

**EAST CANYON CREEK UPDATE**

**As of September 17, 2012**

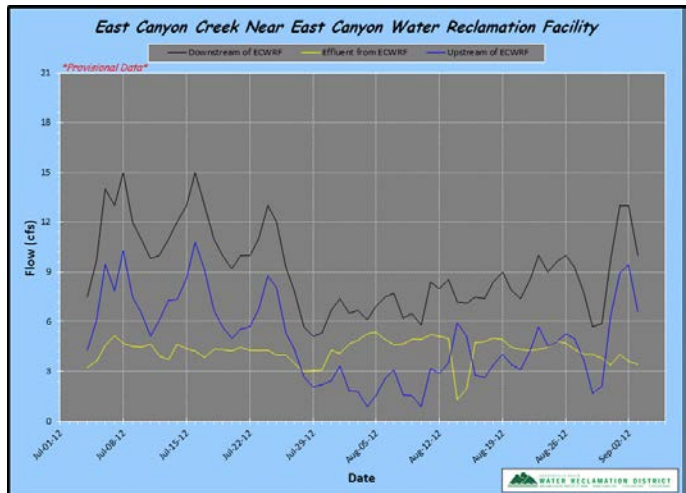
**Low Stream Flows and the Health of the our Local Fish Population**

One of the Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District's responsibilities is to help protect our local environment including East Canyon Creek. The District has spent millions of dollars to construct and operate an advanced water reclamation facility to reclaim (treat) the community's wastewater. Because of our stewardship over this valuable resource, we routinely monitor the health of the Creek. However, a serious problem has developed! Because of development in the Park City/Snyderville Basin area and hot and dry weather this year, flows in East Canyon Creek have reached critically low levels.



*In 2003 East Canyon Creek was completely dry upstream of the ECWRF. This year the flow in East Canyon Creek above the East Canyon Water Reclamation Facility has again been very low, dropping below 2 cfs at times.*

This year the flow in East Canyon Creek above the East Canyon Water Reclamation Facility has been very low. As shown in the graph, the discharge from the East Canyon Water Reclamation Facility (ECWRF) accounted for the majority of the flow in East Canyon Creek this summer. Back in 2003 as shown in the picture above, East Canyon Creek dried up completely upstream of the Water Reclamation Facility. Low flow periods put stress on the East Canyon Creek ecosystem. During low flow periods, the effects of Endocrine Disrupting Compounds (EDC's) on fish populations in East Canyon Creek may be more pronounced. EDC's are compounds that can affect or inhibit the endocrine system. These compounds exist at part per trillion concentrations, which is the equivalent to one second in 31,400 years. We have only recently been able to measure these compounds at such low concentrations. EDC's come from a variety of sources including birth control pills, anti bacterial soap, plastics, personal care products, and insect repellent, to name a few.



On August 29, 2012, Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District, working with the Division of Wildlife Resources and Carollo Engineers, continued our research efforts to evaluate the impacts of EDC's on the fish population in East Canyon Creek. Blood samples were collected from fish from above and below the ECWRF discharge point. The blood samples along with a fish tissue samples and water samples will be evaluated to determine if there are potential aquatic health impacts during low flow periods. This data will help improve our understanding of the effects of EDC's on sensitive fish populations in East Canyon Creek. It will take a few months to analyse the samples and evaluate the laboratory data. We will provide additional updates as they become available.



The Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District (SBWRD) collects and reclaims the wastewater generated by more than 11,000 homes and commercial enterprises in Park City and Snyderville Basin. Its mission is "...to protect public health and the environment by developing, integrating, and implementing fiscally responsible solutions to wastewater, water reclamation and watershed protection issues."

If you would like additional information on East Canyon Creek or the Snyderville Basin Water Reclamation District please call us at 435.649.7993 or Mike Luers, General Manager, [MLUERS@SBWRD.ORG](mailto:MLUERS@SBWRD.ORG) or visit [www.sbwrld.org](http://www.sbwrld.org).

