



Basin Education Action Plan YWG BRT 2020

Background:

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.

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, industrial, recreational, and environmental interests of the basin.

1. Basin Educational Vision/Goals:

Yampa-White-Green Roundtable PEPO Vision:

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

Goals:

1. 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
 - c. Update to the YWG Roundtable website to make it ADA compliant, navigable and search engine friendly.
 - d. Use Facebook to promote YWG BRT communications and education on water issues in the basin.
2. 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 for 2020 issues
 - b. Plan, implement and facilitate a series of Water Education Forums or Workshops in Craig, Meeker, Rangely and Steamboat
 - c. YWG documentary video
 - d. Develop other media as needed or identified by Education Sub-committee or CAA
3. Support Integrated Water Management Plan development in the basin.
 - a. Provide education opportunities on Steam Management Plans/Integrated Water Management Plans
 - b. Provide education/support of the YWG BRT Yampa Integrated Water Management Plan
 - c. Provide education/support for the White River Integrated Water Management Plan
4. Education Sub-committee will identify writers and topics; CAA will submit these articles to regional news agencies
5. BIP and CWP Updates
6. Other identified water education opportunities as identified by the YWG Round Table and partners
 - a. Support and Follow Yampatika Youth Water Education in the Yampa and White Basin
7. Provide financial assistance to Round Table members who wish to attend BIP/CWP related conferences
8. YWG PEPO representative Kelly Romero-Heaney will participate in CWCB education-related meetings
9. CAA Ag Resource Coordinator Patrick Stanko will participate in CWCB education-related training

Outreach:

Using the local media outlets (newspaper/radio) CAA and PEPO committee will try to inform 75% full time local basin residents about the Yampa-White-Green Roundtable issues and it's BIP goals. The number of tourist and second home owners which will hear about the Yampa-White-Green Roundtable is impossible to estimate.

Historically we have had close to 500 people attend the forums put on and/or sponsored by CAA. The PEPO committee expects this number to only grow in the future.

2. How is the Basin structured to implement the EAP? (List of Individuals/organizations Implementing EAP):

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. Doug Monger: Routt County Commissioner Representative
3. Ken Brenner: Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District Representative
4. Bill Badaracca: At-Large Representative
5. Steve Hinkemeyer; Moffat County Municipality Representative
6. Alden Vanden Brink: Rio Blanco Municipality Representative
7. Kent Vertrees: Rec Rep
8. Deirdre Macnab
9. Callie Hendrickson
10. April McIntyre: Yampa-White-Green Recorder

Community Agriculture Alliance (CAA) will implement and facilitate education and outreach activities for the YWG Basin Roundtable. CAA will give updated and get direction from the PEPO committee at the bimonthly meetings.

Yampatika has received a WSRF grant from the YWG BRT to develop and provide to all the school districts within the Yampa and White Basins K-12 Water Education. CAA will follow up with Yampatika and provide status updates to the PEPO committee at the bimonthly meetings.

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
Colorado Parks and Wildlife	Friends of the Yampa
Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District	Water Education Colorado
Colorado Mountain College	Yampatika

Potential partners include:

All organizations, business and agencies represented on the YWG Roundtable

Regional media contacts are established with:

Steamboat Pilot/Today
Rio Blanco Herald Times
Steamboat Radio/KRAI Radio

Craig Daily Press
Valley Voice
Always Mountain Time Radio

Reviews performed by the committee:

1. Annual review of EAP including sub-committee members
 2. Annual review of previous year's water education initiatives and success/failure evaluation
 - a. Number of initiatives done for the year
 - b. Are the number of education/forum attendees increasing
 3. Annual review of collaborative efforts
 4. Review of WSRF Grant YWG Rivers Basin Roundtable Development and Implementation of Water Education and Outreach (CTGGI 2017-728) Tasks 1-5
 - a. Identified public education, participation and outreach projects/opportunities completed by CAA
 5. Review website metrics on usefulness of the website
- 3. Critical issues currently in the basin that need to be addressed over the EAP planning period?**

The following critical issues can be topics for forums the CAA puts on through out the basin. If needed a media campaign can be developed on these critical issues.

1. Colorado River Basin Issues
 - a. Compact Compliance
 - b. Powell/Mead structural deficit
 - c. Colorado River Drought Contingency Planning Process
2. BIP update
3. Education on YWG Integrated Water Management Plan

4. Identify the audience the EAP will be targeting:

The YWG Roundtable EAP will focus on in basin constituents both water stakeholders and the general public. The EAP will look at the ability to target both instate and out of state tourists given the right opportunity. With Yampatika having a 3 year WSRG grant Youth Education for FY 2020-2023 will be their target audience.

5. **Budget:** How will \$6,500 be spent? If possible, please include if your basin is using other funding sources to implement the EAP. (Please create table or attach an excel spreadsheet with EAP submittal)

task	Description	FY202 Budget
1	Media Costs to Advertise Round Table Meetings and Vacancy Announcements	\$2,500
2	Conference/Training Fees	\$1,000
3	Administrative Expenses Incurred by Education sub-committee and CAA	\$3,000

YWG Rivers Basin Roundtable Development and Implementation of Water Education and Outreach (CTGGI 2017-728)

Task	Amount left from three year grant
1 Implement a Collateral and Media Plan	\$28,985
2 Raise Public Awareness of YWG Round Table	\$23,568
3 Increase Public Knowledge about Water Issues	\$20,276
Total	\$72,829