



COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD

WATER SUPPLY RESERVE ACCOUNT APPLICATION FORM



Colorado River Inventory & Assessment

Name of Water Activity/Project

Eagle River Watershed Council

Name of Applicant

Colorado River Basin

Amount from Statewide Account:

Amount from Basin Account(s):

\$30,000

Total WSRA Funds Requested:

\$30,000

Approving Basin Roundtable(s)

(If multiple basins specify amounts in parentheses.)

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Required Exhibits

- A. Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule
- B. Project Map
- C. As Needed (i.e. letters of support, photos, maps, etc.)

Appendices – Reference Material

- 1. Program Information
- 2. Insurance Requirements
- 3. WSRA Standard Contract Information (Required for Projects Over \$100,000)
- 4. W-9 Form (Required for All Projects Prior to Contracting)

Part I. - Description of the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner);

1.	Applicant Name(s):	Eagle River Watershed Council, Inc.		
	Mailing address:	P.O. Box 7688 Avon, Co 81632		
	Taxpayer ID#:	20-4448864		
	Primary Contact:	Melissa Macdonald	Position/Title:	Executive Director
	Email:	macdonald@erwc.org		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 970-393-2727	Office:	970-827-5406
	Alternate Contact:	Tambi Katieb	Position/Title:	Director of Planning
	Email:	Katieb@erwc.org		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 970-401-3861	Office:	970-827-5406

2. Eligible entities for WSRA funds include the following. What type of entity is the Applicant?

- ☐ Public (Government) – municipalities, enterprises, counties, and State of Colorado agencies. Federal agencies are encouraged to work with local entities and the local entity should be the grant recipient. Federal agencies are eligible, but only if they can make a compelling case for why a local partner cannot be the grant recipient.
- ☐ Public (Districts) – authorities, Title 32/special districts, (conservancy, conservation, and irrigation districts), and water activity enterprises.
- ☐ Private Incorporated – mutual ditch companies, homeowners associations, corporations.
- ☐ Private individuals, partnerships, and sole proprietors are eligible for funding from the Basin Accounts but not for funding from the Statewide Account.
- ☒ Non-governmental organizations – broadly defined as any organization that is not part of the government.

3. Provide a brief description of your organization:

The Eagle River Watershed Council is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization that advocates for the health and conservation of the Upper Colorado and Eagle River basins through research, education and projects. We provide a forum where everyone can gain a greater understanding of the Colorado and Eagle River environments in Eagle County. We work to achieve our mission by actively monitoring the health of our rivers including the river below the Eagle Mine Superfund site; sponsoring public education programs such as Water Wise Wednesday which is additionally filmed and broadcast on local television; working with other organizations, such as the US Forest Service, on projects such as the Piney River, Red Dirt Creek and Homestake Creek restorations which are critical to the watersheds; and spearheading major projects such as Black Gore Creek/W. Vail Pass traction sand mitigation, the 1.6 mile, \$4 million Eagle River Restoration at Edwards, CO, and the updated 1996 Eagle River Watershed Plan for Eagle County. We also formed a 15 member stakeholder group to collect, assess and store all the water quality data collected by varying entities in Eagle County and will start work with the USFS on the three year (initially) Camp Hale Eagle River restoration project this summer. Annually, we mobilize nearly 1,000 local volunteers to clean up 121 miles of local roadways (April) and 55 miles of waterways (September).

4. If the Contracting Entity is different than the Applicant (Project Sponsor or Owner) please describe the Contracting Entity here.

N/A

5. Successful applicants will have to execute a contract with the CWCB prior to beginning work on the portion of the project funded by the WSRA grant. In order to expedite the contracting process the CWCB has established a standard contract with provisions the applicant must adhere to. A link to this standard contract is included in Appendix 3. Please review this contract and check the appropriate box.

☒ The Applicant will be able to contract with the CWCB using the Standard Contract

☐ The Applicant has reviewed the standard contract and has some questions/issues/concerns. Please be aware that any deviation from the standard contract could result in a significant delay between grant approval and the funds being available.

6. The Tax Payer Bill of Rights (TABOR) may limit the amount of grant money an entity can receive. Please describe any relevant TABOR issues that may affect the applicant.

