

Arkansas Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan (BIP) Coordinator

The Huerfano County Water Conservancy District acts as the fiscal agent for compensation of the Coordinator of the Arkansas Basins Roundtable Basin Implementation Plan. The Roundtable was created by the “Colorado Water for the 21st Century Act,” C.R.S. § 37-75-101 and, while it reviews applications for state funding, it has no budget of its own. Nevertheless, as part of the State’s 2015 Colorado Water Plan, the Roundtable developed its own Basin Implementation Plan. The Colorado Water Plan can be found at <https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/cowaterplan/plan>; the Basin Implementation Plan at <http://www.arkansasbasin.com/arkansas-bip.html>.

The Basin Implementation Plan Master Needs List contains several hundred potential projects in the Arkansas Basin. Concerned that the Plan would become just one more report collecting dust on a shelf, the Roundtable created a new position – BIP Coordinator with responsibility to maintain and update the plan and, more importantly, to assist in getting projects funded. The Coordinator works for the Executive Committee of the Roundtable; his committee point of contact is Al Tucker, the representative of municipalities in Huerfano County.

In order to compensate the Coordinator, the Roundtable has for the past three years received grant funding from the Colorado Water Conservation Board. Because the Roundtable itself has no budget or separate funding, it asked HCWCD to administer funding for the Coordinator since the District has been de-Bruced and has the capacity to act as fiscal agent through its Administrator.