

# The Future Is Now

Why This Retreat? Why Now?



# Retreat Goals

Reflect	Reflect on the history and successes of the committee.
Review	Review QQ policies, strategies, and program delivery for relevancy and desired impact.
Prioritize	Prioritize program outcomes and any program improvements.
Confirm	Confirm the 2018 Work Plan.
Strategize	Strategize future QQ work.



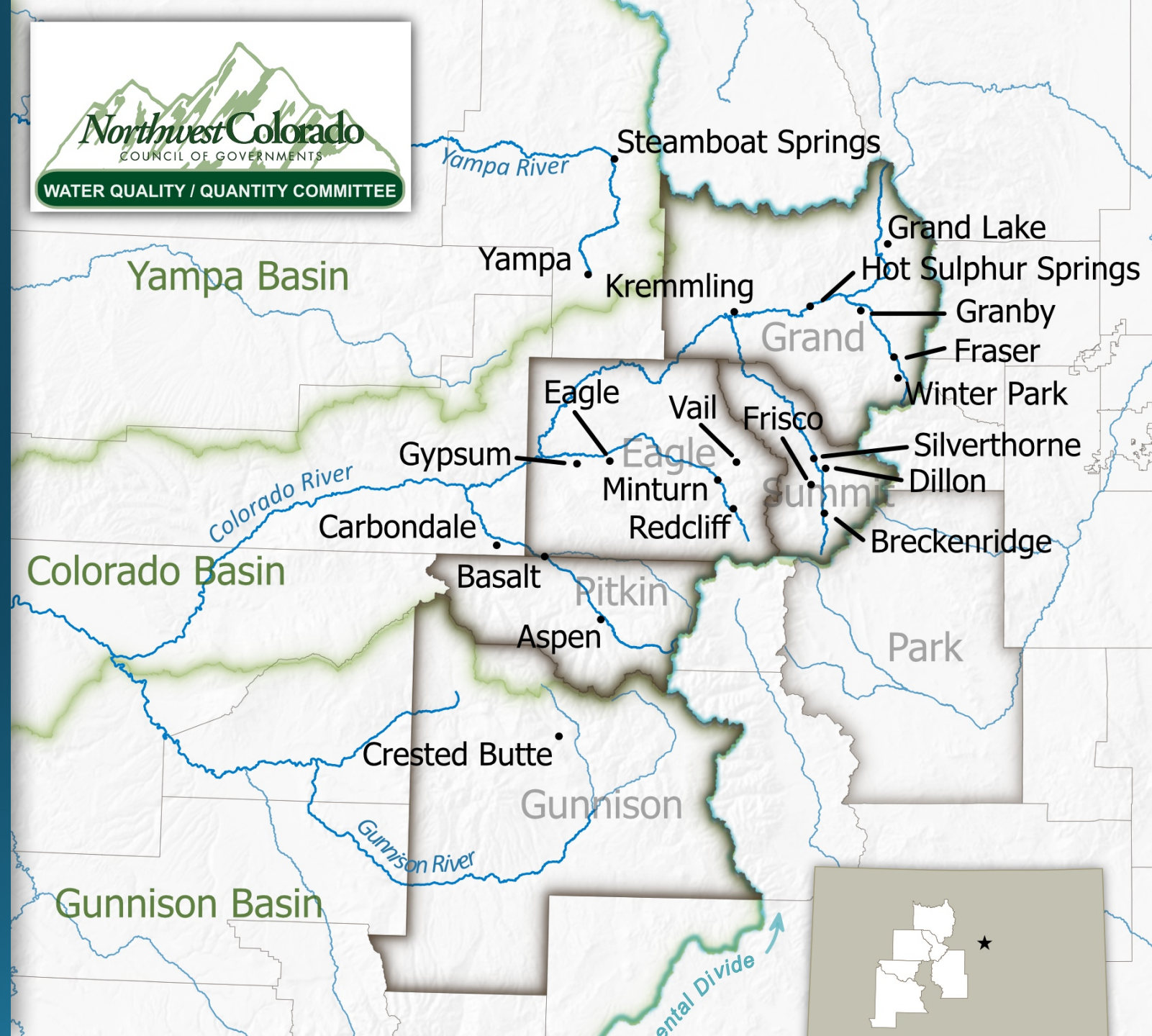
# Mission

To facilitate and augment the efforts of member jurisdictions to protect and enhance the region's water quality while encouraging its responsible use for the good of Colorado citizens and the environment.





