

# Meeting Summary

## Advisory Committee Meeting #4

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**Date, Time:** Tuesday, November 7, 2017, 10:00 AM-12:00 PM

**Location:** Crawford Room, Centennial Hall, 124 10<sup>th</sup> Street, Steamboat Springs, CO 80487

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### Meeting Purpose

Discuss overall framework for the plan and the potential action types. Review key issues identified from the river health assessment and identify management objectives and targets.

### Action Items

- Consultant team will schedule meeting with CPW/TU to get recommendations on appropriate objectives/targets for fish.
- Consultant team will work with City staff and subject matter experts to refine management objectives based on the Committee's feedback and draft targets for future conditions.
- Kelly will email draft objectives and targets to group for review.

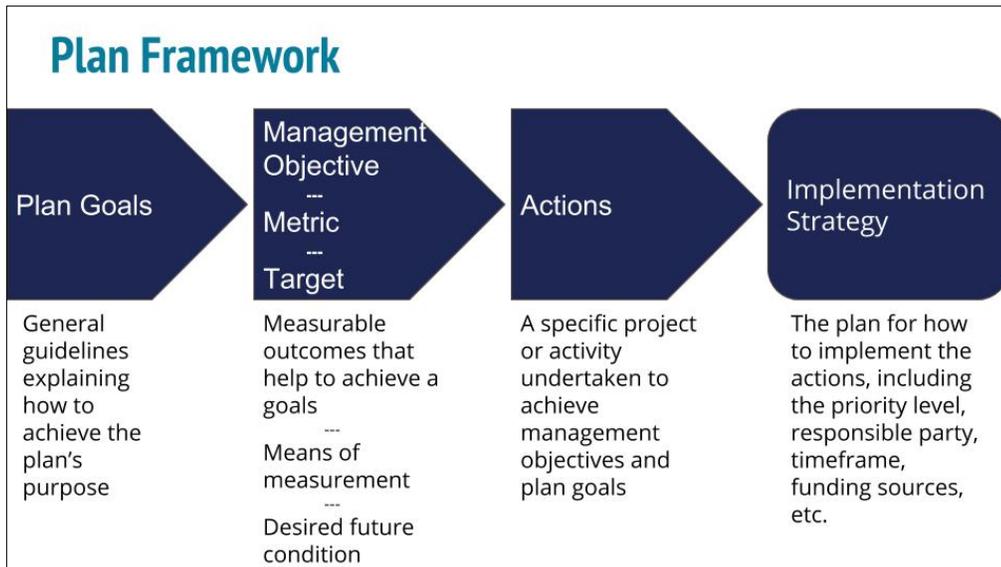
### Attendees

Kelly Romero Heaney, City of Steamboat Springs Engineering Department  
Ben Beall, City of Steamboat Springs Engineering Department  
Scott Cowman, Routt County Environmental Health  
Kevin McBride, Upper Yampa Water Conservancy District  
Dan Chovan, Yampa Valley Fly Fishers/TU  
Brian Hodge, Trout Unlimited (TU)  
Kent Vertrees, Friends of the Yampa  
Marsha Daugherbaugh, Community Agriculture Alliance  
Todd Hagenbuch, Colorado State University Extension  
Zach Smith, Colorado Water Trust  
Nicole Seltzer, River Network  
David Graf, Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)  
Julie Baxter, Acclivity  
Seth Mason, Lotic Hydrological  
Mark Beardsley, EcoMetrics

### Agenda Items

#### Plan Framework and Potential Action Types

- Presented definitions and examples for goals, objectives, metrics, targets, and the implementation strategy in this plan's context.



**Comments:**

- Make sure to align with goals in other efforts such as from the Yampa/White/Green Basin Implementation Plan and the 2003 Yampa River Management Plan.

**Key Findings from Health Assessment**

- The Yampa River Health Assessment was distributed to the Committee a day prior to the meeting.
- Reviewed key findings statements to summarize the most important points from the assessment for community planning purposes.

**Comments:**

- CPW has management goals and objectives for the Yampa River, as well as a Programmatic Biological Opinion (PBO) for endangered fishes that can inform fish assessment and targets.
- Data gap exists concerning macroinvertebrates health and temperature issues
- Rework wording on #9 on channelization/armoring near downtown.

**Feedback from Recent Outreach Events**

- Presented feedback from meetings with the Local Government & Land Use Focus Group and the Recreation Focus Group (Friend of Yampa event) in October.
- Discussed feedback from Community Workshop #1 on November 6.

**Development of Management Objectives and Targets**

- Reviewed the following **draft** management objectives:
  1. Maintain the natural flow regime to protect many aspects of river health
  2. Protect undeveloped areas and natural conditions in the upper watershed
  3. Preserve and enhance areas of natural riparian vegetation and wetland areas
  4. Improve compliance with State water temperature standards to protect aquatic life.
  5. Promote a self-reproducing sport fishery
  6. Protect native fish populations from further decline and promote range expansion where possible
  7. Improve floodplain connectivity

### Comments:

- #1 - Is a “natural” flow regime a desirable objective? Flow regime is a foundational element of overall river health. Consider reworking wording on the objective. Example target is no more than 10% deviation from “natural” regime.
- #2 - Helping to protect undeveloped areas in the upper watershed is an important objective for agricultural stakeholders. This is consistent with the current policy in the watershed master plan. Helps to limit and gas and logging development and support conservation easements.
- #3 - Consider percentage of noxious weeds as a metric for enhancing natural riparian and wetland areas
- #4 – Delete – already objectives for fish health
- #6 - Consider tributary connectivity as a metric related to protecting whitefish
- # 7 - Change last one to “Maintain and improve floodplain connectivity above and below town.”
- Should there be an objective related to improving the sediment regime through town?

### Next Steps

- Presentation to Basin Roundtable on November 8.
- Look for email about objectives and targets for review.
- Next Advisory Committee meeting will be scheduled for March.