What is a stream management plan?

Stream Management Plans use assessments to analyze holistic river health (fishery, ability to transport sediment, bank stability, riparian corridors, etc) and recreation goals.

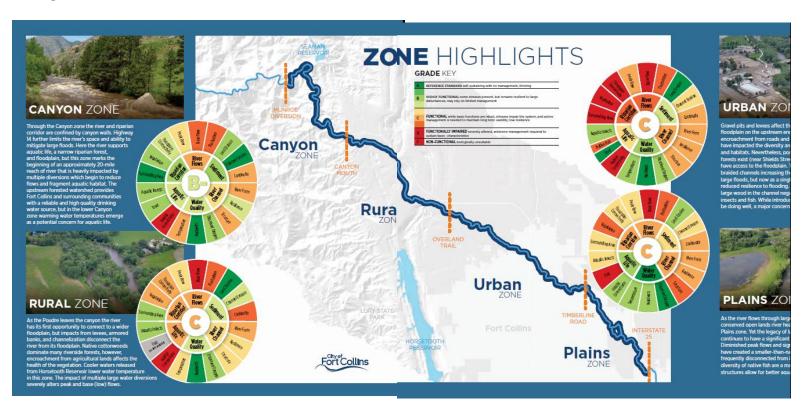
CWCB 2018 Guidance: A stream management plan should:

- (1) Involve **stakeholders** to identify **environmental & recreational values/objectives** that are locally important;
- (2) Assess existing **biological**, **hydrological**, **and geomorphological** conditions at a reach scale;
- (3) Identify **flows, other physical conditions or projects** needed to support environmental and recreational values;
- (4) Prioritize alternative management actions or projects to achieve measureable progress toward maintaining or improving flow regimes and other physical conditions.



Poudre River - 2017

Objectives: To create an ecological assessment of current-day river health to help meet Ft. Collins' strategic goal to work towards "...sustaining a healthy and resilient Cache la Poudre River".





Where are stream management plans?



- Big Thompson River
- Blue River
- Cache la Poudre River (Upper)
- Cache la Poudre (Fort Collins)
- Colorado River (Glenwood to DeBeque)
- Colorado River (Grand County)
- Crystal River
- Eagle River
- Gunnison River (upper)
- North Fork of the Gunnison River
- Rio Grande, Conejos River, and Saguache Creek
- Roaring Fork River (Aspen)
- Saint Vrain and Left Hand Creeks
- San Juan River (upper)
- San Miguel River
- South Boulder Creek
- South Fork Republican River
- South Platte River (Chatfield)
- South Platte River (middle)
- Yampa River (Steamboat Springs)
- Yampa & Elk rivers



Success Slowly But Surely

WATER DESK

Rancher on Crystal River agrees to change diversions to benefit river

By Sarah Tory, Aspen Journalism January 24, 2018



PHOTO COURTE section of the lower Crystal River in late summer 2012, Irrigators and other water ver valley are working toward ways to leave water in the river during moderate d

CARBONDALE - There is a new way to put w

After more than a year of back and forth wit Water Trust announced Tuesday a pilot agre streamflows in the Crystal River during dry

The three-year agreement will compensate I Cold Mountain Ranch just west of Carbonda water in the Crystal River when it needs a bo

Although the Water Trust has spearheaded in Colorado, the Cold Mountain Ranch deal diversions.



NEWS OPINION EXPLORE STEAMBOAT SPORTS & OUTDOORS MAGAZINES

New endowed fund seeks to improve Yampa River health across Northwest Colorado

February 3, 2019



Aspen Journalism

Contact About

its more info from city of Aspen in Castle, Maroon dam cases

WATER DESI

Groups call for new stream gauges to measure rivers

By Brent Gardner-Smith February 13, 2012

F RECOMMEND

™ TWEET

EMAIL A PRINT

O MORE



Part of the streamflow management infrastructure at the city's existing hydropower plant on Maroon Creek. Groups in the community are calling for stream gauges to be installed below the city's infrastructure on both Maroon and Carlet creeks.

Two groups critical of the city of Aspen's proposed hydropower plant along the banks of Castle Creek are now raising funds to install stream gauges on that stream, as well as Maroon Creek.

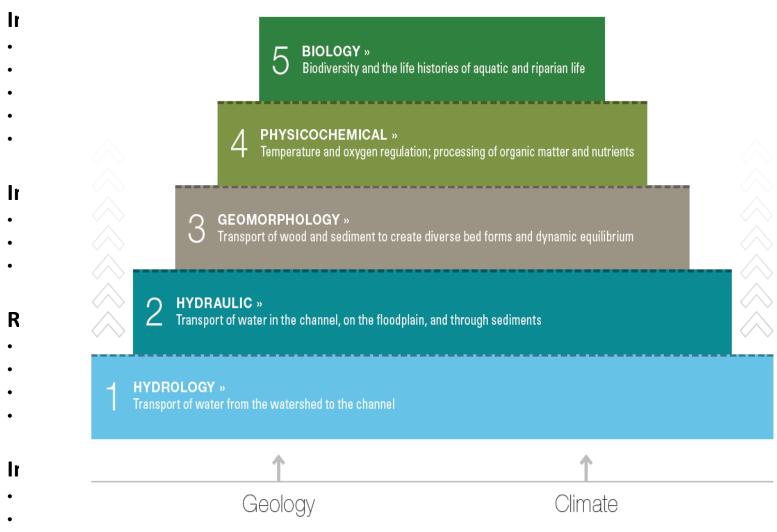
The snow-covered Yampa River winds through western Routt County at The Nature Conservancy's Yampa River Preserve east of Hayden on Sunday afternoon. (Photo by Fleanor C. Hassenback)

