



GREAT FISHING. The Colorado River near Pumphouse is some of the best fishing in the state. The existing habitat provides an excellent fishery. In 2011, this reach of the Colorado River mainstream gained the protection of minimum in-stream flow water rights to protect the fishery. Grand County always has the long term protection of both the fishery and recreational use of the river in focus. The added bonus of the recreational water right secured for protection of the whitewater features, is that it also provides ancillary benefits for the fishery in the Colorado River. Protected flows are important for both fishing and recreational float boating, now and for generations to come.

Grand County worked with the Colorado Parks & Wildlife staff to ensure the protection of this remarkable fishery throughout the project. The whitewater park design incorporated protective fish friendly elements, such as not using grout that might prevent small fish from migrating through the feature using the small spaces between the rocks. Special attention was paid to the hydraulics from bank to bank to ensure the velocity of the water created by the manmade features was balanced by areas that fish could easily navigate upstream. On river right, large boulders were used to create the whitewater features and additional habitat boulders were placed to provide cover for fish.