

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
September 24, 2013
Agenda Item 18(m)

Applicant: Rural Water Authority of Douglas County

Water Activity Name: Rural Well Level Monitoring in Douglas County

Water Activity Purpose: Needs Assessment

County: Douglas

River Basin: Metro

Water Source: Denver Basin aquifer

Amount Requested: \$50,000 (Metro Basin Account)

Matching Funds: \$17,657 (USGS \$16,914 (25%); RWADC \$743 (1%))

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$50,000 from the Metro Roundtable Basin Account to help complete the project titled: Rural Well Monitoring in Douglas County

Water Activity Summary: WSRA funding will provide the opportunity for the applicant to continue monitoring the county wide groundwater-level network established during an earlier phase (2011-2013) of this multi-year project. Approximately 8,021 self-supplied private household or domestic wells in this rural portion of Douglas County pump groundwater from the Denver Basin aquifer, which is administratively known as nonrenewable. Therefore groundwater availability in this area may be insufficient for long-term demand. The existing county-wide groundwater-level monitoring network consists 36 domestic wells throughout the county. Water levels are measured bi-monthly in all wells and 15 of these are equipped with pressure transducers for continuous (hourly) water-level monitoring. The creation of this network and the data collected from the study has added to the current network of wells currently being used to monitor water levels in the Denver Basin. Water levels measured from wells in this network over a long period of time provide a better assessment of current water resource and provide the basis from which to monitor long-term changes of the hydrologic system. This project will help document rural areas of the county that should be considered a priority in infrastructure planning efforts.

Threshold and Evaluation Criteria:

The application meets all four Threshold Criteria.

Funding/Match Summary:

WSRA Metro Account	\$50,000	73.9%
U.S. Geological Survey (match)	\$16,914	25.0%
Rural Water Authority of Douglas County (match)	<u>\$743</u>	<u>1.1%</u>
Total Project Costs	\$67,657	100%

Discussion:

Staff endorses continuing efforts to monitor long-term groundwater levels in this hydrologic system.

Issues/Additional Needs:

No issues have been identified.

Staff Recommendation:

Staff recommends approval of up to \$50,000 from the Metro Roundtable Account to help complete the project titled: Rural Well Level Monitoring in Douglas County

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 and Final Deliverable: 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. 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.

June 21, 2013

Jacob Bornstein
Colorado Water Conservation Board
Water Supply Planning Section, WSRA Application
1580 Logan Street, Suite 200
Denver, CO 80203


Dear Jacob:

The Metro Roundtable voted at its June 12, 2013, meeting to approve a grant application from the Rural Water Authority of Douglas County to help implement a Denver Basin groundwater level monitoring program in rural Douglas County. The Roundtable unanimously approved \$50,000 from the Metro WSRA for funding this project.

The Roundtable underwent an evaluation and approval process, believes the application fully meets the Threshold and Evaluation Criteria for the WSRA Grant Program, and is supportive of this application as a water supply project that helps define the water supply "gap" in the Metro Roundtable's area. During the evaluation and approval process, there were no dissenting votes or opinions expressed, there was a quorum present, and the application was unanimously supported by the Metro Roundtable membership.

This letter is intended to fulfill Threshold Criteria B (Part III 1.b. in the WSRA Application). The full WSRA Application will be provided separately by the applicant. Please let me know if you need any additional information.

Sincerely yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mark Koleber".

Mark Koleber
Chair, Metro Roundtable



COLORADO WATER CONSERVATION BOARD



WATER SUPPLY RESERVE ACCOUNT APPLICATION FORM

Rural Well Level Monitoring in Douglas County

Name of Water Activity/Project

Rural Water Authority of Douglas County

Name of Applicant

Metro Roundtable

Amount from Statewide Account:

0

Amount from Basin Account(s):

50,000

Total WSRA Funds Requested:

50,000

Approving Basin Roundtable(s)

(If multiple basins specify amounts in parentheses.)

Application Content

Application Instructions	page 2
Part I – Description of the Applicant	page 3
Part II – Description of the Water Activity	page 6
Part III – Threshold and Evaluation Criteria	page 9
Part IV – Required Supporting Material	
Water Rights, Availability, and Sustainability	page 13
Related Studies	page 13
Signature Page	page 15

Required Exhibits

A. Statement of Work, Budget, and Schedule	page 17
B. Project Map	page 21
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)

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

Instructions

To receive funding from the Water Supply Reserve Account (WSRA), a proposed water activity must be approved by the local Basin Roundtable **AND** the Colorado Water Conservation Board (CWCB). The process for Basin Roundtable consideration and approval is outlined in materials in Appendix 1.

Once approved by the local Basin Roundtable, the applicant should submit this application **with a detailed statement of work including budget and schedule as Exhibit A** to CWCB staff by the application deadline.

WSRA applications are due with the roundtable letter of support 60 calendar days prior to the bi-monthly Board meeting at which it will be considered. Board meetings are held in January, March, May, July, September, and November. Meeting details, including scheduled dates, agendas, etc. are posted on the CWCB website at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us> Applications to the WSRA Basin Account are considered at every board meeting, while applications to the WSRA Statewide Account are only considered at the March and September board meetings.

When completing this application, the applicant should refer to the WSRA Criteria and Guidelines available at: <http://cwcb.state.co.us/LoansGrants/water-supply-reserve-account-grants/Documents/WSRACriteriaGuidelines.pdf>

The application, statement of work, budget, and schedule **must be submitted in electronic format** (Microsoft Word or text-enabled PDF are preferred) and can be emailed or mailed on a disk to:

Greg Johnson – WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1580 Logan Street, Suite 200
Denver, CO 80203
gregory.johnson@state.co.us

If you have questions or need additional assistance, please contact Greg Johnson at: 303-866-3441 x3249 or gregory.johnson@state.co.us.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

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

1.	Applicant Name(s):	Rural Water Authority of Douglas County		
	Mailing address:	PO Box 4610 Parker, CO 80138		
	Taxpayer ID#:	FEIN #27-0966710		
	Primary Contact:	Geoff Withers	Position/Title:	Chairman
	Email:	District1@rwadc.org		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 303-882-0692	Office:	720-851-2012
	Alternate Contact:	Sarah Shepherd	Position/Title:	District Manager
	Email:	sees@ccrider.us		
	Phone Numbers:	Cell: 303-652-7745	Office:	

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.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

3. Provide a brief description of your organization

The Rural Water Authority of Douglas County (The Authority) was established on October 8, 2008 by the Board of Douglas County Commissioners, entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the Grandview Estates Rural Water Conservation District pursuant to the provisions of Article XIV, Section 18(2)(a) of the Colorado Constitution, and C.R.S. § 29-1-204. Since that time, the Thunderbird Water and Sanitation District and Louviers Water and Sanitation District have also signed the IGA as Participants.

