

Dolores River Watershed Plan

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Bioassessment **U**nderwater, **G**raphs
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Stakeholder process

- An individual or institution having an interest (a “stake”) in how a resource is managed
- Entirely voluntary, non-regulatory

Funding source

- Funds from the Federal Clean Water Act
- Through the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment's Water Quality Control Division

Goal

- Protect or improve water quality on the Dolores River from McPhee Dam downstream to the Utah State Line



Objectives

- Identify Stakeholders
- Invite Stakeholders to participate
- Identify sources of non-point pollution
- Identify Best-Management Practices to mitigate the sources of non-point pollution
- Apply for funds to implement the BMPs
- Implement BMPs

Non-point Source Pollution

- Nonpoint source (NPS) pollution, unlike pollution from industrial and sewage treatment plants, comes from many diffuse sources. NPS pollution is caused by rainfall or snowmelt moving over and through the ground. As the runoff moves, it picks up and carries away natural and human-made pollutants, finally depositing them into lakes, rivers, wetlands, coastal waters, and even our underground sources of drinking water.

Examples of these pollutants include:

- Excess fertilizers, herbicides, and insecticides from agricultural lands and residential areas;
- Oil, grease, and toxic chemicals from urban runoff and energy production;
- Sediment from improperly managed construction sites, crop and forest lands, and eroding streambanks;
- Salt from irrigation practices and acid drainage from abandoned mines;
- Bacteria and nutrients from livestock, pet wastes, and faulty septic systems;
- Atmospheric deposition and hydromodification are also sources of nonpoint source pollution.

Best Management Practices (BMPs)

- are effective, practical, structural or nonstructural methods which prevent or reduce the movement of sediment, nutrients, pesticides and other pollutants from the land to surface or ground water

Procedure

- Research and compile existing information on current land use practices
- Identify potential sources of non-point pollution
- Review and compile literature and stakeholder information in regards to current water quality issues

Procedure

- Participate in on-going DRD process
- Participate in Lower Dolores River Management Plan process
- Contact individuals and organizations that may have a stake in the outcome of the watershed plan
- Invite them to the table
- Focus on downstream areas not covered in the Management Plan Process

Questions?

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