



2019 Top Issues

Health Care

- Cost of insurance premiums in rural Colorado
- Increasing uncompensated care at rural hospitals
- Identifying cost drivers and supporting solutions to reduce costs
- Addressing Out of Network Issues

Broadband

- Expansion of Rural Broadband Speeds and Infrastructure
- Perfecting Broadband Easements

Water

- Protecting West Slope Water in the face of continued drought
- Drought Contingency Planning and Demand Management Issues-Protecting WS Water & Agriculture
- Secure Funding for Colorado Water Plan
- Work toward increasing water storage
- Continue to be an active participant in the Colorado Forest Health Watershed Alliance
- Club 20 counties are the headwater counties and we will continue to protect the those headwaters

Forests

- Actively manage for healthy forests
- Proactively enhance wild fire mitigation
- Advocate for greater resources for forest management and the preservation of water ecosystems
- Wildfire costs to communities post fire (CR CFF funds at state level, is there a way to get funding without having to wait for a year to receive those funds-hard for counties to budget for
 - Collect economic data and stories to urge proactive solutions to improve forest health and reduce the risk of future fires
 - Mitigate fire risks, protect watersheds, follow up on post-burn recovery efforts

Fiscal Issues

- Most WS counties are experience negative impacts as a result in the reduction of the residential assessment rate and Club 20 will be engaged on how the Gallagher amendment disproportionately impacts WS communities and will support legislation that will help alleviate those impacts

Tourism and Outdoor Recreation

- Support continued development of Workforce Housing particularly in resort areas

Energy

- Setback requirements for oil and gas development-C20 supports the existing process through COGCC
- Oppose individual county setting oil and gas regulations, should be statewide regulations, should not have a patchwork of regulations, in favor of a statewide regulatory approach
- Advocate for reasonable regulations that don't strangle industry's ability to work in Colorado

Public Lands

- To ensure that Colorado balances other multiple uses with Sage Grouse management
- Club 20 will work to ensure that all citizens have robust access to multiple uses on our federal lands
- Club 20 adamantly supports multiple uses of our public lands
 - Club 20 will actively oppose special land designations that haven't evaluated multiple uses and negative impacts on existing uses and access
 - Current compatible uses within proposed special land designations should be maintained into perpetuity after the designation by allowing for the transfer of those uses to future users
 - Club 20 believes that local Boards of County Commissioners within those jurisdictions for a proposed special land use designation should be allowed to conduct their own land use review, including public hearings to involve all interest groups.

Agriculture

- Agriculture has significant positive economic and environmental benefits to the state of Colorado and Club 20 will work to protect and preserve agriculture in Western Colorado
- The protection of West Slope agricultural water is critical to its continuation

Miscellaneous Priorities

- We will work with Colorado's new administration to make aware and help educate leaders on rural issues and perspectives
- Club 20 will ensure the Western Slope is well represented on the legislative and congressional redistricting commissions

****This document is subject to change at any point during the year****