The Authority consists of a nine member Board of Directors:

- a. 5 Director Districts represent individual water providers (an owner of a water well permitted or operated for domestic or household purpose or services),*
- b. 3 Small Water System Directors (operate a small water system for 500 equivalent residential units or less)*
- c. 1 Douglas County Commissioner*

The purpose of The Authority is to assist its participants in developing water resources, systems, in whole or in part, for the benefit of Rural Water users and owners of land within its service area. The Authority's defined functions and services include (a) collaborating and cooperating with other local, regional, and statewide water supply agencies in the development of water supply plans and conservation of water resources, and (b) educating and informing water users as to issues affecting an adequate, sustainable, and reliable water supply.

The Authority represents the owners of approximately 8,000 household and domestic wells and 15 small water system providers in the unincorporated area of Douglas County. The estimated population within the Authority's service area is 28,620 (2010), about 9.8% of Douglas County's population, and the service area comprises 80.49% of Douglas County's geographical area.

A representation of the Authority's Service Area, Small Water Providers and Director Districts can be found in Attachment B of this Application.

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

*The Applicant will be the contracting entity for the grant, but has an ongoing subcontract with the **United States Geological Survey (USGS)**, a scientific agency of the United States government, in pursuit of the ongoing Work Plan. A bureau of the United States Department of the Interior, the USGS is that department's sole scientific agency, and hydrology is one of their specialties.*

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

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.

Article II(E)(ii) of the Authority's Creation Agreement states that one of the powers of the Authority is

To operate as an enterprise under Article X, Section 20, of the Colorado Constitution and create one or more entities which qualify as an enterprise under Article X, Section 20, of the Colorado Constitution.

Therefore, we believe that the Authority has minimal exposure to TABOR's Fiscal Year Spending limit, emergency reserve mandate or any of its other provisions, by virtue of the Authority being defined as a TABOR enterprise.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

Part II. – Description of the Water Activity/Project

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

☐ Nonconsumptive (Environmental or Recreational)

☐ Agricultural

☐ Municipal/Industrial

☒ Needs Assessment

☐ Education

☐ Other Explain:

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

The purpose to which the grant funds will be put is to ascertain how much, if any, of the aquifer water levels in wells within our service area may be subsiding. This information will be used for a needs assessment, to ascertain when different areas of the county currently served by wells will need to secure an outside, sustainable water source. The information will also be used to inform well owners as to their possible susceptibility to receding aquifer water levels, so it has an educational objective as well.

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

☒ Study ☐ Implementation

4. To catalog measurable results achieved with WSRA funds can you provide any of the following numbers?

New Storage Created (acre-feet)

New Annual Water Supplies Developed, Consumptive or Nonconsumptive (acre-feet)

Existing Storage Preserved or Enhanced (acre-feet)

Length of Stream Restored or Protected (linear feet)

Length of Pipe/Canal Built or Improved (linear feet)

Efficiency Savings (acre-feet/year OR dollars/year – **circle one**)

Area of Restored or Preserved Habitat (acres)

☒ Other -- Explain: Analysis of existing water supplies

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

4. To help us map WSRA projects please include a map (Exhibit B) and provide the general coordinates below:

Latitude:

Longitude:

[A map of the Service Area of the RWADC is included in Exhibit B, as noted above. A map of the wells targeted for monitoring can be found in Attachment C.]

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.

In 1990, the population of Douglas County, Colorado was just over 60,000 people. Between 2000 and 2008 the population had increased by about 60 percent from 175,766 to 280,621 residents occupying more than 101,000 housing units. The Douglas County planning commission forecasts the population to grow to more than 450,000 by 2030. While some Douglas County municipal water providers have water rights to the South Platte River and its tributaries Cherry Creek and Plum Creek, their allocations do not provide enough water to satisfy the renewable supplies necessary to fulfill the existing water demands of the county. Development of the groundwater resources has become necessary to meet the growing needs of the county.

About 485 mi² of central and eastern Douglas County are underlain by the Denver Basin aquifer system, and groundwater pumped from the aquifers is the primary source of municipal and domestic water supply in Douglas County. Domestic groundwater use is less than municipal use but is widespread throughout the basin, and rural areas depend solely on self-supplied groundwater for water supply (Paschke, 2010). Douglas County reports the total number of domestic private wells increased from 1,242 in 1970, to 8,264 by 2008, 8,021 of which are individual household or domestic wells. The Denver Basin aquifer system is administratively recognized as nonrenewable by State water law because the aquifers are primarily confined and receive little precipitation recharge (Graham and VanSlyke, 2004). Therefore groundwater availability in this area may be insufficient for long-term demand.

To assess seasonal and long-term water-level changes, a county-wide groundwater-level monitoring network was established for Douglas County in June, 2011. The network consists of 36 domestic wells throughout the county (Attachment C-Figure 1). Water levels are measured bi-monthly in all wells and 15 of these are equipped with pressure transducers for continuous (hourly) water-level monitoring (Attachment C-Figure 1). The creation of this network and the data collected from the study has added to the current network of wells currently being used to monitor water levels in the Denver Basin.

The primary objective of this grant's work is to continue monitoring the county wide groundwater-level network, established during the 2011-2013 phase of the project. Water levels measured from wells in the network over a long term provide a better assessment of the current water resource and provide the basis from which to monitor long-term changes of the hydrologic system. This project will help document rural areas of the county that should be considered a priority in infrastructure planning efforts. In order to develop data that can be used reliably to evaluate groundwater supply trends, it is necessary to have as long a time series as possible. Funding this grant would continue to

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

meet that need. Note that continued funding of this project will result in less cost per well tested than in the initial phase, due to the recently-approved grant by the CWCB Board of \$19,960 from the Severance Tax Trust Fund to purchase pressure transducers for the project.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

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

The project meets the water needs identification activities by the Statewide Water Supply Initiative (SWSI). Eligible Water Activities, as identified in Senate Bill 06-179, include the following:

- *Studies or analysis of structural, nonstructural, consumptive, and nonconsumptive water needs, projects, or activities; and*
- *Structural and nonstructural water projects or activities.*

The applicant is an eligible grantee, being a political subdivision of the state, pursuant to 29-1-204(4), C.R.S.

