



I Support White Water Recreation

1 message

Sage Wheeler

Thu, Mar 14, 2013 at 9:30 AM

To: ColoradoRiverBasinStudy@usbr.gov

Hello Ms. Adams

As a whitewater boater, I am concerned with projected water supply and demand imbalances in the Colorado Basin and ask that flows to support boating are protected. I want you to know that I support the quantification of recreational flow needs and the inclusion whitewater boating as a resource category in the Colorado River Basin Supply and Demand Study. Whitewater boating is not only an invaluable resource to its many participants, but is also a critical economic asset to many communities throughout the Basin. I know this from personal experience as I worked as a river guide in the late 90's and it helped may for school and feed my family.

The instream flows required for whitewater boating frequently coincide with natural flow regimes and support the health of aquatic resources, biodiversity and sediment distribution. The 'acceptable' and 'optimal' river flows that AW provided to BOR for the whitewater boating sections listed in Table D2-1 of Appendix D2 accurately correspond with the whitewater community's needs and preferences. Accordingly, the Boating Flow Days metrics should be integrated into future planning efforts and stakeholder processes.

I believe that there is much to do, especially in the Uintah basin, to conserve this precious resource. Conservation efforts from source to sea are of primary importance, as well as a logical growth and development plan. I would had to see uncontrolled growth spoil and wasteful water use destroy the beauty and balance of such an amazing and beautiful place.

Thank you for your efforts in working to ensure that whitewater boating needs are considered as Reclamation assesses supply and demand in the Basin over the next 50 years, and for considering my comments.

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Be Well,

Sage Wheeler, ND

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