



**Board of County Commissioners**

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November 6, 2019

Colorado Water Conservation Board

ATTN: Chris Sturm

1313 Sherman St., Room 721

Denver, CO 80203

Dear Chris:

We are writing in support of the Eagle River Watershed Council's stakeholder engagement efforts related to the development of the Eagle River Community Water Plan. We believe the Community Water Plan will play a critical role in maintaining the health of our rivers and streams and the strength of our local economy by providing a framework for decision making and project implementation related to environmental and recreational water needs.

The ERWC began coordinating the development of the Community Water Plan in 2018. Eagle County has committed resources to this effort through funding, staff time, and use of facilities. In 2017, Eagle County submitted a letter in support of ERWC as they sought initial grant funding for this planning effort. Now the ERWC has identified the need for additional funding to conduct increased stakeholder engagement, and we once again wholeheartedly endorse this grant request

According to the Colorado Basin Roundtable's integrated water management planning framework, a stream management plan should involve stakeholders to ensure their acceptance of the plan, and it is necessary to implement a stakeholder-driven process to identify and prioritize environmental and recreational projects and methods. An inclusive stakeholder approach expedites cooperative and integrated project planning, which leads to successful implementation of measures that will meet the needs the stream management plan identifies.

Protection of the natural environment is a priority in our strategic plan and our mission is to create a better Eagle County for all by partnering with the community and engaging our residents. Eagle County looks forward to continued involvement in this effort and supports increased stakeholder engagement so that this plan will provide a meaningful framework for meeting the needs of our community.

If you have any questions in regards to our support, please do not hesitate to contact our Environmental Policy Planner, Maureen Mulcahy, at (907) 328-8816.

Sincerely,

Board of County Commissioners

Jeanne McQueeney  
Chair

Kathy Chandler-Henry  
Commissioner

Matt Scherr  
Commissioner