- 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.

The project was approved by the Metro BRT and by the CWCB Board in 2009, when the initial phase of the project was funded.

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 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.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

- 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 WSRA 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.

***SWSI:** Key recommendation #5 “Create a Common Understanding of Future Water Supplies. To more accurately assess the alternatives available to the state in meeting our future water needs, the analysis of supply availability for each basin will determine developable flows, taking into account factors such as ... hydrologic conditions.”*

***SWSI:** Key recommendation #6 “Develop Implementation Plans Towards Meeting Future Needs. While many of the Identified Projects and Processes are already progressing toward implementation, their successful implementation, and the success of any current or future option, for meeting our water needs will have some degree of uncertainty. To better facilitate successful implementation, the following should be addressed in more detail:*

- a. Addressing gaps in rural areas and smaller water providers.*

The proposed project supports 37-75-104(2)(c), C.R.S. by contributing to a basin-wide water supply needs assessment, by identifying water availability and those areas at the greatest risk of depletions.

- 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)

A summary of the budget for the proposed grant, indicating the match from USGS, is included below in Part IV, #3. Statement of Work, Detailed Budget, and Project Schedule, on page 15 of this application.

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.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

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.**

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 CWCB loan program will receive preference in the Statewide Evaluation Criteria if the grant request is part of a CWCB loan/WSRA grant package. For these CWCB loan/WSRA grant packages, the applicant must have a CWCB 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).
- 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.
- 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.

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).
- 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.

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.
- 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.
- i. The water activity provides a high level of benefit to Colorado in relationship to the amount of funds requested.
- j. The water activity is complimentary to or assists in the implementation of other CWCB programs.

Continued: Explanation of how the water activity/project meets all applicable **Evaluation Criteria**.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

Please attach additional pages as necessary.

A Brief Update on the Findings of the Current Grant and justification for this grant continuing the work:

Current Findings

Water levels have been measured bimonthly from June 2011 through April 2013. Analysis of the water level measurements shows seasonal fluctuations as expected. Water levels rise in the winter months (October through March) and decline during the summer (April through September). The time-series data indicate, on average, the highest water levels are observed during early March and the lowest are observed in late August. The median difference between the highest and lowest observed water levels for all wells in the Upper Dawson is 3.6 feet, over 9 feet in the Lower Dawson, and about 10.5 feet in the Denver. The minimum difference between the highest and lowest observed water levels in a given well ranged from about 0.9 ft. in the Denver to about 1.4 Lower Dawson. The maximum difference between the highest and lowest observed water levels in a given well ranged from over 9 ft. in the Arapahoe to over 80 ft. in the Laramie-Fox Hills.

Analysis of the water level measurements shows a year-to-year decline in all of the aquifers (Attachment C- Figure 2). A comparison year to year water level measurements (June 2011 to June 2012, August 2011 to August 2012, October 2011 to October 2012, December 2011 to December 2012, February 2012 to February 2013, and April 2012 to April 2013) shows an average decline in water levels of 0.6 ft. in the Upper Dawson, 2.9 ft. in the Lower Dawson, 3.6 ft. in the Denver, 1.5 in the Arapahoe, and 13.0 ft. in the Laramie-Fox Hills.

Analysis of the time-series data shows a detailed and more complex record of water level changes. Of note was the observed rise in water level over 5 ft. in less than a 2 week period in early July 2012 during the seasonal decline. This marked rise in the water level occurred in a Lower Dawson well (Attachment C- Figure 2a) on the northern edge of the county and was observed, to a lesser extent, in wells on southern edges of the county and in several Denver wells (Attachment C- Figure 2b).

Continued Monitoring

Funding for the current monitoring activities will be exhausted in June 2013 after two full years of data collection. Continued water level monitoring will be necessary to determine if the declines observed to date are in response to short term events or are part of a longer cycle. If water level declines continue, additional data can be used to better quantify the rate of decline. This information can be used by State and local officials when making critical decisions about the management of local water resources. Data collected from the study can also be used to calibrate current or future groundwater models that can aid in the better understanding of the hydrologic conditions.

The ultimate goal of the project is to have at least five years' of sampling data to indicate in a time series where changes in aquifer water levels are taking place. After two years of data collection, this application would fund one more year of the labor portion of the project. The cost of leasing pressure transducers would be obviated by a separate grant from the Severance Tax Trust Fund, which was awarded March 9, 2013 (see Attachment C).

Paschke, S.S. ed., 2011, Groundwater availability of the Denver Basin aquifer system, Colorado: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1770, 274 p.

Graham, Glenn, and VanSlyke, George, 2004, Development of the regulatory framework for Denver Basin aquifers: *The Mountain Geologist*, v. 41, no. 4, p. 153-160.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

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 ultimate purpose of this work is to be prepared for eventual necessity of securing a sustainable source of water supply for areas of Douglas County when they need it.

2. Please provide a brief narrative of any related studies or permitting issues.

The Douglas County 2030 Comprehensive Master Plan includes the following items

a. Goal 8-3, Objective 8.3A:

8-3A.1 Work with municipalities, other counties, water providers and user groups in planning for long-term water supplies

8-3A.2 Encourage local leaders to work together to take a pro-active approach in creating a sustainable water supply

In addition, the following work is cited:

Colorado Division of Water Resources, 2003, Ground water levels in the Denver Basin bedrock aquifers, 2003 annual report, 132 p.

Colorado Division of Water Resources, 2004, Ground water levels in the Denver Basin bedrock aquifers, 2004 annual report, 132 p.

Colorado Water Conservation Board, 2004a, Statewide Water Supply Initiative Report, November 2004, variously paginated, accessed March 19, 2009, at

<http://cwcb.state.co.us/IWMD/SWSITechnicalResources/SWSIPhaseIReport/SWSIPhaseIReport.htm>

Colorado Water Conservation Board, 2004b, South Platte Decision Support System Ground-water Component Phase 1, Task 44.2, Denver Basin region water level technical memorandum, July 30, 2004, 27 p.

