Upper San Juan Stream Management Plan

Notes, July 13, 2018

Attending: Al Pfister, Tim Harmaann, Chris Pitcher, John Taylor, Mely Whiting, Justin Ramsey, Pat Bennet, Joe Crabb, Celene Hawkins, James Dickoff, Bob Forwalt

1. **Welcome and Introductions** (5 min)
2. **Stream Management Plans**
   1. The Southwest Basin Round Table was charged with developing a management plan
   2. What are the water needs and identify gaps
      1. We don’t fully understand environmental and recreational water requirements
   3. It has become clear that we need to engage all water users in the discussion
   4. Can we identify opportunities that are win-win
   5. The idea is to develop projects that can be implemented voluntarily and that the CWCB can offer financial support
   6. Lessons from the San Miguel
      1. There is a need for broad stakeholder involvement up front
      2. There is a need to outreach appropriately
      3. How do we make the meetings accessible and transparent
      4. We need to have appropriate stakeholders so that we can avoid surprises
      5. We need stakeholders involved in the technical work. They understand demands on the river
      6. We should consider this watershed enhancement rather than the stream management plan
      7. The process should help us identify any issues or problems
         1. How do we avert them?
      8. We should include the management of forests in the discussion
3. **The San Juan Proposal** (5 min)
   1. Community involvement
      1. There are large reservoirs drawing off of the San Juan
      2. It is hard for us to project the future of water use
      3. How do we protect pre-compact rights?
   2. Structure
      1. Steering Committee – nuts and bolts and offers recommendations
         1. Smaller committee the better
         2. Appropriate people
         3. Identify stakeholders
      2. Stakeholder – Outside perspectives before public
      3. Public – Make sure the community is aware of the effort and has input into the needs and concerns
      4. We need to identify other work being done in the watershed and make sure there isn’t any overlap
   3. Objectives for Grant
      1. The primary objective for this grant is to bring together stakeholders and develop group
      2. This will be the 1st phase of 3
         1. Phase II will be to move toward a watershed (stream) enhancement process
   4. Goals
      1. This could be bigger than just the stream management
      2. This effort will help to identify opportunities for watershed Enhancement
      3. Enhance water on mountains
      4. Identify Storage needs
      5. Work with local efforts
      6. Build off of existing information
   5. Stakeholders
      1. USFS
         1. Should this be a forester or the hydrologist?
      2. SUIT
      3. Ryan Unttereiner
      4. BOR
         1. Because of diversion and Navajo Lake
4. **Geography of the effort** (30 min)
   1. Do we have the correct steering committee to represent the geography?
      1. We need to define the geography to confirm
      2. Different committees for different geographies – This effort is similar to one in Gunnison Basin
   2. Focus on the headwaters initially
   3. This can be a dynamic group – It can operate in phases and expand to other regions of the San Juan once we complete an initial smaller area.
   4. Smaller region can show impact and influence down river users
      1. Use the NE side of 84 as a boundary
   5. The boundary was proposed to be the Main stem – Alpine to confluence
      1. To highway 84, 160 west of Pagosa Springs (with a small “blip” to include Pagosa proper from Hwy 84, Down to the NM, CO State line
      2. Include Piedra River to Hwy 160
      3. Phased involvement
         1. Start with phased involvement
         2. Headwaters to Navajo San Juan Confluence – Phase I – River Canyon
         3. Lower basin of San Juan
5. **Desired Outcome**s (30 min)
   1. Goals – These are to be discussed at the next meeting
   2. Objectives
6. **Needed information** (30 min)
   1. Existing water rights and priority dates
      1. Make sure we inform
   2. Re-draw existing map – Chris
   3. We need to involve the BOR – AL
   4. Gather existing reports - Aaron
      1. River Protection Workgroup, Stolsteimer, TNC
   5. Codes of Conduct – Aaron
   6. Send existing efforts out – Aaron and Chris
      1. Rio Grande and Gunnison stream management plan
   7. Change the name to “Watershed Enhancement Partnership or Collaborative”
7. **Planning our next steps** (15 min)
   1. Rules of interaction - Aaron
   2. Decision making process of the group
   3. What are the other efforts (Growing Water Smart, Resilient Communities workgroups)
      1. What is the overlap
   4. Next meeting – Friday August 10th – 9:00am to 11:00am