# Our headwaters region





# DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS

Water-dependent economies (recreation-tourism, agriculture, and resource extraction)



*Photo by Mason Summing, the Wilderness Society*





# DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS



Water quality and quantity impacted by transmountain diversions





# DEFINING CHARACTERISTICS

Local governments active in water quality and quantity protection



Swan Creek restoration, top photo in 2015, pre-restoration of mine tailings, and bottom photo during restoration in 2017. Courtesy of Summit County, CO, available at <http://www.co.summit.co.us/Blog.aspx?CID=5>.



# QQ POLICIES

1. PROTECT AND IMPLEMENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY TO PROTECT WATER RESOURCES
2. BUILD COALITIONS & EDUCATION
3. TRANSMOUNTAIN DIVERSION  
OVERSIGHT
4. WATER QUALITY
5. STATEWIDE WATER POLICY

*(subpolicies listed in board packet)*

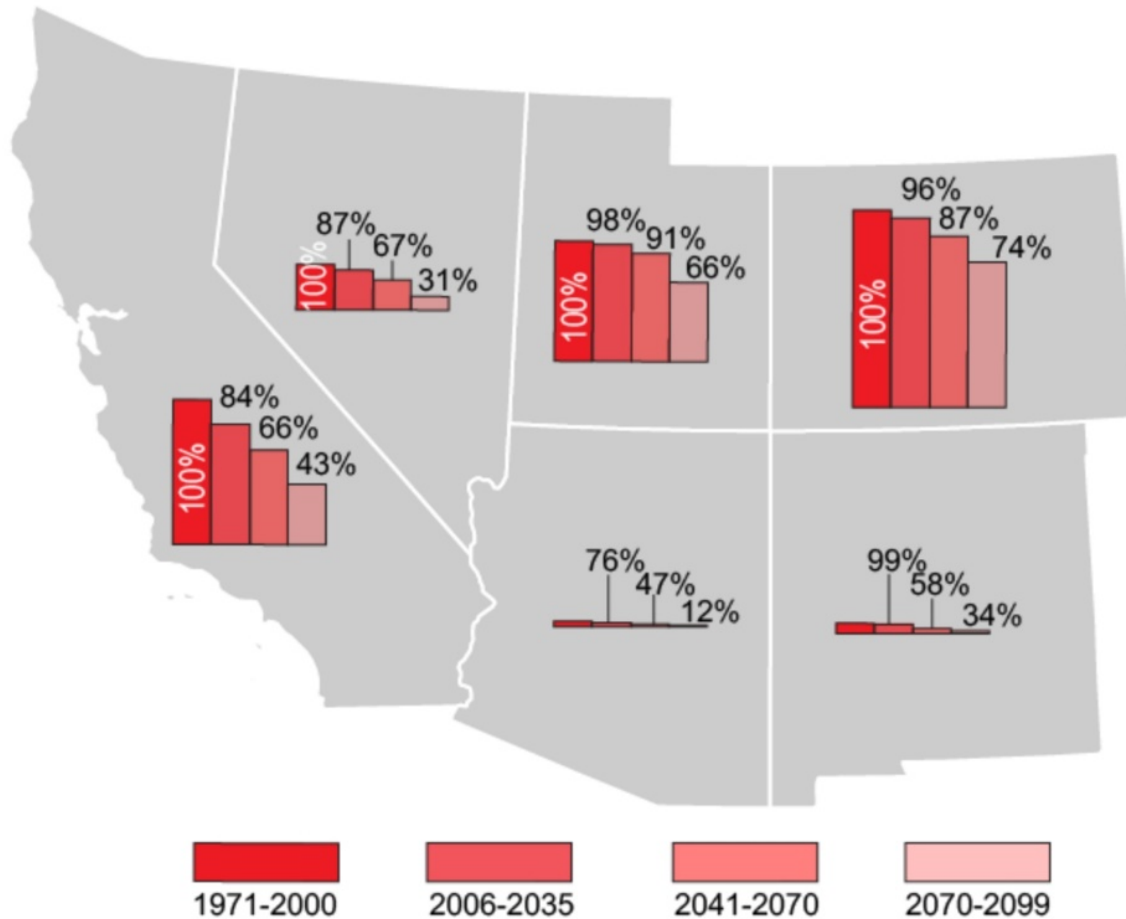




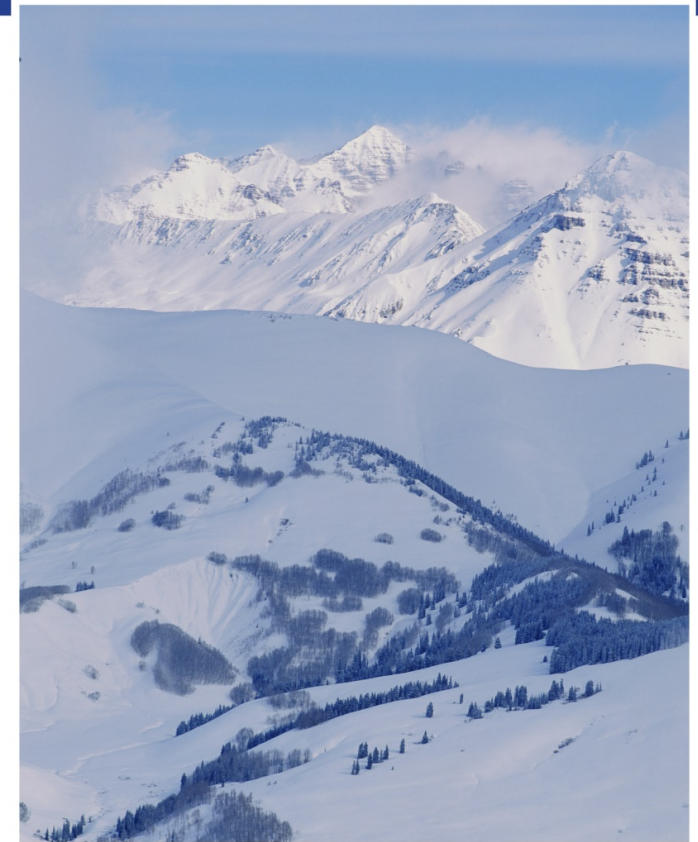
# AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE

## Projected Snowpacks

Projections with medium-high future emissions, comparisons to 1971–2000



## CLIMATE CHANGE IN THE HEADWATERS WATER AND SNOW IMPACTS



A report to the Northwest Colorado Council of Governments

the  
ROCKY  
MOUNTAIN  
CLIMATE  
Organization

Stephen Saunders  
Tom Easley  
2018

# AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE

<u>QQ REGIONAL GROWTH</u>	2010	Forecast: 2050	Percent increase