Colorado Water Conservation Board, 2006a, South Platte Decision Support System Ground-water Component Phase 3, Task 44.2, Denver Basin region water level technical memorandum,

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

- November 28, 2006, 65 p., accessed February 27, 2008, at ftp://dwrftp.state.co.us/cdss/gwm/tm/SPDSS44-2_20061128.pdf
- Fenneman, N.M., 1931, *Physiography of the western United States*: New York, McGraw Hill, 534 p.
- Graham, Glenn, and VanSlyke, George, 2004, *Development of the regulatory framework for Denver Basin aquifers: The Mountain Geologist*, v. 41, no. 4, p. 153-160.
- Major, T.J., Robson, S.G., Romero, J.C., and Zawistowski, Stanley, 1983, *Hydrogeologic Data from Parts of the Denver Basin*. Colorado: U.S. Geological Survey Open-File Report 83-274.
- McConaghy, J.A., Chase, G.H., Boettcher, A.J., and Major, T.J., 1964, *Hydrogeologic data of the Denver Basin*, Colorado: Colorado Water Conservation Board, Basic-Data Report no. 15, 224 p.
- Paschke, S.S. ed., 2011, *Groundwater availability of the Denver Basin aquifer system*, Colorado: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1770, 274 p.
- Robson, S.G., 1987, *Bedrock aquifers in the Denver Basin, Colorado – A quantitative water-resources appraisal*: U.S. Geological Survey Professional Paper 1257, 73 p.
- Robson, S.G., and Romero, J.C., 1981a, *Geologic Structure, Hydrology, and Water Quality of the Dawson Aquifer in the Denver Basin*, Colorado: U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Investigations Atlas HA-643.
- Robson, S.G., and Romero, J.C., 1981b, *Geologic Structure, Hydrology, and Water Quality of the Denver Aquifer in the Denver Basin*, Colorado: U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Investigations Atlas HA-643.
- Robson, S.G., Romero, J.C., and Zawistowski, Stanley, 1981, *Geologic Structure, Hydrology, and Water Quality of the Arapahoe Aquifer in the Denver Basin*, Colorado: U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologic Investigations Atlas HA-647.
- Romero, J.C., 1976, *Ground-water resources of the bedrock aquifers of the Denver Basin*: Colorado Division of Water Resources Report, 109 p.

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.

Funding Sources

Basin Account	\$50,000	73.9%
U.S. Geological Survey	\$16,914	25.0%
RWADC	<u>\$743</u>	<u>1.1%</u>
Total Project Cost	\$67,657	100%

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

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

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 statement 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.

PAYMENT

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and invoicing by the applicant. Invoices from any other entity (i.e. subcontractors) cannot be processed by the State. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by major task, and estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire water activity in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues and proposed or implemented corrective actions. The last 5 percent of the entire water activity budget will be withheld until final project/water activity documentation is completed. 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 help promote the development of a common technical platform.

The above statements are true to the best of my knowledge:

Signature of Applicant:

*Geoff Withers, Chairman
Rural Water Authority of D.C.*

Print Applicant's Name:

Geoff Withers

Project Title:

Rural Well Monitoring, Douglas County

Return an electronic version (hardcopy may also be submitted) of this application to:

Greg Johnson – WSRA Application
Colorado Water Conservation Board
1580 Logan Street, Suite 200
Denver, CO 80203
gregory.johnson@state.co.us

**Attachment A - CWCB Grant Application
Rural Water Authority of Douglas County
Supplemental to Existing Contract Number C150473**

Statement of Work

WATER ACTIVITY NAME - Rural Douglas County groundwater-level monitoring network

GRANT RECIPIENT – Rural Water Authority of Douglas County

FUNDING SOURCE – USGS matching funds, CWCB Metro Basin Account

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

This project established a county-wide groundwater-level monitoring network in 2011 for the long-term monitoring of the water resources of rural areas of unincorporated Douglas County, Colorado. A scientific evaluation of groundwater resources in the Authority's service area has never been accomplished. In 2010, Douglas County estimated the population would grow from 293,521 residents to more than 444,784 by 2030. Some water providers in the county have surface-water rights, but their allocations do not provide enough water to satisfy the renewable supplies necessary to fulfill the existing water demands of the county. Development of the groundwater resources will continue to be necessary to meet the growing needs of the county.

Funding of this application would continue aquifer water level sampling for one more year. The ultimate goal of the project is to collect at least five years' data, for a more accurate representation of changes in the groundwater levels.

OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of this study is to continue monitoring the county wide groundwater-level monitoring network for one year (12 months), to eventually achieve long-term monitoring of the water resources of Douglas County, Colorado. The network consists of 36 wells throughout the county. Water levels will be measured bi-monthly in all wells; ten sites are equipped with pressure transducers for continuous monitoring, and 26 wells will be monitored manually. Water levels measured from wells in the network will provide an assessment of the current water resource and provide the basis from which to monitor long-term changes of the hydrologic system.

TASKS

TASK 1 - Monthly Water- Level Measurements and data Management

Description of Task Water levels in 36 wells (*Attachment C-Figure 1*) will be measured on a bi-monthly basis and recorded. This task includes reviewing the field data forms for accuracy, and entering the water level data into the NWIS database. Fifteen wells are equipped with a pressure

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

transducer and data recorders for recording hourly water level measurements.

Method/Procedure

Completion of this task is estimated to require 48 hours every other month to measuring water levels and perform data management and quality assurance procedures. After each round of water-level measurements, hydrographs will be produced and reviewed to ensure that the selected wells are providing reliable data. This task is estimated to require a total of 336 hours over the 12 month monitoring.

Deliverable

Data log of water levels in selected wells. Data will also be published on the USGS National Water Information System Web site (NWISWeb).

TASK 2 - Report Preparation

Description of Task

A USGS Scientific Investigation Report (SIR) will be prepared to summarize the water-level monitoring results for the period of monitoring. This report will be an update the report currently being prepared under contract C150473. Any GIS data sets generated during the project will be provided to the RWADC as a deliverable from the USGS to the RWADC.

Method/Procedure

Preparation of report. This task is estimated to require 200 hours of labor.

Deliverable

SIR Report and any GIS data sets generated. All data will be available to the public on NWISWeb.

REPORTING AND FINAL DELIVERABLE

Reporting: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed/amended contract. The Progress Report shall describe the completion of the tasks identified in the Statement 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.

