CBWP Critical Issue + Strategy Suggestion Form - Surface Water

Place-based Planning requires that the Collaborative come up with a list of issues, based on the Step 2 and 3 work, that can be addressed with strategies in the surface water plan. When appropriate, Working Groups will fill out this form with the issues that have been identified during their research, explain why it should be addressed with the surface water plan, propose a possible strategy or solution to the issue, and provide expectations on the outcome of strategy implementation. Then, the project manager will compile the information in a spreadsheet and review with the Collaborative.

Definition of a Critical Issue: A significant concern regarding instream or out-of-stream surface water flows/management/resources that is impacting the Harney basin ecology, economy, and/or community.

Proposed Issue:

Some parts of the system are in need of improved infrastructure.

Source of the Issue:
Has this information been developed in a Step 2 or 3 document? If so, which one?
This issue has been developed in both the Step 2 and Step 3 documents.

Does the issue impact the ecology, economy, or community?

The lack of efficient infrastructure impacts ecology, economy and our community

Why should this issue be addressed with the CBWP surface water plan?

Having knowledge of the volume of water as it moves down the system is critical to quality distribution. Appropriate infrastructure (stream gauges, culverts, dams, ditches, levies, etc.) is necessary to spread water effectively.

If issue is not addressed, what will the situation be? (need better language here):

Without proper infrastructure, water use will not be optimized.

Suggestions for strategies to address issue:

- Infrastructure is expensive. Locating critical infrastructure to optimize water requires clear planning and evaluation. Continued or increased funding through the SONEC project or other resources for water users to improve their water conveyance systems will encourage improvements.
- Stream gauges at Five Mile Dam, Mill Dam and both east and west Silvies split will assist with accurate gross division of water.

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Expected outcome once strategy is implemented:

With improved infrastructure, spring runoff will cover more of the basin, as it has in the past. This will improve hay and pasture production, as well as habitat for the migratory waterfowl.

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