N/A

Part II. - Description of the Water Activity/Project

1. What is the primary purpose of this grant application? (Please check only one)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nonconsumptive (Environmental or Recreational)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Agricultural
<input type="checkbox"/>	Municipal/Industrial
<input type="checkbox"/>	Needs Assessment
<input type="checkbox"/>	Education
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other

Explain:

2. If you feel this project addresses multiple purposes please explain. N/A

3. Is this project primarily a study or implementation of a water activity/project? (Please check only one)

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Study	<input type="checkbox"/>	Implementation
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4. To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRA funds can you provide any of the following numbers?

<input type="text"/>	New Storage Created (acre-feet)
<input type="text"/>	New Annual Water Supplies Developed, Consumptive or Nonconsumptive (acre-feet)
<input type="text"/>	Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)
<input type="text"/>	Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)
<input type="text"/>	Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)
<input type="text"/>	Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year OR dollars/year – circle one)
<input type="text"/>	Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Other -- Explain: <input type="text"/>

4. To help us map WSRA projects please include a map (Exhibit B) and provide the general coordinates below: There are two lat/longs as we start where the Colorado enters Eagle County and end where it exits.

Colorado River enters Eagle County (Above Rancho Del Rio, Below Radium):

Lat: 39 degrees 55' 29.23"N

Long: 106 degrees 34' 43.23" W

Colorado River exits Eagle County in Glenwood Canyon (right before Bair Ranch):

Lat: 39 degrees 37' 29.45" N

Long: 107 degrees 6' 49.79" W

Latitude:

See above

Longitude:

See above

5. Please provide an overview/summary of the proposed water activity (no more than one page). Include a description of the overall water activity and specifically what the WSRA funding will be used for. A full **Statement of Work** with a detailed budget and schedule is required as **Exhibit A** of this application.

The Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC) is proposing to utilize Colorado River Basin Roundtable funding to create an Inventory and Assessment of the Colorado River in Eagle County. As we were updating Eagle County's 1996 Eagle River Watershed Plan, we noted that there was no mention of the nearly 60 miles of the Colorado River flowing through the County. In adding the river to the 16 year old Plan we found that there is virtually no monitoring on this stretch of the Colorado, with the only Eagle County USGS gage located in Dotsero, not far from where the river exits to Pitkin County. Essentially, we have virtually no scientific baseline data on a river that is threatened by front range diversions, climate change, extensive recreational use, invasive species, possible oil and gas or residential development and deleterious land use.

Our goal for the Assessment is to understand and protect the health of the Colorado River, its inhabitants and ecosystems, by creating a defined science-based, prioritized list of restoration and conservation projects. The Assessment will be utilized to educate our community and state, and to help us obtain public support and funding for these specified projects.

A complete understanding of the ecological setting of the Colorado River corridor will have lasting value for future land use decision making, conservation funding, enhancement and other agriculture, recreation or wildlife-based projects that benefit Eagle County and its tourism-based economy. The ERWC/CSU Assessment will:

- Inventory channel, riparian, and upland characteristics within Eagle County that influence the ecological integrity, recreational amenities, and aesthetic values of the Colorado River and its major tributaries in the corridor
- Analyze existing monitoring data and information to assess the status of river corridor
- Conduct synoptic field surveys of riparian condition, chemical, physical, and biological water quality, and geomorphic attributes to supplement existing information
- Identify and describe candidate rehabilitation projects (structural and non-structural) and link to current issues and likely outcomes based upon the following:
 - Field reconnaissance
 - Meetings with watershed stakeholders
 - Meetings with local, state and federal scientists

- GIS inventory and analysis (riparian conditions, land cover, geomorphic processes, etc.)
- Scientific assessment
- Assess current and potential recreation impact upon the river
- Identify, describe and prioritize candidate sites best suited for recreation access based upon the following:
 - Field reconnaissance
 - Meetings with watershed stakeholders
 - Scientific assessment including GIS inventory and assessment,
- Prioritize rehabilitation strategies in a decision matrix based on likelihood of success, potential benefits, rough estimates of costs, and stakeholder input.
- Produce a report describing the results of the river corridor inventory and prioritized recommendations for rehabilitation projects following the updated approach and template of the 2005 Eagle River Inventory and Assessment. The final report will include the following:
 - Description of candidate rehabilitation projects (structural and non-structural) identified during the inventory
 - Prioritized list of rehabilitation strategies based upon likelihood of success, potential benefits and rough estimates of cost
 - MCDA (multi-criteria decision analysis) spreadsheet tool used to rank candidate projects
 - Detailed description of the methods in the inventory and analysis of candidate rehabilitation projects
 - List of names, titles and affiliations of all persons who prepared the content of the report and participated in the monitoring activities
 - Analysis of all quantitative monitoring data using graph and table formats when appropriate
 - Prints or colored photocopies of all photographs used
 - Maps identifying monitoring areas, cross-sections, transects, etc.
 - Results of qualitative monitoring of site characteristics, functions and values
 - Copies of all field data sheets will be made available for review if requested

