

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

**Applicant & Program Sponsor:** Thompson-Epperson Ditch Company

**Water Activity Name:** Thompson-Epperson Ditch Stabilization

**Water Activity Purpose:** Agricultural Implementation Project

**County:** La Plata

**River Basin:** Southwest

**Water Source:** Pine River

**Total Amount Requested:** \$30,000 Southwest Basin Account

**Matching Funds:** Total combined cash & in-kind match of \$60,000, which is 200% of the total grant request (refer to *Funding Overview/Matching Funds*).

<b>Staff Recommendation</b>
Staff recommends approval of up to \$30,000 from the Southwest Basin Account to help complete the project titled: Thompson-Epperson Ditch Stabilization.

**Water Activity Summary:** The Thompson-Epperson Ditch began delivering water in 1888 and is a mutual ditch company with 104 different share holders. The ditch diverts approximately 36 cfs of irrigation water out of the Pine River and serves approximately 2,200 acre feet west and south of Bayfield, Colorado. In 2014, landslide damage presented the first major threat to the ditch, requiring emergency measures essential to providing the usual irrigation water. The damage was costly and complex but repairable because the bank below the ditch, not the ditch itself, gave away, making it possible to lay pipe in the existing ditch channel. About 600 feet of the ditch north of the stabilized section is also on the same steep bank, and if drought continues, the potential for a similar landslide is likely to result. Funds requested for this project will be used to purchase 600 ft of 5 ft pipe to be installed in a section of the Thompson-Epperson Ditch to avoid leakage, collapse and liability. Installing 600 ft of pipe north of the stabilized section will preserve the ditch and the bank, while avoiding seepage down to the shale layers that can trigger another landslide. This improvement will allow for a debris screen at the opening that will be accessible for cleaning and will not destroy an embankment from back-up water or allow any person or animal entry into the pipe. Project results will help to assure delivery of irrigation water from the ditch to benefit agriculture and the economy.

**Discussion:**

No further discussion is required.

**Issues/Additional Needs:**

No issues or additional have been identified.

**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 Southwest Basin Account	\$30,000	n/a	\$30,000
Southwestern Water Conservation District	\$30,000	\$0	\$30,000
Thompson-Epperson Ditch Co.	<u>\$30,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$30,000</u>
<b>Total Project Costs</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$90,000</b>

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.