

STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Greg Johnson
Jacob Bornstein
Intrastate Water Management and Development Section

DATE: March 5, 2009

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 7, March 17-18, 2009 Board Meeting**
Water Supply Reserve Account Grant Applications

Bill Ritter, Jr.
Governor

Harris D. Sherman
DNR Executive Director

Jennifer L. Gimbel
CWCB Director

Dan McAuliffe
CWCB Deputy Director

Staff Recommendation

A summary of staff's recommendation for each grant request is provided in the table below. Favorable recommendations may be contingent on providing the CWCB with additional information, clarifications, or modifications in the scope of work. Please refer to the Water Activity Summary Sheets contained within this agenda item to find a summary of staff's review and any conditions associated with each recommendation.

	Basin	Project Name	Total Request	Recommendation
a.	Southwest	Lower Blanco River Restoration Project	\$100,000	To fund up to \$100,000 from the Southwest Basin Account.
b.	Southwest	Ditch Loss, Hydropower, and Monitoring Program – Florida Mesa Canal Companies	\$100,000	To fund up to \$100,000 from the Southwest Basin Account.
c.	South Platte	Central South Platte Wetland Partnership – Ducks Unlimited	\$150,000	To fund up to \$150,000 from the South Platte Basin Account.
d.	Gunnison	Ridgway Ditch and Lake Otonawanda Improvement Project	\$109,500	To fund up to \$109,500 from the Gunnison Basin Account.
e.	Gunnison	Juniata Reservoir Enlargement Project	\$97,000	To fund up to \$97,000 from the Gunnison Basin Account.
f.	Gunnison	Agricultural Water Needs Assessment and Water Supply Analysis	\$120,560	To fund up to \$120,560 from the Gunnison Basin Account.
g.	Colorado	Colorado Basin Nonconsumptive Needs Quantification	\$315,171	To fund up to \$315,171 from the Colorado Basin Account.

Background

During this agenda item the Board will be provided with a brief overview of the seven applications that are requesting money from the Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA). Attachments to this memo include:

- Summary spreadsheet summarizing funding requests and summarizing to date activities for the basin and statewide accounts;
- Water Activity Summary Sheet which provides an overview, discussion, issues/additional needs, and staff recommendation regarding funding, partial funding, or not funding the applications; and
- Copies of the full applications, Basin Roundtable approval letters and any supporting documentation provided by the applicants.

Staff's review of the applications involved the following procedures and steps:

- 1) The applications were reviewed for completeness based on the information requirements, which are primarily outlined in Part 2 of the Criteria and Guidelines.
- 2) The applications were reviewed to verify that the water activity met the **eligibility requirements** in Section 39-29-108 (III) C.R.S. (also outlined in Part 2 of the Criteria and Guidelines) and the **threshold criteria**, which are based on the requirements of Section 39-29-108 (III) C.R.S., and two sections of the Water for the 21st Century Act (House Bill 1177); Section 37-75-102 and Section 37-75-104(2)(c) (see Part 3 of the Criteria and Guidelines). Staff also verified whether that the applicant was an **eligible entity** to receive funding (see Part 2 of the Criteria and Guidelines).
- 3) Due to the board's decision at the January 2009 meeting to delay funding considerations from the Statewide WSRA account until the September 2009 board meeting this funding cycle only considers funding from the Basin Accounts. Therefore, staff did not need to review the applications for conformance with the **evaluation criteria**.
- 4) Staff then prepared the Water Activity Summary Sheet which documents the outcome of the review process and contains staff's recommendations.

Water Supply Reserve Account Balances (March 2009)

	Total Basin Grants*	Combined Basin Funds (Fiscal Years, 2006-09)	Basin Account Balances*	Total State Grants*	Statewide Fund Balance
Arkansas	\$783,781	\$1,000,000	\$216,219	\$2,918,287	
Colorado	\$535,000	\$1,000,000	\$465,000	\$2,227,900	
Southwest	\$557,000	\$1,000,000	\$443,000	\$2,240,000	
Gunnison	\$413,965	\$1,000,000	\$586,035	\$961,660	
Metro	\$893,146	\$1,000,000	\$106,854	\$200,000	
North Platte	\$849,715	\$1,000,000	\$150,285	\$311,027	
Rio Grande	\$669,950	\$1,000,000	\$330,050	\$2,617,400	
South Platte	\$643,111	\$1,000,000	\$356,889	\$1,260,269	
Yampa/White	\$454,572	\$1,000,000	\$545,428	\$248,835	
Total	\$5,800,239	\$9,000,000	\$3,199,761	\$12,985,377	\$764,623*
*WSRA grant requests that have been approved by the CWCB					
Total Grants (Basin and Statewide Accounts)		\$19,060,617			

*The final Statewide Fund Balance reflects a loss of \$250,000 that was transferred to the Division of Water Resources in FY 08-09.