Part III. – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria

1. Describe how the water activity meets these **Threshold Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines.)

- a) The water activity is consistent with Section 37-75-102 Colorado Revised Statutes.¹

¹ 37-75-102. Water rights - protections. (1) It is the policy of the General Assembly that the current system of allocating water within Colorado shall not be superseded, abrogated, or otherwise impaired by this article. Nothing in this article shall be interpreted to repeal or in any manner amend the existing water rights adjudication system. The General Assembly affirms the state constitution's recognition of water rights as a private usufructuary property right, and this article is not intended to restrict the ability of the holder of a water right to use or to dispose of that water right in any manner permitted under Colorado law. (2) The General Assembly affirms the protections for contractual and property rights recognized by the contract and takings protections under the state constitution and related statutes. This article shall not be implemented in any way that would diminish, impair, or cause injury to any property or contractual right created by intergovernmental agreements, contracts, stipulations among parties to water cases, terms and conditions in water decrees, or any other similar document related to the allocation or use of water. This article shall not be construed to supersede, abrogate, or cause injury to vested water rights or decreed conditional water rights. The General Assembly affirms that this article does not impair, limit, or otherwise affect

The Assessment does not supersede, abrogate or impair the current system of allocating water or affect existing water rights.

- b) The water activity underwent an evaluation and approval process and was approved by the Basin Roundtable (BRT) and the application includes a description of the results of the BRT's evaluation and approval of the activity. At a minimum, the description must include the level of agreement reached by the roundtable, including any minority opinion(s) if there was not general agreement for the activity. The description must also include reasons why general agreement was not reached (if it was not), including who opposed the activity and why they opposed it. Note- If this information is included in the letter from the roundtable chair simply reference that letter.
We hope to complete this evaluation and approval at the Colorado River Basin Roundtable meeting on March 26, 2012.
 - c) The water activity meets the provisions of Section 37-75-104(2), Colorado Revised Statutes.² The Basin Roundtable Chairs shall include in their approval letters for particular WSR grant applications a description of how the water activity will assist in meeting the water supply needs identified in the basin roundtable's consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs assessments.
We intend to solicit this approval letter at our presentation at to the Colorado River Basin Roundtable meeting on March 26, 2012.
 - d) Matching Requirement: For requests from the **Statewide Fund**, the applicants is required to demonstrate a **20 percent** (or greater) match of the request from the Statewide Account. Statewide requests must also include a minimum match of **5 percent** of the total grant amount from Basin Funds. Sources of matching funds include but are not limited to Basin Funds, in-kind services, funding from other sources, and/or direct cash match. Past expenditures directly related to the project may be considered as matching funds if the expenditures occurred within 9 months of the date the application was submitted to the CWCB. Please describe the source(s) of matching funds. (NOTE: These matching funds should also be reflected in your Detailed Budget in **Exhibit A** of this application)
The request from the Basin Roundtable totals \$30,000 over two years. These funds are matched by a two-year grant from Eagle County's General Fund, the County's Open Space Fund and CSU totaling \$56,501. This constitutes a 188% match for Basin Funds.
2. For Applications that include a request for funds from the **Statewide Account**, describe how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**. (Detailed in Part 3 of the Water Supply Reserve Account Criteria and Guidelines and repeated below.) Projects will be assessed on how well they meet the Evaluation Criteria. **Please attach additional pages as necessary.**

the rights of persons or entities to enter into agreements, contracts, or memoranda of understanding with other persons or entities relating to the appropriation, movement, or use of water under other provisions of law.

