

AGENDA

UPPER YAMPA WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2026 (12:00 PM)

MOUNTAIN VALLEY BANK COMMUNITY ROOM
2220 CURVE PLAZA, STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO

ONLINE MEETING:

[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/84937333879?PWD=9xA4MwsMBRJIUzKM2tZHBMAbKweJHC.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84937333879?pwd=9xA4MwsMBRJIUzKM2tZHBMAbKweJHC.1)

MEETING ID: 849 3733 3879 - PASSCODE: 344919

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO JOIN A ZOOM MEETING FOLLOW THE AGENDA

A Board of Directors meeting packet is available for public review on our website at <https://www.upperyampawater.gov/board-meetings> by the Friday before the meeting. Amendments to the Agenda and new documents that are generated or submitted after the original posting of the meeting materials will be posted under "Additional Documents" on the website for the relevant meeting.

QUESTIONS ON AGENDA AND/OR BOARD MATERIALS: Members of the public or Board of Directors with questions on the agenda or meeting materials, including the consent agenda, are welcome to contact the General Manager at the District offices prior to the meeting. You may reach the General Manager at: arossi@upperyampawater.com or (970) 871-1035 Ext. 2.

MEETING PROCEDURE: Comments from the Public are welcome at two different times during the course of the meeting: 1) Comments no longer than three (3) minutes on items **not** scheduled on the Agenda will be heard under Public Input and Comment; and 2) Comments no longer than three (3) minutes on all scheduled public hearing items will be heard following the presentation. Please wait until you are recognized by the President. Appropriate written materials or presentations should be submitted to the District no less than 24 hours in advance to be included in the meeting. With the exception of subjects brought up during Public Input and Comment, on which no action will be taken or a decision made, the Board may take action on, and may make a decision regarding, ANY item referred to in this agenda, including, without limitation, any item referenced for "review", "update", "report", or "discussion" whether or not listed as an "Action Item."

- (1) **12:00 PM** Establishment of Quorum and Call to Order
- (2) **12:00 PM** Approval of Agenda for Meeting **Action item**
- (3) **12:05 PM** Public Input and Comment
The Board will make no decision nor take action, except to direct the General Manager. Those addressing the Board are requested to identify themselves by name, organization, if any, and address. Comments shall not exceed three (3) minutes.
- (4) **12:10 PM** Board Member Reports
 - a. Board Member Disbursements
- (5) **12:15 PM** Consent Agenda **Action item**
 - a. Approval of the Minutes of the July 15, 2026 Board of Directors Meeting
 - b. Financials
 - i. Approval of Disbursements
 - ii. Budget Comparison
 - iii. Auditor Selection

- (6) **12:25 PM** Report of General Manager
 - a. General Manager's Report
 - b. Augmentation Plan Updates
 - c. Presentation of First Draft of 2027 UYWCD Budget
- (7) **1:30 PM** District Engineer Report
 - a. Update on Reservoir Water Status and Yampa River Administration
 - b. Stagecoach Firing Project Update
- (8) **2:00 PM** Public Information Updates
 - a. Grant Disbursements
 - b. New Grant Applications

Action item
- (9) **2:45 PM** Report of General Counsel
 - a. TBD
- (10) **2:55 PM** Pending Water Cases
 - a. Water Resumes
 - b. Status of Other Water Cases
- (11) **3:10 PM** New Business (Limited to emergency matters that came up
During the course of the meeting)

Action item
- (12) **3:05 PM** Executive Sessions:
 - a. Executive session under CRS § 24-6-402(4)(b) to discuss legal issues on Water Resumes, Water Cases, Contract Negotiations and _____ (insert description) . Mere presence or participation of an attorney at an executive session is not sufficient to satisfy the requirements of CRS § 24-6-402(4)(b). Executive sessions to discuss legal matters are not recorded.
 - b. Executive session under CRS § 24-6-402(4)(e)(I) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators with respect to _____ (insert brief description). This session will be recorded, and a copy of the recording maintained for not less than 90 days.
 - c. At the conclusion of an executive session and the resumption of the public meeting, the Chairman will announce that if any person who participated in an executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into executive session, or that any improper action occurred during an executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, that such person state their concern for the record.
- (13) **3:15 PM** Board Actions in Regard to Executive Session
- (14) **3:20 PM** Determination of Next Meeting(s) Agenda(s)
- (15) **3:30 PM** Adjournment.



INSTRUCTIONS FOR MEETING ATTENDEES

JOIN A MEETING

Join a Zoom meeting by clicking on the Zoom link provided by the meeting host or on our website. Example:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86280290378?pwd=ll10aOG4VvKDnsrdkSWWhzvUeK1e>

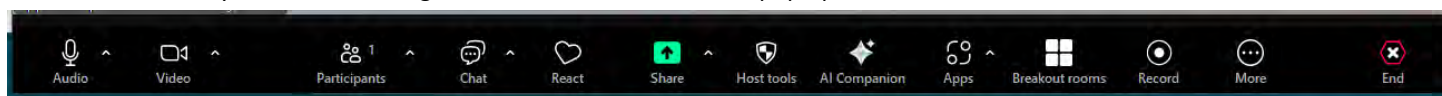
Meeting ID: 862 8029 0378

Passcode: 592105

If this is your first Zoom meeting on your device, well in advance of the meeting click download and run Zoom. The *Zoom.exe* file will download, and you will need to open the file. This only needs to be done once for any device that you use Zoom on for the first time.

Once set up, click Join a Meeting > enter the Meeting ID > then click Join > enter Password if needed > then Join Meeting. Click Join with Computer Audio.

When you join a Zoom meeting hosted by another you will be an Attendee. You will have access to several features by hovering over the bottom of your Zoom meeting screen. The tool bar here will pop up:



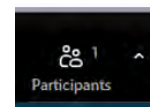
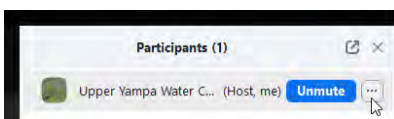
MUTE/UNMUTE AND START/STOP VIDEO

If your device has a microphone you can mute/unmute your microphone by clicking the Audio icon on the tool bar. A red line through the icon means you are muted. If your device has a camera you can turn it on/off by clicking the Video icon. A red line means the Video/camera is off.



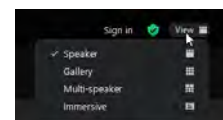
PARTICIPANTS

If you click on Participants you can view who is in the meeting. The participants list also gives you the option to rename yourself. Make sure you are identified properly. Hover over your name and click the three dots to change how your name appears. Example:



CHOOSE LAYOUT

At the upper right of your screen you can switch between Speaker View and Gallery View.



LEAVE MEETING

You can leave the meeting at any time by clicking on Leave Meeting at the lower right corner of the Zoom tool bar.

JOIN MEETING VIA CELL PHONE WITH ONE TAP MOBILE

To join a Zoom meeting via cell phone using one-tap mobile, simply tap the "One Tap Mobile" link in the meeting invitation on your phone. This will automatically dial the meeting number and enter the meeting ID, allowing you to join the audio only portion of the meeting without using the Zoom app.

JOIN MEETING BY PHONE WITH DIAL BY YOUR LOCATION

To join a Zoom meeting via a phone using your location's dial-in number, locate the "Dial by your location" section in the meeting invitation. Select the appropriate number for your country or region and dial it. You will then be prompted to enter the meeting ID, followed by any required participant ID and passcode.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES (click to open)

[Getting Started](#)

[Zoom Video Tutorials](#)

[Using the Mobile App](#)

[Zoom Help Center](#)

[Zoom Training](#)

PUBLIC INPUT AND COMMENT

The Board will make no decision nor take action, except to direct the General Manager. Those addressing the Board are requested to identify themselves by name, organization, if any, and address. Comments shall not exceed three (3) minutes.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

BOARD MEMBER DISBURSEMENTS

Meeting Compensation - 043 - DETAIL

1st Quarter 2026

Director/Meeting date	1/21/26 BOD	3/5/26 Ex Comm	3/18/26 BOD	Q1 Total (Jan-Mar)	Amount Paid	Date Paid
Jim Haskins	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	3/26/2026
John Redmond	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	3/26/2026
CJ Mucklow	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	3/26/2026
Leah Wolf Martin	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	3/26/2026
Thomas Sharp	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	3/26/2026
Nicole Seltzer	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	3/26/2026
Katie Berning	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	3/26/2026
Kevin McBride	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	3/26/2026
Mynon Woodley	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 600.00	\$ 600.00	3/26/2026
Total	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 1,800.00	\$ 5,000.00		
	DS 1/22/26	DS 3/6/26	DS 3/19/26	Attendance updated initials & date		
	DS 1/22/26	DS 3/11/26	DS 3/24/26	Entered in QuickBooks initials & date		

2nd Quarter 2026

Director/Meeting date	5/20/26 BOD	6/29/26 SP BOD	Q2 Total (Apr-Jun)	Amount Paid	Date Paid
Jim Haskins	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	7/1/2026
John Redmond	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	7/1/2026
CJ Mucklow	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	7/1/2026
Leah Wolf Martin	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	7/1/2026
Thomas Sharp	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	7/1/2026
Nicole Seltzer	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	7/1/2026
Katie Berning	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	7/1/2026
Kevin McBride	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	7/1/2026
Mynon Woodley	\$ 200.00	\$ 200.00	\$ 400.00	\$ 400.00	7/1/2026
Total	\$ 1,800.00		\$ 3,200.00		
	DS 5/22/26	DS 6/30/26	Attendance updated initials & date		
	DS 5/22/26	DS 6/30/26	Entered in QuickBooks initials & date		

3rd Quarter 2026

Director/Meeting date	7/15/26 BOD	9/16/26 BOD	Ex Comm	Gov Comm	Q3 Total (Jul-Sept)	Amount Paid	Date Paid
Jim Haskins	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
John Redmond	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
CJ Mucklow	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
Leah Wolf Martin	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
Thomas Sharp	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
Nicole Seltzer	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
Katie Berning	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
Kevin McBride	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
Mynon Woodley	\$ 200.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200.00	\$ -	
Total	\$ 1,800.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,800.00		
	DS 7/16/26					Attendance updated initials & date	
	DS 7/16/26					Entered in QuickBooks initials & date	



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

**UPPER YAMPA WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT
SPECIAL BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
WEDNESDAY, JULY 15, 2026 (9:30 AM)
CARPENTER RANCH
13250 US-40, HAYDEN, COLORADO 81639**

ONLINE MEETING:

[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/84121702496?PWD=Rx2WZKUATOPIJGkAVJRA9y9ppGRxN9.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84121702496?pwd=Rx2WZKUATOPIJGkAVJRA9y9ppGRxN9.1)

MEETING ID: 841 2170 2496 - PASSCODE: 056158

MINUTES

Chairman Jim Haskins called the meeting to order and declared a quorum present.

Board Members Present: Jim Haskins, John Redmond, Mynon Woodley, Tom Sharp, Kevin McBride, Nicole Seltzer, Katie Berning, CJ Mucklow and Leah Wolf-Martin

Staff Members Present: Andy Rossi (General Manager), Emily Lowell (District Engineer), Holly Kirkpatrick (Public Affairs Manager), Dianna Schoen (Business Manager), Karina Craig (Finance Manager), Neal O Bray and Eddie Rogers (Plant Operators), and John Nelson (Facilities Operator)

Others Present: Bob Weiss (UYWCD General Counsel), Erin Light (Colorado Division of Water Resources, DWR), Andrew Rickert (Colorado Water Conservation Board, CWCB), Randy Seidl (Rain Enhancement Technologies), Prentiss Donohue, Mendi Figueroa (Community Agriculture Alliance, CAA), Linda Maynard, Jeffrey Chagnon, Rutuja Dongre, Anya Donohue, and Matt Smith.

This meeting was held in person and by videoconference utilizing Zoom. The meeting agenda included instructions to the public describing the process to participate in the meeting and comment on agenda items.

The following agenda was proposed:

AGENDA

9:00 AM Breakfast

- (1) **9:30 AM** Establishment of Quorum and Call to Order
- (2) **9:30 AM** Approval of Agenda for Meeting **Action item**
- (3) **9:35 AM** Public Input and Comment
The Board will make no decision nor take action, except to direct the General Manager. Those addressing the Board are requested to identify themselves by name, organization, if any, and address. Comments shall not exceed three (3) minutes.
- (4) **9:38 AM** Consent Agenda **Action item**
 - a. Approval of the Minutes of the May 20, 2026 Board of Directors Meeting and June 29, 2026 Special Board of Directors meeting
 - b. Financials
 - i. Approval of Disbursements

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

ii. Budget Comparison

- (5) **9:40 AM** Update on Strategic Initiatives
- (6) **11:00 AM** New Business (Limited to emergency matters that came up
During the course of the meeting) **Action item**
- (7) **11:10 AM** Executive Sessions:
- a. Executive session under CRS § 24-6-402(4)(b) to discuss legal issues on Water Resumes, Water Cases, Contract Negotiations and _____ (insert description) . Mere presence or participation of an attorney at an executive session is not sufficient to satisfy the requirements of CRS § 24-6-402(4)(b). Executive sessions to discuss legal matters are not recorded.
 - b. Executive session under CRS § 24-6-402(4)(e)(I) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators with respect to _____ (insert brief description). This session will be recorded, and a copy of the recording maintained for not less than 90 days.
 - c. At the conclusion of an executive session and the resumption of the public meeting, the Chairman will announce that if any person who participated in an executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into executive session, or that any improper action occurred during an executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, that such person state their concern for the record.
- (8) **11:20 PM** Board Actions in Regard to Executive Session

11:30 AM Lunch Break

- (9) **12:30 PM** Discussion of UYWCD Grant Program Policies
- (10) **2:00 PM** Adjournment.

Chairman Haskins established a quorum and called the meeting to order at 9:36 AM.

Meeting Agenda. General Manager Rossi noted the addition of documents to agenda item 5. Director Sharp moved to approve the agenda. Director Woodley seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Public Input and Comment. Chairman Haskins invited members of the public to comment on items not otherwise scheduled on the agenda. Erin Light, Division Engineer, DWR, provided the Board with an update on water rights administration within the Division.

Consent Agenda. Director Sharp moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Director Berning seconded the motion which was unanimously approved.

Update on Strategic Initiatives.

Randy Seidl of Rain Enhancement Technologies presented the company's ionization-based rainfall enhancement system. The system uses ground-based, solar-powered arrays that generate electrical charges to ionize air and boost precipitation from existing weather patterns. Rain Enhancement Technologies offered a one-year trial opportunity in coordination with, and with grant funding from, the CWCB.

General Manager Rossi updated the Board on the status of the three strategic initiatives adopted in the District's Strategic Plan: Water Supply; Agricultural Partnerships and Infrastructure; and Water Quality and Wildfire Mitigation.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

District Engineer Lowell reviewed efforts on the Stagecoach firming project. Director Sharp moved to cease pursuit of PL566 and NRCS funding for the firming project. The motion failed for lack of a second. The General Manager recommended that staff outline next steps for moving the project forward, including possible District funding, for presentation at the September Board meeting.

Public Affairs Manager Kirkpatrick and Mendi Figueroa provided an update on current agricultural partnerships and infrastructure efforts

District Engineer Lowell presented a request from the Colorado Water Trust (CWT) for an additional purchase of 500 acre-feet of water. Following Board discussion, Director Wolf Martin moved, per staff recommendation, to provide CWT an additional 500 acre-feet for purchase this season. Director McBride seconded the motion. Director Sharp then moved to amend the motion to require that the contract be structured on a take-or-pay basis; Director McBride seconded the amendment. The amendment failed by a vote of 2–7 (Directors Sharp and McBride in favor). The Board then voted on the original motion, which carried by a vote of 8–1 (Director Sharp opposed).

Discussion of UYWCD Grant Program Policies.

Public Affairs Manager Kirkpatrick reviewed the history of the District's Community Grant Program, including awards made since 2020 and current general policies.

The Board discussed the following Grant Program Policies:

1. Budget, Award and Approval Amounts – The Board recommended increasing the program budget to \$400,000, establishing a \$100,000 cap per grant request, and authorizing General Manager approval for grant requests up to \$25,000.
2. Location Requirements of Grant Requests – The Board recommended that unique opportunities located outside the District boundary, but affecting water use within the boundary, be considered on a case-by-case basis.
3. Additional Funding for In Progress Projects – The Board agreed that such requests may be presented to the Board.
4. Funding Timelines and Time of Completion – The Board determined that funding may not exceed three years; grant recipients must return to the Board after three years for continued funding.
5. Reoccurring Grants – Following discussion, General Manager Rossi noted that UYWCD staff will develop recommendations for the September Board meeting, including a proposal to move annual funding requests to a different budget category.

Public Affairs Manager Kirkpatrick reviewed the history of the District's Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Program (DIIP) and asked whether the Board would like to continue the program using UYWCD funds now that CWCB funding has been exhausted. The Board expressed support for continuing the program at a suggested funding level of \$100,000.

The Board also discussed eligibility criteria for grant funding of water supply projects. The Board did not support funding rate studies but supported funding for physical project work. Funding was not supported for domestic wells or river restoration projects. Water quality projects will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and education and outreach requests must include specific project details.

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

General Manager Rossi noted he will incorporate all input from the retreat into more explicit policy language, to be presented at upcoming Board meetings.

New Business. There was no new business.

Executive Session and Board Action Regarding Executive Session. There were no Executive Sessions.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:53 PM.

I certify that the foregoing constitutes a true and correct summary of the proceeds at the above referenced meeting.

Andy Rossi, District Secretary/Manager

Date: _____

CONSENT AGENDA

**FINANCIALS: APPROVAL OF DISBURSEMENTS, BUDGET COMPARISON
& AUDITOR SELECTION**





BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Karina Craig, Finance Manager.

Date: September 16, 2026

Item: Financial Reports: August 31, 2026, Cash Disbursement Report and July 31, 2026 Budget Comparison Report.

☐	DIRECTION
☒	INFORMATION
☐	MOTION
☐	RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

The **Cash Disbursement Report** contains disbursements from the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (the District) of reconciled monthly statements. These include disbursements incurred with credit card through July 31, 2026 and with check and electronic payments through August 31, 2026. Disbursements include operating and capital expenditures from the 2026 fiscal year budget, totaling \$616,052.25.

The **Budget Comparison Report** includes transactions accrued up to July 31, 2026. Additional transactions for the reported period may be added as further documentation is received and processed.

II. Summary:

Cash disbursements reported include *reconciled* expenditures from the 2026 fiscal year-to-date. The Budget Comparison reports *2024 and 2025 audited* actuals. It also includes current year financials: budget, early year actuals and annual projections.

III. Staff Recommendation: Accept reports.

IV. Legal Issues: None

V. Consistency with Board Goals and Policies: UYWCD By-Laws and SP Goal 3.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Cash Disbursement Report.

Attachment 2: Budget Comparison Report.

Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
Cash Disbursement Report
August 31, 2026

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
05/13/2026	Hayden FFA, Hayden School District	Event catering	480.00
06/01/2026	NYT The New York Times	Monthly subscription	28.00
06/02/2026	Google	Software expense	43.89
06/08/2026	Garmin	Monthly subscription	34.95
06/08/2026	Intuit	Software fee	27.00
06/09/2026	Colorado Water Congress CWC	Summer Conference registration, director.	475.00
06/11/2026	Gas Station	Gasoline	42.86
06/14/2026	Mailchimp	Monthly digital marketing platform	20.90
06/15/2026	Staples	Office supplies	51.59
06/16/2026	Colorado Water Congress CWC	Summer Conference registration, staff.	475.00
06/16/2026	Colorado Water Congress CWC	Summer Conference registration, director.	475.00
06/16/2026	Natural Grocers	Kitchen supplies	12.10
06/17/2026	Colorado Water Congress CWC	Summer Conference registration, staff.	475.00
06/17/2026	Edge Communications	Monthly telephone services	139.15
06/18/2026	3572, DBA Aurum Food & Wine	BOD spring run off dinner	1,611.89
06/18/2026	ACE Hardware	Facility maintenace	35.99
06/19/2026	YVEA	Electrical service at Stagecoach powerhouse and shed	590.92
06/19/2026	Colorado Water Congress CWC	Summer Conference registration, director.	475.00
06/21/2026	Adobe	Monthly subscription	330.12
06/23/2026	CenturyLink Lumen	Telephone, Stagecoach.	213.84
06/24/2026	Natural Grocers	Kitchen supplies	3.75
06/28/2026	NYT The New York Times	Monthly subscription	28.00
06/30/2026	CenturyLink Lumen	Internet services	249.66
06/30/2026	Family Support Registry	Monthly remittance	716.00

Subtotal

7,035.61

Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
Cash Disbursement Report
August 31, 2026

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
06/30/2026	Intuit	Batch Fees	11.14
07/01/2026	Amazon	Office supplies	19.99
07/01/2026	MVB Mountain Valley Bank	Monthly lease	3,601.98
07/01/2026	Morgan, Jacob	Reimbursement of Yampa Basin Rendezvous expenses	416.49
07/01/2026	Nicole Seltzer	Director fees	400.00
07/01/2026	John Redmond	Director Fees	200.00
07/01/2026	ACE Hardware	Facility maintenace	35.98
07/01/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Bear River Watershed and Stagecoach Reservoir WQ monitoring	12,747.07
07/01/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	USBR Grant GoldSim model	7,655.00
07/01/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Bear River Watershed modeling	6,376.00
07/01/2026	YVSC Western Resilience Center	Wildfire mitigation grant	4,443.75
07/01/2026	SR Wildfire Mitigation Services LLC	Wildfire mitigation services	4,119.61
07/01/2026	SR Wildfire Mitigation Services LLC	Wildfire mitigation services	3,584.75
07/01/2026	Williams Weese Pepple & Ferguson PC	Legal services, May.	1,995.00
07/01/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Yampa River Dashboard support	1,977.25
07/01/2026	Williams Weese Pepple & Ferguson PC	Legal services, April.	1,377.50
07/01/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Operations Dashboard support	1,094.75
07/01/2026	CJ Mucklow	Director fees	400.00
07/01/2026	Tom Sharp	Director fees	400.00
07/01/2026	Mynon Woodley	Director fees	400.00
07/01/2026	Katie Berning	Director fees	400.00
07/01/2026	Kevin McBride	Director fees	400.00
07/01/2026	Jim Haskins	Director fees	400.00
07/01/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Water rights engineering	212.00

Subtotal

52,668.26

Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
Cash Disbursement Report
August 31, 2026

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
07/01/2026	Leah Wolf Martin	Director Fees, BOD meeting 05-20-2026	200.00
07/01/2026	WWE Wright Water Engineers, Inc	Stillwater Ditch on call, services through 05-31-26.	93.00
07/02/2026	Google	Software expense	43.89
07/05/2026	Walmart	Kitchen supplies	11.77
07/06/2026	Natural Grocers	Kitchen supplies	3.86
07/08/2026	Garmin	Monthly subscription	34.95
07/09/2026	Colorado Water Congress CWC	Summer Conference registration, director.	475.00
07/10/2026	Staples	Board retreat supplies	92.95
07/13/2026	City Market	Board meeting supplies	7.82
07/14/2026	Fleet Service Conoco Universal WEX	Monthly federal liability payment	1,285.72
07/15/2026	Central Park Liquor	Event supplies	45.96
07/15/2026	NDS Northwest Data Services	Cable	75.00
07/16/2026	City Market	Board meeting supplies	33.26
07/16/2026	NDS Northwest Data Services	Monthly MSP fee, monthly IT services.	3,043.00
07/16/2026	Forrester and Associates LLC	Wildfire mitigation work through 06-29-2026. 100% pass-through.	55,500.00
07/16/2026	CEBT	Insurance	19,201.44
07/16/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Stagecoach Reservoir GW support	11,256.71
07/16/2026	YVSC Western Resilience Center	Monthly payroll	4,447.50
07/16/2026	FotY Friends of the Yampa	Community Program Sponsorship, 2026 Youth Camp	4,000.00
07/16/2026	Barefoot Public Relations LLC	Strategic Plan Communications Roadmap	3,125.00
07/16/2026	UC San Diego	USBR Grant GoldSim Model, services through 05-31-26. 100% passthrough expense.	2,904.35
07/16/2026	UC San Diego	USBR Grant GoldSim Model, services through 04-30-26. 100% passthrough expense.	2,725.21
07/16/2026	La Central Catering LLC	Catering, Board meeting.	1,740.00
07/16/2026	Scott Solutions LLC	YBR Facilitation fee	1,297.95

Subtotal

111,644.34

Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
Cash Disbursement Report
August 31, 2026

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
07/16/2026	Stand Creative Studio	Monthly digital marketing services	700.00
07/16/2026	Yampa Valley Property Service LLC	Office cleaning services	300.00
07/16/2026	Colorado Car Care LLC	Vehicle maintenance	119.33
07/16/2026	John Nelson	Reimbursement of vehicle gasoline expense	100.00
07/16/2026	ACS Advanced Copier Solutions, Inc.	Monthly copier fees	20.11
07/16/2026	ACS Advanced Copier Solutions, Inc.	Monthly copier fees	19.83
07/17/2026	Edge Communications	Monthly telephone services	140.28
07/17/2026	Microsoft	Software subscription	50.16
07/19/2026	Staples	Board retreat supplies	275.74
07/19/2026	Mailchimp	Monthly digital marketing platform	20.90
07/20/2026	CenturyLink Lumen	Telephone, Stagecoach.	225.32
07/21/2026	Adobe	Monthly subscription	330.12
07/22/2026	Priest Creek Ranch	Excelsior Headgate	4,079.56
07/22/2026	HY Cattle Corporation	Elgin Creek Ditch flumes	2,988.50
07/22/2026	First Creek Land LLC	Mill Creek Headgate Installation.	805.88
07/22/2026	Flanders Ranch LLC.	Flanders Ranch stock and domestic pump. \$8,086.69 UYWCD expense and \$8,599.06 Passthrough.	16,685.75
07/22/2026	Glen Eden Resort	James Wheeler Ditch Flume Replacement	2,898.91
07/22/2026	RR1917 LLC	Mill Creek Headgate Installation.	1,564.35
07/23/2026	YVEA	Electrical service at Stagecoach powerhouse and shed	255.97
07/26/2026	NYT The New York Times	Monthly subscription	28.00
07/27/2026	Fuzzywigs	Employee recognition	8.66
07/28/2026	CenturyLink Lumen	Internet services	251.30
07/28/2026	Colorado River District	Seminar registration, Director.	35.00
07/28/2026	Intuit	Software fee	27.00

Subtotal

31,930.67

Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
Cash Disbursement Report
August 31, 2026

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
07/28/2026	Natural Grocers	Kitchen supplies	12.99
07/28/2026	Internal Revenue Service	Monthly federal tax liability payment	23,888.96
07/28/2026	Colorado Department of Revenue	Quarterly state tax withholding liability payment	10,479.00
07/28/2026	MissionSQ 401a	Monthly retirement contributions	5,784.03
07/28/2026	MissionSQ 457	Monthly retirement contribution	3,043.93
07/28/2026	Family Support Registry	Monthly remittance	716.00
07/29/2026	Walmart	Employee recognition	7.69
07/29/2026	Western Colorado University	2026-2027 scholarship award	5,000.00
07/29/2026	Colorado State University	2026-2027 scholarship award	5,000.00
07/29/2026	Aztec Drilling Company	Stagecoach water supply well drilling	31,190.00
07/29/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Stagecoach Reservoir GW support	15,274.84
07/29/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Stagecoach Reservoir modeling	9,062.00
07/29/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Operations Dashboard support	2,154.00
07/29/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Bear River Watershed modeling	1,726.00
07/29/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Yampa River Dashboard support	610.00
07/29/2026	John Nelson	Reimbursement of vehicle maintenance expense	14.00
07/29/2026	Intuit	Batch Fees	200.04
07/30/2026	Coffee Roasters	Kitchen supplies	107.90
07/30/2026	Intuit	Monthly payroll	65,446.72
07/30/2026	Intuit	Mileage reimbursements	269.13
07/30/2026	Intuit	Phone expenses	675.00
08/01/2026	MVB Mountain Valley Bank	Monthly lease	3,601.98
08/04/2026	Colorado Event Rentals	Tent rental for annual event	1,500.00
08/05/2026	Lynn, Courtney	Employee recognition	300.00

Subtotal

186,064.21

Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
Cash Disbursement Report
August 31, 2026

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
08/13/2026	ACE Hardware	Facility maintenace	25.68
08/13/2026	Flat Tops Ranch Supply	Facilities maintenance	1,033.13
08/13/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Bear River Watershed and Stagecoach Reservoir WQ monitoring	20,148.62
08/13/2026	CEBT	Insurance	19,201.44
08/13/2026	USGS	Snow modeling and remote sensing for runoff forecasting in upper Yampa River basin.	10,392.00
08/13/2026	Western Biology LLC	Wildfire Mitigation Plan	10,126.50
08/13/2026	CivicPlus LLC	ADA compliance software	10,032.00
08/13/2026	USGS	Operation and maintenance of stream flow gaging station and WQ monitoring	9,082.67
08/13/2026	CAA Community Agriculture Alliance Inc	Partial payment of 2026 Bear River Outreach Grant	6,930.00
08/13/2026	Weiss and Van Scoyk, LLC	Legal services through May 2026. Contracts, price-incl.	5,941.00
08/13/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Bear River Watershed and Stagecoach Reservoir WQ monitoring	5,420.75
08/13/2026	FotY Friends of the Yampa	Partial payment of FoTY River Stewardship Grant awarded in 2025.	5,218.16
08/13/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	USBR Grant GoldSim model	4,566.00
08/13/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	USBR Grant GoldSim model	4,520.00
08/13/2026	YVSC Western Resilience Center	Wildfire mitigation Grant	4,364.63
08/13/2026	Spheros Environmental Group Parent Inc.	Stagecoach Reservoir GW support	3,795.00
08/13/2026	Stand Creative Studio	Monthly digital marketing services	700.00
08/13/2026	Balcomb & Green, P.C.	Legal services, July.	495.50
08/13/2026	Balcomb & Green, P.C.	Legal services, June.	307.50
08/13/2026	Yampa Valley Property Service LLC	Office cleaning services	300.00
08/13/2026	Birchwood Communications LLC	Yampa River and Reservoir Report advertisement	200.00
08/13/2026	Weiss and Van Scoyk, LLC	Legal services through May 2026. Contracts, price-incl.	182.00
08/13/2026	Colorado Car Care LLC	Vehicle maintenance	126.39
08/13/2026	ACS Advanced Copier Solutions, Inc.	Monthly copier fees	25.30

Subtotal

123,134.27

Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
Cash Disbursement Report
August 31, 2026

Date	Name	Memo	Amount
08/18/2026	NDS Northwest Data Services	Monthly MSP fee, monthly IT services.	3,043.00
08/18/2026	Fleet Service Conoco Universal WEX	Monthly gasoline charges	1,299.88
08/25/2026	Intuit	Batch Fees	30.46
08/27/2026	MissionSQ 457	Monthly retirement contribution	4,511.37
08/27/2026	MissionSQ 401a	Monthly retirement contributions	5,768.08
08/28/2026	Intuit	Mileage reimbursements	587.04
08/28/2026	Intuit	Phone expenses	675.00
08/28/2026	Intuit	Monthly payroll	64,132.80
08/31/2026	Internal Revenue Service	Monthly federal tax liability payment	23,527.26

Subtotal **103,574.89**

Total **616,052.25**

UPPER YAMPA WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT - 2026 BUDGET COMPARISON REPORT, AS OF JULY 31, 2026

modified accrual basis						
		2024 ACTUALS	2025 ACTUALS	2026 BUDGET	2026 ACTUALS	2026 PROJECTIONS
		Audited	Final Audit Draft	November 19, 2025	July 31, 2025	July 31, 2025
Fund Opening Balance including Encumbered Funds		22,104,864	25,121,867	26,832,928	25,121,867	26,832,928
Restricted Funds		549,165	589,327	570,139	570,139	570,139
Stagecoach Wetlands Mitigation Reserve		419,734	419,734	419,734	419,734	419,734
Tabor Reserve		129,431	169,593	150,405	150,405	150,405
Committed Funds		21,555,699	24,532,540	26,262,789	24,551,728	26,262,789
Emergency Facilities Reserve		5,462,334	5,609,816	5,743,890	5,743,890	5,743,890
Capital Maintenance Reserve		916,235	940,973	963,462	963,462	963,462
Capital Projects Development Fund		15,177,130	17,981,751	19,555,437	17,844,376	19,555,437
Revenues						
Facilities						
Stagecoach Reservoir						
Power Sales		88,462	73,368	127,000	14,723	21,013
Water Sales		509,362	524,957	247,362	250,654	486,815
Stagecoach Firming						
Yamcolo Reservoir						
Water Sales		202,446	205,851	202,004	112,542	166,901
Stillwater Ditch & Reservoir Company		14,435	14,056	10,288		10,288
Elk River Augmentation Water Sales		3,481	3,133	2,594	8,249	4,424
Property taxes		4,347,105	4,216,651	4,370,042	4,448,865	4,448,865
Interest earned		1,239,104	1,139,064	908,400	603,807	908,400
Other income		2,714	2,764	2,830	11,638	11,638
Pass through income		268,492	187,885		166,255	166,255
Subtotal Operating		820,900	824,129	592,078	397,806	701,079
	revenues	6,675,602	6,367,728	5,870,520	5,616,733	6,224,599
Expenditures						
Operating						
Facilities						
Stagecoach Reservoir		713,964	653,621	875,598	416,291	871,473
Stagecoach Firming				100,000		100,000
Yamcolo Reservoir		164,601	171,064	214,982	118,054	213,391
Stillwater Ditch & Reservoir Company		71,517	77,915	105,971	43,500	105,914
Elk River Augmentation Plan		2,528	2,483	3,722	1,580	3,719
Administration		371,343	350,445	406,029	214,985	405,530
Board of Directors		75,951	84,236	139,904	54,974	140,003
External Affairs		141,871	152,625	251,560	94,195	251,447
Finance		138,101	150,056	179,903	101,993	179,676
Legal		256,054	158,590	215,269	51,750	215,212
Planning		276,151	702,423	644,997	218,114	644,941
Grants, Scholarships & Public Information		342,185	420,808	704,302	311,730	704,265
Treasurer fees		128,247	123,995	131,101	140,262	133,466
Pass through expenses		278,492	187,885		166,255	166,255
Yampa River Fund		150,000				
Wildfire Mitigation		59,911	150,000	100,000	19,445	100,000
Subtotal Operating		3,170,916	3,386,145	4,073,339	1,953,127	4,235,293
Capital						
Stagecoach Reservoir		312,972	353,927	740,150	107,880	730,000
Stagecoach Firming						
Yamcolo Reservoir		24,886	83,559	100,000		100,000
Stillwater Ditch & Reservoir Company		149,825	833,036	100,000	784	100,000
Subtotal Capital		487,683	1,270,522	940,150	108,664	930,000
	expenditures	3,658,599	4,656,667	5,013,489	2,061,792	5,165,293
net income (loss)		3,017,003	1,711,062	857,032	3,554,941	1,059,307
Ending Fund Balance		25,121,867	26,832,928	27,689,960	28,676,808	27,892,235



BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Karina Craig, Finance Manager.

Date: September 16, 2026

Item: 2025 Financial Audit, selection of Auditor.
Bank Account Portfolio, Operating Activities.

☒	DIRECTION
☒	INFORMATION
☐	MOTION
☐	RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

Throughout the fiscal year, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (UYWCD) staff carries out the accounting of the UYWCD's financial activities adhering to Generally Accepted Accounting Principles in the United States of America (U.S. GAAP) as promulgated by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board (GASB). UYWCD's operating financial transactions are carried out via hard-copy and electronic instruments within the frame of its bank account portfolio. As a local government administering public funds, the UYWCD is subject to Colorado Auditing Standards and is required to undergo an annual audit of its financial books.

II. Summary and Alternatives:

Financial Audit

In 2020 the UYWCD engaged services from Watson Coon Ryan, Certified Public Accountants (WCR, the Auditor), a Colorado firm experienced in governmental auditing with a focus on best practices. Financial audits were successfully performed by WCR for fiscal years 2020 through 2025.

The 2025 Fiscal Year (FY) Audit was presented by the Auditor and accepted by the UYWCD Board at the May 20, 2026 UYWCD Board meeting. The *2025 FY Financial Statements and Supplemental Information with Independent Audit Report (2025 FY Audited Financial Statements)* were timely submitted to the Colorado Office of the State Auditor, in compliance with Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S 29-1-606(a)(1)) and are publicly available at www.upperypampawater.gov/financials.

As FY 2026 progresses, UYWCD's staff is preparing for the 2026 FY audit, to be carried out in early 2027.



There are known pros and cons with both maintaining and rotating auditors. It is UYWCD Staff's opinion that, at this time, known benefits from maintaining auditors outweigh possible advantages from auditor rotation. Additionally, the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) reports that the nationwide shortage of qualified Governmental Auditors continues in effect.

Based on the above and the UYWCD's experience of services received from WCR in prior years, the UYWCD staff recommends seeking a Letter of Engagement from WCR to carry out the 2026 FY Audit, in the first part of 2027.

A WCR Letter of Engagement outlining scope of work, audit schedule and proposed costs for the 2026 FY Audit would be presented to the Board for approval before the end of the current fiscal year.

Alternatively, UYWCD could publish a Request For Proposals (RFP) and seek a new auditor.

III. Staff Recommendation:

Accept staff's proposal to seek a Letter of Engagement from WCR for the UYWCD 2026 FY Audit in compliance with statutory requirements.

IV. Legal Issues:

Compliance with Audit statutory requirements per Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S. 29-1-603(1)(1.5)(2)(3)(4))

V. Consistency with Board Goals and Policies:

UYWCD By-Laws and Strategic Plan Objective 3.

Attachments:

None.





BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Andy Rossi, General Manager

Date: 09/16/2026

**Item: General Manager's Report on UYWCD Water Resources Management Activities:
September 2026 Edition**

☐	DIRECTION
☒	INFORMATION
☐	MOTION
☐	RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

General Manager's report summarizing current and ongoing Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (UYWCD) activities.

II. Summary:

Presented below are brief summaries of the water resources special projects, beyond facilities operations and maintenance, the UYWCD is executing in 2026 (and beyond). Many of the items included in this communication are extensions of the UYWCD Strategic Plan Objectives. This information is intended to serve as an update on the continuation of these important projects.

Outside Organization Updates:

- Yampa-White-Green (YWG) Basin Roundtable

The September meeting of the YWG Roundtable included the following relevant presentations:

- o Final adoption of updated Bylaws for compliance with State of Colorado Law
- o YWG Roundtable 2027 Grants: 2027 1st Cycle Application Deadline – September 16, 2026
- o Discussion of Proposed CWCB Near-Term Contribution Program ("Payment for Conservation"): <https://cwcb.colorado.gov/contributionprogram>



- Colorado Mesa University Ruth Powell Hutchins Water Center
 - o The Executive Board of the Ruth Powell Hutchins Water Center at Colorado Mesa University held their first in-person planning meeting on August 31st. Shannon Wadas, Executive Director of the Center, led a strategic planning discussion facilitated by staff members from the Keystone Center. The discussion centered on high-level goals for the Center. The next meeting of the Executive Board will be held on November 6, 2026.

Strategic Plan Initiatives:

- Water Supply
 - o Yamcolo Firming Project (Coal Creek Diversion):
The UYWCD and Special Counsel engaged in dialog with the USFS on possible project authorization evaluation pathways. The USFS staff did not identify a clear path for project consideration. The UYWCD staff will continue to discuss the proposed project with higher-level USFS managers. It is unknown if the Routt National Forest will be managed by the new Colorado State USFS center or continue to be managed by the USFS office in Laramie, WY.
 - o Stagecoach Firming Project (Morrison Creek Diversion):
An update on the Stagecoach Firming Project is presented as meeting Agenda Item (7) b.
- Agricultural Partnerships and Infrastructure
 - o UYWCD Grant Program Support for Yampa Valley Agricultural Water Users:
The UYWCD diversion infrastructure and community grant programs will continue with an expanded 2027 Budget (\$400,000) to be presented for adoption by the UYWCD Board of Directors in November 2026.

