

**Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
Consent Agenda Item 5.b**

Applicant: Grand Mesa Water Conservancy District, Water Enterprise Fund

Water Activity Name: The Rehabilitation of Blanche Park Reservoir

Water Activity Purpose: Structural Water Project

County: Delta

Drainage Basin: Gunnison

Water Source: Surface Creek

Amount Requested: \$75,000

Source of Funds: Gunnison Basin Account

Matching Funds: \$95,539 (applicant) and an additional 100 hrs of in-kind services.

Staff Recommendation
Staff recommends approval of up to \$75,000 from the Gunnison Basin Account to help rehabilitate the Blanche Park Reservoir.

Water Activity Summary:

The Blanche Park Reservoir Rehabilitation phase 2, is scheduled for construction summer and fall of 2011. The Districts owns an “1891 Easement” for this reservoir site. The easement is for a reservoir covering 15.79 acres and impounding 130 acre feet of water. Since there is a large area of “wetlands” upstream from the current dam structure, the District is not impacting any area of the easement except the actual dam structure. By not impacting the easement area, the District can rebuild the dam structure under an US Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Exempt Permit #3. To accomplish this, the project will require additional fill material to enlarge the existing dam structure to meet the current specifications. The source of this material comes from a US Army Corps of Engineers dredging permit held as part of the Peak Reservoir rehabilitation.

The proposed rehabilitation of Blanche Park Reservoir will accomplish the following:

1. Rebuild a breeched reservoir site placing it in full utilization for water storage.
2. The District will be able to put approximately 130 acre feet of its conditional decree into use as irrigation, recreation, fish culture, municipal use by the Town of Orchard City or by the Town of Cedaredge, domestic use by contract with Upper Surface Creek Domestic Water Company or Coalby Domestic Water Company and with the appropriation date of June 15, 1961, adjudication date January 31, 1964, priority K-186.
3. Restore the reservoir site to its historical use.
4. The District will have available additional augmentation water to meet the needs for the District Service area.

Threshold and Evaluation Criteria

The application meets all four Threshold Criteria.

Discussion:

As set forth by CWCW Domestic Water Needs Assessment projections, by the year 2035 it is projected that the districts geographic service area will face a domestic water shortage of over 1000 acre feet to meet future demands. The District believes these small, rehabilitation projects offer the best solution that are manageable and financeable.

One note is that the applicant did not demonstrate financial need for this project. Therefore, while the project clearly fits within the purpose of the WSRA grant program, it is not clear whether the applicant could afford a loan instead.

Issues/Additional Needs:

No issues or additional needs remain.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$75,000 from the Gunnison Basin Account to help rehabilitate the Blanche Park Reservoir.

All products, data and information developed as a result of this grant must be provided to the CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation. This information will in turn be made widely available to Basin Roundtables and the general public and will help promote the development of a common technical platform. In accordance with the revised WSRA Criteria and Guidelines, staff would like to highlight additional reporting and final deliverable requirements. The specific requirements are provided below.

Reporting: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed contract. The progress report shall describe the completion or partial completion of the tasks identified in the scope of work including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.

Final Deliverable: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report that summarizes the project and documents how the project was completed. This report may contain photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

Engineering: All engineering work (as defined in the Engineers Practice Act (§12-25-102(10) C.R.S.)) performed under this grant shall be performed by or under the responsible charge of professional engineer licensed by the State of Colorado to practice Engineering.