² 37-75-104 (2)(c). Using data and information from the Statewide Water Supply Initiative and other appropriate sources and in cooperation with the on-going Statewide Water Supply Initiative, develop a basin-wide consumptive and nonconsumptive water supply needs assessment, conduct an analysis of available unappropriated waters within the basin, and propose projects or methods, both structural and nonstructural, for meeting those needs and utilizing those unappropriated waters where appropriate. Basin Roundtables shall actively seek the input and advice of affected local governments, water providers, and other interested stakeholders and persons in establishing its needs assessment, and shall propose projects or methods for meeting those needs. Recommendations from this assessment shall be forwarded to the Interbasin Compact Committee and other basin roundtables for analysis and consideration after the General Assembly has approved the Interbasin Compact Charter.

Evaluation Criteria – the following criteria will be utilized to further evaluate the merits of the water activity proposed for funding from the Statewide Account. In evaluation of proposed water activities, preference will be given to projects that meet one or more criteria from each of the three “tiers” or categories. Each “tier” is grouped in level of importance. For instance, projects that meet Tier 1 criteria will outweigh projects that only meet Tier 3 criteria. WSRA grant requests for projects that may qualify for loans through the CWCBC loan program will receive preference in the Statewide Evaluation Criteria if the grant request is part of a CWCBC loan/WSRA grant package. For these CWCBC loan/WSRA grant packages, the applicant must have a CWCBC loan/WSRA grant ratio of 1:1 or higher. Preference will be given to those with a higher loan/grant ratio.

Tier 1: Promoting Collaboration/Cooperation and Meeting Water Management Goals and Identified Water Needs

- a. The water activity addresses multiple needs or issues, including consumptive and/or non-consumptive needs, or the needs and issues of multiple interests or multiple basins. This can be demonstrated by obtaining letters of support from other basin roundtables (in addition to an approval letter from the sponsoring basin)

The proposed CRIA project addresses multiple issues and needs arising from the lack of a comprehensive ecological inventory for the Eagle County reach of the Colorado River. This has significant implications for both existing and future non-consumptive and consumptive needs.

The lack of an ecological baseline and recommended restoration strategies on this reach of river jeopardizes environmental, recreation and consumptive uses on both public and private lands. This issue may have significant ramifications for multiple users, as for instance, the BLM has simultaneously recognized "Outstanding Resource Values" associated with recreational float boating, fishing and wildlife viewing while the same agency's 2012 draft Resource Management Plan identifies land along the reach as having "medium potential" for oil and gas leasing. The Eagle County Conservation District has identified this area as a streambank management zone, while the Colorado River Outfitters Association has identified significant future capacity for increased commercial boating on the reach from State Bridge to Glenwood Springs and Eagle County has acquired several open space parcels with the intent to increase recreational river access.

Pairing results of this baseline inventory with both upstream and downstream information and management plans for the river (including Grand County and the Middle Colorado River Partnership) has the potential to better manage and address future non-consumptive and consumptive interests on public and private land, and to preserve and enhance the Colorado River through the work of multiple jurisdictions, agencies and organizations.

- b. The number and types of entities represented in the application and the degree to which the activity will promote cooperation and collaboration among traditional consumptive water interests and/or non-consumptive interests, and if applicable, the degree to which the water activity is effective in addressing intrabasin or interbasin needs or issues.

ERWC has initially identified the following entities as contributors to or stakeholders in the Inventory and Assessment:

Colorado State University; The Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery program; Eagle County and the Open Space Advisory Committee and the Wild & Scenic stakeholder group; Eagle Valley Land Trust; Colorado River Conservation District; Colorado Water Conservation Board/SWSI; Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife; US

Bureau of Land Management; US Forest Service; US Geological Survey; Sonoran Institute Western Colorado Legacy Program; The Nature Conservancy (Colorado River Program); Middle Colorado River Watershed Partnership; Eagle County Conservation District; Eagle Valley Trout Unlimited; Colorado River Ranch and other residents along the Colorado River.

They will be engaged in Task 1, Stakeholder Coordination and Input, to ascertain pressing issues and potential restoration activities throughout the Basin.

Additionally, ERWC's traditional partners which include all the towns, metro districts, special water districts, many individuals, corporations and foundations within Eagle County, will be invited to express their areas of interest, if any, in the project.

Sharing results of this baseline inventory with both upstream and downstream information and management plans for the river (including Grand County and the Middle Colorado River Partnership) offers the potential to better manage and address future non-consumptive and consumptive interests on public and private land, and to preserve and enhance the Colorado River through the work of multiple jurisdictions, agencies and organizations.