Watershed Health

- Upper Yampa River Water Quality (WQ)/Algae Study
 - o The 2025 Water Quality Modelling and Monitoring Report data is available on the UYWCD website. Water quality monitoring efforts continue as planned. Initial management scenario testing scheduled for early 2027.
- Soil Moisture Network
 - o UYWCD is coordinating with CW3E and local network partners for the next round of grant funding requests. The CWCB staff have recommended approval of a grant to fund the next phase of station installation. Final approval of grant award



by the CWCB board is required. Initial data analysis is underway.

- Wildfire Vulnerability Study and Mitigation Activities
 - Bear River Wildfire Ready Action Plan (WRAP) analysis is complete. The Bear River WRAP analysis results were used to direct UYWCD wildfire fuels mitigation efforts in the Bear River watershed. The USFS authorization for these activities under a Categorical Exclusion was issued on March 6, 2026. A forestry contractor was selected for project implementation and is under contract. All fuels mitigation work planned along the Stillwater ditch on USFS lands is complete. A total of 292 acres were treated for fuels reduction on USFS lands. An additional 100 acres of treatment are underway in the Bear River watershed on private land.
 - Majority funding for these activities is provided by a COSWAP program grant (\$991,000). All COSWAP funded mitigation efforts will be completed by November 1, 2026.
 - UYWCD staff will continue fuels mitigation work on private lands in 2027 and request authorization from the USFS for the next phase of mitigation work on USFS lands in the area south of Yamcolo Reservoir.

If you have any further questions about any of the items included in this communication please contact Andy Rossi, UYWCD General Manager, for additional details.





BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Andy Rossi, General Manager

Date: 09/16/2026

Item: Yampa and Elk River Augmentation Plans Service Contracts Update

☐	DIRECTION
☒	INFORMATION
☐	MOTION
☐	RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

The Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District's (UYWCD) purpose is to conserve, develop, and stabilize supplies of water for domestic, irrigation, manufacturing, and other beneficial uses and by the construction of works for such purposes. The UYWCD also plans for and assists with the development of water resources of the UYWCD for municipal, domestic, industrial, recreational, and other beneficial uses of water resources within the District among other purposes. The UYWCD's water rights include rights to Stagecoach and Yamcolo reservoir water among others.

The UYWCD is authorized to appropriate water rights and initiate and implement plans for augmentation for the benefit of water users within the UYWCD's boundaries. Water is available to provide contracts to UYWCD constituents to augment their out-of-priority depletions pursuant to the Augmentation Decrees of the District Court for Water Division No. 6, Case No. 06CW049 (Yampa River Supply) and 15CW3058 (Elk River Supply). The UYWCD's Board of Directors (BOD) has approved the marketing of such water and other UYWCD water supplies as may be used to complement the use of such Reservoirs' water supplies through a contracting program.

Information about the authorities approved by the UYWCD BOD, definitions of terms used for the UYWCD Augmentation Plans, and summary contract data are included with this communication for reference.

II. Summary:

1. Authorities: The authorities approved by the UYWCD BOD under the Water Marketing Policies for the District's Augmentation Service Plans for the Yampa and Elk Rivers are as follows:



- a. The General Manager is delegated the authority of the Board to implement and administer this Policy and the issuance of the augmentation contracts made pursuant to this Policy for Small Applications and Small Commercial Applications as defined in this Policy not exceeding 10 acre feet per year, and authority to approve assignments of all contracts issued for both Small and Large Applications. The General Counsel shall assist in the negotiation and drafting of the contracts.
- b. The Board retains authority to approve Large Applications and Large Commercial Applications along with all other powers not specifically delegated.

2. UYWCD Augmentation Plan Definitions:

- a. “Large Applications”: A contract application to the UYWCD to augment uses, other than commercial or industrial uses, with a planned average daily diversion rate in excess of 112 gallons per minute (0.25 c.f.s.) or that identifies planned total annual diversions exceeding thirty (30) acre feet per year.
- b. “Large Commercial Applications”: A contract application to the UYWCD to augment commercial or industrial uses that either exceeds a planned average daily diversion rate of 15 gallons per minute or for which the following commercial (Equivalent Residential Unit) EQR ratings do not apply, or both:
 - Office = 0.6 EQR/1,000 square feet.
 - Warehouse – 0.30 EQR/1,000 square feet.
 - Retail Sales = 0.60 EQR/1,000 square feet.
- c. “Small Applications”: A contract application to the District to augment commercial or industrial uses with planned diversions not to exceed an average daily diversion rate of 15 gallons per minute and for which the diversion and depletion criteria detailed in paragraphs 9.A through 9.E of the Augmentation Decree apply, or to augment any other uses with planned diversions not to exceed 112 gallons per minute (0.25 c.f.s.) or that identifies planned total annual diversions not exceeding thirty (30) acre feet per year and for which the diversion and depletion criteria detailed in paragraphs 9.A through 9.E of the Augmentation Decree apply.
- d. “Small Commercial Applications”: A contract application to the UYWCD to augment commercial or industrial uses that does not exceed a planned average daily diversion rate of 15 gallons per minute and for which the following commercial EQR ratings apply:
 - Office = 0.6 EQR/1,000 square feet.
 - Warehouse – 0.30 EQR/1,000 square feet.
 - Retail Sales = 0.60 EQR/1,000 square feet.



e. Uses:

- i. “Commercial Use”: Water for motels, hotels, restaurants, office buildings, shops stores and other commercial facilities, military and nonmilitary institutions, and water for off-stream fish hatcheries.
- ii. “Domestic Use”: The use of water by individuals, cities, towns, public or quasi-public districts, private corporations, homeowners’ associations, or other entities used for all such indoor household purposes as drinking, food preparation, bathing, washing clothes and dishes, flushing toilets, and such outdoor purposes as watering lawns and gardens, excepting only the commercial, industrial and irrigation uses of water defined.
- iii. “Industrial Use”: Water used for fabrication, processing, washing, and cooling, and includes such industries as chemical and allied products, food, mining, paper and allied products, petroleum refining, and steel, including cooling system, cooling-system type, mining water use, public-supply deliveries, public-supply water use, self-supplied water use, and thermoelectric-power water use.
- iv. “Irrigation Use”: Water that is applied by an irrigation system to assist in the growing of crops and pastures or to maintain vegetative growth in recreational lands such as parks and golf courses including water that is applied for pre-irrigation, frost protection, chemical application, weed control, field preparation, crop cooling, harvesting, dust suppression, the leaching of salts from the root zone, and water lost in conveyance.
- v. “Livestock Use”: Water used to water domesticated livestock such as cattle or horses, such use shall require 11 gallons of water per day per head and is considered 100% consumptive.
- vi. “Recreation Use”: The use of water to replace the evaporative loss from ponds, reservoirs, stream channels, spas, pools and similar water feature

III. Staff Recommendation:

NA

IV. Legal Issues:

NA

V. Consistency with Board Goals and Policies:

UYWCD SP Goal 4.2

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Yampa and Elk River Augmentation Plans Contract Summary

Yampa River Augmentation Plan							
Contract ID	Contractor	Reservoir Source	Yampa River Service Area	Contract Volume (AF)	Application Type	Second Dwelling?	Augmented Use
A1-001	Blue Sky Ling LLC	Stagecoach	A-1	1.20	Small	Y	Domestic, irrigation
A1-002	Steve & Monica Alm	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, irrigation
A1-003	Susan & Bradley Smith	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, irrigation
A1-004	Youngs Creek Lot 5 LLC	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, irrigation
A1-005	David Kulberg	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, irrigation
A1-006	Carrie Easton	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, irrigation
A1-007	John & Susan Knill	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, irrigation
A1-008	Mark & Lindsay Stepp	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation, Recreation (pond)
A1-009	Tad & Jennifer Hayashi & Janice Rigmaiden	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation, Recreation (hot tub)
A1-010	Routt County, Colorado	Stagecoach	A-1	8.00	Small	N	Domestic, Irrigation
A1-011	Matthew Ingram & Karena O'Rourke	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation
A1-012	Thomas & Theresa Lichtenfels	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation
A1-014	Magdalena Popesco & Chris Gross	Stagecoach	A-1	1.00	Small	Y	Domestic & Irrigation
	0						
A2-001	Gayle Dudley	Stagecoach	A-2	2.16	Small		Recreation (pond)
A2-002	Walton Creek, LLC	Stagecoach	A-2	1.20	Small	N	Domestic, Irrigation, Recreation (pond)
A2-003	Amethyst Ranch, LLC No. 1	Stagecoach	A-2	0.40	Small Commercial		Commercial
A2-004	Elizabeth Rostermundt	Stagecoach	A-2	0.60	Small		Domestic, Irrigation, Livestock
A2-005	Amethyst Ranch, LLC No. 2	Stagecoach	A-2	0.80	Small Commercial		Commercial, Domestic, Irrigation
A2-006	Yampa Realty Holdings, LLC	Stagecoach	A-2	17.30	Small		Domestic, Irrigation, Recreation (pond)
A2-007	NRT Property Holdings, LLC	Stagecoach	A-2	1.70	Small Commercial		Commercial, Irrigation, Livestock, Fire Suppression
A2-008	STARS	Stagecoach	A-2	1.20	Small Commercial		Irrigation, Livestock, Commercial, Recreation (well pond)
A2-011	Robert Broadnax	Stagecoach	A-2	3.00	Small		Domestic, Recreation(pond), Livestock
A2-012	Paul & Susan Hubbell	Stagecoach	A-2	0.10	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation
A2-013	Douglas Snyder Trust	Stagecoach	A-2	3.60	Small		Recreation(pond), Livestock
A2-014	City of Steamboat Springs (Lufkin Well)	Stagecoach	A-2	0.20	Small Commercial		Commercial
A2-015	Cory & Lauren Gerken	Stagecoach	A-2	2.20	Small		Domestic, irrigation, Recreation(pool)
A2-016	Michael Dealy	Stagecoach	A-2	1.60	Small Commercial	Y	Commercial, Domestic, Irrigation, Livestock
A2-017	CG 17 LLC	Stagecoach	A-2	0.20	Small		Domestic, Irrigation, Livestock
A2-018	William (Bill) Gay	Stagecoach	A-2	2.80	Small		Recreation (3 ponds) & Livestock
A2-019	Perry Lynn LLC	Stagecoach	A-2	0.90	Small Commercial	Y	Commercial, Domestic, Irrigation, Recreation
A2-020	Page Family Ranch LLC	Stagecoach	A-2	0.70	Small	N	Domestic, Irrigation, Livestock, Recreation (pond)
A2-021	Mark James Hermacinski and Cari Hermacinski Joint Living Trust	Stagecoach	A-2	2.08	Small	N	Irrigation
PENDING	Marietta and Robert Luellen						
	0						

A3-001	Stone Yard LLC	Stagecoach	A-3	2.60	Small		Irrigation, Recreation (pond)
A3-009	KTH Enterprises (Sleepy Bear MHP)	Stagecoach	A-3	3.03	Small		Domestic
A3-010	YVHA Whitehaven Enterprise, LLC	Stagecoach	A-3	0.50	Small		Domestic
A3-012	Jenny Schmidt & Aaron Solomon	Stagecoach	A-3	0.10	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation
A3-013	Robert & Sandra Helt	Stagecoach	A-3	0.10	Small	N	Recreational, Livestock
A3-014	Kyle Gamba	Stagecoach	A-3	0.80	Small	N	Domestic
	0						
A4-001	Flanders Ranch, LLC	Stagecoach	A-4	2.00	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation, Livestock
A4-002	James D Parscal	Stagecoach	A-4	4.0	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation, Recreation, Livestock
	0						

Total Volume Stagecoach = 76.069 AF

Elk River Augmentation Plan							
Contract ID	Contractor	Reservoir Source	Elk River Service Area	Contract Volume (AF)	Application Type	Second Dwelling?	Augmented Use
E-A1-001	CCJG Ranch LLC	Steamboat Lake	A-1	2.2	Small	N	Recreation (pond)
E-A1-002	John Klein	Steamboat Lake	A-1	0.1	Small	N	Domestic, Irrigation
E-A1-003	Home Ranch LLC	Steamboat Lake	A-1	9.9	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation, Recreation(pond & pool), Livestock, Other
E-A1-004	Michael & Nikki Rusconi	Steamboat Lake	A-1	1.6	Small	Y	Domestic, Irrigation, Recreation(pond), Livestock
E-A1-005	3C Ranch, LLC - Initial Pond Fill	Steamboat Lake	A-1	0.5	Small	Y	Other - initial pond fill
E-A1-006	3C Ranch, LLC	Steamboat Lake	A-1	1.4	Small	Y	Irrigation, Recreation(pond), livestock
E-A1-007	Paul Hoffmann	Steamboat Lake	A-1	0.7	Small	N	Additional (evaporation)
E-A1-008	Entelco Corporation	Steamboat Lake	A-1	1.4	Small	Y	Additional (irrigation, domestic, commercial)
E-A1-009	Giant Sky Ranch Owners Association	Steamboat Lake	A-1	4.8	Small	N	Domestic, Irrigation
E-A1-010	STB 2012 GST Exempt Trust & XTY GST Exempt Trust	Steamboat Lake	A-1	9.6	Small	NA	Recreation (ponds)
PENDING	Hahn's Peak Water Coalition, LLC						
	0						

Total Volume STMBT Lake = 32.200 AF

Yampa River Augmentation Plan - Summary Table

Service Area	Total Amount Contracted (af)	Total Available per Decree (af)		Total Available per Decree (af)	Total Diversions per Decree (cfs)
A-1	20.20	920	2.2%	920	12.8
A-2	42.74	800	5.3%	800	11.1
A-3	7.13	120	5.9%	120	1.7
A-4	6.00	160	3.8%	160	2.4

Elk River Augmentation Plan - Summary Table

Service Area	Total Amount Contracted (af)	Total Available per Decree (af)		Total Available per Decree (af)	Total Diversions per Decree (cfs)
A-1	32.2	360	8.94%	360	1.4
A-2	0	50	0.00%	50	





BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Karina Craig, Finance Manager
Andy Rossi, General Manager

Date: September 16, 2026

Item: Preliminary 2027 Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District Budget

<u> X </u>	DIRECTION
<u> X </u>	INFORMATION
<u> </u>	MOTION
<u> </u>	RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

As a local government levying property tax in the State of Colorado, the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (UYWCD) must comply with Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S.) that govern annual budget content, format, submittal to its governing body, publication, adoption and filing with the Colorado Department of Local Affairs (DOLA). Salient statutory deadlines in the annual budget calendar are:

- October 15, submittal of proposed budget to the governing body, C.R.S. 29-1-105.
- October 15, publication of “Notice of Budget”, C.R.S. 29-1-106(1).
- December 15, budget adoption and certification of mill levy to county commissioners, C.R.S. 29-1-108(2) and (3), C.R.S. 39-5-128(1).
- January 31 of the new budget fiscal year, filing of the adopted budget with DOLA, C.R.S. 29-1-113(1).

UYWCD staff prepared a DRAFT 2027 budget for Board of Directors’ (BOD) review and discussion.

II. Summary and Alternatives:

A. Tax Revenue Estimates and Valuation Timelines Update

As part of the budgeting process, the UYWCD develops tax revenue estimates as a multi-step process that extends beyond a single year. The process of Valuation and Taxation of Real Property follows a two-year cycle. Per statute, Real Property is revalued every odd year.



Real Property market value changes experienced in recent years were captured by 2023 and 2024 Certified Valuations (2024 and 2025 budget revenues). As a general reassessment year, 2025 valuations frame the context for the 2026-2027 revenue cycle.

Tax relief legislation passed in 2024 —SB24-233 and HB24B-1001— remains in effect and established adjusted property *assessment rates* for residential and commercial properties. These adjusted rates first applied to the 2024 property tax year, with the resulting relief first reflected in tax bills collected in 2025.

HB24B-1001 introduced additional limits for property tax revenue *growth*, which have taken effect beginning with Property Tax Years (PTY) 2025-2026, and 2026-2027 revenue collections. The law imposes a 10.50% *biannual cap* on property tax revenue growth, excluding certain segments of assessed property, such as new construction. The impact of HB24B-1001 on UYWCD 2027 property tax revenues will be reviewed in the coming months. Revenue estimates will be further adjusted with Final Certified Valuations in preparation for December 2026 Mil Levy Certification.

B. DRAFT 2027 UYWCD Budget Summary

i. Budget Format

- Continued recognition of Revenues and Expenditures by facility.
- Addition of Stagecoach Firming Project Line Item.
- Property Tax Revenue amounts funding each facility shown in the Revenues section.

ii. Reserve Funds and Revenues

- Preliminary Reserve Funds adjusted using the most recent available 12-month period Denver-Aurora-Lakewood All Items CPI Index; Half 1 2025 to 2026 Index = **3.63%**.
- Preliminary Power Sales revenues estimated with the 10-year kilowatt-hour generation running average and the most recent available Combined Annual Average Energy Purchase Price (CAPP, 0.0521 \$/kWh).
- Preliminary Water Storage and Ditch Share Fee Revenues adjusted based on established contract terms with the most recent available index: Denver-Aurora-Lakewood All Items Semiannual CPI Index. Semiannual Half 1 2025 to Half 1 2026 Index and adjusted per contract terms when appropriate = 3.63% and 3.13%.
- Contracted water storage volumes adjusted, resulting from any terminated or newly executed 2026 contracts.
- Preliminary Interest Earned Revenues estimated based on most recent actual earnings.
- Preliminary 2027 Property Tax Revenues estimated per August 2026 preliminary assessed values. Preliminary valuation of all property categories in aggregate (including new construction) is 5.19% greater than Final Certified 2025 Valuations.



iii. Expenditures

- Preliminary Operating Expenses based on UYWCD staff input.
- Water Resources Planning items including:
 - USGS Yampa River Basin SnowModel Project Operations
 - Hazardous Fuels Reduction for Upper Yampa River Watershed
 - Upper Yampa River Basin Water Quality Modelling
 - WRF-Hydro Forecasting and StateMod/GoldSim Integrated Operations
- Preliminary adjustments to Grant Funding and Sponsorships for consideration.
- Decreased anticipated Legal Expenses.
- Adjusted expenditures for Capital Improvements for continued upkeep of UYWCD facilities.
 - Stagecoach
 - Water quality sampling
 - Wetlands mitigation project monitoring (impacts from Stagecoach Raise)
 - Operations Technology Management
 - Spillway Concrete Maintenance
 - Water Supply Well
 - Stagecoach Firming
 - Design & Permitting
 - Stillwater Ditch
 - Next phase of critical sections upgrades
 - Yamcolo
 - Erosion Control
 - Yamcolo Firming
 - Permitting
- UYWCD staff salaries adjusted by CPI.
- Updated UYWCD staff health insurance benefit costs with preliminary 2027 provider rates.

The preliminary budget document is to be revised following staff and BOD discussions and anticipated recommendations at the October 21, 2026, UYWCD Budget Board Meeting, before it will be considered for adoption at the November 18, 2026, regularly scheduled BOD meeting.

iv. Potential Budget Adjustments

Budget items that may be modified include, but are not limited to:

- Adjustments after publication of updated CPI indices, applicable to estimates of Stagecoach and Yamcolo Water Sales revenues, Stillwater Ditch Share fees and UYWCD Office Space Rent expenses.
- Adjustments to Water Sales volumes incorporating additional augmentation contracts signed in 2026.



- Adjustments to Tax Revenues and Treasurer Fee Expenses following Routt and Moffat Final Certifications of Values and Mill Levy Certification by December 15, 2026.
- Updates to Interest Revenues matching changing market conditions.
- Facilities operating and capital expenditure cost modifications pending UYWCD staff continued review of projects, resources, and budgeted activities.
- Proposed UYWCD staff annual compensation after staff performance reviews.
- Continued discussions and recommendations about UYWCD Grant Programs
- Continued discussions and recommendations about UYWCD Capital Improvements.

A Draft 2027 Budget is presented to the BOD in compliance with statutory requirements and DOLA best practice recommendations.

