

**Yampa White Green Roundtable Education Action Plan  
2017-2018 Plan**

Approved September 14, 2016

**Background Information:**

The 2005 Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act (House Bill 05-1177), is based upon the premise that Coloradans must work together to address the water needs within the state. The legislation created a framework to encourage dialogue on water, broadened the range of stakeholders actively participating in water decisions, and created a locally driven process where the decision-making power rests with those living in the state's river basins.

The statewide structure, the Interbasin Compact Committee (IBCC), and the local structures, the nine basin roundtables, bring over 300 diverse citizens into water supply planning discussions across the state. As each basin roundtable carries out its charge to develop basin-wide water needs assessments, they are also required to advance the understanding of future water needs through educational programs and processes. In the statutes of HB 05-1177, each basin roundtable has powers and responsibilities that include:

- "(c) ... Basin roundtables shall actively seek the input and advice of affected local governments, water providers, and other interested stakeholders and persons in establishing its needs assessment, and shall propose projects or methods for meeting those needs.
- (d) Serve as a forum for education and debate regarding methods for meeting water supply needs; and
- (e) As needed, establish roundtable subcommittees or other mechanisms to facilitate dialogue and resolution of issues and conflicts within the basin."

The Public Education, Participation, and Outreach (PEPO) Workgroup is a legislatively created committee of the IBCC. This group is tasked with: creating a process to inform, involve, and educate the public on the IBCC's activities and the progress of the interbasin compact negotiations; creating a mechanism by which public input and feedback can be relayed to the IBCC and compact negotiators; and educating IBCC and roundtable members on water issues. The PEPO Workgroup's membership consists of the Education Liaisons, a volunteer position on each basin roundtable, members of the IBCC, statewide water education experts and staff of the Water Supply Planning section of the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The members of this sub-committee work to identify the best approaches for education and outreach at the statewide and basin-specific levels. The PEPO Workgroup and roundtable members are collectively defining the most helpful and meaningful ways in which the public can participate in the work of their basin roundtable.

The PEPO Workgroup will assist the basin roundtables in strengthening their education and outreach activities.

Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB) has created an application-based education fund. All basin roundtables with a completed EAP will have the opportunity to apply for up to \$6500 in state funds per year for action plan implementation.

Community Agriculture Alliance (CAA) will implement and facilitate education and outreach activities for the YWG Basin Roundtable.

**YWG Education Sub-Committee Members**

All YWG Roundtable members are encouraged to provide input and suggestions to the sub-committee. The sub-committee seeks to represent fully the agriculture, municipal and industrial interests of the basin. The names and affiliations of the current YWG Roundtable Education Sub-committee are:

1. Kelly Romero-Heaney (Education Liaison): Routt County Municipality Representative
2. Jeff Devere: At-Large Representative
3. Doug Monger: Routt County Commissioner Representative
4. Kevin McBride: Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District Representative
5. Bill Badaracca: At-Large Representative
6. Steve Hinkemeyer; Moffat County Municipality Representative
7. Alden Vanden Brink: Rio Blanco Municipality Representative
8. Burt Clements: At-Large Representative
9. Chuck Grobe: At-Large Representative

**Meeting Plan for Sub-Committee**

Marsha Daughenbaugh, CAA Executive Director, will convene meetings of the YWG Education Sub Committee. Every effort will be made to honor the busy schedules of the sub-committee members utilizing face-to-face meetings, teleconferences and emails.

**Goals of the Education Sub-committee 2016, 2017, 2018**

1. Develop and implement an EAP that facilitates educational opportunities about Colorado and YWG Basin water challenges.
2. Forward the HB-1177 process by facilitating discussions on water issues
3. Encourage locally driven collaborative solutions
4. Increase collaborations and partnerships with other YWG basin organizations that wish to promote water education
5. Encourage YWG Round Table members to actively participate with the Education sub-committee
6. Raise public awareness of YWG Roundtable activities
  - a. CAA will assure that regional news agencies are notified of Round Table meeting dates, time and location
  - b. CAA will assure that regional news agencies are timely notified of Round Table vacancies
7. Raise public awareness of the YWG Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) and the Colorado’s Water Plan (CWP)
  - a. CAA will develop and implement a newspaper and radio information campaign
  - b. Education Sub-committee will identify writers and topics; CAA will submit these articles to regional news agencies
8. Plan, implement and facilitate a series of Water Education Forums or Workshops in Craig, Meeker, Rangely and Steamboat
  - a. BIP and CWP Updates
  - b. Other identified water education opportunities as identified by the YWG Round Table and partners
9. Provide financial assistance to Round Table members who wish to attend BIP/CWP related conferences
10. YWG PEPO representative Kelly Romero-Heaney will participate in CWCB education-related meetings
11. CAA Executive Director Marsha Daughenbaugh will participate in CWCB education-related training
12. Annual review of EAP including sub-committee members
13. Annual review of previous year’s water education initiatives and success/failure evaluation
14. Annual review of collaborative efforts

**Proposed 2107 and 2018 EAP Budget**

The Education Sub-committee will annually utilize the \$6,500 in state funds in the following manner:

	2017	2018
Media Costs to Advertise RT Meetings and Vacancy Announcements	\$2000	\$2000
Newspaper and Radio Regional Information Updates	\$2500	\$2500
Conference/Training Fees	\$1500	\$1500
Administrative Costs incurred by Education sub-committee and CAA	\$ 500	\$ 500
	\$6500	\$6500

**Partnerships**

Existing partners for the EAP plan include:

- |                                      |  |                                       |
|--------------------------------------|--|---------------------------------------|
| Community Agriculture Alliance       | White River Conservation District      | Douglas Creek Conservation District   |
| Colorado First Conservation District | National Park Service at Dinosaur      | Rio Blanco Water Conservancy District |
| Rio Blanco County CSU Extension      | Routt County CSU Extension             | Routt County Conservation             |
| Water Center at Mesa University      | Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District |                                       |

Potential partners include:

All organizations, business and agencies represented on the YWG Roundtable

Regional media contacts are established with:

- |                         |                    |
|-------------------------|--------------------|
| Steamboat Pilot/Today   | Craig Daily Press  |
| Rio Blanco Herald Times | Valley Voice       |
| KRAI Radio              | All Mountain Radio |

**Assessment**

1. Active participation by sub-committee members in the planning, implementation and facilitation of forums and workshops
2. YWG Round Table members attendance and acceptance of forums and workshops
3. Stakeholder participation and evaluation at forums and workshops
4. Stakeholder requests for additional forums and workshops