- c. The water activity helps implement projects and processes identified as helping meet Colorado's future water needs, and/or addresses the gap areas between available water supply and future need as identified in SWSI or a roundtable's basin-wide water needs assessment.
The science-based inventory and assessment is designed to understand and protect the health of the Colorado River in Eagle County. Available water will be evaluated and weighed against posited future needs, and recommendations will be generated for restoration and conservation projects.

Tier 2: Facilitating Water Activity Implementation

- d. Funding from this Account will reduce the uncertainty that the water activity will be implemented. For this criterion the applicant should discuss how receiving funding from the Account will make a significant difference in the implementation of the water activity (i.e., how will receiving funding enable the water activity to move forward or the inability obtaining funding elsewhere).
ERWC has found that there are several grantors who will fund projects generated by the study, but not the study itself. By receiving funding from this Account, we will be able to commence the work and attract other funders who are looking for science-based information and/or shovel ready projects that will inform, conserve or restore the health of the Colorado River.
- e. The amount of matching funds provided by the applicant via direct contributions, demonstrable in-kind contributions, and/or other sources demonstrates a significant & appropriate commitment to the project.
Matching funds from Eagle County's General Fund, CSU and Eagle County's Open Space Fund constitute a 188% match to Basin funds requested (\$56,501 vs. \$30,000). Additionally, \$110,000 in funds will be requested from the State Account at their September 2012 meeting. We have received strong indications of support from CWCB.

Tier 3: The Water Activity Addresses Other Issues of Statewide Value and Maximizes Benefits

- f. The water activity helps sustain agriculture & open space, or meets environmental or recreational needs.

This environmental inventory and assessment encompasses a corridor that is rural, with agriculture and ranching being the primary way of life. Information gained from the study may help sustain and enhance these activities, and create partnerships and direction to do so. Eagle County's Open Space Fund has displayed recent heightened interest in this watershed with land purchases focusing on future recreation. The study will inform future recreation plans.

- g. The water activity assists in the administration of compact-entitled waters or addresses problems related to compact entitled waters and compact compliance and the degree to which the activity promotes maximum utilization of state waters.
- h. The water activity assists in the recovery of threatened and endangered wildlife species or Colorado State species of concern.

The project seeks to identify and evaluate threatened or endangered fish and/or riparian wildlife with the objective of the conservation and/or restoration of their habitats which could assist in their recovery.

- i. The water activity provides a high level of benefit to Colorado in relationship to the amount of funds requested.

Our previous Eagle River Inventory and Assessment (2005) by Dr. Brian Bledsoe generated more than \$7 million invested in projects in Eagle County by various stakeholders in order to implement CSU's identified restoration strategies, leveraging the initial study investment by a remarkable 7,000%. We feel this proposed project by Dr. Bledsoe will have similar beneficial results to Colorado.

- j. The water activity is complimentary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

The CWCB has recently approved a motion to appropriate in-stream flow rights in this section of the Colorado River - the first ever legal protection designed to ensure a minimum amount of water is maintained in the river to sustain healthy fish populations. This study is designed to further identify threats to the aquatic population and define prioritized solutions to those threats.

Continued: Explanation of how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**.
Please attach additional pages as necessary.

Part IV. – Required Supporting Material

1. **Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability** – This information is needed to assess the viability of the water project or activity. Please provide a description of the water supply source to be utilized, or the water body to be affected by, the water activity. This should include a description of applicable water rights, and water rights issues, and the name/location of water bodies affected by the water activity.
The proposed study of the Colorado River and tributaries in Eagle County is nonconsumptive of water and may include water rights issues when completed.
2. Please provide a brief narrative of any related studies or permitting issues.

There are no permitting issues.

We will incorporate review of all existing data and study of the Colorado River during the collection and assessment phase of the project, including work gathered by various

agencies and organizations within the watershed. A study by Tetra Tech in 2008, entitled "Colorado River Flow Regimes," evaluated trends in flow alterations and developed flow recommendations for planning for future flow modifications.