III. Staff Recommendation:

Review the Draft 2027 UYWCD Budget and provide direction to UYWCD staff for additional analysis and/or consideration of new items that may be included in the 2027 UYWCD budget. Continue 2027 Budget Discussions at the October 21, 2026, UYWCD Budget Board Meeting.

UYWCD BOD and staff recommendations will be incorporated in the Final 2027 Budget to be submitted to the BOD for consideration at the November 18, 2026, BOD meeting.

IV. Legal Issues:

Compliance with Budget statutory requirements per Colorado Revised Statutes (C.R.S. 29-1-105, C.R.S. 29-1-106 (1), C.R.S. 29-1-108 (2) and (3), C.R.S. 39-5-128(1) and C.R.S. 29-1-113(1).

V. Consistency with Board Goals and Policies:

UYWCD By-Laws and Strategic Plan Objective 3.

Attachments:

DRAFT 2027 UYWCD Budget.

DRAFT

UPPER YAMPA WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT - 2027 DRAFT BUDGET

September 16, 2026, modified accrual basis

		2025 ACTUALS	2026 BUDGET	2027 BUDGET	STAGECOACH	STAGECOACH FIRMING	YAMCOLO	STILLWATER DITCH	ELK RIVER AUGMENTATION PLAN	GENERAL FUND	OPERATING	CAPITAL
		Audited	Approved Nov 19, 2025	Draft Sept 16, 2026								
Fund Opening Balance including Encumbered Funds		25,121,867	26,832,928	27,689,960	6,659,960		623,225	87,377		20,319,397		
Restricted Funds		589,327	570,139	612,249	419,734					192,515		
Stagecoach Wetlands Mitigation Reserve		419,734	419,734	419,734	419,734							
Tabor Reserve		169,593	150,405	192,515						192,515		
Committed Funds		24,532,540	26,262,789	27,077,711	6,240,226		623,225	87,377		20,126,882		
Emergency Facilities Reserve		5,609,816	5,743,890	5,952,393	5,546,867		366,684	38,842				
Capital Maintenance Reserve		940,973	963,462	998,436	693,359		256,541	48,535				
Capital Projects Development Fund		17,981,751	19,555,437	20,126,882						20,126,882		
Revenues												
Facilities												
Stagecoach Reservoir												
1	Power Sales	73,368	127,000	113,000	113,000						113,000	
2	Water Sales	524,957	247,362	257,271	257,271						257,271	
Stagecoach FIRMING												
Yamcolo Reservoir												
2	Water Sales	205,851	202,004	208,883			208,883				208,883	
3	Stillwater Ditch & Reservoir Company	14,056	10,288	10,620				10,620			10,620	
2	Elk River Augmentation Water Sales	3,133	2,594	2,878					2,878		2,878	
4	Property taxes	4,216,651	4,370,042	4,596,750	2,201,250	300,000	428,404	1,284,647	5,554	376,895	3,036,713	1,560,037
5	Interest earned	1,139,064	908,400	994,370						994,370	994,370	
6	Other income	2,764	2,830	2,933						2,933	2,933	
Pass through income		187,885										
Subtotal Operating		824,129	592,078	595,586	370,271		208,883	10,620	2,878	2,933	595,586	
Total revenues		6,367,728	5,870,520	6,186,706	2,571,522	300,000	637,287	1,295,267	8,433	1,374,197	4,626,669	1,560,037
Expenditures												
Operating												
Facilities												
7r	Stagecoach Reservoir	653,621	875,598	896,924	896,924						896,924	
7f	Stagecoach FIRMING		100,000	300,000		300,000					300,000	
8	Yamcolo Reservoir	171,064	214,982	223,221			223,221				223,221	
9	Stillwater Ditch & Reservoir Company	77,915	105,971	109,613				109,613			109,613	
Elk River Augmentation Plan		2,483	3,722	3,864					3,864		3,864	
10	Administration	350,445	406,029	421,222	159,938		46,334	12,637	674	201,639	421,222	
11	Board of Directors	84,236	139,904	140,583	53,380		15,464	4,218	225	67,297	140,583	
12	External Affairs	152,625	251,560	269,527	102,339		29,648	8,086	431	129,023	269,527	
13	Finance	150,056	179,903	187,834	71,321		20,662	5,635	301	89,916	187,834	
14	Legal	158,590	215,269	186,737	70,904		20,541	5,602	299	89,391	186,737	
15	Planning	702,423	644,997	646,517	245,482		71,117	19,396	1,034	309,488	646,517	
16	Grants, Scholarships & Public Information	420,808	704,302	1,002,723	380,734		110,300	30,082	1,604	480,004	1,002,723	
17	Treasurer fees	123,995	131,101	137,903						137,903	137,903	
18	Pass through expenses	187,885										
20	Wildfire Mitigation	150,000	100,000	100,000						100,000	100,000	
Subtotal Operating		3,386,145	4,073,339	4,626,669	1,981,022	300,000	537,287	195,267	8,433	1,604,660	4,626,669	
Capital												
7r	Stagecoach Reservoir	353,927	740,150	590,500	590,500							590,500
7f	Stagecoach FIRMING											
8	Yamcolo Reservoir	83,559	100,000	100,000			100,000					100,000
9	Stillwater Ditch & Reservoir Company	833,036	100,000	1,100,000				1,100,000				1,100,000
Subtotal Capital		1,270,522	940,150	1,790,500	590,500		100,000	1,100,000				1,790,500
expenditures		4,656,667	5,013,489	6,417,169	2,571,522	300,000	637,287	1,295,267	8,433	1,604,660	4,626,669	1,790,500
net income (loss)		1,711,062	857,032	(230,463)						(230,463)		(230,463)
Ending Fund Balance		26,832,928	27,689,960	27,459,497	6,659,960		623,225	87,377		20,088,934		

Jim Haskins, President

Andy Rossi, Secretary

2,525,686,943		
1.820	1.202	0.618
4,596,750	3,036,713	1,560,037
	66%	34%





BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Emily Lowell, District Engineer

Date: 9/16/2026

Item: Reservoir Water Status

_____	DIRECTION
<u>X</u> _____	INFORMATION
_____	MOTION
_____	RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

Water storage data for Yamcolo Reservoir and Stagecoach Reservoir are included as reference materials for a summary discussion of the 2026 water year to date.

The call on the mainstem of the Yampa River at Lily Park (Maybell Canal as swing right) was on from: 8/18/2026 to 9/4/2026. During this time, UYWCD made releases for augmentation and other storage contract holders. It is likely that the call will come back on in September.

II. Summary:

Yamcolo Reservoir Status as of 9/8/2026

Current Storage Volume: 1,991 AF

Volume Stored in last 30 days: 0 AF

Volume Stored in last 60 days: 0 AF

Current Outflow: 20 cfs

Storage Released to Date: 3,773 AF



Stagecoach Reservoir Status as of 9/8/2026

Current Storage Volume: 22,820 AF

Volume Stored in last 30 days: 0 AF

Volume Stored in last 60 days: 0 AF

Current Inflow: 13 cfs

Current Outflow: 35 cfs

CWT Release to Date: 3,780 AF; 320 AF remaining

Attachments:

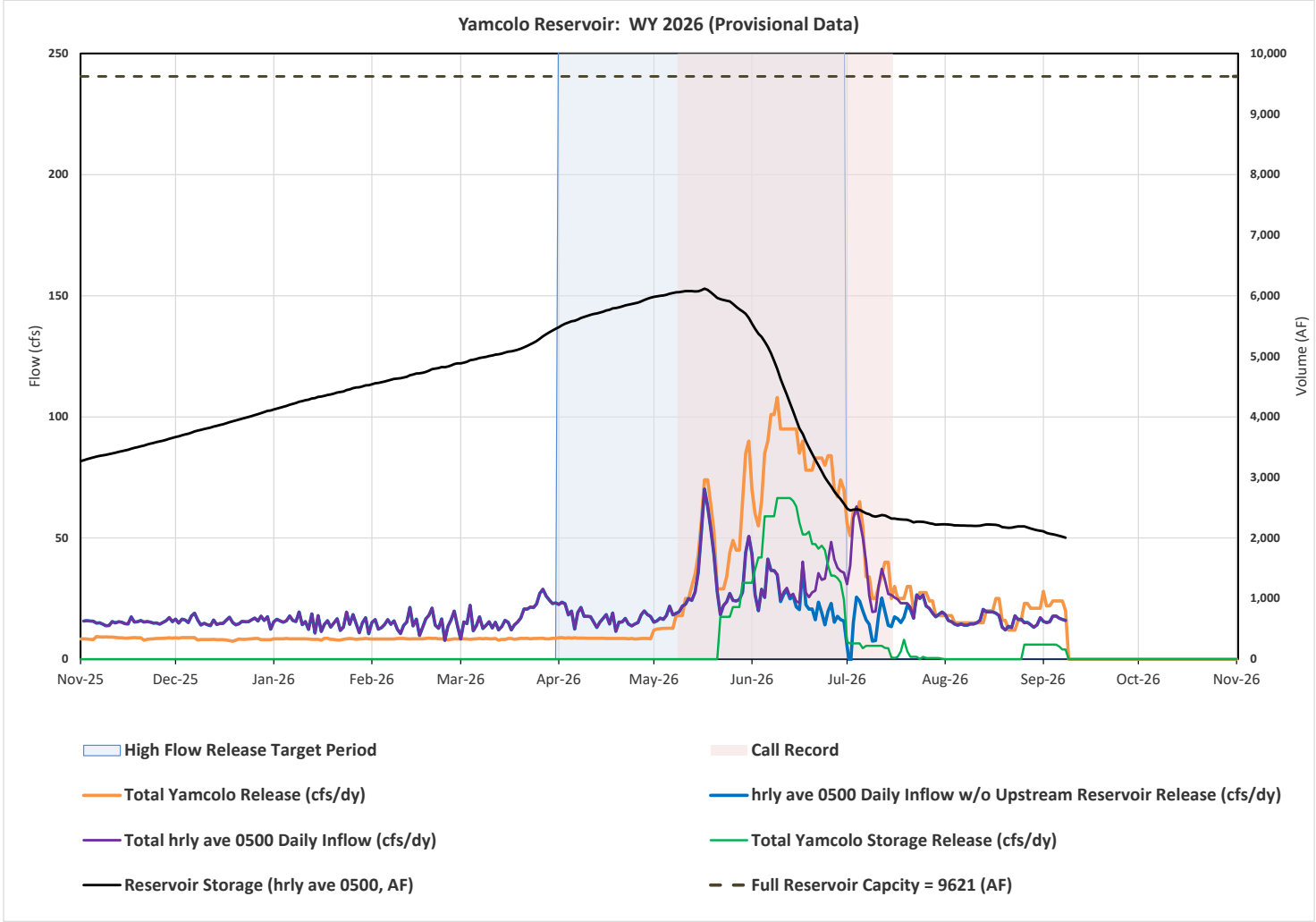
1. Yamcolo Water Storage Data (WY 2026)
2. Stagecoach Water Storage Data (WY 2026)
3. DNR Drought Update
4. Yampa Precipitation Accumulation
5. 3 Month Temperature Outlook
6. 3 Month Precipitation Outlook

Yamcolo Reservoir Operations
Total Monthly Volume (AF)

Water Year 2026

INFLOW	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
Physical	880	963	376	822	289	1,025	1,815	1,483	1,078	968	260		2,219
Storable	404	471	186	378	0	549	1,077	769	340	231	69		1,061
Stored	382	439	162	344	123	486	-349	-2,973	-264	-106	-105		983

OUTFLOW	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Total
Operator	-516	-507	-511	-465	-517	-510	-440	-4,942	-2,043	-1,079	-373	0	-11,903
Spill				0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Gage	-516	-507	-511	-465	-517	-510	-440	-4,942	-2,043	-1,079	-373	0	-11,903

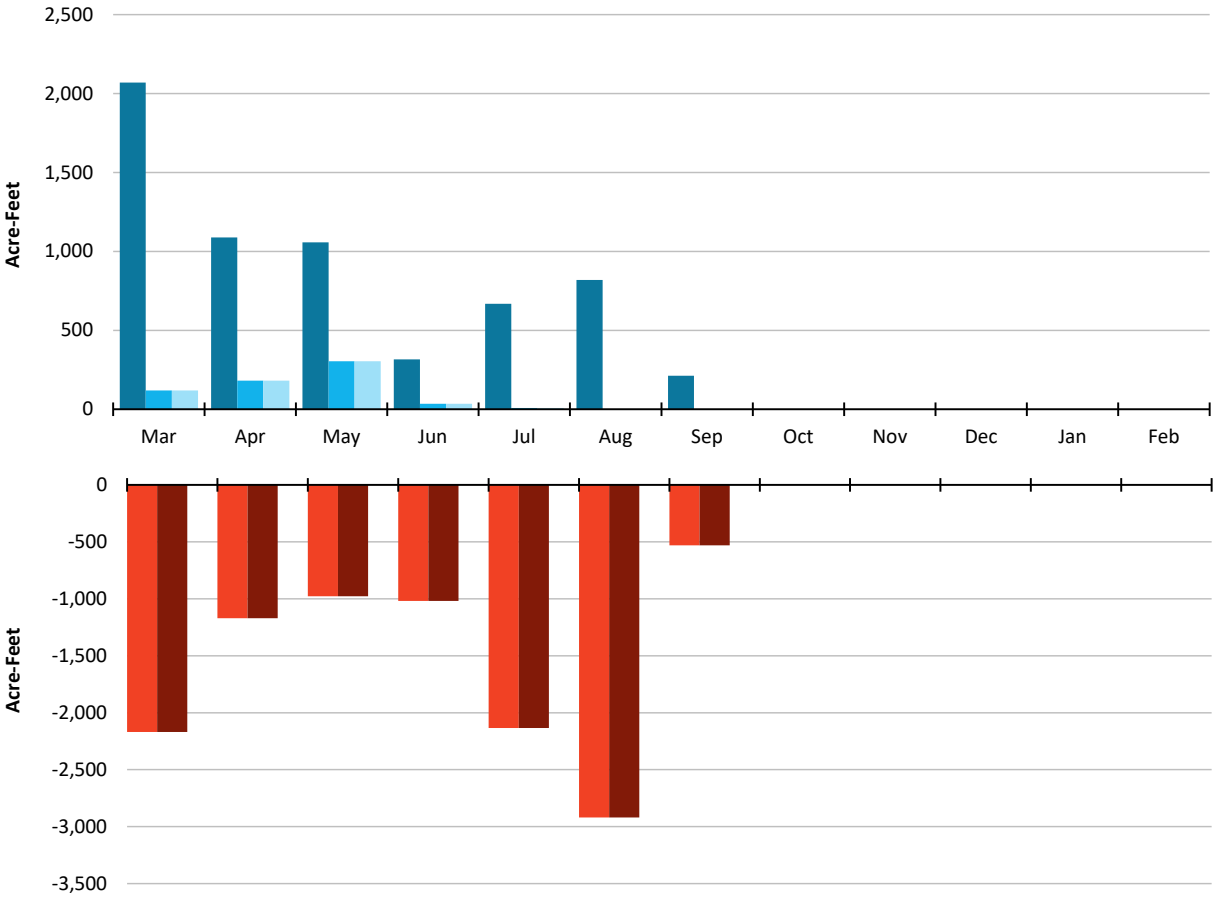


Stagecoach Reservoir Operations: Inflow & Outflow Comparison (AF)

Accounting Year 2026

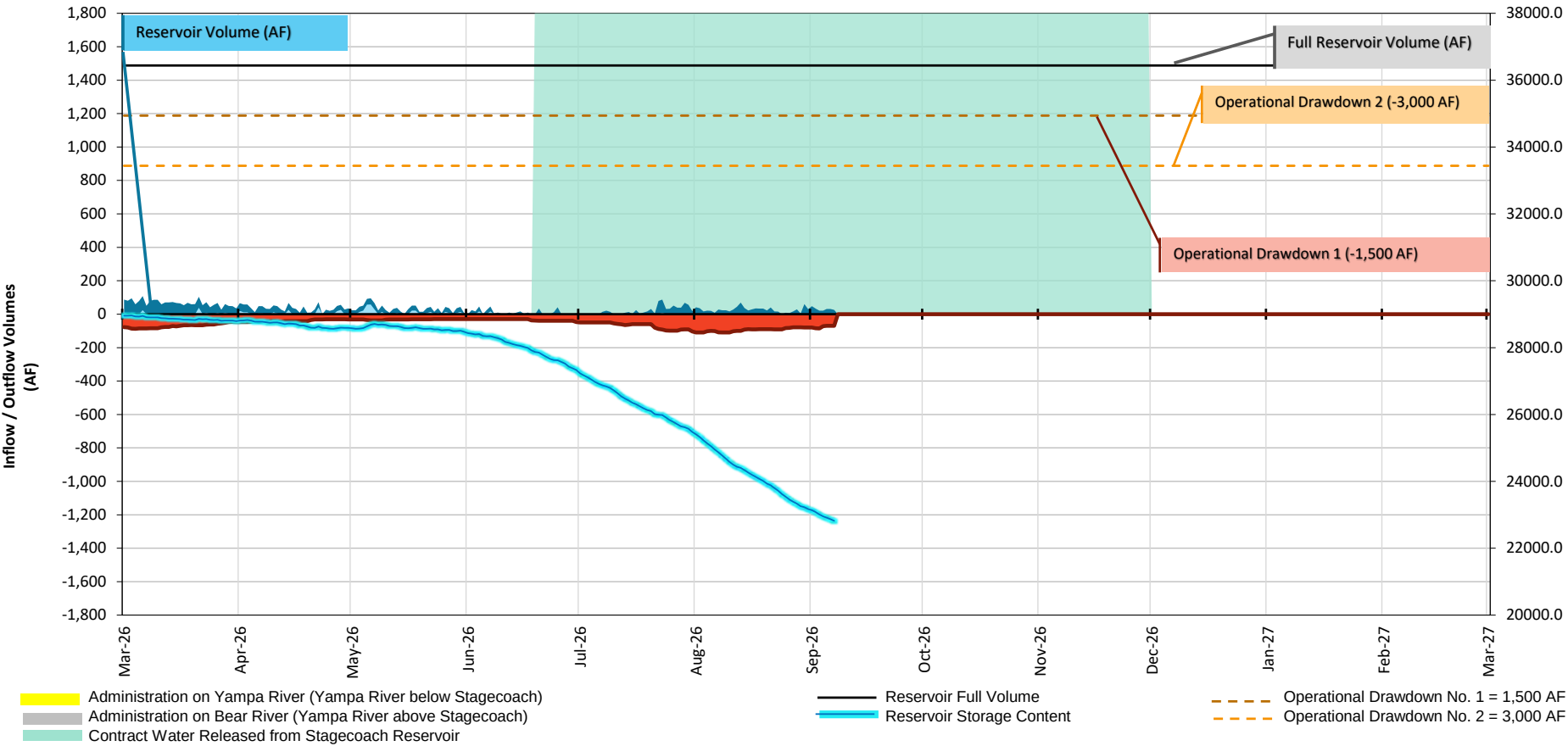
Monthly Inflow		Physical	Potential	Storable
3	Mar	2,069	119	119
4	Apr	1,088	182	182
5	May	1,057	304	304
6	Jun	316	35	35
7	Jul	668	8	8
8	Aug	819	0	0
9	Sep	213	0	0
10	Oct			
11	Nov			
12	Dec			
1	Jan			
2	Feb			
Total		6,231	648	648

Monthly Outflow		Release	Spill	Gage
3	Mar	-2,168	0	-2,168
4	Apr	-1,170	0	-1,170
5	May	-977	0	-977
6	Jun	-1,019	0	-1,019
7	Jul	-2,133	0	-2,133
8	Aug	-2,920	0	-2,920
9	Sep	-530	0	-530
10	Oct			
11	Nov			
12	Dec			
1	Jan			
2	Feb			
Total		-10,918	0	-10,918



