

**Town of Mt. Crested Butte
Draft Water Analysis Matrix
May 2022**

<i>Goal</i>		<i>Policy</i>		<i>Recommendation</i>		<i>Potential Partner(s)</i>
G.1	Protect existing water uses in the Gunnison Basin	P.1.1	Continue to maintain water supply for environmental and recreational uses.	R.1.1.1	Develop water conservation methods.	District ¹ , DOLA ² , CWCB ³
G.2	Identify and address municipal and industrial water shortages	P.2.1	Reliably meet 100 percent of essential municipal and commercial water provider system demands through the year 2050 and beyond.	R.2.1.1	Support the District in development of projection estimates, such as providing demographic or building permit data.	District
		P.2.2	Support projects to update water conservation, landscaping, and building codes to require increased water conservation and efficiency for municipal development.	R.2.2.1	Develop land use and building code water conservation language. The direction for any code amendments should consider other priority projects identified by the Council in the upcoming calendar year.	District, DOLA, Town UGRWCD]
		P.2.3	Support flexible water use mechanisms to help meet growing municipal and industrial (M&I) demand while protecting other uses	R.2.3.1	Work with the District on implementation of these mechanisms, such as promotion through social media.	District
G.3	Quantify and protect environmental and recreational uses	P.3.1	Continue to meet identified environmental and recreational needs basin-wide by developing 10 projects from the list of projects in the Gunnison Basin Improvement Projects (BIP) by the year 2030.	R.3.1.1	Support applicants within the Gunnison Basin in pu	Dependent on program availability and interest of applicants within the Gunnison Valley

¹ Mt. Crested Butte Water and Sanitation District

² Colorado Dept. of Local Affairs

³ Colorado Water Conservation Board

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				R.3.1.2	Support the District in development and implementation of the Meridian Lake Reservoir and Washington Gulch Storage Project. BIP Goal #28	District
				R.3.1.3	Collaborate with other regional stakeholders	UGRWCD ⁴
		P.3.2	Improve the current baseline of native trout and endangered fish populations in the Gunnison Basin through the year 2050.	R.3.2.1	Work with regional partners to implement voluntary fishing restrictions during times of extreme drought/low water levels, and increased river temperatures.	Town Staff, District, and many other local and regional partners
				R.3.2.2	Reduce residential pesticide and herbicide runoff by encouraging and or adopting xeriscape landscape requirements, which generally do not require extensive watering or treatment to thrive in their native environments.	Town Staff, Town Council, Planning Commission

⁴ Upper Gunnison River Water Conservation District

<i>Goal</i>		<i>Policy</i>		<i>Recommendation</i>		<i>Potential Partner(s)</i>
				R.3.2.3	<i>Develop methods and best practices to reduce sediment discharge into wetlands, ephemeral and perennial streams, and Woods Creek. Increased sediment loads impact trout habitat by increasing turbidity and water temperature in addition to decreasing macroinvertebrate habitat.</i>	Town Staff, Town Council, Planning Commission
				R.3.2.4	<i>Decrease the populations of non-native and invasive plant species; such as encouraging/adopting landscaping standards that eliminate the use of non-native species. Develop incentives for private land owners to remove noxious weeds from their property. Support educational effort to reduce the spread of noxious weeds.</i>	Town Staff, Town Council, Planning Commission
G.4	<i>Maintain or, where necessary, improve water quality throughout the Gunnison Basin</i>	P.4.1	<i>Compliance with all applicable state and federal water quality standards.</i>	R.4.1.1	<i>The Town will continue to comply with these standards.</i>	Town Staff
		P.4.2	<i>As determined by ongoing water quality data collection, maintain outstanding water quality in headwaters streams.</i>	R.4.2.1	<i>Many of the small drainages and ephemeral streams throughout town are tributaries to either Washington Gulch or the East River. Maintaining the water quality of these minor yet important tributaries will be achieved by the implementation of Recommendations in this document.</i>	Town Staff, Town Council, Planning Commission
G.5	<i>Restore, maintain, and modernize critical water infrastructure.</i>	P.5.1	<i>Implement at least one project every year in the Gunnison Basin that focuses on the restoration, maintenance, and modernization of existing water infrastructure.</i>	R.5.1.1	<i>Support the District in water infrastructure improvement projects.</i>	District

