ECAO Status Update

• Interior Reorganization
• 2019 ECAO Budget
• Aquatic Nuisance Species
• Grand Lake Clarity
• Marys Lake Runner Replacement

Photo Credit: Jerry Leggate
Secretary Ryan Zinke’s Vision

- Modernize for next 100 years
- Shift resources to the field
- Improve coordination across bureaus
- Empower the field
Unified Regional Boundaries became effective August 22, 2018.

- Goal to have Unified Regions “stood up” by July 1, 2019
- Shared services may be centralized
- ECAO management reporting structure may align with new boundaries
FY 2019 Area Office Budget
$29.47 Million

- Fryingpan-Arkansas: 42.7%
- Colorado-Big Thompson: 47.3%
- Leadville Mine Drainage Tunnel: 8.8%
- Other: 1.3%
FY 2019 Colorado-Big Thompson Budget
$13.93 Million

- Fish, Wildlife, & Land Mgt: $155,000
- Facility Maint & Rehab: $311,000
- Water & Energy Development: $43,000
- Facility Operations: $13,416,000

+ Additional $250,000 Grand Lake Clarity
Aquatic Nuisance Species

- Nonindigenous and reproduces rapidly
- Transported on trailered watercraft, in live wells, bilge water, ballast tanks, and bait buckets
- Threaten ecological stability, water infrastructure, power generation, and water supply
- No proven eradication methods for open-water
Aquatic Nuisance Species
Fiscal Year 2018

- Boat ramps were closed and locked unless there was an inspector present
- ECAO spent $550,000 on the Colorado ANS Program
- All Colorado Big-Thompson Projects tested negative for mussels in 2018 (including Green Mountain)
Aquatic Nuisance Species
Fiscal Year 2019

• ECAO is competing for an additional $820,000 from Reclamation

• Completing after-hour ingress/egress traffic controls at Carter and Horsetooth to allow late night boating

• Continue locked ramps when no inspector is present

• Collaboration with Northern and Larimer County has been excellent on this issue
Grand Lake Clarity: Adaptive Management

- Models suggested 2018 challenges
  - Planning collaborative went well
  - Stakeholder feedback was valuable
- 220/440 cfs July to September 11
- Surprising yet robust success!
  - Exceeded goal qualifiers
- As-of-yet “inconclusive causation”
Grand Lake Clarity: NEPA Process

• Alternatives are under development

• Hydrology and water quality models were peer reviewed - final report will be published this year

• NEPA Process will identify issues and concerns

• Public scoping is scheduled for Summer 2019
Marys Lake Turbine Runner Replacement

• Commissioned in 1951 and cracked in 8 locations

• Power Customers recently indicated funding support

• Need to continue collaborating on our toughest issues and maintain support across a wide spectrum stakeholders to accomplish our mission