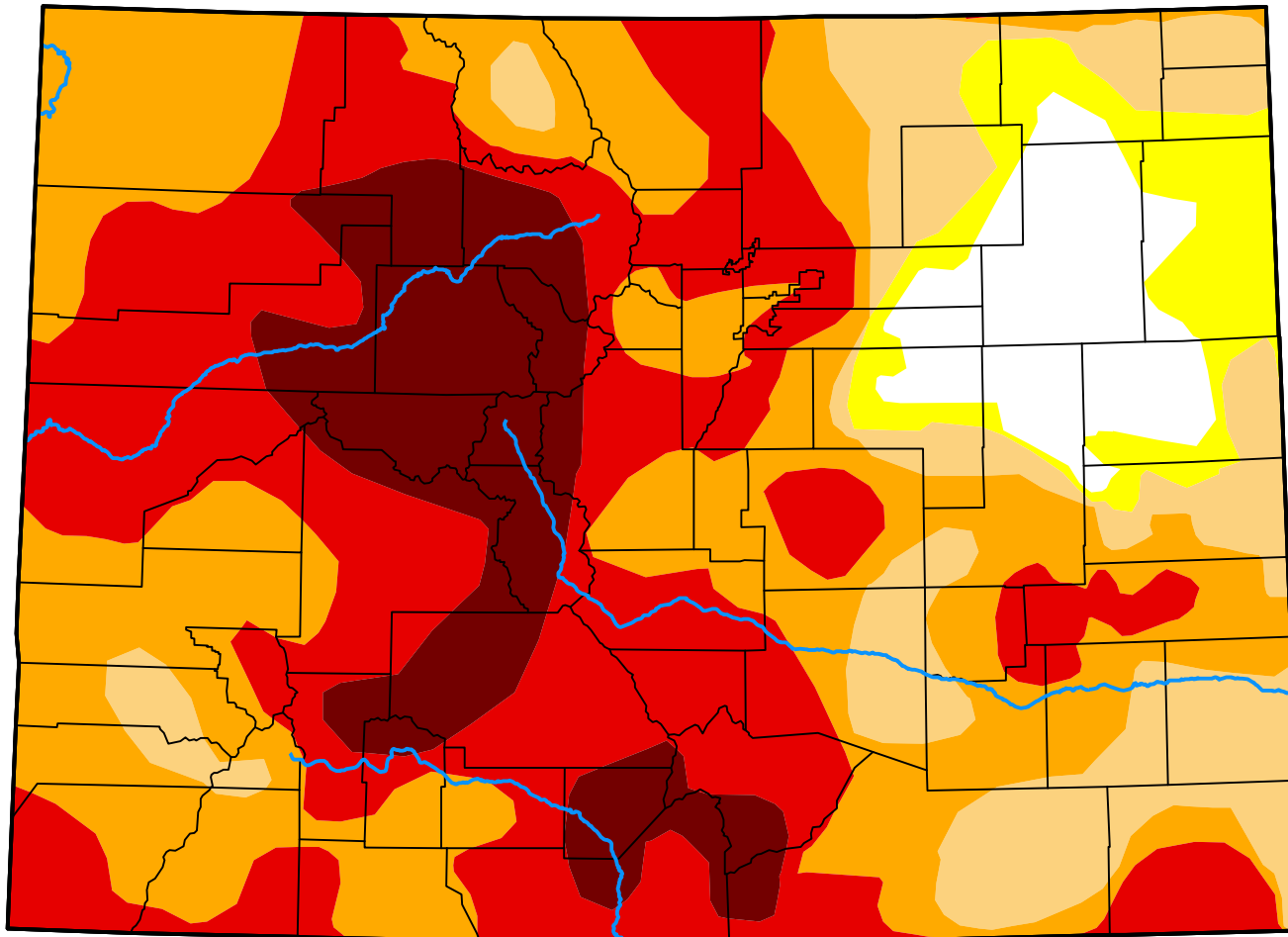
Stagecoach Reservoir Operations

Accounting Year 2026



U.S. Drought Monitor Colorado

September 1, 2026
(Released Thursday, Sep. 3, 2026)
Valid 8 a.m. EDT



Intensity:

-  None
-  D0 Abnormally Dry
-  D1 Moderate Drought
-  D2 Severe Drought
-  D3 Extreme Drought
-  D4 Exceptional Drought

The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>

Author:

Curtis Riganti
National Drought Mitigation Center

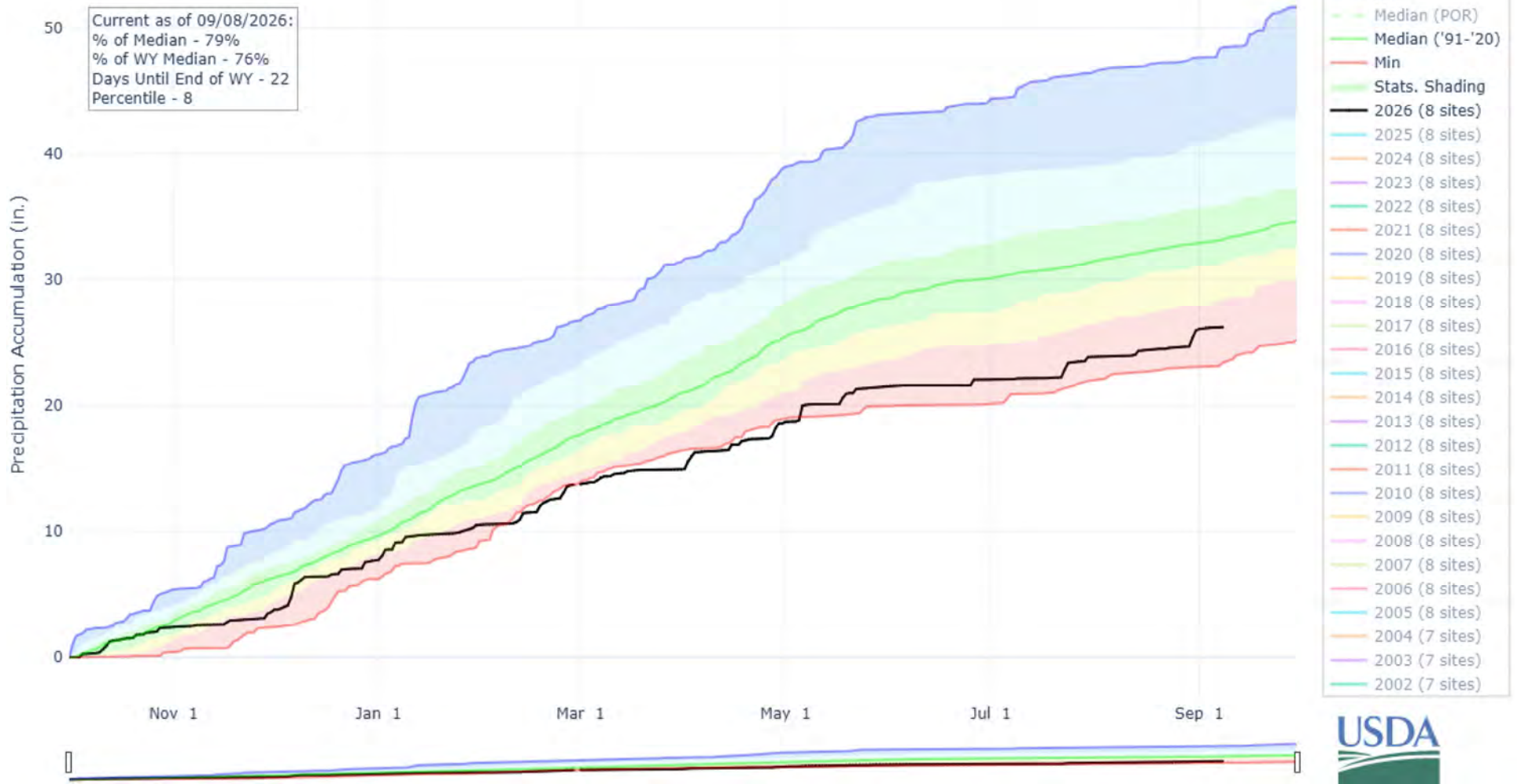


droughtmonitor.unl.edu

Reset Range

[Link to data: CSV / JSON](#)

Station List

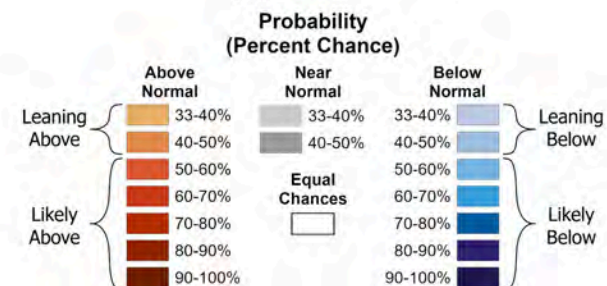
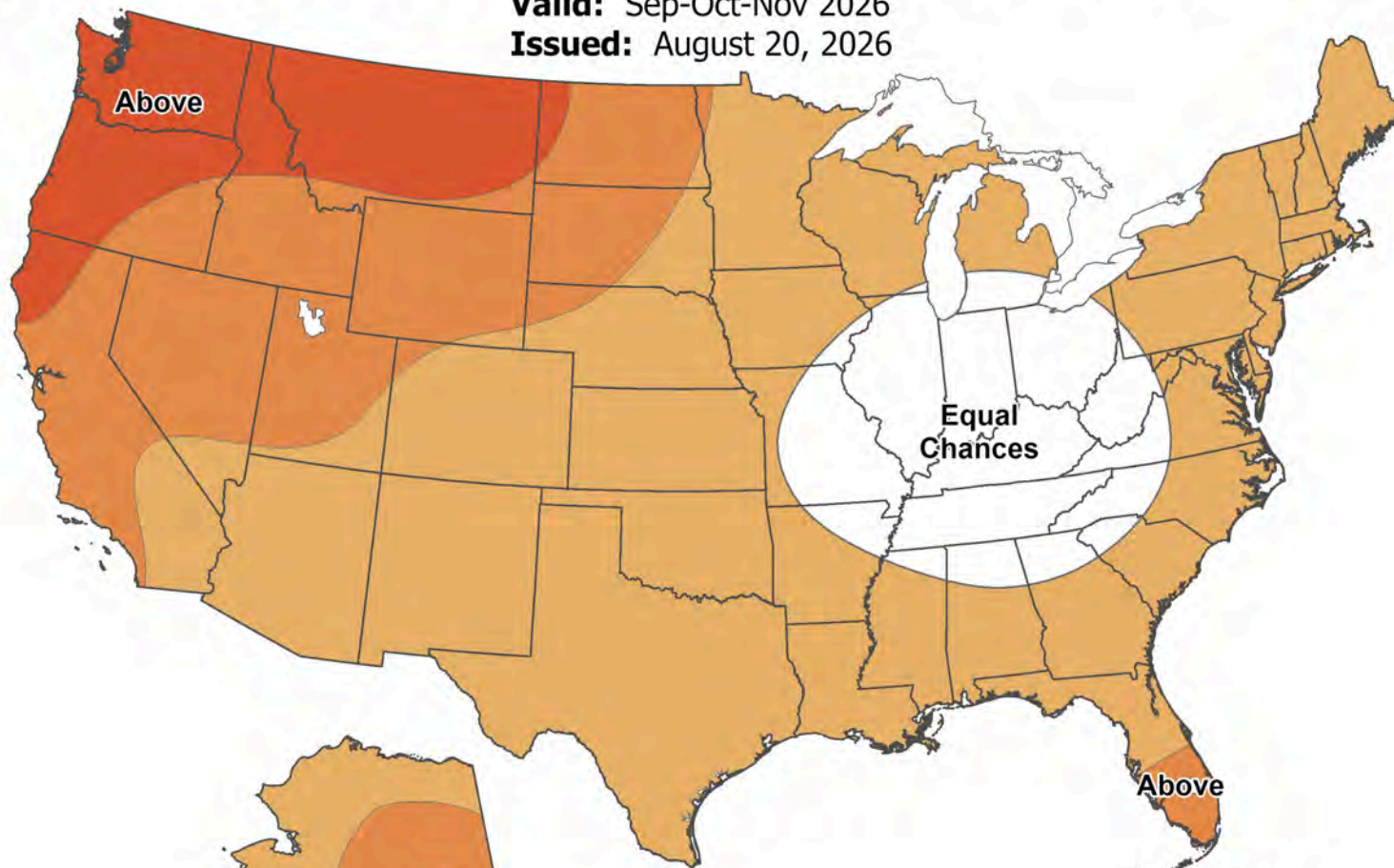




Seasonal Temperature Outlook

Valid: Sep-Oct-Nov 2026

Issued: August 20, 2026

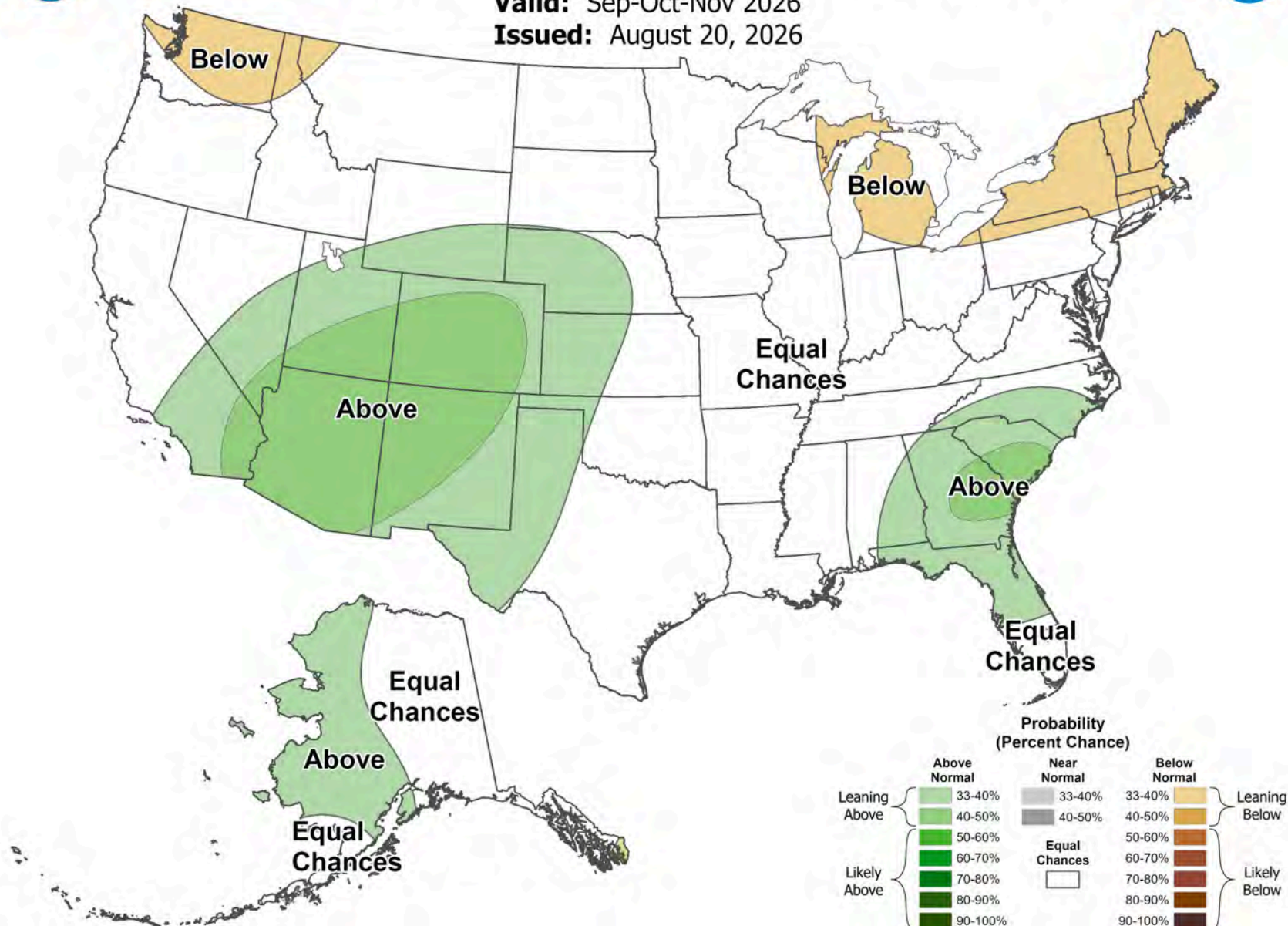




Seasonal Precipitation Outlook

Valid: Sep-Oct-Nov 2026

Issued: August 20, 2026







BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Emily Lowell, District Engineer

Date: 9/16/2026

Item: Morrison Creek Project Update

☐	DIRECTION
☒	INFORMATION
☐	MOTION
☐	RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

The Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (UYWCD) hired Spheros Environmental (previously LRE Water) to perform an updated analysis on the physical and legal water availability on the Morrison Creek at the Little Morrison Diversion. The analysis was completed in 2023 as part of the diligence work for the Morrison Creek water rights and included the addition of DWR Morrison Creek streamflow records and the latest version of the Yampa River StateMod model. The purpose of these water rights is to improve the firm yield of Stagecoach Reservoir by providing an additional source of supply.

The proposed project would entail a 5.5 mi pipeline from Morrison Creek at CR 16 to Little Morrison Creek, ultimately discharging near Morrison Cove at Stagecoach Reservoir. At the top end of the proposed alignment, there is about 1 mile and 100 ft of elevation gain which would require a pump station, the remaining 4.5 mi would be supplied to the reservoir by gravity.

The UYWCD has two water rights that are conditionally decreed to divert from the Morrison Creek watershed, including the Little Morrison Diversion and the Little Morrison Diversion Alternate Point direct flow water right for a combined diversion rate of up to 50 cfs. The diversion cannot divert water from Morrison Creek if the diversion drops the stream flow immediately below the point of diversion below 15 cfs. The target window for these flow conditions to allow for diversion are generally April 1st to mid-July.



The range of yield from the Little Morrison Diversion is:

Range of Yield at Little Morrison Diversion Percentile	Water Year Yield (AF)
75th percentile (Wet)	7,669
50th percentile (Median)	6,968
25th percentile (Dry)	6,032
Min (Firm Yield)	3,982

For reference, in 2026, the diversion would have yielded additional water for Stagecoach from March 23rd through June 8th yielding up to 5,000 AF of additional storage water.

Permitting

There are several referral agencies that will require permitting and review of the proposed project. These will include FERC, Routt County, USACE, and others.

Routt County

Staff met with Routt County to better understand their interpretation of the county permitting and approval process. The county will review an application and ensure compliance with the Unified Development Code (UDC). Per initial conversations with Routt County staff, the following requirements are likely going to be needed (pending confirmation by the Planning Director):

1041 Permit - Areas and Activities of State Interest

The County believes that the proposed project will require a 1041 permit. A 1041 permit requires that site selection and construction of major facilities of a public utility is an activity of state interest. The 1041 permit will require the following:

- **Project Description:** Purpose and need, owner/operator, physical project details, above ground facilities, construction methodology, schedule, etc.
- **Detailed Route and Site Information:** Alignment maps and legal descriptions, parcel ownership, existing and proposed easements, construction limits, access roads and staging areas, alternatives analysis.
- **Environmental and Natural Resource Analysis:** Wetlands survey, surface and groundwater analysis, wildlife habitat, vegetation impacts, T&E species, geologic/soil analysis, erosion and sediment control, historic and archeological survey, etc.
- **Construction Impacts:** Clearing/grading quantities, trenching and spoil management, waterbody crossings, restoration plan, construction traffic, seasonal limitations, etc.
- **Public Safety/Emergency Response:** Leak detection/shutoff, emergency response plan, fire protection, etc.
- **Operation and Maintenance:** Procedures, inspections and monitoring, maintenance, leak prevention
- **Mitigation:** Avoidance/minimization measures, restoration commitments, wildlife mitigation, water quality protection, road improvements, etc.



Special Use Permit

A Special Use Permit will have similar requirements to the items detailed in the 1041 requirements. The county will also review the waterbody setbacks. Setbacks are measured from the Ordinary High-Water Mark (OHWM) and are a minimum of 50 ft from the OHWM.