Other existing known data sources or data partners may include the following: Colorado Interbasin Compact Committee; Colorado Basin Roundtable; The Upper Colorado River Endangered Fish Recovery program; Eagle County and the Wild & Scenic stakeholder group; Grand County Water Resource Management & Grand County Water Information Network; Garfield County; Colorado River Conservation District; Colorado Water Conservation Board/SWSI; Colorado Division of Wildlife; US Bureau of Land Management; US Forest Service; US Geological Survey; US Office of Surface Mining; Sonoran Institute Western Colorado Legacy Program; The Nature Conservancy (Colorado River Program); Middle Colorado River Watershed Partnership & Roaring Fork Conservancy; Natural Resources Conservation Service and Eagle County Conservation District; Northwest Colorado Council of Governments.

3. Statement of Work, Detailed Budget, and Project Schedule

The statement of work will form the basis for the contract between the Applicant and the State of Colorado. In short, the Applicant is agreeing to undertake the work for the compensation outlined in the statement of work and budget, and in return, the State of Colorado is receiving the deliverables/products specified. **Please note that costs incurred prior to execution of a contract or purchase order are not subject to reimbursement.** All WSRA funds are disbursed on a reimbursement basis after review invoices and appropriate backup material.

Please provide a detailed statement of work using the template in Exhibit A. Additional sections or modifications may be included as necessary. Please define all acronyms and include page numbers.

COLORADO RIVER INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Exhibit A **Statement of Work**

WATER ACTIVITY NAME – Colorado River Inventory and Assessment

GRANT RECIPIENT – Eagle River Watershed Council, Inc.

FUNDING SOURCE – Colorado River Basin Roundtable Water Supply reserve Account

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

In 1996 a group of stakeholders interested in monitoring the clean up of the Eagle Mine Superfund Site produced the Eagle River Watershed Plan which recommended the formal creation of an Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC). That same document also outlined a collaborative, local philosophy for protecting and improving water quality, quantity, wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities and promoting compatible land use practices. The Plan focused exclusively on the Eagle River watershed.

As one of its projects ERWC worked with Colorado State University (CSU) to create a study entitled “Eagle River Inventory and Assessment (ERIA)” which was produced by Dr. Brian Bledsoe in 2005. That study also focused exclusively on assessment of the Eagle River watershed from a basinwide ecological perspective with the objective of defining and prioritizing potential restoration activities to improve the integrity of the river system. Bledsoe’s science-based study has since been ERWC’s guiding document with regard to restoration projects and strategy development.

Today ERWC is in the process of updating the 16 year old Eagle River Watershed Plan – and adding the Colorado River watershed in Eagle County. This process has led to the realization that there is little data about a river which flows nearly 60 miles through Eagle County. There is no inventory of the ecology of the river corridor outlining what needs to be preserved or restored that directs community or state investment. We are proposing funding a science-based Inventory and Assessment of the ecological setting of the Colorado River corridor that will have lasting value for future land use decision making, conservation funding, enhancement and other agriculture, recreation or wildlife-based projects that benefit Eagle County and its tourism-based economy

OBJECTIVES

- To create a science-based, overall study of the Colorado River corridor, its inhabitants and ecosystems, that will delineate a prioritized list of needed restoration and conservation projects.
- To understand the ecological setting of the Colorado River corridor in order to preserve those values with future land use decision making, conservation funding, enhancement and other agriculture, recreation or wildlife-based projects that benefit Eagle County and its tourism-based economy.
- To utilize the report to educate our community and state, and to help us obtain public support and funding for these projects

COLORADO RIVER INVENTORY AND ASSESSMENT

Exhibit A **Statement of Work**

WATER ACTIVITY NAME – Colorado River Inventory and Assessment

GRANT RECIPIENT – Eagle River Watershed Council, Inc.

FUNDING SOURCE – Colorado River Basin Roundtable Account and State Account

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

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- To utilize the report to educate our community and state, and to help us obtain public support and funding for these projects

TASK 1 – Stakeholder Coordination and Input

Method/Procedure

The Eagle River Watershed Council, in coordination with Colorado State University (CSU), shall convene the stakeholder group as part of the project outreach to identify and better define the most pressing issues and potential restoration activities throughout the basin prior to CSU field work.

At a minimum this work will be important to identify critical questions about the watershed as well as a set of candidate restoration projects. The stakeholder input will be augmented through field reconnaissance, statistical analysis and a multi-criterion decision analysis approach to rank the ecological effectiveness of potential projects.

