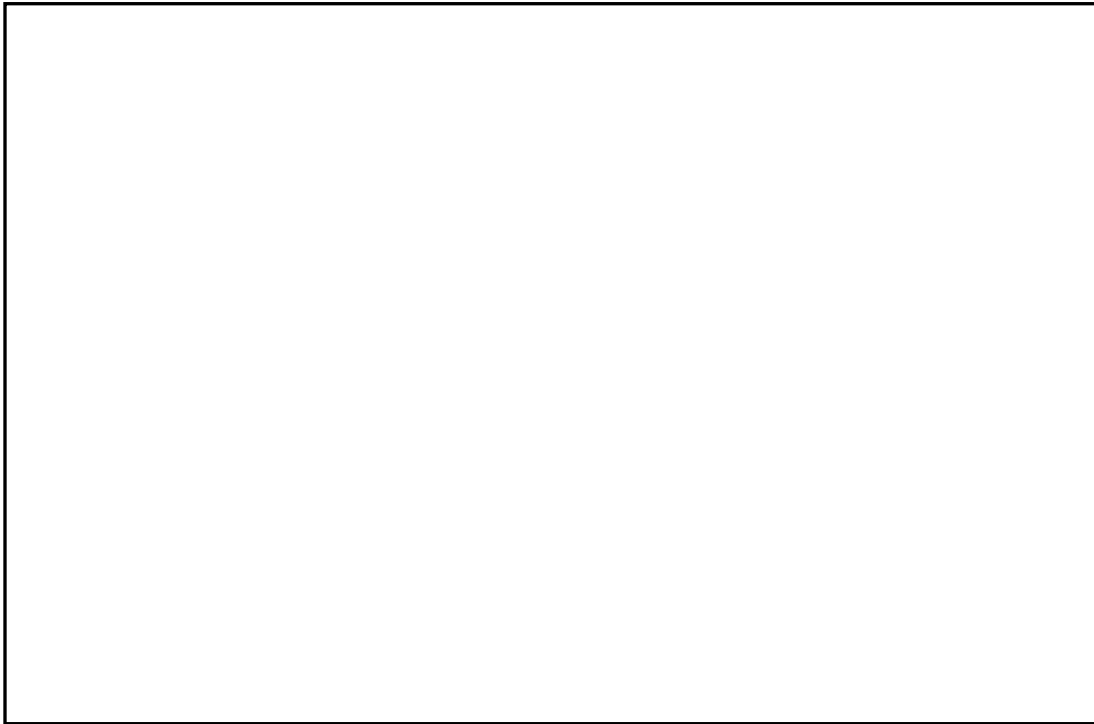
22) Do you have ideas or recommendations for projects or programs to enhance fishing, boating, or other recreational river uses, including quality, use, access, and/or safety on the Rio Grande? If so, please specify the location(s).

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23) Please include any additional issues, comments, or suggestions that were not covered in this survey.

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24) Would your organization or any groups you are affiliated with benefit from a presentation/discussion on the stream management planning process? If so, please specify and we will schedule a time to present.



We thank you very much for taking the time to complete this survey. Your responses will help inform the stream management planning process! To submit this survey, please send to Daniel Boyes at the Rio Grande Headwaters Restoration Project at **623 E Fourth St, Alamosa, CO 81101**.

Please do not hesitate to contact Daniel Boyes at daniel@riograndeheadwaters.org if you have any additional questions.