FERC

Based on initial review by FERC staff, it is likely that a license amendment will be required from FERC. We will have to submit the project to the FERC Commission for their review to request an official determination. Due to the project falling under 18 CFR 4.38(a)(6)(v)(A) “The construction of a new dam or diversion in a location where there is no existing dam or diversion”, the amendment is subject to the three-stage consultation requirements. These include:

1. Stage 1. Under CFR 4.38(b), initiate consultation with the appropriate resource agencies, affected Indian Tribes, and interested members of the public.
 - a. Consultation package will include a draft application with similar requirements for the county application above. Minimum 60-day review period to comment on the proposed amendment.
2. Stage 2. Diligently collect all reasonable studies and obtain all reasonable information requested by resource agencies and Indian tribes that are necessary for the Commission to make an informed decision regarding the merits of the application.
3. Stage 3. File application for license or exemption, with copies being also mailed to resource agencies, Indian tribes, other governmental offices, and consulted members of the public.

II. Consistency with Board Goals and Policies:

UYWCD Water Supply Strategic Initiative

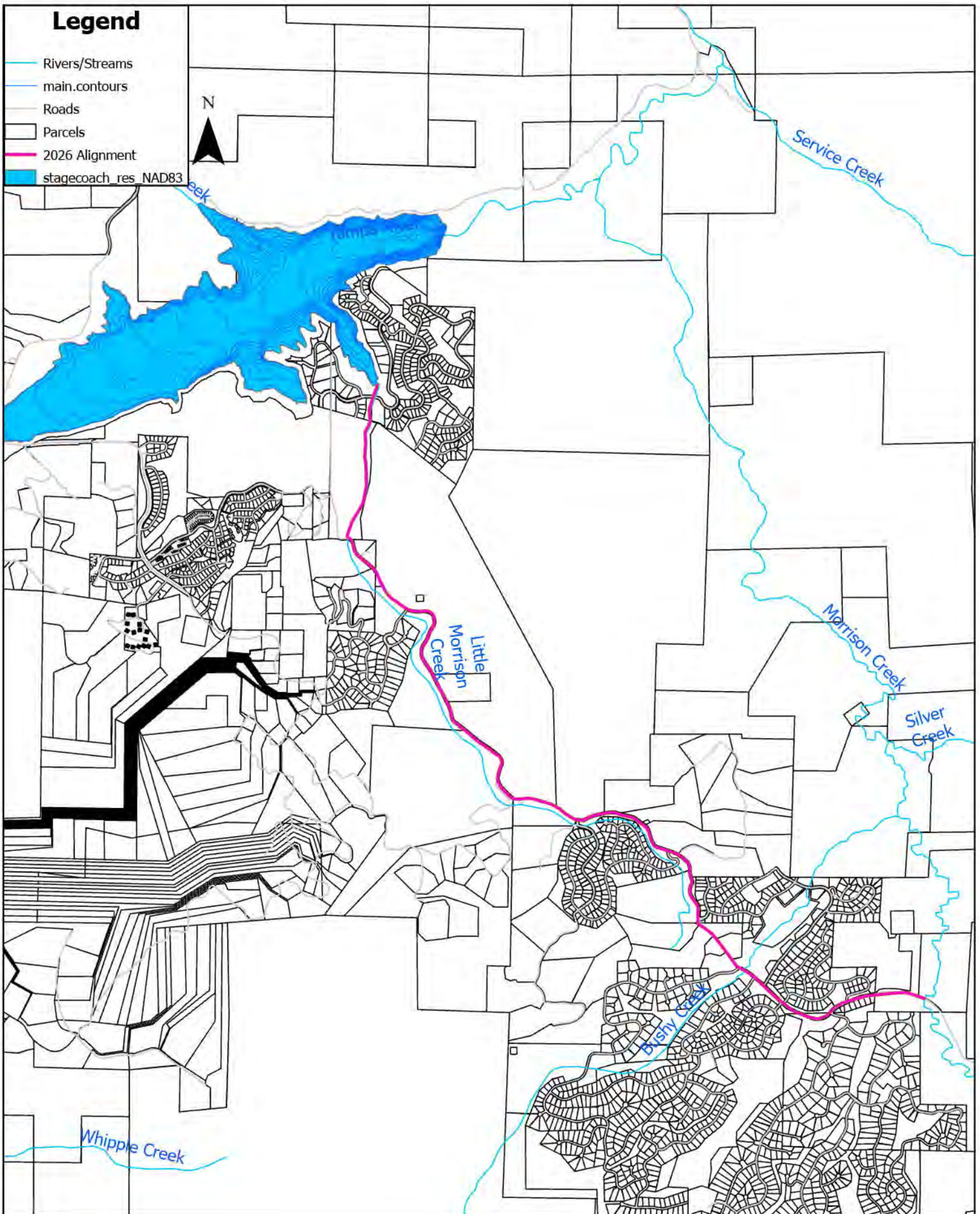
Attachments:

1. Map of Proposed Morrison Creek Pipeline Project

Legend

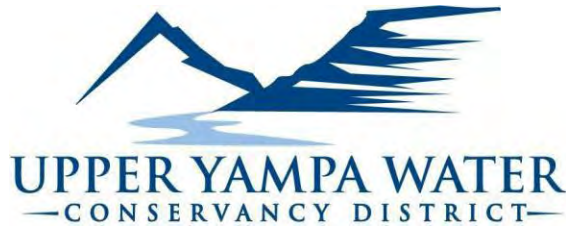
- Rivers/Streams
- main contours
- Roads
- Parcels
- 2026 Alignment
- stagecoach_res_NAD83

N



Preliminary Morrison Creek Proposed Pipeline Alignment
Routt County, CO





BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Holly Kirkpatrick

Date: 9/16/26

Item: UYWCD Grant Disbursements

☐ DIRECTION
☒ INFORMATION
☐ MOTION
☐ RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

The attached Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Project Grant Report and Community Grant Funding Report will be included in each board packet to provide a full background of all grant disbursements. The Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Project Report tracks all disbursements throughout the life of the project. The Community Grant Program Report tracks disbursements on an annual basis.

II. Summary and Alternatives:

The \$200,000 allocated for the Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Project (DIIP) pilot program was fully expended in July. The Colorado Water Conservation Board accepted the final grant report and the WSRF grant has been closed. The UYWCD board of directors allocated an additional \$60,000 in the 2026 budget to continue the grant program, of which \$26,404.83 remains.

The Community Grant Fund has awarded \$135,000. There is \$65,000 remaining in the Community Grant Fund for 2026. A special grant award of \$100,000 was approved for the Whitehaven Mobile Home Park piping that will connect the park to the City of Steamboat Springs water main.

Staff Recommendation: N/A

III. Legal Matters: N/A

IV. Consistency with Board Goals and Policies:

Strategic Initiative: Agricultural Partnerships and Infrastructure, District's Perpetual Work

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Pilot Project Grant Disbursement Report

Attachment 2: 2026 DIIP Grant Disbursement Report

Attachment 3: Community Grant Funding Report

Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Pilot Project					
Structure Name	Applicant	Disbursement Date	UYWCD Funding	WSRF Funding	Total Project Cost
Boor #3	John Redmond	9/15/2020	\$ 968.86	\$ -	1,937.72
Boor #4	John Redmond	9/15/2020	\$ 968.86	\$ -	1,937.72
Beaver Creek Parshall Flume	John Redmond	9/15/2020	\$ 446.86	\$ -	893.72
Creek Ranch Headquarters Pond	Creek Ranch Owners Association	11/4/2020	\$ 459.20	\$ 459.19	1,836.77
Dry Creek Ditch	Kathleen Barnes	11/4/2020	\$ 2,288.49	\$ 2,288.49	9,153.97
Kemmer Ditch	Riverbank Ranches LLC	11/4/2020	\$ 1,233.00	\$ 1,233.00	4,932.00
Lucas Ditch #1	Rick Milway	11/23/2020	\$ 724.40	\$ -	1,448.80
Lucas Ditch #2	Rick Milway	11/23/2020	\$ 550.75	\$ -	1,101.50
Welch & Monson Ditch	Catamount Metropolitan District	3/8/2021	\$ 803.01	\$ 803.00	3,212.03
Martin Springs Diversion	Deborah Martin	3/8/2021	\$ 1,086.77	\$ 1,086.77	4,347.07
Duquette Ditch	Duckels Construction, Inc	3/8/2021	\$ 2,131.26	\$ 2,131.25	8,525.02
Brinker Creek Ditch	Finger Rock Preserve, LLC	3/8/2021	\$ 1,079.75	\$ 1,079.75	2,504.50
Hamill Ditch	Jake Hamill	3/8/2021	\$ 932.70	\$ -	1,865.40
Utley Ditch	Jake Hamill	3/8/2021	\$ 584.75	\$ 584.75	2,339.00
Grouse Creek Ditch	Joe Roberts	3/8/2021	\$ 1,431.61	\$ 1,431.61	5,726.43
Morrison Creek Ditch #2	Margaret E. Hagenbuch Trust	3/8/2021	\$ 1,128.61	\$ 1,128.61	4,514.44
Larsen Ditch	Mark Foster	3/8/2021	\$ 1,442.78	\$ 1,442.78	5,771.12
Sage Creek Diversion	The Nature Conservancy	3/8/2021	\$ 1,498.44	\$ 1,498.44	5,993.75
Baxter Ditch	Baxter Ditch Association	6/29/2021	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	11,527.67
Dequine Ditch	Lou Dequine	9/8/2021	\$ 895.32	\$ 895.32	3,581.28
Dequine Ditch Alternate Point #1	Lou Dequine	9/8/2021	\$ 416.44	\$ 416.43	1,665.73
Yampa Pump#2	Julie Green	9/8/2021	\$ 246.96	\$ 246.96	987.83
Middle Creek Ditch	Middle Creek Ranch, LLP	9/8/2021	\$ 1,652.38	-	3,304.76
Steamboat Lake Golf Course Pond/Feeder Ditch	The Preserves at Pearl Lake Homeowners Association	9/8/2021	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	18,338.08
Elgin Creek Ditch	Hy Cattle Corporation	10/28/2021	\$ 951.68	\$ 951.67	3,806.70
Little Mountain Ditch	Bobby George	5/5/2022	\$ 1,500.00	\$ 1,500.00	6,000.00
Pennsylvania Ditch	Bobby George	10/1/2022	\$ 500.00	\$ -	3,000.00
Gibraltar Ditch	Lynn Powell & Bruchez Ranch, LLC	4/21/2023	\$ 25,000.00	\$ 25,000.00	394,230.30
CA Leighton Ditch	Clyncke Bros Hay Company LLC	8/31/2023	\$ 1,210.98	\$ 1,210.98	4,843.92
Lindsey Ditch	Clyncke Bros Hay Company LLC	8/31/2023	\$ 1,461.78	\$ 1,461.78	5,847.13
Donham Pump #2	Rita Donham	12/8/2023	\$ 2,458.83	\$ 2,458.82	9,835.31
Cottonwood Park Ditch	Ted Myers	12/8/2023	\$ 1,331.25	\$ 1,331.25	5,325.50
Gil West Pasture	Ted Myers	12/8/2023	\$ 1,250.00	\$ 1,250.00	5,000.00
Welsh #3	Frank Welsh	12/8/2023	\$ 457.73	\$ 457.73	1,830.92
Lafon Culvert	Kathryn Schlatter	6/18/2024	\$ 967.27	\$ 967.27	3,869.08
Windler Bomgardner Flume	Kathryn Schlatter	6/18/2024	\$ 1,562.50	\$ 1,562.50	6,250.00
Shelton Ditch	Shelton Mutual Ditch Company	7/2/2024	\$ 14,494.50	\$ 14,494.50	115,956.00
Miller Ditch	Judy Green	11/4/2024	\$ 2,939.57	\$ 2,939.56	23,516.53
North Hunt Creek Ditch	Laurie Bonucci	11/4/2024	\$ 861.37	\$ 861.37	3,445.48
Nelson Ditch	Brent and Joan Romick	12/5/2024	\$ 599.17	\$ 599.16	2,396.64
Whitley Nelson Ditch	Brent and Joan Romick	12/5/2024	\$ 599.17	\$ 599.16	2,396.64
Whitley Nelson Ditch Lateral A	Brent and Joan Romick	12/5/2024	\$ 599.17	\$ 599.16	2,396.64
West Side Ditch Headgate	Dunkley Flat Tops Livestock LLC/Steve Raftopoulos	2/19/2025	\$ 742.50	\$ 742.50	2,970.00
Upper Pleasant Valley Ditch	Trout 123, LLC	7/9/2025	\$ 891.00	\$ 891.00	3,564.00
Andy Morrison Ditch Headgate	Alpine Mountain Ranch Metropolitan District	10/29/2025	\$ 1,704.00	\$ 1,703.00	6,814.00
FD Hutchinson Ditch Flume	Clyncke Bros Hay Co. LLC	10/29/2025	\$ 666.00	\$ 666.00	2,664.00
Ekhart Flume Replacement	Hassle Haven Ranch	12/12/2025	\$ 795.26	\$ 795.26	3,181.06
Boor #2 Headgate Install	RR1917 LLC (John Redmond)	1/30/2026	\$ 530.62	\$ 530.62	2,122.47
Dequine Ditch Alt Point 1 Measuring Device	Flying Horse Ranch (Lou Dequine)	1/30/2026	\$ 525.38	\$ 525.38	2,101.51
Dequine Ditch Measuring Device	Flying Horse Ranch (Lou Dequine)	1/30/2026	\$ 528.38	\$ 528.38	2,113.52
Fahey-Cole Alt Point Diversion Measuring Device	Flying Horse Ranch (Lou Dequine)	1/30/2026	\$ 500.12	\$ 500.12	2,000.59
May Reservoir (5803524) 2025 Improvement	David and Barbara May	3/26/2026	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00	10963.06
Rossi Highline Ditch	Dean Rossi	3/26/2026	\$ 285.81	\$ 285.80	1,143.23
Egeria Ditch Headgate	Dean Rossi	3/26/2026	\$ 389.86	\$ 389.85	1559.43
Henderson Feeder Ditch (5802249) Measurement Install	James and Julie Daehn	3/26/2026	\$ 576.78	\$ 576.77	2,307.00
Borland Vail 2025 Flume Replacement	Trenia Serrotan Sanford	3/26/2026	\$ 795.00	\$ 795.00	3180
Flanders Ranch Ditch and Pumping Plant	Mary Beth Stepan	7/21/2026	\$ 8,086.69	\$ 8,599.06	66,743
Total Work Completed:					726,586.16
TOTAL DISBURSED:			\$106,233.57	\$100,000	206,233.57
DIIP FUNDS REMAINING:			(56,211.57)	\$0	-6,233.57

2026 Diversion Infrastructure Improvement Project Grant Funding

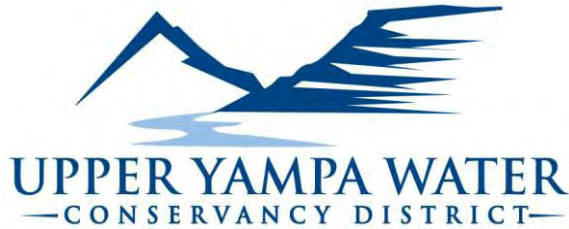
Structure Name	Applicant	Disbursement Date	UYWCD Funding	Total Project Cost
Flanders Ranch Ditch and Irrigation Pump	Mary Beth Stephans	7/21/2026	\$6,233.57	\$66,743.00
Mill Creek Headgate	RR1917 LLC (John Redmond)	7/21/2026	\$2,370.23	\$4,740.45
Excelsior Headgate Installation	Priest Creek Ranch (Cregan Ortner)	7/21/2026	\$4,079.56	\$8,159.11
Elgin Creek Ditch Culvert Replacement	Hy Cattle Corporation (Lucinda Greene)	7/21/2026	\$2,988.50	\$5,977.00
James Wheeler Ditch Flume Replacement	Glen Eden Resort (Toni Kloth and Kaylee Lopez)	7/21/2026	\$2,898.91	\$5,797.82
JL Smith's Emma Smith Creek Ditch Improvements	Linda Hamlin	8/11/2026	\$3,250.00	\$6,500.00
Grace Water Meter Update	Lenore Grace	8/11/2026	\$1,774.40	\$3,548.80
Total Work Completed:				101,466.18
TOTAL DISBURSED:				\$23,595.17
FUNDS REMAINING:				\$26,404.83

2026 Community Grant Funding

Project	Applicant	Date Approved	Amount Approved
Yampatika K-12 Water Education Program	Yampatika	11/20/2024	20,000.00
Bear River Outreach Coordinator	Community Agriculture Alliance	3/19/2025	15,000.00
JC Temple Reservoir Infrastructure Upgrades	B\ Land and Cattle	1/21/2026	25,000.00
Climate Resilient Ranching Hub	Western Resilience Center	3/18/2026	75,000.00
TOTAL APPROVED:			135,000.00
TOTAL FUNDS REMAINING:			65,000.00

[illegible]





BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Holly Kirkpatrick

Date: 9/16/2026

Item: Community Grant Funding Request - CR Brown and Moffat Coal Diversion

_____ DIRECTION
_____ INFORMATION
x _____ MOTION
_____ RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

The Community Agriculture Alliance is requesting \$21,200 for upgrades to diversion infrastructure for the CR brown and Moffat Coal Ditch located on Hunt Creek in South Routt County. The Hunt Creek watershed was impacted by the Crosho Fire in 2025 and experienced post-fire erosion and water quality impacts. The diversion is the last on Hunt Creek before its confluence with the Yampa River. Existing diversion infrastructure includes a seasonal, manually constructed pole-and-tarp push up dam, a series of T-posts spanning the width of Hunt Creek, and placement of old tires just downstream for bank stabilization.

The proposed project was identified through outreach from the CAA Land Stewardship Liaison, which is funded in part by UYWCD, and includes installation of an adjustable stop-log diversion with structural extensions embedded into the channel bed and banks, which would prevent water from bypassing the diversion, stabilize banks, and reduce erosion and sediment delivery into the Yampa River downstream of the diversion.

II. Summary and Alternatives:

The estimated total cost of infrastructure upgrades is \$28,500. The request of \$21,200 would have a 25% match between funds from the landowner, Kevin Gneiser and the CRD Community Funding Partnership.

The UYWCD Board of Directors may award full, partial, or no grant funding for the project.



III. Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approving full or partial funding to complete diversion infrastructure upgrades to the CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch outlined above and in the attached application packet.

IV. Legal Issues:

N/A

V. Consistency with Board Goals and Policies:

Goals 7 and 8.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch Application Packet



Community Grant Funding Application

Please refer to the UYWCD Community Grant Funding Guidelines prior to completing this application.

Applicant Information:

Applicant Name: Community Agriculture Alliance on behalf of Kevin Gneiser
Organization (if applicable): Community Agriculture Alliance
Primary Contact Information:
Name: Mendi Figueroa
Address: 35 11th St. Steamboat Springs, CO 80487
Phone: (720) 441-7625 E-mail: mendi@communityagalliance.org

Project Information:

Project Name: CR Brown and Moffat Coal Diversion Improvement Project
Project Location: 21160 Haymeadow Lane, Phippsburg, CO 80467
Latitude and Longitude or PLSS: 40.225921, -106.942184

Please attach a site map of project location.

Brief Project Summary (250 word limit):

The CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch is the final diversion on the Hunt Creek system before Hunt Creek joins the Yampa River. The ditch currently relies on a seasonal, manually constructed pole-and-tarp push-up dam at the point of diversion. A series of T-posts installed across Hunt Creek remain in place year-round, with old tires placed downstream of the posts to reduce scour. Annual installation of the posts and sustained hydraulic pressure have contributed to ongoing bank erosion. This project proposes installation of an adjustable stop-log diversion with structural extensions embedded into the channel bed and banks to secure the log structures, prevent water from bypassing the diversion, and reduce erosion. The stop logs or boards can be adjusted to allow aquatic organism passage or function as a barrier depending on seasonal flows and operational needs. The existing tires will be removed and replaced with river rock and natural materials to provide ecologically appropriate channel-bed protection. To further address prior scour and erosion impacts, willow cuttings will be planted upstream and downstream of the diversion to improve bank stabilization.

