

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
September 11-12, 2014
Agenda Item 13(g)

Applicant & Program Sponsor: Gunnison County

Water Activity Name: Repair of Gunnison Whitewater Park

Water Activity Purpose: Nonconsumptive (Recreational)

County: Gunnison

River Basin: Gunnison

Water Source: Gunnison River

Total Amount Requested: \$10,000

Source of Funds: \$10,000 Gunnison Basin Account

Matching Funds: Applicant & 3rd parties are providing total combined cash & in-kind match of \$471,260, of total project costs of \$481,260 (refer to *Funding Overview/Matching Funds*).

Staff Recommendation
Staff recommends approval of up to \$10,000 from the Gunnison Basin Account to help complete the project titled: Repair of Gunnison Whitewater Park.

Water Activity Summary: The purpose of this grant is to make necessary repairs to the Gunnison Whitewater Park structures to ensure its functionality and safety for years to come. The Park is one of the most heavily used assets in the Gunnison Valley, attracting hundreds of users of all ages and demographics in the summer months. It was created to provide activities for a variety of uses including fishing, kayaking, rafting, swimming and simply relaxing near the river. The Park has created significant improvements within the river corridor that include improved fishing habitat, fish passage, bank stabilization, and improved river access for recreational users.

This fall, Gunnison County staff identified several issues with two of the three existing features. McLaughlin Whitewater Design Group was retained to evaluate the features, identify any structural damage and provide repair recommendations. Currently, structures 2 and 3 have begun to deteriorate, no longer creating a surfable hydraulic, and boulders caved off from the 3rd feature are creating safety issues for users. The proposed project will repair feature 3, stabilize the channel downstream of feature 3, and stabilize the pool downstream of feature 2. Boulders, riprap, and cobbles will be mixed and placed in the pools downstream and adjacent to feature 2 and 3 to control scour and protect the whitewater wave structures.

Discussion:

The creation of the Gunnison Whitewater Park and its recreational uses helped secure a Recreational Inflow Water Right for the Gunnison River Basin ranging from 270 cfs to 1200 cfs. This is a permanent water right and preserves healthy river flows and a sustainable water source for local communities and a livable habitat for wildlife.

Issues/Additional Needs:

Authorization of the work necessary to repair the structures would require authorization by the USACE for work performed in regulated “waters of the U.S.” Based on the evaluation provided by McLaughlin Whitewater Design Group, application for USACE Nation Wide Permits #3 (Maintenance) and #33 (Temporary Construction, Access and Dewatering) would be required before commencement of the repair work.

The permit process would include; identification of regulated water features, including wetlands if located within the project perimeter, and the Ordinary High Water Mark of the river associated with the project area; a pre-application meeting with Army Corps of Engineers; preparation of a USACE preconstruction notification (PCN); and application for the above mentioned authorized NWP permits. Plan and cross sections of the proposed repair activities will be prepared by McLaughlin Whitewater Design Group, and these will be submitted with the permit application. Activities to stabilize Feature 1 (75 Ditch Diversion) will likely not be regulated as this is a water diversion for agricultural use. However, the permit application will identify this feature and activity and request an opinion regarding regulation.

Threshold and Evaluation Criteria:

The application meets all four Threshold Criteria.

Tier 1-3 Evaluation Criteria:

n/a

Funding Overview/Matching Funds:

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
WSRA Gunnison Basin Account	\$10,000	n/a	\$10,000
Great Outdoors Colorado (pending)	\$325,000	\$0	\$325,000
Gunnison County	\$35,000	\$90,200	\$125,200
Gunnison River Festival	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
Western State Colorado University	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
City of Gunnison	\$3,000	\$60	\$3,060
Town of Crested Butte (pending)	\$3,000	\$0	\$3,000
1% For Open Space	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
JM Consulting	\$0	\$2,000	\$2,000
Total	\$389,000	\$92,260	\$481,260

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.