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

BUDGET**Total Costs by Colorado Fiscal Year (CO FY)**

	Labor	Other Direct Costs	Total Project Costs	USGS Matching Funds	RWADC	CWCB Grant to RWADC
Task 1 – CO FY13 Monthly water-level measurements and data management	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 1 – CO FY14 Monthly water-level measurements and data management	\$33,835	\$10,218	\$44,053	\$11,013	\$743	\$32,297
Task 2 – CO FY14 Report preparation	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Task 2 – CO FY15 Report preparation	\$23,604	\$0	\$23,604	\$5,901	\$0	\$17,703
Total Costs:	\$57,439	\$10,218	\$67,657	\$16,914	\$743	\$50,000

Total Costs by Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)

	Labor	Other Direct Costs	Total Project Costs	USGS Matching Funds	RWADC	CWCB Grant to RWADC
Task 1 – FFY13 Monthly water-level measurements and data management	\$6,135	\$4,154	\$10,289	\$2,572	\$0	\$7,717
Task 1 – FFY14 Monthly water-level measurements and data management	\$27,701	\$6,064	\$33,764	\$8,441	\$743	\$24,580
Task 2 – FFY14 Report preparation	\$11,542	\$0	\$11,542	\$2,885	\$0	\$8,656
Task 2 – FFY15 Report preparation	\$12,062	\$0	\$12,062	\$3,015	\$0	\$9,046
Total Costs:	\$57,439	\$10,218	\$67,657	\$16,914	\$743	\$50,000

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

SCHEDULE

*May be adjusted to reflect change in start date or other delays

By Colorado Fiscal Year (CO FY)

Workplan Element	CO FY-2013				CO FY-2014				CO FY-2015			
Task 1: Quarterly Monitoring-					X	X	X	X				
Task 2: Report Update									X	X		

By Federal Fiscal Year (FFY)

Workplan Element	FFY-2013				FFY-2014				FFY-2015			
Task 1: Quarterly Monitoring-				X	X	X	X					
Task 2: Report Update								X	X			

FUTURE WORK

Monitoring activities may be extended if additional funds are available before the completion of the project. Additional monitoring will not incur the costs associated with replacing the transducers or report publication. An additional 12 months (August 2014 through June 2015) of monitoring is estimated to cost \$45,450. At the current USGS Matching Funds rate of 25%, the USGS could match \$11,360 reducing the cost to \$34,090.

PAYMENT

Payment will be made based on actual expenditures and invoicing by the applicant. Invoices from any other entity (i.e. subcontractors) cannot be processed by the State. The request for payment must include a description of the work accomplished by major task, and estimate of the percent completion for individual tasks and the entire water activity in relation to the percentage of budget spent, identification of any major issues and proposed or implemented corrective actions. The last 5 percent of the entire water activity budget will be withheld until final project/water activity documentation is completed. 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 help promote the development of a common technical platform.

RURAL WATER PROVIDERS SERVING DOUGLAS COUNTY, COLORADO

DOMESTIC WELLS (EXCLUDING WELLS IN EXCLUDED AREAS)

INCLUDED PRIVATE WATER PROVIDERS

- A. Beverly Hills Mutual Water Company
- B. Sierra Vista Douglas Mutual Water Company
- C. Titan Road Industrial Park Water Association Inc.
- D. View Ridge Mutual Water Company

MAP ID NUMBER, TAX AUTHORITY NAME

- 1. Consolidated Bell Mountain Ranch Metro Dist
- 2. Castleton Center Water and San District
- 3. Chatfield South Water District
- 4. Louviers Water & Sanitation District
- 5. Ravenna Metro District
- 6. Sedalia Water and Sanitation District
- 7. Silver Heights Water and San District
- 8. Thunderbird Water and Sanitation District
- 9. Westcreek Lakes Water District

EXCLUDED FROM RURAL WATER PROVIDERS

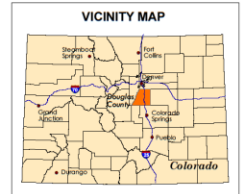
- MAJOR ROADS
- RURAL LAND PARCELS
- RURAL WATER DISTRICTS



MAP GENERATED AUGUST 2010
PREPARED BY
DOUGLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY PLANNING &
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT

Sources:

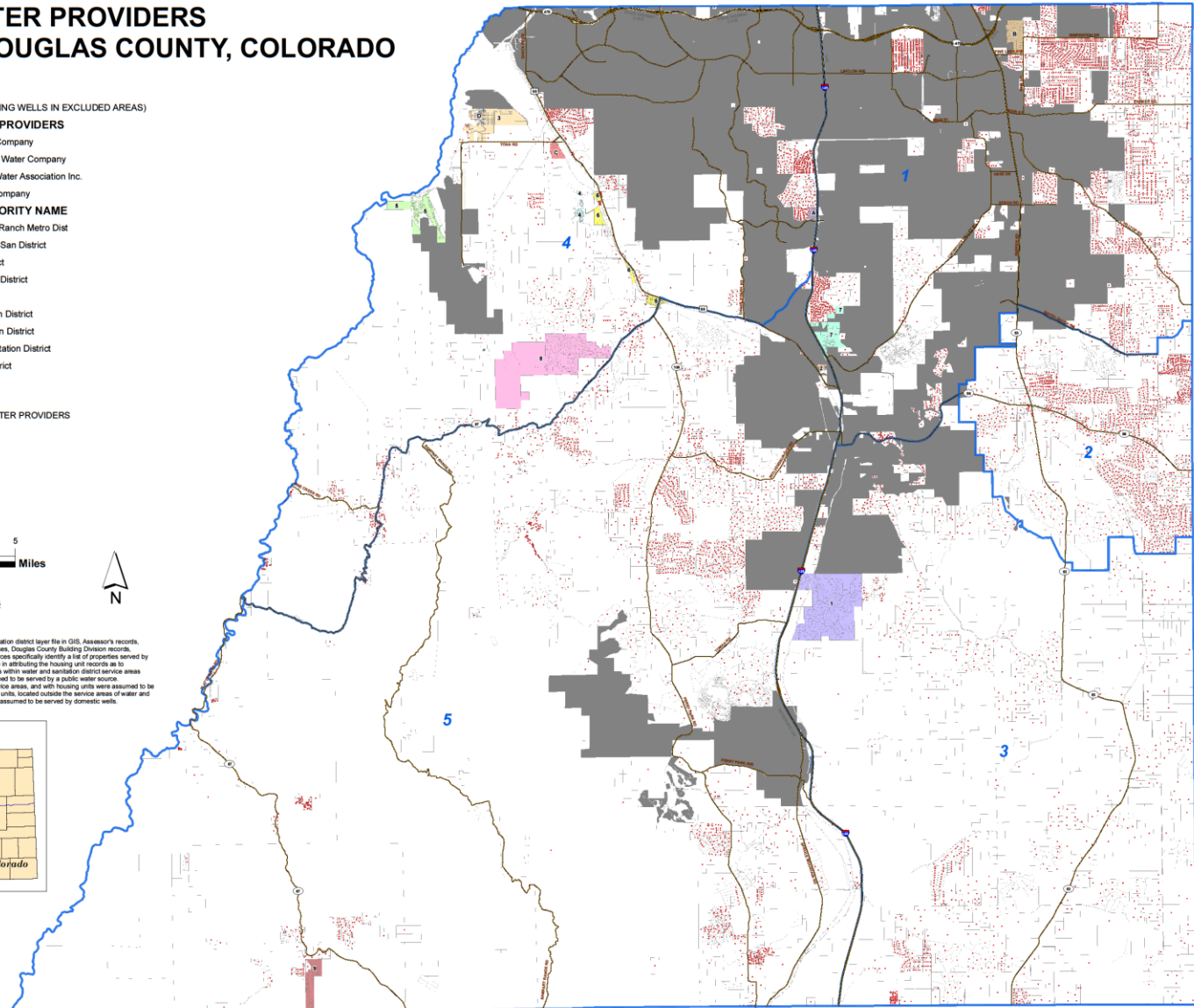
The sources for the report include the water and sanitation district layer file in GIS, Assessor's records, Douglas County Information Resource Group databases, Douglas County Building Division records, and City and Town building records. None of the sources specifically identify a list of properties served by domestic wells so some assumptions were also made in attributing the housing unit records as to water service. All plotted properties with housing units within water and sanitation district service areas and mutual water company service areas were assumed to be served by a public water source. Some miles and bounds properties, within those service areas, and with housing units were assumed to be served by domestic wells. All properties with housing units, located outside the service areas of water and sanitation districts and mutual water companies were assumed to be served by domestic wells.



