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Arkansas River Compact Administration 2023 Bureau of Reclamation Update

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Pueblo Reservoir Recovery of Storage Project

- Estimated that Pueblo Reservoir is losing 0.27% of useable storage annually, about 7% every 25 years
- SECWCD obtained \$1M to fund a sedimentation study from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law (BIL)
- Current phase of the study aims to quantify the sedimentation, identify sources upstream, explore options for mitigation and recovery
 - LiDAR
 - Bathymetric GPS Surveys
 - Sediment Core Sampling
 - Feasibility Studies
- All bathymetric surveying, LiDAR data collection, and sediment coring are complete



Next Generation Snow Observation

- Reclamation recently awarded two WaterSMART grants to the USGS for work in the FryArk Collection System.
 - The first grant will look at the effects of climate change on both volume and timing of runoff.
 - The second will install a temporary suite of sensors to determine snowpack characteristics above tree-line and integrate the resulting data with current forecasting programs.
- Benefits
 - Improved forecasting of Boustead Tunnel imports
 - Improved inflow forecasting to Ruedi Reservoir



NEPA Reviews

- Working on a Temporary Excess Capacity Contract (1 year) in Pueblo for CY24, no new contractors this year
- Reclamation completed a contract and NEPA to fund a sedimentation study at Pueblo
- Reclamation has an MOU in place with Pitkin County and the City of Aurora and is working on a draft Environmental Assessment reviewing a potential Excess Capacity Contract for storage in Ruedi Reservoir
- For more information contact Traci Robb at 970-461-5461 or TRobb@usbr.gov



WaterSmart

- **Purgatoire Watershed Partnership: Purgatoire River Fish Passage Project**
 - Improve fish passage at the Baca-Picketwire diversion dam on the Purgatoire River in downtown Trinidad
 - Restore fish habitat connectivity and enhance recreation opportunities
 - Also expected to have flood mitigation, sediment transport, and bank stabilization co-benefits

- <https://www.usbr.gov/newsroom/news-release/4678>
- Other information - <https://www.usbr.gov/watersmart/>





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