

Milestones in the Flow of Dolores River Dialogue DRD Workshop, March 14, 2007

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Brief Chronology:

1. DRD convened for the first time in January, 2004 and developed a list of underlying opportunities.
2. In February 2004 the DRD developed the list of underlying opportunities into four broad "Opportunity Groups:"
 - a. Increase Water Supply for Downstream Uses
 - b. Manage Water Supply
 - c. Improve Stream/Riparian Conditions
 - d. Act on Dolores River Dialogue Consensus
3. February – July, 2004: Series of "Two Cut" discussions of each of the above Opportunity Groups.
4. April, 2004: Technical Committee established to begin working on a "Plan to Proceed" with regard to information gathering and analysis.
5. October 2004-January 2005: Plan to Proceed reviewed and finalized by DRD calling for Technical Committee to oversee:
 - a. Hydrology Group Formation and Report
 - b. Core Science Team Formation and Report
 - c. Correlation Report (integrating hydrology and core science)
 - d. Matrix of Opportunities (assessing benefits, constraints, costs of current and alternative management scenarios)
6. November 2004: DRD begins review of Hydrology Group Report
7. January 2005-May 2005: Core Science Team Formed and Core Science Report issued in May 2005 under guidance of the Technical Committee.
 - a. Defines 8 reaches from McPhee Dam to confluence with the Colorado, addressed via the following disciplines:
 - i. Geomorphology
 - ii. Cold Water Fisher
 - iii. Warm Water Fishery
 - iv. Riparian Ecology
8. Spring 2005: A Spill at Last!
 - a. DRD Core Science input into spill management planning
 - b. BOR provides pre and post-spill videography
 - c. Pre and post spill photo points – Science Coordinator
 - d. Monitoring of spill responses at Big Gypsum Site
9. January 2006 (DRD Meeting 11): Full DRD Review of Core Hydrology Report, Core Science Report, Overview of 2005 Spill, Correlation Report Template, and presentation by San Juan Public Lands Center on Resource Management Plan Revisions, including Wild and Scenic River component.
10. April 2006 (DRD Meeting 12): DRD reviewed Big Gyp Field Science plan for 2006, forecast for the spill that didn't happen, fish survey opportunities, and correlation report progress.

11. June 2006: DRD subgroup reviewed and formulated comments on all Dolores District streams on the Draft Wild and Scenic River Eligibility list under consideration as part of the San Juan Forest/BLM Management Plan Revision.
12. November 2006: DRD submitted application for funding of a 319 Watershed Plan
13. Between July of 2005 and February of 2007 the Technical Committee met no fewer than 14 times to oversee the products that will be presented today including the Correlation Report, the Opportunity Matrix and the Field Science efforts.

Funding Sources:

San Juan Citizens Alliance: Funded DRD meeting facilitation/meals, development of 319 Watershed Protection Grant, and substantial staff time.

Dolores Water Conservancy District: Has provided majority of facility and administrative overhead costs and share cost of DRD meals, and substantial board and staff time.

Colorado Water Conservation Board: Contributed funds to Core Science report (2005), Big Gyp Field Ecology Work (2006), and substantial staff and board time.

The Nature Conservancy: Provided funding for Core Science Report (2005), and substantial staff time.

Bureau of Reclamation: Funded pre and post spill videography (2005) and aerial photography (2006) and substantial staff time.

Colorado Watershed Assembly (2005): Contributed funds for Core Science Work, Opportunity Matrix, and related coordination and communication (2005).

Colorado Division of Wildlife: Has provided fish surveys and substantial staff time.

Montezuma County and Montezuma Valley Irrigation Company- Substantial staff contribution to core science, GIS work.

Fort Lewis College, Office of Community Services and Biology Department, facilitation and participation in field science work

2006 Funding Commitments/Prospects:

CWCB has committed \$20,000 for Spring 2007 Field Ecology at Big Gyp, GIS and Policy Work

Prospects are good a \$25,000 319 grant to do develop a watershed plan for the lower Dolores River beginning in the Fall of 2007