WINDY GAP FIRMING PROJECT – CHIMNEY HOLLOW RESERVOIR

Fall Water Users Meeting
November 14, 2018

Northern Water
Windy Gap Firming Project

- Provides dedicated storage to improve reliability of the existing Windy Gap Project for 12 participants.
- Additional storage of up to 90,000 acre-feet was anticipated in original plans and EIS – terminal storage for individual participants.
Chimney Hollow

- 90,000-AF capacity
- 740 surface acres
- Use established Colorado River rights
- Tie into C-BT
- ~30,000 AF firm yield
Environmental Impacts and Mitigation/Enhancement

- Reduced streamflows
  - Aquatic habitat loss – stream restoration/channel improvements
  - Stream temperatures – curtail diversions, channel improvements, riparian plantings, environmental water
  - Flushing flows – offstream reservoirs, curtail diversions at times

- 15-year Environmental Permitting Process!
- Final Permits obtained in 2017
Moffat and Windy Gap Firming Mitigation and Enhancements

Grand County Estimated Value = $99M from Subdistrict
Existing Windy Gap Reservoir
Windy Gap Connectivity Channel
- Estimated Cost = $15M, Funding = $11M
Upper Colorado River Habitat Project

- Enhancement Plan approved by Colorado Wildlife Commission
- Funding
  - $4 million – WGFP
  - $3 million – Denver
- Channel restoration and habitat enhancement - 14.4 miles
- CPW will manage project
Nutrient Mitigation Plan - 2019

- Offset nutrient impacts on 3-Lakes from WGFP
- WWTP improvements on Fraser River
- Non-point source reductions
  - Willow Creek ranches
- Multiple other reductions evaluated
Fraser Valley WWTP Improvements

- Metals Removal for Fraser Permit
- Phosphorous Removal for Subdistrict
- Future Nitrogen Removal for Subdistrict

➢ $3-4 Million Subdistrict Cost
Learning by Doing – Perpetual Collaboration
Larimer County Partnership

- 3,400 acres owned by Hewlett-Packard as future employee recreation site
- Purchased in partnership between Larimer County (1800 ac as open space) and NCWCD (1600 ac as future reservoir site) in 2004.
- Future County Open Space Area
WGFP Project Costs - $574M

- Many uncertainties in Costs – underground work
- Spent to Date: $40+M
Federal Lawsuit

- Filed against Reclamation and Corps
- Review of Administrative Record
- Administrative Record Review in Progress
- Could Delay Start of Construction
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