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G.6	Create and maintain active, relevant, and comprehensive public education, outreach, and stewardship processes involving water resources in the six sectors of the Gunnison Basin	P.6.1	By 2030, representatives from the Gunnison Basin Roundtable will work with local water organizations to provide educational materials and serve as a resource for county commissioner boards, city councils, and related planning staff regarding local water supply and land development issues.	R.6.1.1	Work with Roundtable representatives to distribute materials to applicable representatives and staff.	District, Gunnison Basin Roundtable
		P.6.2	The preparation and distribution of a booklet titled: <i>The Gunnison Basin, A Handbook for Inhabitants</i> [9]. This widely distributed handbook includes a compendium of basic information about water use, water law, and water organizations in the basin.	R.6.2.1	Refer to the Handbook when developing voluntary and mandatory water conservation measures and educational materials.	District
		P.6.3	Promoting relevant water news and events in the Gunnison Basin	R.6.3.1	Leverage existing social media and other communication tools to promote events and news as applicable.	Town Staff
		P.6.4	Publicizing river festivals and river events, such as in those held in Gunnison, Ridgway, and Hotchkiss	R.6.4.1	Leverage existing social media and other communication tools to promote events and news as applicable.	Town Staff
		P.6.5	Participating in state and regional activities that are consistent with guidance in the Statewide Water Education Action Plan	R.6.5.1	Participate as requested.	Town Staff, elected and/or appointed officials
		P.6.6	Highlighting and explaining important news, hydrological conditions, and reservoir operations for major reservoir systems, including by not limited to, the Aspinall Unit, Taylor Park, Ridgway, Paonia, and Crawford.	R.6.6.1	Leverage existing social media and other communication tools to promote events and news as applicable, particularly regarding drought, wildfire hazard, and watering restrictions.	Town Staff, District

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G.7	Develop Implementable Water Conservation Measures	P.7.1	Minimizing or eliminating landscape irrigation.	R.7.1.1	Reduce residential pesticide and herbicide runoff by encouraging and or adopting xeriscape landscape requirements, which generally do not require extensive watering or treatment to thrive in their native environments.	Town Staff, District
		P.7.2	Monitoring water meters and tracking use	R.7.2.1	Work with District to implement this policy.	District
		P.7.3	Implement water conservation strategies to reduce the demand for water to meet indoor and outdoor municipal needs. Implement drought restrictions that limit lawn watering based on available supplies.	R.7.3.1	Develop water conservation methods and encourage residents, visitors, and business to reduce water consumption. The District maintains watering restrictions throughout the growing season.	Town Staff, District
		P.7.4	Requirements or incentives for water fixture retrofits and conservation in new development.	R.7.4.1	Develop or adopt building code conservation methods. The LEED program could be used as a model.	Town Staff
		P.7.5	Development and adoption of a water efficient landscape code	R.7.5.1	Reduce residential pesticide and herbicide runoff by encouraging and or adopting xeriscape landscape requirements, which generally do not require extensive watering or treatment to thrive in their native environments.	Town Staff
		P.7.6	Incentivize density to decrease the need for watering of open space/yards.	R.7.6.1	Consider increasing density throughout town zone districts to both conserve water and create housing opportunities.	Town Staff, Town Council
		P.7.7	Participate in the Growing Water Smart water Plan.	R.7.7.1	Reference this document when revising sections of the land use code to incorporate water conservation methods.	Town Staff

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		P.7.8	<i>Integrate and implement recommendations from the Colorado Water Conservation Board "Best Practices for Implementing Water Conservation and Demand Management Through Land Use Planning Efforts" when amending the land use code to align with the Master Plan.</i>	R.7.8.1	<i>Reference this document when revising sections of the land use code to incorporate water conservation methods.</i>	Town Staff
		P.7.9	<i>Develop a culture of conservation within the development community</i>	R.7.9.1	<i>Work with others to develop a water conservation campaign.</i>	Town Staff, District, and many other local and regional partners
		P.7.10	<i>Plan for water demands that will continue to grow beyond the current 2050 planning horizon</i>	R.7.10.1	<i>Support the District when they are assessing their service area demand needs.</i>	District
		P.7.11	<i>Promote regional cooperation for water resource use within the Basin</i>	R.7.11.1	<i>Collaborate with other local and regional governments and NGOs on water resource conservation efforts where applicable.</i>	Town Staff, District, and many other local and regional partners
		P.7.12	<i>Adopt local and regional comprehensive plans which respect and recognize locally available limited water supplies</i>	R.7.12.1	<i>The adoption of the Master Plan that outlines an implementation plan is the first step in this effort. While the Town does not manage domestic water services, the Town will implement methods to conserve water usage within town boundaries.</i>	Town Staff, District, and many other local and regional partners