Region 12 (NWCCOG)	113,496	198,180	42%
Gunnison County	15,314	22,728	33%
Park County	16,277	23,797	32%
Garfield County (Carbondale only QQ member)	56,153	105,711	46%
Routt County (Steamboat Springs only QQ member)	23,451	45,998	49%

Statistics from Colorado State Demography Office, available at <https://demography.dola.colorado.gov/population/>





# Celebrating Our Successes

Reviewing QQ's history and accomplishments





# Share Your Story!

Groups of 3-4

**Storyteller share your favorite QQ memory.**

- An accomplishment and how it happened
- Changes in the socio-political environment over time
- Funny people stories
- Impact QQ has had on your own community/work

Each group will share highlights in plenary



# Managing Transitions

A landscape photograph showing a river winding through a dry, grassy field. The river is bordered by a line of rocks on one side. In the background, there are rolling hills and mountains under a blue sky with large, white and grey clouds. The text "Managing Transitions" is overlaid in a large, green, sans-serif font.



# QQ CONTRACT STAFF

## CURRENT

- Sullivan, Green, Seavy LLC (SGS, Barbara's law firm)
- Lane Wyatt (to end of 2018)
- Torie Jarvis
- Contract amount: \$160,196

## TRANSITION PLAN

- Torie lead project manager
- 2018 use team of consultants to begin to fill work from Lane
  - Ashley Bembenek of Alpine Environmental
  - Lotic Hydrological
- In 2019 may propose adding Ashley to the contract.
- Legal consultant contract with firm, not Barb. Firm lawyers willing to take on role.