Stakeholders will be collaboratively identified by the Eagle River Watershed Council staff, and interviews will be conducted in group or individual settings ahead of field inventory and literature review. Preliminarily identified stakeholders in the project include, but are not limited to: Eagle County, NRCS, Eagle County Soil Conservation District, Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, Colorado River Water Conservation District, BLM, USFS, USGS, USACE, Trout Unlimited, Colorado River Outfitters Association, The Nature Conservancy, Sonoran Institute, CSU and significant landowners as well as major water rights owners.

Deliverable

A printed and electronic summary Stakeholder Input report for CSU and ERWC use as part of the project.

TASK 2 – Data Inventory & Literature Review

Method/Procedure

CSU, in coordination with ERWC, will identify and analyze existing monitoring data and information to assess the status of river, including the identification of any data gaps. This will include a literature review of all known data for the Colorado, including data which might overlap with upstream or downstream reaches, as well as any data provided through Task 1 (meetings with watershed stakeholders, and local, state and federal scientists).

Deliverable

A printed and electronic summary of Data Inventory & Literature Review for CSU and ERWC use as part of the project.

TASK 3 – Inventory and Synoptic Field Survey

Method/Procedure

CSU, in coordination with ERWC, will inventory channel, riparian, and upland characteristics within Eagle County that influence the ecological integrity, recreational amenities, and aesthetic values of the Colorado River and its major tributaries in the reach. This task will include conducting synoptic field surveys of riparian condition, of chemical, physical, and biological water quality, and of geomorphic attributes to supplement existing information. The step will also require GIS inventory and analysis of riparian conditions, land cover, geomorphic processes, etc., in coordination with Eagle County GIS Department and other applicable agencies.

Deliverable

Field survey data sheets, which may also include printed and electronic summaries, synoptic survey and mapping as applicable, to be utilized in the production of final CRIA report.

TASK 4 – Candidate Rehabilitation Projects List & Review

Method/Procedure

CSU, in coordination with the ERWC, will utilize findings of Tasks 1 through 3 to identify and describe candidate rehabilitation projects (structural and non-structural) and link to current issues and likely outcomes based upon field reconnaissance, stakeholder input, and scientific assessment.

Deliverable

Draft candidate rehabilitation projects list, to be coordinated and reviewed with ERWC staff and key project stakeholders, to be utilized in production of final CRIA assessment and report. Draft projects list will be prioritized based on likelihood of success, potential benefits, rough estimates of costs, and stakeholder input using a multi-criterion decision analysis (MCDA) approach to rank the ecological effectiveness of potential projects.

TASK 5 – Draft Colorado River Inventory & Assessment (CRIA) Report

Method/Procedure

CSU, in coordination with ERWC, will produce a report describing the results of the river corridor inventory and prioritized recommendations for rehabilitation projects following the updated approach and template of the 2005 Eagle River Inventory and Assessment.

Deliverable

The final CRIA report will include the following:

- Description of candidate rehabilitation and other projects (structural and non-structural) identified during the inventory
- Prioritized list of rehabilitation strategies based upon likelihood of success, potential benefits and rough estimates of cost
- MCDA (multi-criteria decision analysis) spreadsheet tool used to rank candidate projects
- Detailed description of the methods in the inventory and analysis of candidate rehabilitation projects
- List of names, titles and affiliations of all persons who prepared the content of the report and participated in the monitoring activities
- Analysis of all quantitative monitoring data using graph and table formats when appropriate
- Prints or colored photocopies of all photographs used
- Maps identifying monitoring areas, cross-sections, transects, etc.
- Results of qualitative monitoring of site characteristics, functions and values

COLORADO RIVER INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT								
EXPENSES								
Tasks	Project Manager ERWC	Project Consultant CSU	CSU PhD candidate	CSU researcher	ERWC staff & supplies	CSU Materials & Supplies	CSU travel	Total Expenses
Task 1 - Stakeholder Coordination & Input	\$ 12,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 577		\$ 800	\$ 26,377
Task 2 - Data Inventory & Literature Review	\$ 12,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 100		\$ 400	\$ 27,500
Task 3 - Physical Inventory & Synoptic Field Survey	\$ 4,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 26,000	\$ 19,993	\$ 100	\$ 900	\$ 4,000	\$ 64,993
Task 4 - Candidate Rehabilitation Projects List & Review	\$ 6,000	\$ 9,000	\$ 10,967	\$ 7,700	\$ 100	\$ 936	\$ 800	\$ 35,503
Task 5 - Co. River Inventory & Assessment Report	\$ 14,000	\$ 8,828	\$ 14,000	\$ 2,700	\$ 2,000		\$ 600	\$ 42,128
Total Expenses	\$ 48,000	\$ 32,828	\$ 70,967	\$ 33,393	\$ 2,877	\$ 1,836	\$ 6,600	\$ 196,501