STEAMBOAT SPRINGS - The Yampa River will soon have its own endowed fund.

A coalition of water managers, ranchers, river rats and conservationists are working to assemble the Yampa River Fund, an endowed fund that would help pay for projects to improve the health of the Yampa River.



SMP Goals and Methods



safer/better recreational experiences





Integrated Water Mgt Plans

Plans took the SMP concept and widened it to assess a wider array of needs.

This allows a regional, comprehensive understanding of needs and gaps for environmental, recreational, and consumptive users, and attempts to fill those needs in a way that is mutually beneficial.

PROVISIONING GOODS AND SERVICES

Agricultural Production

Drinking Water Supply

Industrial Processing

Hydropower Production

REGULATING AND MAINTENANCE GOODS AND SERVICES

Flood Regulation

Groundwater Recharge

Erosion Control

Pest Regulation

Regulatory Compliance

CULTURAL GOODS AND SERVICES

Aesthetics and Intrinsic Values

Symbolic & Emblematic Species

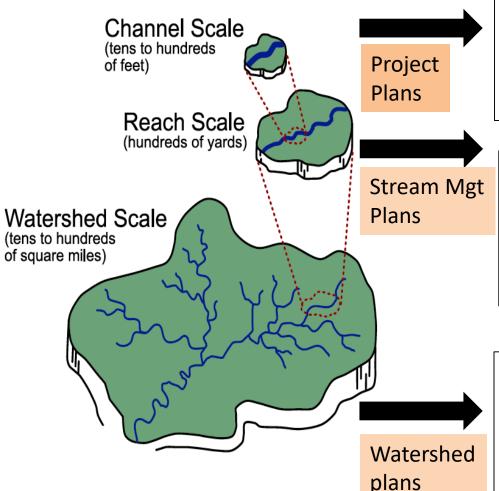
Boating Recreation

Angling Recreation



Scales of Watershed Planning

Questions



- How do I improve fish habitat at this site?
- How can I improve this diversion structure to better deliver water and allow fish passage?
- Where is there important aquatic habitat to protect?
- Which diversion structures pose fish passage barriers?
- Assess the fish species distribution in the basin
- Describe the hydrology/water use patterns in the basin



Scales of Watershed Planning

Watershed

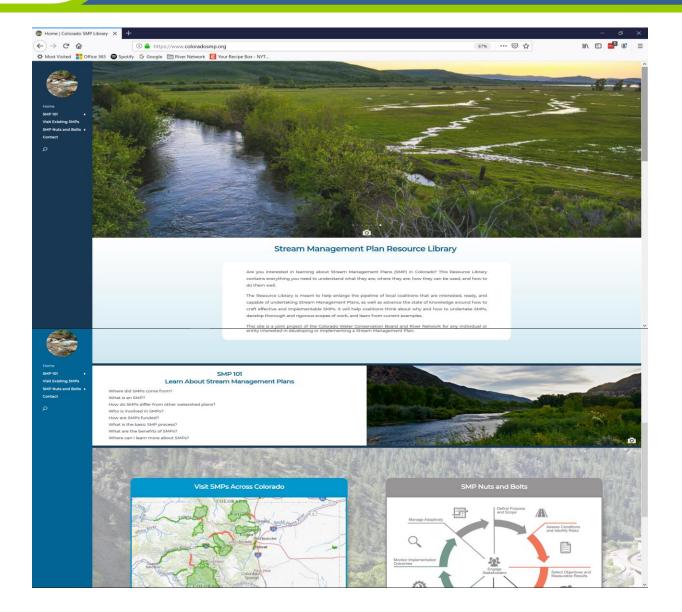
plans

Variables Channel Scale (tens to hundreds Project of feet) **Plans** Reach Scale (hundreds of yards) Stream Mgt Watershed Scale **Plans** (tens to hundreds of square miles)

- Habitat improvement
- Bank stability
- Recreation access/safety
- Diversion structures
- Point source WQ
- Flow/WQ relationships
- Aquatic/riparian habitat surveys
- Diversion infrastructure assessments
- Recreational use surveys
- Land/range management BMPs
- Fire protection/mitigation
- Non-point source WQ
- Hydrology/water use patterns
- Wetland/habitat mapping



Coloradosmp.org



Basic Info on SMPs

Map and profiles of all SMP projects

Nuts and bolts on approaches (coming soon)