

2. Recreational impacts

Granby has been and increasingly will be a mecca for outdoor recreational activities. Within Town boundaries, residents and visitors can hike, camp, canoe, kayak, golf, raft, fish, and ski. Recreation accounts for an increasing portion of the life blood of the Town, as well as the rest of Grand County. All of these activities are dependent in large part on the maintenance of adequate stream flows in the Colorado River and its tributaries as they course through the Town. The DEIS is seriously flawed in that it considers only the impacts on kayaking and commercial rafting, but fails to consider any of these other recreational activities, as well as the general need for water for aesthetics in connection with all of these activities. The Town has undertaken the expenditure of hundreds of thousands of dollars during the past few years in an effort to ensure adequate stream flows and the maintenance of water quality in the Colorado River and its tributaries. Those efforts include, but are by no means limited to the Town's participation in the acquisition of the Clinton Reservoir. This was a multi-public entity effort involving Grand and Summit Counties, as well as several municipalities within those counties, including the Town of Granby. The purpose is, in large part, to maintain adequate stream flow in the upper portions of the Fraser River a short distance before its confluence with the Colorado River. More recently, the Town has participated financially with Grand County and other municipal entities and water districts within Grand County to acquire an interest in the Vail Ditch, again for the primary purpose of maintaining and improving stream flow in the Colorado and Fraser Rivers. If the Colorado and/or Fraser River stream flow levels are again reduced due to the WGFP, the efforts of all of these public entities and their citizens will have been for naught. These efforts also emphasize the need for further analysis of the inter-relationship between the WGFP and the operation of Denver's Moffat Tunnel diversions, as noted by the County.

3. Impacts on water diversion and growth within the Town

Over the past decade the Town of Granby has evolved from a town approximately 1,000 acres in size, to its present limits which encompass more than 7,000 acres. Much of the newly annexed area has been platted and many new homes built. To ensure the proper planning for such growth, along the way Granby has required the provision of adequate water rights to the Town to service the needs of its citizens and visitors at full build out. Such growth and increased use of future water rights is permitted and even contemplated under the great and growing cities doctrine. However, the Town does not believe that adequate consideration was given to this doctrine or the demands on the Colorado and Fraser Rivers at the Town's full build out level in the modeling performed as part of the DEIS. This deficiency needs to be fully addressed before further consideration is given to the WGFP.

We genuinely appreciate the opportunity the Town of Granby has been given to review and comment on the draft EIS. The Town is concerned about the potential impacts this project could have on the Town of Granby and its future as well as on the surrounding area and the continued economic viability and sustainability of the entire County. Your

consideration of our comments and concerns will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your efforts and time in this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Don W. Baird".

Don W. Baird

Town Manger

On behalf of Jynnifer Pierro, Mayor

Cc: Grand County Board of Commissioners
Town of Fraser
Town of Grand Lake
Town of Hot Sulphur Springs
Town of Kremmling
Town of Winter Park
Granby Sanitation District
Silver Creek Water and Sanitation District