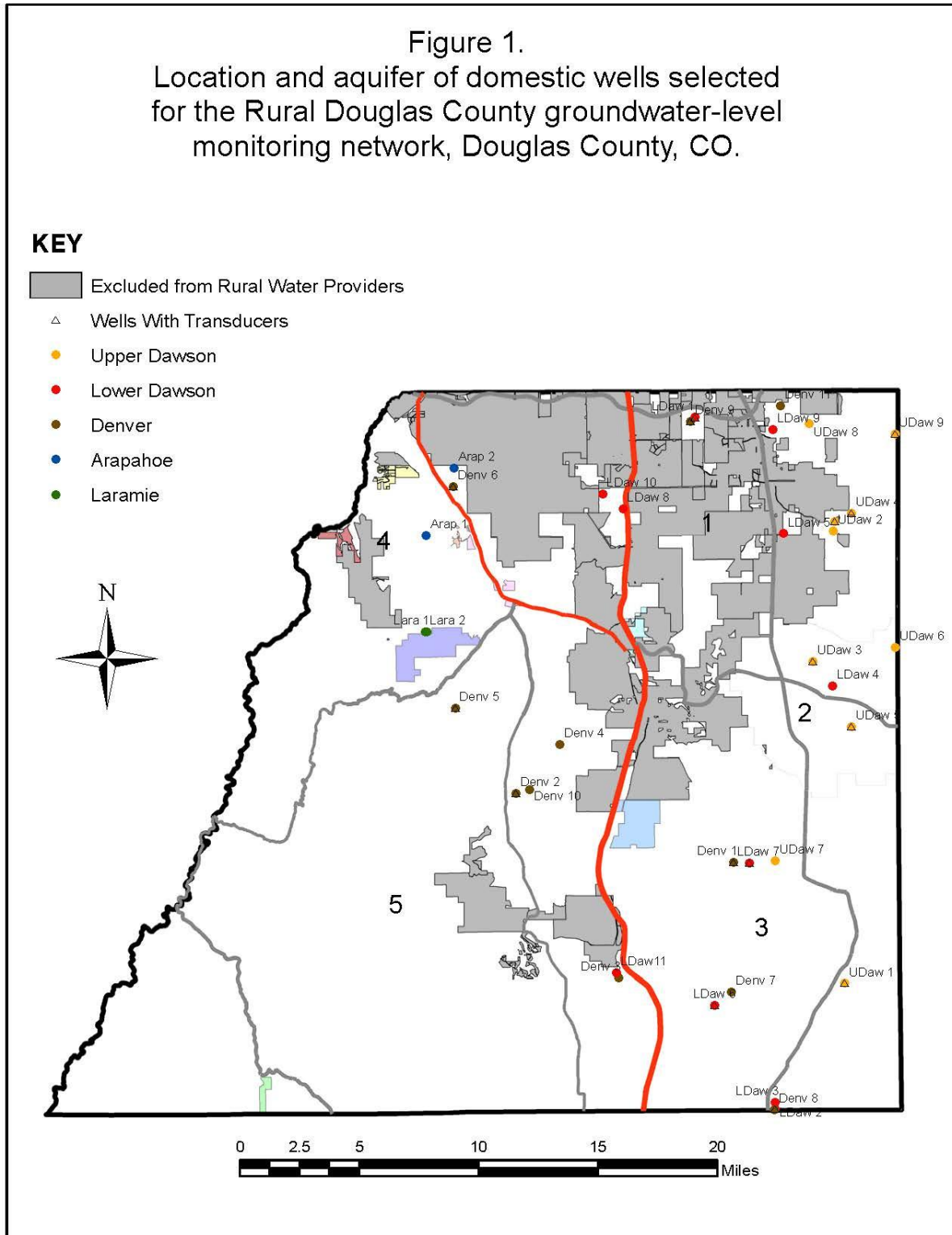
DISCLAIMER:

All data and information ("Products") contained herein are for informational purposes only. Although every Product is prepared to the best of the knowledge of the Douglas County Community Planning & Sustainable Development Department, the Douglas County Community Planning & Sustainable Development Department does not warrant the accuracy, completeness, or timeliness of the data or information contained herein. The Douglas County Community Planning & Sustainable Development Department is not responsible for any errors or omissions in the data or information contained herein. The Douglas County Community Planning & Sustainable Development Department is not responsible for any damages, including consequential damages, arising out of the use of any Product, or the inability to use any Product, or any data or information contained herein. The user acknowledges and agrees that the use of any Product is at the user's sole risk.

