

# STATE OF COLORADO

## Colorado Water Conservation Board Department of Natural Resources

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TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

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

DATE: May 7, 2010

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 29, May 18-19, 2010 Board Meeting  
Water Supply Reserve Account Grant Applications**

Bill Ritter, Jr.  
Governor

James Martin  
DNR Executive Director

Jennifer L. Gimbel  
CWCB 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.	Gunnison	75 Ditch Diversion Improvements and Feature Enhancements	\$46,100	To fund up to \$46,100 from the Gunnison Basin Account.
b.	Gunnison	Lake San Cristobal Outlet Structure	\$150,000	To fund up to \$150,000 from the Gunnison Basin Account.
c.	North Platte	North Park Irrigated Meadow Conservation Program – Phase I	\$20,000	To fund up to \$20,000 from the North Platte Basin Account
d.	Rio Grande	2009 Rio Grande Riparian Stabilization Project - Phase 4	\$50,000	To fund up to \$50,000 from the Rio Grande Basin Account
e.	Rio Grande	San Luis Peoples Ditch Upgrade and Rehabilitation Project - Phase I	\$40,000	To fund up to \$40,000 from the Rio Grande Basin Account
f.	Rio Grande	Rio Grande Watershed Conservation and Education Initiative	\$25,000	To fund up to \$25,000 from the Rio Grande Basin Account

	Basin	Project Name	Total Request	Recommendation
g.	Arkansas	Flaming Gorge Project Task Force Assessment	\$40,000	To fund up to \$20,000 from the Arkansas Basin Account and \$20,000 from the Metro Basin Account

### Background

During this agenda item the Board will be provided with a brief overview of both 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) This funding cycle only provided for 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 as of April 2010

(Includes July 2009, January and April 2010 Installments)

<b>Basin</b>	<b>Approved Basin Grants</b>	<b>Total Basin Funds</b>	<b>Basin Account Balance</b>	<b>Approved State Grants</b>	<b>Statewide Account Balance</b>
<b>Arkansas</b>	\$972,756	\$1,173,250	\$200,494	\$2,781,620	
<b>Colorado</b>	\$850,171	\$1,173,250	\$323,079	\$2,227,900	
<b>Southwest</b>	\$1,049,446	\$1,173,250	\$123,804	\$3,015,000	
<b>Gunnison</b>	\$692,565	\$1,173,250	\$480,685	\$861,660	
<b>Metro</b>	\$993,146	\$1,173,250	\$180,104	\$1,358,333	
<b>North Platte</b>	\$849,715	\$1,173,250	\$323,535	\$311,027	
<b>Rio Grande</b>	\$920,450	\$1,173,250	\$252,800	\$2,967,400	
<b>South Platte</b>	\$1,043,111	\$1,173,250	\$130,139	\$1,913,602	
<b>Yampa/White</b>	\$1,063,374	\$1,173,250	\$109,876	\$248,835	
<b>TOTAL</b>	\$8,434,734	\$10,559,250	\$2,124,516	\$15,685,377	\$2,530,373
<b>TOTAL APPROVED GRANTS</b>					<b>\$24,120,111</b>

Note: Only includes grants approved by CWCB.

## **Considerations**

Staff would like to discuss the concept of placing the WSRA Basin Account requests on the consent agenda. The rationale for placing the Basin Account grant requests on the consent agenda is that most of the applications are non-controversial and have been deemed important enough to the basin roundtables to expend their own basin funds to support. Staff is supportive of this concept but has a concern that the applicants could be requested to appear before the Board with very short notice. Due to considerations of Statewide Account requests, staff recommends that September WSRA grant requests remain a regular agenda item. Below is an excerpt from the current CWCB agenda describing the process for consent agenda items.

*Matters may be placed on the Consent Agenda when the recommended action follows established policy or precedent, there has been a negotiated settlement, or the matter is uncontested and non-controversial. Staff provides memos to CWCB members explaining the matters on the Consent Agenda. Matters on the Consent Agenda are noticed for hearing in the same manner as other agenda items. If a member of the CWCB requests further consideration of an item on the Consent Agenda, the item will be withdrawn from the Consent Agenda and discussed at the end of the meeting or at the next meeting. The Consent Agenda may be voted on without reading or discussing individual items. Any CWCB member may request clarification about any matter on the Consent Agenda.*

## **Water Supply Reserve Account Balance Summary and Project Status Report:**

To provide the Board and public updates on the status of specific Water Supply Reserve Account grant applications and projects, staff will provide a status report in each CWCB Director's Report. The WSRA status report will include the following information:

- Water Supply Reserve Account Balance Summaries;
- List of completed WSRA projects;
- List of WSRA projects in progress; and
- List of WSRA Projects in the contracting and procurement process.