

Eagle River Region – Eagle River Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

Project Name: Eagle River Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Project

Project Purpose and Description: The purpose of the project is to provide water yield for Eastern and Western Slope consumptive and non-consumptive needs.		
Project Sponsor(s)	ERMOU Project sponsors include the parties to the ERMOU: The Cities of Aurora and Colorado Springs; The Eagle Park Reservoir Company (consisting of the Colorado River Water Conservation District, Eagle River Water & Sanitation District, Upper Eagle Regional Water Authority and Vail Associates, Inc.); and The Climax Molybdenum Company	
Use Type	NC Ag Multi-Purpose M&I	
Project Type	Structural Non-Structural Policy Agreement	
Volume of Water Saved/Gained	Municipal/Industrial Uses 10,000 AFY average annual yield for Aurora 10,000 AFY average annual yield for Colorado Springs 10,000 AFY firm dry year yield for the Eagle Park Reservoir Company 3,000 AF of reservoir storage space for Climax Molybdenum Company Non-consumptive Uses A portion of the 10,000 AFY firm yield for the Eagle Park Reservoir Company will be used independently, or conjunctively with M&I uses, for environmental and recreational flow enhancement within the Eagle River basin.	
Project Location/Description	Project Location: Upper Eagle River Basin Project Description: The ERMOU Joint Use Water Project (ERMOU Project) derives from the 1998 Eagle River MOU among East and West Slope water users for development of a joint use water project in the Eagle River basin that minimizes environmental impact, is cost effective, technically feasible, can be permitted by local, state and federal authorities. The ERMOU Project is proposed as a cooperative alternative to construction of the Homestake II Project in the Holy Cross Wilderness. The ERMOU Project will utilize conditional water rights held by the ERMOU Parties and a yet-to-be determined combination of gravity diversion, storage, pumping, and/or groundwater infrastructure to develop the contemplated	
Water Rights Information	project yield. Conditional water rights held by the ERMOU Parties	

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Constraints and Challenges	Technical: Will require multiple construction projects to develop full yield.
	Partnerships: Will require cooperation and resources of multiple partners
	Staffing:
	Funding: Will require significant funding sources.
Implementation Steps	Progress on the ERMOU Project has been continuous since 1998, with development and use of the Eagle Park Reservoir as a phase 1 component of the Project, investigation of specific project configurations described in the ERMOU, investigation of alternative project configurations, and acquisition and adjudication of water rights to be used for the ERMOU Project. Currently, the Project Sponsors are continuing investigations on various project alternatives and configurations in the Upper Eagle River Basin to develop a prioritized development plan that will direct future permitting, financing and construction efforts. As investigations move forward, they will continue to examine additional project variations and components as determined appropriate to develop the full yield contemplated for the ERMOU Project.
Effectiveness at Meeting Basin Goals	Effective in meeting the consumptive and non-consumptive needs of the Eagle River sub-basin of the Colorado River Basin.
	Protect/Restore Healthy Streams - Not applicable
	Sustain Agriculture – Not applicable
	Secure Safe Drinking Water – Not applicable
	Water Conscious Land Use – Not applicable
	Assure Dependable Basin Administration – Not applicable
	High Basinwide Conservation - Not applicable