Project Category(ies): *Please select the appropriate funding category(ies) for your proposed project (check all that apply):*



Infrastructure Improvements

☐ Water Quality/Watershed Health



Water Supply Planning



Education and Outreach



River Restoration

Please describe how the category(ies) selected above are addressed in your project objectives (300 word limit):

Infrastructure Improvements: The project addresses infrastructure improvements by replacing the existing seasonal pole-and-tarp push-up diversion with a permanent, adjustable stop-log diversion at the CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch headgate. This improvement will provide a more reliable and durable diversion structure, reduce the need for annual in-stream construction, and improve the water user's ability to divert water efficiently during the irrigation season. The structural extensions will be embedded into the channel bed and banks to keep flows directed toward the headgate, prevent water from bypassing the diversion, and reduce bank erosion caused by the current temporary system. These improvements directly support the project objectives by protecting senior, pre-compact water rights, improving consistency of water delivery, reducing maintenance needs, and replacing an unstable diversion practice with long-term agricultural water infrastructure that is better suited to the site.

River Restoration: The project addresses river restoration by replacing temporary, erosive diversion practices with a more stable structure that supports long-term channel stability. Permanent bank extensions will protect the banks and limit erosion. Existing tires currently used for scour protection will be removed and replaced with river rock and natural materials that provide more appropriate channel-bed protection while improving the condition and function of the streambed. Willow cuttings will be planted upstream and downstream of the diversion to strengthen riparian vegetation, stabilize disturbed banks, and support a more resilient stream corridor. Together, these actions restore disturbed portions of Hunt Creek by reducing scour, improving bank stability, and replacing non-natural armoring with materials that better support watershed health. The water user has also demonstrated a commitment to river restoration by removing an old car that had previously been used as downstream bank armoring when requested to do so.

Project Timeline:

Anticipated Start Date: Fall 2026 (Dependent on contractor availability)

Anticipated Completion Date: Fall 2026

Project Description and Tasks: *Please outline this project by anticipated work tasks such as permitting, planning/design, construction, etc. For each task, please provide a detailed description, including methodology and anticipated start and end dates. Attach additional documentation including any existing engineering/design plans if applicable. (150 word limit)*

Task #1: Planning/design: X-Field Services, LLC, a local contractor with advanced experience building diversion structures in the Yampa Valley, was invited on-site to establish a design and complete a bid for the project. The site visit, design, and bid process were completed in May 2026, and the project is shovel ready.

Task #2: Construction: Removal of tires in stream bed. Installation of a sheet pile and I-beam supported stop log diversion structure. All spaces excavated not occupied by the structure shall be backfilled. Placement of locally sourced channel bed material. Start and completion dates will be in Fall 2026.

Task #3: River Restoration: After the construction of the diversion in late fall, the water user(s) will harvest dormant willow cuttings and plant in the downstream banks to add additional bank stabilization. Task will be completed by November 2026.

Monitoring and Evaluation: *Please describe the approach for monitoring and evaluating the progress of this project including specific measurable outcomes.(150 word limit)*

Project progress will be monitored by the water user and Community Agriculture Alliance through site observations during construction, and post-construction inspection. Construction progress will be evaluated against completion of the approved design, including removal of existing tires, installation of the stop-log diversion, proper backfill, placement of natural channel-bed material, and stabilization of disturbed banks. Following construction, the diversion will be inspected for structural integrity, leakage, flow bypass, and evidence of scour or bank erosion; if low flows prevent full testing in 2026, performance will be evaluated during spring runoff and irrigation operations in 2027. Measurable outcomes will include completion of all construction tasks, reduced need for annual in-stream manipulation, stable banks around the diversion, survival of willow plantings, and identification and correction of any maintenance needs. Willow survival will be reviewed in spring 2027 and 2028, with supplemental plantings completed if establishment is limited.

Operations and Maintenance: Please outline existing and anticipated operations and maintenance costs associated with the project, including labor if applicable. Once the project is complete, how do you plan to cover ongoing expenses.(150 word limit)

Operation and maintenance costs for a stop log diversion on an irrigation ditch are typically low to moderate, driven mainly by manual labor for board adjustments, periodic timber replacement, weed and vegetation clearing, and structural seal repairs. On-going expenses are anticipated to be very minimal and covered by water user(s).

Does this project require local, state or federal permitting?

___ Yes X No

If yes, please list the anticipated permits below and include permitting status.

--

Is this project associated with decreed water rights?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list the associated water rights holder, amount, and decreed use(s).

Water rights holders: Gneiser Ranch, LLC. and SKCK Settlement Corp. Priority No. 33782.14762 - 4.0 cfs, irrigation Priority No. 37807.00000 - 1.77 cfs, irrigation
--

Does this project have the potential to cause injury to other water users?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain.

--

Please attach at least two letters of support for this project.

Alignment:

Please describe how your project aligns with the UYWCD Strategic Plan including goals, objectives, mission, and vision statements. (300 word limit)

One of the UYWCD Strategic Plan's top priorities is strengthening agricultural partnerships and infrastructure. This project directly advances that goal by supporting an agricultural water user with the outreach, technical assistance, and financial partnership needed to modernize aging diversion infrastructure. Replacing the temporary pole-and-tarp push-up diversion with a permanent adjustable stop-log structure will improve reliability, reduce annual in-stream disturbance, and help the producer better manage water deliveries under changing hydrologic conditions. The project also demonstrates the District's role as a collaborative partner for agricultural producers as they adapt to a changing climate, increasing watershed stressors, and evolving regulatory expectations. By investing in practical infrastructure improvements that protect agricultural water use while improving stream stability and watershed health, the project strengthens long-term relationships with agricultural water users across the District and supports continued agricultural resiliency in the Yampa Valley.

Please describe how your project aligns with the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan/Yampa River Integrated Water Management Plan, other local, state, or regional water management plans or programs, and/or any existing or planned projects in the Yampa River Basin. (250 word limit)

The project aligns with the YWG BIP and IWMP by advancing objectives related to agricultural infrastructure and riparian habitat and natural bank stability. The YWG IWMP identifies opportunities to improve floodplain connectivity and riparian condition while also upgrading agricultural infrastructure and irrigation operating procedures. This project addresses those objectives by replacing a temporary pole-and-tarp push-up diversion with a permanent adjustable stop-log structure that will reduce annual channel disturbance, improve diversion reliability, more closely mimic natural hydrologic conditions, and better support agricultural water delivery.

The project supports the YWG objective of balancing water infrastructure needs with improvements to riparian habitat, wetlands, and natural bank stability. Structural extensions embedded into the channel bed and banks will reduce water bypass, limit bank erosion, and help maintain a more stable channel alignment. Removing tires and replacing them with river rock and natural materials will improve channel-bed protection with materials that are more compatible with river health. Willow plantings upstream and downstream of the diversion will further stabilize disturbed banks, strengthen riparian vegetation, and reduce sediment delivery. Together, these improvements meet the agricultural infrastructure objective by strengthening a working diversion for continued agricultural operations while also improving river health, fish habitat conditions, and flow management in Hunt Creek near its confluence with the Yampa River. Because the upper Hunt Creek watershed was affected by wildfire in 2025, reducing erosion and improving sediment control at the last diversion before the Yampa River also supports broader basin priorities for watershed resilience and protection of downstream water quality.

Budget:

Total Project Cost: \$28,500

Requested Amount: \$21,200

Please complete the Community Grant Funding Project Budget and Timeline Worksheet.

Project Partners: *List all partners involved with this project. Please include their role in the proposed project and the amount of their in-kind or cash contribution.*

Kevin Gneiser (Landowner) - \$1,400 cash and \$250 in-kind
Colorado River District (Funding Partner) - \$5,650 cash

Please describe planned efforts to meet the project budget. Should budget be exceeded please describe how additional costs may be covered. (100 word limit)

The project budget will be managed through regular cost tracking, coordination with the contractor, and proactive scheduling to ensure materials are secured and available prior to construction. This approach will help minimize delays, avoid unnecessary mobilization costs, and reduce exposure to price increases. The proposed budget includes a contingency to address unforeseen expenses, including potential increases in material or labor costs. If costs exceed the approved budget, the applicant and project partners will evaluate available funding options and identify additional cash or in-kind contributions as needed to complete the project.



Signature of Applicant

08/20/2026
Date



Budget & Timeline Worksheet

Date: August 10, 2026

Project Name: CR Brown and Moffat Coal Diversion Improvement Project

Project Applicant: Kevin Gneiser % Community Agriculture Alliance

Matching Funds

Funding Partner*	Cash	In-Kind	Total	Funds Committed (Y/N)
Colorado River District	\$ 5,650.00		\$ 5,650.00	N
Kevin Gneiser	\$ 1,400.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 1,650.00	Y
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
Total	\$ 7,050.00	\$ 250.00	\$ 7,300.00	

**Include applicant and additional partners*

Project Budget & Timeline

Task No.	Task Description	Estimated Start Date	Estimated End Date		UYWCD Funds	Cash Match	In-kind Match	Total
1	Construction and Design	10/5/2026	10/9/2026		\$ 21,200.00	\$ 3,800.00		\$ 25,000.00
2	Project Management	5/15/2026	10/16/2026			\$ 750.00		\$ 750.00
3	Indirect Costs	5/15/2026	10/16/2026			\$ 2,500.00		\$ 2,500.00
4	Bank Restoration	10/13/2026	10/16/2026				\$ 250.00	\$ 250.00
								\$ -
Total Project Cost					\$21,200	\$7,050	\$250	\$28,500
							UYWCD	\$21,200
							Cash Match	\$7,050
							In-Kind Match	\$250



CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch Map



Legend

- Surface Water
- Irrigation Ditch
- Source Water Route Framework
- Township
- Section
- Q40
- County
- Road Centerlines**
 - Highway
 - Primary, Local
 - Primary, Local
 - Primary, Local
 - Primary, Local
 - Primary, Local
 - Primary, Local
 - Primary, Local
 - Private, Backcountry, Other

Location



Notes

Point of Diversion
Irrigated Acreage

4,567 0 2,283 4,567 Feet

1: 27,401



This product is for informational purposes and may not have been prepared for, or be suitable for legal, engineering, or surveying purposes. Users of this information should review or consult the primary data and information sources to ascertain the usability of the information.

Date Prepared: 6/19/2026 2:41:00 PM

Existing contours
Sheet pile grade
1' stop log



4' Sheets

26'
24'

Looking upstream



28
15
67

10050 materials
9120 Driver
2000 Labor
10270.00



08/20/2026

Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District
Community Grant Funding Program

Re: Letter of Support for CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch Diversion Improvement Project

Dear Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District Board of Directors:

On behalf of the Community Agriculture Alliance (CAA), I am pleased to offer our strong support for the CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch Diversion Improvement Project. This project reflects the kind of practical, locally driven investment that helps preserve agriculture in the Yampa Valley while improving watershed function and supporting long-term stewardship of land and water resources.

The CAA shares the strategic objective to preserve agriculture in the Yampa Valley by supporting programs and policies that benefit and connect producers, consumers, and the broader community. Our vision is a Yampa Valley agricultural community that remains resilient, active, and vital for generations. The project directly advances that mission and vision by helping an agricultural water user replace a temporary, erosive diversion practice with durable infrastructure that supports reliable irrigation, reduces repeated in-stream disturbance, and improves conditions on the Yampa River.

The project is consistent with CAA's commitment to agriculture, collaborative success, and responsible innovation. The project will protect working agricultural infrastructure while improving riparian and stream conditions. These outcomes demonstrate how agricultural production and watershed health can be advanced together through thoughtful design, local partnership, and shared responsibility.

This project addresses an immediate infrastructure need while contributing to the long-term resilience of the Yampa Valley's agricultural and natural resource systems. Reliable diversion infrastructure is essential to sustaining local producers, protecting historic water use, and reducing maintenance practices that can negatively affect stream stability. At the same time, the project's restoration components will help reduce erosion, improve bank stability, and support healthier riparian conditions.

For these reasons, the CAA respectfully encourages the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District to support the CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch Diversion Improvement Project through the Community Grant Funding Program. We believe this project represents a meaningful investment in agricultural viability, responsible water management, and the vitality of the Yampa Valley for future generations.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Amber Pougiales". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Amber Pougiales - Executive Director
Community Agriculture Alliance

August 10, 2026

Dear Directors,

I am writing in sincere support of the diversion improvement project at the CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch. As a rancher, I know firsthand how important dependable water is to keeping livestock, hay meadows, and working agricultural land going from one season to the next. I have been working with the Community Agriculture Alliance to help upgrade the seasonal diversion dam and identify funding for the design and construction of a more reliable structure.

Right now, we rebuild the seasonal diversion each year using interlocking posts and tarps to create enough head pressure to move water down the ditch. That temporary setup has helped us get by, but it has also taken a toll on the riverbank. Over time, the opposite bank has continued to erode from the posts and the scouring force of the water, widening the channel and creating conditions that are not good for the ditch, the river, or the people who depend on both.

A permanent, adjustable stop log diversion would make a real difference. It would provide a stable frame, help protect the banks from further scour and erosion, and allow the boards to be adjusted so the river can function more naturally during irrigation season and outside of it. For those of us who rely on this ditch, that kind of improvement means more than convenience—it means protecting a water supply that supports our operations and the agricultural landscape around us.

The CR Brown and Moffat Coal Ditch has two water rights associated with it, including a senior pre-compact water right. Funding this project would help ensure we have a reliable structure in place to put those water rights to beneficial use during the irrigation season, while also being better stewards of the river system we all share.

Thank you for your consideration and support.

Sincerely,

Kevin Gneiser



BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Holly Kirkpatrick

Date: 9/16/2026

Item: Community Grant Funding Request - Duquette Ditch Phase 3

☐ DIRECTION
☐ INFORMATION
☒ MOTION
☐ RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information:

The Community Agriculture Alliance is working to advance design, modeling, and surveying for the Duquette Ditch - a project identified in the 2020 Yampa River Basin Integrated Water Management Plan. The project aims to improve irrigation efficiency, restore bank stability, and enhance river health. The existing diversion infrastructure for the ditch requires placement of concrete road barriers in the river channel during low flows resulting in inefficient water delivery, degraded river ecology, and hazardous river conditions that are exacerbated by a railroad bridge just downstream of the diversion.

The added complexity of shale bedrock and the hydraulic influence of the railroad bridge require a phased approach for data collection and design. This phase will advance the project from 15% design to 30% design. The Phase 2 (15% Design) Hydraulic Report prepared by Otak is included in additional documents.

II. Summary and Alternatives:

The estimated total cost of phase 3 design for the Duquette Ditch is \$121,500. CAA is requesting \$10,000 and has secured \$111,500 in matching funds including Water Supply Reserve Funds from the Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable, Yampa River Fund, and Healthy River Fund.

The UYWCD Board of Directors may award full, partial, or no grant funding for the project.

III. Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approving full or partial funding to complete Phase 3 of Duquette Ditch Design outlined above and in the attached application packet.



IV. Legal Issues:

N/A

V. Consistency with Board Goals and Policies:

Goals 7 and 8.

Attachments:

Attachment 1: Duquette Ditch Application Packet



Community Grant Funding Application

Please refer to the UYWCD Community Grant Funding Guidelines prior to completing this application.

Applicant Information:

Applicant Name: Amber Pougiales

Organization (if applicable): Community Agriculture Alliance

Primary Contact Information:

Name: Patrick Stanko

Address: PO Box 774134, Steamboat Springs, CO 80477

Phone: 970-879-4370 E-mail: patrick@communityagalliance.org

Project Information:

Project Name: Duquette Diversion Phase 3

Project Location: Yampa River at Stanko Ranch below Heritage Park

Latitude and Longitude or PLSS: 40.502732, -106.902589

Please attach a site map of project location.

Brief Project Summary (250 word limit):

Identified in the 2020 Yampa River Basin Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP), the Duquette Diversion presents a critical opportunity to improve irrigation efficiency, restore bank stability, and enhance river health. This section of the Yampa River has been significantly straightened since 1983 and is now constrained by bluffs and a railroad bridge.

Current Challenges: The diversion owners—Three Quarter Circle Ranch, Steamboat II Metropolitan District, and Steamboat Golf Club—lack effective in-river infrastructure. During low flows, they currently rely on placing concrete road barriers in the channel. This temporary solution is inefficient for water delivery, detrimental to river ecology, and creates hazards that shift during high spring flows. Additionally, the site presents passage challenges for fish and significant safety risks for recreational boaters due to dangerous hydraulics near the downstream railroad bridge.

Phases 1 and 2 successfully completed initial outreach, concept evaluation, early design, and preliminary hydraulic modeling. Phases 1 and 2 were supported by the ditch owners, Stanko Ranch (landowners where the diversion is located), and the Yampa Collaborative partners (local NGOs focusing on Yampa River health; TNC, TU, FOY, WRC, and CAA). Despite this progress, complex site conditions—specifically shale bedrock and the hydraulic influence of the downstream railroad bridge—necessitate further data.

Phase 3 funding will support:

- Critical topographic and geotechnical surveys.
- Refined hydraulic modeling.
- Advancement of the design to the 30% level.

This next phase is essential to developing a permanent solution that balances agricultural and floodplain functions with recreational safety.

Project Category(ies): *Please select the appropriate funding category(ies) for your proposed project (check all that apply):*

☒ Infrastructure Improvements ☐ Water Quality/Watershed Health
☐ Water Supply Planning ☐ Education and Outreach
☒ River Restoration

Please describe how the category(ies) selected above are addressed in your project objectives (300 word limit):

Identified in the 2020 Yampa River Basin Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP), the Duquette Diversion presents a critical opportunity to improve irrigation efficiency, restore bank stability, and enhance river health. This section of the Yampa River has straightened significantly since 1983 and is currently constrained by bluffs and a railroad bridge.

Current Challenges The diversion owners—Three Quarter Circle Ranch, Steamboat II Metropolitan District, and Steamboat Golf Club—lack effective in-river infrastructure. During low flows, they currently rely on placing concrete road barriers in the channel. This temporary solution is inefficient for water delivery, detrimental to river ecology, and creates hazards that shift during high spring flows. Additionally, the site presents passage challenges for fish and significant safety risks for recreational boaters due to dangerous hydraulics near the downstream railroad bridge.

Project Status and Phase 3 Goals: Phases 1 and 2 successfully completed initial outreach, concept evaluation, early design, and preliminary hydraulic modeling. Phases 1 and 2 were supported by the ditch owners, Stanko Ranch (landowners where the diversion is located), and the Yampa Collaborative partners (local NGOs focused on Yampa River health; TNC, TU, FOY, WRC, and CAA).

Despite this progress, complex site conditions—specifically shale bedrock and the hydraulic influence of the downstream railroad bridge—require further data collection and analysis. This data will then be used to develop a 30% design and hydraulic model downstream of the railroad bridge.

With a completed 30% design for the full river section (diversion and river health treatments), the Duquette Stakeholders will be able to proceed to a 60% design and, finally, to construction of the diversion, which will include river restoration in this section.

Project Timeline:

Anticipated Start Date: 10/1/2026

Anticipated Completion Date: 9/30/2027

Project Description and Tasks: *Please outline this project by anticipated work tasks such as permitting, planning/design, construction, etc. For each task, please provide a detailed description, including methodology and anticipated start and end dates. Attach additional documentation including any existing engineering/design plans if applicable. (150 word limit)*

Task 1 Data Collection:

- Topographic survey of the entire reach, including the downstream railroad bridge, to inform channel grading and refine the hydraulic model.
- Aquatic habitat / species-of-interest assessment, to inform design treatments and design criteria to enhance the channel corridor for native and sport fish, as well as minimize non-native habitat.
- Geotechnical investigation to inform the characteristics and depths of the channel bed material in the vicinity of the diversion.
- Assessment of groundwater elevations within agricultural fields to inform the elevation of the water table to refine grading in the field.
- Water surface elevation measurements and flow measurements to inform hydraulic model calibration (at two different flow events).

Task 2 Refined Hydraulic Modeling

The engineering firm (Otak) will refine the 1D and 2D hydraulic modeling as part of this phase.

Task 3: 30% Design Development

The engineering firm (Otak) will advance the overall design to 30% level

Monitoring and Evaluation: *Please describe the approach for monitoring and evaluating the progress of this project including specific measurable outcomes.(150 word limit)*

NA

Operations and Maintenance: *Please outline existing and anticipated operations and maintenance costs associated with the project, including labor if applicable. Once the project is complete, how do you plan to cover ongoing expenses.(150 word limit)*

When the diversion is constructed, we expect the operation and maintenance costs for the Duquette Ditches to decrease, as the permanent diversion will eliminate the need to enter the river each year. Labor will focus on clearing sediment from the headgate (note: the design will consider adding a sluice gate to remove sediment during high-flow events).

