

Grand County Stream Management Plan

Geographic Description: Upper Colorado River Watershed Cooperative Effort Area

Size: More than 100 river miles

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Website: <https://www.co.grand.co.us/1388/Stream-Management-Plan>

Planning Phase: Assess Conditions And Identify Risks, Select Objectives And Measurable Results

Status: Phase I (of II) underway



Project Goals:

- Update the existing Grand County Stream Management Plan that was completed in 2010 with new information, analyses, and consideration of current environmental conditions. Perform a watershed assessment to gather new data that will allow for a better understanding of key issues and trends that will later assist in setting management goals. Parameters for the assessment include macroinvertebrates, fish, sediment, stream temperature, stream flow, and water quality.
- Expand stakeholder outreach to engage citizens and stakeholders in a professional process to gather feedback and update the Grand County Stream Management Plan.

Overview:

The Grand County Stream Management Plan update is built upon the foundation of the 2010 Grand County Stream Management Plan, which was the first of its kind in Colorado. It focused on inventory and review of pertinent data and information for streams, scientifically-based recommendations of environmental streamflow and flushing flows at various sites, and descriptions of flows to support non-consumptive water uses including recreational, municipal, industrial, and agricultural. The Cooperative Effort Area refers to over 100 river miles in the Colorado, Fraser, and Williams Fork River Basins upstream of the Colorado River's confluence with the Blue River in Grand County. Since the founding of Learning By Doing in 2013, significant progress has been made in establishing long-term scientific-based programs to collaboratively monitor and address changes in the Upper Colorado River Watershed.

Approach:

The Grand County Stream Management Plan envisions a two-phase approach to the work for conducting these updates. Phase I will include three primary tasks: compile, organize, and store applicable data into the Grand County Water Information Network's AWQMS database; conduct a watershed assessment of physical, chemical, and biological conditions of aquatic habitat within the study area; and design a broad stakeholder outreach and engagement program. Phase II will incorporate all of the information learned in Phase I to update the existing Grand County Stream Management Plan coordination.

Budget: \$415,767