Revised and updated data for this map product, including names, locations, and other information should be directed to Information Resource Group, Douglas County Community Planning & Sustainable Development Department at (303) 685-1400.

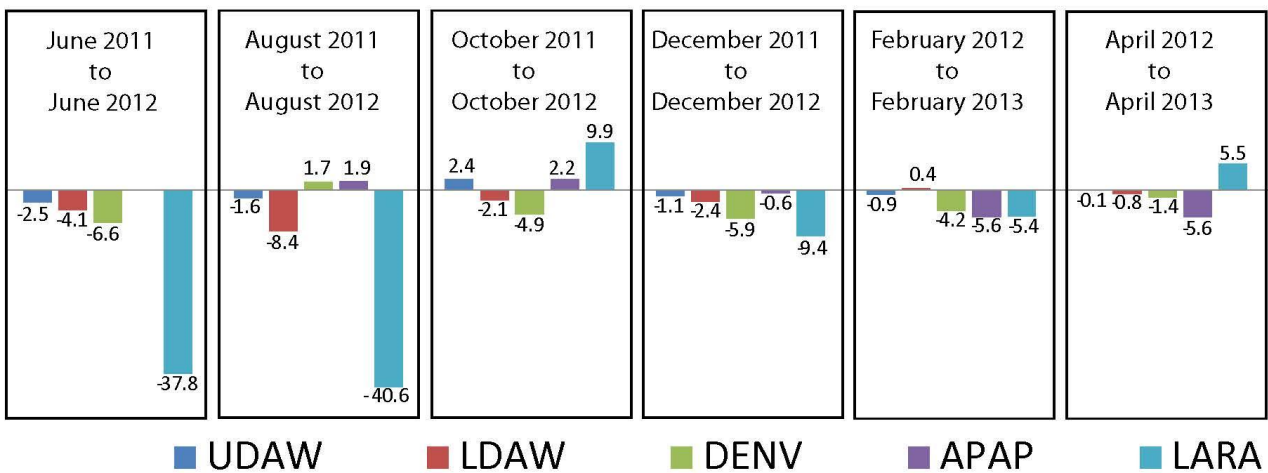


Attachment C:



Attachment C:

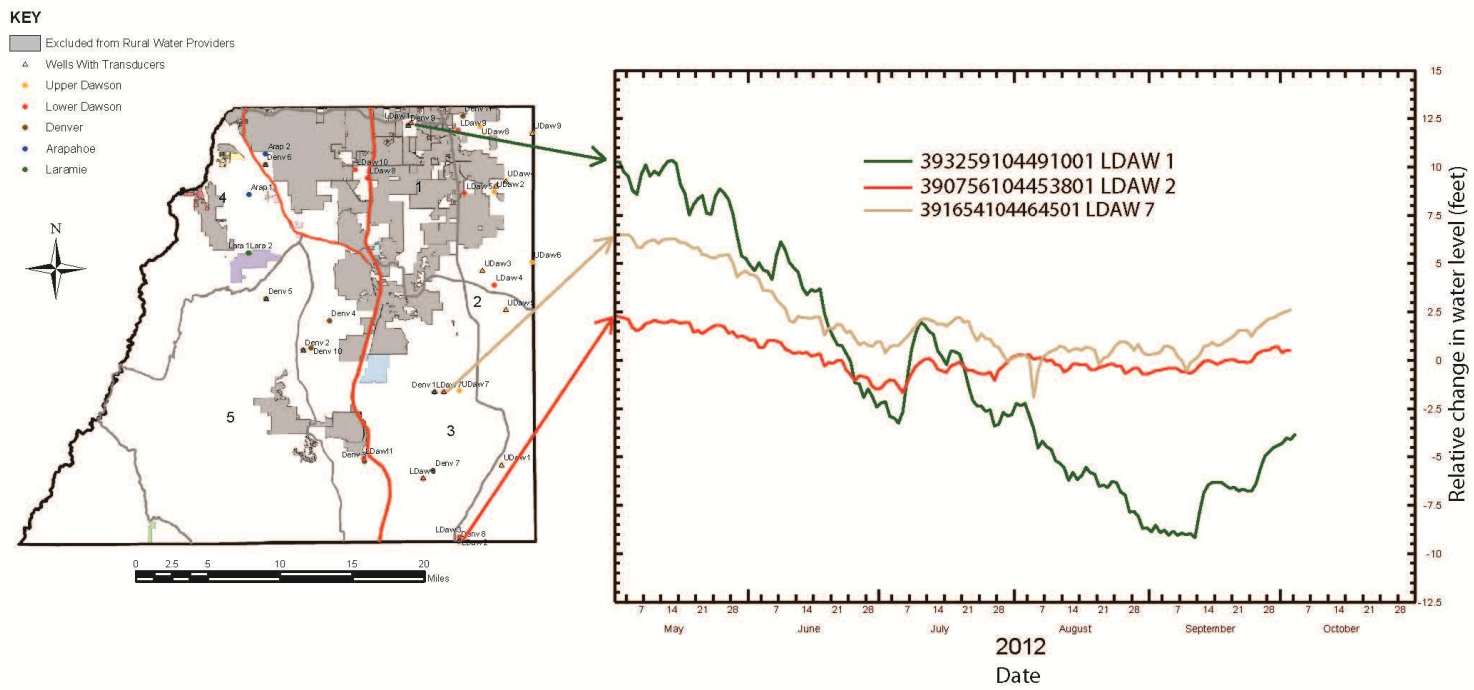
Figure 2
Year-to-Year Change in Water Level by Aquifer



Attachment C:

Figure 2a.

