

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
Consent Agenda Item 6.a

Applicant: Orchard Mesa Irrigation District

Water Activity Name: Canal #1 Check Structure Pilot Project at Dalton, Kiefer & Springer Properties

Water Activity Purpose: Structural Water Project

County: Mesa

Drainage Basin: Colorado

Water Source: Colorado

Amount Requested: \$25,212

Source of Funds: Colorado Basin Account

Matching Funds: \$22,750 (applicant)

Staff Recommendation

Staff recommends approval of up to \$25,212 from the Colorado Basin Account to help complete the project titled: Canal #1 Check Structure Pilot Project at Dalton, Kiefer & Springer Properties.
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Water Activity Summary:

This project consists of the installation of one Rubicon Water, Inc. Flume Gate in the District’s Canal #1 at the check structure near the Dalton, Kiefer and Springer properties. This would be a pilot project demonstrating the capabilities of the irrigation gate technology and how it could be used in the completion of the overall project. The overall project is authorized under P.L. 106-392, as amended. This legislation authorizes the Bureau of Reclamation to provide Federal cost sharing funds for the Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery Program. The overall project would consist of installation of check structures, pipelines and other water infrastructure appurtenances, and when constructed, will conserve an average of 17,000 acre feet of water annually in the Colorado River basin.

These facilities will enable the District to reduce its irrigation diversions while enhancing system reliability and water supply for its users. The saved water can be redirected to increase instream flows in most years in the 15-mile reach of the Colorado River, which has endangered fish critical habitat that has experienced near dry conditions in the past. The saved water will also generate additional hydropower, improve water quality in the Colorado River, and, in severe drought years, improve water supply reliability for other Colorado River water users in the State of Colorado.

Threshold and Evaluation Criteria

The application meets all four Threshold Criteria.

Discussion:

The new gate structure will enable the District to reduce its irrigation diversions and enhance system reliability and water supply for its users. By improving the check structures on the District’s canal system, this project will save Colorado River water that can be redirected to increase instream flows to protect critical endangered fish habitat, generate additional hydropower, and improve water quality in the river. The project seeks to maintain the use of a pre-Colorado River Compact water right. In severe drought years the project will improve water supply reliability for other Colorado River water users in the State of Colorado by providing more water for compact compliance. The proposed project effectively meets the objectives of HB 1177 and the consumptive and nonconsumptive needs of the Colorado Basin by rehabilitating existing infrastructure to preserve agricultural water use.

Issues/Additional Needs:

No issues or additional needs remain.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$25,212 from the Colorado Basin Account to help complete the project titled: Canal #1 Check Structure Pilot Project at Dalton, Kiefer & Springer Properties.

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.