State of the River Recreation Update

Lindsey Marlow-Friends of the Yampa **Josh Veenstra**-Good Vibes River Gear





<u>Integrated Water Management Plan:</u>

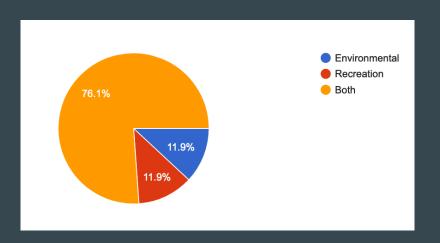
Environmental and Recreation outreach

Integrated Water Management Plan

- The Yampa White Green Basin Roundtable (YWG BRT) is leading the development of an Integrated Water Management Plan (IWMP) to identify actions to protect existing and future water uses and support healthy river ecosystems.
- We will combine this stakeholder input with science and engineering assessments that are happening now.
- The result, due in early 2022, will be a ranked list of issues that stakeholders want to tackle, as well as plans and funding options to implement priority actions that have benefits for multiple interests.

IWMP: Environmental and Recreational Outreach

- Environmental and Recreation
 Outreach to 22 Stakeholder groups
- 67 questionnaires completed to identify environmental and recreational needs and problem areas.
 - Data is still being analyzed but we do know...
 - Groups and people can represent more than one segment





2020 Recreation and COVID-19 Impacts



Little Yampa Canyon

Cancellation or changes to our recreation events and camp.

Reaching out to the recreational operators/businesses out of the Upper, Middle and Elk River Segments:

- Negative turned into record setting years
- Issues with running out of inventory
- Non-group commercial recreation increased
- Personal float trips increased
- Use of several sections of the river increased by large amounts.



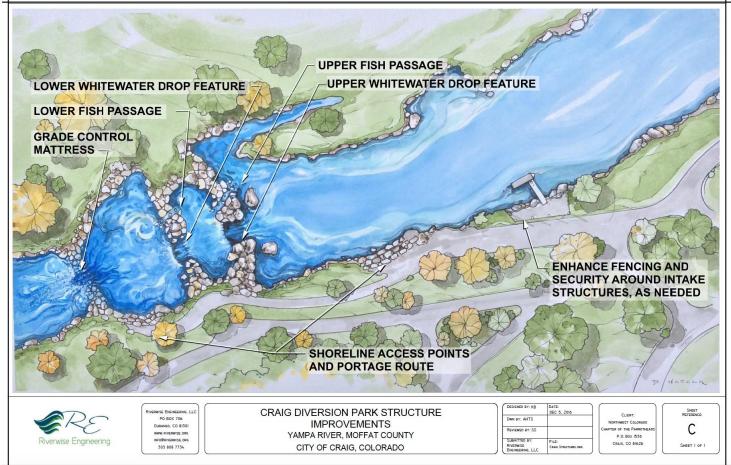
Friends of the Yampa and Future Recreation Plans

- **Usable access points**: including trailer parking, anticipating recreational growth on the river and planning how to mitigate impact. Ensure proper use of access points.
- Working on stakeholder relationships
- Connect the youth via river camps/floats and outreach in all socioeconomic status and all segments of the river
- FOTY is developing outreach videos to teach:
 - Tubing etiquette generalized for up and downriver
 - River Etiquette: How to be a respectful boater, respecting private land, be responsible, and respect other users.





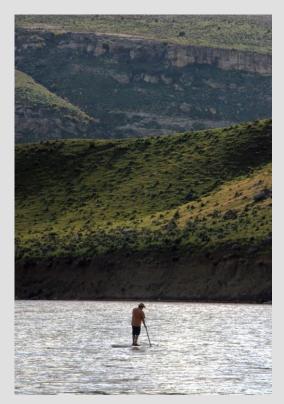
Craig-Yampa River Corridor Project



- Diversion Whitewater park
- Recreation path connecting Loudy to Diversion Park
- Day use amenities at put-ins and take-outs
- New boat ramp at Loudy Simpson
- Improvement of collapsing retaining wall

Little Yampa Canyon





Juniper Canyon





Cross Mountain Canyon



Planning for recreation in the future: recreation and the Yampa River are economic

drivers of the Valley. Importance of sustainable use by all stakeholders and working

together towards a plan.

Diversion Assessment



Diversions assessed



Segment							
Upper	Middle	Lower	Elk	All			
13	7	15	9	45			