# QQ BOARD STRUCTURE

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Board = All QQ members.

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Consensus based decisions.

For meetings, anyone present has a voice.

For absent members, can voice concern at any time.

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**Chair and Vice-Chair** provide day-to-day guidance to contract team



# QQ LEADERSHIP SELECTION

## Chair

Rachel Richards, for past three years. Term-limited at the end of 2018.

## Vice-Chair

Tom Clark, Kremmling Mayor, no longer in office.

Bylaws do not specify a process:

***OFFICERS.** The membership shall elect a Chair and Vice Chair to oversee meetings and serve as day to day contact for consultants as necessary.*



# QQ LEADERSHIP SELECTION

Ideas from the interviews and surveys:

- Chair/Vice-Chair position descriptions and/or desired traits
- Board member nomination process
- Leadership succession process
- Board confirmation
- Formalize



A wide-angle photograph of a snowy landscape. In the foreground, a path of footprints and tire tracks leads from the bottom center towards the middle ground. The path is covered in a thick layer of white snow. To the right of the path, there are several dark, snow-covered bushes and small trees. In the background, rolling hills or mountains are visible, also covered in snow. The sky is overcast with grey clouds. The overall tone is cold and wintry.

# Confirming our Work:

Are we headed in the right direction?



# OUR CURRENT WORK

## QQ CORE POLICIES

(subpolicies and 2018 Scope of Work listed in board packet)

- 1. PROTECT AND IMPLEMENT LOCAL GOVERNMENT AUTHORITY TO PROTECT WATER RESOURCES**
- 2. BUILDING COALITIONS AND EDUCATION**
- 3. TRANSMOUNTAIN DIVERSION OVERSIGHT**
- 4. WATER QUALITY**
- 5. STATEWIDE WATER POLICY**

- **Plus:**

- Member services
- Administration



**2018-2019 Projects:**  
Ongoing work and  
committee  
representation

- Legislative and state policy monitoring
- Grand Lake Adaptive Mgmt & NEPA
- Learning By Doing
- Upper CO Wild & Scenic Stakeholders
- CO Water Congress
- Land Use/ Water Planning Alliance
- CO Basin Roundtable (TBD future participation by contract staff post-Lane)
- Advisory board for Sonoran Inst. Growing Water Smart trainings
- QQ quarterly meeting planning
- Implement 208 Plan on behalf of NWCCOG



## **2018-2019 Projects:** Water Plan Implementation

- Criteria and state endorsement
- Linking Land Use/ Water Planning
  - Water Plan grant for 2018-2019
- Supporting local Stream Management Plans
- Funding implementation



## 2018-2019 Projects: Water quality

- Upcoming rulemakings
  - 401 certification
  - 2019 Colorado Basin Rulemaking
- Model WQPS ( to be finalized May 2018)
- Climax studies and potential proposal on molybdenum
- Evaluating watershed group proposal for Grand Lake as Outstanding Water



## 2018-2019 Projects: Member support

- Member assessment and technical assistance for linking water & land use planning
- New process for introducing new elected officials
- QQ website and history development
- Member visits, summer 2018
- New member meeting summaries
- Member e-updates (early summer 2018, first one)



## 2018-2019 Projects

### Protecting local authority:

- Oil & Gas: *Martinez v. COGCC* amicus (May 2018)
- Water Plan criteria discussions

### Legislative monitoring & Lobbying

- 2018 priorities:
  - \* funding for ANS program (✓)
  - \* Water Plan criteria
  - \* Implementation and severance replacement funding
- Future priorities could be:
  - \* Linking land use/ water planning
  - \* Water Plan criteria
  - \* Broader water funding
  - \* Protecting or expanding ISF and RICD
  - \* Climate change or drought response



# WHAT DOES SUCCESS FOR QQ LOOK LIKE IN 5 YEARS?

- Local control and protection strengthened
- QQ reputation and representation stronger
- Proactive not just reactive
- Organizational structure sustainable and strong
- Successful water planning
- CO water ethic statewide