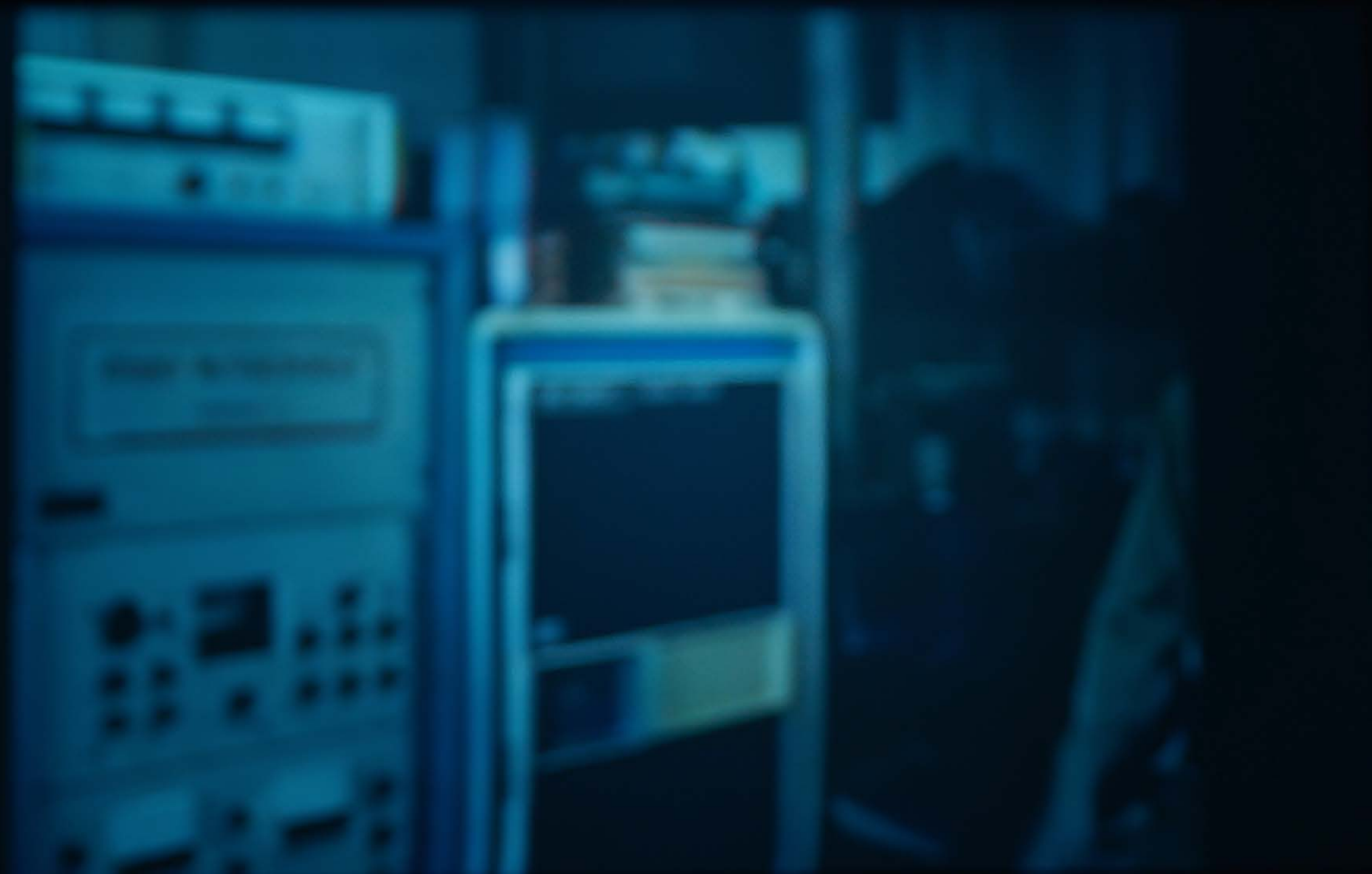




Local Water Operations & the Water Equity Task Force

Andrea Lopez
External Affairs Manager





Drought impacts on Ute Water

- Grand Mesa snowmelt is the primary watershed for Ute Water.
- Last year, the district utilized secondary water sources from the Colorado River to blend with Plateau Creek water.
- Blending was necessary to preserve stored water.



CWCB Water Equity Task Force

- The Water Equity Task Force was established to better understand existing equity, diversity, and inclusivity challenges that exist in Colorado water issues.
- The Water Equity Task Force's mission was to provide guiding principles for the Colorado Water Plan update.

Task Force Members

- 21 diverse Coloradans
- Two members from each basin
- Included one member from Southern Ute and Ute Mountain Ute tribes
- Also included one representative of the acequia community



Name	Affiliation	Seat
Mike Weber	Lower Arkansas Valley Water Conservancy District	ROUNDTABLE
Victoria Obregon	CSU Pueblo	COMMUNITY
Abby Burk	Audubon Rockies	ROUNDTABLE
Andrea Lopez	Ute Water	COMMUNITY
Sonja Chavez	Upper Gunnison Water Conservancy District	ROUNDTABLE
Dr. Alina Luna	Western Colorado University	COMMUNITY
Barb Biggs	Roxborough Water and Sanitation District	ROUNDTABLE
Ernest House	Keystone Policy Center	COMMUNITY
Barbara Vasquez	North Platte Roundtable	ROUNDTABLE
Dr. Lynette Telck	Jackson County Public Health	COMMUNITY
Mike Roque	Community Foundation of San Luis Valley	COMMUNITY
Rio de la Vista	Salazar Rio Grande del Norte Center at Adams State University	ROUNDTABLE
Fatuma Emmad	Front Line Farming	COMMUNITY
Deb Daniel	Republican River Water Conservancy District	ROUNDTABLE
Manuel Heart	Ute Mountain Ute - Chairman	TRIBE
Mel Baker	Southern Ute - Chairman	TRIBE
Lee Bitsóí	Fort Lewis College	COMMUNITY
Mely Whiting	Trout Unlimited	ROUNDTABLE
Jerry Hernandez	Integrated Community	COMMUNITY
Kelly Romero-Heaney	City of Steamboat Springs	ROUNDTABLE





1

Guiding Principle

Promote diversity in career pathways in water-related fields through education and outreach



2

Guiding Principle

Promote collaboration, new voices, and greater community engagement in water discussions



3

Guiding Principle

Recognize and address elements of the rural-urban divide but focus on creating the rural-urban opportunity



4

Guiding Principle

Expand grant opportunities to new audiences



5

Guiding Principle

Support basin roundtables facilitating broad community engagement and collaborative solutions

Colorado Water Plan

Website: engagecwcb.org

