

House Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources
 04/24/2023 Upon Adjournment
 SB23-270 Projects To Restore Natural Stream Systems
 Typed Text of Testimony Submitted

Name, Position, Representing	Typed Text of Testimony
Sean Chambers For Greeley Water & Sewer Utilities	<p>The Honorable Karen McCormick Chair House Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources Colorado House of Representatives State Capitol Denver, CO 80203</p> <p>The Honorable Marc Catlin Vice Chair, House Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources Colorado House of Representatives State Capitol Denver, CO 80203</p> <p>Re: Support for SB23-270 Stream Restoration Bill as Amended</p> <p>Dear Representative McCormick and members of the Committee:</p> <p>The City of Greeley through its Water Enterprise (Greeley Water) is engaged in a variety of watershed health and post wildfire recovery activities that are enhanced by stream restoration activities that serve to protect the natural functions of our watersheds, streams, and rivers. SB23-270, as amended, provides additional and appropriate guidance and protections for stream restoration projects meeting the requirements set forth in the bill. Greeley Water view’s this bill as an important step in protecting the water supplies and water quality needed by our communities, agricultural sector, recreation economy and environment.</p> <p>Therefore, Greeley Water firmly supports the SB23-270 and the vision for facilitating stream restoration.</p> <p>The City sincerely appreciates the work done by the sponsors, Dept. of Natural Resources, and stakeholders to work this complicated issue and navigate its nexus with Colorado’s water law. We believe this bill is evidence of the importance of stakeholder engagement and the power of collaboration.</p> <p>If you have any questions regarding our support, please contact me at 970.397.4215</p> <p>Sincerely,</p> <p>/S/ Sean P. Chambers</p>

	<p>Sean P. Chambers Director of Water Utilities City of Greeley</p>
<p>Jody Shadduck-McNally For themself</p>	<p>Thank you Madam Chair, Mr. Vice Chair, and Honorable members of the committee for the opportunity to speak in support of SB 23 -270. I am Larimer County Commissioner Jody Shadduck- McNally. I serve on the Colorado Forest Health Council and chair the legislative committee. I am here as an individual commissioner and independent from the council. I am a member of CCAT , this organization has voted as a membership to support SB 270.</p> <p>Larimer County is still recovering from the State’s largest wildfire, the Cameron Peak Fire. I have walked the streams and headwaters of the impacted Poudre River and Big Thompson Rivers where the waters can turn black from runoff through the burn scar. I have seen some of these projects where the debris piles in the small upstream streams are taller than me. For fire impacted and significant flood impacted counties like mine, we need smoother pathways for stream restoration projects to proceed that allows stream restoration activities to occur without undue burdens while protecting water users. Between the Cameron Peak Fire, the 2012 High Park Fire and the 2013 floods, Larimer County unfortunately has the experience in recovery and restoration for these types of projects. We are striving everyday to become more resilient and plan for the next one. Healthy stream systems improve wildfire resilience, drought mitigation, flood safety, water quality, watershed health, and riparian and aquatic habitat. These shared community benefits support local economies and working lands, protect public safety, and contribute to overall environmental health and welfare. Please vote to support 270, because stream restoration projects are important tools in protecting water supplies, restoring habitat, and recovering from drought, fire, or floods.</p> <p>Thank you.</p>



April 24, 2023

The Honorable Karen McCormick
Chair House Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources
Colorado House of Representatives
State Capitol
Denver, CO 80203

The Honorable Marc Catlin
Vice Chair, House Agriculture, Water & Natural Resources
Colorado House of Representatives
State Capitol
Denver, CO 80203

Re: Support for SB23-270 Stream Restoration Bill as Amended

Dear Representative McCormick and members of the Committee:

The City of Greeley through its Water Enterprise (Greeley Water) is engaged in a variety of watershed health and post wildfire recovery activities that are enhanced by stream restoration activities that serve to protect the natural functions of our watersheds, streams, and rivers. SB23-270, as amended, provides additional and appropriate guidance and protections for stream restoration projects meeting the requirements set forth in the bill. Greeley Water views this bill as an important step in protecting the water supplies and water quality needed by our communities, agricultural sector, recreation economy and environment.

Therefore, Greeley Water firmly supports the SB23-270 and the vision for facilitating stream restoration.

The City sincerely appreciates the work done by the sponsors, Dept. of Natural Resources, and stakeholders to work this complicated issue and navigate its nexus with Colorado's water law. We believe this bill is evidence of the importance of stakeholder engagement and the power of collaboration.

If you have any questions regarding our support, please contact me at 970.397.4215

Sincerely,

/s/ Sean P. Chambers

Sean P. Chambers
Director of Water Utilities
City of Greeley