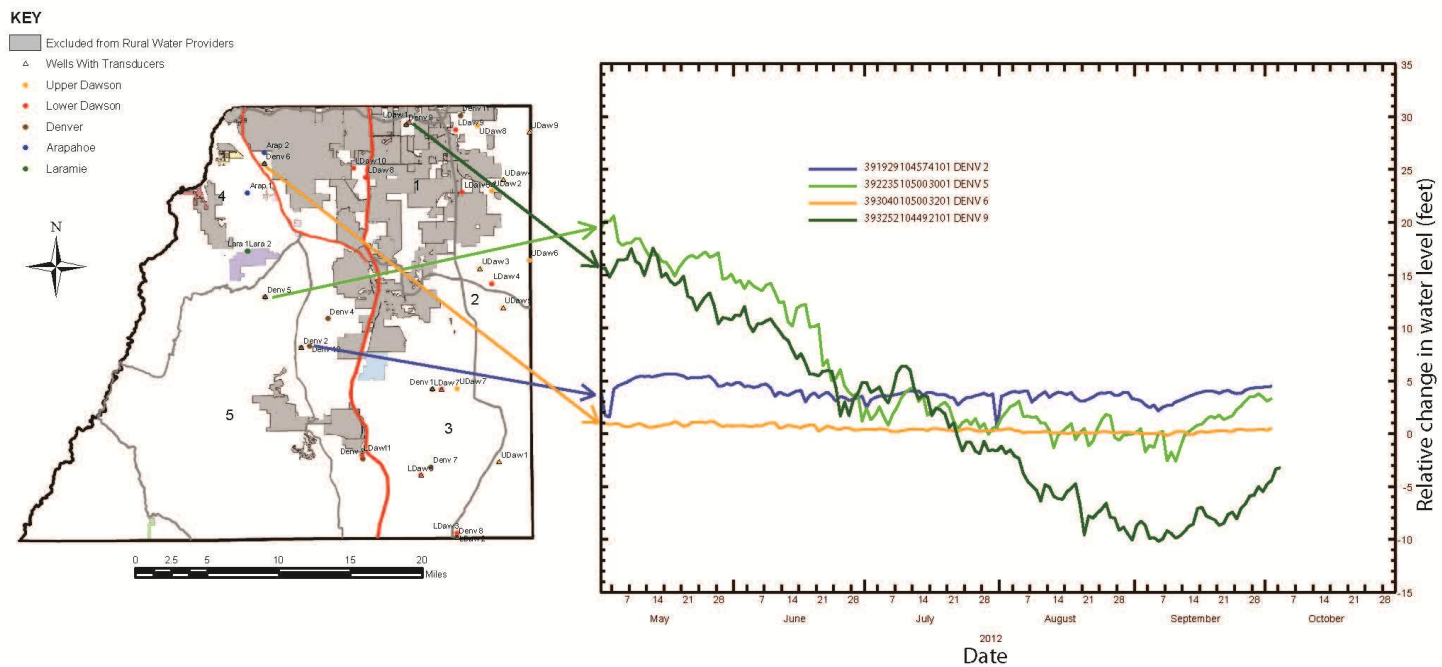
Location and time-series data from selected domestic wells screened in the Lower Dawson aquifer, Douglas County, CO



Attachment C:

Figure 2b.

Location and time-series data from selected domestic wells screened in the Denver aquifer, Douglas County, CO.



STATE OF COLORADO

Colorado Water Conservation Board

Department of Natural Resources

1313 Sherman Street, Room 721
Denver, Colorado 80203
Phone: (303) 866-3441
Fax: (303) 866-4474
www.cwcb.state.co.us



TO: Colorado Water Conservation Board Members

FROM: Tim Feehan, Assistant Director
Steve Biondo, Finance Manager

DATE: March 8, 2013 (*Updated 3/22/2013*)

SUBJECT: **Agenda Item 15, March 19 - 20, 2013, Board Meeting**
Finance Section - Severance Tax Trust Fund Operational Account
Approval of Project Recommendations

John W. Hickenlooper
Governor

Mike King
DNR Executive Director

Jennifer L. Gimbal
CWCB Director

Introduction

CWCB is entitled to an amount up to a 5% share of the Operational Account of the Severance Tax Trust Fund. In January 2013, CWCB received internal requests and outside applications for funding that becomes available from the Operational Account in July 2013 via the Long Bill enacted by the General Assembly. CWCB Staff reviews the applications and then recommends to the Board the projects that should receive funding. We expect to receive \$1,275,500 in funding; however, should that amount be changed, the project funding will also need to be revised. Table 1 on page 2 provides a summary of the recommended and non-recommended projects by CWCB Staff. These projects are described in more detail following Table 1 (see each write-up by the corresponding Project Number).

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Board approve the proposed funding for each of the projects from the Operational Account of the Severance Tax Trust Fund as summarized as Table 1 to this memo. Recommended projects are numbered 1 – 26 and projects not recommended are numbered 27 – 34. *Board approved staff recommendations, with project funding decreases/increases presented during Board presentation, and the addition of Project No. 31.*

Interstate Compact Compliance • Watershed Protection • Flood Planning & Mitigation • Stream & Lake Protection
Water Project Loans & Grants • Water Modeling • Conservation & Drought Planning • Water Supply Planning

Water Supply Reserve Account – Application Form

Revised December 2011

Table 1

SEVERANCE TAX OPERATONAL ACCOUNT PROJECTS FOR FUNDING FROM JULY 1, 2013 TO JUNE 30, 2014

NO.	SPONSOR	PROJECT	AMOUNT
		INTERSTATE, FEDERAL & WATER INFORMATION	
1.	CWCB	Colorado River Tour for Colorado Basin State Leaders	\$30,000
2.	CWCB	GIS Migration to the Cloud	\$34,000
3.	CGS	County Groundwater Resources Series, Year 2	\$46,000
4.	USGS	Groundwater-Monitoring Network in Cooperation with the Rural Water Authority of Douglas County	\$19,960
5.	PRWCD	Purgatoire River WCD Enhanced Diversion Record Project	\$25,000
		Finance	
6.	DWR	Republican River Basin Instrumentation	\$30,000
7.	EDO	Regional Real-Time Monitoring of Oil and Gas Operations	\$200,000
8.	DWR	Extreme Precipitation Analysis Tool Software Verification Project, Phase 2	\$95,000
9.	DWR	Dam Safety Inundation Mapping Grant Program	\$24,960
10.	BCRC&PC	Bull Creek Reservoir #4 Wetlands Study	\$14,257
		Stream & Lake Protection	
11.	CWCB	Case Management and Litigation Support	\$75,000
12.	USGS	Validation of Colorado StreamStats for Selected Locations	\$75,000
13.	CWCB	Outreach and Education	\$10,000
		Watershed & Flood Protection	
14.	CWCB	Flood Mitigation and Project Compliance	\$50,000
15.	CWCB	Multi-Objective Watershed Protection and Restoration Projects	\$50,000
16.	CWCB	Community Assistance Program	\$47,650
17.	CSAS	Colorado Dust on Snow Program	\$50,000
18.	DWR	Dam Failure Consequence and Vulnerability Assessments	\$13,000