

Water Supply Reserve Account – Grant and Loan Program
Water Activity Summary Sheet
May 20-21, 2015
Agenda Item 10(e)

Applicant & Fiscal Agent: Trout Unlimited

Water Activity Name: Kerber Creek Restoration Project – Middle Parcel

Water Activity Purpose: Nonconsumptive (Environmental & Recreational)

County: Saguache

Drainage Basin: Rio Grande

Water Source: Keber Creek

Amount Requested/Source of Funds: \$30,000 Rio Grande Basin Account

Matching Funds: Applicant & 3rd party match: \$247,667 = 89.2% of total project costs
(\$277,667)
(refer to *Funding Summary/Matching Funds* section)

Staff Recommendation:
Staff recommends approval of up to \$30,000 from the Rio Grande Basin Account to help fund the project titled: Kerber Creek Restoration Project – Middle Parcel.

Water Activity Summary: WSRA funds, if approved, will be expended by TU to restore six acres of mine tailings contained within the floodplain of site KC16-M adjacent to Keber Creek in northern Saguache County. TU will institute phytostabilization as the treatment method of choice on the associated mine tailings. Phytostabilization treatment will consist of applying a pre-determined mixture of soil amendments consisting of lime, limestone, and compost to a depth of 18-24". TU will then plant metal-tolerant plants to reduce toxicity and metal mobility. TU's effort will coincide with 5,900 feet of adjacent in-stream improvements planned for 2015 by NRCS (estimated NRCS costs of \$247,667). Project monitoring will be conducted through tasks and objectives under a Colorado Nonpoint Source grant and will provide progress towards ecological goals as defined in a Project Implementation Plan approved by CDPHE.

Discussion: The proposed project aligns with many of the Goals and Measurable Outcomes identified in the Draft Rio Grande Basin Water (Implementation) Plan (Goals and Measurable Outcomes: #1, #6, #9, #11, #12, #13 & #14; Section 3.2.1, page 122). In addition, this project comports with "Projects that Address Environmental and Recreational Information Gaps" (#6; Section 6.5.3, page 277), also identified in the Draft BIP.

Furthermore, this project compliments four existing instream flows reaches in Keber Creek held by CWCB. TU has successfully completed an earlier stream restoration project in Keber Creek on the adjacent KC16-E parcel (a contiguous parcel to the east) funded by a WSRA Grant of \$34,871 awarded by CWCB during their July 2013 meeting. TU has also successfully completed improvements in the Keber Creek through CWCB's two previous Colorado Watershed Restoration Program Grants.

Issues/Additional Needs: Applicant to work with CWCB Staff to ensure that geomorphic monitoring conforms to CWCB Standard Operating Procedure for Topographic Survey of Stream Channels (http://cwcb.state.co.us/environment/watershed-protection-restoration/Documents/Survey_SOP_CWCB.pdf).

All proposed river channel work shall conform to the CWCB Rules and Regulations for Regulatory Floodplains in Colorado.

Threshold and Evaluation Criteria:

The application meets all four Threshold Criteria

Tier 1-3 Evaluation Criteria: n/a

Funding Summary/Matching Funds:

	<u>Cash</u>	<u>In-kind</u>	<u>Total</u>
Colorado Division of Reclamation and Mining	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
CDPHE 319 Nonpoint Source Grant	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000
BLM	\$0	\$20,000	\$20,000
NRCS	\$207,667	\$0	\$207,667
Sub-total matching funds	\$227,667	\$20,000	\$247,667
WSRA Rio Grande Basin Account	\$30,000	n/a	\$30,000
Total	\$257,667	\$20,000	\$277,667

All products, data and information developed as a result of this grant must be provided to the CWCB in hard copy and electronic format as part of the project documentation. This information will in turn be made widely available to Basin Roundtables and the general public and will help promote the development of a common technical platform. In accordance with the revised WSRA Criteria and Guidelines, staff would like to highlight additional reporting and final deliverable requirements. The specific requirements are provided below.

Reporting: The applicant shall provide the CWCB a progress report every 6 months, beginning from the date of the executed contract. The progress report shall describe the completion or partial completion of the tasks identified in the scope of work including a description of any major issues that have occurred and any corrective action taken to address these issues.

Final Deliverable: At completion of the project, the applicant shall provide the CWCB a final report that summarizes the project and documents how the project was completed. This report may contain photographs, summaries of meetings and engineering reports/designs.

Engineering: All engineering work (as defined in the Engineers Practice Act (§12-25-102(10) C.R.S.)) performed under this grant shall be performed by or under the responsible charge of professional engineer licensed by the State of Colorado to practice Engineering.