



BROOKE ZANETELL

Brooke Zanetell was appointed to the UGRWCD Board of Directors in June 2024 representing Division 8, the city of Gunnison. Her term expires in 2028. Brooke is assistant professor in the Clark Family School of Environment & Sustainability at Western Colorado University. Born and raised in Gunnison, Brooke's maternal grandparents were ranchers in the Ohio Creek and Tomichi Creek basins. Her mother, former County Commissioner Marlene Zanetell, was instrumental in both the designation of the Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park which tacked down water rights for the Upper Gunnison and in the eight-year community battle that halted a transmountain diversion out of the Taylor River watershed. Brooke served as the Policy Director at the American Fisheries Society and then as a Diplomat and Science Advisor in Oceans Affairs at the US Department of State in Washington, DC. After relocating to Taos, NM, Brooke worked with the University of New Mexico and the US Department of Agriculture to build a Natural Resources Management Program that created academic/career pathways for low-income, first-generation, and/or Native and Hispanic students. In 2022, Brooke returned to Gunnison with her husband and daughter. She graduated *Summa cum laude* in Environmental Biology from the University of Colorado in Boulder for stream ecology research at the Rocky Mountain Biological Laboratory above Crested Butte. She holds an M.S. and Ph.D. in Natural Resources from Cornell University in Ithaca, NY, and was a Fulbright Scholar to Venezuela and an InterAmerican Fellow to Guatemala. She has published numerous articles on community-based fishery and water resources management as well as on college student mentoring for degree completion and job placement in public land management agencies.