COLORADO RIVER INVENTORY & ASSESSMENT						
INCOME						
Tasks	CSU	Basin Roundtable	State WRSA fund	Eagle County	OSAC	Total Income
Task 1 - Stakeholder Coordination & Input	\$ 585			\$ 17,500	\$ 8,292	\$ 26,377
Task 2 - Data Inventory & Literature Review	\$ 715	\$ 15,000	\$ 2,577		\$ 9,208	\$ 27,500
Task 3 - Physical Inventory & Synoptic Field Survey	\$ 2,666	\$ 15,000	\$ 47,327			\$ 64,993
Task 4 - Candidate Rehabilitation Projects List & Review	\$ 1,300		\$ 19,203	\$ 7,500	\$ 7,500	\$ 35,503
Task 5 - Co. River Inventory & Assessment Report	\$ 1,235		\$ 40,893			\$ 42,128
Total Income	\$ 6,501	\$ 30,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 25,000	\$ 196,501

[illegible]

OFFICE OF THE
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
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PETER F. RUNYON
JON STAVNEY
SARA J. FISHER

February 27, 2012

Colorado River Basin Roundtable
c/o Jim Pokrandt
Colorado River Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 1120
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602

Re: Eagle River Watershed Council Colorado River Inventory and Assessment Project

Dear Roundtable Members:

Eagle County is submitting this letter in support of the Eagle River Watershed Council (ERWC) grant application for the Colorado River Inventory and Assessment Project (CRIA). The project is already receiving funding from Eagle County and the Eagle County Open Space Advisory Committee, and we request your sponsorship of the grant.

Eagle County recognizes the importance of a good ecological baseline assessment of the reach of the Colorado River through Eagle County. Currently, there is no inventory of the river corridor outlining what areas should be preserved or restored that can help direct future community or State investment. As your members may be aware, Eagle County has made significant and strategic open space acquisitions over the last two years along this reach of the river in an effort to enhance recreational river access from State Bridge to Dotsero.

Funding a science-based inventory and assessment of the ecological setting of the Colorado River corridor will have lasting value for future land use decision making, conservation funding, water resource enhancement and other agriculture, recreation or wildlife-based projects that benefit Eagle County and its tourism-based economy.

The CRIA project, managed by ERWC in partnership with Colorado State University Engineering Research Center, should not be viewed as simply another 'study'. Instead, it will yield a comprehensive baseline inventory of ecological issues and prioritization of restoration efforts – an approach that has already proven instrumental in directing major community partnerships on the Eagle River since 2006.

Eagle County supports this effort wholeheartedly and looks forward to your endorsement of the enclosed project grant application.

Sincerely,
Eagle County Board of Commissioners

Peter F. Runyon
Chairman

Jon Stavney
Commissioner

Sara J. Fisher
Commissioner



March 6, 2012

Colorado River Basin Roundtable
Colorado River Water Conservation District
P.O. Box 1120
Glenwood Springs, CO 81602

Re: Eagle River Watershed Council Colorado River Inventory & Assessment

Dear Roundtable:

We are writing on behalf of the local, Eagle Valley Chapter of Trout Unlimited in support of the Eagle River Watershed Council's (ERWC) grant application for their Colorado Inventory and Assessment Project. We have spoken at length with our partners at the ERWC and feel strongly that our mission to conserve, protect and restore North America's cold water fisheries aligns with their vision to provide a scientific approach, aimed at protecting and enhancing this valuable resource in Eagle County.

Furthermore, the development of a plan now and its potential impact on water resource management in the future is essential to the sustainability of the Colorado River for generations to come. Please do not hesitate to contact us at any time should you like to discuss further our stance on this issue.

Sincerely,

Nick Rader
President/Eagle Valley Trout Unlimited

Alex Schaefer
Past President/Eagle Valley Trout Unlimited

Eagle Valley Trout Unlimited
P.O. Box 6353
Vail, CO 81658
www.eaglevalleytu.org