Does this project require local, state or federal permitting?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list the anticipated permits below and include permitting status.

Getting the design to 30% will inform the ditch owners and engineering firm on the extent of permitting needed.

Is this project associated with decreed water rights?

☒ Yes ☐ No

If yes, please list the associated water rights holder, amount, and decreed use(s).

Structure	Priority	Admin No.	Diversion Rate (cfs)
DUQUETTE D - BAMBER HG (5802156)		19622.14750	1.67
DUQUETTE DITCH (5800618)		14722.00000	6
DUQUETTE DITCH (5800618)		33782.23892	9
DUQUETTE D - SAMPSON HG (5802160)		22186.17695	0.5
DUQUETTE D - SAMPSON HG (5802160)		45522.00000	1
DUQUETTE D - SAMPSON HG (5802160)		54299.00000	0.37
Total		18.54	

Does this project have the potential to cause injury to other water users?

☐ Yes ☒ No

If yes, please explain.

--

Please attach at least two letters of support for this project.

Alignment:

Please describe how your project aligns with the UYWCD Strategic Plan including goals, objectives, mission, and vision statements. (300 word limit)

The Duquette project supports the UYWCD mission statement by supporting agricultural and municipal water resources in the Yampa Basin. This project will support agricultural infrastructure by developing a design to divert low-flow water from the Yampa River into the Duquette ditches for agricultural producers, the Steamboat II Metro District, and the Steamboat Golf Club. This diversion and its design support the UYWCD policy statement on the importance of a long-term municipal water supply (9) by supporting the Steamboat II Metro District water supply. This project will also support the UYWCD policy statement on healthy functioning rivers (2) by incorporating river restoration into the design. The design will also support recreational activities (3 and 10) by incorporating fish and boater passages through the diversion and, if possible, the railroad bridge. South bank grading and river restoration in the design (data collected in phase 3) support the UYWCD policy statement on the environmental contribution of ranching (7) by considering water levels to help increase hay production on the Stanko Ranch. This diversion will also support statement (14) by protecting senior water rights for the Duquette ditch.

Please describe how your project aligns with the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan/Yampa River Integrated Water Management Plan, other local, state, or regional water management plans or programs, and/or any existing or planned projects in the Yampa River Basin. (250 word limit)

This project supports most of the goals of the Colorado Water Plan. It will supply low-flow water to agricultural producers, helping keep agriculture viable in the valley, while also providing water to the Metropolitan District. The river health component of the design (to be developed) will support river health by improving stream bank stability and planting trees, and it will also enhance recreational activities by increasing boater safety. This project supports a majority of the YWG BIP goals by protecting agricultural water rights, supporting municipal water rights, and advancing environmental and recreational goals by incorporating river restoration in the section of the river.

Budget:

Total Project Cost: \$ 121,500

Requested Amount: \$ 10,000

Please complete the Community Grant Funding Project Budget and Timeline Worksheet.

Project Partners: *List all partners involved with this project. Please include their role in the proposed project and the amount of their in-kind or cash contribution.*

Duquette Ditch owners (Bear River Ranch, Steamboat ii Metropolitan District, Steamboat Golf Club, Stanko Ranch, Rita Donham.
Other supports of the project (TNC, TU, FOY, River Network, WRC).

Please describe planned efforts to meet the project budget. Should budget be exceeded please describe how additional costs may be covered. (100 word limit)

Otak provided a budget to collect data, refine the model and move the design to 30%. They have not be over budget so far for phase 1 and 2.

Patrick Stanko

Signature of Applicant

6/15/2026

Date



Budget & Timeline Worksheet

Date: 6/15/2026

Project Name: Duquette Phase 3

Project Applicant: Community Agriculture Alliance

Matching Funds

Funding Partner*	Cash	In-Kind	Total	Funds Committed (Y/N)
CWCB YWG WSRF	\$ 81,500.00		\$ 81,500.00	Yes
Healthy River Fund	\$ 10,000.00		\$ 10,000.00	Yes
Yampa River Fund	\$ 20,000.00		\$ 20,000.00	Yes
			\$ -	
			\$ -	
Total	\$ 111,500.00	\$ -	\$ 111,500.00	

**Include applicant and additional partners*

Project Budget & Timeline

Task No.	Task Description	Estimated Start Date	Estimated End Date		UYWCD Funds	Cash Match	In-kind Match	Total
1	Data Collection				\$ 5,000.00	\$ 25,000.00		\$ 30,000.00
2	Refine Hydraulic Modeling				\$ 5,000.00	\$ 17,500.00		\$ 22,500.00
3	30% Design					\$ 69,000.00		\$ 69,000.00
								\$ -
Total Project Cost					\$10,000	\$111,500	\$0	\$121,500
							UYWCD	\$10,000
							Cash Match	\$111,500
							In-Kind Match	\$0



BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Holly Kirkpatrick

Date: 9/16/2026

Item: New Grant Applications and Proposals

☐	DIRECTION
x ☒	INFORMATION
☐	MOTION
☐	RESOLUTION

I. Request/Issue and Background Information: N/A

II. Summary and Alternatives:

Friends of the Yampa will provide an update on the scope of work for a feasibility study centered around community needs for a river center. The discussion is a follow-up to the UYWCD board discussion from the May 20, 2026 regular board meeting.

III. Staff Recommendation: N/A

IV. Legal Issues: N/A

V. Consistency with Board Goals and Policies:

Perpetual work: Public Outreach and Partnerships

FRIENDS OF THE YAMPA

River Center Feasibility Study

Funding Request

Prepared for: Board of Directors, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (UYWCD)

Prepared by: Friends of the Yampa (FOTY)

1. Purpose & Background

Friends of the Yampa (FOTY) is initiating a feasibility study to determine whether to move forward with a dedicated River Center serving Steamboat Springs and the broader Yampa River corridor, from Yampa to Craig. The study will be led by a hired contractor, who is responsible for the large majority of the work; FOTY's board and staff provide in-kind support through local knowledge, introductions, and review. FOTY will maintain a dedicated space in the eventual Center, but the facility may extend beyond FOTY alone to include additional mission-aligned organizations.

This proposal is brought to the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District (UYWCD) Board because the study includes a formal assessment of which regional organizations, including UYWCD, are positioned to share space in, help fund, and help govern the River Center. Facility space will be limited, so this process is intended to identify genuine partner interest and need before design decisions are made.

The Yampa River River Center has the potential to become a lasting hub for river stewardship, outdoor education, community gathering, and regional economic vitality. This study is scoped to give both FOTY's Board and prospective partner organizations the data needed, through a professionally led process to decide whether, and how, to proceed together.

2. Full Project Roadmap

Creating a River Center is a multi-year effort that extends well beyond this feasibility study. The table below shows the full arc of that effort, from initial community input through opening day. This Scope of Work authorizes and funds only Phase 1, the community and partner input stage of the Feasibility Study, which includes every component and deliverable described in Sections 4–5 below. Site selection and financial modeling are addressed in Phase 2, and each later phase would require its own scope, budget, and separate Organizational Board authorization.

Phase	Focus	What Happens
Phase 1 (This SOW)	Feasibility Study — Community Input	Confirms whether there's genuine community and partner demand, general location preferences, and program needs for a River Center — ending in an Organization go / no-go decision to proceed to site and financial analysis.
Phase 2	Site Selection & Financial Feasibility	Formally evaluates candidate sites and builds capital cost and 10-year operating projections, checked against the \$12M funding goal.
Phase 3	Capital Campaign & Fundraising	If the Board votes to proceed, engage campaign counsel and conduct donor outreach to raise toward the \$12M funding goal.
Phase 4	Design, Permitting & Governance	Finalize architectural design, complete permitting and environmental review, and formalize partner agreements and the Center's governance structure.
Phase 5	Construction	Build the facility to the finalized design, budget, and timeline.

Phase	Focus	What Happens
Phase 6	Grand Opening & Program Launch	Hire staff, onboard partner organizations, and launch public programs.

3. Study Goals & Objectives

- Assess community and partner demand for the facility and its programs, including their general sense of where it should be located.
- Assess partner organization interest, program needs, and funding capacity to determine which organizations should share the River Center's limited space alongside FOTY.
- Define what must be built and operated to meet organizational and community needs.
- Learn from peer organizations with existing river centers.
- Evaluate collaboration options versus an independent approach.
- Provide the Organizations with a clear go / go-with-conditions / wait recommendation on proceeding to site selection and financial feasibility.

4. Scope of Work

Section 5 lays out how these components sequence into stages and what each one delivers, ending in a Board go / no-go decision.

Component	Brief Summary
Community Needs Assessment	Contractor-designed and contractor-run surveys and listening sessions across Steamboat Springs and the Yampa corridor, to confirm genuine community demand and gather residents' general sense of where a River Center should be located. FOTY board and staff involvement is limited to occasional introductions and venue connections.
Partner Organization & Collaboration Analysis	Contractor-led assessment of prospective partner organizations — including UYWCD — covering their interest in the River Center, program and space requirements, general location preferences, and capacity to help fund and sustain it. FOTY board involvement is limited to occasional introductions. Since facility space is limited, this component determines which organizations should share the Center alongside FOTY, and on what terms.
Peer Learning (Other River Centers)	Contractor-led interviews with 8–12 comparable river centers to benchmark cost, revenue, visitation, and any published economic impact figures, plus lessons learned, occasionally drawing on FOTY and partner board and staff relationships with peer directors.
Programmatic Needs Assessment	Contractor defines the programs and spaces a River Center must deliver, sized against community and partner demand, with FOTY staff and board input.

5. Study Deliverables & Timeline

Two components can run at the same time, condensing Phase 1 (this community and partner input stage) into three stages over roughly four months, ending in an Organizational decision. Each deliverable is reviewed by the River Center Committee and organizational leadership before it is finalized. If Stage 1 findings don't support moving forward, insufficient community or partner interest, FOTY can pause the study before committing to the later stages.

Stage	Timeframe	Focus (Running in Parallel)	Deliverables
Stage 1	Months 1–3	Community & Partner Needs Assessment + Peer Learning	Community Needs Assessment Report Survey data, focus group themes, listening session findings, and community input on general location preferences. Partner Organization Assessment & Collaboration Options Partner-by-partner interest, space needs, general location preferences, and funding capacity, plus a recommended collaboration/governance model given limited facility space. Peer Learning Report Cost, revenue, visitation, and operating benchmarks from comparable river centers, including any published economic impact figures.
Stage 2	Month 3–4	Programmatic Space Needs	Programmatic Space Needs Matrix Space requirements by program, with priority ratings and phasing options.
Stage 3	Month 4	Board Go / No-Go Decision	Board Decision Summary Integrated synthesis of all findings, for the Board's go / go-with-conditions / wait vote.

6. Budget Breakdown

This is a Phase 1 study budget, separate from the eventual \$12M funding goal for later phases. It reflects a fully contracted engagement.

Budget Component	Most Likely Cost	Notes
Community Survey Design & Analysis	\$9,500	Design, distribution & analyzes
Partner & Peer Outreach	\$7,000	Contractor-led; FOTY & Partners provides contacts and introductions
Printing, Materials, Venue Costs, Marketing and survey distribution	\$1,500	Listening sessions and surveying
Contingency (10%)	\$1,800	
TOTAL ESTIMATED STUDY COST	\$20,000	





BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Scott Grosscup, legal counsel

Date: September 8, 2026

Item: Water Resumes for July/August

☐	DIRECTION
X ☒	INFORMATION
☐	MOTION
☐	RESOLUTION

I have reviewed the water resumes of water applications filed in Water Divisions 5 and 6 for the months of July. The water resumes for the month of August were not available at the time of drafting this memo. I did not see any water court applications that would impact Upper Yampa's Water Rights filed in July. I will report on the August resumes at the upcoming meeting.

PENDING WATER CASES

STATUS OF OTHER WATER CASES

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BOARD COMMUNICATION FORM

From: Scott Grosscup, legal counsel

Date: September 8, 2026

Item: Water Court Cases Update

☐	DIRECTION
X ☐	INFORMATION
X ☐	MOTION
☐	RESOLUTION

Following is an update of the status of water court cases in which the Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District is an Applicant or Opposer.

Case No. 23CW3025 – Moffat County Umbrella Augmentation Plan – The District is monitoring case to ensure no terms and conditions are imposed on the Moffat County plan that would impact Upper Yampa’s umbrella augmentation plan. Seven other statements of opposition were filed to the application by: State and Division Engineer, Bruchez Ranch and Flanders Ranch, State Board of Land Commissioners, City of Craig, Tri State Generation and Transmission, Colowyo Coal Company LP, and Sage Creek Holdings LLC. The District has entered into a stipulation with the Applicant consenting to the form of Ruling of Referee. The Applicant has reported it is close to reaching stipulations with all remaining opposers, a follow-up status conference with the Water Referee is scheduled for October 1, 2026.

Case No. 24CW3029 – Coal Creek Diversion Pipeline – UYWCD filed its application for finding of reasonable diligence for the Coal Creek Diversion Pipeline in October of 2024. This water right is for 100 cfs and will be used to fill Yamcolo Reservoir and assist in water flows on the Bear River. We reached settlement with the United States Forest Service. The Water Referee entered his Ruling in June later confirmed as the final Decree in July of this year. The final Decree continues the water right for all amounts and uses for another six years. Entry of the Decree concludes this matter.

24CW3031 – PSCO – Application for finding of reasonable diligence for 5,000 acre feet decreed to Juniper Reservoir, with appropriation date of July 9, 1954, to be stored in Steamboat Lake. The District and the State Engineer and Division Engineer, Water Division 6, filed statements of opposition. Upper Yampa has stipulated to the form of Ruling of Referee and we are monitoring the case. The Applicant indicated it reached a final settlement with the Engineers and is finalizing settlement papers to be filed by September 11, 2026.

25CW3008 – Storm Mountain Ranch – Application for water storage rights located on Walton Creek and plan for augmentation using Upper Yampa’s Stagecoach Reservoir supply filed in March 2025. Catamount Metropolitan District, Catamount Development, LLC and the Colorado Water Conservation Board filed statements of opposition. The Division Engineer intervened in November. Upper Yampa has stipulated to the form of Ruling of Referee and we are monitoring the case. A follow-up status conference with the Water Referee is scheduled for October 27, 2026.

25CW3019 – Stagecoach Reservoir Diligence – UYWCD filed this application for finding of reasonable diligence and to make absolute in part on its portfolio of conditional water rights that may be stored in Stagecoach Reservoir. The application also cancels several alternate points of diversion and places of storage for some of the conditional water rights. Catamount Development, LLC, and the Steamboat Ski & Resort Corporation filed statements of opposition. There are no case deadlines in place as we await the Division Engineer’s consultation report.

NEW BUSINESS



EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

Executive session under CRS § 24-6-402(4)(b) to discuss legal issues on Water Resumes, Water Cases, Contract Negotiations and _____. Mere presence or participation of an attorney at an executive session is not sufficient to satisfy the requirements of CRS § 24-6-402(4)(b). Executive sessions to discuss legal matters are not recorded.

Executive session under CRS § 24-6-402(4)(e)(I) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators with respect to _____. This session will be recorded, and a copy of the recording maintained for not less than 90 days.

BOARD ACTIONS IN REGARD TO EXECUTIVE SESSION



DETERMINATION OF NEXT MEETING(s) AGENDA(s)



AGENDA

UPPER YAMPA WATER CONSERVANCY DISTRICT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 21, 2026 (12:00 PM)
MOUNTAIN VALLEY BANK COMMUNITY ROOM
2220 CURVE PLAZA, STEAMBOAT SPRINGS, CO

ONLINE MEETING:

[HTTPS://US06WEB.ZOOM.US/J/81642462109?PWD=K6T2VdkExZAPs86fk9SBxMJE16LIYR.1](https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81642462109?pwd=K6T2VdkExZAPs86fk9SBxMJE16LIYR.1)

MEETING ID: 816 4246 2109 - PASSCODE: 147554

MATERIALS FOR BOARD PACKET DUE: OCTOBER 12, 2026 BY 5:00 PM

INSTRUCTIONS ON HOW TO JOIN A ZOOM MEETING FOLLOW THE AGENDA

A Board of Directors meeting packet is available for public review on our website at <https://www.upperypampawater.gov/board-meetings> by the Friday before the meeting. Amendments to the Agenda and new documents that are generated or submitted after the original posting of the meeting materials will be posted under "Additional Documents" on the website for the relevant meeting.

QUESTIONS ON AGENDA AND/OR BOARD MATERIALS: Members of the public or Board of Directors with questions on the agenda or meeting materials, including the consent agenda, are welcome to contact the General Manager at the District offices prior to the meeting. You may reach the General Manager at: arossi@upperypampawater.com or (970) 871-1035 Ext. 2.

MEETING PROCEDURE: Comments from the Public are welcome at two different times during the course of the meeting: 1) Comments no longer than three (3) minutes on items **not** scheduled on the Agenda will be heard under Public Input and Comment; and 2) Comments no longer than three (3) minutes on all scheduled public hearing items will be heard following the presentation. Please wait until you are recognized by the President. Appropriate written materials or presentations should be submitted to the District no less than 24 hours in advance to be included in the meeting. With the exception of subjects brought up during Public Input and Comment, on which no action will be taken or a decision made, the Board may take action on, and may make a decision regarding, ANY item referred to in this agenda, including, without limitation, any item referenced for "review", "update", "report", or "discussion" whether or not listed as an "Action Item."

(1) **12:00 PM** Establishment of Quorum and Call to Order

(2) **12:00 PM** Approval of Agenda for Meeting

Action item

(3) **12:05 PM** Public Input and Comment

The Board will make no decision nor take action, except to direct the General Manager. Those addressing the Board are requested to identify themselves by name, organization, if any, and address. Comments shall not exceed three (3) minutes.

(4) ~~**12:10 PM** Board Member Reports~~

~~a. Board Member Disbursements~~

(5) ~~**XX:XX PM** Consent Agenda~~

Action item

~~a. Approval of the Minutes XXXXXX~~

~~b. Financials~~

i. ~~Approval of Disbursements~~

ii. ~~Budget Comparison~~

(6) **12:10 PM Report of General Manager**

a. ~~General Manager's Report~~

b. ~~Augmentation Plan Updates~~

c. **2027 Budget Discussion**

Action item

(7) ~~XX:XX PM District Engineer Report~~

a. ~~Update on Reservoir Water Status~~

b. ~~—~~

(8) **1:30 PM Public Information Updates**

a. ~~Grant Disbursements~~

b. **New Grant Applications**

Action item

(9) ~~XX:XX PM Report of General Counsel~~

a. ~~—~~

(10) ~~XX:XX PM Pending Water Cases~~

a. ~~Water Resumes~~

b. ~~Status of Other Water Cases~~

(11) **1:50 PM New Business (Limited to emergency matters that came up
During the course of the meeting)**

Action item

(12) **1:55 PM Executive Sessions:**

a. **Executive session under CRS § 24-6-402(4)(b) to discuss legal issues on Water Resumes, Water Cases, Contract Negotiations** and _____ (insert description) . Mere presence or participation of an attorney at an executive session is not sufficient to satisfy the requirements of CRS § 24-6-402(4)(b). Executive sessions to discuss legal matters are not recorded.

b. **Executive session under CRS § 24-6-402(4)(e)(I) for the purpose of determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations;** developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators with respect to _____ (insert brief description). This session will be recorded, and a copy of the recording maintained for not less than 90 days.

c. At the conclusion of an executive session and the resumption of the public meeting, the Chairman will announce that if any person who participated in an executive session believes that any substantial discussion of any matters not included in the motion to go into executive session, or that any improper action occurred during an executive session in violation of the Open Meetings Law, that such person state their concern for the record.

(13) **2:00 PM Board Actions in Regard to Executive Session**

(14) **2:05 PM Determination of Next Meeting(s) Agenda(s)**

(15) **2:10 PM Adjournment.**